

BARKER CENTRAL SCHOOLS

2019-2020



BAND HANDBOOK

1628 Quaker Road. • Barker, NY • 14012

Dear Band Families:

The purpose of this handbook is to clearly communicate policies and procedures regarding playing an instrument and participating in a Barker Central School Band. It is our objective to contribute to the development of well-rounded citizens through their music study. Research has shown that playing a musical instrument will not only build an understanding and appreciation for the art, but can also have a positive effect on many aspects of a student's development. Once parents and students have read through this handbook, please sign and return the signature page. Return of the signature page by the deadline stated will result in a grade of 100% for the first lesson. Thank you and congratulations on your choice to participate in the BCS instrumental program.

Musically yours,

Jeffrey Rappold, High School and Junior High Bands

Cheryl Johnson, Intermediate and Primary Bands

BARKER CENTRAL SCHOOLS
Barker, New York 14012

I. MUSIC LESSONS

- A. SCHEDULING:** Each student receives a weekly group instrumental lesson in a class of 4-8 students. Lesson times rotate periods from week to week, thus the student will only miss a specific class period once every 5-6 weeks.
- B. ATTENDANCE:** Students are expected to attend all lessons. Before the lesson, each student is expected to inform the classroom teacher that he/she will be attending a band lesson for that period. The student is expected to turn in any assignment due that day and to ask for the next day's homework. A student is excused from the lesson for a full period test. For quizzes, the student is expected to report to the lesson after the quiz. Make-up lessons are offered during specified periods and/or after-school by appointment. No more than 2 make up lessons per quarter (10 weeks) are allowed. High school students are required to attend at least 8 (10 are scheduled) lessons per marking period.
- C. GRADING:** A weekly lesson grade is given based on lesson participation and performance. The average of all lesson grades per quarter count as one third of the student's quarterly grade.
- D. PRACTICE AND WEEKLY PRACTICE LOG:** Consistent daily practice produces the best results. 20-30 minutes of daily practice is recommended. We also recommend that you establish a set time and place in your home for your child to practice. Using a music stand promotes correct posture when practicing.
- Each student records daily practice time in a log. At the end of each week, the practice log is signed by the parent. The log is checked each week and the student's practice time becomes part of the lesson grade.
- E. PRIVATE LESSONS:** Since your child receives a group lesson, it is impossible to meet his/her individual needs as often as we would like. Private lessons are a meaningful opportunity for your child to receive instruction on an individualized basis and to excel in performance ability. Any interested students should contact us for names of qualified teachers.

II. GRADING PROCEDURE:

- A. Lesson Grade (from lesson teacher): 33.3%**
1. Attendance at lessons
 2. Performance at lessons
 3. Student's overall progress
 4. Preparedness at lessons (comes with materials needed)
 5. Practice log
- B. Band rehearsal mark (from band teacher): 33.3%**
1. Effort and behavior
 2. Preparedness for rehearsals
- C. Performance grade: 33.3%**
1. Performance evaluations are once per marking period.
 2. Attendance and Performance at Concert(s) is part or all of this grade

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

****PLEASE PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO OUR CONCERT DATES AS NOTATED IN THIS HANDBOOK AND RECORD THEM ON YOUR CALENDAR. YOUR STUDENT'S ATTENDANCE AT ALL PERFORMANCES IS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE. PLEASE READ ON:**

Concert attendance is a requirement for all band members. In the unusual event that it is impossible for a student to perform in a concert, please notify us **at least three weeks before the concert.** A note must be signed by parent/ guardian. A note handed in less than three weeks before a performance will be considered unexcused. In case of a last minute emergency such as serious illness or a death in the family, please contact the music teacher as soon as possible. Any student absent from a concert will be required to do a compensatory assignment. The grade earned on the compensatory assignment will serve as the student's grade for the performance.

****THE COMPLETE BARKER CENTRAL SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR IS INCLUDED IN THIS HANDBOOK****

- III. **CONCERT DRESS: NOTE:** School owned uniform pieces must be returned at the conclusion of each concert. Due to the issue of loss, it is preferred that school owned uniforms not be used for functions outside of school. Lost or damaged uniforms are the student's responsibility to replace.

HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT BAND: Tuxedo shirts, black dress pants (boys), black long skirts (girls), bow ties, and cummerbunds are provided. Students provide black dress shoes and black socks.

JUNIOR HIGH BAND, INTERMEDIATE BAND and PRIMARY BAND:

A. **GIRLS:** White blouse will be provided; students provide black dress slacks (NO capris, shorts, skirts, leggings, etc.!) and black dress shoes.

B. **BOYS:** White dress shirt and black straight tie will be provided. Students provide black dress slacks, black socks, and black dress shoes.

*****Please contact us if you need help meeting this dress code.

IV. **NCMEA & NYSSMA**

NCMEA (Niagara County Music Educators Association) and NYSSMA (New York State School Music Association) hold festivals at which students have the opportunity to prepare and perform before a certified music adjudicator. These festivals are an excellent opportunity for students to work to the very best of their ability on a piece of music. Some participants will be selected to perform in County, Area All-State, or Conference All-State organizations. The decision to participate should be made after careful consideration by the student, his/her family, and the teacher.

