

**Hopewell Junior School**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Jazz Band**

**2009-2010**

**Handbook**  
**and**  
**Performance Calendar**

# Hopewell Junior School

# 7th Grade Band

Dear HJS Band Member and Family,

Welcome back to school! We hope that your summer was relaxing and enjoyable for your family. Enclosed is the performance schedule with concert dates for the entire 2009-2010 school year. Please arrange your family activities so that your son or daughter can be present to perform at each concert. Part of your child's band grade is determined by concert participation and attendance. **The band directors and school administrators expect the students to participate in all performances as part of their musical education.** Especially in the spring time, we have had conflicts with baseball, soccer, etc. Please plan ahead so that we may avoid these conflicts. Remember, school comes first!

This year's **band uniform** will be the **red HJS music shirts and dark black pants**. All band students will need to purchase a shirt at the beginning of the year, unless you already have one. **The cost is \$15.00** payable to **Lakota Performing Arts**. Attached is the order form. Shirt orders and payment are due by Monday, August 31.

Please read all of the attached material with your son or daughter, discuss the grading policy and team work suggestions, and return the forms signed by Monday, August 31.

We are looking forward to an exciting and rewarding musical year filled with great music and wonderful concerts. Please call us if you have any questions.

Yours for the BEST BANDS!

Julie Fuqua

Joe Tignor

Hopewell Junior School Band Directors

# Team Work

**We all have to work together to have a great band!**

## **Goals for all Hopewell Junior School Band Members:**

- \*Have a positive attitude and try your best at all times.
  - \*Be in your seat on time with instrument, music, pencil and all necessary supplies when rehearsal begins. You may warm up QUIETLY at this time.
  - \*Listen to your band directors during rehearsal. Do not talk or play your instrument during instruction.
  - \*Clean your instrument daily at the end of each band class. Please make sure you have a cleaning swab, etc. for your instrument.
  - \* Return your folder AND instrument to the proper places at the end of each rehearsal.
  - \*You are now a member of a great band. **Your attendance at all performances is mandatory.** Please refer to the attached concert schedule.
  - \*All instruments and music **must** go home to practice on weekends. **THYIMEW!! (Take Home Your Instrument and Music Every Weekend!!)** If you leave either your instrument or music at school on the weekend, points will be deducted. (See attached grading policy) It only takes 2 or 3 times of forgetting until your quarter grade is lowered one letter grade.
  - \***Practice your instrument.** You will sound better, have more fun playing your instrument, and our band will sound better! Set a personal practice goal of at least one hour each weekend.
  - \*Keep your instrument in good playing condition at all times. If your instrument is broken, we will be happy to check the problem before you take it to the repair shop. If it is something minor, sometimes we are able to make the repair at school.
  - \***Put your name on your instrument case before you bring it to school.** Use a luggage tag or masking tape. We have many instruments in the band room and lots of instrument cases are identical! Having your name on your case will prevent many problems.
  - \***NO CHEWING GUM OR EATING CANDY IN BAND! EVER!** These are not compatible with you and your instrument! **We are very serious about no chewing gum or eating during band class. We do not want students choking, damaging their instruments or the carpet.** If you forget and have gum/candy in band, these are your consequences: loss of your participation points that day, and a detention. Detentions are served the following way:
    - 1st offense = 1 detention in the band room 7:40 a.m. - 8:05 a.m. or lunch detention
    - 2nd offense = 2 detentions in the band room and phone call home
    - 3rd offense = General detention, held after school hours
- It is a school rule: No chewing gum. Please refer to your student planner. Make it easy on yourself; leave your chewing gum at home.**

**Please detach this page, sign and return all three forms, including the performance contract, to the band directors by Monday, August 31, 2009.**

**Performance Contract**

I have read and understand the Band Grading Policy, Team Work suggestions, performance requirements (refer to attached pages) and the performance schedule printed below. I understand that attendance at all concerts is mandatory and is required as part of my band grade. I understand how my grades in band will be calculated. I will complete these requirements.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

**Music Shirt Order Form**

The HJS Bands "Uniform" includes a red shirt with an embroidered "Hopewell Junior Music Department" logo. This shirt is used by the bands and the choruses, 7th and 8th grades. If your child is in both band and chorus they need only buy one shirt, but should order from the band directors in order to have it for the October 20 concert. If you ordered a shirt last year, you may use that same shirt. The **cost per shirt is \$15.00** payable in cash or check to **Lakota Performing Arts. Order forms and money are due Monday, August 31.** Shirts are adult sizes.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_  
S M L XL XXL

Band Class Period \_\_\_\_\_

Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

**Candy Sale**

Our annual music department fund raiser is a candy sale. We rely on a successful candy sale as the primary means of financially supporting our band program in order to purchase music, musical instruments and equipment. Students will be selling individual \$1.00 candy bars made by World's Finest Chocolates a 50 bar variety pack (milk chocolate, milk chocolate with almonds, dark chocolate with almonds, caramel bar and crisp bars). The candy sale is sponsored by Mid-West Community Fund Raising, Inc. There are different categories of prizes for selling candy. We ask that each band member do their part and sell 50 bars of candy. If it is your preference, we will accept a \$25.00 donation in lieu of selling candy and those students will still be eligible for a prize. We will accept donations during the candy sale dates, September 23 - October 5.

**Parent Volunteers needed to help with Candy Sale!**

Parents! We need help September 24 to October 7 collecting and counting money, keeping records, etc., for the candy sale. In the mornings as the students arrive at school, they will turn in their candy money in the lobby. We need your help in collecting and counting the students' money in the lobby from 7:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Please sign up now for any mornings you can help from 7:45 to 9:00 a.m. collecting money. We will call you close to the sale for scheduling specific times and confirmation. Thanks for your help!

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Or if you prefer, we can contact you through your e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate below the date(s) that you are available for collecting and counting money September 24 - October 7 from 7:45 a.m. to approximately 9:00 a.m. in the school lobby.

\_\_\_\_\_ We will call you the week of  
September 21 to confirm these dates.

***WE APPRECIATE YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT ! ! ! !***

**Hopewell Junior School**

## 7th Grade Band Grading Policy

Students receive letter grades in band (A+ -, B+ -, C+ -, D+ -, F) which are averaged into the academic honor roll. Grades are determined each quarter by the following factors: daily class participation - 5 points per day; taking your instrument and music home to practice each weekend (THYIMEW) - 15 points per week; concert attendance, performance, and participation -100 points per concert; playing tests -100 points per quarter.

### Points per Quarter

| Quarter             | <u>1st</u> | <u>2nd</u> | <u>3rd</u> | <u>4th</u> |
|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Daily Participation | 210        | 230        | 235        | 215        |
| THYIMEW             | 120        | 150        | 150        | 135        |
| Concert Attendance  | 100        | 100        | 100        | 100        |
| Playing Tests       | <u>100</u> | <u>100</u> | <u>100</u> | <u>100</u> |
| Totals              | 530        | 580        | 585        | 550        |

### Point Grading Scale

| Quarter       | <u>1st</u> | <u>2nd</u> | <u>3rd</u> | <u>4th</u> |
|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| A+ = 97-100%  | 514-530    | 563-580    | 567-585    | 534-550    |
| A = 93-96%    | 493-513    | 540-563    | 544-566    | 512-533    |
| A- = 90-92%   | 477-492    | 522-539    | 527-543    | 495-511    |
| B+ = 87-89%   | 461-476    | 505-521    | 509-526    | 479-494    |
| B = 83-86%    | 440-460    | 481-504    | 486-508    | 456-478    |
| B- = 80-82%   | 424-439    | 464-480    | 468-485    | 440-455    |
| C+ = 77-79%   | 408-423    | 447-463    | 450-467    | 424-439    |
| C = 73-76%    | 387-407    | 423-446    | 427-449    | 402-423    |
| C- = 70-72%   | 371-386    | 406-422    | 410-426    | 385-401    |
| D+ = 67-69%   | 355-370    | 389-405    | 392-409    | 369-384    |
| D = 63-66%    | 334-354    | 365-388    | 369-391    | 347-368    |
| D- = 60-62%   | 318-333    | 348-364    | 351-368    | 330-346    |
| F = below 60% | Below 318  | Below 348  | Below 351  | Below 330  |

**Extra credit points** will be given for participating in optional musical events.

**5 - Performance outside of school** (church, nursing home, scout troop, performance with an ensemble outside of school) **5 - Private lessons** (students must complete form provided in band and have private lesson teacher and parent signature)

**5 - Honor Band/Solo and Ensemble**

**5 - Attending another high school, junior high, elementary concert or professional music concerts like the Cincinnati Symphony or performance at the Aronoff Center, etc.** (students must turn in the concert program, school concerts please attempt to have one of the participating band directors sign)

No more than 15 extra credit points per quarter will be added to a student's grade.

## Explanation of band grade requirements

**Daily class participation** - students must be prepared for band class and have the appropriate materials needed for class every day. Students need to have their instrument, music, pencil, reed, mouthpiece, drum sticks, or other necessary equipment for every rehearsal. Chewing gum, eating, talking at inappropriate times and disruptive behavior do not benefit the band rehearsal. We expect all students to try their best every day. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in loss of participation points for that day. If your instrument is broken and needs repairing, we will not reduce participation points if we receive a note signed by your parent or guardian stating that the instrument is in the repair shop. We must have the note on the day the instrument is being repaired to avoid this point reduction.

**Taking your instrument and music home to practice every weekend** - Students are required to take both their instrument and music folder home on weekends. This is fondly referred to as **THYIMEW!!** (**T**ake **H**ome **Y**our **I**nstrument and **M**usic **E**very **W**eekend!!) If you leave either your instrument or music at school on the weekend, points will be deducted. We average all the weeks together for this portion of your grade. **It only takes 2 or 3 times of forgetting until your quarter grade is lowered one letter grade.** If you leave school on early dismissal, you are still responsible for taking your instrument and music folder home. You will not be penalized if you are sick and have an excused absence for school that day.

**Remember, the more you practice your instrument, the better you will sound!**

**Concert attendance** - Band is a performance based class. Concerts provide an opportunity for all band members to apply what they have learned in band each grading period. Preparing for and performing a concert for an audience is the responsibility of each band member and the ultimate goal we work toward. Each band member plays a vital role in class and the concert. It is mandatory that all students attend, participate, and perform in each concert scheduled during the school year (see attached performance schedule). Only the following situations will be acceptable reasons for an excused absence: serious illness of student or family member, excused absence from school, or a death in the family. Concerts are group activities. We practice together daily and it is important to have all players, the entire band, present at all performances. Please plan your other family activities around this schedule. Remember, school activities come first. **The band directors and school administrators expect the students to participate in all performances as part of their musical education.**

**Playing tests**- individually, in class, or in section rehearsals. We will have several playing tests each grading period.

