PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY THE FIRST FRIDAY IN SEPTEMBER.

STUDENT:

I WILL:

A. **FOLLOW THE RULES AND EXPECTATIONS OUTLINED IN THIS HANDBOOK.**
B. **ATTEND ALL CONCERTS AND PERFORMANCES.**
C. **DEMONSTRATE LEADERSHIP AT ALL TIMES, IN AND OUT OF CLASS.**
D. **BE A MODEL OF RESPECT TO THE TEACHER AND FELLOW STUDENTS.**

PARENT:

I WILL:

A. **BECOME INVOLVED TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY.**
B. **CHECK IN PERIODICALLY WITH THE TEACHER.**
C. **PRINT CONCERT DATES FOR THE BAND.**

I HAVE READ THE HOUGHTON MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND HANDBOOK. I MAY NOT AGREE WITH ALL THE TERMS IN THE HANDBOOK, BUT I WILL DO MY BEST TO HELP MY CHILD FOLLOW THESE RULES AND GUIDELINES. I WILL DO MY BEST TO BECOME INVOLVED WITH MY CHILD'S MUSICAL ADVENTURES BY ATTENDING CONCERTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS. I WILL ENCOURAGE MY CHILD TO BECOME INVOLVED WITH OTHER MUSICAL ENDEAVORS SUCH AS SOLO AND ENSEMBLE, AND BAND FESTIVAL.

_____

Student signature/date

_____

Parent signature/date

THE HOUGHTON MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND

Mission Statement

Developed by Kelly Fontaine

The Houghton Middle School Band has a mission to grow musically throughout the year. Learning and understanding daily ideas and concepts will ensure our goal. We are a team. Everyone needs to participate within this team by practicing an instrument on a daily basis, being prepared for class daily and producing enthusiasm. Everyone will treat each other with respect and therefore will be treated with respect. We do not discriminate against any person. Everyone has the opportunity to learn. Everyone will accept this opportunity. We have a commitment to our school and community. We will fulfill this commitment by performing on a regular basis in a public setting. Through these ideas, we hope to develop an appreciation for the ensemble and for ourselves.

Goals

WE WILL:

1. Remember our PENCILS, instruments, and music/book daily.
2. Show pride and ownership in belonging to the band.
3. Perform for our community and school.
4. Create a stronger self-confidence within each of us.
5. Treat each other with respect.
6. Increase our musical knowledge/ability throughout the year.
7. Act responsibly when in public representing our school/director.

Classroom Rules

1. Respect the podium and the director, and respect will be returned.
   ~students will be quiet when the director stands on the podium

2. Food and drink are not permitted in the band room at any time. Please take water bottles with you at the end of class.
   ~left items will be thrown away

3. Absolutely no Gum!!! Automatic classroom detention with the teacher.

4. You are tardy if not in your seat with materials within two minutes of the bell ringing.

5. Supplies must be purchased before/after band or after school.

6. Not having materials will result in a loss of daily points, affecting grade.

7. Remain in assigned seats until dismissed by the teacher.

8. The same rules apply for a substitute teacher.

CONCERTS

All concerts can be found on the school website at hpts.us under the school calendar tab.

Grade Requirements

1. Performance Exams **(35% of final grade)**
   These weekly tests will be taken during class time and on the student instrument. These performance tests can be from the music we are presently working on, individual scales, or sight-reading. The student will have at least three school days to practice the approximate material for that exam. The exact exam is never given to the student in advance.

2. Concerts **(20% of final grade)**
   Everyone must attend all concerts. Special consideration for certain circumstances may be discussed.

3. Preparation for class **(25% of final grade)**
   Everyone must be in his or her assigned seat at the final bell.
   Everyone must have all materials and will not be excused to get supplies.
   Everyone will have their instrument together and be warming up at the bell.
   Everyone will bring his or her own music and pencil to each class period.
   Students unable to participate daily will be given an alternative assignment.

4. Individual Practice **(20% of final grade)**
   Each student is expected to practice to maintain and exceed his/her own level of ability on a daily basis. Practice sheets will be available to log all practice time. ALL STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRACTICE IN THE BAND ROOM FOR 30 MIN. BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL TWICE DURING EACH MARKING PERIOD. THIS TIME WILL BE GRADED. THESE SESSIONS WILL BE DUE MONTHLY. A THIRD PRACTICE SESSION CAN BE COMPLETED FOR EXTRA CREDIT.

Performances

Concerts

All concerts must be attended.

Solo and Ensembles

Each student is encouraged to participate in an event at this festival. A solo, duet, trio, quartet, or small ensembles are acceptable events for you to choose. The student, who chooses to participate and decides later that they are not ready, will reimburse the school the amount of money for each event.

Related Topics

Instrument Rental

Rental payments for school-owned instruments such as percussion, tuba, bassoon, oboe, string bass, baritone, and French horn will be $100 per school year.

Rental payments for personally owned instruments purchased through Houghton-Portage Township schools are $100 in September, January, and May until the purchase price is reimbursed to the school. After one year, any owed rent will have a one-time 20% fee attached. The instrument is yours to keep when payment is made in full.

Concert Attire

The concert attire is at the discretion of the band director. Black pants, a black shirt, and black shoes are usually requested.

Uniform shirts will be signed out at the BEFORE BAND FESTIVAL and returned at the end of the festival. Each individual student is responsible for his/her own uniform shirt that they are assigned.