West Seneca
West Bands

Wind Ensemble & Concert Band
2019-2020
Band Policy Handbook
WELCOME TO WEST SENIOR BANDS!

A full copy of this handbook is posted on Mr. Blickwedehl’s webpage for your reference.
https://www.wscschools.org/Page/19253
or wscschools.org >Select A School>West Senior> Teacher Sites>Blickwedehl, J.
Visit the web page frequently for class assignments, forms, photos and additional information!

A successful music program is built upon a cooperative effort involving the student, teacher, and parents. In order to build the foundation for a rewarding and enjoyable experience for all, we have compiled information relating to participation in our school band program.

Please read and discuss this information as a family. Familiarize yourselves with the academic expectations, behavioral expectations and performance responsibilities that membership in these performing groups requires.

Feel free to contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns that you may have. We are looking forward to a great year!

WSCSD Mission Statement:
"The Mission of the West Seneca Central School District is to provide a diversified educational program, which will produce literate, caring, ethical, responsible and productive citizens who are capable of adapting to change."

West Band Guideline:
“If everyone in the band did what I did, what would we be?”

Band Faculty

John Blickwedehl
Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Instrumental Lessons at HS, Marching Band
(716) 677-3389
jblickwedehl@wscschools.org
https://www.wscschools.org/Page/19253

John Hasselback
Jazz Ensemble, Instrumental Lessons
(716) 677-3350 x4356 jhasselback@wscschools.org

QR Code for Mr. B’s Website:

Stay Connected!
Sign-up for Remind Texts
Send text to the number 81010
For Concert Band 1920– send message: @cf6d88
For Wind Ensemble 1920– send message: @79cb933
If you have trouble with 81010 try texting instead to (716) 995-4384

Follow us on Instagram & Twitter!
@WestWindEns @WSMarchingBand
“If everyone in the band did what I did, what would we be?”

EXPECTATIONS
Members of a performance ensemble have a responsibility to one another that is unique in the school setting. All student members are expected to follow the classroom rules, come to rehearsal prepared and on time with materials and treat their teachers and fellow classmates with courtesy and respect. Because the success of the ensemble is dependent upon each and every member’s contribution, disruptive or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated.

Music performance is not a passive endeavor! It is an activity that requires its participants to be both physically and mentally engaged throughout the rehearsals and performances. Students should be ready to be engaged in class from bell to bell, even during those times when they might not be actively participating.

Band is a year-long course, and as such, we expect that students enrolling are prepared to commit to participation for the entire school year. The directors encourage communication about any issues that may arise that would jeopardize your child’s ability to fulfill this commitment.

ATTENDANCE
Music participation is a team effort. Students are expected to be on time for class and attend all events for their performing group.

Students are expected to be in the classroom by the bell each day. Tardy students will be logged. Students with multiple tardy reports may receive detentions and in chronic cases, referrals to the office. In addition to the classroom experience, participation in group rehearsals and performances is an essential part of the student’s education, and academic credit toward the student’s grade is earned through this participation. Therefore, participation in all scheduled rehearsals and performances is required (refer to the attached calendar). Absences will be excused for personal illness or a death in the family.

We request that you place band events on your family calendar now so that conflicts may be avoided later.

Lessons - Students are expected and required to attend a weekly lesson.
In addition to full band rehearsal students are expected and required to attend a weekly small group instrumental lesson. We are VERY LUCKY to have a lesson program in place in New York State. This lesson program is free and required of all members of Concert Band and Wind Ensemble. We are excited to be able to offer small group instruction of this kind at the high school level. At each lesson you will earn a grade of 0-10 based on attendance, preparation, and performance of your assignment(s). 10 is the highest grade for being fully prepared and performing at a high level, a 0 will be assigned for each lesson a student fails to attend. A full lesson-grading rubric is at the end of this syllabus. At the end of each quarter the lowest lesson grade is dropped.
At Home Practice
All Band members are expected to practice outside the classroom. It is the expectation that students on block classes take their instruments home after school on the days they have band.

