

# **SOUTHWESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**WILDCATS**



**2017-2018  
BAND HANDBOOK**

# Southwestern Middle School Wildcat Bands

As a member of the band, you are a member of a team. We all must work together to achieve the many successes that are in our future. Over the course of this school year, try to remember the many reasons for participating in Band such as *“Learning an Instrument”, “Fun”, “Teamwork”, “A Sense of Belonging”, “Learning Responsibility”, “Music Makes You Smarter”, “Cultural Enrichment”,* and many others. It is exciting to think about how much we really will accomplish this year.

**Parents** - Insuring student success in the band program requires cooperation from the teacher, student, and parent. Parents are a great support system for their children and should provide structure, praise, encouragement, and practice time. This handbook has been prepared to help you know what is expected of each student. Please become familiar with its contents and support your musician and the total band program.

- **Students and Parents** - Please read through this handbook carefully and discuss it together.
- After you have read and discussed the information in this handbook, please sign the **Confirmation Sheet** and return it to the band director.
- Please keep this handbook in a safe place so you may refer to it, if the need arises.
- If you have any questions regarding this handbook or your child’s progress, please feel free to contact the band director.

Sincerely,

Mr. Tom Eisan  
Director of Bands  
Southwestern Middle School  
Tippecanoe School Corporation  
teisan@tsc.k12.in.us  
School Phone: (765) 269-8709

## DAILY REHEARSAL PROCEDURES

1. Enter the room with a positive attitude and good behavior.
2. Find your seat quickly and check the daily agenda
3. Attendance and announcements.
4. Get your instrument, music folder, and sit back down in your seat.
5. Put your music and materials in order according to the agenda.
6. When the teacher is on the podium, no one should be talking.
7. If you are well enough to be at school, you are well enough to play your instrument. A note is required from a parent or the school nurse, if you have an injury inhibiting you from participating in class.

## CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS FOR BAND

1. Students must be in their seat with all required materials by the end of the passing period.
  - Tardiness will follow the Southwestern Middle School Tardy Policies
  - Restroom Policy will follow the Grade Level Restroom Policies.
2. Gum, candy, food, or drinks are not allowed in the classroom at any time.
3. Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking or leaving your seat, unless there is an emergency.
4. Keep your hands, feet, and all other objects to yourself – No Bullying
5. Do not disrupt the education of other students in any way or manner.

## TECHNOLOGY EXPECTATIONS FOR BAND

1. Have your Chromebook charged and ready to use when needed for class.
2. Your Chromebook will be used primarily for playing tests and music theory homework.
3. There will be some web-based assignments in band, which will also use the Chromebook.

## WHAT ARE THE GO W.I.L.D EXPECTATIONS?

At Southwestern students are expected to GO W.I.L.D!

- **W**ork Hard
- **I**nvolve myself
- **L**isten Carefully
- **D**emonstrate good citizenship

Students are expected to respect each other as individuals, demonstrate good citizenship, follow class rules and expectations, participate in class in a positive manner, and complete class work and homework to the best of your ability by the scheduled due date.

**GO WILD Citizenship Grades** will be based on the following criteria.

- Tardy – 5%
- Late/Missing Work - 5%
- Class Disruption – 5%
- Office Referral – 21%

**Follow these simple rules and we will be on our way to a successful school year.**

## EXPECTATIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

- 1<sup>st</sup> time: Verbal Warning (you will be aware)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> time: Student will conference with the teacher after class
- 3<sup>rd</sup> time: Parents will be contacted AND detention before, after, or during school.
- 4<sup>th</sup> or more times: Discipline Referral to Office + Parents Contacted

**GO WILD Citizenship Grades** will be based on the following criteria.

## CLASS MATERIALS

Students are expected to bring the following materials to class each day without exceptions!

