

## **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Hand Book**

Dear Band Students and Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year! I hope everyone had a great summer. I am excited about the new year and I hope you are!

This packet is to give you information about the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band for the 2007/2008 school year.

If you have any questions throughout the year call me at 867-7430 ext. 3522

**Band Class Information-** Band meets every day and is combined 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. We will work from a band technique book and work on music from a variety of musical styles ranging from rock to jazz, to classical and traditional band music.

**Materials -** All students will be expected to have their music and instrument every day for class. (Percussion need to have their own drumsticks every day!! Other mallets will be provided).

-Wind players should have extra reeds, valve and slide oil, depending on what you need for your instrument.

(These items will be for sale in the band room or you can buy them on your own.)

-All students will be assigned a slot in the music cabinet, please keep your music in it.

-All students will be responsible for keeping their music in a folder and keeping it organized!

**All Seventh and Eighth grade students** will be required to purchase the book Step by Step band Technique, if you do not have one already. The money will be collected for books at school and should be turned in by Friday, August 31st. Prices are \$4.25 each for wind instruments and \$5.00 for percussion (**Make checks payable to Edgewood Band Boosters**) We will also be working on various pieces of music throughout the year.

### **Grades**

Students will receive up to 20 points per week for their grade. It will be based on progress, participation and having materials everyday. Concerts will be worth 25 points each.

**Concerts**- There will be three scheduled concerts this year. We will also perform at one pep assembly and the White Christmas program.

-Concert attendance is mandatory and part of a student's grade. Concerts should only be missed for family or medical emergencies and a note from a parent should be brought in to the band director for missed concerts.

**Practicing**- Students should plan on daily practice! It is recommended that you practice at least 30 minutes a day to make good progress on your instrument.

\*\*Students should practice from the step by step book and work on their music.

Practice Tips:

- Practice where it's quiet and your not disturbed
- Work on parts of your music that are difficult for you slowly
- Practice from the step by step book at different tempos
- Try to practice at the same time every day
- Keep a good attitude about your playing—Have you done your best!

**Pep Band**- Is a band that plays for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade basketball games in December and January. It is open to all students' grades 6-8, and open to all instruments. It is an extra-curricular activity, so students need follow the policies the same as sports as far as grades to stay eligible. Pep band plays after school for games during the week and only plays at home games.

The band is to support the teams and have fun. We play the fight song, cheer music, and various songs to provide music for the crowd.

**Jazz Band-** Is a small group that plays jazz and rock styles of music. This band is selected by audition. The instrumentation is Saxophones: (alto, tenor, bari) Trumpets, Trombones, Keyboard, Bass Guitar, Drum set, Guitar. It meets after school in the second half of the school year and performs two concerts in the auditorium, and plays once during lunch time at EMS.

### **Private Lessons**

Lessons are offered at school, they are half hour once a week and taught by Mr. Baker and some High School Band students.

Lessons are offered on all band instruments, drumset and guitar.

Prices depend on teacher. See Mr. Baker and fill out a lesson form if you are interested.

### **Band Room Rules**

-Play only your instrument (IF YOUR NOT A PERCUSSIONIST DO NOT TOUCH THE PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS!!)

- Be respectful to the teacher, other students and their property

-NO Gum or Candy in the room (Food and Drinks will be an exception during pep band)

-Be in the room when the 2<sup>nd</sup> bell rings, do not leave the room during class time without a pass and permission!

-No talking during rehearsal

-Do not leave music or instruments out after rehearsals

**Band Boosters**

The Edgewood Band Boosters is the parent group that supports the band program at Edgewood City Schools. They would like your help in any way you could offer. For more information check out [edgewoodband.com](http://edgewoodband.com) or contact Mr. Baker at EMS.

Parents please sign and return the portion below

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I have received and read the EMS Band handbook.

Childs Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Gaurdian

Signature \_\_\_\_\_