

**SYLLABUS  
LMS BANDS  
2013-2014**

Welcome to Band at Lincoln Middle School! I am excited to have each of you in class and look forward to a busy, rewarding year. The LMS Bands have established themselves as high-quality groups, and I know that this year will be no different. I will list expectations for Band students, and give an outline of grading below. On the signature page, you will find a space for your email address. Please provide your email address (**printed clearly**) so that I may add it to my distribution list.

**Expectations for Band Students**

- Follow all directions the first time given
- Arrive to class on time; be in the classroom with all necessary materials when the bell rings
- Bring all necessary materials to class – Instrument, Music, Pencil, Practice Slip
- Be respectful of other students and of the teacher; participate in a positive manner
- Use all materials in an appropriate manner, as directed by the teacher; this includes school-owned materials
- Follow all classroom rules and procedures;  
e.g. warming up, **NO TALKING WHILE WE'RE REHEARSING!!!!**

**Breakdown of Grading**

40% Practice Slips

Students will turn in practice slips once a week on Mondays, or the first day of the week if Monday is a holiday. **Late practice slips will only be accepted for one week past the original due date for partial credit (maximum 50 pts)** except in the case of an excused absence. The practice expectation is 100 minutes per week. It is best to practice a little each day; 100 minutes breaks down to 20 minutes per day, 5 days per week. Students may earn extra credit if they practice more than 100 minutes, i.e. 120 minutes of practice equals 120 points.

**The practice slips can be printed from our website [www.lmsmusic.org](http://www.lmsmusic.org)**

30% Tests/Quizzes

Students will have both in class playing tests and quizzes as well as written tests and quizzes. There will be ample time in which to prepare for tests and quizzes will given after enough time is spent on a particular subject.

30% Attitude and Effort/Concert Attendance

Students will begin each week with 100 points. Points may be taken away for tardies, not having materials in class, or other issues. Please see the next page for concert attendance policy.

**\*\*\*Students are also expected to attend all performances.**

A Concert Schedule is attached to this syllabus. Excepting family or health **emergencies**, students are expected to attend all performances with their respective performing group. Absence from a performance will result in a lowered quarter grade.

### **Materials needed in class each day**

- Instrument and necessary materials to maintain the instrument.
- Folder with the required music in it (I have folders that I provide if needed but find that students do better with a three ring binder with sheet protectors for each piece of music)
- Pencil!

### **Other words of wisdom...**

- *Some* practice is better than *no* practice. If you have time to practice 10 minutes, do it!
- The amount of effort you put into learning your instrument is equivalent to the amount of enjoyment you will receive from your playing.
- If you are having trouble with something that we are learning...talk to Mr. Covill! He will gladly help you.
- Check out our website: <http://www.lmsmusic.org>
- Private lessons are strongly recommended, but not required. Names and phone numbers of area teachers are located on our website.

Parents: after you have read through this syllabus, please discuss it with your child. It is my desire that all students achieve success in band, and your support is key to that success. Please sign the following page and return it to Mr. Covill by **Friday, August 23**. If you have questions, please contact me: 334-3411 or for a more immediate response: [jcovill@psd267.org](mailto:jcovill@psd267.org).

Sincerely,

Mr. Covill

**Please fill out this sheet and return to Mr. Covill by  
Friday, August 23. Thank you!**

Mr. Covill has my permission to post snapshots of performances on the band's internet sites.

I have read the attached Band syllabus and discussed it with my son/daughter.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's name

email addresses – even if it is the same as last year, please provide it again. I have to make new distribution lists every year.

***(please print very clearly, a tremendous amount of information is sent home this way)***

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