NCMEA SIGN-UP DEADLINE: Friday, October 25, 2019

NCMEA SOLO FESTIVAL AUDITION DATE: Saturday, December 14, 2019

NYSSMA AUDITION DATE: TBA

NCMEA FESTIVAL DATES:

Jan. 31 & Feb. 2, Fri/Sat County Festival I - SH Vocal Jazz, JH Chorus, Elem Band – Niagara Wheatfield

Feb. 7 & 8, Fri/Sat County Festival II - SH Chorus, SH Jazz Band, JH Band, Intermediate Orch – Wilson

Feb. 28 & 29, Fri/Sat County Festival III– SH Band, JH Jazz Band, Jr/Sr Orch, Elem Chorus – Lewiston-Porter

NYSSMA FESTIVAL DATES:

Nov. 1 & 2, Fri/Sat – JH Area All-State, Pioneer School District

Nov. 22 & 23, Fri/Sat – SH Area All-State, SUNY Fredonia

Dec. 5-8 – NYSSMA All State Conference, Rochester Convention Center

V. **EQUIPMENT REQUIRED**

A. Instrument in good repair

1. Maintenance: a. Woodwinds: swab or padsaver; b. Brass: valve oil, slide cream, and a cleaning snake

B. Lesson Books/Music

1. Purchased or acquired through school; students are expected to have materials at every lesson and rehearsal; band folder or binder

- C. Reeds (Clarinets, Saxophones, Oboes, Bassoons): Types: Clarinet: Mitchell Lurie, Vandoren 2.5, 3, or 3.5. Saxophone: La Voz medium or medium hard. All reeds mentioned can be purchased at school. The prices start at \$3.00 per reed. **Once the strength is known, students should order an entire box.** Supplies purchased through school must be paid for at the time of purchase. Checks are payable to the Barker Band Fund.
- D. Music stand for home practice
- E. A pencil at each lesson and one in your band folder
- F. Percussionists: Drum Practice Pad and 2 pair of drum sticks

VI. **INSTRUMENT RENTAL and REPAIR**

- A. Rental: Twin Village Music, 44 Central Ave., Lancaster, NY 14086, 716-683-4879. If rental information is needed, please see Mrs. Johnson or Mr. Rappold.
- B. School Owned Instruments
The school owns large brass instruments (Baritones, French horns, and Tubas) oboes, bassoons, tenor and baritone saxophones, and bass clarinets. If your student is playing a school owned instrument, it is on loan from the school and must be taken care of properly. Any major repairs due to neglect or carelessness become your responsibility. However, the school will assume repair costs due to general use and maintenance.
- C. Instrument Purchases: Please see additional information page! Please confer with Ms. Johnson or Mr. Rappold PRIOR to purchasing any instrument.

Instrument Repair: If renting through Twin Village Music, repairs are included in rental payment. Mr. Steve Socha, 716-525-3317, 247 Market St., Lockport, repairs the Twin Village Rental Instruments. He can also repair non-rental instruments for reasonable rates.

VII. **FIELD TRIPS and FUNDRAISING**

- A. Field Trips/Band Trips/Music Festivals: All of the bands participate in outside of school functions, many of which are listed on the 2019-2020 Music Dept. Calendar, more dates TBA. Watch for more info.
- B. Fundraising: The band program holds one fundraiser in the fall and may hold more. Funds raised are credited to each student's individual account. Funds can be applied toward band trips or to pay for supplies.

INSURANCE REMINDER: Check your homeowner's insurance to make sure that student owned instruments are covered under your policy. Remember to keep a record of the instrument name, model, and serial number in a safe place. Also, please be sure that your student's name is on his/her instrument case.

LOCKS/LOCKERS: Students are provided combination locks and lockers for their instruments. Students are expected to keep instruments and related belongings in their locked band room lockers. The school cannot be responsible for items that are not secured properly.

BCS MUSIC PARENTS CLUB: This is a wonderful way to become involved in the music program. The group plans and coordinates supportive events for our music program. The Music Parents Club meets several times a year on dates TBA. If you would like more info, please contact a music teacher or visit the parent club website link on the BCS website, under "Departments," "Music," then "Barker Music Parent Club."

INFORMATION: Please include parent email address and cell phone # on signature page. Emails and REMIND APP messages will be sent with important information. Email addresses and cell phone #'s will NOT be shared or viewable by others. Also, visit our web pages, located on the BCS website under "Departments," "Music," then teacher's name.

CONTACT: Please stay in touch!

Mr. Jeff Rappold 795-3201 ext. 5188 or jrappold@barkercsd.net
Ms. Cheryl Johnson 795-3201 ext. 7189 or cjohnson@barkercsd.net

BARKER CENTRAL SCHOOL BAND PROGRAM
HANDBOOK SIGNATURE PAGE

Once parents and students have read through this handbook, please return this page with signatures to one of the instrumental music teachers by Friday, September 15, (High School, Jr. High School, Intermediate Bands), or Friday, Sept. 29 (Primary Band). Return of the signature page will result in a lesson grade of 100% for that week.

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We have read and understand the contents of the Barker Central School Band Handbook. We are fully aware of the requirements and grading policy.

Parent Signature_____ **Date**_____

Parent Cell Phone (or other) _____

Student Signature_____ **Date**_____

Student Cell Phone (if owned) _____

Parent Email Address _____

Parents please check below if you would like Email and/or REMIND APP text notifications – Email addresses and Cell #'s will NOT be shared.

_____ **Yes, I would like to receive Email and/or REMIND APP text notifications of upcoming events and other important information regarding the BCS instrumental music program**