



2020-2021 Band Handbook

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"Striving for Excellence."

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1 GUIDING PRINCIPLES 1

Welcome

If you are a new member, welcome to the South Davie Band, and if you are a returning member, welcome back! Being in the band is truly a unique and special experience that we hope your student finds fulfilling. The memories made and the opportunities that students have the potential to encounter are unparalleled. We truly have a place for and welcome everyone into our program. I trust that your students association with our band will give them and you great pride.

This handbook is very important as it contains nearly every detail of what goes into making our band program function. Please take the time to read over this document and keep it handy when questions arise. Many questions could be answered by simply referring to this document. From the grading policy to information about summer band camps, it can most likely be found here.

We look forward to working with you and your student and cannot wait to see what our students are able to accomplish. As always, feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Here's to a fantastic year!

Justin McCrary

My Philosophy

As a band director, it is my belief that all students should have the right to a well-rounded music education. Our students should feel safe and feel as though they are in an environment where they are able to shape their own personal identity and musicality. It is my mission to inspire students and to lead them to the beauty, power, and importance of music. In band, I desire to help shape students into caring, responsible, hard-working, respectful, and independent leaders of tomorrow. I strive to guide a band program that will have the same positive impacts upon my students that it has had on me. Our three main goals for students are:

- To learn (be successful).
- To have fun.
- To instill a life-long love and appreciation for music.

WHAT I EXPECT

It is our wish that students have an enjoyable time and be successful in making music. Overall, if students exercise common sense and moral decency, behavior concerns should not be an issue. The expectations that follow are more than just a set of rules, and if all students do their part in modeling these, it should prevent most any issue from arising:

Disciplined

Understand the need for practice and make time for it on a daily basis.

Punctual

Always be on time (early) for class, rehearsals and performances.

Persistent

Understand that becoming a good musician is a process. It takes time. Work to improve on a daily basis.

Positive

Attitudes are contagious. Be sure yours is worth catching! Smile and be part of the solution, not part of the problem.

Honest

Admit your limitations and mistakes. Take full responsibility for your actions. Do not lie, cheat, or steal.

Responsible

You are young adults. Please do not wait to be told the obvious.

Well-Behaved

Follow instructions the first time they are given. Be quiet, attentive, and in control of yourself.

Prepared

Bring all materials to class, rehearsals, and performances.

Committed

Realize the impact that your actions, attitudes, and performances will have on the group. Think of the band first.

Polite

Talk to one another, teachers, parents, and administrators with kindness, respect, and courtesy.

Mature

Think before acting.

Proud

Remember who you are and where you are from. Take pride in who you are and where you are from.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

Just as I have expectations for students, there are things that you should expect from me:

Firm and consistent in my expectations for each student and for the bands. I will expect your best effort and behavior at all times.

Fair in establishing and enforcing policies and procedures.

Committed to helping each student grow and become their personal best.

Worthy of your trust. I will continually work to become a better teacher by listening to and learning from other directors.

Honest when commenting on your actions, attitudes, behavior, and performances. I will never tell you that it is good when in reality it is bad, and I will never tell you it is bad, when in reality it is good.

DISCIPLINE CONSEQUENCES

We do not enjoy enforcing negative consequences; however, consequences, both negative and positive, are part of life.

Parents are investing in this opportunity, so we cannot let someone engage in actions that will interrupt the learning experience of others. Any student who makes the decision not to adhere to school (PBIS) or the above band expectations outlined above is subject to the following actions:

1. Verbal Warning: **5** points off of rehearsal etiquette grade.
2. Student/Teacher Conference: Infraction & **10** points deducted from rehearsal etiquette.
3. Processing: Alternative assignment to be completed & **25** points deducted from rehearsal etiquette.
4. Office Referral/AID/Face-to-Face parent conference/Possible removal from class.

IMPORTANCE OF DISCIPLINE

Policies and procedures are outlined in this handbook so that all aspects of the band program run smoothly, so everyone knows what to expect, and to ensure that each student has a safe and successful experience. *Please do not ask for exceptions to rules.* At times, unforeseen circumstances may warrant the modification of a policy. When these situations occur, modifications will be made on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the band director.

