



Concordia Junior High Band Handbook 2023-2024

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Welcome!

Students and parents, I am so excited to be working with you and your students again this year. We will be working on a variety of qualities in band this year including musicianship, personal responsibility, commitment, and life-long lessons, all while having fun. I will have high standards for you this year that we will work on together. This will require personal practice and working together as an ensemble. Students should be positive and willing to work during the time we have available. As a member of the Concordia band program, I want to encourage you all to have a great year and to take part in the learning opportunities you will encounter.

This handbook is an important part of understanding and succeeding this year. Many answers to your questions may be found here. These are the guidelines, rules, and expectations to which we will adhere, but they are only supplemental to what will be covered in class.

~ Mrs. Menz

Mission Statement:

The Concordia Band Program will strive to create a positive and musical experience for all those involved in the process of creating music while continuing to expand their musicality by providing new opportunities and engaging in character building situations.

Mrs. Menz's Contact Information:

Email (preferred): rmenz@concordia.k12.mo.us

School Phone: (660) 463-7235

Google Classroom: [cjhmkad](#)

Facebook Page: Concordia Bands

Expectations and Policies

1. Students will adhere to all school rules addressed in the district and band handbooks.
2. Students will respect the director, members of the band, volunteers, and guests.
3. Students will be responsible for preparing their materials and music.
4. Students will be in attendance and prepared by the call time announced by the director.
 - a. *Early is on time, on time is late, and late is unacceptable in the band world!
5. Students will attend and perform at all rehearsals and performances unless excused.
6. Students will practice outside of our class time.
7. Students will stay eligible in other classes to be allowed by school policy to attend and participate in concerts, competitions, and other band events.
8. Students will not have their phones or personal devices out in class (unless asked to) or they will be confiscated for the remainder of the day.

Attendance

In an ensemble setting, the attendance of each member is important in the group effort and product. Students are expected to be at **all** rehearsals and performances during the year-long class. Excused absences for performances require the director to be notified **PRIOR** to two weeks in advance so that there is enough time to evaluate the reason with administrators. This will determine how the student will be allowed to make up their missed points, either in full, partially, or in some cases not at all. Excused absences include school-sponsored activities (with prior communication) and other previously approved absences. Emergency absences will be considered when the student makes an effort to contact the teacher in a timely manner (before the event or possibly the following morning in extreme emergencies). A work schedule conflict will **never** be an approved excused absence as all performance dates are sent out at the beginning of the semester. Unexcused absences from performances will result in a zero grade.

Grading and Assignments

The band program will follow the grading scale set by the Concordia School District:

In class and online submission *playing and marching tests* will be worth 45 points each. Students will be provided with feedback to show how they were graded. All tests will be announced at least one week prior to their due date. Some of the playing tests may be completed in class and others will be due online through Google Classroom. Students will have up to one week to contact the teacher if they want to retake their playing test (not memorization tests). Marching tests will take place during class time and on the field.

Practice Check-Ins will be turned in on Google Classroom and worth 20 points each. These will be assigned on an “as needed” basis.

Required Performances (including but not limited to parades, concerts, and contests) will be worth 100 points each. Students must be ready by call time to earn all points. Point deductions may come from being late, improper behavior during any performance, not being prepared, not wearing the correct uniform, and other issues that may arise at the director’s discretion.

All other class assignments will be worth up to 50 points.

Marching Band:

Required Materials for Rehearsals

All rehearsals require you to have your instrument, a pencil, all music in a flip folder with lyre, and a water bottle. All outdoor rehearsals will also require tennis shoes and clothing appropriate for the weather.

Performance Procedures

Our band will march in the Kid's Parade at the Concordia Fall Festival. For this performance, students will wear their assigned uniform and follow the dress and grooming details below. Specific details will be announced before the parade. The meeting place and call time will be announced before the event.

Uniform Parts and Care

Before the parade performance, students will be supplied with their personal uniforms for the season. The numbered uniforms are assigned to a specific member and should not be traded or altered upon return. The school-supplied uniform consists of:

1 coat, 1 pair of bibs, and 1 shako/beret.

Student-supplied materials (purchase required) are as follows: Plain black crew cut socks, white gloves (black for percussion), black marching shoes, lyre, flip-folder.

Students who require a school instrument, specific to marching, will be assigned one by the director. The instrument will be turned in at the end of the season.

Uniform Care:

Every time after wearing your uniform, allow it to hang and dry!

