

Welcome to Band!

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the Wenz Elementary Band Program!

Students that take part in the band program are challenged to grow musically and encouraged to achieve their highest potential. Each and every one of our participants is an essential part of our band and brings something unique and wonderful to our program! This band is a family, and each person is just as important as the next. We feel that each student's relationships with their peers and the surrounding community are essential to their education and believe that our purpose is to foster that community here in the Mayo Band Program and help our students grow as musicians and as individuals.

Family members: music is a beautiful medium through which to teach students the skills they need to become successful members of society: respect for themselves and their peers, communication skills, decision-making, responsibility, etc. Our band program cannot do everything our students deserve without the help and support of our parents and community. Please ask your students about their experiences, find out what excites them, and encourage them to grow as musicians and as people.

Please take some time to read over the Band Handbook. This will prepare you for your work and responsibilities as a member of the band. If a problem should arise, consult the handbook first. If you still cannot find the answer, please do not hesitate to contact me!

I can't wait to work and grow with you. Let's have a fantastic year!

Sincerely,



Christina L. Farley

Band Director
Mayo Middle School
Wenz Elementary
Office: (217) 466-3050
cfarley@paris95.k12.il.us
mayomiddleschoolmusic.weebly.com

Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail should you have any questions.

Our Band Philosophy

The Mayo Music Program is to team with parents, students, and the school to provide an atmosphere where students can be successful in learning and performing on musical instruments, both individually and in a large ensemble. At Mayo, we feel that the process is just as important as the product; individual development and growth is our goal, and our group performances are just a demonstration of the great things we have been doing in class! Music is a part of a student's comprehensive education and aim to uphold the traditions of the past while maintaining a commitment to excellence within each student.

"Music Education opens doors that help children pass from school into the world around them - a world of work, culture, intellectual activity and human involvement. The future of our nation depends on providing our children with a complete education that includes music."

-President Gerald Ford

"A performance is just a celebration of some of the successes that we have during rehearsals."

-Dr. Alicia Neal

In our program, we strive to:

- challenge each student to grow as a musician and person.
- instill an appreciation and desire for music.
- create a sense of community within each ensemble.
- build life-long characteristics of teamwork, commitment and confidence.
- participate in activities that give back to the community.
- create an experience to show the importance of music in one's daily life so that he or she can promote and support music programs in the future.

General Rules

1. Respect our time.
2. Come prepared.
3. Always respect the feelings of others.
4. Maintain a positive attitude.
5. Strive to do your best.

Attitude and Conduct

We are a visible organization in our community; our performances are public, therefore open to criticism. Others will judge our actions; these may be positive or negative. This means our behavior reflects our school, community and the entire music program. Always conduct yourself in ways that bring credit to you and your school. We want our actions to represent our school in the highest of standards. Students will conduct themselves in accordance within the school handbook policies. Let it be known that there will be NO public display of affection (hugging, holding hands, kissing, cuddling, hooking arms, etc.) before, during or after band functions. It is inappropriate in a group environment. Required, appropriate attire is also considered a large part of these expectations. If anyone insists on testing these expectations, grades will be deducted and parents will be notified.

5th Grade Band (Wenz Elementary)

Open to ALL 5th grade students at Wenz Elementary School

1. Rehearsals

- a. Full band will rehearse outside of school Monday and Thursday from 3:15 to 4:00 PM beginning the second full week of classes (August 28th).
- b. Small group lessons will occur during school hours.
- c. Incoming 5th grade band lessons will be held July 31-August 4th and August 7th through the 11th.

2. Performances

- a. 5th Grade “Show-and-Tell” Night: October 4th - 6:30
- b. Wenz Band and Children’s Choir Concert: December 12th - TBA
- c. IESA Solo and Ensemble Contest: March 24th - All Day (select students)
- d. Spring Band Concert: May 7th - 6:30
- e. Other performances may occur upon director discretion.

3. Music

- a. Keep in Concert Band Folder with your name on it.
- b. Keep your folder with your instrument at all times.
- c. If you lose it, see the director.
- d. You are expected to take these folders home and practice.