Because of the nature of the organization, band discipline must be strict. It is imperative that parents and students be willing to accept the goals, ideals, rules and procedures of the program. Any infraction of established rules will not be tolerated.

- Rule 1: No talking or playing instruments when a director is on the podium.
Rule 2: Be prepared for class.
Rule 3: No gum/candy/food/drinks in the band room.
Rule 4: Be respectful of others, all equipment, and the room at all times.

Students' attitude, ability to follow procedures, and being prepared daily with their instrument and all materials will be factors that determine the rehearsal etiquette grade. In addition, all students are to be respectful of all students and the directors during class and all rehearsals. Students should also be aware that our rehearsal time is very valuable, and any disturbance of class interrupts instructional time. Students are in band to learn and to have fun, but that can only happen when everyone is demonstrating the desired procedures (rehearsal etiquette) listed below:

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

In order for our class to run efficiently, we must follow procedures. Procedures are how we do things; they are not rules, and often times, do not have consequences...they should be understood and done.

Entering the Classroom

Orderly. Gather materials. Go directly to your seat to prepare for class. 2 minutes from class start! This is your time to quickly oil valves, slides, etc.

Beginning Class

Starts when director steps on the podium. Students are to be silent when this happens.

Bathroom Use

Before or after but not during class unless it's an emergency or a doctor's note is on file with director.

Leaving Your Seat

Raise your hand and ask permission unless it's an actual emergency.

Asking Questions

Raise your hand. Questions shouldn't be asked when the directors' hands are up.

Responding to Questions

Raise your hand and wait to be called upon.

Writing Utensils

PENCILS ONLY!!

Materials/Equipment/Instruments

Only touch materials and equipment that belong to you. Only hold and play the instrument that belongs to you.

Lockers

Keep the doors closed and latched, and the inside neat and orderly.

Moving Chairs, Stands, or Other Equipment

Put everything back when you are done.

Passing in Papers/Music

Pass to the left and the end person organizes.

Intercom Announcements & Phone Calls

Everyone is silent until announcements or calls are completed.

Requesting Music Copies

Write what you need on a piece of paper with your name and give to Mr. McCrary.

Getting Additional Help

Ask me before or after class and a time will be set up.

Fire/Tornado Drill

Secure your instrument properly and proceed quietly to assigned location in line.

Turning in Money

In a sealed envelope with your child's name on the front and placed in the metal box.

Leaving Class

Make sure your area is clear of trash, and make sure your materials are stored. Even if it isn't yours, place it in Lost and Found behind the main entrance door or the trash. Pack materials. Right side, single file, and quiet in the halls.

Dismissal

Leave class only when the director gives the OK to do so. (Do not ask if you can go!)

Young adults shall not damage property, equipment, or people. Any mistreatment of school facilities, equipment, and/or people could result in a monetary fine for any equipment damage and **a short band career.**

GRADING POLICY

Grades are assigned for the band class and performances, which are co-curricular. Further, grades are not given, but rather, are earned by the student. It is our goal for every student to earn an A; however, an A is not a guarantee but can happen if students simply do their part. Grades will be based on the following criteria:

Rehearsal Etiquette/Concerts

Pass-Offs/Theory Quizzes/Other Assignments

SICKNESS AND PLAYING IN CLASS

If students are well enough to be at school, then they are more than likely well enough to play in class. Students can still participate if they have a headache, pain from braces, or other small ailments. A parent or doctor note will be needed to excuse students from playing.

MATERIALS GRADE

There will be random material checks, and each student should have the following items in class every day:

- A sharpened pencil
- Instrument, mallets, sticks
- Organized, black, 1 inch three-ring binder with music, band books, handouts, sheet protectors
- Woodwinds: ligatures, at least three working Vandoren reeds at all times, double reed water canisters
- Brass: mouthpieces, valve oil (Blue Juice), Slide-o-Mix, water bottle, tuning slide grease, and mutes if required
- Percussion: Percussion bags including all necessary sticks and mallets.

