

Noblesville Band Department 2018 - 2019

“World Class Performance and Instruction.”

The following pages contain everything you will need to know to be successful in the Noblesville Band Department. Noblesville’s Band department includes: 4 concert bands, marching band, pep band, dance / color guard, 2 percussion classes, 5 jazz bands, as well as numerous small ensembles and other music classes. As musicians and performers you have made a commitment to excellence. Music and dance are subjects that go outside the traditional classroom. **All of the NHS band department classes are performance oriented. They are co-curricular classes requiring both rehearsals and performances outside of the school day.** These extra activities are part of the requirements and grades for NHS band department classes.

“Music expresses that which cannot be spoken but must be heard.”

The expectations of our program are very high. Students are expected to learn music outside of rehearsal. Rehearsal should be for putting the music together with the ensemble not for working out notes. **This means you must practice at home.** Students are encouraged to play on intermediate or professional model instruments if possible. The better the instrument the better we will sound. All concert band and percussion students have a subscription to Smart Music. Assignments and assessments will be assigned.

Private lessons are STRONGLY encouraged. – Private lessons will be offered during your class time.
We want EVERY student taking private lessons.

**NOBLESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
VOLUNTARY DRUG/SUBSTANCE ABUSE TESTING PROGRAM
All students involved in Noblesville’s Band Department must have a form on file.
Please turn in a signed form to student services.**

From Noblesville School’s website regarding voluntary drug/substance abuse testing program:
Students involved in extracurricular and co-curricular activities and who drive to school must be exemplary in the eyes of their peers and the community, and they must be free of alcohol, drugs, and other dangerous substances in order to participate safely in these activities. The need to insure student safety is the primary reason for restricting students from participating in school activities and driving if they test positive for drug/substance abuse.

AFTER SCHOOL

Students are encouraged to stay after school to rehearse and practice.

*Students MUST speak with a director and schedule time to stay after school.

Students who stay after school unscheduled may be asked to leave.

Facilities

We have awesome facilities. These facilities will be kept neat and clean. Period! – This includes student lockers, percussion and color guard storage areas as well as the band room and practice rooms.

Student cases must be kept in lockers during rehearsal to keep foot paths clear.

No instruments or cases should ever be left out of assigned lockers.

Practice Rooms – No students are allowed in the practice rooms or the upstairs mezzanine without prior permission. Do not abuse or misuse our upstairs facility, it is a privilege to have this room and it will not be misused.

Grading Policy

The total number of points earned in a grading period divided by the Total number of points possible will determine grades. Students will be assigned a daily or weekly grade on most days based on the following criteria.

The semester grade is determined by averaging the total number of points possible per semester. The final exam grade will be figured into the final grade.

The Following criteria will be used to determine a students' grade:

PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE

Performances are the final exams or big tests of music classes. There is no way to recreate a performance. Students may be excused from a performance in extreme situations. For a performance to be excused the student must **communicate in writing at least FOUR weeks prior to the performance**. Directors must have an opportunity to accommodate and plan for a student's absence so the entire group does not suffer.

Students who attend the performances are eligible for 100% of their concert grade. Students who do not perform with the ensemble may perform for the class against the performance rubric as if they were taking a playing test to make up their grade.

REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE – No points can be earned if a student is not in attendance, excused or unexcused. Excused absences will be eligible to do make-up work to earn points, unexcused absences will not. Because of the participatory nature of an instrumental music class, absences should be made-up by practicing at least half of the amount of time missed in rehearsal. Students should turn in their practice via Smart Music. This is to ensure that although the student missed playing with the ensemble they have “made-up” their missed work by practicing on their own.