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band – Beginning Band**

- Musical Instrument
- Essential Elements 2000 interactive Band Method – Book I
  - Included with the purchase of all beginning band starter packs
- Flat Black – 1 inch Music Binder for sheet music – Needed for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester
- Pencil (PLEASE – NO PENS)
- Yellow Highlighter
- Proper instrument maintenance supplies: Reeds, valve oil, slide grease, cork grease, swab, etc. – These supplies were included in your starter pack from the music store.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band – Intermediate Band**

- Musical Instrument
- Essential Elements 2000 interactive Band Method - Book II
  - Woodwind and Brass Book II: \$10.00
  - Percussion Book II: \$17.00
- Southwestern Red Warm-up Binder - For students to use, but not to keep.
- Flat Black – 1 inch Music Binder for sheet music
- Pencil (PLEASE – NO PENS)
- Proper instrument maintenance supplies: Reeds, valve oil, slide grease, cork grease, swab, etc.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band – Advanced Band**

- Musical Instrument
- Essential Elements 2000 interactive Band Method - Book II
  - Woodwind and Brass Book II: \$10.00
  - Percussion Book II: \$17.00
- Southwestern White Warm-up Binder - For students to use, but not to keep
- Flat Black – 1 inch Music Binder for sheet music
- Pencil (PLEASE – NO PENS)
- Proper instrument maintenance supplies: Reeds, valve oil, slide grease, cork grease, swab, etc.

## CONCERT DRESS CODE

It is also important the Southwestern Bands present a good appearance at performances. The dress code for performances is as follows:

### **Gentlemen:**

- Southwestern Band Shirt – Order Form will be sent home with all band students
- Black Dress Pants
- Black Socks
- Black Dress Shoes.

### **Ladies:**

- Southwestern Band Shirt – Order Form will be sent home with all band students
- Black Dress Pants
- Black Socks
- Black Dress Shoes – Black flat OR closed-toe shoe with a maximum of a 2 inch heel

## Equipment Rental, Care and Storage

### **Equipment Care**

Equipment will function properly if it is cared for properly. All students are expected to:

- Keep their instruments in good condition working condition
- Keep their music, music books, and music binders in good condition
- Keep school assigned band folder cart and school instrument storage locker in good condition

### **Student Instrument Storage Area**

A place to store your instrument is provided by the school. Students are responsible for any item contained in the storage area. The storage areas are school property and subject to search at any time. Please respect the storage area and plan on taking your instrument home each day to practice. Students are responsible for all music issued to them. Students are asked to put their jazz band music in their regular band class binder to maintain its good condition.

## JAZZ BAND

The Southwestern Wildcat Jazz Band is open to all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade band students during the 1<sup>st</sup> semester. The Wildcat Jazz Band normally meets before school twice a week outside the regular school day. Jazz Band is a great opportunity for students to explore several different styles of jazz and modern music. The jazz band performs at the winter and spring band concerts and also competes in the ISSMA Jazz Contest.

6<sup>th</sup> graders and any new students may audition to join the Wildcat Jazz Band during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. Once a student has passed the audition into the Wildcat Jazz Band, they are also expected to continue practicing and preparing music for their regular band classes. A rehearsal schedule will be sent home and published on the band website for each semester.

# Grading Policy

## 10% Daily Participation

- Positive Participation, Behavior, and Attitude every day.
- Student comes to class prepared with the proper materials each day.
- Student is prepared to play all required music in class each day.
- Instrument Care and Maintenance - Maintain your instrument in good working condition

## 15% Homework

- Homework will cover musical terms, basic music theory, and history which will be used to prepare/assess students for tests

## 15% Written Tests & Class Writing

- Students will be tested over musical terms, music theory, and music history. In class, we will also listen to a variety of different genres and styles of music and journal about a topics relating to the music listening. We will also write reflective and self-assessment journals regarding aspects of being a good musician and concert preparation.

## 20% Playing Tests

- Playing Tests will be used to assess student progress several times throughout each grading period. Playing tests will be worth 20 points each. Students will be tested on material covered in class by using the TSC Playing Test Rubric.