BROKEN INSTRUMENT VERSUS FORGOTTEN INSTRUMENT POLICY

Students are expected to have an instrument present for every class and rehearsal. Mr. McCrary should be notified of instrument issues, as he may be able to fix without sending off for repair work. If it needs repair, it will be sent to the repair shop. They will fix it and will return it to the school. If you prefer to send it elsewhere, a parent note stating the repair shop name and an estimated time of repair should be sent to the director. Brass and clarinet players should also keep their mouthpiece, as a school owned loaner could be issued if available. These students will be allowed to participate and not have their daily grade deducted.

The first time a student just forgets their instrument, they will have an alternative assignment to be completed in class. Upon the second time and any future occurrence, they will be sent directly to processing to complete this assignment. Processing is an automatic level drop. This is the fairest way to have a repercussion for those students who are not responsible and forgot their instrument and still remain fair to those that have a legitimate instrument issue. This reminder is the students' first warning.

CONCERT/EVENT EXPECTATION

Since band is a graded, performance-based class, all members of the band are required to be at scheduled band events and concerts. Dates are most always given out weeks or months in advance, announced multiple ways, and it is the expectation that every member be present to perform and watch their peers. Students will be evaluated on attendance, dress, and behavior. Remember, if you're early, you're on time. If you're on time, you're late. It is also our policy that students stay for the entire concert. Points will be deducted for issues in any of those areas.

Due to the nature of a live performance, it is impossible to make up a missed rehearsal or concert. Other students must carry extra burden when students are not in attendance. Band is a collaborative learning activity, so 100% participation is essential and expected. Students that miss concerts due to an unexcused absence will receive a 0 for that performance grade, and performances count as three test grades. Excused absences include illness with a **doctor's** note, religious beliefs, death in immediate family, or medical emergency.

In order for a concert absence to be excused, the following procedure must be followed by the student and parent:

- Director must be notified **in advance (two weeks minimum)**.
- For religious holiday or beliefs, a parent note or doctor's excuse must be submitted to the director via paper or email in advance.
- For illness, documentation from doctor must be presented to the director the first day the student is able to attend school.

We do understand that emergencies arise, and we will work with folks if those arise. With 180+ students in the band, no ride is not an extreme or excused case! Communication is key!

CONCERT DRESS REQUIREMENTS

~~For concerts, which are treated more like formal events, students are to dress in a uniform fashion. We are trying to promote a professional performance environment. Remember, the point of a uniform is so that the whole group looks the same.~~ **THIS YEAR, IF WE HAVE CONCERTS, STUDENTS SHOULD WEAR THEIR BAND TEE-SHIRT!**

Formal Concert Dress Code — Ladies

~~White, dressy top. Black dress pants, black dress style footwear (no tennis shoes!).~~

Formal Concert Dress Code — Gentlemen

~~White, long or short sleeved, button-up collared dress shirt. Black dress pants, black socks, black belt, black dress shoes (no tennis shoes!), school color tie (outlined on page 10).~~

~~No sleeveless/thin strapped tops, leggings, jeggings, yoga pants, tights, etc.! If your student needs to wear a dress or skirt for religious reasons, please contact the band director.~~

~~Those wearing denim, short length skirts or low-cut tops, flip-flops, tennis shoes, boots, etc. at school performances will have their concert grade lowered! Those violating dress code at MPA will not perform unless changed before departure.~~

In this program, one should not be afraid to ask for any assistance in obtaining the necessary concert dress items. If you need help in obtaining any item required for concert dress, please let us know **IN ADVANCE** (at least 2 weeks prior to the concert) so arrangements can be made in a timely manner. We EXPECT each student to meet the concert dress requirements!

CONCERT ETIQUETTE

Concerts are our most important events as they display our students' progress made throughout the semester and year. It is our goal for everyone to enjoy our concerts, and in order for that to happen, we ask that you do the following during a performance:

Refrain from talking.