- Work is NOT AN EXCUSE for missing a performance or rehearsal
- Babysitting is NOT AN EXCUSE for missing a performance or rehearsal
- Lack of transportation is NOT AN EXCUSE for missing a performance or rehearsal
- If you are NOT at school because of being sick, you are excused from rehearsal. If you get sick and will miss a rehearsal or performance on very short notice, your parents MUST call the directors and leave a voice mail OR email the directors ON THE DAY OF THE ABSENCE. Any absence not reported will be counted as unexcused.
- If a student is absent the practice before a competition or performance, the director/s reserve the right to have the student sit out that performance.
- For each outside performance or schedule rehearsal missed, the student will not earn the points provided. If the student had an excused absence, they may be able to do an alternative assignment or assessment set by the director. Three or more unexcused absences will initiate a conference with student, parents, and director/s to determine the direction of the student.
- Remember –**just because a note, email, or phone call was made to the director/s, it does not ensure an excused absence.**
- Also remember, even though an absence is excused, **students still need to earn the points they missed.**

ALL practices and performances have been scheduled in Advance and are a requirement of this class.
Please make sure you have the dates on your calendar.

COMMUNICATION – As a musician and a functioning member of society your ability to communicate in writing is paramount. Students will receive grades for communication when applicable.

*Early communication solves problems. Late communication causes problems.
No communication is unacceptable.*

TESTS – playing tests will be given periodically in class. Smart Music will be used for many playing tests.

MUSICIANSHIP – Your musicianship grade is a combination of playing tests, your musical contribution to the ensemble – (playing in tune, good tone, etc.) and class room observation, (see the attached rubric.)

EFFORT – the amount of a work a student puts into band is as important as where they are musically. (See the attached rubric, and look at the information about practicing outside of the school day.)

COMMITMENT – If you commit to an event, performance, or rehearsal. You are committed to the performance dates for this semester. You will be held accountable to your commitment.

LISTEN - The ability to listen and process information as well as analyze and respond to music is vital.

THE P's

- Practice** - Students are expected to practice their instruments at home. Smart Music allows students to record their practice time and keep practice logs. Students may be required to submit their Smart Music practice logs.
- Participation** - Positive contributions to the ensemble. Not disruptive.
- Posture** - Sitting up straight while playing is the **ONLY** correct way to play an instrument.
- Preparation** - All students are expected to have in class every day: pencil, music, instrument, and supplies (reeds, oil etc.)
- Pencil** - All students must have a pencil at every rehearsal.
- iPad** - fully charged and in class each day to access canvas and other music if / when instructed.
- Put Away** - The room, instrument, and music should be put back appropriately.

All of the above is part of the daily grade out of 20 points and then averaged into the final grade.

MUSIC, FOLDER, INSTRUMENTS - You will be responsible for original copies of the music and a nice large music folder. If a folder or piece of music is lost it will be replaced at the student's expense. Your instrument must be in good playing condition. This includes all tuning slides being able to move, all keys working, etc. Instrument maintenance is to be done outside of rehearsal.

OTHER – projects, or homework may be assigned. Their point value may be figured into your grade.

SOLO / AUDITION

All NHS Band and Guard / Dance Students may be asked to perform a solo for a grade in front of the peers in their class. This solo is also used as part of the students' audition for band placement in subsequent years. More information on the solo project will be handed out during class.

SMART MUSIC

All students have a subscription to Smart Music. Students are asked to rehearse with and submit assignments and tests through Smart Music. Although it is not the perfect program, it does hold students accountable for working outside of class on their music.

Remember on all assignments: A LOW grade is much better than NO grade.
(This is true for all classes that utilize total number of points out of total possible points)

STUDENT LOCKERS

Student instrument lockers are available in the band rooms. All lockers must have SCHOOL locks on them. Students will be provided combinations to their locks. If a student loses a lock they will be financially responsible for it. The lockers are school property and subject to search at any time.

LOCKERS MUST BE KEPT CLEAN AT ALL TIMES.

The school is not responsible for damaged or stolen instruments, money, phones, mp3 players, or other personal belongings of the students.

CONCERT BAND ATTIRE

Attire for performances is formal concert attire (Gentlemen will need to wear black jackets, black pants, white tux shirt and bow tie. Ladies will need to wear a **LONG** black dress.

The Noblesville Band will be using a wholesale company to purchase tuxedos and concert dresses for students. It is not required to purchase these specific out fits, however it is highly recommended.

The Tuxedo package (including pants, coat, shirt, tie and cummerbund) will be approximately \$100.00
The dress for ladies will be approximately \$75.00.

(Student Account Credits can be used to purchase concert attire).

