

# **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 year.

### **1. Schedule**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band students meets five days per week during 2nd period. The 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band meets five days per week during 5<sup>th</sup> period. The students will rehearse in homogenous sectionals once every week during the band 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. Each student should 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. Percussionists will receive a music slot for their folders and labelled drumsticks. 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 year, one school instrument will be \$25. **Percussionists may keep their snare drums at home for practice. You will be using school percussion equipment in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade.**

## **6. Concerts**

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band students are required to perform at several concerts during the year. These concerts will be held on the following dates:

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Night**

Friday, October 5, 2018                    5:15 PM                    Start at LHS Band Room

### **Winter Concert**

Tuesday, Dec. 11 2018                    7:00 PM                    LMS Gym

### **OMEA Solo & Ensemble**

Saturday, April 6, 2019                    TBA                            Alliance High School

### **Band Festival**

Saturday, April 13, 2019                    5:00 PM Jazz                    LHS Auditoria  
    7:00 PM Concert                    LHS Gym

### **Spring Concert**

Thursday, May 2, 2019                    7:00 PM                            LMS Gym

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade OMEA Large Group Contest**

Friday, May 10, 2019 **OR**

Saturday May 11, 2019                    TBA                            Hoover High School

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. If there is a scheduling conflict with a performance, please notify a director immediately.

## **7. Dress Code**

To create a more professional appearance, the directors have opted to have students wear a concert uniform. The band students will wear a royal blue "Louisville Middle School Bands" polo with black pants, dress socks, or a black skirt and black tights, and black dress shoes. Students will wear their uniform during their performances and are encouraged to wear them during any other volunteer band events. Failure to comply to the dress requirements and/or the school dress code policy will negatively impact the concert performance grade.

**Polo designs have been created and will be ordered through Beatty's. Each student will be sized during the school day to ensure proper fit. Polos will cost approximately \$20.00 and can be paid in cash or by check. Please write checks to "Louisville Middle School."**

## **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 like 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:

Mr. Stankey      [andrew.stankey@lepapps.org](mailto:andrew.stankey@lepapps.org)

Mrs. Markiewicz      [abigail.markiewicz@lepapps.org](mailto:abigail.markiewicz@lepapps.org)

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