



Chesaning Union Schools Band Handbook

2020/2021

Dear Band Family,

I hope that you are all ready to take on another exciting and challenging year at Chesaning Union Schools. For those of you joining us for the first time, Welcome! My first year in the district may not be orthodox, but each student can be sure that their level of musicianship will increase!

Over the past few years, we have seen large growth in the instrumental music program; and numbers have not been hit too hard by the pandemic! With such a great response and strong work ethic from our students, our program will continue to thrive. We would encourage all parents to get involved in your child's musical education by joining a committee or helping in any way possible with the booster organization. Our goal is to have each family participate in and volunteer to help at at least one event (uniforms, craft show, band camp, concerts, chaperoning, etc.) per year. If we each do this, it's easy to carry out our goals for the year! Chesaning Music Booster meetings will likely be Zoom meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Within the following pages, you will find all you need to know about the program. Please make sure that you give special attention to each of the sections. You are asked to review the handbook with your child and return the signature page. By returning the signature page, you are agreeing to comply with the rules of the class.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or e-mail us, and we will get back with you at our earliest convenience. Here is to a fun and challenging year!

Musically yours,

Mr. Matt Ingersoll
Director of Bands

Mr. Tim Howard
Assistant Director of Bands

Class Expectations

The Nine Lives of Rehearsal:

1. Follow directions immediately, the first time they are given.
2. Keep away from equipment/instruments that do not belong to you.
3. Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking.
4. Have materials ready: pencil, instrument, music, extra reeds, mask, etc.
5. Stay in your assigned area unless given permission otherwise.
6. Reeds, oil, and other items should be purchased before class starts.
7. Proper communication with Mr. Ingersoll (regarding performances, class, etc.)
8. Bring an “I will give it my best” attitude.
9. Treat everyone with respect. We are a TEAM!

Before you take action, ask yourself: **“How will this make the band better?”**

- If it won't, then please don't do it.

Daily Participation Grade:

Each student will begin every **Trimester with 50 points** for Participation.

- Points will be deducted daily for the following infractions:
 1. Disruptive Behavior – Teacher Discretion
 2. Off Task – 1 point
 3. Tardy – 1 point
 4. Bad Posture – 1 point first time
 5. Food in class – 1 point
 6. No Instrument – 5 points
 7. Disrespecting Others – 5 points and detention
 8. No Pencil, Reeds, or Music – 1 point
 9. Cell Phone or other devices – 5 points and taken away
 10. Improper Mask Use - 2 points

Playing Test Grades:

Each student will be assessed weekly via playing or memorization tests individually, in groups, or as an ensemble. Playing tests will be worth varying amounts of points (10-50). These tests are pass or fail. Students can or cannot perform the assignments. There is no grey area. However, these tests may be retaken for full credit within two weeks of the test date at a scheduled time outside of class.

Practice Cards may be assigned based on need!

Band Camp, Evening Marching Band Rehearsals, Pep Band and Sectionals **(High School Only)**

- Each rehearsal or sectional held outside of class time will be required and worth 25-75 points each.

Performances

- Band is a performance-based class. Each performance is required and worth 25-100 points each depending on the significance of performance.
- Because this is a performance based class, students must be in attendance at all performances with correct attire to receive full credit. There is no such thing as a “make up” performance or assignment.
- Directors need to be notified at least 2 weeks prior to any absence. Excused absences will be approved by the directors based on importance of performance.
- Illness, Family Emergency, or other unexpected extenuating circumstance (on a case by case basis with proper notification) will be graded as “exempt”

Practice Cards (if needed)

- 2 Hours are due every Monday by 3:00 p.m. for middle school students. Practice Sheets are worth 20 points total or 10 points per hour. For each day turned in late, the grade will be reduced 4 points per day. Please monitor your students’ at home practice time, as the success begins at home! **Please** do not just sign practice sheets without knowing that your child has put in the private practice on their instrument. It is imperative that music gets learned outside of class in order to be put together during school.
- Tests/quizzes may take the place of practice cards should the practice card system become ineffective.

