

Whiteaker Symphonic Band Handbook

2016 - 2017



Let's Make Music!!

Sean Turner
Director

Teaching/Learning Mission Statement

- ✚ We will constantly strive for musical excellence through consistent daily rehearsal and individual practice.
- ✚ We will develop each student's ability to cooperatively work as part of a team, whether leading or following.
- ✚ We will provide a constructive and positive outlet, via music making, for each student to express his or her fears, emotions, and desires.

Course Information

All Students are required to participate in all performances appearances by the band.

Symphonic Band

Full Year

Prerequisite: Teacher Approval

Open to all approved students who have had previous experience playing a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. Instruction focuses on the preparation of music in a variety of types and styles for public concerts, adjudicated festivals, and other events along with a focus on advanced middle school and early high school level band technique (tone, rhythmic accuracy, technical facility, articulation, intonation, blend, balance, and musical expression). Students are required to participate in all performances by the group. Participation is not limited to: after school rehearsals (scheduled as needed), a weekly school section rehearsal, an audition for the All-City Band, and a performance in the annual Salem-Keizer Middle School Solo and Ensemble Festival.

The Whiteaker Middle School Advanced Band requires an increased level of commitment by students who have shown Mr. Turner superior levels of knowledge, enthusiasm, self-direction, and industry. Advanced Band Probation is made available to those students, who show a pattern of not making an effort to maintain the high standards of this group through practicing and in-class auditions. These students will need to schedule a parent/teacher conference, either in person or over the phone. Improvement must be made or the student will be moved to a more suitable band class.

Placement in more advanced performing ensembles is determined by several factors including: audition performance level, experience, maturity, responsibility, behavior, attitude, and industry, to name a few. Playing exams, along with the performance record of the individual student for that semester, will be used to place the students in the ensemble. Students will be placed in an ensemble that gives them the best opportunity to be challenged and to contribute to the group. Students will be constantly evaluated and given feedback regarding their performance level throughout the year.

Advanced Band Performance Dress

The first impression a band makes on an audience is how they look. When a band goes on stage with all of its members dressed in uniform the audience will know that the performers are proud and ready to perform. In order to achieve a good first impression at our concerts, the following concert attire will be required. Mr. Formal will be coming to the advanced band class to measure and fit students who don't have a tux shirt.

Boys:

White Tux shirt (long sleeve) Purchased at Mr. Formal

Dark Blue bow tie and cummerbund (School Provided)

Black slacks (not jeans)

Black dress shoes (not sneakers)

Black socks

Girls:

Black Dress (School Provided)

Black dress shoes

Black socks or nylons

All City Honor Band

The annual Salem-Keizer All City Honor Band will be held again this school year. Each student will sign up to audition and will be assigned a time to appear before the judges. *This audition will also serve as the students' performance work sample.* The audition materials will be made available to all middle schools at the same time and will be worked on in sectionals and individually with Mr. Turner and with the students' private lesson teachers.

Sectional Rehearsals

As often as once a week, a different section of the **Advanced Band** will be required to remain after school or during lunch for sectional rehearsals. Students should arrange transportation so that these sectionals are not missed. The schedule for sectionals will be worked out in the first week of school with the advanced band members. (After school sectionals begin promptly at 2:45 p.m. and end at 3:30 p.m.). Effort will be made to accommodate after school schedules.

Required Equipment

Wind Classes (Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced (either woodwind or brass)):

- ✚ **Instrument:** complete and working
- ✚ **Special Needs** for your instrument (“Vandoren” reeds, neck straps, valve oil, etc.)
- ✚ **Cleaning Kit** for your instrument

Percussion Students:

- ✚ **Stick bag, snare sticks (Vic Firth SD-1 Generals), and one pair of medium hard yarn mallets**

All Students:

- ✚ **4 Sharpened pencils at all times (pen is NOT okay, not even the erasable kind)**
- ✚ **Folder** of sheet music and assigned books (folder is provided)
 - **14 Weeks to a Better Band** (can purchase from me, supplies limited)
 - **Foundations for Superior Performance**
- ✚ **Metronome and Tuner** TM-50 brand is recommended. It has both capabilities, but is inexpensive while also being very accurate. Available at Uptown Music.

