

Grading Procedures and Classroom Expectations
2008-2009 Beginning Band

1. **GRADES:** A quarterly grade will consist of concert attendance (if applicable), participation in rehearsals, application of learned music and techniques, practicing, and class work or quizzes at instructor's discretion. Approximate grade breakdown is as follows: school concerts 25%, practicing 30%, daily participation and application in rehearsal 40%, and class work or quizzes 5%.
 - a. **PREPAREDNESS:** Be in your assigned seat before the beginning of rehearsal. Have your music folder with a pencil (pens are not allowed for writing in music). Have warm-up materials and instrument out and ready to go. If you do not have all necessary music, instrument, and supplies with you, it will result in a participation grade reduction. *Bathroom breaks must be taken before class!* Any bathroom breaks during class will drop your daily participation grade by one letter grade. Use them wisely!
 - b. **PARTICIPATION IN REHEARSALS:** You will be called upon to play as a full band and in sections throughout rehearsal. On occasion, you may be called upon to play individually. Your participation grade is reflected in warm-ups, exercises, and all playing. The participation grade also takes into consideration your attitude and behavior in class.
 - c. **APPLICATION OF LEARNED MUSIC AND TECHNIQUES:** You will be presented with new music and musical techniques for playing each quarter. You will apply these techniques to the music as well as learning the pitches, rhythms, and styles of the music. Techniques will include posture, breathing, articulation, blending, tone, and others as needed.
 - d. **PRACTICING:** Each student will be expected to practice their instrument. The following is the schedule for grading practice time in one week: **4 days at 30 minutes=A; 3 days at 30 minutes=B; 2 days at 30 minutes=C; 1 day at 30 minutes=D; No practice or failure to turn in your practice record=F.** You will also be required to fill out a practice record, which your parent must sign, that reflects these practice times. Practice records are due the first rehearsal of each week. Late practice records will drop one letter grade for each day they are late. *Remember; practicing is 30% of your overall band grade.*
 - e. **CLASS WORK AND QUIZZES:** In class worksheets and quizzes may be given on occasion as needed. These will not be scheduled on any regular basis.
 - f. **EXTRA CREDIT:** If you attend concerts or programs and provide proof of your attendance (program, ticket stub, etc.) You can earn 5 extra credit points. No more than 5 points per quarter will be given. Extra practice opportunities are given for long holidays (Thanksgiving, Christmas and Spring Breaks).
2. **ATTENDANCE:**
 - a. **ABSENCES AND TARDIES:** Please refer to the school policies on absences and tardiness for detailed information. Absences and tardiness in excess of school policy may result in a grade reduction.
 - b. **CONCERT ABSENCES:** You are part of a very important ensemble. EVERY concert and festival will be considered mandatory. If you have a personal matter that arises and you cannot attend, PRIOR arrangements must be made with Mrs. Sullivan and you will be required to complete a make-up assignment. We must act as a "team" and when one "player" is missing, the team does not play as well.
3. **BEHAVIOR:**
 - a. **TALKING:** Do not talk while another is speaking – listen, this shows respect and honor to others. If you want to speak, wait until the speaker is finished. Please raise your hand if you have a question or want to answer.
 - b. **ATTITUDE:** I will be expecting positive attitudes from all students. The Lord has given you a special gift of music so please be thankful and positive; use your gift to the best of your ability!
 - c. **MISCELLANEOUS:** I expect the classroom to be neat and clean after each class period. Please be courteous to others and pick up any mess that you make, or that you see. You will be responsible for your own music stand and rehearsal chair.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____