Sizing and ordering will be students and family responsibility. We have had parent volunteers help in the past. It is our hope that this is a one-time purchase, however if you believe your child will grow dramatically over the next few years please take that into consideration. We may also have an exchange program for students who graduate and would like to resell or donate their concert attire.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Jazz band members will follow similar criteria to concert band. All students are encouraged to be in both concert band and jazz band.

Students must be enrolled in concert band to be in jazz band.

PERCUSSION

Noblesville percussionists are part of all of the concert band classes and will be assigned to their band based on schedule, ability and need. A separate percussion handbook addendum will be distributed by their director.

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CONTEST

Student participation in Solo and Ensemble Contest is very strongly encouraged. This is a great way for students to improve their individual musical ability. ***The cost to enter solo and ensemble contest is \$15.00 for a solo and \$7.00 per ensemble member.*** Fees will be collected late November. Contest will be at NHS and ALL students must be on hand to help run the contest.

PEP BAND

The Pep Band is a voluntary group. Music will be practiced in after school rehearsals. Students who volunteer for ALL “official” PEP BAND games will be recognized with a patch for their jacket. It is important for our pep band to sound great and represent our department well.

CHAMBER ENSEMBLES

Chamber ensembles are an important part of the NHS Music Department curriculum. Chamber ensembles are often student led. These ensembles are ambassadors for the music department performing throughout our community. All students are encouraged to be a part of a Chamber Ensemble.

MARCHING BAND

The Marching Band is an extra-curricular group that meets during the summer and fall. Students who meet the attendance requirement may use marching band as a waiver for PE. Students must be enrolled in an NHS Ensemble to participate in marching band. Color Guard students must be enrolled in the NHS Dance class or an NHS ensemble to be in our color guard.

WINTER PERCUSSION / WINTER GUARD

NHS offers two winter extra curricular groups that practice and compete like marching band. NHS Marching Band students are encouraged to be in our winter groups. Students must be enrolled in a NHS performing ensemble or dance class to participate in our winter groups.

COMMUNICATION AND RESPONSIBILITY

As high school students we expect that you will communicate any problems, concerns, questions that you have with the guidelines that are set or any other matter. **EARLY** communication is the key to dealing with a problem. Learning to communicate well will serve you well now and in the future.

Absences from any rehearsal should be communicated IN WRITING 2 weeks before the rehearsal!

Mr. Thornbury can be reached by email at: eric_thornbury@nobl.k12.in.us
Miss Robinson can be reached by email at: Bethany_robinson@nobl.k12.in.us
Mr. Keim can be reached by email at: Alexander_Keim@nobl.k12.in.us
Mr. Panzarella can be reached by email at: Glenn_Panzarella@nobl.k12.in.us

Information can be found on the Music Department Web Page at www.noblesvillemusic.org

Follow the Noblesville Band on Twitter @noblesvilleband

Like our Facebook page: Noblesville High School Bands

Make sure that you are checking your canvas email, school email.

**All students should be signed up for Remind notifications
for their respective classes and extra curricular ensembles.**

CHARACTER

As a member of the NHS Band Department you are held to a high standard both as a musician and as a person. NHS Band Students are humble, kind, respectful and accepting. NHS Band students recognize and celebrate that everyone is different. We accept and respect all of each others differences from race, sexuality and ethnicity to religious and political views and everything in between. NHS Band students are mindful of their words and speak only to build others up. NHS Band members realize they are part of the larger NHS Music Department and understand their role in the big picture of the NHS Music Department as well as the entire NHS and Noblesville Community. NHS Band members serve our community and each other by sharing their talents at sporting and community events and throughout our entire community and abroad. NHS Band members are aware of the power of social media and T.H.I.N.K before they post online. NHS Band members know that what is put online stays online. NHS Band members lead a healthy life style and do not abuse drugs or alcohol. NHS Band members understand and follow rules. ***Character is who you are when no one is looking!***

NHS BAND STUDENTS EXHIBIT OUTSTANDING CHARACTER!

This semester begins or continues our journey to becoming world-class musicians and performers.

*“Desire is the key to motivation, but it’s the determination and commitment to an unrelenting pursuit of your goal – **A COMMITMENT TO EXCELENCE** – that will enable you to attain the success you seek.”*

CLASS ROOM RULES

All school policies and rules apply to all band department classes. School rules apply on all extra – curricular activities, including: practices, field trips, and performances on or off school grounds.