Band and Athletics’ Conflicts

- Band Rehearsal and Athletic Practice = Split Equal Time Between Both Events

- Band Rehearsal and Athletic Game/Meet = Athletic Game
- Band Performance and Athletic Practice = Band Performance
- Band Performance and Athletic Game = Both Events...If not possible: Band would take precedence as it is a class; but communication will be had between the student(s), the family, and coaching staff to find the best solution possible!

Chair Placement

- Challenges are held at the discretion of the director. Challenge Forms must be submitted to the director for approval at least 48 hours in advance of the requested date. A student may only be challenged once per 24 hour period. Should a student switch parts due to the challenge, 48 hours must be given before challenging that person again.
- ***The director always has the option of implementing surprise chair tests and random chair placement***

High School Marching and Concert Uniforms (*Contact the director regarding uniform issues.*)

Uniforms are extremely expensive and must be treated with care and the utmost respect. Any student whose uniform or concert attire is lost or damaged will be responsible for the replacement costs of lost or damaged items. Clothing of any kind is not to be left in the instrument storage slots in the band room. Uniforms must also be altered, if necessary, so that the proper fit is achieved. Unless otherwise noted by the director, the uniforms are to be worn as required and without any jewelry.

Students without proper attire, will lose 20% credit. For example, students need Black Socks and White Undershirts (logo-less) for Concert Uniforms; proper Orange Band shirts for Marching Uniforms, etc. for full credit. We are a team and need to look uniform. Appearance is very important to successful professional ensembles.

Middle School Concert Attire: (*Contact the director regarding uniform issues.*)

Ladies - Solid Black Dress Shoes, Solid Black Socks, Solid Black Dress Pants, and a plain white long sleeve button down shirt. No Jewelry. Students will receive an orange vest and tie that will be returned at the end of the year.

Gentlemen - Solid Black Dress Shoes, Solid Black Socks, Solid Black Dress Pants, Black Belt, and plain white long sleeve button down shirt with a white undershirt (no designs). Students will receive an orange vest and tie that will be returned at the end of the year.

Students without proper attire, will lose 20% credit. For example students need Black Socks and White Undershirts (logo-less) for full credit. We are a team and need to look uniform. Appearance is very important to any successful professional ensemble.

INSTRUMENTS

- As we all know, instruments are extremely expensive and delicate pieces of equipment. It is of utmost importance that students place their instruments (personal or school-owned) away properly and not play other instruments. Should this become an ongoing issue, students will not only lose points, but also receive disciplinary action. Students using school-owned instruments must fill out the instrument sign-out form prior to obtaining the instrument.
- **Students borrowing a school instrument will be charged \$10 rental fee.** This is to foster ownership and responsibility over the instrument as well as help contribute to the insurance and repair upkeep cost of the school instruments.

MUSIC

- There will be a \$5 charge for the replacement cost on all original music that is not returned in satisfactory condition.

DISCIPLINE (Taken directly from CHS Handbook)

Each of the behaviors described below may subject the student to disciplinary action including suspension and/or expulsion from school. A student **may** be dismissed from band class should they participate in one of the following. The Band Director will meet with Administration to determine if Band Class is still in the best interest of the student:

1. Use of Drugs, Alcohol, fake drugs, steroids, inhalants, or look-alike drugs
2. Use of Breath-Test Instruments
3. Use of Tobacco or E-Cigarettes
4. Student Disorder/Demonstration
5. Possession of a Weapon
6. Use of an Object as a Weapon
7. Knowledge of Dangerous Weapons or Threats of Violence
8. Purposely Setting a Fire/Arson
9. Physically Assaulting a Staff Member/Student/Person Associated with the District
10. Fighting/Physical Harassment Against Another Student
11. Verbally Threatening a Staff Member/Student/Person Associated with the District
12. Extortion
13. Gambling
14. Falsification of School Work, Identification, Forgery
15. False Alarms, False Reports, and Bomb Threats
16. Explosives
17. Trespassing
18. Theft
19. Damaging Property

