

Harris Road Middle School Bands



2022-2023
Handbook

Leah Pfeiffer, Director
Amelia Coger, Director

<https://leahpfeiffer6.wixsite.com/harrisroadbands>

Welcome

August 29, 2022

Dear Students and Parents:

Welcome to your new school year in the Harris Road Middle School band program! It is with great enthusiasm and excitement that we introduce our band program to you in a more detailed manner. The Harris Road band program has established a wonderful tradition of excellence and we are glad you have chosen to be a part of it.

Your child's participation in our band program is beneficial in many ways. Band students are engaged daily in a highly creative performing art that stimulates growth in areas of the human brain that no other discipline can. This growth effortlessly transfers into your student's academic life. In addition, our band students will develop traits such as teamwork, responsibility, dedication, self-discipline, social skills, confidence, leadership and dependability. Membership in our band program will give all a sense of accomplishment, pride, and respect as the students develop musical and personal skills that will enrich their lives.

The purpose of this handbook is to outline the guidelines and expectations for making this year a success for all involved, and to serve as a guide and resource for students and parents. Both students and their parents should take the time to thoroughly read this handbook. Upon completion, the contract that was distributed to your student during class (or downloaded from our web site) should be signed and returned to school, indicating your understanding of these guidelines and expectations.

In an effort to meet these objectives, our program offers a wide range of educational and performance opportunities, both academic and extracurricular in nature. This handbook is designed to inform band parents and students of the expectations and opportunities of the Harris Road band program. After reading all the applicable sections of this handbook, please complete the band contract on the band website.

I am happy that you as parents and students have chosen to be a part of our band program at Harris Road Middle School. It is my firm belief that, as with any other worthwhile endeavor, a student can gain from what they are willing to put into it. (What you give is what you get) With dedication and hard work, being in the band can be one of life's most rewarding experiences. It is my sincerest hope that through this program, young people will gain a deep appreciation for music as well as individual integrity and pride in their own accomplishments. I look forward to this year as we strive to achieve our maximum musical potential here at Harris Road.

Sincerely,

Leah Pfeiffer
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Amelia Coger
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General Information

Philosophy

Our Harris Road Band Program is designed to:

- Succeed- Provide each student with comprehensive music education, while teaching the skills and attitudes necessary to succeed as a young musician and as a young adult.
- Perform- Benefit the school and community through public performances of quality music, while promoting and enhancing the dignity and reputation of Harris Road Middle School.
- Become a Team and reach new goals- Foster the development of essential character traits to include a strong work ethic, personal integrity, a commitment to excellence, and respect for self and others.
- Have Fun- Provide each student with a positive emotional outlet, a good social experience, and an opportunity to learn by both teacher and student mentoring.

****Enrolling in band is a full-year course, and students who enroll are expected to commit for the full academic school year.****

Band Room Schedule

Morning Practice – 8:10-9:00 – Must sign-up in advance.

1st Pd- Planning – 9:00-10:08

2nd PD- 6th Grade Woodwinds – 10:12-10:56

3rd Pd- 6th Grade Brass – 11:01-11:46

4th Pd- 7th Grade Brass –12:09-12:54

5th Pd. 7th Grade Woodwinds – 12:58-1:43

6th Pd- Planning – 1:47-3:09

7th Pd- 8th Grade Advanced Band -- 3:13-4:00

Afternoon Practice – 4:00-4:40 – Must sign-up in advance.

Instruments

Each student is expected to furnish their own instrument by purchasing or renting from one of the area music stores.

Experienced Band Students who are playing Timbre/Secondary Instruments - The school has a few larger, secondary (non-beginner) instruments that will be assigned to individuals in 6th, 7th or 8th grade, who have had previous experience. Brass, Woodwind and Percussionists who use school instruments pay a one-time fee of \$50, payable through the K-12 Payment Center. This does not cover the cost of repairs or the end of year cleaning. Students are responsible for the care of that instrument and any damages that occur, outside normal wear and tear. See Mrs. Pfeiffer or Mrs. Cogger for appropriate repair and cleaning services.

All Band Students- Name Tag

We strongly recommend that any instrument not covered under a rental insurance plan be placed on a homeowners' insurance policy. Please place an identification tag on the instrument, complete with name, address, and phone number. Parents are encouraged to keep the instrument brand name and serial number on file at home as well.