- Be in the appropriate room when the tardy bell rings. (Warm-up will begin 2 minutes after the bell rings students not ready to participate at that time may be counted tardy.)
- All students must be in the ROOM when the bell rings at the end of class.
- GUM CHEWING, food and drinks are prohibited in the band room. We are taking great care of our brand new facilities.
- Raise hand and wait for permission to speak or leave seat.
- Do not move chairs without permission; keep all four chair legs on the floor.
- No inappropriate physical contact.
- Only play when instructed.
- Put away instruments and stay in room until the bell rings (NOT in Hallway.)
- ***Electronic devices should not be out at all (anywhere) during rehearsals, unless specified by instructor. Phones and I-pads will be confiscated and held or turned in to the office if out during rehearsals without director approval. This includes just sitting on a music stand.***

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

“No one ever attains very eminent success by simply doing what is required of him; it is the amount and excellence over and above the required that determines ultimate greatness.”

Adams

Our goals are:

- 1. To play music as well as a professional wind band or percussion ensemble; to perform at a professional level.**

Consider yourselves professional musicians / performers as of today.

2. To experience the intrinsic satisfaction (aesthetic) of performing and rehearsing quality music.
3. To enjoy the social aspects of preparing and performing quality music together.
4. To provide an emotional outlet for students to express themselves.

Music expresses that which cannot be said nor can remain silent.

5. To rehearse **quietly and efficiently** to maximize the short amount of rehearsal time that we have together.
6. To become better musicians and performers individually and as an ensemble.
7. To become creative, life long, 21st century learners through the process of preparing, rehearsing, and performing in music classes.

Make-up Work

The following activities may be used to make-up excused absences.

Smart Music Practice Log and recordings

If a student misses a rehearsal or more they should make up the missed time through Smart Music. The amount of time should be equivalent to ½ the amount of time they missed during rehearsal.

Musical Performance

There is no way to make-up for a missed performance. However students who miss a performance may be asked to perform their music by themselves for the class and be graded on a rubric to make up for their missed performance.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Students are expected to take private lessons.

HONOR BANDS

Any student who participates in an honor band of any kind may receive extra credit. This includes All-State (Jazz and Concert), IBA All Region and All District, IMEA, college all- star bands, and other special groups.

EXTRA MUSIC ACTIVITIES

Students who play instrumental music in church groups, youth symphony, perform the National Anthem, Taps, or any other performance outside of their regular school activities may count this as make up credit.

CONCERT ATTENDANCE

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

CONCERT REVIEW / TRANSCRIBE JUDGES TAPES

Credit may be earned if a student writes a review of the concert. Often times students will be asked to transcribe judges tapes for make-up work.

MUSIC REPORTS

Music reports, on approved topics, can be turned in for make up credit. The source for the information must be cited. Plagiarism or anything remotely close will not be accepted.

GRADE DESCRIPTIONS

MUSIC GRADE

- A+/A/A-** The “A” student is playing and performing at a high level of accuracy at all times. The student should be displaying excellent tone and technique for his or her age level. The student consistently displays the ability to play all of the music assigned, and can play the music with very little loss of accuracy. Musicality is always evident.
- B+/B/B-** The “B” student is playing and performing at an above-average level of accuracy at all times. The student should be displaying good tone and technique for his or her age level. The student displays the ability to play most of the music assigned, and can play the music with only minor loss of accuracy. Musicality is usually evident.
- C+/C/C-** The “C” student is playing and performing at an average level of accuracy. The student may have problems at times generating good tone and technique. The student can play the easier passages but has difficulty with the harder sections of the music assigned, and has some noticeable problems playing the music.
- D+/D/D-** The “D” student is playing and performing at below-average level of accuracy. The student may display weak tone and technique for his or her age level. The student displays the lack of ability to play most all of the music assigned, and can play very little of the music.
- F** The “F” student is playing and performing at an unsatisfactory level most of the time. The student cannot generate an acceptable tone and technique for his or her age level. The student does not display the ability to play the music assigned, and has serious problems playing the music.