Refrain from unwrapping noisy candy wrappers during the performance.

Turn off pagers, cell phones, and watch alarms.

Do not wave to your child during the concert.

Do not take flash photography during the music.

Please do not video record with your phones.

Do not leave as soon as your child's portion of the concert is over.

Applaud at appropriate times.

Do not leave the gym during the music.

Go to the concert expecting the best.

PRACTICE EXPECTATION – TAKE YOUR INSTRUMENTS HOME

To ensure all students progress to their fullest potential, it is expected that students practice a minimum of 20 minutes a day or at least 140 minutes per week. Small chunks of practice spread over several days are better than one large practice session. The use of counting and clapping rhythms, saying note names and fingering them, and use of online theory sites are just some of the methods students should be utilizing. If they are practicing correctly, it will not always initially sound good but there should be improvement noticed over time. Encouragement and support will allow students to better build their confidence. **Those that do not practice at home will not see growth; you get out of it what you put into it! Plus, our room does not benefit from instruments being left behind!**

PASS-OFFS

All students will be evaluated on various materials throughout each quarter through pass-offs ("playing tests"). These are great tools that allow us to evaluate student learning and progress. Students will receive a pass-off sheet each quarter, and students prepare the listed material in class and at home. Then, they play it for the director for evaluation, and they have until the end of the quarter to complete material. If students have been diligent in preparing, then this will be reflected through their playing. Students should not stress about these but will need to complete them!

To consider a line passed-off (completed), a rubric will be utilized to assess the performance accuracy. This will be a pass/fail basis, but students are allowed multiple attempts to perform material accurately. We may be completing these in class and/or using Canvas or Google Classroom for submission and tracking completion of material. More information about that will be given at the appropriate time. Once material has been completed, the assignment will be marked accordingly and grades will be entered into PowerSchool. Check Canvas/GC and PowerSchool for real-time views of student progress.

SWITCHING INSTRUMENTS

Throughout the year, some of our students will have the chance to audition to change to various color instruments including bass clarinet, oboe, bassoon, saxophones, French horn, euphonium, and tuba. At no point in time will any student be allowed to change to another instrument without prior director approval.

BAND PARTICIPATION & COMMITMENT

It should be expected and understood that band be at least a 6th through 8th grade commitment unless the director determines otherwise. Registration for the next year's encore classes occurs in the spring, and band students are automatically enrolled into the next year's band class. Please see Mr. McCrary with any questions.

When students complete high school registration, they have the chance to determine if they plan to continue onto the next level of band. Our high school band is flourishing, and students in Davie County are very fortunate to have the opportunity to participate in such a fine program as that is not always the case at many other schools across the state.

The use of band facilities before, after, and during school is a privilege. Students who abuse the facility will be disciplined accordingly. Any abuse or damage will be considered vandalism. **NO OUTSIDE STUDENTS ARE PERMITTED IN THE BANDROOM** except for business with the director. There will be no horseplay, i.e. throwing of things, in or around the band room. If students are in the room before and after school, and they cannot act accordingly, they will be sent to their assigned area in the AM or sent to the office to call home in the afternoon.

All percussion is off limits to anyone not specifically designated to use them. Percussion students are responsible for keeping this area clean and organized and should alert the director when any instrument needs maintenance or repair.

No storing of personal items – THE BANDROOM IS NOT A LOCKER! All students have been assigned a school and PE locker with a lock, and they need to make use of them for those items.

The piano is for use by the Band Director and select students. Do not play the piano unless you have permission.

Chairs and Stands are very expensive and hard to replace. Please do not abuse these pieces. Remember, if you break it, you buy it!

BAND LOCKERS

Each student will be assigned a locker (NEW TO US SUMMER 2017) in the band room to use for instrument and band notebook storage DURING THE SCHOOL DAY (take instruments home at end of day and practice). These lockers have doors; however, we will not be using locks. Depending on our numbers, there may be some students that will have to share one locker with another student.