## 10% Final Exam/End of Course Assessment

- Tippecanoe School Corporation requires all teachers to give their students a Final Exam or End of Course Assessment. All Band students will be taking a grade-level corporation exam

## 30% Concert Attendance

- ALL practices and performances have been scheduled in advance and are a co-curricular requirement of this class. Band concerts and performances should not conflict with any Southwestern sporting activities. Please see the attached calendar of events. No points or grade can be earned if a student is not in attendance.
  - Students are expected to attend each required performance.
  - Unexcused absences will not be accepted.
  - Excused absences (illness, death in the family, etc) will only be accepted with a signed note from a parent.
  - Missing a performance will require make-up work at the discretion of the director.

# **Extra Credit and Make-up Work**

## **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**

This year, the Southwestern Music Department will be participating in the Box Tops for Education program sponsored by General Mills Company. Clip the box top coupons from the many participating General Mills products and turn them into your music teacher. Each coupon is worth \$.10 and will be used towards the music department. To get the extra credit, please bring the box tops in a Ziploc type container marked with the first and last name of the student.

## **HONOR BANDS**

Any student who participates in an honor band of any kind may receive extra credit. This includes IBA All-Region Bands, IMEA Bands, and other special groups.

## **EXTRA MUSIC ACTIVITIES**

Students who play instrumental music outside their regular required school activities may receive extra credit. Outside activities include the following: music in church groups, youth symphony, performing the National Anthem, Taps, or any other public performance.

## **NON-SOUTHWESTERN CONCERT ATTENDANCE**

Students who attend approved concerts and show proof of attendance may receive extra credit. This includes concerts by other TSC performance groups, symphony concerts, collegiate music concerts, Purdue Convocations, and other approved performances.

## **CONCERT REVIEWS & MUSIC REPORTS**

Students can receive extra credit if they write a review of a recently attended concert or performance. Music reports, on approved topics, can be turned in for extra credit. The source for the information must be cited. Plagiarism or anything remotely close will not be accepted.

## **MUSICAL PERFORMANCES**

Director-approved repertoire may be given to the students to perform in class. The performances must show outside work and be performance ready.

## **MUSIC COMPOSITIONS**

Personal compositions are encouraged! Any student who would like extra credit or make-up work should consider writing a composition for members of the band to perform. This assignment must be director approved.

## **SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CONTEST**

The annual Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA) Solo & Ensemble Contest will be held in at Harrison High School. All band students are highly encouraged to participate in the ISSMA contests. Students interested in participating in solo and ensemble will be responsible for filling out the ISSMA forms provided by the band director and preparing their pieces.

# PRIVATE LESSONS

1. There is no single thing you can do to have more musical success, than enrolling in private lessons.
  2. Many of our Southwestern band students are already taking advantage of this great opportunity. In the Lafayette Area, we have many great instrumental music teachers who have a large amount of musical experience.
  3. Private lessons are strongly encouraged and a highly recommended way for band students to learn more about their instrument. This individual attention can be very important in helping children develop their musical ability to its fullest potential.
  4. Students who take private lessons are almost always among the most advanced and capable band students.
  5. Private lessons provide individualized instruction on your instrument that neither rehearsals nor sectionals can offer.
  6. Lessons generally meet once a week and you will be practicing a method book in addition to your band music.
  7. Please contact the director of bands for an approved private lesson teacher list.
- **Students who are studying with an approved private lesson teacher on a weekly basis will receive extra credit towards their class grade. However, you MUST notify the band director using the “Private Lesson Teacher Form” below to receive credit.**

**Please call if you need a recommendation for private teacher.**



## **Private Lesson Teacher Form**

**Band Student First & Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Private Lesson Teacher First and Last name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Private Lesson Teacher Phone #: (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_



Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Chaperone/Volunteer Form**

We are blessed to have to opportunity to have an exceptional music program at Southwestern Middle School; however, the program can not be successful without supportive parent volunteers. As we have all learned, if everyone pitches in with one duty or activity, then the burden is much easier to bear for all. Your assistance with any of the items listed below will be greatly appreciated. There is always a need for volunteers and we are happy to work within your individual capabilities and exploit your talents wherever possible!

**Please check all areas you can participate during this school year.**

I can help with supervision before one or more of the band concerts.

