**MacArthur Band**

**Handbook**



**2018-2019**

## **MacArthur Junior High School Mission Statement**

At DMJHS, all students reach beyond their personal limitations to become productive citizens. Our school community provides real-world challenges in a safe, positive and motivating environment where we cultivate mutual respect, hard work, persistence and teamwork.

### **Jonesboro Band Department Philosophy**

Music education is a primary means by which an educational institution can transmit to students the cultural heritage of a society. Music transcends barriers of ethnic background, economic status, language, and even literacy in its power to reach the depths of the human soul. Experiences with music develop a student’s ability to make value judgements, to function logically as well as intuitively, and to utilize one’s innate creativity. Participation in performance organizations encourages initiative and leadership in the students, stimulates goal-oriented thought processes, creates an appreciation and respect for the efforts of others, and assists students in developing a sense of responsibility to themselves, the organization, and in a broad sense, society.

#### Eighth and Ninth Grade Bands

## Enrollment in the MacArthur Eighth and Ninth Grade Bands is open to all MacArthur students who have successfully completed one or two years of band training. Students who are new to the district must audition for appropriate placement.

The Eighth and Ninth Grade Band meets during first block. This group performs at the home football games, pep rallies, and concerts. Students in this group, provided they meet AAA grade requirements, will be eligible to audition for Junior High All-Region Band in December as well as participate in the ASBOA Region V Solo and Ensemble Festival in April.

**Jazz Band**

The jazz band is open to students with director permission. Instruments used in the jazz band are saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, guitar, bass, and drums. The jazz band performs at the concerts in December and May, and goes on a tour of the elementary schools in the spring.

#### Classroom Rules

1. Bring all necessary items to class.
2. Respect others and the property of others.
3. No food, gum, or drink in the band room.
4. Follow the teacher’s instructions.

##### MacArthur Junior High Bands

## Grading Policies 2018-2019

*1st Block – 8th and 9th Grade Band*

*5th Block – Jazz Band*

###### “Assignments”

Scheduled Performances

All-Region Tryouts

Playing Tests

Second Nine Weeks Project (scales/rudiments)

Second Nine Weeks Project (All-Region Etudes)

Supplemental Worksheets/Tests

**Bonus Points (merits)**

Making All-Region Jazz Band

Making All-Region Band

Earning Solo/Ensemble Medals

Concert attendance (outside of school – with director’s approval)

Private Lessons

**Grades**

Grades are figured by totaling the number of acquired points, subtracting demerits, adding merits, and dividing by the total possible points to arrive at a percentage. Letter grades are assigned according to the MacArthur Junior High School Grading Policy.

#### Eligibility

The Arkansas Activities Association governs all inter-school activities and their events. “A student promoted from the 7th to the 8th grade automatically meets the academic eligibility requirements for the first semester. The second semester 8th grader and the first semester 9th grader must meet the academic eligibility requirements for the junior high by successfully passing (4) academic courses the previous semester, as specified by the Arkansas Department of Education’s Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools. First semester 9th grade students must pass (4) academic classes to be eligible second semester of the ninth grade. “



**Second Nine-Weeks Project**: All-Region Material

Wind and Percussion players must pass off a series of scales during the second nine weeks. Percussionists will also have to pass off a series of drum rudiments. These must all be played accurately from memory. This portion of the project is worth 1000 points.

All students are expected to pass off five etudes listed by the ASBOA as audition material for Junior High All-Region Tryouts. These etudes do not have to be memorized, nor do they have to be fully prepared. The idea is for the director to assist the students in preparing the music. This portion of the project is worth 500 points.

\*\*This project must be completed by Thursday, November 29th at 11:59pm.

#### HOME PRACTICE

Each band student at MacArthur Junior High School is expected to practice at home. This is ‘homework’ for band class. In order for our band to excel, each student should be prepared for class, and this preparation will require home practice. A home practice session would be 30 minutes, although the more students, the better they get, and the more fun they will have it could last much longer. We, the directors are asking the students to practice at home 3 times a week. I will be checking the instrument storage room for instruments left at school. Let’s face it folks, Practice Makes Us Better!!!!!!!!!

Band is an academic subject and must follow course frameworks as prescribed by the Arkansas Department of Education. In order to maintain these frameworks, individual practice is a must. Work on getting into a daily routine that involves a few minutes of practice each day.

## **Uniforms**

The uniform for the 8th and 9th grade band for football games will be a T-Shirt (ordered by the director). The cost of this shirt will be approximately $12.00. In addition to this shirt, students will wear blue/black jeans (without holes and writing – decent looking: if you have any doubt, ask me to be safe), white socks and athletic shoes. Make sure the shoes are clean. We want to look as uniform as we can and still have some flexibility in order to keep the cost at a minimum.

While wearing this uniform, you are an extremely visible representative of our band, school, and community. Please watch your manners and protect our image. We want to be the classiest group in all situations.