SCHOOL-OWNED INSTRUMENTS

Each student who uses a school-owned instrument is completely responsible for the care of the instrument and must turn in a completed School-Owned Instrument Form before the instrument is given for use. This form states if any damage or abuse occurs which warrants repairs, the student and parent will be financially responsible for the said repair.

Also, students are responsible for obtaining the necessary cleaning materials (valve oil, swabs, etc.) and their own mouthpiece and/or ligatures. **It should be understood that those students sharing instruments are to notify Mr. McCrary immediately if they notice that any damage to the instrument has occurred.**

CLEANING & SERVICING INSTRUMENTS

Instrument inspections will take place periodically throughout the year. Please be sure that your student cleans their instrument, and that the instrument gets serviced by a professional instrument repair technician yearly. Students will be taught in class how to take care of their instruments, and to keep them healthy and the instrument in good, working order, it is important that this happens regularly.

INSTRUMENT CARE SUPPLIES NEEDED

Flutes need a soft cloth and a cleaning rod. Handkerchiefs work well.

Clarinets need a soft cloth, cork grease, swab, reed guard, and at least 3 good reeds.

Saxophones need a soft cloth, cork grease, swab, neck strap, reed guard, and at least 3 good reeds.

Trumpets, euphoniums, and tubas need a soft cloth, valve oil, slide grease.

French horns need a soft cloth, rotor oil, slide grease.

Trombones need a soft cloth, slide oil, slide grease.

All cases should have an attached nametag with contact information at all times.

PURCHASING INSTRUMENT-SPECIFIC MATERIALS

You are free to shop where you like, but in our opinion, Counterpoint Music on the town square in downtown Mocksville best meets our program's needs. The Band Attic in Spencer is also highly recommended. Feel free to contact Mr. McCrary if you have any questions.

FALL CONCERT

This concert is for our 8th grade band. For this event, performing students play music related to the Halloween season, and dress in costume!

WINTER & SPRING CONCERTS

All students will be performing in a winter concert in December, and a spring concert in May.

ALL-COUNTY BAND

Davie County has a middle school All-County Band. Band students from North, South, and Ellis audition for placement into the all-county band. We take pride in sending kids to these auditions and expect a large number of participants. The clinic, which consists of rehearsals and a concert, is usually a Friday and Saturday in November. These events are open to 7th and 8th grade students. We **strongly urge** all 7th and 8th graders audition for this event.

8th GRADE BAND NIGHT

8th grade band students from across Davie County are invited to perform with the War Eagle Regiment. This event is required for 8th grade students.

ALL-DISTRICT BAND

This opportunity is also open to 7th and 8th grade students. To audition for All-District, students should have at least auditioned for All-County Band. Auditions take place in January, and students earning placement will participate in a clinic much like the All-County Clinic in February. This includes an over-night trip to Boone. We **strongly urge and expect** all 7th and 8th graders audition for this event.

ALL-STATE BAND

Those placing high enough at All-District are eligible to audition for the All-State Band in March. If selected by audition, the overnight clinic is in early May either at UNC-Greensboro or UNC-Chapel Hill.

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT & CAROWINDS

Traditionally, our 7th grade band travels to Carowinds and may participate in a music festival. Students must earn this opportunity by demonstrating great work ethic and behavior, and participation in this is not a guarantee if students have not met behavior requirements. Also, if students do not attend the fall & spring band concerts, they **WILL NOT** be allowed to travel to Carowinds.

