

8/10/2023



FRUIT
COVE
MIDDLE
SCHOOL
BAND

BAND HANDBOOK

FCMS Band Handbook

Updated 8/03/23

Don Isabelle, Director of Bands

Special note from Mr. Isabelle:

Welcome to our 2022 – 2023 school year! In this handbook you will find information that pertains to the expectations associated with being in the FCMS band class. It is important to understand and follow these guidelines in order for us to have a successful experience in the band. If you need further explanations regarding the policies found in this handbook, please see Mr. Isabelle for clarification.

PLEASE GO TO THE BAND WEBSITE
AND COMPLETE THE INFORMATION FORM

<http://teachers.stjohns.k12.fl.us/isabelle-d/>

Schedule

Students must have their instrument every day. Band classes are 45 minutes long.

| 6th Grade | 7th Grade/ 8th Grade Lunch time is dependent on your 4 th period teacher | |
|--|---|--|
| Homeroom/Period 1 7:30 – 8:16 (46) | Homeroom/Period 1 7:30 – 8:16 (46) | Homeroom/Period 1 7:30 – 8:16 (46) |
| Period 2 8:20 – 9:06 (46) | Period 2 8:20 – 9:06 (46) | Period 2 8:20 – 9:06 (46) |
| Period 3 9:10 – 9:56 (46) | Period 3 9:10 – 9:56 (46) | Period 3 9:10 – 9:56 (46) |
| Period 4 10:00 – 10:46 (46) | Period 4 10:00 – 10:46 (46) | 1 st Lunch (w/Period 4) 10:00 – 10:30 (30) |
| Period 5 10:50 – 11:36 (46) | 2 nd Lunch (w/Period 4) 10:50 – 11:20 (30) | Period 4 10:34 – 11:20 (46) |
| 3 rd Lunch (w/Period 5) 11:40 – 12:10 (30) | Period 5 11:24 – 12:10 (46) | Period 5 11:24 – 12:10 (46) |
| Period 6 12:14 – 1:00 (46) | Period 6 12:14 – 1:00 (46) | Period 6 12:14 – 1:00 (46) |
| Period 7 1:04 – 1:50 (46) | Period 7 1:04 – 1:50 (46) | Period 7 1:04 – 1:50 (46) |

Wednesday

| 6th Grade | 7th Grade/ 8th Grade Lunch time is dependent on your 4 th period teacher | |
|---|---|--|
| Homeroom/Period 1 7:30 – 8:08 (38) | Homeroom/Period 1 7:30 – 8:08 (38) | Homeroom/Period 1 7:30 – 8:08 (38) |
| Period 2 8:12 – 8:49 (37) | Period 2 8:12 – 8:49 (37) | Period 2 8:12 – 8:49 (37) |
| Period 3 8:53 – 9:30 (37) | Period 3 8:53 – 9:30 (37) | Period 3 8:53 – 9:30 (37) |
| Period 4 9:34 – 10:11 (37) | Period 4 9:34 – 10:11 (37) | 1 st Lunch (w/Period 4) 9:34 – 10:04 |
| Period 5 10:15 – 10:52 (37) | 2 nd Lunch (w/Period 4) 10:15 – 10:45 | Period 4 10:09 – 10:46 (37) |
| 3 rd Lunch (w/Period 5) 10:56 – 11:26 | Period 5 10:50 – 11:27 (37) | Period 5 10:50 – 11:27 (37) |
| Period 6 11:31 – 12:08 (37) | Period 6 11:31 – 12:08 (37) | Period 6 11:31 – 12:08 (37) |
| Period 7 12:12 – 12:50 (38) | Period 7 12:12 – 12:50 (38) | Period 7 12:12 – 12:50 (38) |

Band Classes Offered

The following classes are offered at FCMS but acceptance into a class is determined by Mr. Isabelle and is based on each student's level of ability and instrument placement. All students are given as much opportunities as possible. Students who work hard to improve will be able to move to higher levels of difficulty at a faster rate.

