

**SILVIS SCHOOL DISTRICT #34  
BAND HANDBOOK  
2009-2010**

**Director: Mrs. Cheryl Schehl**

**Welcome to the Band Program at George O'Barr and Silvis Jr. High School. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend all performances and fully support your child in this Musical Experience.**

**Parents and students are requested to read this handbook, discuss it, and keep it for reference. 100% effort must be given by each member of the Band Ensemble to successfully attain our goals in musical achievement. You are embarking on a lifetime of musical enjoyment.**

**I look forward to another exciting and musical year!**

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**COMMUNICATION**

**The Silvis Bands maintains a website, created by a current Band Parent, that has all the information needed for participation in the Bands. This is a very convenient resource if you have misplaced this handbook, calendar or any other forms that have been issued during the year. Please check this website regularly.**

**I would like to continue to email families that have access, any information that would normally be handed out to the students or mailed home. This will save paper and help to get the information home. Please see the attached form to fill out your email information. I will still send letters home to those that do not have an email address.**

**WEBSITE:**

**[www.silvis34.com](http://www.silvis34.com)**

**EMAIL:**

**[cheryl.schehl@silvis34.com](mailto:cheryl.schehl@silvis34.com)**

**PERFORMING GROUPS & MEMBERSHIP POLICY**

**Beginning Band: This class is open to all 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students. Beginning Band meets once/week for the first 3 weeks of the program for small group lessons. After 2-3 weeks, students will meet on Tuesday and Thursday during study hall from 2:15-2:45p.m. for full Band Rehearsal. Students will continue to receive one small group lesson for 20 minutes/week on a day chosen by the director based on schedules and instrumentation.**

**Concert Band: This class is made of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Band Students who previously attended the Beginning Band Class for the entire 5<sup>th</sup> grade year or moved into the district and attended**

another Band Program for at least one year. Students who enter Jr. High without previous Band experience and wish to join band, must complete a semester of lessons with Mrs. Schehl prior to being admitted into the Concert Band. Concert Band meets daily for a full class period. Students also receive a private or small group lesson once/week for 20 minutes.

**Jazz Band:** This class is available only to students who play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba, piano, drum set, guitar or bass guitar and who are currently part of the Concert Band. Drum Set students are required to take private lessons from a drum instructor outside of school time. 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade students may participate. Auditions may be held if the participation numbers are too great. Jazz Band meets before school on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week beginning the third full week of school.

## **CONCERT DRESS**

Concerts are formal events. As a result, every student is required to be in the proper band uniform for all performances. Any Jr. High student not wearing the regulated uniform (unsoiled and pressed) at the time of a performance will not be permitted to participate in that performance and will receive a deduction of 100points from their grade. The following is a list of the required Concert Dress for each performing group:

<b>Beginning Band</b>	<b>Concert and Jazz Band</b>
<b>Black Shoes</b>	<b>Black Shoes (no sneakers/sandals/patterns)</b>
<b>Black Socks</b>	<b>Black Socks</b>
<b>Black Dress Pants/Skirt</b>	<b>Black Dress Pants (no capris/jeans/shorts/patterns)</b>
<b>White Shirt</b>	<b>White Tuxedo Shirt Tucked in (issued)</b>
	<b>Black Bow Tie (issued)</b>

## **JR. HIGH CONCERT BAND GRADING POLICY**

**Practice Card (10%):** A student's progress in band will depend on what is achieved during daily home practice sessions. Learning takes place in school, but proficiency is gained at home. Weekly practice cards will need to be filled out and returned at each lesson.

**Rehearsal Participation and Effort (20%):** Band Students will be expected to enter the Band Room on time with all materials and instrument. Behavior, effort, participation and classroom skills will be assessed.

**Lessons (20%):** Students effort at home and in rehearsals will be assessed through playing exams and homework assignments.

**Performances (50%):** All are mandatory. The Silvis Jr. High handbook excused absence policy will apply to any exceptions.

## PRACTICE TIPS

Parents, a key element to your child's success on his/her instrument will be your support. Very rarely will a child practice without having to be told. With the proper guidance and support from you, both you and your child will quickly see the benefits of good practice.

Students will see more improvement if they practice daily for shorter periods of time than if they try to do all of their practicing in one weekend. In Band, a student's homework is their practice time at home. Set a 15-20minute time each evening for practice. Perhaps as a break between studying for Math/English! Students always have something to practice! Even if they choose to practice fun Disney Book songs rather than their scales, homework or Band Music, they are still benefiting!! Cool!

Students are required to take their instrument home daily and especially every weekend. On occasion, I will announce a day when instruments may be left overnight, but such times are rare. Failure to take an instrument home each weekend will result in deductions from their lesson grade.

## POSSIBLE POINT DEDUCTIONS

Absent from performance (unexcused only)	-100pts.
Tardy to class	-5pts
No music/book	-5pts
No music during performance	-50pts.
No instrument or equipment	-10pts.
Instrument left at school over the weekend	-5pts.
Chewing Gum	-5pts.
Equipment/Instrument/Music not put away	-5pts.
Improper Dress for Performances	-100pts.
Disruptive in rehearsal or performance (May result in student being removed from that performance and/or from future Band Events.)	director discretion

**Extra Credit**

**+10pts**

**(View a Music Performance of any kind and bring the program/ticket stub to Mrs. Schehl)**

## **SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS**

**Some instruments are very expensive to purchase and, therefore, are available through the school. Unfortunately, there are only a limited number of these instruments available.**

**In order to be issued a school owned instrument, the parent and student must sign an agreement that they take full responsibility for the instrument. There will be a yearly usage fee of \$30.00 for using a school instrument to cover incidentals. The student is responsible for normal maintenance of his/her instrument and/or any damage to the instrument during the year. The student must provide reeds, oils, and other accessories.**

**I have read the above information and received the required performance date sheet.**

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

**Parent Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent(s) Email Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Home Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone Number:**

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**Please return this sheet to Mrs. Schehl by 9/10/09!**