SOLO/ENSEMBLE MPA & CHAMBER MUSIC & DESSERT SOCIAL NIGHT

Just as an ensemble may go to band festival, soloists and small ensembles (duets, trios, quartets, etc.) **of all grade levels** in middle school are **strongly urged** to go to Solo and Ensemble MPA, which will be held in April. Ratings and constructive feedback like those given to bands at MPA are given to each member of a small ensemble and to each soloist. Students that perform for this event will be our featured performers at our annual Chamber Music & Dessert Social Night

MPA RETREAT, PREVIEW CONCERT, & PERFORMANCE

8th grade students will have the opportunity to perform at the Northwest District Music Performance Assessment. This performance is one of the most important performances that bands can attend, and one we hope showcases the student's growth and hard work over the past three years. It is our band's goal to earn a Superior rating. Groups attending MPA prepare and perform three pieces for a panel of 3 judges and complete a sight-reading with a 4th judge. The panel of adjudicators rates the band's performance using a five-level scale:

I = Superior — II = Excellent — III = Average —
IV = Below Average — V = Poor

Both the MPA preview concert and the retreat are required events. Students that are on level 1 or 2 at the time of the trip will not be able to travel with us to MPA. Flawless student behavior is imperative!

SPRING TRIP—8th

Provided that it is approved by the administration, school system, and student behavior and work ethic is evident, we may be looking to do another spring trip! If we are approved to plan a trip, parents and students will be responsible for funding the trip. If financial concern is prohibiting students from attending the trip, please let us know. Trip costs are broken down into several smaller payments to make it easier to complete payment. We do not want to anyone to not attend the trip due to lack of finances. Students will have to have a record of great behavior both in band and in their other classes to attend. Any student with a grade below a C in band, anyone that has been in OSS, and those on level 1 or 2 at the time of the trip will not be eligible to attend. This trip is a privilege for our students and not a right and serves as a reward to those that have worked hard and have earned it.

JAZZ MPA

Just as an ensemble may go to band festival, our jazz band does the same. This event is in May, and we will also receive a rating for this performance. This is usually a school-day trip but could be on a Saturday depending on how certain dates align. Again, it is our goal for our band to receive a Superior rating.

A DETAILED CALENDAR IS TRADITIONALLY PROVIDED; HOWEVER, WITH EVENT UNCERTAINTY DUE TO COVID, ALL EVENTS FOR 2020-2021 WILL BE ANNOUNCED IF THEY ARE OCCURRING AND WE ARE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE.

BAND FEE

There is a \$10 countywide band fee that we charge for every child in the band. This should have been paid at open house, or as soon as possible. This fee helps to cover items we need such as new music, materials, and repairs.

BOW TIES

~~All male band students will need to buy a school colored tie to wear for our concerts. Once purchased and if kept up with, our 6th and 7th graders will be able to wear these ties for band performances over the next 2-3 years. Since our 8th graders will represent South Davie at Music Performance Adjudication, it is another way we can promote pride in our school and community. These ties are multipurpose for all students and they can be worn for any event where one is needed. If your son still has theirs from last year, then another one doesn't need to be purchased.~~

TEE-SHIRTS & HOODIES

All 6th grade students will need to buy a band tee shirt, and it is expected that **all** current students have a band tee shirt that fits. These will be worn for various events throughout the year. All students and families have the option to buy an SDMS Band hoodie. These items are also open for purchase by anyone that would like to support the band! Complete the merchandise form to order. Again, let us know if you need help obtaining materials or are in need of a payment plan. We are a family and we do not want any member of our group going without any of the items above. Any and all payment plans must be paid in full by year's end. Unpaid fees will be submitted to the office for collection.

BAND BOOKS

6th & 7th grade will use Habits of a Successful Beginner Band Musician (green book) by Scott Rush and Jeff Scott. These are instrument specific, meaning each instrument will have its own version of the book. These are \$10, and should be purchased online at www.giamusic.com, from The Band Attic in Spencer or Counterpoint Music in downtown Mocksville.

8th grade will be using their 7th grade book and Habits of a Successful Middle School Band. These are owned by the band and will be checked out to each student. At the end of the year, these are to be returned, and students will be charged for damaged or lost books.

