

Greenfield Junior High School

# Band Handbook

2020 - 2021



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[www.BandisFun.com](http://www.BandisFun.com)

## **WELCOME to the Greenfield JHS Band Program!**

Our goal is for you to have fun while developing your musical skills and for you to gain as much musical knowledge as possible. Our success depends on every individual putting forth his/her best effort and working together to make this a rewarding year. We hope you enjoy your musical studies at GrJHS. If you ever have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Be sure to bookmark [www.BandisFun.com](http://www.BandisFun.com) for information about the Band Program.

### **Covid Considerations**

We anticipate this being a unique year because of Covid-19, but please know that we will do everything we can to meet any challenges head on. Our goal is for students to still have a great time learning their instrument -- even if it isn't in a traditional setting.

While we are starting the school year learning from home, it is expected that at some point we will return to the classroom. At that time, we will be making the following adjustments to our procedures to help create the safest learning environment possible:

- Wiping down and disinfecting chairs and stands regularly
- Eliminating any sharing of school instruments
- Limiting the number of students in the locker room at one time
- Facilitating sectionals whenever possible to allow for better social distancing (facility space and staffing are our biggest issues here)
- Utilizing facemasks when possible
- Sanitizing frequently touched surfaces, such as door handles

# Online Learning Expectations

## Rules

1. Check Buzz on your assigned days for messages and assignments
2. Use respectful language when communicating with teachers and peers
3. Give your personal best in attitude and effort
4. Ask questions and communicate with the teachers if you don't understand or you need help! Email works great for this.

## Consequences (Unlikely they'll be needed online, but just in case).

1. Written or verbal warning
2. Loss of daily points and possible communication to parents
3. Parent/Administrator communication

## Online Grading

**WebEx Participation Points (35 % of grade)** are earned for attending and participating in biweekly WebEx sessions. This is when all lessons, new music, and assignments will be delivered. Students should have their instruments and materials out and ready for each band WebEx Session. Students will be given time in class to practice individually with their audio muted. Time will be allotted at the end of each session for questions and answers.

**Written Work Points (20% of grade)** are earned for worksheets, quizzes, and tests, covering a variety of basic music theory concepts. Students will be given ample opportunities to ask questions and redo assignments as needed. Some assignments may be graded for completion only, while others will be graded for accuracy.

**Playing Assessment Points (25% of grade)** are earned for SUBMITTING individual **video** recordings of material we are music we are covering in class.

A **Playing "Check-in"** may include warm-ups, scales, etudes, book work, and/or sheet music. Students will be provided feedback on: notes, rhythm, articulation, dynamics, phrasing, and/or tone quality. *Students who are clearly putting forth effort will receive full points.* This should NOT be stressful. It is a quick way for us to help students along in a meaningful way. If we can't hear them play, we can't help them progress!

A **Playing Assessment** will be graded for accuracy of performance on assigned assessments. Assessments may include warm-ups, scales, etudes, book work, and sheet music. Students may be assessed on notes, rhythm, articulation, dynamics, phrasing, and tone quality. Playing "Check-Ins" will be geared toward helping students earn maximum points on their Assessments.

**\*Performance Points - Concerts (20% of grade)** are awarded for:

- Submitting a "Final Performance" quality recording of selected music as determined by teachers.
- Submitting a Self Reflection and Performance Reflection for a peer.

# In-Person Classroom Expectations

## Rules

1. Be on time and prepared for class
2. Be respectful (people and equipment)
3. Give your personal best (attitude and effort)

## Consequences

1. Verbal warning
2. Loss of daily points and possible new seat - Parent Communication Form is sent home.
3. Parent phone call/email and/or referral to administration

## Grading

**Participation Points (35% of grade)** are earned for following all of the Classroom Expectations each day, as well as having all required materials each day.

**Written Work Points (20% of grade)** are given for worksheets, quizzes, and tests covering a variety of basic music theory concepts.

**Playing Assessments (25% of grade)** are earned for individual Playing Tests. Playing Tests may include scales, etudes, sight-reading, and concert music. Students are assessed on: notes, rhythm, articulation, dynamics, phrasing, and tone quality.

Percussionists are expected to perform on both snare drum and mallet percussion. Their test material may also include snare drum rudiments.

**\*Performance Points - Concerts (20% of grade)** are awarded for:

- arriving on time
- staying for the entire concert
- appropriate audience/on-stage etiquette
- having all materials

*Except for emergencies, absences from performances may only be excused by a note and/or phone call from home being received by Mrs. Moorhead no later than two weeks **prior** to the anticipated absence. In the case of an emergency, a phone call or note from home should be received as soon as possible. A make-up assignment will be provided if the absence is excused.*

*\*COVID 19 Considerations: Concerts will be dependent upon all District and Statewide decisions regarding public gatherings. I am taking a quarter-of-the-year-at-a-time approach to my planning.*

# **Greenfield JHS Band Performance Dates 2020 - 2021**

*We currently have no information on if/when we can have concerts. All dates are dependent on decisions that are made by the GPS District and School Board in regard to Covid 19. However, in the event that we can hold concerts, we will use the dates listed below.*

**December 7, Monday**

**Band Concert, GHS Auditorium, 7 PM**

**February 3, Wednesday**

**6th Grade Festival - GRJHS Gym, 6:30 PM**  
*Elementary, 8th Grade, and HS Bands*

**February 24, Wednesday**

**Band Concert, GHS Auditorium, 7 PM**

**May 17, Monday**

**Band Concert, GHS Auditorium, 7 PM**

*Please write these dates on your family calendar at home and refer to the section on Performance Points in the handbook for responsibilities regarding performance attendance. Any activity for which students are given two weeks notice is a required activity.*

## **Concert Uniform**

We typically wear white on the top and black pants and shoes on the bottom. However, with so many unknowns this year, we are opting for no official concert uniform. We don't want families to purchase anything that they potentially may not use, or will only use 1 - 2 times! In the event that we CAN have a concert, we will simply "dress - up."

## **Tax Credit Donations**

Parents are encouraged to take advantage of the AZ tax law that allows taxpayers a credit of up to \$200 per individual and \$400 for joint tax returns per each calendar year, when they contribute to extracurricular activities. A Donation Form may be found under the Resource tab at [www.BandisFun.com](http://www.BandisFun.com). Donations are used for countless needs, such as new music and equipment, festival fees, busing for field trips, instrument repairs, concert needs, recording equipment, sectional coaching, and general band program necessities.

## **Band Boosters**

Band Boosters support the band through fundraising and volunteering time and energy in countless ways. Our program thrives because of our fabulously supportive community and *we NEED your support in order to function well*. Band Boosters is a perfect place for you to be involved in junior high. (You can choose to do a lot, or just a little, but either way we are grateful!) Please see the booster page on our website, or send inquiries to [greenfieldbandinfo@gmail.com](mailto:greenfieldbandinfo@gmail.com).

## **Greenfield JHS Band T-Shirt Order Form**

This year band t-shirts will be completely optional. We do not know what the future holds, and I do not want to burden families with unnecessary expenses. However, I want students and families to have the opportunity to purchase a band t-shirt if they want to have it as a sense of community and pride. Our shirt is black with a green and white paint splatter on it.

Shirts are \$10. Cash or checks made out to GRJHS Band Boosters are accepted. Orders are due by August 28th.

If you would like to purchase a band t-shirt for your student or yourself, please complete this [T-Shirt Order Form](#).

## **Handbook Approval Form**

After reading the Band Handbook, please complete this [Handbook Approval Form](#) by Aug 7th.