

Berwick Area School District

5th Grade

Band Handbook

2017-2018 School Year



Mrs. Ziegler

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Inside you will find:

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Key Things to Remember

A decorative border consisting of a repeating musical staff with notes, framing the entire page.

Schedule

BAND CLASS

There are two sections of 5th grade band scheduled at the middle school. Section M506/04 meets every **Day 1** Second Period. Section M506/03 meets every **Day 2** First Period. The middle school operates on a two-day cycle. Students will have band every other day throughout the school year.

LESSONS

Instrumental lessons will take place the same day each week. Lesson times rotate throughout the school year so that they do not miss the same period of day more than once a month. Students should come prepared with their instrument, lesson book, and pencil. A monthly lesson schedule will be distributed at band class. If a student cannot attend the lesson due to a test, project, or other reasons, the lesson pass must be signed by the teacher holding the student from the lesson. Unexcused absences will affect the student's grade.

SNOW DAYS and SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS

If school is cancelled due to inclement weather the school district's two-day cycle will continue where it left off. For example, if a day 2 is cancelled the following day back to school will be a day 2. It is the students' responsibility to keep track of the school day cycle. Lessons will NOT follow the 2 day

cycle. If there is a school cancellation on the day of a lesson that lesson will be cancelled.

WITHDRAWAL FROM BAND

While we sincerely hope that every child will have a positive, enriching experience as part of the school band program, we understand that band may not be a good fit for every child. Band is intended to be an ongoing course of study. If a student decides to withdraw from band, it is most appropriate to do this after a concert or between school years. If a student plans to withdraw from the band program, the parent must notify the guidance counselor to withdraw from the class. Parents should also be sure to notify the music dealer that the instrument is being returned and that you no longer wish to rent. Your music dealer will give you instructions about to how to return the instrument.

Instrument and Supply Requirements

OBTAINING AN INSTRUMENT

Parents are responsible for obtaining instruments for their children. Percussionists will need a percussion kit (Drum pad, bell set, sticks and mallets)

Robert M. Sides Family Music Centers

201 Mulberry Street

Williamsport PA 17701

(570) 326-2094

www.rmsides.com

Rent Online

They will drive the instrument to the school!

You may use any retailer you choose, I just wanted to give you a place to start looking if you need help ☺

INSTRUMENT CARE

It is the responsibility of every band member to keep their instrument in good playing condition at all times. Please do not attempt to do your own repairs! If there is a problem with your instrument, ask your child's band teacher to look at it or call the instrument rental company directly. The repair and maintenance policy offered by your music dealer is an inexpensive, wise investment and is highly recommended! It is a good idea to have your instrument checked out by a qualified repair person each school year. Those things necessary for daily playing (oiling valves, polishing and adjusting, etc.) should be done prior to each lesson or rehearsal. Lesson and rehearsal time is valuable! No student is permitted to play or tamper with another student's instrument, whether it be school-owned or privately-own

LESSON BOOK AND MATERIALS

In order for your child to have the best possible experience in band they will need to have the proper materials to help them succeed. Every student will be responsible to purchase a lesson book. *The required book is titled,*

“Accent on Achievement” and it must be for the specific instrument that they play and their appropriate level (book 1, book 2, etc). These books may be purchased at any music retailer. All students will also need a **music stand** to use while practicing their music at home.

In addition the following instruments will require these materials:

Flute: Cleaning Swab, tuning rod

Clarinet/Saxophone: Cork Grease, Cleaning Swab, Several #2 Reeds (Juno is the preferred brand)

Trumpet/Baritone: Valve Oil, Slide Oil

Trombone: Slide Cream/Oil

School Storage Policy

Students will be assigned an area to store their instrument during the school day. Students are also allowed to keep instruments at the school overnight. THIS IS A PRIVILEGE. Students are responsible for making sure their cubby is clean. Only instrument cases and supplies that fit in cases will be allowed in the storage area. Food is prohibited in the band storage room and the band rehearsal space. If students do not follow these rules they will lose their privilege.