For performances other than sporting events, students are to wear dress clothes – that means no jeans or t-shirts. Girls: dress, shirt, or slacks. Boys: shirt and tie, sweater, or polo style shirt and slacks.

#### Expectations for MacArthur Band Students

During these years at MacArthur Junior High, you are expected to make a real effort to improve on your instrument and be a positive influence on your fellow band members. It is necessary for you to understand the importance of:

* 1. Being able to play the scales or rudiments for your instrument.
	2. Making sure you can pat your foot while you play and perform with the correct posture.
	3. Taking care of your instrument and knowing how to maintain it.
	4. Being responsible for your part and the success of the entire team.
	5. Being responsible for your home practice.
	6. School rules apply at any band event, on or off campus.
	7. No gum in the band room.
	8. Put your equipment and music away after class. You will be allowed to drop your instrument off as you get to school and can also pick it up as you leave in the afternoon.
	9. The director’s office is not a public place. Please knock on the door and wait to be invited in. If you are not invited in, something important is going on, and you should try again later.
	10. The office telephone may be used by permission only. Cell phones may not be used during band events. Cell phone usage during the school day: refer to the Jonesboro Secondary School Handbook.
	11. The band room is off limits to non-band students. We have lots of expensive equipment in here, including your own personal instrument. Just ask your friends to wait outside the door.
	12. Use a pencil in rehearsal. Read the board when you arrive. Be ready to start rehearsal immediately. This includes having all the equipment you need.
	13. Take care of buying supplies, oiling valves, and using the bathroom BEFORE rehearsal.
	14. Keep me informed of potential conflicts or special situations. It is YOUR responsibility to find out what you missed if you are absent.
	15. As far as tardies are concerned: I know it is a hike from some of the buildings to the band room. However, you do not have lockers to contend with, so your travel time should be sufficient. 4 minutes between classes should be plenty of time. I will give you 2 minutes to get out your instrument after the tardy bell and get seated, but I will not wait. We have lots and lots to get accomplished. Every minute is vital to the success of the **DMJHS BAND**.

#### Absences

If you must miss a performance, the director must be notified BEFORE the event. Only personal illness, family emergency, or other **extreme** circumstances will be considered excused.

Unexcused absences will result in a zero for the performance. Habitual unexcused absences will result in removal from the band program. Because every performance is a team effort, excused absences will result in a 90% grade for the performance.

**2018-2019 8th/9th Grade**

**MacArthur Band Calendar**

**August 13 First Day of School**

**September 20 Football Game (Annie Camp)**

**September 27 Football Game (WM East)**

**October 4 Football Game (Marion)**

**October 18 Football Game (WM Wonder)**

**October 25 Football Game (AC Storm Bowl)**

**November 12 All-Region Jazz Auditions (JHS)**

**December 1 All-Region Tryouts (GCT)**

**December 7 Christmas Concert (JHS)**

**January 4-5 All-Region Jazz Clinic (JHS)**

**January 18-19 All-Region Band Clinic (ASU)**

**February 26 Pre-Assessment Concert (JHS)**

**March 7-9 ASBOA Concert Festival (JHS)**

**March 18-20 Saint Louis Trip**

**March 18-22 Spring Break**

**April 12 Solo and Ensemble (Highland)**

**April 15 Spring Jazz Band Concert (JHS)**

**April 30 Spring Concert (JHS)**

**TBA Region Ready Trip**

**MacArthur 8th/9th Grade Band Fees:**

**School Instrument Rent - $35/Semester, $70/Year**

**MacArthur Band T-Shirt - $12**

**Flip Folder/Lyre Combo - $10**

**Some Great Quotes To Ponder**

**Anonymous**: Never be afraid to do something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark, professionals built the Titanic.

**Confucius**: To put the world right in order, we must first put the nation in order; to put the nation in order, we must first put the family in order; to put the family in order, we must first cultivate our personal life; we must first set our hearts right.

**Robert Frost**: Two roads diverged in a wood, and I … I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference.

**Stevie Wonder**: We all have ability. The difference is how we use it.

**Mark Twain**: Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. So, throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.

**Henry Drummond**: Unless a man undertakes more than he possibly can do, he will never do all that he can.

**Ralph Waldo Emerson**: We aim above the mark to hit the mark.

**Will Rogers**: Even if you are on the right track, you will get run over if you just sit there.

**Thomas Edison**: Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.

**Theodore Roosevelt**: The only man who makes no mistakes is the man who never does anything.

**Winston Churchill**: The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty.

**Norman Schwarzkopf:** The truth of the matter is that you always know the right thing to do. The hard part is doing it.

**Colin Powell:** There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, learning from failure.

**Reba McEntire**: Be different, stand out, and work your butt off.

**Lou Holtz**: Do right. Do your best. Treat others as you want to be treated.

**General Norman Schwarzkopf**: “During the Gulf War, the few opportunities I had for relaxation I always listened to music, and it brought me great peace of mind. I have shared my love of music with people throughout this world, while listening to the drums and special instruments of the Far East, Middle East, Africa, the Caribbean, and the Far North, and all of this started with the music appreciation course that I was taught in a 3rd grade elementary class in Princeton, New Jersey. What a tragedy it would be if we lived in a world where music was not taught to children.”

