Class Expectations, Daily Practice & Performances

• Attend Band Rehearsals – three per cycle\*

• Attend Band Lessons – once per cycle

• Attend Concerts – 2 main performances per year

• Home Practice – students maintain a regular schedule. One example might be 60 minutes between lessons, or 4-5 days a week for 15 minutes each time.  See additional tips below.

Students need to bring the following to all band rehearsals:

* their instrument
* lesson book
* band folder
* a pencil

They will need to bring these same materials to band lessons. Please notify your band teacher of any unavoidable conflicts **prior** to a performance.

If your child was selected to be a percussionist in the band, please note that the stick bag, sticks, mallets, and books you purchase will be the only things your child carries to school for band.  The xylophone, snare-practice-pad and all stands (meaning both stands & a music stand if you have one) are for at-home practice, as well as band lessons.

Daily Practice

Regular practice is essential for steady progress. Some helpful practice tips include:

* Schedule your practice time and post your practice schedule in a highly visible place
* Mark the schedule each time you practice and record your minutes in your practice record
* Establish a practice routine and divide your practice time to cover the following:  Long tones, Scales, Lesson Book, Band Music and Solo/Ensemble Music
* Eliminate distractions (family/siblings, television, iPods, video games, etc…)
* Practice to improve (concentrate, assess your mistakes and try to correct them)
* Take pride in your practice time—the band is counting on you!

Performances

Listed below are the two main performances for all 5th Grade Band students. Mrs. Franzen will communicate specific dates and times of all performances to you.

1. 5-8 Band Winter Concert—This concert is the first 5th grade band performance and is scheduled for December 4 at 7:00 PM in the Williams Center.
2. 5-12 Band Spring Concert—This concert is scheduled for the first Monday in May at 7:00 in the Williams Center.

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\* Our elementary schools operate on a six day cycle (1,2,3,4,5 and 6). Whenever days of school are missed because of inclement weather, students do not miss their special subjects (i.e. band). The day missed will be the next day that students attend. (EXAMPLE: If Day 4 was supposed to be Wednesday and we missed it because of a school cancellation, Thursday, would again be a Day 4.)