Performances - Concerts and performances serve as exams for this course.
Every attempt has been made to have at least one concert per quarter. If there is more than one concert in a quarter, an average of the two concerts will be taken. Any student who misses a performance for any reason will receive a 0 for that performance. The student will have the opportunity to make up that performance grade under the following conditions:

1. The student was given prior permission from Mr. B for missing the performance or the student brings in a signed note from a parent excusing the student due to illness or other emergent situation.
2. The student will play the music for that performance for the teacher to grade.
3. The student will attend another district concert or watch a concert video and write a one page report on that concert.
4. The “make-up” will occur during the quarter that the absence occurs.

The written and playing portions of the make-up will be averaged together to replace the 0.

The report card grade
will be an average of the performance, lesson, playing exam, and class performance/participation grades.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Performances &amp; Playing Exams</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Lessons (Attendance &amp; Preparation)</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Rehearsal Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Concert Dress – the following is standard attire and required for all students:
Gentlemen – Tuxedo (jacket, pants, shirt, vest and bow tie) provided at a rental cost of $15 per school year. You must provide your own white undershirt, black socks and black shoes.
Ladies – Black, full length concert dress from Southeastern Apparel purchased through the Music Department at a cost of $60. Ladies will be fitted and dresses ordered in the first weeks of school each year. You must provide your own black undergarments, black nylons and black closed toe shoes.

Rehearsals Your class participation and efforts will be assigned a grade each quarter. All students start each quarter will a rehearsal grade of 100. Students lose points for inappropriate classroom/rehearsal behavior. Students are expected to be in their seats on time (2 minutes after bell) and ready for all lessons and rehearsals.

Rehearsal and Lesson Materials
· Pencil – for every rehearsal – you will be using it!
· Instrument – see attached equipment recommendations
· Folder and Music – (see policy)

Preparation and Performance Students are expected to be prepared for all lessons and rehearsals with all materials. The performance of lesson and ensemble material will be graded on both effort and achievement.
**Extra Credit** – Can be earned in a variety of ways each quarter!
Participating in the West Seneca Marching Band, ECMEA or NYSSMA Solo Festivals, area youth orchestras or by attending professional concerts or other high school band concerts in the area and submitting the program as verification of your attendance. Extra credit can also be earned by helping after school with many tasks as outlined above in the rehearsal grade section.

**Music and Folder Textbook Policy**
All folders and music fall under West Senior’s Textbook policy. Each student will receive a folder at the beginning of the year. Your name will be recorded as to which folder you receive. You are responsible for this folder and its contents for the duration of the year until it is turned in at the last rehearsal. While at school, folders will be kept in your band locker. When it is taken home it will be kept in a backpack or other appropriately sized container, **NOT** bent into instrument cases.

**Band Lesson Grading Rubric**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student was on time. Student had obviously prepared all material for lesson and was able to play music with relative ease. Performance of assigned etude(s) was confident and without errors. Student shows marked improvement since the last lesson.</td>
<td>Student was on time. Student appears to have prepared most material for lesson and was able to play music with a few minor difficulties. Performance of assigned etude(s) was fairly confident and with only minor errors. Student shows some improvement since the last lesson.</td>
<td>Student was late. Student appears to have prepared about half the material for lesson and was able to play music with difficulty. Performance of assigned etude(s) was unconfident and had many errors with a stop or two. Student shows little improvement since the last lesson.</td>
<td>Student was late. Student appears to have prepared little if any material for lesson and is barely able to perform music. Performance of assigned etude(s) was very unconfident and had many errors with numerous stops. Student shows no improvement since the last lesson.</td>
<td>Student did not attend lesson, did not bring instrument and/or music for lesson. The student should make up this lesson. See your lesson teacher to schedule a make-up.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Band Equipment & Accessories Recommendations

In order to help us produce a unified symphonic sound in the concert hall or on the football field, all students should have the same quality equipment to play with. If we all play on the same high-quality equipment we will be able to better create and benefit from a quality musical experience.

