David E. Owens Middle School Band Handbook

2018-2019 Junior Band (6th Grade)

2018-2019 Senior Band (7th and 8th Grade)

Ms. Heidi Haderthauer

Band Director

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[www.newmilfordnjmusic.com](http://deomsband.webs.com)

201-265-8661 Ext. 3119

 Welcome to the David E. Owens Middle School Band Program. The music program is growing and I am very excited to see where it will lead! This will be my 14th year as the band director and I am looking forward to the 2018-2019 school year!! If you are a returning band musician, welcome back and get ready for some new aspects of the band program! If you are just joining as a new member, I hope you enjoy your first experience with the middle school band! In the past years, DEOMS instrumental students have represented our school at “High Note” festivals and received “Excellent” ratings for outstanding performance.

 Playing an instrument is NOT EASY! It takes a tremendous amount of brainpower, dedication, and time to be successful, but the rewards are numerous. Through music, students develop skills in leadership, cooperation, and teamwork. Performing in the band helps build self-esteem, confidence, and pride of accomplishment. In countless educational studies it has been found that playing an instrument reinforces math and reading skills, enhances fine and gross motor coordination, encourages critical thinking, and is a contributing factor in higher SAT scores.

 As the band director at DEOMS, I have high but realistic expectations for our students. This handbook will outline the band policies and give you an overview of the band program here at DEOMS. Hopefully, I will answer all of your questions and reduce any confusion you may have. Once you have read the handbook you will know what to expect from the program as well as what I expect from you as a musician and a student. As many of you might know, I am also the band director at New Milford High School so I will be with you for seven years! I hope to be learning great things from you and keeping our band family strong!

 After reading the handbook, if you still have questions or comments, PLEASE contact me with these concerns. I enjoy meeting with both parents and students to help better the program so please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached via email at hhaderthauer@newmilfordschools.org or via phone at 201-265-8661, ext. 3119. During after school rehearsals, if there is an emergency, I can be contacted on my cell phone at 551-206-9883. I also invite you to visit the district wide music department website at [www.newmilfordnjmusic.com](http://www.newmilfordnjmusic.com) for updates, handouts, and rehearsal schedules.

 I look forward to talking to and getting to know you!

 Musically,

 Mrs. Heidi Haderthauer

Concert Band

Rehearsals:

Students have a band period scheduled into their day and will meet with other band members at that time. There will be full band rehearsals every Thursday afternoon from 3:15pm-4:30pm. These rehearsals are mandatory and part of the students’ grade. Please schedule all doctors appointments, get togethers, and extra help on other days. If there is no school or a half-day there will be no rehearsals. Once we get close to concert time, rehearsals may run until 5pm. A calendar with these rehearsals will be sent home by September 14th.

Band rehearsals are worth 30% of the student’s total grade for the marking period. Pencils are required at all rehearsals for notation purposes. Failure to bring their instrument to rehearsal will result in a “no credit” for that rehearsal grade. Students are expected to be prompt and on time for all rehearsals. Chronic tardiness and absences have a direct impact on the 30% band grade. For any ensemble to be successful, it is important for every band member to be at every rehearsal. A missing member from the ensemble not only hurts the individual’s progress, but also hinders the success of the entire group. In order to obtain permission to miss a rehearsal, you must bring in a note from home at least two days prior to the rehearsal. The student’s grade is based on total rehearsal time with the ensemble along with their technical performance and knowledge of the band literature.

Any student having difficulty with the technical demands of the band literature may request extra help at any time after school. Extra credit is always given to those who go above and beyond the basic practice regiment.

During rehearsals, there shall be no talking while the conductor is standing behind the music stand. Every piece of information given is important to all musicians.

At the end of the rehearsal, musicians should clean out their instruments, return them to their cases, and put them in the storage space (NOT ON THE FLOOR!!). All instruments must be labeled to identify the owner! I will be keeping a list of all students’ instruments serial numbers in case of theft or misplacement. Flute and clarinet players will be sharing locked lockers for their instruments. Some trumpet and saxophone players will have lockers as well. You NEED a lock for this locker. I will keep a list of locker assignments and combinations.

**Students may only play their own instrument.**

Preparation:

Students are expected to come to each rehearsal with their instrument, instrument accessories (reeds, valve oil, sticks, etc.), their folder (including band music and lesson book) and a sharpened pencil.

**Students must have a 3 ring binder filled with sheet protectors for their music. This will cut down on the loss of sheet music, keep it safe, and prevent tearing. Please have this by Tuesday September 11th, 2018**

The music department uses the “Essential Elements 2000” method book. Please make sure that you own the correct book. All 6th and 7th Graders should have Book 1 and Book 2. 8th Graders should have Book 2 and Book 3. All students must have their own book at each rehearsal. This will be part of their participation grade.

Daily rehearsals may consist of, but are not limited to the following areas:

1. Assigned scales or warm-ups
2. Lesson Books
3. Technique and or Etude assignments
4. Band Literature
5. Audition Literature

Grading

Each rehearsal is worth 100 points.

 50 points = completion of practiced assignments

 30 points = preparation (practice sheets) and participation

 20 points = attendance

Practice is essential! All band members are encouraged to practice a minimum of 120 minutes per week. Students who practice 30 minutes 5 days a week OR 45 minutes 4 days a week will have the greatest success. Feel free to break up this time into 15-minute periods of time to keep motivated. Practice is considered a daily homework assignment for band class. Instruments left repeatedly overnight in the band room will result in a lowered homework grade and are not safe.