EFFORT

- A+/A/A-** The “A” student is showing definite evidence of outside practicing and always displays the best effort possible without having to be told to do so. Student is always on time for class and rehearsals.
- B+/B/B-** The “B” student shows some evidence of outside practicing and usually displays the best effort possible without having to be told to do so. Student may sometimes be late to class or rehearsals.
- C+/C/C-** The “C” student little evidence of outside practicing and usually displays average effort. This student must be prodded into working harder. Student may show a lack of effort in coming to class or rehearsals on time.
- D+/D/D-** The “D” student shows no evidence of outside practicing and usually displays below-average effort. This student consistently needs to be prodded into working harder and sometimes displays a negative attitude. Student comes to class and rehearsals late.

F The “F” student shows no evidence of outside practicing and displays little or no effort at all. This student is totally indifferent to what is being taught and displays a negative attitude most all of the time. Student is consistently late to class and rehearsals.

CLASSROOM INTERACTION

- A+/A/A-** The “A” student always follows directions, is prepared daily to play with a functioning instrument and never needs correction for disturbing the class either by playing or talking. This student takes an active part in all classroom activities and functions well as a member of the group.
- B+/B/B-** The “B” student usually follows directions, is prepared daily to play with a functioning instrument and seldom needs correction for disturbing the class either by playing or talking. This student takes part in all classroom activities and functions as a member of the group.
- C+/C/C-** The “C” student has problems at times following directions, is sometimes not prepared to play with a functioning instrument and needs correction for disturbing the class either by playing or talking. This student takes part in some but not all classroom activities and has some problems functioning as a member of the group.
- D+/D/D-** The “D” student needs directions constantly reinforced, is usually not prepared to play with a functioning instrument and needs constant correction for disturbing the class either by playing or talking. This student must be pushed to take part in all classroom activities and functions poorly as a member of the group.
- F** The “F” student cannot follow directions, is seldom prepared to play with a functioning instrument and is a constant disturbance to the class. This student rarely takes part in classroom activities unless forced to do so and has serious problems functioning as a member of the group.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact one of our directors:

Mr. Thornbury at: (317) 773-4680 ext. 12246
Miss Robinson at: (317) 773-4680 ext. 12344

Mr. Keim at: (317) 773-4680
Mr. Panzarella at: (317) 773-4680

Or email: eric_thornbury@nobl.k12.in.us
bethany_robinson@nobl.k12.in.us
alexander_keim@nobl.k12.in.us
glenn_panzarella@nobl.k12.in.us

Confirmation Sheet 2018 - 2019

Please sign this paper to indicate that you and your parents have read, understand, and agree to the NHS Band Department Procedures, that you have put the performance and rehearsal dates on your calendar, and that you understand they are part of the grade for your class. Signing indicates that you understand grading policy, communication policy, class make up work and all of the other policies and procedures in place.

Signing this paper also indicates that you understand our classroom rules and that whenever a student is with the band that all school rules apply, whether in the band room after school or performing at another school.

*Parents, if you do not want your child's picture to appear in any social media.
Please indicate so in writing.*

These procedures are available online on our website or electronically on your students IPAD.

All rehearsal and performance dates are scheduled in advance and are part of the grade requirements for this class.

Students must have the medical form / permission to travel filled out on the opposite side of this form.

Return (**this paper only – both sides**) to Mr. Thornbury, Miss Robinson, Mr. Keim, or Mr. Panzarella
If you have any questions please feel free to contact one of our directors:

Mr. Thornbury at: (317) 773-4680 ext. 12246
Miss Robinson at: (317) 773-4680 ext. 12344

Mr. Keim at: (317) 773-4680 ext. 12220
Mr. Panzarella at: (317) 773-4680

Email is the best way to communicate for our directors:

eric_thornbury@nobl.k12.in.us
bethany_robinson@nobl.k12.in.us
alexander_keim@nobl.k12.in.us
glenn_panzarella@nobl.k12.in.us

EARLY COMMUNICATION is a KEY to our success.

I, _____ have read and understand
(Student name) the guidelines for the NHS Band Department.

(Student signature)

(Date)

Parents please sign below indicating you have read and /or talked through the NHS Band department guidelines with your child. THANK YOU!!

(Parent or guardian signature)