Extra Activities

Solo and Ensemble Contest

Open to all 5th grade students with director and parental approval.

1. Solo and ensemble contest will be an additional activity and, ultimately, an additional responsibility for the student/group of students.
2. Soloists and chamber ensembles will rehearse weekly with the director and their accompanist. They will perform at IESA solo and ensemble contest.

3. Students are expected to acquire and reimburse an accompanist. For more information, check the accompanist form that can be found on the website.

Concert Attire

Uniform consists of:

- a. If you identify as Male: dress pants, dress shirt, mild colored tie (if desired), nice socks, dress shoes.
- b. If you identify as Female: modest dress shirt (must have sleeves longer than capped sleeves), dress pants/skirt (must be longer than the knee), stockings (if you wear a skirt, stockings are required), dress shoes. **NO SKIN.**

Student Preparation Expectations

Daily Rehearsal:

1. Come to class with all materials needed – instrument, all music, folders, binders, a pencil, etc. (if there is a problem with acquiring all materials, speak with the director).
2. Attend and participate in all rehearsals – this means that your music is ready for our full band rehearsal!

Outside Preparation:

1. For curricular classes, students are expected to put in the work necessary to learn their instrument and music to a high level of quality. Like homework in other classes, practicing your music is essential for individual and group success.
2. For extra curricular classes, students are expected to put in the amount of work necessary to have a positive contribution to the ensemble. If the student demonstrates a lack of interest or inadequate preparation, there will be required meetings with the director outside of rehearsal until the student's behavior turns around.

Performances:

1. Students are expected to arrive early for performances and be fully **ready to play** by the designated arrival time.
2. Students should be prepared with all materials necessary and are expected to act professionally at all times – performing, as members of the audience, transportation, etc.

Band Room Policy

1. **Care**
 - a. All loose paper and music needs to be placed in its proper place after each rehearsal.
 - b. All instruments should be placed in the appropriate area (and in a closed

case) after each rehearsal and performance.

- c. Please: **NO FOOD, SOFT DRINKS, GUM OR CANDY IN THE BAND ROOM OR AROUND INSTRUMENTS** without prior director approval.

2. Equipment

- a. Any equipment, be it personally or school owned, needs to be taken care of while in the band room.
- b. Each student should play on his or her own instrument at all times.
- c. The technology and piano in the room is not for individual student use. If a student desires to utilize the technology, permission must be granted. After use, all used parts must be returned to their former position.

3. Locating Items

- a. As an incoming new student, you should become familiar with the band room and figure out where the equipment that concerns you resides. If an item is lost, please notify the director and the lost and found in the office.

Equipment

1. School Owned Instruments

- a. Whichever instrument the student checks out at the beginning of the year is the instrument the student plays for the entire year.
- b. It is the student's responsibility to maintain the upkeep of the instrument. Valve oil, reeds and slide grease are the responsibility of the player, not the director.
- c. Students will be required to sign a contract and pay a \$25 dollar rental fee before they are given access to the instrument; this allows the student access to the instrument for the entire year, including the following summer.
 - i. The rental fee may be waved based on financial need OR if the instrument is a secondary requested by the Director - all decisions are at the discretion of the Director.
- d. Each student will get the instrument checked out and in by the director and any damage done to school owned instruments will be paid for by the persons responsible for the damage.

2. Personal Instruments

- a. If your instrument is off of school property, we are not responsible for any lost or stolen items.
- b. Maintenance is the responsibility of the individual student. Upkeep will be necessary for inspections.
- c. The student will be responsible for the necessary accessories/equipment.

Brass (Supply List)

Slide Grease
Valve Oil
Mouthpieces (Clean)
Instrument (Clean)

Woodwinds Supply List

Plenty of reeds? (3-5)
Swab
Mouthpiece (clean)
Ligature (clean)

Percussionists may be required to purchase their own sticks and mallets.

