

Fallen Timbers 5th & 6th Grade Bands

Band Handbook

2017-18

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Welcome to the Fallen Timbers Middle School Band Program! It is the goal of the music teachers to help students enjoy music through classroom instruction that is fun as well as educational.

ATTENDANCE AT PERFORMANCES

The bands will perform several times throughout the school year at concerts and other special events. (see: "Concert Schedule" included in this packet.) These performances are an important part of the band experience for students. Attendance is required. Band is one of the few classes that is co-curricular. This means that the student's grade is based on both classwork and attendance at evening performances.

The performances are a time for the parents to see the students in action. They are SENSATIONAL! Please mark them on your calendar as soon as possible.

If a student is unable to attend a performance, a written note (signed by the parent/guardian) must be submitted to the band director at least FOUR weeks prior to the performance. The director will then make a determination whether to excuse the student or record an unexcused absence. The director may assign additional classwork to the student to make up for the missed performance. The Fallen Timbers Bands have always enjoyed near 100% attendance at all concerts.

Fallen Timbers Middle School Bands

Schedule of Concerts and Performances 2017-18

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mon. Dec. 18, 2017	7pm	Fallen Timbers Holiday Band Concert	AWHS Aud.
Wed. Dec. 20, 2017	8:00am	Fallen Timbers Holiday Music Assembly	FT Gym
Tue. Mar. 20, 2018	7pm	Fallen Timbers Spring Band Concert	AWHS Aud.
TBA in May	morning	Demo Concert for 4th Graders (6th Grade Band only)	AWHS Aud.
Sat. May 19, 2018	4-7pm	Annual Chicken BBQ / Concert	AWHS Gym

Note: There may be other smaller performances throughout the school year for the 5th and 6th grade band students. A minimum of 4 weeks notice will be given for any required performance. Please refer to the "Attendance" section of this handbook for required performances.

PLEASE MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!! The Band Directors are looking forward to a great year with the middle school students! The talent of the students in the Anthony Wayne Band program is outstanding and has always been a source of great pride for the Anthony Wayne community.

Practice

We encourage all students to set aside time for practice outside the regular band rehearsal. Practice time is most beneficial when spread out over several days. Twenty minutes three times a week is better than 60 minutes one time per week. Students will be given a sheet with the weekly assignments so they know what exercises to focus on. Many parents provide opportunities for the students to share what they are learning in band at home. We hope you will help us encourage your child to play their instrument at home when possible. A little investment of time now will pay big dividends later.

GRADING POLICIES

Students are graded in band based on several factors including playing tests, participation in class, and attendance at concerts.

Playing Tests - 15% of final grade

Students will complete at least one playing test per quarter on songs or exercises that we have practiced together in class. Tests will be taken at school during the student's band period.

Daily Rehearsals (In Class) - 60% of final grade

Students enrolled in band are required to attend band class on their assigned days throughout the school year. Points awarded for class are as follows:

1. Prepared for class (on time with instrument & music/book)- earns 10 points
2. Student has Instrument but no Music - deduct 5 points
3. Forgotten Instrument - deduct 7 points
4. Unexcused absence (skips band)- deduct 10 points

Concerts (See schedule for dates and times) - 25% of final Grade

Students will receive credit for attending all performances with their instrument, music, and proper concert attire. Students who do not attend a performance, fail to wear proper attire, or behave inappropriately at a concert may have their concert grade lowered.

AW District Grading Scale

A=100-92% B=91-82% C=81-72% D=71-62% F=61-0%

ATTIRE AT PERFORMANCES

The Fallen Timbers Bands have an official uniform for concerts and performances. This uniform consists of a royal blue T shirt (with the FT band logo) and black slacks or skirt. The T shirts are available through the band director and will be ordered in February. For the December concert, however, students will wear a red sweater or shirt (of their choice) and black slacks/skirt.

Students are not to wear blue jeans, sweat shirts, sweat pants, shorts, athletic shoes or flip flops to performances. If the weather is warm, shorts may be permitted at the May concert (Chicken Barbecue). Girls may substitute a skirt or capris at performances for slacks.

INSTRUMENT CARE AND MAINTENANCE

CAUTION: With the advent of stores like Wal-Mart and Meijer stocking band instruments, and Internet sites selling band instruments, there has been an increase in “off- brand” instruments coming into the Fallen Timbers and Anthony Wayne band program.