Music Store Dealers

Necessary supplies (reeds, oil, method book, etc.) may be purchased at any of the following:

<u>Music and Arts/Concord</u>	Concord Mills, Blvd	(704) 979-5260
<u>Music and Arts/Huntersville</u>	Rose Commons Dr.	(704) 992-0225
<u>The Band Attic/Spencer</u>	Salisbury Ave	(877) 230-4282

Communication

Please visit the band website and complete the band contract. Doing the online band contract is vital to communication from Mrs. Pfeiffer or Mrs. Cogger and our band parent liaisons.

<https://leahpfeiffer6.wixsite.com/harrisroadbands>

Private Instruction

Private lessons, while not a requirement for all instruments, are strongly encouraged for students of all ability levels. As a student improves, a greater collection of literature becomes available to him and will enable him to excel, which in turn improves the band. With the aid of private instruction, students also find greater opportunity through experiences like all-county, all-district, and all-state band. A list of local private instructors is available in the band room and on our web site under instructors and student links.

Supplies

All students will need:

- Instrument
- Instrument cleaning supplies (see below)
- Essential Elements Book 1 for band

- Binder pencil case
- Pencils
- Highlighters

FLUTE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handkerchief/Bandana cleaning cloth (for inside) • Silk Swab • Cleaning rod (should have come with your M&A Rental) • Polish Cloth (for outside)
OBOE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reed Case • 3 or more working reeds (handmade, M&A, or Legere) Soft for 6th, Medium-Soft for 7th/8th • Silk Swab • Cork Grease
BASSOON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reed Case • 3 or more working reeds • “S” Hook Seat Strap OR Boot-Strap OR neck strap (student preference) • Cork Grease • Silk Swab
CLARINET/ BASS CLARINET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mouthpiece Cushions (provided by school) • Box of Vandoren Reeds (2.5 for 6th grade, 3 for 7th/8th) OR Legere (2 for 6th, 2.5 for 7th/8th) • Reed Case • Cork Grease • Silk Swab for cleaning
SAXOPHONE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mouthpiece Cushions (provided by school) • Box of Vandoren Reeds (2.5 for 6th grade, 3 for 7th/8th) OR Legere (2 for 6th, 2.5 for 7th/8th) • Reed Case • Neck Strap • Silk Swab • Cork Grease
TRUMPET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuning Slide Grease (Recommended Schilke brand) • Valve Oil (Recommended Al Cass, La Tromba, Hetman, Ultra-Pure Professional) • Cleaning Snake/Mouthpiece Brush • Polishing cloth (lacquer or silver depending on your instrument)
HORN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuning Slide Grease (Recommended Schilke brand) • Holton Rotary Valve Oil • Hand Strap • Mouthpiece Brush • Polishing cloth (lacquer or silver depending on your instrument)
TROMBONE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuning slide grease (Recommended Schilke brand) • Trombone Slide Lubricant, NOT oil (Slide-O-Mix, Yamaha Slide Lubricant) • Slide spray bottle for water • Mouthpiece Brush/Cleaning Snake • Polishing cloth (lacquer or silver depending on your instrument)
EUPHONIUM /TUBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuning Slide Grease (Recommended Schilke brand) • Valve Oil (Recommended Al Cass, La Tromba, Hetman, Ultra-Pure Professional) (Mack Brass euphoniums Blue Juice or Al Cass) • Mouthpiece Brush/Cleaning Snake • Polishing cloth (lacquer or silver depending on your instrument)
PERCUSSION	<p>Beginners- Practice Marimba or Xylophone, Vic Firth SD1 Sticks, Practice Pad.</p> <p>Advanced Percussion- Each student needs a practice pad, mallet instrument and Vic Firth SD1 Snare Sticks. It is recommended that students pursuing honor bands and/or high school level music invest in their own Stick/Mallet Bag.</p>

	1. A Percussion Mallet/Stick Bag Good Options: <u>Steve Weiss Bestseller Stick Pack #1-</u> Includes: Vic Firth SD1 Snare Drum Sticks, Innovative Soloist Series IP240 Medium Birch Marimba Mallets, Mallettech Bob Becker BB34 Medium Rattan Xylo/Bell Mallets “Becker Blues”, Vic Firth T1 American Custom General Timpani Mallets, or <u>Liberty One Basic Stick Bag</u> 2. Real Feel Practice Pad or Practice Pad from <u>KLS Percussion</u> 3. Practice Marimba or Xylophone
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NOTE: Reed players must have at least 3 playable reeds at all times. It is generally less expensive (per reed) to buy them by the box rather than individually. ORDER ahead.