Flutes/ Piccolos
- cleaning rod, cleaning cloth/ handkerchief

Oboe/ Bassoon
- 3 or more med soft or med reeds, swab

Clarinets – (including Bass Clarinet)
- Mouthpiece: Vandoren B45
- Ligature: Rovner
- Reeds: Rico Reserve (Classic) 3 or 3.5
  * Vandoren 3 or 3.5
  * Mitchell Lurie 3 or 3.5
- Reed Guard - holds 4 reeds
- Mouthpiece Patch

Saxophones
  Mouthpiece: Band - Selmer C-Star**
  Jazz Altos - Meyer 5M
  Jazz Tenors – Otto Link
- Ligature: Rovner
- Reeds: Vandoren 2.5 or higher
  * LaVoz Med. or Hemke 3
- Reed Guard - holds 4 reeds
- Swab, cork grease, neck strap

French Horns
- Mouthpiece: Farkas MC
- Rotor valve oil
- tuning slide grease

Trombones
- Mouthpiece: Bach 6 1/2 AL
- Yamaha Trombone Slide Lubricant
- water spray bottle
- Tuning slide grease

Baritones
- Mouthpiece: Bach 5G
- Al Cass “Fast” valve oil
- slide grease
- cleaning rod or snake
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Tuba
- Mouthpiece: Conn Helleberg
- Al Cass “Fast” valve oil.

Percussion
- 2B sticks-wood bead - Vic Firth
  (Bell kit rented from school)

Area Music Dealers:
You may shop for supplies wherever you like, but here are a few suggestions of area music stores near West Seneca prepared for your convenience:

Al Hemer Music
4190 N. Buffalo Rd
Orchard Park, NY 14127
662-9533
Alhemer.com

Crino Music
811 Central Ave
Dunkirk, NY 14048
366-4800/1(800)752-7466
Crinosmusic.com

Twin Village Music
44 Central Ave
Lancaster, NY 14086
683-4879
Twinvillagemusic.net

Buffalo Drum Outlet
5872 Transit Rd
Depew, NY 14043
684-0080
Buffalodrumoutlet.com

Hamburg Music Center
4433 Southwestern Blvd
Hamburg, NY 14075
649-6660

Woodwind & Brasswind
www.wwbw.com

Casio Interstate Music
www.interstatemusic.com

Musician’s Friend
www.musiciansfriend.com

Online:

Al Hemer Music
4190 N. Buffalo Rd
Orchard Park, NY 14127
662-9533
Alhemer.com

Crino Music
811 Central Ave
Dunkirk, NY 14048
366-4800/1(800)752-7466
Crinosmusic.com

Twin Village Music
44 Central Ave
Lancaster, NY 14086
683-4879
Twinvillagemusic.net

Buffalo Drum Outlet
5872 Transit Rd
Depew, NY 14043
684-0080
Buffalodrumoutlet.com

Hamburg Music Center
4433 Southwestern Blvd
Hamburg, NY 14075
649-6660

Woodwind & Brasswind
www.wwbw.com

Casio Interstate Music
www.interstatemusic.com

Musician’s Friend
www.musiciansfriend.com

Online:
**West Seneca West Band Program Calendar 2019-2020**

PLEASE ENTER THESE DATES IN YOUR PLANNERS/ CALENDARS
FOR AN ONLINE LOOK ON CHARMS OR DISTRICT WEBSITE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 7</td>
<td>“Music in Motion” – District Marching Band Home Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hosted at East Senior – 7:00PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 12</td>
<td>Handbook Check off List returned, signed, Concert Dress Payment due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 27</td>
<td>West Seneca Marching Band at Carrier Dome for NY State Finals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*October 30</td>
<td>West Senior Fall Instrumental Music Concert 7pm (call at 6:15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1-2</td>
<td>Jr. High (7-9) NYSSMA Area All State Festival @ Pioneer</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 8</td>
<td>Veterans Day Performance (Select WE members)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 22-23</td>
<td>Sr. High (10-12) NYSSMA Area All State Festival @ SUNY Fredonia</td>
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<tr>
<td>*December 12</td>
<td>Holiday Instrumental Concert 7pm (call at 6:15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 11</td>
<td>Erie County Jazz (&amp; Elementary) Auditions – Depew HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 18</td>
<td>Erie County Jr. High (7-9) Auditions - OPHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 25</td>
<td>Erie County Sr. High (10-12) Auditions – Buffalo AVPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 5-8</td>
<td>Musical – Pit by Audition (instrumentation needs vary by show)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 12</td>
<td>West Senior Jazz Guest Artist Concert/Clinic</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 13-14</td>
<td>Erie County Jazz Festival: Cheektowaga HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>WSW Band Booster Meat Raffle</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20-21</td>
<td>Erie County Jr. High South Festival: location TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 27-28</td>
<td>Erie County Sr. High Festival: University at Buffalo</td>
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<tr>
<td>*March 23</td>
<td>Band Festival Rehearsal(s) – afterschool &amp;/or evening - TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>*March 24</td>
<td>Band Festival Concert: West Senior 7pm (call at 6:15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 4-5</td>
<td>Wind Ensemble Chicago Trip!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 25</td>
<td>NYSSMA ALL-STATE Solo Festival at Lewiston-Porter</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Concert (select students, varied based on repertoire)</td>
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<tr>
<td>*May 13</td>
<td>District Jazz Festival @ West Senior – 7pm (call at 6:15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 26</td>
<td>Tri-M Music Honor Society Induction &amp; Concert (by audition) – West Sr. 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 29-30</td>
<td>NYSSMA REGULAR Solo Festival at West Seneca East Senior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*June 4</td>
<td>Tribute to Seniors Concert – Full Department 7pm (call at 6:15)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Playing exams will occur at the end of each quarter.**
To include, but not be limited to:
Scales, Band Music, Lesson Material, Etudes, Sightreading
Dear Music Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

