

Instructor: Logan S. Burnside

Phone Number: 952-492-4428

E-mail: lburnside@isd717.org

Website: <http://jordanbands.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/jordanbands717>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/jordan_bands

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/jordan_bands_717/

Course Description: In the Jordan Middle School 8th grade band, a variety of concert literature will be studied and performed throughout the year. Music will include but not be limited to: marches, transcriptions, multi-work movements, popular music, and contemporary and traditional band repertoire. Students will study the elements of music throughout the exploration of music literature and continue developing their personal musicianship and ensemble rehearsal skills. There will be 4 required concerts throughout the year. Students will have optional performance opportunities in the High School Pep Band.

Attendance: Required for all classes, times, and performances. Students are expected to come to class on time every day for rehearsal. This means being in the music wing by the time the bell rings and in your seat ready to begin three minutes after. The four minutes between the bell and class start time is used for assembly of instrument, personal warm-up, tuning, and having the required materials ready for the day (instrument, music, pencil). Students who are tardy will not be able to achieve full points for the day.

Make Up work: Make-up assignments are provided for school excused absences. Make-up work is due one week after the excused absence unless prior arrangements have been made. It is the student's responsibility to request a makeup assignment and to turn the work in before the deadline.

Required Materials: Students will be required to bring their instrument, band music, a planner, and a pencil to class each day. Students will not be allowed to go to their lockers for any of their materials after the bell rings. Students do not need to bring their electronic devices on a daily basis. Electronic devices will be used during class at certain times throughout the year, however these will be announced ahead of time.

Conduct and Class rules:

1. Follow directions the first time they are given.
2. Be on time.
3. Respect others and all property.
4. Bring appropriate materials with you to rehearsal and be prepared (practice outside of class).
5. No food or drink will be allowed in the band room at any time. Water bottles are allowed.
6. No cell phones allowed.

Guidelines to help us achieve excellence:

1. Be ready to play. All students should have tuned, prepared music for class, and be in their seat four minutes after the final bell. Percussionists should have all instruments they play and music for rehearsal prepared by that time and return equipment to its storage place at the end of class (this is part of the daily rehearsal skills grade.)

2. You are responsible for reading all information on the white board. Upcoming tests, concerts, other performances, daily schedules and times will be listed on the board. It is your responsibility to read and act on that information.

3. Bring all materials (pencil, music, instrument) to all rehearsals unless otherwise instructed. You will **not** be allowed to go to your locker to retrieve class materials after the bell. All instruments should be in assigned storage area when not in use. Remember the band room and instrument storage are not your personal storage areas!

4. All music should be kept in the folders and stored in their assigned places in the Folder cabinet. Lost/damaged music must be replaced at the student's expense (this includes pen marks in the music).

Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Interpret and perform music from a wide range of styles.
2. Demonstrate understanding of the elements of music and their role in study and performance.
3. Perform in small and large ensembles.
4. Read and understand music notation, symbols, and basic compositional concepts.
5. Pursue and continue music study in a secondary environment (high school).

Grading Policy: Students letter grades will be determined based on the Jordan Middle School grading scale. The following is an approximate breakdown of points and grade weights for the semester.

30% Required Performances- All performances listed on the “8th Grade Band Performances” page are mandatory. Students receive full credit for a concert by remaining in attendance for the entire concert, not just the portion they perform.

30% Skills Assessment/Rehearsal Skills- Each student will receive a daily grade in band. The grade is reflective of the following: 1. Use of rehearsal tools - instrument, music, pencil, planner and demonstrating their use throughout the rehearsal 2. Performing a personal warm up which includes tuning prior to full band rehearsing 3. Individual music performance: Your class performance should be reflective of individual practice on your band instrument you have done outside of class.

10% Tests/Exams- Students will be expected to complete 1 written test each semester, in addition to any other written assessments. These tests will be given in class and their completion is required for a final grade.

30% Lessons- Students will be assigned lesson groups based on their instrument. These 20 minute lessons will meet on a rotating 1-week basis. Students will need to arrive to these lessons on-time and have their required materials prepared. Grades are determined based on individual

preparation and performance. Lesson attendance and participation is mandatory, few make-up times will be provided. There will be approximately 12 lessons per semester.

****Private Lessons:** It is strongly encouraged that if a student's situation allows that he or she take lessons from a private instructor outside of school. Private instructors can provide a greater amount of individual instruction time and deeper study than can typically be accomplished during group lessons at school. If a student is able to take private lessons outside of school, they will be exempt from taking lessons during school. The grade points from lessons will be largely established based on feedback from a student's private instructor. Please see Mr. Burnside if you have a private instructor or wish to receive a list of instructors in the area.