Mouthpieces

All intermediate to advanced ensemble level woodwind students are encouraged to purchase a step-up mouthpiece. These mouthpieces are designed to withstand the air supply provided by a growing student. They also cause a noticeable improvement in the quality of sound produced by the player and are an appealing option when compared to the purchase of a new instrument. A beginning instrument with a step-up mouthpiece will give young players the opportunity to produce a more mature tone. The brass mouthpieces listed are step-up sized mouthpieces and are the ones on which we start our brass students. If your child's instrument was supplied with any other size brass mouthpiece, return it to the dealer and exchange it for the listed size.

Mouthpiece

- Clarinet (Bb and Bass): Vandoren B-45 or M13 or David Hite mouthpiece with a Rovner or Bonade ligature. Specify Bb or Bass Clarinet.
- Saxophones (Alto, Tenor, Baritone): Selmer C Star S-80 or David Hite with a Rovner ligature. Specify alto, tenor, or baritone saxophone.
- Trumpet: Curry 3C or Bach 3C (beginners under private instructors' advice may need 5C)
- Horn: Laskey 76 series or Holton Farkas MDC (medium-deep cup) or Yamaha 30C4
- Trombone: Bach 6.5 AL (Beginning/ Intermediate) and 5G (Advanced Only)
- Euphonium: Bach 6. AL for students first switching and then a Schilke 51 D Wind Ensemble Large Bore for Silver Euphoniums
- Tuba: Helleberg 120, Schilke 66

-If you are studying with a private teacher, follow his/her instructions regarding reeds and mouthpieces.

Concert Attire

Concert attire should be professional. All grade levels wear black pants, black socks, black shoes, and our red band polo. Pants should NOT have holes or be faded. No leggings, sweatpants, or athletic attire.

Policies and Procedures

Daily Procedures

- Be on time to class so we can start playing right away!
- During the school day, students may store their instruments in their assigned band locker in the instrument room. Instruments can be dropped off between 8:40 and 8:00, and picked up at the end of the school day.
- All students must have their names clearly marked on their instrument cases (nametag, label, etc.). The storage room remains locked whenever I leave.
- All students take instruments home as much as possible as it is impossible to practice without an instrument!

Instrument Storage

During the school day, students may store their instruments in an assigned band locker in the instrument room. Students are expected to take their instruments home as much as possible in order to practice. Students must adhere to the following stipulations while using these lockers.

1. Only band students are allowed in the instrument room.
2. Lockers are to be used for the storage of band instruments and other band-related materials only.
3. It is recommended that small, easily misplaced items be kept in the student's backpack such as tuners.
4. Students are to use only the specific locker assigned to them.
5. Students are not to write on lockers, put stickers on lockers, or otherwise vandalize them in any way.
6. Trading or switching lockers may only occur with the permission of the director.
7. All Harris Road band students/parents must document their instrument's serial number, make, and model. Keep this information in a safe place at home for your records.

Class Materials

Each day, every student is expected to have the following materials on his/her stand or at his/her seat when class begins.

1. Instrument with name tag.
2. Instrument accessories (reeds, valve oil, mallets, etc.) *please oil valves at home, minimal use during the day.*
3. 3 Ring Binder
4. Essential Elements Method Book
5. Sheet Music- (provided by school)
6. Pencils 2 (mechanical are great, they are always sharpened)
7. Highlighters

Music and Equipment

All members of the band program are expected to show the utmost respect for school-owned property that is provided for individual use. This includes music, instruments, percussion equipment, music stands, chairs, tuners, microphones, etc. Students are held financially responsible for the damage or loss of any school property that has been assigned to

them. Large items such as instruments require checkout through an official HRMS instrument rental agreement.