- **Beginning Band** – designed for entry level musicians. No prior experience required.
- **Symphonic Band** – designed for the 2nd tier musician, incoming students with 1 year of experience.
- **Wind Ensemble** – designed as an advanced level band. Students generally have at least 1 year of experience and have reached the bench marks needed for the increased difficulty. This class is a mix of all grades.
- **Wind Symphony** – designed for the highest level of musician at FCMS. Students generally have at least 2 years of experience and have reached the bench marks needed for the increased difficulty. This class is mostly 8th graders.
- **Jazz Ensemble** – designed as a specialty course which participants are selected by Mr. Isabelle for placement. Strict instrumentation is used to fulfill the group and participation in a main band class is also required. Students also must agree to extra performance requirements prior to accepting the position of membership in the group.

Instruments

Band instruments are described as being a member of the Brass, Woodwind, and Percussion family of instruments as well as the String Bass from the string family. Instruments must also be student owned/rented with the exception of the instruments with the (*) marking below. Those instruments will be provided by the band (as supplies last (**)) is very limited) but may also be purchased by the student but is not required. Instruments are required for class every day. Instruments that are in repair will be excused but confirmation must be presented from the repair company. School owned instruments must be returned every day. All school owned instrument repairs must be brought to Mr. Isabelle and not to the music store directly.

- Piccolo ** - for the advanced flutist and used in Symphonic, Wind Ensemble, and the Wind Symphony.
- Flute – woodwind instrument that uses an edge tone to create its sound.
- Oboe – woodwind instrument that uses a double reed.
- Bassoon ** - low woodwind instrument that uses a double reed.
- Clarinet – woodwind instrument that uses a single reed.
- Alto Clarinet ** - woodwind instrument that uses a single reed
- Bass Clarinet * - low woodwind instrument that uses a large single reed.
- Alto Saxophone – woodwind instrument that uses a single reed.
- Tenor Saxophone – woodwind instrument that uses a single reed.
- Bari Saxophone * - low woodwind instrument that uses a large single reed.
- Trumpet – brass instrument that uses a cup mouthpiece to produce its tone.
- French Horn ** – brass instrument that uses a cup mouthpiece to produce its tone.
- Trombone – brass instrument that uses a cup mouthpiece to produce its tone.
- Euphonium/Baritone * – brass instrument that uses a cup mouthpiece to produce its tone.
- Tuba * – brass instrument that uses a cup mouthpiece to produce its tone.
- Percussion – students must have an instrument at home to practice with. School will provide classroom instruments although they will not be able to be remove from the room for student use at home. Students MUST have their own sticks/bag/mallets – they will NOT be allowed to share their equipment with those who are not prepared for class.
- String Bass * - orchestral skills used to create the tone. Student will need to have an instrument to practice on at home (electric or acoustic)

Uniform

All students are required to wear their uniform to their performances. TBA performances

Symphonic, Wind Ensemble and Wind Symphony BANDS
White Shirt and Black dress pants, black socks, and black shoes

Beginning BANDS
Beginning band polo and black dress pants, black socks, and black shoes

Classroom Supplies

Students **MUST** have the following items **EVERY DAY** for class

- Instrument in working condition
- Music folder – supplied by the band NO SHARING
- Pencil in their folder
- Reed instruments **MUST** have at least **3 good reeds** and a reed case to protect them.
- Brass instruments **MUST** have their OWN bottle of valve oil and slide grease
 - NO oil or grease will be provided due to COVID-19 requirements
- Percussion students **MUST** have a stick bag with 5A or 5B sticks, timpani mallets, hard rubber xylophone mallets, and yarn xylophone mallets. Any additional mallets are at the discretion of the student. NO SHARING OF STICKS due to COVID-19
- String players **MUST** obtain their bass rosin for their own personal use
- Jazz Ensemble students **MUST** have a personal instrument stand for their instrument.

Lockers

Students will be provided an individual locker for their instrument

- Locks are encouraged to be used.
- ONLY band items are allowed to be stored in the lockers. NO books, clothes, etc
- Certain instruments might not be provided a locker due to the nature of the instrument, ex: percussionist

Classroom Rules/Consequences

Students **MUST** follow the classroom rules. Some of these rules are similar to the school rules but due to the large number of students in the band class the rules will be strictly enforced.

