

GLADWIN BANDS



2020-2021

**FLYING G BAND
HANDBOOK**

Welcome to the Gladwin Band Family!

As the new director of the Gladwin Bands, I would like to personally thank you for your continued support of the long standing tradition that is the Gladwin Bands. Our goal is to strive for excellence and quality, build character, practice discipline and to always provide our community with not only an entertaining musical program but also demonstrate student leadership, which is the pride of the Gladwin Community Schools.

I look forward to working together to develop ensembles that not only perform well, but also to grow together as a band family. This is a commitment of the highest level for all of us; it requires persistence, building relationships, personal growth and understanding. This handbook will convey the guidelines and operating procedures for our Gladwin Bands. Its purpose is to help answer student/parent questions and serve as a guide for defining the procedure for our organization. Please keep the handbook for the entire year for your reference. If you have further questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact me and I will assist you as soon as possible.

Melissa Wakeley-Sapienza (Mrs. S.)

2019-2020 Gladwin Bands

Contact Information:

Melissa Sapienza, Director

989.426.7341 HS

989.426.3808 JH

msapienza@gladwinschools.net

Band Website: www.gladwinbands.net

Band FB Page: Gladwin Bands

Best contact for Mrs. S. Is email—I will respond within a day normally.

Expectations of Students

Performance

All performances are *required*. All performances will be virtual for the first semester, at least (exception is HS marching band). Any changes will be sent to you immediately.

Commitment

Band is different from other classes in that we must always be concerned with next year as well as the current year. Please consider band as a commitment of more than one year. Our future success depends on our membership. There are a group of students and a director who are counting on YOU.

Practice

All band students are expected to practice regularly. It is important to practice to develop endurance and consistency. Some students will need to practice longer than others to meet the objectives, but every student requires practice. We practice “until.” Meaning, we practice until we can perform the music to the best of our abilities. As a student of trumpet for the past 33 years, I continue to develop my musical craft with this mantra in mind: I will practice “until. . .”

Instruments

Students are expected to have their instrument in class EVERY day. **Be sure that your name appears both on the inside and outside of your case.**

School Instruments

At this time, we are not handing out any school instruments for student use. Our supply of school instruments is limited to larger, more advanced instruments. Students that were issued one of those instruments last year will continue to use it this year.

Reeds and Accessories

Clarinet and Saxophone players are expected to have **four quality reed at all times**. Reeds and other supplies can be purchased through the school at a discount. See Mrs. Sapienza for an order form. Place your order form and money into an envelope with your name on it and Mrs. S. will order your supplies for you. Order forms and pricing lists will appear on our website soon.

Music and Folders

Folders will be issued to band students. Students are expected to keep their music in their folder and have both at rehearsal every day. **Do not store music or folders in your instrument case.** This will result in damaging the instrument. Music will be routinely collected. Students will be expected to pay for lost or damaged music.

Earning a Band Letter (HS Band Only)

To earn a Band Letter a student must earn a total of 5 points. Points earned on one year carry over to the next. Students earn points for each of the following:

Concert Band	Perfect Attendance at all performances. No absences (excused or unexcused) from any performance, 1 point.
Marching Band	Attendance at Band Camp and all pre-school activities, 1 point. Perfect attendance at all performances and evening rehearsals during the season, 1 point.
Pep Band	Perfect attendance at all games, 1 point.
Solo and Ensemble	Earning a first or second division rating at S&E Festival, 1 point for District, 1 point for State.
Honor Bands	Participation in any Honor Band (CMU, MSU, MSBOA District Honor Band, All-Star Band, MYAF), 1 point per performance.

Band Uniforms

At this time, we are not ordering any items for concert band uniforms. The only uniforms that have been issued are marching band uniforms for high school students. If our school situation changes and we are able to host public concerts and attend festivals, we will ask you to purchase necessary items for the uniform (shirt, black socks and black shoes). Cadet Band (6th grade) students will continue to dress in nice dress for any concerts we may have this year.

Grading Policy

Overview

The band class is considered a co-curricular course. The required work for this course includes both in class and out of class activities. All band students will be evaluated and graded on the basis of work completed both in school and after school.

All Gladwin Band students will be evaluated on the following areas:

Daily Performance

Practice Assignments

Quizzes/Individual Choice Assignment

Performance/Exam

Daily Performance

Students earn 5 points daily for their individual classroom performance (25 points weekly). To keep 5 points, students must be prepared for class with 1) a working instrument, supplies, pencil and music, 2) the ability to listen to instructions and stay on task, 3) the restraint to listen when the teacher or appointed student "has the floor," 4) absolutely no gum or cell phone use, and 5) the mindset to maintain proper posture, playing position, etc.

Students will lose points if the above standards are not met for the day.

Practice Assignments

Expect regular practice assignments to aid in student progress and assessment.

Performance/Exam

All performances are considered Unit Exams. Performances will be evaluated as follows:

- You must attend the performance and perform to the best of your ability.
- If you are absent for ANY reason a 0 will be entered into Skyward. If your absence is excused, you will receive full credit after completing the assigned make-up work.

UNEXCUSED absences may not be made up under any circumstances.

Homework Assignment worth 25 Points

THIS FORM IS TO BE FILLED OUT COMPLETELY AND RETURNED TO MRS. SAPIENZA NO LATER THAN **FRIDAY, September 11, 2020.**

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Home Phone: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Address: _____

Instrument: _____ Make/Model: _____

Instrument Serial Number: _____

Student Acknowledgement

I hereby acknowledge that I:

1. Have read the Band Handbook and agree to all rules contained in it.
2. Understand that I will be held responsible for equipment checked out to me.
3. Recognize that it is a privilege to participate in any Band Activity and will strive to earn respect for myself, my school and my community;
4. Understand that my participation in all performances is required.

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

Parent Acknowledgement

I hereby acknowledge that I:

1. Have reviewed the Band Handbook and understand the procedures governing my child's behavior as a member of the Gladwin Bands.

Signature of Parent: _____ Date: _____

Video/Photo Media Release Form

To be turned in to Mrs. Sapienza by Friday, September 11, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As a member of the Gladwin Band program, there are occurrences where students will be photographed or recorded on video for various functions. These photographs/videos will show students and teachers in learning settings as part of the Gladwin Band program. These pictures or videos will be used to help promote the band through various forms of media: school/band website, presentations, or press releases. No images of anyone in the Gladwin Band program will be used publicly without the permission of the director, Melissa Sapienza.

By signing below, both the student and parent understand these purposes and agree to allow pictures or videos to be used to help promote our program. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Melissa Sapienza (contact information p.1 of Hand Book)

Video/Photo/Media Release (please check one of the following):

___ I DO give my permission for my child's individual image (still or video) to be included in media promoting the Gladwin Band program.

___ I DO NOT give my permission for my child's individual image (still or video) to be included in media promoting the Gladwin Band program.

STUDENT NAME: _____

PARENT NAME: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____