These instruments are very inexpensive but do not play with the same tone, intonation, and quality as the standard brands. Students and teachers will find an inferior sound that makes it difficult to succeed in band, and parents will lose money because the instruments begin to break down quickly and cannot be repaired. In short, PLEASE check with the band director before purchasing an instrument to be sure it is a reputable brand that meets the requirements of our band program. Also, Students should play on instruments that are finished in lacquer or silver. No unusual colored instruments will be permitted in class. In many cases a good quality used instrument may be available through reputable music stores in the area.

Students are expected to keep their instruments in good playing condition. The music store that regularly services the Anthony Wayne band program is Rettig Music, but parents may choose any music store for repairs and supplies. It is the responsibility of the parents and student to see that the instrument is repaired promptly. Rettig will pick up broken instruments from Fallen Timbers each week and return them the following week, but payment arrangements must be made by the parents.

Parents are encouraged to buy supplies at area music stores or online (www.rettigmusic.com) This ensures that students will have all the supplies necessary for complete maintenance of the instrument. Rettig also delivers supplies to FT for pick up if you order them online.

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Confirmation Form

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM AND HAVE THE STUDENT RETURN IT TO THEIR DIRECTOR THE NEXT DAY THEY HAVE BAND.

NOTE: This form confirms that parents and students have read the information in this packet and agree to abide by these policies.

Student Name (please print)_____

Students Grade (circle one): 5th 6th

Parents Names (please print)_____

Parent Signature_____

Home Phone:_____ Work Phone:_____ Cell: _____

E Mail:_____

(used for band info. only)

Address: _____

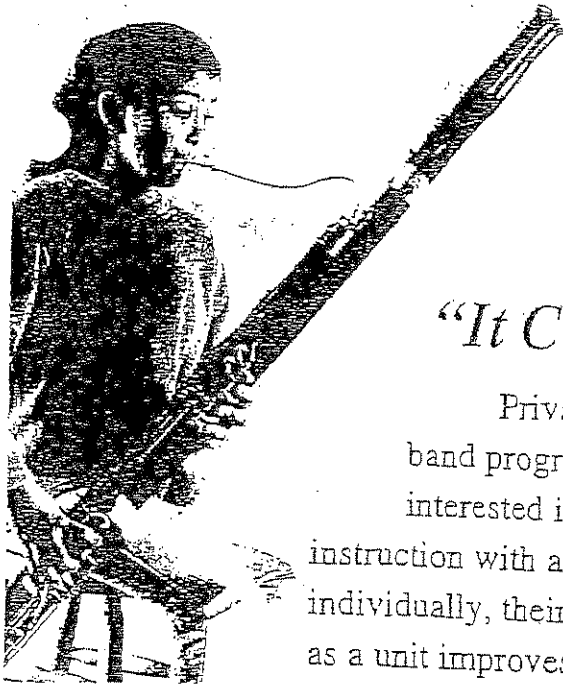
Parents, please check the correct box below:

- I DID receive the email / PDF version of the FT Band Handbook that was sent out electronically.

Add additional email address(es): _____

- I DID NOT receive the email / PDF version of the FT Band handbook that was sent out electronically.

Email address(es): _____



Private Lessons

"It Can Make All The Difference!"

Private lessons are one of the keys to an outstanding band program. These lessons are available to all band students interested in improving their playing through one-on-one instruction with an expert on that instrument. As the students improve individually, their contribution to the band increases, and the band as a unit improves.

Private lessons provide the very talented student with an accelerated pace that offers them the challenge of a higher level of achievement. Students who are struggling will get the additional help they need to master the required skills. The average will, of course, benefit from the one-on-one instruction as well. Students will generally take one half hour lesson per week.

Fees begin at \$16.00 per half hour and may vary depending on the qualifications of the teacher. Most of the lessons will be taught here on the Anthony Wayne campus (AWHS, AWJH, or FT).

If you are interested in starting your son or daughter in the program, please return the following form to the band director AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. The teacher will contact you regarding the day and time of the lesson.

(please cut and return this bottom section to the band director.)

I am interested in enrolling my son/daughter in the private lesson program.

Students Name _____ Parent Name _____

Student Instrument _____ Grade Level _____

Home Phone _____ Cell _____ E-mail _____

The teacher will contact you regarding the day/time of the lesson. Thank you.