Rehearsals and Performances

Harris Road Band Concerts: We will have two concerts a year at Harris Road. Basically 1 per semester. Our Winter concert occurs in December and our end of year concert occurs in May. These are required, graded events. Please see our band calendar for dates of all events.

South Central District Band MPA Festival: MPA stands for Music Performance Adjudication. It is sponsored by the NC Band Masters Association and its purpose is to provide a performance opportunity for students and directors that offers a critical assessment of the quality of their performances by highly qualified experts, to encourage participation in an event that provides a summative, standards-based assessment as related to the North Carolina Essential Standards, to provide the opportunity for students to perform for and learn from their peers in a formal concert venue, and to stimulate and recognize growth. It is a highly rigorous and to score well is very difficult.

A panel of adjudicators rates the band's performance using a five-level scale:

- I = Superior
- II = Excellent
- III = Average
- IV = Below Average
- V = Poor

The band's attendance is contingent upon good instrumentation, hard work, steady progress, and impeccable student behavior. With these events being adjudicated, there will be eligibility requirements. Students are eligible if they meet **ALL** of the following requirements within the **semester**:

- No more than **ONE** in-school suspension and or after-school detention for the semester.
- **ZERO** out-of-school suspensions for the semester.
- **ZERO** missing assignments relating to Band.
- Performance assessments **may not be lower than 90%**. Please note, students can retake any and all band assignments.

Eligibility will be announced two weeks prior to the trip.

Honor Bands: I hope you all consider auditioning for our honor bands (All District, All State).

Audition requirements, dates and locations can be found on our website.

All-County Band: Each year in February, middle school students from Cabarrus County schools have the opportunity to participate in an All County Honor Band. Students who make the All District Honor band are automatically placed in the All County Band. Remaining spots are available to schools based on program size. The clinic, which consists of rehearsals and a concert, will take place all in two consecutive days, which are typically Friday and Saturday.

All-District Band: Intermediate and Advanced Band students will be strongly urged to audition for All-District Band in January. Students who are selected will attend a two-day clinic/concert in January, much like that of All-County Band. Audition materials are available to all students upon request.

All-State Honors Band: Students who make top seats in the All-District Band may audition for the North Carolina All-State Honors Band. Students who make this band will attend a three-day clinic at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. The auditions are in March.

Expectations

These rules and procedures are designed to create a positive learning environment where students are able to learn and feel safe. Students who are unable to follow these basic rules and instructions will find themselves in silent lunches, parent conferences, administrative conferences, or even lose the privilege of being a member of the band.

1. Students must be in their assigned seats with an instrument and all materials within 1 minute after the official start time of class. This additional minute is to allow wind players to assemble instruments and percussionists to set up.
2. Daily instructions and rehearsal order will be on the board. Students are expected to prepare accordingly.
3. Band members are allowed to play **only** under the teacher's direction for the duration of the class.
4. Students are to remain engaged and participate actively during class. No work for other classes is allowed during band class.
5. Students are not to have food, drink or gum in the classroom, except under special circumstances specified by the director.
6. Respect the property of others.
 - a. Students should only touch/play their own instruments.
 - b. Students must respect the room equipment. The music stands are not to be used as desks or written on, leaned on, spun or otherwise mistreated. The stands are designed for music and a pencil only. Known violators will be referred to the administration for vandalism.
 - c. Percussion instruments are for percussionists only. Non-percussionists are not allowed to touch or move these instruments without specific permission from a director. This policy includes the director's digital piano.
7. Instruments must be stored on the proper shelves or cubicles, not on the floor.
8. Percussionists cover the timpani and mallet instruments and put away all accessories before being dismissed.
9. Students are not to enter the band office without permission from the director.
10. Trash: old reeds, reed cases, paper, etc, must be put into a garbage can.

Consequence

Failure to follow these guidelines will result in a Harris Road Behavior Consequence. 1. Warning/Redirection, 2. Parents Notified (potential behavior contract), 3. Administrative Referral. Disruptive students will be removed from the classroom and asked to go to IDEAL. Repeated offenses may result in the initialization of a behavior contract. Students who are unable to follow the expectations and guidelines in this contract may be removed from the band program and placed in another elective.

