



Pleasant Hill Intermediate and Middle School

Band Handbook

2018-2019

Mr. Twenter – Schedule

Phone: (816)540-3111 ext. 5133

Email: atwenter@pleasanthillschools.com

Website: <https://sites.google.com/a/pleasanthillschools.com/pride-of-the-hill-band/>

7:35 – 8:24	High School Band
8:29 – 9:20	Music Appreciation
9:43 – 10:41	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band
10:46 – 11:42	7th Grade Band
11:42 -12:16	Lunch/Travel
12:16 – 12:55	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band
1:00 – 1:39	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band
1:45 – 2:37	Travel/HS Plan

Ms. Langemach – Schedule

Phone: (816)540-3111 ext. 4138

Email: klangemach@pleasanthillschools.com

Website: <https://sites.google.com/a/pleasanthillschools.com/pride-of-the-hill-band/>

7:35 – 8:24	High School Band
8:40 – 9:38	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band
9:43 – 10:41	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band
10:46 – 11:42	7th Grade Band
11:42 -12:16	Lunch/Travel
12:16 – 12:55	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band
1:00 – 1:39	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band
1:45 – 2:37	Travel/MS Plan

Dear Pleasant Hill Intermediate/Middle School Band Students and Parents,

Welcome to the 2018 – 2019 school year! We hope you have enjoyed a wonderful summer vacation and are ready for school to begin. There are many exciting events planned, each filled with great music and great people. We look forward to spending the year with you making music and encourage you to contact either one of us with any questions or concerns.

Included in the handbook are objectives for band, rules, grading policy, attendance policy. Also included are forms for instrument check out, and handbook compliance. Please make sure to read the handbook thoroughly, sign and date the last page and return to Mr. Twenter or Ms. Langemach by **August 17<sup>th</sup>**.

We look forward to a great year and we hope you do too!

With home practice and good rehearsal habits, you will be amazed at the progress we make this year!

Again, please feel free to contact us at any time with questions or concerns. We will be more than happy to talk.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Adam Twenter".

Adam Twenter and Kristin Langemach

# **BAND PHILOSOPHY**

- 1. Band should be an enjoyable experience, but hard work is required. One gets what they give.**
- 2. Individuals make up the group. A group cannot be strong unless individuals are prepared. Preparation includes having your instrument, your music, and band book at every rehearsal. Having a pencil to mark your music and being mentally ready to rehearse.**
- 3. Knowing the instrument helps music making more enjoyable, PRACTICE!!!! Practicing is FUN!!**
- 4. Attention to detail such as rhythm, correct notes, posture, performance times, attire, and practice are CRUCIAL. Missed details hold the band back.**
- 5. Take pride in what you are doing. Show it by your actions.**

# **Intermediate School/Middle School Band Objectives**

- To develop the student's appreciation, ability and interest in instrumental music
- To develop the student's skill at making music with their instrument in class, at home and in performance
  - To provide an environment and encouragement for self-expression
- To provide a complete and well-rounded education through aesthetic learning
- To increase student awareness of and regard to self-discipline as an important tool in ensemble, personal and social development
- To provide an opportunity for individual and group performances

## **Topics to be covered**

- Instrument care and maintenance
- Interpretation of pitch and rhythmic notation
  - Proper playing technique
- Music terminology and importance in musical expression
- Appropriate stage presence and etiquette in both individual and group performances

## **Text**

- Tradition of Excellence Comprehensive Band Method-6<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Tradition of Excellence Comprehensive Band Method-7<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Tradition of Excellence Comprehensive Band Method-8<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Foundations for Superior Performance: Warm-ups & Technique for Band-8<sup>th</sup> Grade
  - Basic Contest and Concert Literature

# **Pride of the Hill Core Covenant**

## **FAMILY FIRST**

TO TREAT MY FELLOW BAND MEMBERS AND STAFF WITH  
**RESPECT**

TO BE **THANKFUL** FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO WEAR THE  
UNIFORM

