

LOUISVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

ANDY STANKEY, ABIGAIL MARKIEWICZ, KRIS BLEININGER– DIRECTORS



Here is some important general information about the Middle School Bands in which your child is participating this school year.

1. **Schedule**

The 6th Grade Band students will meet five days per week during 3rd period and 4th period (the students will only meet 4th period during the first semester). The students will rehearse in homogenous sectionals for several weeks before meeting as a full ensemble before the first concert. Please look at the hallway and classroom boards to see which groups will meet during the class periods. After the first semester, the band students will only meet during 3rd period.

2. **Grading**

Your student's band grade is determined using the following scale:

Sectional grades (playing grades)	60%
Concert performance and written tests	30%
Practice sheets or other homework assignments	10%

3. **Practice Sheets**

One of the most important aspects of participation in band is at-home practice. We consider practice to be “homework” for our class, and practice sheets allow the directors to monitor and give credit for time spent practicing. We ask that your student submit a practice sheet at the beginning of every week. Submitting weekly practice sheets will improve students' practice grades and could improve sectional grades and their placement in the section. The practice sheets will be graded according to the following scale (in minutes per week):

120 mins = A+	100 mins = B	80 mins = C-
115 mins = A	95 mins = B-	75 mins = D+
110 mins = A-	90 mins = C+	70 mins = D
105 mins = B+	85 mins = C	65 mins = D

4. Lockers

Each wind player will be assigned a locker to store his/her instrument. Your student may drop the instrument off before school and pick it up after school. Students are encouraged to take their instruments home every night to practice. Students must also identify their instrument with a nametag. Students are expected to keep their band locker clean and organized throughout the school year. Due to the large number of students enrolled in the band program, some students may need to share a locker with another student.

5. School Instruments

If your student needs to use a school instrument throughout the school year, please notify a director. The band student and family will receive and sign a school instrument contract outlining care expectations and listing what specific equipment was distributed to the student. To help cover repair and cleaning costs throughout the school year, one school instrument will be \$25.

6. Concerts

The 6th Grade Band students are required to perform at three concerts during the year. These concerts will be held on the following dates:

Winter Concert	Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2018	7:00 PM	LMS Gym
Band Festival	Saturday, April 13, 2019	7:00 PM	LHS Gym
Spring Concert	Tuesday, May 7, 2019	7:00 PM	LMS Gym

Please put these dates on your family calendar of events and plan well in advance to attend. An absence from a concert performance may severely impact that grading period's final grade. Only extreme illness or family emergencies are acceptable excuses from a concert.

7. Dress Code

The dress requirement for the Winter and Spring Concerts is as follows:

- Boys: dress shoes, dress socks, dress pants, tucked-in button-down dress shirt and tie
- Girls: dress shoes, skirt and blouse or dress, or dress pants.

All bottoms must be in black, and tops can be white or blue to represent school colors. Please consider the school dress code policy when selecting a concert outfit. Failure to comply to the dress requirements and/or the school policy will negatively impact the concert performance grade.

8. Supplies

Successful performances inside and outside of the classroom rely on students using quality products. Books and any instrumental accessories can easily be purchased through the band office. If you need reeds, swabs, a new band book, etc., do not hesitate to ask a director for a new supply item. The student should reimburse the band office (not the school main office) as soon as possible. Failure to pay for an item(s) by the end of the nine-weeks grading period may result in this privilege being revoked.

9. **Social Media**

The directors highly encourage the band students and their families to find the different media sites we use to communicate. We post a calendar of events, special documents, classroom resources, announcements, pictures, and much more via our band website.

LMS Band Website <http://louisvillemsband.weebly.com>

Remind accounts can be accessed through the band website

If you are interested in learning about the high school band program, feel free to visit the website and Facebook page.

LHS Band Website <http://www.theprideoflouisville.com>

LHS Facebook Page <http://www.facebook.com/theprideoflouisville>

If you have any questions concerning the above information, please feel free to contact the directors at the Middle School at (330) 875-5597 or via email:

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