Attendance

Band members are expected to be present and prompt for all rehearsals and performances. Please note if you participate in outside performing ensemble or a sports team the school commitment takes priority. We value the enrichment of community ensembles and teams and what that does to enhance each student. We will work with school-sponsored activities as sometimes schedules overlap. The band's policy on excused absences parallels that of the school and applies to performances as well as daily class meetings. Absences shall be excused only in the following circumstances:

1. Illness or injury
2. Death in the family
3. Court appointment*
4. Religious observance*
5. Other pre-approved educational opportunities*

Please schedule a Dentist/Dr. appointment on another day. In order for an absence to be excused, parent documentation is required in advance. Many times we are bringing in clinicians to work with our students and finding out members of a section are absent at the last minute is a waste of time and monetary resources for our program. For items marked with an asterisk (*), parent documentation must be submitted in advance.

Grading

An essential and inherent component of the instrumental music curriculum is student performance. Therefore, a substantial portion of a student's grade is concert attendance and class rehearsals. Below are examples of the various ways a student earns their grade in band.

Class Rehearsal Policy—All students are expected to play each day in Band class. Class participation is a portion of each student's quarter grade. Below are the "top four" leading excuses I hear each year. Each excuse is followed by our policy on the subject.

- Braces. Many students have braces. I realize that these are sometimes painful, especially if the orthodontist tightens them in the morning and you have band in the afternoon. I will work with you on this as long as I believe that you are not taking this situation for granted. Follow your doctor's instructions.
- "I forgot my instrument." This will result in a deduction from your participation grade for each occurrence. Without an instrument, you cannot participate in class. The same consequence applies for not having any reeds or any other accessory, which renders your instrument inoperable. A written assignment OR additional practice time will be given, followed by an email to the student's guardian.
- "My instrument is in the shop." No instrument should go in for repair until I see it first. I may be able to repair it much quicker if it is minor. If your instrument is taken to the shop before I see it, you must bring a note from your parents, which includes the following:
 1. What is wrong with the instrument?
 2. Which shop is it in?
 3. What is the estimated time needed for repair?
- "I don't feel good." In general, if you are well enough to be at school then you should be well enough to rehearse. I realize that this is not always the case, therefore, situations will be handled on an individual basis.

PRACTICE

It is almost impossible to grow as a musician without consistence and effective practice. Each student only has class for 45 minutes a day, 5 days a week. While this is a decent amount of ensemble rehearsal time, the amount of time that each student actually plays his or her instrument is minimized by instruction, working with other sections, administration, discussion, etc. The only way for each student to grow individually is to practice at home. An average of 20-30 minutes per day is healthy - but more is certainly beneficial. The muscles in our faces and hands are just like those we would use in athletics - if we don't maintain them, they quickly weaken. If you are not seeing your child's instrument come home, please contact me.

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Students will keep a weekly Practice Log. The minimum expectation is 100 minutes per week, spread out over a minimum of three days, for a student to receive an A. Practice Logs should be signed every Monday night and turned in at the start of class on Tuesday. Students may practice more than 100 minutes to receive additional points. Your Practice Log grade will comprise 15 percent of your overall grade in band. In other words, if you want to make an “A” in band, you will need to practice and turn in your signed practice log. *Students may also earn free practice time by auditioning for other ensembles, including All-County and All-District Band, or by participating in extracurricular musical ensembles.*

Students receive one point for every minute they practice. Ex: 100 minutes = 100%, 85 minutes=85%. NO signature = 0%, students can make this up by getting it signed and submitting with the following week’s practice logs. **Please note, practice log grades will ONLY be updated on Tuesdays.

How to Practice

Daily practice time is essential for student success in band. All band students should spend a minimum of 20 minutes each day in individual practice. Daily practice time is homework for band. The guidelines below will help to organize your practice time. Remember, practice time is to be spent practicing, not watching the clock.