TO PERFORM AND PRACTICE WITH **PASSION** AND  
**DETERMINATION**

TO CONDUCT OURSELVES WITH **HONESTY** AND **INTEGRITY**

TO TREAT ALL VOLUNTEERS, PARENTS, AND TEACHERS WITH  
**RESPECT** AND **GRATITUDE**

TO UNDERSTAND THAT WE ARE **BUILDING** FOUNDATIONS FOR  
FUTURE GENERATIONS WITH OUR WORDS AND ACTIONS

TO ALWAYS HAVE **HOPE** AND **BELIEVE** THAT EVERYTHING IS  
POSSIBLE

TO ALWAYS **GIVE** MORE THAN YOU TAKE

TO STRIVE FOR **GREATNESS** IN ALL AREAS OF LIFE

# **Pleasant Hill Intermediate/Middle School Band**

## **Concerts**

### **2018-2019**

- Additional Performances may be added when they arise!
- Concert Participation is required for band and is part of the grade in the class.
- You will be involved in the concerts in the calendar on the next page. Each student will receive 250 points for being in attendance, appropriately dressed, and with all materials at these concerts. Please mark these dates early so vacations can be scheduled accordingly.
- Be on time and ready to perform with instrument and music.
- We will be ordering long-sleeved band shirts for students to wear for all concerts. Students will wear black pants, black socks, and black dress shoes along with their band shirt. Shirts will be \$10 and orders and money will be collected at the beginning of October. If your child still has his or her shirt from last year (and it still fits), you will not need to order a new shirt.
- Display self-control and appropriate behavior.
- You will be excused from concerts if you are sick or have a death in the family. To be excused from the concert, you need to bring a note stating the exact reason for your absence. You will need to contact the directors and request a make-up assignment. Make-up assignments are due 5 days after the concert. Completing the make-up assignment will change your grade from a “0” to an “Exempt”; meaning it will not affect your grade negatively.
- Choosing to not attend a concert or not having a ride will be considered unexcused and result in a “0” grade for the concert.
- All concerts will be approximately one hour or less.

**If you have questions, please contact**  
**Mr. Twenter or Ms. Langemach.**

# **PHIS/PHMS Band**

## **Calendar of Events**

**Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>** – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Night with the Pride of the Hill (This event is a requirement for our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band only)

**Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup>** – Winter Band Concert with High School @ High School PAC

**\*\*6<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> Grade** portion of the concert will begin at 6:30 pm

**\*\*8<sup>th</sup>-High School Band** portion of the concert will begin at 8:00 pm

-Girls bring 2 liter of soda

-Boys bring cookies

**Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>** – Fundraiser Concert @ High School PAC

**\*\*6<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> Grade** portion of the concert will begin at 6:30 pm

**\*\*8<sup>th</sup>-High School Band** portion of the concert will begin at 8:00 pm

**Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Spring Concert @ High School PAC

**\*\*6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> Grade** portion of the concert will begin at 6:30 pm

-Boys bring 2 liter of soda

-Girls bring cookies

**FURTHER INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS WILL BE PROVIDED CLOSER TO THE DATE OF THE EVENT.**



# **BAND GRADING SCALE**

A=95-100%

A-=90-94%

B+=87-89%

B=83-86%

B-=80-82%

C+=77-79%

C=73-76%

C-=70-72%

D+=67-69%

D=63-66%

D-=60-62%

F=59% and below

## **GRADED ACTIVITIES**

Playing tests and quizzes

Written tests and quizzes

Combined Rehearsals

Daily Participation

Concerts

### **Daily Class Participation**

Daily participation is vital in playing development and is also an important part of the student's grade. Daily points will not be awarded to the student for lack of participation (no instrument, no music or unexcused absence) or any distraction in rehearsal (talking, chewing gum, showing discourtesy to other students or to the teacher). Some of these points can be made up by arranging with the teacher to write a report on a pre-approved music topic. *It is the student's responsibility to arrange for any make-up work.*

### **Rehearsal Guidelines:**

- A. When the director is teaching ON the podium, there is to be no talking or playing until instructed to do so.
- B. Sit up straight and use good horn position. No one will play slouched or with their legs crossed.
- C. ABSOLUTELY NO GUM, CANDY, FOOD OR DRINK OTHER THAN WATER ALLOWED.
- D. Cell phones will not be needed during rehearsal.
- E. Always come to rehearsal prepared with instrument, music and a pencil.
- F. Show respect for the facilities, leave the room in better shape than you found it.
- G. Show courtesy and respect to fellow students and to the teachers at all times.
- H. ENJOY BAND BY CONSTANTLY STRIVING TO BE THE BEST PLAYER THAT YOU CAN BE!