Recommended Equipment

Often the accessory equipment that comes with a student instrument is fine for starting, but does not allow for a mature tone quality. The following is a list of equipment that will drastically improve your sound without the expense of purchasing a new instrument. *While this equipment is not required, it is highly recommended!* Equipment is available at local music stores such as Uptown Music or Willamette Valley Music.

For all Band Students:

- ✚ Music stand for home practice.
- ✚ Sabine Brand “Metronome”—a combined metronome and tuner.

Clarinet:

- ✚ **Mouthpiece:** Vandoren 5RV Lyre profile 88
Vandoren B45 Dot
- ✚ **Ligatures:** Rovner Ligature dark

All Saxophones:

- ✚ **Mouthpiece:** Selmer S80 C * (C star)
- ✚ **Ligatures:** Rovner Ligature dark

Trumpet/Cornet:

- ✚ **Mouthpiece:** Bach 5C
- ✚ **Mouthpiece Attachment:** “B.E.R.P”

Horn:

- ✚ **Mouthpiece:** Schilke 31

✚ **Mouthpiece Attachment:** “B.E.R.P”

Trombone:

- ✚ **Mouthpiece:** Back 6 ½ AL
- ✚ **Mouthpiece Attachment:** “B.E.R.P”

Baritone/Euphonium:

- ✚ **Mouthpiece:** Back 6 ½ AL
- ✚ **Mouthpiece Attachment:** “B.E.R.P”

Tuba:

- ✚ **Mouthpiece:** Conn Helleberg or Schilke 67

Percussion:

- ✚ **Remo Practice Pad with adjustable stand**
(required for all percussionists, great for QUIET home practice!)

General Information and Guidelines

Teamwork and Individual Practice:

Participating in band is a fun and a very rewarding activity. Like a sports team, each member in a band plays a very important role in order for it to run smoothly and successfully. Along with this role comes the responsibility for individual preparation of your part and playing with great musical discipline. Coming to class everyday ready to work as a team and create music is required to achieve these successes. Working out individual parts and practicing should be done outside of class. Each student should practice at least 30 minutes everyday. Great practice material includes: band warm-ups, band music etudes from the technique books, or material from your private lesson teacher.

Private Lessons:

Private lessons are the key to excelling on your instrument. Private lesson instructors are professionals on their instrument and will provide expert and personalized advice to help each student improve. Student who take private lessons are likely to improve more rapidly and succeed in their ensemble. All band students are encouraged to take private lessons. Lesson costs are lower than many families think, so if even remotely interested, please see Mr. Turner for a list of recommended teachers and associated costs.

Band Room Rules

The band room is a classroom designed for learning and work. It is full of delicate equipment owned both by the school and the students. People and equipment must be safe at all times in the band room; time and energy cannot be wasted. These rules state the logical expectations of student behavior in the band room:

- 1. Respect people and their property**
- 2. Only play your instrument**
- 3. Have appropriate materials in class on time**
- 4. No food, drinks, or gum in the band room**

Your Job:

1. Come to class on time
2. Give maximum effort daily!
3. Follow rehearsal etiquette.

My Job:

Help you become independent musicians!

The Challenge:

Are you a better musician today than you were yesterday?

Rehearsal Etiquette:

1. Enter the room quietly and purposefully ready to learn.
2. Warm up on the assigned passages and usual band warm-ups.
3. Be the first one to stop and the first one ready to play.
4. When the director stops the group or is working with another section, it is a no-talking situation.

Band Room Consequences

Students who choose to break the rules listed above will receive consequences at Mr. Turner's discretion. Depending on the severity and or number of classroom disruptions a student makes, consequences will include the following:

- ✓ Verbal Warning
- ✓ Removal from Rehearsal
- ✓ Conference with Mr. Turner
- ✓ Call Home with a possible Office Referral
- ✓ Discussion about Band Probation

It is also important that students are recognized for positive behavior. Positive consequences will vary each grading period, but may include special privileges, special awards, material rewards, or group rewards when the entire ensemble meets a goal.