Grading

2 points: Being prepared for class with instrument, music, pencil

3 points: Attending lessons with all required materials

5 points: Playing tests, Worksheets, Practice Logs, and other assignments
















What to practice

Band students need to maintain steady progress through their method books each quarter. The band curriculum consists of selected songs and studies from the method book *Accent on Achievement, Book 1 or 2*. Each week, students will be assigned several short tunes to practice. Each selection should be practiced throughout the course of that week, until the student can play it fluently. Throughout the first years of study, students will learn the basic techniques of their instruments, achieving a foundation for continued musical success.

PRACTICE REFLECTION LOG EXAMPLE

The log will be checked at instrumental lessons at each lesson. It is to be filled out by students.

STUDENT NAME: _____

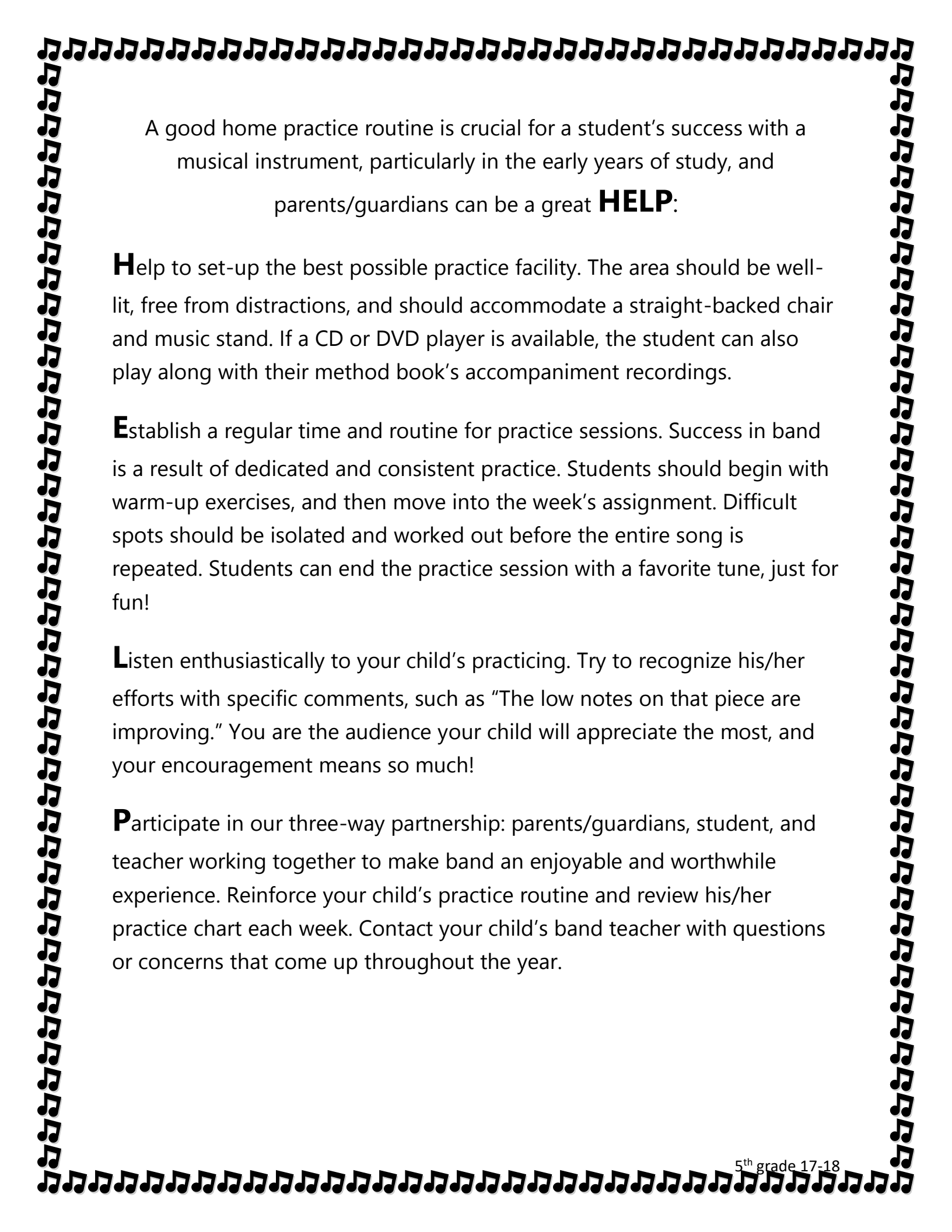
Date	Songs from Lesson Book	Band Music	Time Spent Practicing	How did you do?
Oct. 9 th	5, 6	None	10 min	<input type="radio"/>  <input type="radio"/>  <input type="radio"/> 
Oct. 10 th	5	None	15 min	<input checked="" type="radio"/>  <input type="radio"/>  <input type="radio"/> 
				<input type="radio"/>  <input type="radio"/>  <input type="radio"/> 
				<input type="radio"/>  <input type="radio"/>  <input type="radio"/> 
				<input type="radio"/>  <input type="radio"/>  <input type="radio"/> 