Please check all that apply:

- Winter Band Concert – December 13, 2017 from 6:15 to 7:00pm
- Fine Arts Concert - March 13, 2018 from 6:15 to 7:00pm
- Spring Concert - May 16, 2018 from 6:15 to 7:00pm

I can chaperone for the (ISSMA) Indiana State Schools of Music Association Jazz Contest:

The band contest will be on ONE of the following days.

- Friday March 2, 2018 at Brownsburg east Middle School.

OR

- Saturday March 3, 2018 at Brownsburg east Middle School.

I would be interested in being a chaperone for the (ISSMA) Indiana State Schools of Music Association Band Contest. The jazz band contest will be on ONE of the following days.

- Friday April 6

OR

- Saturday April 7, 2018 at McCutcheon H.S.

I am interested in being a member of the Wildcat Band Boosters.

The Wildcat Band Boosters meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month from 6:00PM – 7:00PM in the Southwestern Band Room

- I am interested in being a Wildcat Band Booster Parent

## Wildcat Band Handbook - Confirmation Form

- The classroom teacher has discussed the Wildcat Band Handbook and its policies and procedures with your Southwestern student.
- The Wildcat Band Handbook has also been sent to the **email** you provided the school when you registered your child.
- Please check the appropriate box(s) and return the signed confirmation sheet with your child by **Friday August, 25, 2017**.

- I have received** the Wildcat Band Handbook, either a paper copy from my child and/or by email, and have read and understand its policies and procedures.
- I am also sending in the following forms back with my child:
- Chaperone/Volunteer Form
  - Private Lesson Teacher Form
- I did NOT receive the Southwestern Band Handbook**

**IMPORTANT:** Please sign below to indicate parent(s) and student(s) have read and understand the Wildcat Band Handbook and its policies. Please return this paper and any others to your teacher. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Eisan by email or phone.

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/ Guardian Signature

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

Mr. Tom Eisan  
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School Phone: (765) 269-8709



# GO WILDCATS!



## 2017-2018 Wildcat Band Calendar

<b>Friday September 1, 2017</b>	<b>Indiana Bandmasters Association All-Region Honor Band Student Application Deadline Advanced Band Students Only</b>	<b>Student Application be completed on the IBA Website</b>
<b>Thursday September 21, 2017</b>	<b>Semester 1 Wildcat Jazz Band Separate schedule to be sent out</b>	<b>7:00 AM</b>
<b>Tuesday, October 17, 2017</b>	<b>TSC Fall Band Festival at McCutcheon High School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Only Permission Slip Required</b>	<b>7:00 PM McCutcheon Auditorium</b>
<b>Saturday &amp; Sunday November 11 &amp; 12, 2017</b>	<b>Indiana Bandmasters Association All-Region Honor Band Saturday Rehearsal and Sunday Concert</b>	<b>Schedule on IBA Website</b>
<b>Friday November 17, 2017</b>	<b>ISSMA Solo and Ensemble Contest Entry Fee Deadline</b>	<b>All Entry Fees due by 11/17/17</b>
<b>Wednesday December 13, 2017</b>	<b>Winter Band Concert at Southwestern 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Bands and Wildcat Jazz Band</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>Saturday February 3, 2018</b>	<b>ISSMA Woodwinds, Brass &amp; Percussion Solo and Ensemble Contest at Harrison High School</b>	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Saturday March 2 or 3, 2018</b>	<b>ISSMA Jazz Contest Brownsburg East Middle School</b>	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday March 6, 7, 8, 2018</b>	<b>Semester 2 Wildcat Jazz Band Auditions</b>	<b>7:00 AM</b>
<b>Tuesday March 13, 2018</b>	<b>Fine Arts Concert at SMS 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Bands and Choirs</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>Friday or Saturday April 6 or 7, 2018</b>	<b>ISSMA Band Contest McCutcheon High School 7<sup>th</sup> &amp; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Only</b>	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Wednesday May 16, 2018</b>	<b>Spring Band Awards Concert 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, &amp; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Bands and Wildcat Jazz Band</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>