- Practice in the same place each day. Be sure there are no distractions.
- Begin with long tones. Concentrate on producing a pleasing sound. Think about your breathing. Produce a steady and controlled air stream. You should love your sound. It is yours and no one else's. No two musicians have the same tone. Always make sure that your tone is clear and beautiful.
- Spend time on scales. Play them slowly at first and then work for speed. Work from your method book each day. Try to stay several lines ahead of the class. Work for accuracy and be sure to play everything on the page.
- Practice in front of a mirror to check your embouchure, hand position, and posture.
- Practice your music. Work on the parts that you cannot play. Practice them slowly at first and then increase the speed. Work one measure at a time for difficult parts. Once you are able to play a measure five times without mistakes then you can increase the tempo. The same goes for the entire exercise.
- Pay careful attention to details such as: correct notes and fingerings, rhythms, key signatures and accidentals, signs and symbols, dynamics and articulations.
- End by playing something just for fun.
- Swab woodwinds thoroughly, empty water from brasses and return the instrument safely to the case.

Playing Tests and Pass Offs

Playing and written tests are given to assess each student’s comprehension of material covered in class. Playing tests may be done online via Canvas. Students must read the directions carefully and submit by the due date. IF submitted by the due date, students will receive director written or video feedback, and students may use this feedback to resubmit for additional credit. If students turn in an assignment late, students forfeit the option to resubmit for additional points.

Concerts

Student attendance at concerts is mandatory. Self-evaluations will be done for each student after each performance. Concert grades are based on musical performance and demonstration of proper concert etiquette. Concert grades are individualized for each student.

GRADING

Students’ grades will be averaged as follows:

Concerts	35%
Playing Tests	30%
Practice Logs	20%

Curriculum Guide

Parents and students will find below a list of learning goals for students in the Band Program at Harris Road. After three years in the Harris Road Middle School Band Program, the student should be able to:

Individual Goals

- Hold the instrument, sticks, or mallets correctly with correct hand position.
- Demonstrate the correct posture to be used when playing the instrument.
- Form a correct embouchure or stick grip for the instrument.
- Produce a characteristic, controlled sound on the instrument.
- Perform clean articulations on the instrument to include; tongue and slur combinations, accents, staccato, legato, and forte-piano.
- Perform solo works with minimal assistance from the director.
- Demonstrate the ability to care for, maintain, store, and transport the instrument.

Ensemble (Group) Goals

- Explain and demonstrate, with the band, the pyramid balance concept.
- Demonstrate the ability to tune the instrument and play in tune with the band.
- Explain and demonstrate, with the band, staggered breathing.
- Explain and demonstrate, with the band, dove-tailing of phrases.
- Perform the appropriate level of concert music with artistry and musical taste.
- Successfully sight-read an appropriate level of concert music.
- Perform and receive a rating at the NC Band Festival.
- Perform music for the public with the band.

Music Theory Goals

- Identify pitches in both treble and bass clef.
- Count, play, and identify by ear, common rhythmic figures including eighth-note/eighth-rest combinations, sixteenth-note/sixteenth-rest combinations, syncopated rhythms, rhythms involving ties, dotted rhythms, triplet figures, and cut-time figures.
- Define basic Italian, French, German and Latin terms and symbols found in music.
- Name the keys on the piano.
- Construct half-steps and whole-steps above or below any given pitch.
- Write and play all major scales. · Write and identify all major key signatures.

Advanced Individual Goals

- Play chromatic scales on the instrument.
- Play basic rhythms on the instrument.

Citizenship Goals

- Exhibit personal pride, integrity, responsibility, commitment, dependability, a strong work ethic, and esprit de corps.
- Respect the abilities and efforts of others.

Additional Percussion Goals

Percussion students will also demonstrate additional proficiency in the following areas:

- Perform basic drum rudiments to include rolls, flams, paradiddles, drags, ruffs, and ratamacues.
- Demonstrate knowledge of suspended and crash cymbal technique.
- Demonstrate knowledge of chime technique.
- Demonstrate knowledge of auxiliary instrument technique (triangle, tambourine, sleigh bells, woodblock, etc.).
- Demonstrate knowledge of concert bass drum technique.
- Demonstrate the ability to tune and play basic timpani parts.

Concert Etiquette

1. Listen attentively. Give your full focus to the music being performed.
2. Refrain from talking, tapping, or making other distracting sounds or movements.
3. Refrain from chewing, eating, or drinking.
4. Remain seated until the performance is over.
5. Mobile devices must be silent and out of sight while a performance takes place.
6. Applaud only when appropriate and only in a way that will encourage the performer(s).
7. Be open-minded and receptive to different styles of music.

