



# 7th GRADE BAND HANDBOOK

2023-2024

## Expectations

Welcome back to band! Our desire is for you to continue to appreciate and love making music. You will understand and learn the importance of your role while playing in a full band ensemble. You will continue to advance your fundamentals of playing your instrument, reading music, and understanding the discipline of practicing. You are a valuable part of this ensemble, and your contribution is appreciated and necessary for our success!

## Required Materials

Students are to have all appropriate supplies in every band class, rehearsal, and individual practice sessions. The following supplies are necessary for every rehearsal in order for all students as well as the entire ensemble to be successful:

- Instrument (in working order)
- Band binder, PENCIL, pencil bag, sheet protectors, and our method book. These supplies are covered by the general band fee and have already been ordered for you and will be given to the students.
- School-issued laptop
- Valve/Slide Oil (brass players)
- A small hand towel (all trumpet, trombone, euphoniums, & tubas)
- 2-4 good working reeds and a silk swab (all clarinets, saxophones, oboes, and bassoons)
- Small cup or recycled pill bottle for water and 2 good working reeds (all oboes, bassoons)
- Stick bag with sticks and mallets (percussionists)

## Grading Policy

Band grades are a reflection of student's efforts and improvements throughout the school year. Band grades will be broken down into 4 categories and weighed in the following manner:

- **Rehearsal Grades (25%)** — Encompasses attendance, preparation, participation, and appropriate behavior in *all* rehearsals.
- **Test/Performance Grades (35%)** — Students will be held accountable for their playing and musical knowledge throughout the school year. These assessments can and will occur regularly and may be performance-based (winter and spring concerts) or written in nature. Some of the tests will be submitted through Canvas.
- **Assignments (30%)** — Homework will be assigned each day. At any time, the student may be asked to perform a portion of the homework assignment for a grade in class. Some other assignments will be submitted through Canvas.
- **Final Exam (10%)** — A final exam will be given at the end of each semester.

## Eligibility Information

The Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association (OSSAA) governs participation in some competitive elements of our program. Therefore, any student not passing all classes for two consecutive weeks will be considered ineligible and unable to participate in OSSAA sanctioned events. This does not apply to non-competitive concerts and performances, daily class rehearsals, or

## **Eligibility Information Cont.**

Out of State Contests and activities since these are an extension of the classroom or not sanctioned by OSSAA.

That being said, all students have a responsibility to themselves, their peers, and the organization/team to pass all of their classes at all times to remain eligible for all performances and activities in which the Union Band is involved.

## **Communication**

With so many students in our program, we communicate most effectively via e-mail and/or Canvas. When students receive a handout, reminder of events, itineraries, etc. they will also be e-mailed to the parents and posted on our band website ([www.unionbands.com/7th](http://www.unionbands.com/7th)). We **strongly** encourage you have an active e-mail account with which to receive these communications. We promise not to bombard your inbox with unnecessary information--anything you receive from us will be pertinent information and as brief as possible.

## **Contact Information for 7th Grade Directors**

Adrian Gómez - (918) 357-8097 [gomez.adrian@unionps.org](mailto:gomez.adrian@unionps.org)

- 7th Grade Coordinator/Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba Teacher

Laura Barnes - (918) 357-8098 [barnes.laura@unionps.org](mailto:barnes.laura@unionps.org)

- Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet, Saxophone Teacher

Daniel Cole - (918) 357-7151 [cole.daniel@unionps.org](mailto:cole.daniel@unionps.org)

- Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba Teacher for 6th and 7th Hour Bands

Trey Pritner - (918) 357-7938 [pritner.trey@unionps.com](mailto:pritner.trey@unionps.com)

- Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba Teacher for 3rd Hour bands

Garett Dwyer - (918) 357-7224 [dwyer.garett@unionps.org](mailto:dwyer.garett@unionps.org)

- Percussion Teacher

## **Union Band Fees**

Students in the 2nd year 7th grade band will be assessed a band fee of \$65. If your student is in beginning band will be assessed a band fee of \$50. This will provide your student with many of the supplies necessary to have a successful experience in band. The fee will provide for them:

- Band binder including a pencil pouch and page protectors
- Method book and all sheet music for the year
- Union Bands 7th grade t-shirt
- NBDA audition fee (excluding beginning band students)
- Sight reading Factory subscription

Below are ways to make payments to your student's band account:

- Put a payment (cash or check) in the U67 band office safe. Please make checks payable to UBPC. Students may deposit the check in the safe at the beginning of his/her class time.
- Pay online with credit/debit through your student's Charms account. Use the miscellaneous payment to make the payment - [unionbands.com/charms](http://unionbands.com/charms)

## **Fundraising**

Students may also take advantage of our fundraising opportunities in order to pay for their band fees. You may find the entire list and information of fundraising options at [unionbands.com/fundraising](http://unionbands.com/fundraising) You may turn in your fundraising monies into the band room safe just like the payments listed above. Your credit from the fundraising will then be added to your child's band account.

## **Performance Attire**

Band students are required to wear a performance uniform at their concerts, contests, and performances. Please begin acquiring the necessary concert attire now to avoid any last-minute problems. Students who are not dressed according to the dress code may not be allowed to perform.

Ladies:

- Black dress pants
- Long-sleeved black dress shirt (3/4 sleeves are acceptable)
- Closed-toe black dress shoes with tall black socks

Gentlemen:

- Black dress pants
- Long-sleeve black dress shirt
- Black belt
- Closed-toe black dress shoes with tall black socks

\*No bare arms above the elbow, no ankles showing from short socks, or bare legs are allowed.

## **Event Calendar**

Please mark your calendars now for the events/performances listed below and note all performances that are **REQUIRED**. Failure to attend performances will result in a failing grade for the student as well as an evaluation of their eligibility to participate in future events with the program. Performances marked with \*\* require black concert attire.

Winter Concert (REQUIRED)\*\*

- Tuesday, December 5, 2023
- 7:00 pm
- Union High School Performing Arts Center (UPAC)

NBDA Jr High Honor Band Auditions (REQUIRED for 3rd, 6th, & 7th hours. NOT beginning 7th grade band)

- Saturday, January 27, 2024
- 9:00 am
- Union High School

NBDA Jr High Honor Band Clinic/Concert (REQUIRED only for students selected for the Honor Band)\*\*

- Friday, February 16 & Saturday February 17
- Times TBA
- Union High School Performing Arts Center (UPAC)

## **Event Calendar Cont.**

### **Union Middle School Band Festival (REQUIRED)\*\***

- TBA
- During School hours
- Union High School Performing Arts Center (UPAC)

### **OSSAA Jr. High & Middle School Contest (REQUIRED for 3rd, 6th, & 7th hours. NOT Beginning 7th grade band)\*\***

- Thursday, March 7 or 14, 2024
- During School hours
- Owasso or Bartlesville

### **Union Middle School Solo & Ensemble Festival (REQUIRED)\*\***

- Friday, May 3, 2024
- 4:00 pm

### **Spring Concert (REQUIRED)\*\***

- Thursday, May 14, 2024
- 7:00 pm
- Union High School Performing Arts Center (UPAC)

### **Spring Trip (OPTIONAL)**

- Saturday, May 18, 2024
- 8:30 am - 7:00 pm
- Cost will not exceed \$90
- Frontier City in Oklahoma City