Concert Dress: The following is the required concert dress for all Concert Band concerts unless otherwise announced.

Men:

- Black pants (Slacks/Dress pants. No cargo pants or jeans)
- White button down shirt
- Black tie (Unless otherwise specified)
- Black dress shoes
- Black socks

Women:

- Long black skirt or dress pants (no cargo pants or jeans)
Skirt MUST be below the knee
- Black long sleeve blouse
No exposed shoulders or midriff
No low neck lines
- Black flats or black dress shoes

****Note on jewelry:** Concert attire is meant to look sharp and professional while not interfering with performing. We do not want to wear anything that may affect playing or be distracting and draw attention during a performance. That being said, NO JEWELRY should be worn during a concert. The only exception is small, simple stud earrings.

Fees: Throughout the year a student may be assessed the following fee.

Extraordinary Repair Fee – This fee may be assigned for any damage to a school owned instrument that requires significant overhaul or work. Examples include: cracked or dented bells, cracked instrument bodies, bent slides, holes in drum heads, etc. Please care for and maintain your instrument as if it were your own. This fee is typically only assigned for damage caused by and related to “horse play” but it can also occur from carelessness.

If your rented instrument becomes damaged in any way that you think merits some sort of diagnostic or repair, please find a time to speak with Mr. Burnside. Some problems, if caught right away, can be fixed to prevent further damage. In addition, if damage to a rented instrument is discovered by the director rather than reported by a student, the fee given to the student may be affected.

Lockers: You will be assigned a band storage area for instrument storage the use throughout the course of the year. This area is meant to hold your instrument, any instrument accessories, and additional music. Your area is NOT meant to house books and materials for other classes, food/drink, or anything else non-band related. It should be kept clean throughout the year. Students whose band areas are not kept clean will be required to clean their location and will lose rehearsal skills points.

Trips and Tours: Jordan High School Band students will have the opportunity to make music abroad and travel to new places and venues. This is a fun and exciting experience for all students! When tour details become available they will be announced in-class with information sent home with students. Information will also be posted on the jordanbands.com website. The following is the anticipated tour schedule:

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Ensembles</u>	<u>Tour Type</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
2017-2018	JHS Band & JHS Choir	National Tour	\$900-\$1200
2019-2020	JHS Band/JHS Jazz Band	Regional Tour	\$200-\$500
2021-2022	JHS Band & JHS Choir	National Tour	\$900-\$1200
2023-2024	JHS Band/JHS Jazz Band	Regional Tour	\$200-\$500

In Spring of 2014 the JHS Band & Choirs traveled to Orlando, Florida. This was a National Tour. Details and pictures from this tour may be found on the jordanbands.com website.

In the Spring of 2016 the JHS Band traveled to Chicago!! This was a Regional Tour. Details and pictures from this tour may be found on the jordanbands.com website as well as the Jordan Bands Facebook Page.

8th Grade Band students may also have the opportunity to attend professional music concerts at Minnesota Orchestra, St.Paul Chamber Orchestra and other events throughout the school year which may require a small fee.

Activity Accounts & Fundraising: Students will have the opportunity to fundraise money throughout the school year for their JHS activity account. Activity accounts stay with students throughout their high school careers. There are typically 2 major fundraisers: Minntex Fruit-Fall, and Club’s Choice Frozen Foods & Cookie Dough-Spring. These are both individual-centered fundraisers intended for students to raise money for their own accounts. It is highly recommended that students participate in each fundraiser to reduce the price of Band tours and other costs. Spreading out fundraising for a band tour makes paying for a trip far easier for many families. Activity account funds may be used for any of the following:

- Band tours and trips
- Pep band T-Shirts
- Resale expenses (Reeds, Valve Oil, Instrument Repairs, Instrument supplies etc...)
- Purchase of a new/used instrument, or money towards a new/used instrument
- Other school activities and sports costs

Closing Thoughts

Being part of a performing ensemble is a fun, engaging, gratifying, and life changing experience. It is an experience that I am excited to share with you as we begin our year of music exploration together!

However, it is important to note that the quality of our music making is largely dependent upon the individual preparation and commitment of each ensemble member. A performing ensemble is only as strong as its weakest member. Therefore we can only pursue and achieve excellence if every member puts in the time to master their music and their instrument outside of school. For some this may mean practicing only 3-4 times a week and for others it may be required everyday for an extended period of time. Regardless of the time, it is expected that every instrument part be worked out and mastered in preparation for rehearsal. Only in this way can we spend rehearsal time in the most efficient manner. That is, on crafting and refining the sound of our ensemble instead of working out individual parts during rehearsal.