20. Persistent Absence or Tardiness
21. Skipping. (Absence from an Assigned Class Without Permission)
22. Unauthorized Use of School or Private Property
23. Refusing to Comply with a Reasonable Request/Insubordination
24. Aiding or Abetting Violation of School Rules
25. Displays of Affection
26. Possession of Electronic Equipment
27. Driving in an Unsafe Manner on or Near School Property and/or using vehicle to leave school grounds without permission
28. Obscenity, Profanity, and/or Vulgar Acts by Pupil in Verbal or Written Form, Pictures, Gestures, or Caricatures in or on School Property
29. Disruption of the Educational Process
30. Sexual Harassment
31. Hazing
32. BULLYING AND OTHER AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR TOWARD STUDENTS

Chesaning Music Boosters

The Chesaning Music Boosters (CMB) is a group of supporters of Chesaning Middle and High School band and choir programs. The CMB makes decisions on how to best support and enhance the band and choir programs at Chesaning Union Schools.

CMB meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, September through May. Likely to be Zoom calls until further notice. All supporters of the Chesaning Middle and High School music programs are welcome to attend any of these meetings. Paying a \$1 annual membership fee entitles you to be a voting member of the CMB, but you do not need to be a paid member to attend the meetings. All parents of CHS and CMS band students and community supporters are invited to attend and/or join.

Please check out our website at: <http://www.chesaningmusicboosters.com/>

The 2020-2021 CMB Executive Committee, as elected during the 2020 season, are as follows:

President:	Amy Wilson
Vice President:	Shari Luce

Secretary: Rhonda Bleisner
Treasurer: Gretchen Schulte
Head Band Director: Matthew Ingersoll
Assistant Band Director: Tim Howard

CMB hosts an annual Arts and Crafts Show at the Middle and High Schools the Friday and Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend. This is an amazing show for over 250 vendors and 5000 customers every year. 2019 was our 36th annual event, which helped pay for the needs of the band and choir programs. It takes over 200 student and adult volunteers to make this happen. This is a great opportunity to help our programs, and earn some incentive credits for your music account as well. Incentive accounts can be utilized to pay for music supplies, trips, camps, etc. throughout the year. Questions regarding incentive accounts can be directed to:

chesaningmusicboosters@gmail.com

The 2020 craft show has been cancelled for safety reasons; we hope to be back bigger and better next year!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Website: www.chesaningbands.weebly.com

Email: Mr. Ingersoll
mingerso@chesaning.k12.mi.us

Mr. Howard
thoward@chesaning.k12.mi.us

Phone: High School 989 845 2040 x 11317
Middle School 989 845 7040 x 13102

CONCERT DATES: (to be determined)

Go to: www.ChesaningBands.weebly.com

Find the Calendar page and sync it to your devices.

You can also like **“Chesaning Bands”** on Facebook to view and share calendar events!

PLEASE RETURN:

I have read and agree to comply with the Band Handbook of Chesaning Union Schools Instrumental Music Program. I understand that deviation will result in disciplinary action.

By signing this document, I state that I will participate in all band events until the end of the school year I am signing for (2020/2021). Being committed to the band family and team is important for success because each member has a unique and integral part to play in the pursuit of excellence. Finally, I understand that I may be video recorded or photographed as part of publicity or educational practice.

Student (print)

Date

Student (signature)

Date

Parent/Guardian (print)

Date

Parent/Guardian (signature)

Date

Parent/Guardian e-mail address

Go online to our calendar at www.ChesaningBands.weebly.com to add all of our Band events to your Calendar and please like "Chesaning Bands" on Facebook to stay current on events and band news!