SCHEDULED PERFORMANCES

Calendar for Whiteaker Bands: Jazz, Symphonic, Concert, Beginning, and Cadet

Expect changes and updates to this calendar. These will be made as infrequently and promptly as possible

~ This calendar is current as of 9.19.16 ~

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
9.13	5:00- 7:00, or 7:15- 9:00	Band Fitting Night (cadet & beginning only)	Claggett Creek Commons
9.22	5:00- 7:00, or 7:15- 9:00	Band Fitting Night (cadet & beginning only)	Whiteaker Cafeteria
10.12	11:00AM- 9:00PM	Papa Murphy's Fundraiser Night (all bands)	Papa Murphy's
10.13	7:00	Keizer 8 th Grade Marching Band Game with McNary Marching Band (8 th grade only)	McNary Football Field
10.28	In-Class	Poinsettia Fundraiser Sheets Due (all bands)	Whiteaker Band Room
10.28	In- Class	All City Applications due to Mr. Turner (specific All- City info on subsequent page) (symphonic only)	Whiteaker MS
11.2	5:00	Keizer MS Civil War (symphonic & 8 th only)	McNary HS
11.3	7:00	5- Note Band Concert (cadet & beginning only)	Dayspring
12.7	7:00	Winter Concert (all bands)	Dayspring
1.21	All Day	Albany Jazz Festival (jazz only)	North Albany MS
2.8	11:00AM- 9:00PM	Papa Murphy's Fundraiser Night (all bands)	Papa Murphy's
2.16	School Day	Capitol City Jazz Fest (symphonic only)	Parrish MS
2.24	School Day	Warner Pacific Festival (symphonic & jazz only)	Warner Pacific College
3.2	6:00- 8:00PM	Bingo Night (all bands)	Whiteaker Cafeteria
3.4	Various Times All Day	Straub Solo & Ensemble Festival (all bands)	Straub MS
3.21	7:00PM	Spring Concert (all bands)	Dayspring
4.11	TBA, evening	McNary Area Band Festival (symphonic only)	McNary HS
4.13	School Day	Corban University Festival (concert only)	Corban University
4.26	5:30- 8:30	MS District Festival (symphonic only)	North HS
6.1	11:00- 9:00	Papa Murphy's Fundraiser Night (all bands)	Papa Murphy's
5.15 and 5.18	3:30- 5:00	Iris Parade Rehearsal (symphonic & 8 th graders only)	McNary Band Room
5.17	3:30- 5:00	Drumline Rehearsal (percussion only)	McNary Band Room
5.20	8:00- 12:30	Iris Festival Parade (symphonic & 8 th graders only)	McNary Band Room
5.20	1:00- 3:00	Canine Concert (jazz only- lunch provided)	Copper Creek Mercantile
5.23	5:30- 8:00	Keizer Jazz Night (stage & jazz band only)	Claggett Creek MS
5.31	6:00- 8:30	Keizer's Future Freshman of McNary Field Trip (8 th grade only)	Abby's Pizza & McNary
TBA	School Day	Elementary Tour (cadet & beginning only)	Elementary Feeders
6.7	7:00	End-of-the-Year Concert (all bands)	Dayspring
TBA	5:30- 6:45	Promotion Performance (jazz only)	McNary Gymnasium
7.24- 7.28	8:00- 3:30	Band Camp	McNary HS

ALL- CITY TIMELINE
(auditioned symphonic only)

10.28	In-Class	Students turn in Applications to Mr. Turner	Whiteaker Band Room
1.12	Various Times, 3:00- 9:00	All-City Auditions	Stephens MS
1.17	6:00- 8:15	All-City Sectional	Stephens MS
1.26	6:00- 8:15	All-City Sectional	Stephens MS
1.31	6:00- 8:15	Backup All-City Sectional, in case of inclement weather	Stephens MS
2.2	6:00- 8:30	All- City Rehearsal	Stephens MS
2.3	4:00- 6:30	All- City Rehearsal	Stephens MS
2.4	9:00-12:00	All-City Rehearsal	North HS
2.4	6:00- 9:30	All-City Concert	North HS

APRIL FESTIVAL SCHEDULE
(symphonic only)

~ Afternoon rehearsals subject to alteration (ie: individual instrument sectional) or cancellation ~