Goal is to play through selected music while going back to fix any mistakes as you practice.

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

PRACTICE HABITS FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS



A good home practice routine is crucial for a student's success with a musical instrument, particularly in the early years of study, and parents/guardians can be a great **HELP**:

Help to set-up the best possible practice facility. The area should be well-lit, free from distractions, and should accommodate a straight-backed chair and music stand. If a CD or DVD player is available, the student can also play along with their method book's accompaniment recordings.

Establish a regular time and routine for practice sessions. Success in band is a result of dedicated and consistent practice. Students should begin with warm-up exercises, and then move into the week's assignment. Difficult spots should be isolated and worked out before the entire song is repeated. Students can end the practice session with a favorite tune, just for fun!

Listen enthusiastically to your child's practicing. Try to recognize his/her efforts with specific comments, such as "The low notes on that piece are improving." You are the audience your child will appreciate the most, and your encouragement means so much!

Participate in our three-way partnership: parents/guardians, student, and teacher working together to make band an enjoyable and worthwhile experience. Reinforce your child's practice routine and review his/her practice chart each week. Contact your child's band teacher with questions or concerns that come up throughout the year.



Concerts

Your child's band concert is sure to be a very exciting night for both musician and families alike.

Our Middle School Band **Christmas Concert will be held on December 13th**. Our Middle School Band **Spring Concert will be held on May 16th**.

The concerts will be held in the Berwick Area High School Auditorium at 7:00 pm. Students should meet in the High School Rehearsal Room (located behind the stage) at 6:40 to warm up.

Remember to bring your instrument and music!

There will be a donation at the door for audience members ages 5 and up at the **Spring Concert**. This money goes in the Elementary Band Activity fund to purchase music and other items which directly benefits the students.

CONCERT ATTIRE

Students should wear "dress clothes" for the concert (no blue jeans, athletic wear or T-shirts with writing on them) which follow the BASD Dress code.

Girls, please keep in mind the length of your skirt or dress. You will be sitting on stage.

Key Items and Dates to Remember.....

*As soon as possible: Obtain your child's instrument, music stand and accessories!

*Middle School Band Night September
22nd

Crispin Field- 5:30 arrival, 6:45 approx. performance

This performance is not mandatory and only open to students who played in the band last year.

*Concert Dates: December 12th & May
15th

Berwick Area High School- 6:40 pm arrival, 7:00 pm
performance

**Mark your calendars with these very
important dates tonight 😊**

I have received a copy and read the 5th
grade band handbook.

Student's Name:

Parent's Name:

Parent's Signature:

Date:

Return this page ONLY to Mrs. Ziegler
by September 5th, 2017.