Travel Policies

1. A completed and signed HRMS field trip permission form is required of each student participating in any trip taken by the HRMS Band.
2. A full itinerary will be issued to each student prior to any trip. It is the student's responsibility to share this information with their guardians.
3. While on trips, students are to follow all applicable school and band policies.
4. Students who are riding with their parents instead of with the full group should submit a signed note to the director prior to the trip.
5. Band members will sit in assigned seats and are expected to cooperate during all roll checks. Students will load and unload vehicles only upon the director's instruction.
6. Students will be held financially responsible for any damages to bus property.
7. All school bus safety rules must be observed while on charter buses as well.
8. Students and parents should arrange transportation home from the band room in advance.
9. Electronic items such as personal phones and tablets are considered personal property. Neither the band director nor the school is responsible for theft, damage, or loss of such items. The band director reserves the right to restrict the use of such items when necessary. These items may be used only with headphones.
10. Any student who receives ISS or OSS during the semester of the trip will not be permitted to go on field trips without special permission from the director.
11. Students cannot have any missing assignments in band, and performance assessments may not be lower than 90% in order to travel with the band.

Substitutes

When I am absent, either due to sickness or field trips, I will have a substitute or another teacher conducting or covering my classes. I expect all students to cooperate fully with anyone who is leading my classes. Substitutes are like gold, and Harris Road has a wonderful rapport with its substitutes. If a substitute leaves a student's name for me due to misbehavior or disrespect, I will refer that student to the appropriate grade-level administrator. We all know how to "mind our manners" in front of company, and this situation is no different.

How Parents/Guardians Can Help

Regardless of musical background, a parent's support and encouragement will have a tremendous impact on a child's progress in band. To assist in the musical growth of your child, you can:

- Support the goals, policies, and procedures of the director. Your child succeeds when the band director succeeds.
- Require regular practice at home. Provide a daily time and place where your child can practice without distractions or interruptions.
- Ask your child to play for you and encourage performance.
- Teach your child to be punctual by helping him or her to be on time to performances and rehearsals.
- Enthusiastically attend all band functions to show your support. Get involved! Join the Harris Road Parent Group and PTSO!
- Help keep your child's instrument in good repair.
- Give strong consideration to providing private lessons for your child.

Communication for All Band Families:

- o Website- <https://leahpfeiffer6.wixsite.com/harrisroadbands>
- o Parent/Student Portal App “My music staff” (coming soon)
- o Remind- For Parents and Students. Students can sign up for emails if no message system is available. Text 81010 and then in the message type: “@examplename...” OR for better results, download the Remind App on your phone.
 - 2nd Pd—6th Grade Woodwinds: @6winds22
 - 3rd Pd – 6th Grade Brass: @6brass22
 - 4th Pd – 7th Grade Brass: @7brass22
 - 5th Pd—7th Grade Woodwinds: @7wind22
 - 7th Pd—8th Grade Advanced Band: @8adv22
- o Email- from Mrs. Pfeiffer or Mrs. Coger. Please make sure you fill out the band contract with a correct email contact. Our primary form of communication is via email.

In addition to the formal methods of communication we invite you to join us on your favorite types of social media as well:

- Facebook page, search for “Harris Road Middle School Bands”



Remember to fill out the online contract. leah.pfeiffer@cabarrus.k12.nc.us, amelia.coger@cabarrus.k12.nc.us

Band Contract

Look for the “Band Contract” on the Harris Road band website. A QR code and URL will also go home the first day of school in paper form and via email. If you do not have access to a computer or the internet, a paper copy can be given to you to fill out. The contract must be turned in by Friday, September 2nd.

In Closing

Young people need positive direction. I see band as an opportunity to shape young lives and to positively influence young people. Music helps the individual grow both intellectually and emotionally.

Students must understand that their actions will have a tremendous impact on their lives and the lives of others. The nature of that impact (positive or negative) is up to the individual.

Remind your child when the challenge becomes tough that teachers, just like parents, set high standards, because we care. Thank you for your support and best wishes for a safe, happy, successful school year.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Leah Pfeiffer and Amelia Coger

Leah.Pfeiffer@cabarrus.k12.nc.us

Amelia.Coger@cabarrus.k12.nc.us