HELPUFL HINTS FOR PRACTICE:

* Develop a routine for practice – practice when you get home or right after dinner. Do some homework in between your practicing.
* Warm up your instrument and yourself by doing some deep breathing exercises and lip slurs.
* Warm up your fingers by playing scales, slowly at first.
* Practice the assigned lesson material or music part. Don’t spend time on the parts you can already play – go right to the spot that you can’t play and gets you frustrated.
* If you have a recorder, record yourself performing and listen to it.

**PARENTS: Please encourage your students to practice their music!!**

All after school full band rehearsals are mandatory! Any un-excused absence results in a grade of 0 (zero). Any excused absence must be made up within one week of the absence to receive grade credit. The director must be notified of such absences (excluding illness). If a student misses a rehearsal, it is their responsibility to get the assignment and to be prepared for the next week’s lesson. When a student misses a rehearsal, a letter will be sent home to inform the parents of the missed rehearsal. This helps to keep open communication and inform the parents of how their student is doing in the music department.

Practicing is rewarding. Practicing is frustrating.

Practicing makes you better. Practicing is required.

PARENTS: please help your musician set up a schedule to ensure that practice is an important part of their daily routine.

Concerts:

Both winter and spring concert performances are mandatory! If a student is very ill or has a family emergency, they should contact their director immediately. Illness or family emergency are the only excused absences that are deemed acceptable. In this case, an assignment will be required for their grade.

Concert Dress:

The David E. Owens Middle School has established a uniform policy for all public concerts. The following items are required:

MEN: A Black collared shirt with tie

 Black dress pants

 Black socks

 Dark shoes (preferably black)

 NO SANDALS OR JEANS!

WOMEN: A black long dress with sleeves

 OR

 A black blouse or shirt with at least ¾ length sleeves

 A black skirt that is at least knee length when sitting

 OR

 Black dress pants

 Black stockings

 Black dress shoes

 NO JEANS!

**ANY PERFORMER WHO ARRIVES AT A CONCERT AND DOES NOT MEET THE PERFORMANCE ATTIRE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PERFORM AND WILL BE MARKED AS MISSING THE CONCERT.**

Instrument Rental

Any student who does not own their own instrument should rent one through a nearby music store. Music and Arts is the recommended rental stores because they make weekly visits to the school for any repair pick-ups. Please see Mrs. Haderthauer for a rental form.

Instrument Storage

All students should store their instruments in the band room for security and safety. All instruments must be kept in our storage lockers when not in use. Instruments are not allowed to be left on the floor.

**Every student MUST have a combination lock for their locker!!**

Webpage

www.newmilfordnjmusic.com

Parent E-mail List

The emails returned on the following sheet will be entered into a band email list. You will receive weekly emails regarding playing quizzes and other important dates.

Private Study

Every student may seek private instrumental instruction along with school provided lessons. This gives the student the opportunity to excel far beyond their regular lesson regimen due to the one on one environment given in a private lesson. If any student is interested in studying privately, please contact Mrs. H to obtain a list of recommended teachers.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 2018-2019

October 6, 2018 4:00PM Bergen County Middle School Band Auditions

 (7th and 8th Graders only)

(Please see Mrs. H. for more information regarding this prestigious performance opportunity!)

Fall n/a Tentative Fundraiser

October 5, 2018 5pm-9pm 7th and 8th Graders join NMHS Band at Home Football Game vs. Secaucus

December 11, 2018 7:00PM Winter Concert

February, 2019 n/a North Jersey Region Band Auditions

May 16, 2019 7:00PM Spring Concert

June, 2015 TBA Tentative Adjudication Festival

June, 2015 TBA Elementary Band Festival (6th Graders)

June, 2015 TBA Music Dept. Awards Dinner

Please view [www.newmilfordnjmusic.com](http://www.newmilfordnjmusic.com) for updated schedule information.

**Junior Band 2018-2019**

1. Join Google Classroom using code b8f2m6

2. Print out and review the Band Handbook

3. Sign this verification page proving that you agree to the handbook.

VERIFICATION PAGE

DUE: Tuesday September 11th, 2018

As a member of the David E. Owens Senior Band, I agree to carry out the following:

* I will display EXEMPLARY behavior at all times – including cooperation, spirit, and pride in myself, my school, and in all performing groups.
* I will have a HELPFUL AND POSITIVE ATTITUDE and will give 100% effort during ALL classes, rehearsals, and performance and I will be quiet and cooperative.
* I will show RESPECT to myself, my peers, adults, and all property of DEOMS.
* I will keep my instrument in good working order and have the necessary supplies to play.
* I will attend all concert rehearsals and evening concerts, except in the event of illness, family emergency, or other pre-arranged excuse. I will remain for the entire concert to support all DEOMS music students. Failure to follow these procedures will result in a lowered grade.
* I will wear the required concert dress in a modest manner with dignity and pride.
* I will practice my instrument!!

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read the entire band handbook and understand

 Parent/Guardian

the contents and agree to abide by its policies.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read the entire band handbook and understand

 Student

the contents and agree to abide by its policies.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Caretakers’ E-mail Addresses: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Please print legibly) xxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This handbook and all material contained within have been approved by the music department faculty and the

school administration of the David E. Owens Middle School.