Carencro Middle School

BAND HANDBOOK

2019-2020

Band Director: Shana Sampia



Principal: Jeffery Janette

Assistant Principal: Ebony Moten

 Assistant Principal: Kay Victorian

MISSION STATEMENT

Our band program strives to develop students’ talents, build teamwork skills, model and teach respect and responsibility, create an appreciation of music and culture, teach both long and short-term goal setting, and provide students with a life-long skill.

 BAND FAMILY

The bandroom is a safe place on campus where students are encouraged to have positive, encouraging relationships with each other. Ms. Sampia cannot run the band alone and seeks the help of other adults to make this cherished organization successful. It is my true hope that the band students feel like family to each other and that the adults that volunteer their time and efforts become extended family that the students trust and learn to care for.

COMMUNICATION

Please sign up for the band “remind” by texting **@msssampi**  to 81010. It is an easy and awesome way to get band updates and keep in contact with the director.

 **Instruments**

* Students must play instruments approved by the band director.

**Grading**

This year, band students will be making a musician portfolio. The elements of the music portfolio are music theory, listening skills, instrument playing, creation projects and historical/ cultural projects. Playing exams happen AT LEAST once a week. Students are given multiple opportunities to earn the best grade possible. The district will be providing a music program called SmartMusic for individual student use. Playing tests will be recorded through this program at home as we are not allowed to play instruments in common spaces at this time. All other assignments will be assigned as needed.

If you have any questions about grading policies, please contact Ms. Sampia for further details.

**Classroom/Rehearsal Procedure**

* Students should enter the band room prior to the tardy bell and immediately find his/her seat.
* Students will use good listening skills during band class, both while playing and discussing. This includes any classes conducted in a digital space.
* Students are expected to raise their hands and be recognized to speak. Outside conversations are not welcome. Hand raising signals should be used in the digital space as well.
* Students will only play instruments with the full group (should we get that privilege returned) or when they are recognized as a soloist or small group (at home). No one will play while someone is speaking.
* Students must **practice daily** at home. This is especially important since we will not be playing in the bandroom.
* Students will only leave the bandroom when dismissed by the director.

**Instrument Policy**

· Students should play their instruments daily at home. Instruments will not be played *inside* school but recordings will be required to be sent for a grade. We will play instruments outside.

· Please bring broken instruments to the band room **before** bringing them to be repaired at a music store so that I can try to repair it or provide more information for the instrument repairman. This will bring down the cost of repairs. Please, DO NOT try to repair your instrument yourself.

· In the event that an instrument needs repair, ask the music store to provide you with a written excuse for band class. Without this excuse, the student will be assigned a replacement assignment.

· Ask the band director about an instrument before purchasing a new or used one. Be sure to tell her the brand name because with instruments, brand does make a difference. This is to ensure a good investment and not wasting money on something that will break easily. She is very open to helping anyone find a good deal on a quality investment, your young musician.

**Care of Property/Facilities**

* Any student who damages any instrument will be responsible to pay for the repair of that instrument. It is very important that students handle only the property that is their own. DO NOT TOUCH OTHER PEOPLE'S PROPERTY (that includes school property).
* No drinks, gum, food, or candy allowed in the band room. This damages the instruments. Students should rinse out their mouths before playing an instrument so that no food particles get into the mouthpiece.
* All trash should be placed in the trash can by the door.
* Students will not be given locations to keep their property in the bandroom as this has been designated as breaking social distancing guidelines. Students must bring all materials home.
* Chairs and stands should stay in the exact same spot at all times. DO NOT TOUCH OTHER PEOPLE’S PROPERTY (that includes other students’ chairs and stands).
* No rough or rowdy play in the band room. All students will avoid behavior that causes expensive accidents because students are responsible for all damages.
* Students will stay in designated areas unless told differently by the teacher.

**Band Student Rules**

- Students are expected to follow all school rules while with the band. Ms. Sampia also expects positive behavior around campus as you are representing the band everywhere you go.

1. Follow Directions Quickly
2. Raise Your Hand for Permission to Speak
3. Raise your Hand for Permission to Leave Your Seat
4. Make Smart Choices
5. Keep Your Dear Teacher Happy

**PRACTICE! PRACTICE! PRACTICE!**

Students should **practice** 30 minutes **daily**. Ask your child where their instrument is **every** **day**. Also, have your child host a mini-concert. Your attention is a great reward for your child especially during these times of extended isolation!

\*\*\*\*\* **This handbook serves as a guideline to band policies. Policies are subject to change at the discretion of the band director for the best needs of the students. All final decisions are left to the band director.**