Each student is responsible for purchasing or renting their concert dress. Gentlemen rent a full tuxedo for $15.00 (including shirt) and ladies purchase a dress for $60. Fundraisers will be available to help defray the cost. The profit from the sale of these items will be placed in each student’s individual account.

Please detach the payment summary below, include with your payment, and place in an envelope marked with the student’s name. Each student should hand in a payment summary, even if there will be no exchange of money. There is a line to authorize withdrawal of funds from your individual account should you wish to use them. Anyone in the music program who has participated in past and current fundraisers (i.e. Zap-a-snack, candy bars, cookie dough) may use monies in his/her account toward this expense.

If you have questions concerning how much is in your account, please call the following account managers:

- Band: Mrs. Bucki, srbucki@aol.com
- Orchestra: Ms. Murnane, nmurnane@wscschools.org
- Chorus: Mr. Ersing, kersing@wscschools.org

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**PAYMENT SUMMARY – CONCERT ATTIRE**

| Student: | Due Sept. 12, 2019 |

| Gentlemen: | Tuxedo Rental $15 | $ |
| Ladies: | Dress Purchase $60 | $ |
| **Amount to be withdrawn from individual account:** | Please check fund: | [ ] band |
| Authorized by: | [ ] chorus | - $ |
| (adult please sign) | [ ] orchestra | |
| Check #: | Amount of Check Enclosed | $ |

Please turn in to:  
Bands/ Jazz - Mr. Blickwedehl or Mr. Hasselback  
Choruses - Mr. Ersing  
Orchestras - Mrs. Murnane

Make checks payable to:  
West Seneca West Band Boosters, Inc.  
West Seneca CSD
2019-2020 Handbook Check Off List

Group (please circle):  Concert Band  /  Wind Ensemble

Student Name _________________________________________________

Please complete the following checklist while you are reviewing the band handbook. This completed form is due by September 12th.

1. ___ I know how to contact my teacher (pg. 2).

2. ___ I understand the Class Expectations and Attendance Requirements for class and lessons (pg. 3-5).

3. ___ I understand how grading works for band and how much practice time needs to be completed each week (pg. 3-5).

4. ___ I understand what is needed for my concert attire - dress/ tuxedo. (pg. 4 & 8).

5. ___ I know when our performance/ rehearsal dates are (pg. 7) and I have written them on our calendar.

6. ___ My student has all of their supplies including; instrument care items, music books, pencils, reeds, percussion sticks/mallets etc. (p.6).

7. ___ I know where to find a copy of this handbook in the case that I need to access this information at a later date. (Teacher webpage)

I, (We), as parents, have read and understood the policies of the West Seneca West Bands and agree to support my (our) child in this endeavor.

Parent/ Guardian Signature __________________________________________

Parent/ Guardian Signature __________________________________________ Date __________

I, as a student member of a West Seneca West Band, have read, understood, and agree to abide by the foregoing policy.

Student Signature ________________________________________________ Date ______________