



Methuen Public Schools

Timony Grammar School, 45 Pleasant Street, Methuen, MA 01844

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Timony Grammar School Grades 5-8 INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC Handbook

GRADING POLICY – Band students receive a letter grade each trimester is based on: **Basic Music Knowledge, Rehearsal Participation, Recording Assignments, Practice Logs, and Projects and/or Concerts.** *Students must be in good academic standing in all classes in order to be a member of the Instrumental Program. Any student that does not meet these requirements will be notified by the director and may be removed from the program. Any student that is retained from one academic year to another will not be eligible to participate in the Instrumental Program until sufficient academic progress can be demonstrated.*

There are two different models for this school year: **Non-Concert Trimesters**; and **Concert Trimesters**. More information on Concerts at a later date.

Trimester - NO Concert	Concert Trimester
30 % BASIC MUSICAL KNOWLEDGE	30 % BASIC MUSICAL KNOWLEDGE
30 % REHEARSAL PARTICIPATION	30 % REHEARSAL PARTICIPATION
20 % RECORDINGS	10 % RECORDINGS + PROJECTS
10 % PRACTICE LOGS	10 % PRACTICE LOGS
10 % PROJECTS	20 % CONCERT

BASIC MUSICAL KNOWLEDGE & REHEARSAL PARTICIPATION

Throughout the year each student will be given opportunities to demonstrate an understanding of basic music theory covering the most essential information a musician should know in order to be successful in a middle school instrumental program. **Students must be enrolled in the correct Google Classroom, and have these appropriate materials ready before class begins:**

- Pencils, provided sheet music, and folders
- The appropriate *Essential Elements* book
- Any notes or handouts Mr. Abruzzese has provided

A student's positive contribution to the rehearsal, preparedness, participation in class discussions, general conduct, effort, punctuality, and attentiveness are all necessary for accelerating through the Instrumental Program. All instrumental students are required to attend all scheduled Band periods during the school day, and any student who does not attend class regularly, may not be given full credit for **Rehearsal Participation**. Students who are sick during that period will not be penalized.

PRACTICE LOGS, RECORDINGS and PROJECTS

Practice Logs: The purpose of the practice log is to help develop a practice schedule or routine for each student, therefore each student must practice for 60-90 minutes per 6-Day Cycle. When practicing becomes routine, it will be more enjoyable. **This Practice Log is due once every F-Day**

Recordings: Recordings will be found on Essential Elements Interactive ([EssentialElementsInteractive.com](https://www.essential-elements.com)) for Grades 5 and 6, and Google Classroom for Grades 7 and 8. **Two Recording Assignments Due approximately once a month.**

Projects: Throughout the year, there will be projects that include: musical composition, recording and producing their own music video, etc. All required materials will be given to the students **through Google Classroom**, and students must complete projects before the due date to receive full credit.

CONCERT DRESS

Along with sounding professional, a group's performance is also enhanced by its appearance. Concerts and other in-person performances both require the same Concert Dress:

Girls: Black pants or black knee-length or full-length skirt; **white** shirt, blouse or sweater; black shoes.

Boys: Black pants; collared **white** shirt; Black shoes and socks. [*Optional* - Necktie & Dark sport coat.]

At the director's discretion, a performer dressed inappropriately may be excluded from a performance.

INSTRUMENT SIGN-OUT (*If you require an instrument, you MUST email as soon as possible.*)

The Timony Grammar School Instrumental Program has some instruments available to borrow.

1. A student must first demonstrate successful performance and care with their primary instrument before being considered for a school loaned instrument. This is left up to the discretion of the Director.
2. Both the student and parents/guardian must sign an Instrument Sign-Out Form and return to the Director.
3. When the student receives an instrument, they are responsible for its care and return.
4. The instrument must be returned immediately upon request, in the same OR BETTER condition.

CLASSROOM IDEALS

Classroom Expectations

1. We are a team - respect each other
2. We try our best
3. We learn from mistakes, and celebrate success
4. We contribute and build on ideas presented

Consequences

1. Verbal Warning
2. Phone call home
3. Detention; If more than 2 calls home occur in any trimester, the Principal will be notified
4. Severe Clause – Escorted to the Office

Rewards

1. Verbal Praise
2. S.O.A.R Bucks for outstanding:
 - a. Leadership
 - b. Helping others set up instruments
 - c. Consistently being ready to play without reminder
3. Wildcard (explained in class)