NEEDED STEP-UP EQUIPMENT

Students in 7th & 8th grade bands will need to purchase the following items to allow for continued progression:

Clarinet & Bass Clarinet: Fobes Debut mouthpiece & Rovener ligature

Alto/Tenor Saxophone: Yamaha mouthpiece, Selmer S90 or Selmer C-Star, Bois Classique or Rovener ligature

Bari Sax: Yamaha mouthpiece & Rovener ligature

French horn: Holton Farkas MDC (Medium Deep Cup)

Trumpet: Yamaha TR14C4/Bach or Blessing or Jupiter 5C

Trombone: Yamaha 48/Bach or Blessing or Jupiter 6.5 AL (check shank size)

Euphonium: Bach/Blessing/Jupiter 6.5 AL (check shank size)

Tuba: Conn Helleburg

OTHER USEFUL ITEMS

Tuners & Metronomes: Snark, Korg, or another brand. Certain models have both tools. There are many free or cheap apps for digital devices. The Tonal Energy app for i-devices or Android is the best one I have found and is highly recommended. Students can use tuners during rehearsal, and both should be utilized during home practice.

Thank you for allowing your student the chance to be a part of our program! Regardless of your musical background, a parent's support and encouragement will have a tremendous impact on your child's progress in band. To assist in the musical growth of your child:

Support the goals, policies, procedures, and decisions of your child's band director. Your child succeeds when the program succeeds.

Require practicing at home on a daily basis. Provide a regular time and place where your child can practice every day.

Ask your child to play for you. Encourage performance. POSITIVITY, POSITIVITY, POSITIVITY!

Teach your child to be punctual by helping them be on time for rehearsals and performances.

Enthusiastically attend all band functions to show your support. Get involved.

Help keep your child's instrument in good, playing condition.

Know that we aim for all students to enjoy making music, and we appreciate your support and patience during this journey! This journey can be quite amazing if students do their part.

FUNDRAISERS

In order to continue the tradition of a successful band program, we must keep our students well equipped and provided for. It is our philosophy that our students are the best and they deserve the best that we can provide in terms of instruments and educational experiences. It is our desire to make sure we are continually investing in the needs of the band so that we are able to provide only the best experiences possible. It is our job to raise money if we want to provide these experiences. It is IMPERATIVE that everyone participates in fundraising opportunities. Students will be given an amount set as an attainable fundraiser goal. Also, we will accept donations from anyone of any amount at any time throughout the year.

WHO TO CONTACT

It cannot be stressed enough that your main contact for band-related questions is the band director!

If you have questions about band concerts, fundraisers, trips, contact the band director.

If you have question about scheduling, contact the band director.

Band is literally one of the busiest activities at our school. Front office staff has to manage the whole school, and do not always know our details and nor should they. Your calls/emails/concerns will be forwarded to the band director, so just save a step and contact him directly.

HOW TO STAY INFORMED

Communication is vital for the success of any organization, and keeping you informed is a top priority. The majority of our communication to families will be via email

1. Check email (THE way we communicate with parents)

2. Check Canvas

3. Check band website (a live Google calendar, emailed documents, and other things are posted here)

4. Sign up to receive band text messages

5. "Like" our band Facebook page and follow us on Instagram: southdavielandofficial

If you are not at least receiving emails, checking the website, and checking calendars, then you will not be informed! You will be in the loop if you are using the resources in place to distribute information.

IN CLOSING

Young people in today's society need positive direction in their lives. We see band as an opportunity to shape young lives and to positively influence young people. Students must understand that their lives will have a tremendous impact on the lives of others, and the nature of that impact (good or bad) is up to the individual.

Remind your child when the challenge becomes tough, that teachers, just like parents, set high standards because we care. We believe that all students that join our program have the ability to experience success. With enough practice, persistence, and can-do attitude, anyone can be successful. Below, you can find a few quotes that I hope our students will appreciate and remember throughout the year. Many thanks for your support of our program and best wishes for a safe, happy, and successful school year.

"Making music with family of lifelong friends. Understanding how commitment and dedication lead to success. Sharing the joy and rewards of working together. Individuals who develop self-confidence. Creativity – expressing yourself in a universal language. BAND is...MUSIC! Strike up the band!" Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser

"Strive for excellence."

COMPLETE THE BAND HANBOOK CONTRACT THAT WILL BE EMAILED AND PLACED ON CANVAS!