3.21	7:00	Concert	Dayspring
4.10	2:45- 3:30	Afternoon Rehearsal	Whiteaker MS
4.14	2:45- 3:30	Afternoon Rehearsal	Whiteaker MS
4.17	2:45- 3:30	Afternoon Rehearsal	Whiteaker MS
4.11	Evening	McNary Area Band Festival	McNary HS
4.19	2:45- 3:30	Afternoon Rehearsal	Whiteaker MS
4.21	2:45- 3:30	Afternoon Rehearsal	Whiteaker MS
4.24	2:45- 3:30	Afternoon Rehearsal	Whiteaker MS
4.25	6:15- 9:00	Middle School District Festival	North HS

Grading Policy

***Professionalism*.....100/100**

- Each student can earn **100 points per term**. Points are given for having all materials in accessible locations at the start of each rehearsal (during school or sectionals).
- Each student can earn **100 points per performance**. These points are awarded in full if student shows up before call time with all required materials (instrument, music, concert attire, etc.) and stays for the full duration of the performance. These dates and times are listed in the performance schedule, and include concerts and festival performances (large and small ensembles)

***Playing and Written Tests*.....10**

Each student can earn **10 points per playing test**, which will be administered in class periodically. There will be no opportunities for retake on playing tests, with the exception of excused absences. It is the student’s responsibility to contact Mr. Turner for make-up work within 5 class days of the missed test.

***Written Assignments*.....10**

There will be written assignments periodically. Most will be done in class. If a student misses this opportunity s/he should meet with Mr. Turner to discuss make-up work within 5 class days of assignment.

***Sectional Participation*.....10**

Each student will earn points per sectional and after-school rehearsal attended. Only pre-approved absences will be excused.

Instrument Rental

Instruments should be purchased or rented through a local music dealer by the parents. If necessary, instruments may be obtained through the band department. Because there is a limited supply of these instruments, they will be distributed based upon financial need. There is a \$50 usage fee for these instruments. Students are held responsible for the care of the instrument and any damage due to neglect must be taken care of by the parent. Nominal care / maintenance costs will be paid for by the band

Missed Concert Policy

A concert is a very special interaction between performer and listener that cannot be duplicated or recreated in any other setting. Concerts are an essential part of the life of a young musician. Students’ progress is very evident to the audience from one concert to the next. Sometimes in life things happen that make it impossible for a student to attend a concert. Missed concerts affect a student’s grade, but certain types of absences can be made up. Students may do a make-up activity for a missed concert if:

- a) **Parents, not students, contact Mr. Turner about the absence in advance, and**
- b) **The absence was for the student’s own illness or a family emergency.**

Concerts are comparable and equal to final exams. Absences for any other reason, or where there was no communication between parents and director, are not eligible for make-up.

**Concerning band concert absences,
contact Mr. Turner at
turner_sean @salkeiz.k12.or.us
before 4:00 the day preceding the day of the concert.**

BAND CONTRACT SIGNATURE PAGE

Name of musician: _____

- In order for my child, named above, to take part in and receive the advantages of a program panned and sponsored by the Salem-Keizer Public School district, I hereby give permission for my child to participate in and all trips included in the band program of Whiteaker Middle School for the duration of the 2016- 2017 academic year.
- I further acknowledge that transportation may be provided at the discretion of the director and the School District.
- 7614I grant permission for my child to be photographed or video-audio taped in conjunction with these activities and performances.
- I authorize Salem-Keizer Public Schools and its employees to secure the services of a physician or hospital, and incur the expenses for necessary services in the event of an accident or illness, and *will provide payment of these costs.*
- My child and I have read and discussed the Band Contract and Handbook, in its entirety, for my enrolled band(s), which was emailed home to families through the address provided to the school. My child and I agree to follow the guidelines listed in it. My child and I will abide by the director's decisions, should my child's behavior or performance warrant disciplinary action.

Does your musician need to rent an instrument through Whiteaker? **YES** **NO**Is your musician interested in private lessons? **YES** **MAYBE** **NO**
Even a little bit? There are cheaper options than you think!Musician Shirt Size **XS** **S** **M** **L** **XL**Are you (parent/guardian) interested in volunteering
1 (or more) hour(s) of your time over the next
ten months to your child's band program? **YES** **NO**

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Return this signature page by Tuesday, September 20th.

Both the students and the parents must read and the Band Handbook. Upon doing so, please return this page to Mr. Turner. Students, this is the first assignment for your six week grade. If there are any questions or comments regarding this handbook, contact Mr. Turner at:

< turner_sean@salkeiz.k12.or.us >