****Students may purchase reeds/oil/etc. in the band office either before or after rehearsal. If needed, an item may be charged, but all debts will to be paid by the end of each quarter.****

Instrument Conditions and Maintenance

1. Flutes

- a. Head joint slides in easily
- b. Pads and corks in place
- c. Foot joint inserted properly; no leaks
- d. Head joint cork and end piece in place
- e. Recently cleaned- no silver polish!

2. Clarinets

- a. Wooden- Recently oiled
- b. All tenons in place; no leaks
- c. All keys and accessories fitting properly
- d. Reed in good shape, No lipstick
- e. Pads and Corks in place
- f. Ligature has both screws
- g. No Candy Reeds

3. Saxophones

- a. Octave key working properly
- b. No sticking pads
- c. Reed in good shape; no lipstick
- d. Strap in good shape
- e. Ligature has both screws
- f. Neckpiece inserted properly; no leaks
- g. No Candy Reeds

4. Trumpets, Baritones, Euphoniums and Tubas

- a. Valves working freely
- b. Casings recently cleaned
- c. Tuning slide recently cleaned and greased
- d. All valve slides working
- e. Lead pipe recently cleaned (inside)

- f. Whole trumpet polished (dry cloth)
- g. Water keys sealing

5. Trombones

- a. Slides working freely
- b. Lock for slide working
- c. Slide and horn recently cleaned
- d. Tuning slide working properly
- e. Polished
- f. Water keys sealing

6. Percussion

- a. Lugs recently vaselined
 - b. Cymbals polished
 - c. Sticks recently taped and not broken
 - d. Snares straight and unbent
 - e. Instruments clean
 - f. All needed mallets and sticks
 - g. Take proper precautions when moving instruments
- Put instrument away when you're done

5th Grade Calendar 2017/18

What	Date	Where	When
Summer Lessons	7/31-8/4 & 8/7-11	Mayo Band Room	8 am - 3:30 pm
Show and Tell Concert	10/4	PCFA	6:30 pm
Band/Children's Choir Concert	12/12	PCFA	TBA
Festival of Bands	TBA	TBA	TBA
Solo and Ensemble	3/24	Crestwood	All Day

Times and dates on this calendar are tentative. Performances might be added or taken from this list at the discretion of the director.

Band Commitment/Understanding of the Handbook Signature Form

Sign and return this page only by the second Friday of the school year.

****By signing and returning this, you agree that you have read and agree to all aspects of the handbook****

I, _____, will be a member of this band program's concert, jazz and/or pep band. I understand the commitment of time, individual and group practice and sectional time I will have to give to do my part in participating. I am aware of the attached schedule of events and also understand that I will be expected to fulfill most all of the school year commitments.

Student Printed Name _____

Student Signature _____

Student e-mail _____ Do you have a cell phone? Y N

Date _____

Each member of our band program plays an intricate part of the ensemble. As a parent, I will support my child in all music activities and I understand that he/she will be expected to fulfill their commitment to participate in performances, individual and group practices, and concerts through the entire school year. I am also aware that my student is the one responsible for giving me the dates and times of each event and I have seen the attached schedule myself.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Parent 1 E-mail _____ Cell Phone Number _____

Parent 2 E-mail _____ Cell Phone Number _____

Date _____

The following are medical/other concerns that you should be aware of concerning my child:

Audio/Video Consent Form

Sign and return this page only by the second Friday of the school year.

I, _____(Parent/Guardian), give permission for my son/ daughter,
_____(Student Name), to be audio and/or video recorded for
educational purposes in the band classroom. These recordings will be used for playing tests
and for students to reflect upon rehearsals and performances. I understand that if I choose
to not sign this form, my child will be asked not to play during group recordings, and will
be expected to make those points up with alternative activities.

By signing this form, I give permission for group photos to be taken of my student within
the band to be used for the music program website. Additionally, I understand that I may
be responsible for any damage my child incurs on the recording equipment.

Date Signed:_____

Parent/Guardian Signature:_____

Student Signature:_____