

# 2023 - 2024

# Tinora Intermediate

# Band Handbook



Mr. David Middleton, Director

## **Group Mission Statement**

The Tinora Intermediate Band exists to promote a deeper understanding of musicianship and teamwork required to perform increasingly challenging music and prepare the student for the demands of High School Band.

## **Google Calendar**

This is where all our performances and commitments are posted. Students and parents should check the band calendar in this handbook and our Google Calendar to avoid any problems with family and work schedules. If you do not receive an email within a week of the Handbook Agreement due date stating Mr. Middleton has shared the calendar with you, please let him know.

## **BAND App**

The BAND app will be primarily used for things that need to be communicated promptly. It also has a calendar feature that will be kept up to date. Students must join our class on BAND in order to receive the most up to date information. Parents are welcome to join as well. 8th graders will be removed from our class after Memorial Day.

There are two ways to join. You can download the BAND app, search Tinora Ram Band, and join. If you are unable to download the app, Mr. Middleton can set you up to receive SMS notifications.

## **Tinora Music Boosters**

The Tinora Music Boosters is a parent organization who support all of Tinora's music programs. Your child will receive many benefits from the Boosters' support and if you are not already a member, we highly encourage you to become involved. Without this organization, your child would not have as many opportunities. Meetings are the second Monday of every month from August to April (excluding December) at 6pm in the band room. Meeting dates are on the District Calendar, Google Calendar, BAND calendar, and Handbook Calendar.

## **Grading**

Students will be graded according to daily participation, playing & written tests, performances and any other assignments the directors deem necessary. If a student misses a performance, they will earn a zero if the absence is unexcused. See the attendance policy for makeup procedures for excused absences. The directors reserve the right to lower a student's daily participation grade for any inappropriate behavior.

Participation Points may be deducted for any of the following:

- Gum chewing
- Absence of any "Required Materials" sections of this document during rehearsal.
- Not participating in rehearsal
- Disruptions to classroom

### Grading Breakdown:

Daily Participation: 25%

Playing & Written Tests: 35%

Performances: 40%

## **Classroom Rules**

- Respect the Director
- Respect each other
- Respect the equipment

## **Rehearsal Expectations**

- Be in the band room before the tardy bell. Immediately get your instrument and all other required materials, get to your seat, and quietly warm-up
- Once the director steps up to the podium, listen quietly and wait for instructions.
- When the director is working with a section, be respectful. Use this time to practice quietly.
- Food and gum are NOT permitted in class. Absolutely no exceptions other than water.
- Unnecessary or flagrant disturbances will result in loss of participation points.

## **Attendance Policy**

**Intermediate Band is a full year commitment. Students enrolled in band will remain in band for the entire year. Attendance is required for ALL band performances**

All performances for the year are on the schedule at the end of this handbook and on Google classroom. If you see a conflict, please see me as soon as possible so that we can work it out. Performances are graded and make up a large portion of your class grade

An excused absence from a performance can be made up to 90% of the grade through a playing test within 2 days of the student's return. The test will use music from the performance the student missed. *Unexcused absences from performances will result in a zero. More than 1 unexcused absence from a performance will likely result in a failing grade.*

Excused absences: Family emergencies, weddings, funerals, illness or injury, time missed as a result of agreement with coach/advisor.

Unexcused absences: Work, vacation, forgetting, not feeling like coming.

*Exceptions to the attendance policy can be made at the discretion of the band staff.*

## **Required Materials**

- Instrument
- Pencil
- Standard of Excellence Book 2 (Blue Book) – make sure you get it for YOUR instrument
- Folder (will be handed out by band director early in the year)

- **Woodwind:** 3 working reeds at all times. Preferred brands are Vandoren and Mitchell Lurie.
- **Brass:** valves oiled BEFORE the start of rehearsal.
- **Percussion:** Bell/Snare kits with snare sticks and bell mallets.
  - 8th Graders are expected to get a stick bag and Vic Firth T3 Staccato Timpani Mallets

#### School Instruments

Any students using a school instrument will be expected to take care of the instrument better than they would if it were their own. Regular maintenance (oiling, purchasing reeds) will be the responsibility of the students. **Damage done to any instrument will be repaired at the student's expense.**

### **Concert Uniform**

Black dress shoes  
 Black socks/tights  
 Black pants/skirt  
 White blouse/button down shirt  
*Black Tie optional*

Students may NOT wear jeans, shorts, or athletic shoes. Failure to dress accordingly will result in a grade reduction. Don't spend a lot! Use Goodwill or borrow from siblings! Growth spurts are common in middle school and you may quickly outgrow these clothes.

### **Private Lessons**

Private lessons are not a requirement to be in band, but are highly encouraged for players of all levels! If your instrument is not listed but you are interested, please let me know and I will find someone for you! Here are some recommended teachers:

Clarinet/Saxophone: Frank D'Ambrosia: [fdambrosia1951@gmail.com](mailto:fdambrosia1951@gmail.com)

French Horn: Lynn Leatherman: [lleatherman@toledochristian.com](mailto:lleatherman@toledochristian.com)

Percussion: Me! [dmiddleton@tinora.org](mailto:dmiddleton@tinora.org)

**Any student consciously acting against this agreement will receive consequences at the discretion of the band director. The director has the right to refuse student participation in any band event.**

- Schedule of Events –  
2023 - 2024 School Year  
**More information available on Google or BAND Calendar**  
(updated 6/14/23)  
14, District Honor Festival

September

11, 6pm Booster Meeting  
**22, Football Game, Middle School Night**

October

9, 6pm Booster Meeting  
**28, 7:00pm Defiance Halloween Parade**

November

13, 6pm Booster Meeting

December

**12, 6:00pm 5/6 Band and Choir Concert**  
**7:00pm 7/8 Band and Choir Concert**  
14, 7:00pm Holiday Arts Festival (HS)

January

8, 6pm Booster Meeting

February

17, Love of the Arts  
12, 6pm Booster Meeting

March

14, 6pm Booster Meeting

April

**6, JH Solo & Ensemble**  
8, 6pm Booster Meeting  
**29, 7:00pm Spring Band Concert**

May

**3, JH Large Group Contest**  
**29, 10:00am 8th Grade Graduation**

**IF YOUR CHILD IS IN 8TH GRADE AND  
PLANNING TO CONTINUE INTO HS  
BAND PLEASE DO NOT SCHEDULE  
VACATION FROM JULY 22 - 28 2024**

Please be aware some events may be added or tentative. Please check the Google or BAND Calendar for the most up to date information. Letters will also be sent home closer to big events

### **Band Handbook Agreement**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, being a student in the Tinora Intermediate Band, have read the contents of the Tinora Intermediate Band Handbook, and agree to comply with the guidelines, rules, and grading policies discussed therein. In addition, my parents have also read the Tinora Intermediate Band Handbook, recognize my responsibilities to the organization as well as understand the grading and attendance policies of the Tinora Intermediate Band. The signatures at the conclusion of this agreement signify our agreement to comply with the guidelines, rules, and grading policies stated in the Tinora Intermediate Band Handbook.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Parent/Guardian Email:** Please give us your up-to-date email so that we can stay connected!

Please return by **Tuesday, September 5, 2023.**  
I look forward to a great year ahead!

David Middleton