Do NOT clean the uniform yourself. It is DRY CLEAN ONLY. If it needs cleaning, talk to Mrs. Menz first.

Hang the uniform properly so that it stays crisp and unwrinkled.

Damage to a school-owned instrument/uniform is the financial responsibility of the student unless it is determined to be a case of regular wear and tear by the director.

Performance Materials, Dress, and Grooming

At marching performances, you are required to have all parts of your uniform and your instrument. The uniform should be worn with all parts on, or not at all (exception of shako/beret and gloves). Long hair must be secured up and under the shako prior to all performances (it should not hang over the collar). Piercings will be allowed but limited to studs only for safety. If anything else is required for specific performances, you will be notified. Failure to have these required items can result in a reduction in your attendance grade.

Concert Band:

Rehearsals/Required Materials

Students should have a chair, stand, music, instrument ready to play, and be tuned within their section. Electronics will NOT be allowed during rehearsals. Rehearsal plans for the day will be projected.

Required Materials:

Instrument, music, folder, pencil, instrument supplies for maintenance and cleaning, and tuner.

Performance Attire

Concert attire is required for all concert band performances. Students must wear all black. All clothing must firstly follow the school dress code as stated in the school handbook or they can not be allowed to perform. This can include a black dress with a hemline falling at or below the knee when seated (females only); black slacks (NO leggings, shorts, or jeans); a black button-down shirt, a solid black polo, or an all-black dress blouse; and black dress shoes (NO tennis shoes). Appropriate shirts do NOT include backless, halter tops, sleeveless, spaghetti straps, one-strap only, tank tops, midriff showing, etc.

***Any questions or difficulty finding clothes that meet the requirements for any ensemble should be brought to the attention of the teacher at least 2 weeks prior to a performance.**

Travel Procedures

All travel will first and foremost follow the rules set by the Concordia School's Handbook. For all travel, the teacher will provide an itinerary that will be as accurate as possible that will also detail some of the specific needs and rules for that trip. If any rules are broken on the trip, the child will lose some or all of their points for that performance and the parent/guardian may be required to come pick their child up at their own expense if determined necessary by the district.

Junior High District Band

This ensemble is an optional event that JH Band members can participate in. Not all interested students may be accepted. Interested students will be nominated to the ensemble by the director. Selection will be based on necessary instrumentation. Typically no more than 4 may be selected per school for each grade level.

High School Banner Carriers

Interested students will audition for the position of HS Marching Orioles Banner Carrier. They must be able to attend all of the HS parades in order to be selected. The audition will be based on marching abilities. 2 students will be selected and possibly 1 alternate.

Junior High Band Calendar

(Bold denotes required events)

*Performances are subject to change at the director's discretion and would be announced immediately

Thursday, August 10 (5:30-8)

TBA (during class)

Wednesday, September 6

Friday-Saturday, September 8-9

Saturday, December 9?

Thursday, December 14

Friday, March 1 (during school)

Thursday, May 2

Marching Uniform Assignment

Marching Band Photos (KN Photos)

Concordia Fall Festival Kids Parade

German Kitchen Fundraiser

Junior High District Band (Sedalia)

Christmas Concert

CMU Festival (Fayette, MO)

Spring Concert

***All Concerts held at the school will take place at the Gymnasium. Call time will always be 6:30 PM in the Music Room (unless given other instructions by the teacher) for a 7 PM concert start time.**

The band hopes to see your family at our events!

Junior High Band Handbook Verification Sheet

After reading through the JH Band Handbook on our Google Classroom, please review and sign below. This page must be returned to Mrs. Menz by Friday, August 25th to receive 5 extra credit points. This form must be returned by Tuesday, August 29th for a grade. It is essential that you understand the policies and procedures of this class so if you have any questions please contact Mrs. Menz.

I have thoroughly read and reviewed the Concordia Junior High Band Handbook and understand each requirement of myself/my student. I agree to all policies stated in this handbook and what breaking them will mean on my/my student's part in the year-long course. By signing the district AUP form, permission is already granted for photography, film, and/or audio recording to be utilized and shared, including on the band's Facebook page.

Student Name (printed) Student Signature Date

Parent/Guardian Name (printed) Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Parent Contact Information:

Email: _____ Phone Number: (_____)_____

I am interested in volunteering or chaperoning for events and would like to be contacted when opportunities are available...

Yes _____ No _____

(Optional) Another way I can help:
