

BEGINNING BAND HANDBOOK

2023-2024

Learning Objectives

My goal as band director at Bartelso Elementary School is to provide a quality music education for all band students. I plan to accomplish this by establishing a nurturing learning environment, promoting individual musical development, exposing students to a variety of quality band literature, and encouraging students to reach their fullest potential as musicians.

Student Responsibilities

Students are responsible for coming to band rehearsals and lessons on time and prepared. This includes bringing instrument, music, and having practiced assigned material. Below is a list of necessary supplies for each instrument. Many of these items can be purchased at school.

Flute

cleaning rod
cleaning cloth

Clarinet / Saxophone

swab reed holder
cork grease 3 reeds

Trumpet/Baritone/Trombone

valve/slide oil
mouthpiece brush

Percussion

drum sticks

Students will also be responsible for purchasing the music book needed for their lesson and full band.

Concert Attire

The Beginning Band does not wear uniforms at performances. Students should dress nice (no jeans) for all concerts. Appearance of a band is very important. Pride in our appearance shows an audience that we have pride in ourselves and our ability as a band. When we perform in public, we represent the school and the community of Bartelso. Let's make every effort to look our best!

Grading

Each student will be graded on individual progress at weekly lessons using the following criteria:

100 = Mastery (prepared, knows material, outstanding performance)
90 = Good (mostly prepared, knows majority of material, above average)
80 = Average (somewhat prepared, knows half of material, ok performance)
E = Excused (illness, test, etc.)

Ideally, young musicians should practice for 20 minutes, five times a week rather than one or two long practice sessions. Setting aside a regular practice time each day will help make this a routine. Regular practice enables your child to develop and improve concepts learned during lessons and full band rehearsals.

Schedule

Every band student will receive a 20 minute lesson each week. Full band will rehearse twice a week on for 30 minutes. The Beginning Band will perform a Christmas concert and a spring concert. Attendance is expected at all full band performances. A band relies on all of its members. When one or two are absent it affects the entire group.

Commitment

The Bartelso Beginning Band is a team of musicians. We rely on each other to make great music. When a student quits or threatens to quit band, it affects the morale of the entire group. I ask that parents and students commit to the band program for the entire school year.

Please sign and return this form.

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We have received and read the Beginning Band Handbook 2023-2024 and we agree to commit to the Bartelso Band for the entire school year.

Student signature _____

Parent signature _____