It is my hope and desire that each and every student in band is successful. If you find that you are in need of additional help or have questions, please please please speak with me and we can figure out a time to work individually. I am a valuable resource for you and together I believe we can accomplish any musical task we might face.

Lastly, if you have any other comments, questions, or items you would like to discuss, please feel free to speak with me before or after band or send me an email. My door is always open.

Sincerely

Logan Burnside
Director of Bands
Jordan High School

2016-2017

Suggested Instrument Materials List

Below is listed what each instrumentalist is suggested to have in addition to their instrument:

<p><u>Woodwinds</u></p> <p><i>Flute:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning rod<input type="checkbox"/> Lint-free cloth. <p><i>Oboe:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning rod<input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning cloth<input type="checkbox"/> Reed case<input type="checkbox"/> 4 functioning reeds <p>Recommended reeds: Marlin Leshner, Jones</p> <p><i>Bassoon:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Reed case<input type="checkbox"/> 3 functioning reeds<input type="checkbox"/> 2 bocals<input type="checkbox"/> Seat strap <p>Recommended reeds: Marline Leshner, Jones</p> <p><i>Clarinet:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Reed case<input type="checkbox"/> Cork Grease<input type="checkbox"/> 4 functioning reeds<input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning swab<input type="checkbox"/> Lyre <p>Recommended Reeds: Vandoren, Mitchell Lurie, Mitchell Lurie premium, Rico (for practice)</p> <p><i>Saxophone:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Reed case<input type="checkbox"/> 4 functioning reeds<input type="checkbox"/> Comfortable neckstrap<input type="checkbox"/> Cork grease<input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning swab<input type="checkbox"/> Lyre <p>Recommended reeds: Vandoren, Hemke, Rico (for practice)</p> <p><i>Note to reed players:</i> You should never play the same reed two days in a row. By not letting them dry completely you drastically reduce the lifespan of the reed.</p>	<p><u>Brass</u></p> <p><i>Trumpet:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Valve oil (blue juice or viper oil recommended)<input type="checkbox"/> Lyre<input type="checkbox"/> Mouthpiece brush<input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum bottom straight mute (Tom Crown)<input type="checkbox"/> All other mutes optional <p><i>Horn:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> 1 bottle of Hetman light rotor oil<input type="checkbox"/> 1 bottle of Hetman spindle oil<input type="checkbox"/> Mouthpiece brush <p><i>Trombone:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Slide Cream (Bach or Conn brand)<input type="checkbox"/> Small squirt bottle<input type="checkbox"/> Mouthpiece brush<input type="checkbox"/> Lyre <p><i>Euphonium/Tuba:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Mouthpiece brush<input type="checkbox"/> Valve oil <p><i>Percussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> 1 pr Vic Firth SD-1 General Snare Sticks<input type="checkbox"/> 1 pr Med. Yarn Musser Mallets<input type="checkbox"/> A stick bag.
---	---

8th Grade Calendar of Performances 2016-2017

Tues, Nov. 1	Fall Concert, JHS auditorium, Grades 8-12	7:00pm
Mon, Dec. 18	Holiday Concert, JHS auditorium, Grades 8-12	7:00pm
Tues, Mar. 21	JMS Arts Extravaganza, JMS Grades 7-8	TBA
Tues, May. 9	Spring Band Concert, HS auditorium, Grades 7-8	7:00pm

Other JHS Band Performances

(Attendance as audience member encouraged but not required. 8th Grade students will receive extra credit for attendance + short program write-up: See. Mr.Burnside for details)

Mon, Mar. 6	Mid-winter Concert, JHS Auditorium, Grades 9-12	7:00pm
Wed, May. 17	May Concert, JHS Auditorium, Grades 9-12	7:00pm

****The times listed above are the *start* times. Report times for students will be announced prior to the concert date.**

8th Grade Band Handbook Signature Form

Due: Friday September 9th, 2016

Student:

I have thoroughly read the Course Syllabus for 8th Grade Band and understand its contents. I have also read the 8th Grade Calendar of Performances and understand that all rehearsals and performances are mandatory. Should any question arise, I know to contact my director. By signing this form, I agree to be bound by the provisions of this handbook. I am also aware that failure to comply with the traditions, policies, and procedures as stated herein might result in a loss of privileges and/or loss of points in band.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____