- Cell phones are to be placed in the student's backpack and will NOT be used for band classes.
- Students will keep their instrument in their locker when not in use.
- Instrument cases will need to be placed back into their locker during class.
- **NO CASES ARE ALLOWED IN THE SEATING AREA OF THE BANDROOM.**
- Students may come into the room at any time to place their instrument into their locker or retrieve it but they need to not disturb a class that is in session. Students are not allowed to remain in the room after their instrument locker break.
- Restrooms should be used before the start of the class.
- **NO GUM** allowed in the bandroom.
- Students **WILL NOT** be allowed to play or hold another student's instrument!
- Students must have their FCMS band music folder and keep the music in returnable shape. **All music** will be returned when requested.
- Students will sit in their assigned seat or section to be determined by Mr. Isabelle.
NO EXCEPTIONS!
- Students **WILL NOT** leave the room prior to being dismissed.
 - ALL students will be in the main part of the room prior to dismissal
- ANY student who is determined to disrupt the flow of the class will result in documentation in eschool.

Concert Etiquette/Performances

All performances are mandatory. Please make arrangements ahead of time to be sure that your child will be present for their performance. Students will be reminded of their respect for other performers as well as the attendees to the performances.

Practice Cards

Practice cards are VERY important in order for your child to succeed. The forms will be submitted on the ***last day of each month***. Please see the band calendar for the schedule. Practice times vary depending on the class you're in. All times are per month amounts. We will be using Google Docs for band form submissions. Ex: Practice Cards

- Beginning Band– 240 per month
- Symphonic Band – 300 per month
- Wind Ensemble– 360 per month
- Wind Symphony– 400 per month
- Jazz Ensemble – additional 120 per month. Ex: Wind Symphony = 400 + 120 = 520 per month

Practice Card Rubric

| Score | Wind Symp | Wind Ensemble | Symphonic | Beginning Band | Jazz |
|-------|-----------|---------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| 120 | 500+ | 460+ | 400+ | 340+ | 180+ |
| 110 | 450 - 499 | 410 - 459 | 350 - 399 | 290 - 339 | 135 - 179 |
| 100 | 380 - 449 | 340 - 409 | 280 - 349 | 230 - 289 | 85 - 134 |
| 95 | 330 - 379 | 300 - 339 | 250 - 279 | 210 - 229 | 70 - 84 |
| 90 | 280 - 329 | 260 - 299 | 220 - 249 | 190 - 209 | 60 - 69 |
| 85 | 230 - 279 | 220 - 259 | 190 - 219 | 170 - 189 | 50 - 59 |
| 80 | 180 - 229 | 180 - 219 | 160 - 189 | 150 - 169 | 40 - 49 |
| 75 | 140 - 179 | 140 - 179 | 130 - 159 | 130 - 149 | 30 - 39 |
| 70 | 100 - 139 | 100 - 139 | 100 - 129 | 100 - 129 | 20 - 29 |
| 65 | 50 - 99 | 50 - 99 | 50 - 99 | 50 - 99 | 10 19 |
| 60 | 1 49 | 1 49 | 1 49 | 1 49 | 1 9 |
| 59 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Grades

Grades are determined by the following criteria.

- Classroom participation – Formative Assessment
- Concert participation – Summative Assessment
- Instrument preparedness – Formative Assessment
- Homework Grade – practice cards. – Formative Assessment 5% weighted
- Tests/quizzes – Summative Assessment

Formative Assessments – 30% of Grade

Summative Assessments – 70% of Grade

Band Website

The **Band Website** is provided as a main avenue of information. A biweekly newsletter will be provided by email. Check the calendar often for updates.

<http://teachers.stjohns.k12.fl.us/isabelle-d/>

We will be using Google Docs for band form submissions. Ex: Performance Verification, Practice Cards

- **NO PERSONAL INFORMATION** will be shared outside of the band database

Band Fee

\$140

Band Fee is the financial process of funding the band program. We have fees and purchases that are needed to allow the students to participate. Listed below are some of the expenses that are incurred throughout the school year.

- FBA fees
- FMEA fees
- FSMA fees
- MENC fees
- Convention fees
- Music purchase
- Instrument repairs and supplies
- Copy machine supplies
- Bus transportations to performances
- Awards
- Band instruments that are too expensive for individuals to purchase.

This is just a sample of the purchases and more items throughout the year are added.
Band Fees are due at the beginning of the year.

Band Fee – discounts for multiple family members

One Student - \$140

Two Students - \$220

Three Students - \$280

Amounts should be paid in full or you can make three payments

– September \$50, October \$50, and November \$40.

Band Fee can now be paid online by using

<https://www.schoolpay.com/>

MINIMUM payments start at \$50 if you are paying in payments.

If the above schedule is unable to be adhered to please indicate the amount timeline on the band information form.