

Middle School Instrumental Music
Mr. Danny Eye
Concert Band - 2023-2024

Attendance Policy

All students are expected to be in their seats at the start of each rehearsal. We have limited time to accomplish our goals during rehearsals, so please be ready on time.

Music performances are required. Any request for an exception must be submitted in writing (email is best) and approved by the director **3 WEEKS in advance** of the conflicting date - except in the case of an emergency. Students are responsible to arrive at each rehearsal and performance on time and properly prepared (properly dressed, instrument ready, music ready, materials ready).

Scheduled Performance

An unexcused absence from a scheduled performance will result in a 1-letter grade deduction. Look at the attached schedule and communicate conflicts early.

Participation Grade

Students will be assessed on being fully prepared for class and their participation in class. Students will lose their points for each day they attend a rehearsal and do not actively participate or cause a distracting environment. If a student's instrument is being repaired, they can borrow a school-owned instrument (students must supply their own mouthpiece/reed/etc.) If that is unavailable, students will be assigned work to recover the points.

Homework

Practicing is considered homework. It's important for students to continue to improve their skills on their instrument throughout the course. Students should practice at least 120 minutes per week.

Instrument Tags/Method Books

All students are required to have an instrument tag on their instrument (school rentals included). Students can be purchased one at a local music store or through Mr. Eye. A luggage tag is also acceptable. 6th and 7th grade students need to have their own copy of Sound Innovations, Book 1. 8th grade students need to have their own copy of Sound Innovations, Book 2. All method books need to be labeled too!

School Owned Instruments/Equipment

If a student is using a school owned instrument, the student is responsible to maintain the instrument in proper working condition. This includes giving the proper maintenance care to the instrument (cleaning, oiling, pads, slides, etc.). If damage to a school instrument occurs, the student will be liable for the damages (Dents included). User fee is \$25 per semester and \$20 over the summer per instrument. User fees need to be paid within the first **3 weeks** of the semester.

Pop/Food/Gum in the Band Room

There is **NO** food, pop, or gum in the band room. We need to keep our room clean and the sugar is bad for the instruments.

Percussion Equipment

Only percussion students are allowed to play the percussion instruments unless Mr. Eye gives a student permission to play a part.

****Percussionists are required to have a pair of drumsticks at the school for rehearsals along with a snare drum *AND* bell kit at home for practice.****

Grading

Students will be graded on daily participation/performances (65%) and weekly lessons (35%).

Lessons

Students are expected to attend a weekly 15 minute lesson with either Mr. Eye or Mrs. Meirose. If a student is absent the day of a lesson, the lesson is excused; however, students must let the lesson instructor know they were gone. If a student is taking a test during their lesson time, bring a signed pass from the teacher. It will be considered excused, however, if a student has more than 3 excused lessons during the quarter, they will need to make a lesson up.

Make-up Lessons

Each Friday of a full week of school, students have the opportunity for make-up lessons. A sheet will be posted in the band room on Monday morning for that week. Students cannot sign up for more than one make-up per day. Students have until the end of the quarter to make-up and lessons they have missed during that quarter.

Bills

Students can purchase items such as reeds, valve oil, drumsticks, etc. through the school. This should be taken care of before school/after school. Bills need to be paid in a timely matter (3 weeks).

Jazz Band

Jazz Band is open to all band students in Middle School and under the direction of Mrs. Meirose. The Jazz Band typically meets on Thursday mornings at 7:40 a.m. starting in the Winter. Students involved are expected to attend rehearsals and performances. More information will be sent later.

iPads

iPads will not be used in class unless Mr. Eye has a specific assignment for them (I will let you know ahead of time). Keep them in your locker or under your chair.

Contact Me

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Email is best, but you are welcome to call. Stay connected by checking out the band's webpage for dates, times, schedule changes, news, etc.

Mr. Danny Eye

West Central Middle School
705 E. 2nd St.
P.O. Box 730
Hartford, SD 57033
Phone: (605) 528-6236 ext. 1119

Daniel.Eye@k12.sd.us
<http://danieleye.wix.com/westcentralband>

Twitter: @wc_band

MS Band Performance Schedule 2023-2024

November 4th - HS Indoor Marching Band Concert (8th Grade Band Members Perform)

November 28th - MS Band/Choir Concert* (HS Gym)

January 23rd - Pep Band with High School (8th Grade Band Members only)

February 2nd - 3rd - MS All-State Jazz Band (by Audition only)

March 1st - 2nd - MS All-State Band (Mitchell - by Audition only)

March 6th - Celebration of Music Festival (Brandon - Nomination only)

March 14th - MS Band Concert* (HS Gym)

April 29th - Grade 6-8 Instrumental Contest (WC High School)*

June 15th - Jamboree Days Parade (6th & 7th grade students)

* - Required by **ALL** MS Instrumental Students

A message regarding instrumental music equipment:

Cheap reeds do not keep well and create horrible tone and pitch. That can be frustrating to the student(s) when they have faulty equipment. Here is a list of credible reed brands when buying on-line.

- Vandoren
- LaVoz
- Rico
- Mitchell Lurie

Cheap instruments dent, bend and fall apart quickly. The cheaper instruments are harder to repair and some repair shops will **NOT** fix them. Here is a list of credible brands for each instrument. If you are looking for an instrument and it's a brand that is not on the list, please contact Mr. Eye or Mrs. Meirose for some added guidance.

Flute

Yamaha
Gemeinhardt
Pearl
Armstrong
Jupiter

Clarinet

Yamaha
Buffet
Conn-Selmer brands

Alto Saxophone

Yamaha
Selmer
Jupiter

Trumpet

Yamaha
Bach
CG Conn
Blessings
Getzen

Trombone

Yamaha
Bach
CG Conn
King

Percussion

Yamaha
Pearl
Ludwig

Sticks/Mallets

Vic Firth
Zildjian
Innovative Percussion

Parent/Student Signature Document

Please look these rules/guidelines/concert schedule over and discuss between parents and student. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. By signing, you understand the guidelines/rules that are expected from each student participating in MS Instrumental Music. Please acquire the appropriate signatures and return to Mr. Eye. This form is due back Tuesday, September 5th. It is worth 10 points and will go down a point every day it is late.

Student Name (Print) _____

Student Grade _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Name (Print) _____

Parent Signature _____

Parent Email (for behavior/grades communication) _____

Check here if you would like to receive updates, minutes, and emails from the West Central Music Association

Known conflicts

Date

Reason