### **Tests**

Students will have regular playing tests to demonstrate mastery of current music skills. Students will be assessed with a standardized rubric by Mr. Twenter or Ms. Langemach. Weekly home practice will enable all students to master these skills.

**Participation in the band program at Pleasant Hill is a privilege and should be a rewarding experience for every member of the band. An ensemble is only as good as its weakest player, so we ask that you put forth 100% effort and refuse to settle for anything less than your very best.**

# Practice Tips!!!

Individual practice is necessary and should be viewed as homework. The following suggestions are a vital part of receiving a good grade in class and becoming a better musician.

- Practice every day for a minimum of 20 minutes.
- Have a set time and place to practice.
- Have a goal or goals for every practice. Avoid going through the motions.
- Practice with the correct posture and holding positions.
- Always warm-up and warm-down.
- Spend practice time working on your sound through long tone studies.
- Spend practice time working on technique.
- Spend practice time working on sight-reading.
- Work to increase range and endurance.
- Work on musicianship, it's not enough to just play right notes.
- Practice all the music, not just what you can already play.
- Remember to practice difficult music slowly, gradually increasing the tempo.
- Remember that practice does not make perfect, but perfect practice makes perfect!!
- Always end your practice playing something you enjoy playing!!!!

**MUSIC IS FUN!!!!!!!!!!**



# HOW PARENTS CAN HELP THE PHIS/PHMS BAND PROGRAM

## At Home

1. Show an interest in the music study of your child.
2. Arrange a regular time for him/her to practice
3. Find a quiet place where he/she can practice without interruption.
4. Help your child with practice as much as possible by counting, studying music text, etc.
5. Help your student keep a daily record of practice.
6. Give him/her a safe place in which to keep his/her practice materials.
7. Keep the instrument in good repair with reeds, valve oil, pipe snake, swabs, etc.
8. Be very cautious of school owned instruments. The cost of repairs is high.
9. Teach him/her to be on time to rehearsals, lessons, and concerts.
10. Make faithful attendance to all activities important.
11. Encourage him/her to play for others when opportunity arises – in home, at school, at church, and in the community.
12. If possible seek private lessons for your student so he/she will receive the maximum musical experience.

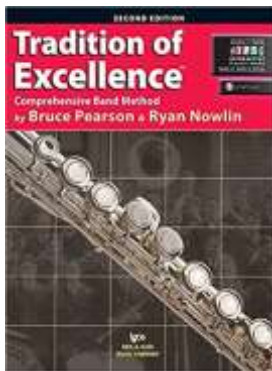
## At School

1. Keep a record of the student's various musical activities.
2. Notify the teacher if he/she is to be late or absent to concerts and explain why.
3. See that your child takes his/her instrument to school EVERY DAY.
4. Teach him/her to be punctual at lessons, rehearsals, etc.
5. See that he/she keeps up with classroom studies and makes up work he/she has missed.
6. Attend concerts and show your support for what he/she is doing.
7. Join the Pleasant Hill Band Boosters and offer help when needed.

## Five Keys that Will Open the Door to Music

1. Help your child with his/her practicing.
2. Be generous with your interest and praise.
3. Credit each achievement with some form of recognition.
4. Help him/her develop a habit of daily practice.
5. Encourage note reading in conjunction with playing by ear.

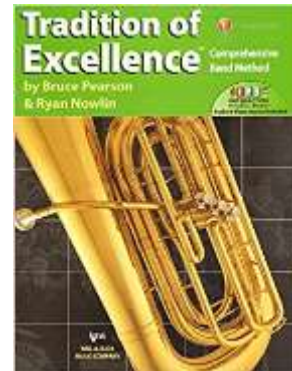
# Tradition of Excellence Comprehensive Band Method



6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Red



7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Blue



8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Green

The Tradition of Excellence Comprehensive Band Method is a flexible performance-centered curriculum that seamlessly blends classic and contemporary pedagogy and cutting-edge technology. **Bruce Pearson** and **Ryan Nowlin** present a systematic comprehensive musicianship curriculum second-to-none. Tradition of Excellence combines time-tested approaches, today's trends and tomorrow's technology to advance your band program.

## Band Handbook

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand this handbook. I will abide by the policies and procedures outlined therein and are personally responsible for knowing its contents. If I fail to abide by any policies I understand the consequences as outlined by the district handbook.

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

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**DUE BY AUGUST 17, 2018**