**Dan Rather**: “Music is exciting. It is thrilling to be sitting in a group of musicians playing the same piece of music. You are a part of a great, powerful, vibrant entity. Nothing beats the feeling you get when you‘ve practiced a difficult section over and over and finally get it right. (Yes, even on the woodblock.) Music is important. It says things your heart can’t say any other way, and in a language everyone speaks. Music crosses borders, turns smiles into frowns, and vice versa. These observations are shared with a hope: that, when schools cut back on music classes, they really think about what they’re doing – and don’t take music for granted.”

**Neat Things**

Taken from *The Essential 55* by Ron Clark

Rule 1: Respond to adults – ‘Yes, Ma’am and No Sir’

Rule 2: Make eye contact

Rule 3: Congratulate a classmate

Rule 4: Respect other students’ comments, opinions, and ideas

Rule 5: If you win, do not brag; if you lose, do not show anger

Rule 7: Cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough and say ‘excuse me’

Rule 8: Do not show disrespect with gestures

Rule 9: Always say thank you when given something

Rule 10: When you receive something, do not insult the gift or the giver

Rule 11: Surprise others by performing random acts of kindness

Rule 15: Do not ask for a reward

Rule 18: Be as organized as possible

Rule 19: When homework is assigned, do not moan or complain

Rule 20: When a substitute teacher is present, all class rules still apply

Rule 23: Know other teachers’ names and greet them by name

Rule 24: Keep yourself and the bathrooms clean and germ-free

Rule 25: Greet visitors and make them feel welcome

Rule 30: After dining in the cafeteria or elsewhere, be responsible for your trash

Rule 31: In a hotel room, leave a tip for the hotel workers who clean your room

Rule 32: On a bus, always face forward

Rule 33: When meeting new people, shake hands and repeat their names

Rule 34: When offered food, take only your fair share

Rule 35: If someone drops something and you are close to it, pick it up

Rule 36: Hold the door for people rather than letting it close on them

Rule 37: If someone bumps into you, say excuse me, even if it was not your fault

Rule 38: On a field trip, enter a public building quietly

Rule 40: During an assembly, do not speak or call out to friends

Rule 41: Answer the phone in a polite and appropriate manner

Rule 42: When returning from a trip, shake the hands of every chaperone

Rule 43: On escalators, stand to the right, walk to the left

Rule 45: Never cut line

Rule 46: No talking in a movie theatre during the movie

Rule 48: If anyone is bullying you, let me know

Rule 49: Stand up for what you believe in

Rule 50: Be positive and enjoy life

Rule 51: Live so that you will never have regrets

Rule 52: Learn from your mistakes and move on

Rule 53: No matter what the circumstances, always be honest

Rule 54: Carpe Diem (live each day to the fullest)

Rule 55: Be the best person you can be

Students should know the following musical terms as per AR Fine Arts Frameworks.

Music Terms and Their

Abbreviations

List #1

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Abbreviation*** | ***Term*** | ***Definition*** |
| Accel. | Accelerando | Gradually faster |
| Rall. | Rallentando | Gradually slower |
| Rit | Ritardando | Gradually slower |
| Ritard. | Ritardando | Gradually slower |
| Allarg. | Allargando | Slower and broader |
| PP | Pianissimo | Very soft |
| P | Piano | Soft |
| MP | Mezzo Piano | Medium soft |
| MF | Mezzo Forte | Medium loud |
| F | Forte | Loud |
| FF | Fortissimo | Very loud |
| Cresc. | Crescendo | Gradually louder |
| Decresc. | Decrescendo | Gradually softer |
| Dim. | Diminuendo | Gradually softer |
| fp | Forte-Piano | Forte attack then play piano |
| Stacc. | Staccato | Short and detached |
| Marc. | Marcato | Marked with emphasis |
| Ten. | Tenuto | Sustained, full value |
| ad lib | Ad Libitum | At will |

Music Terms – Tempos #2

1. ritardando gradually slower
2. con moto with motion
3. a tempo return to the original tempo
4. meno mosso less motion
5. accelerando gradually faster
6. piu mosso more motion
7. allargando slower and broader
8. tempo primo first tempo
9. rallentando gradually slower
10. rit. gradually slower
11. rall. gradually slower
12. accel. gradually faster

Music Terms – Styles List #3

1. Cantible in a singing style

2. Giocoso joyfully, playful

3. ad libitum at will

4. dolce sweetly

5. grandioso in a grand or noble style

6. expressivo expressive

7. leggiero lightly

8. maestoso majestically

9. secco very short and dry

10. sostenuto sustained

11. sustained, full value TENUTO

12. detached. short STACCATO

13. marked, with emphasis MARCATO

14. smooth and connected LEGATO