

Woonsocket-Sanborn Central

8-12 Band Handbook

Miss. Janae West

"We exist to make each other better."

Why is music class offered? Why is it important?

While music's impact on brain development and academic achievement is of great importance, music education is important for reasons beyond academics.

NAfME (National Association for Music Education) believes that music study does something even more important for students.

- Music education shapes the way our students understand themselves and the world around them;
- Studying music allows for deeper engagement with learning; and
- Music education programs essentially nurture the assets and skills that pave the way for a student's future success, such as curiosity, creativity, collaboration, self-discipline, and motivation.

Music education has worth and significance. A student's participation in band is an essential element of a complete education.

How can I get an "A" in band?

	<u>Explanation</u>	<u>Points Possible</u>
Playing Exams	Playing exams help hold students accountable to being a contributing member of our team. Students will complete 2 playing exams each quarter. They can complete these at home by recording themselves and turning them into Miss. West, or in person by scheduling a time to play for Miss. West. They will be assigned at different times through the quarter. Please see the rubric that describes how students' playing exams will be graded.	30 points each
Reflections	Students will be asked to reflect on performances through the year or give input on contributions toward the ensemble. Most often this will be completed via Google classroom.	30 points per quarter
Group Band Participation Observations	Participation Observations help hold student accountable to being a contributing member of our team. 3 times during the quarter, students will randomly be assessed on their participation during group band. Please see the rubric that describes what types of things Miss. West will be observing.	20 points each/ 60 per quarter
Performances	There are several performances through the year that will be graded. If a student is absent for a performance, they will be required to make it up by completing a make-up assignment. For pep band, an e-mail, written note, or text from a parent/caregiver letting Miss. West know the student will be absent, will exempt them from their points. Students who participate in the football or basketball game the pep band is playing for will be exempt from their points.	60 per quarter

	<u>Points</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
A	180 - 162	90 - 100
B	161 - 144	80 - 89
C	143 - 126	70 - 79
D	125 - 108	60 - 69
F	107 - 0	59 and Below

What if I will be gone because I'm missing school for a school activity, or what if I am sick?

If you know you will be gone (i.e. school activity, appointment), please let Miss. West know BEFORE you go so that you can make a plan to make-up whatever you miss. If you didn't know you were going to miss school (i.e. sick, unexpected death in family), please speak to Miss. West to make a plan to make-up whatever you missed.

All performances are required. Make-up assignments will be given to those who miss a performance. An e-mail or note from a parent/caregiver exempts you from pep band performances.

What do I need to wear for our performances?

Marching Band:

- Black marching shoes
- Black socks
- Black gloves
- Plume
- Gauntlets
- Pants
- Jacket

For marching band rehearsal please wear a pair of comfortable tennis shoes.

Concert Band:

Please dress semi-formally. This is something similar to what you might wear to church on a special holiday, or a funeral. Take care to choose modest necklines and skirt/dress lengths. Make sure you wear clean shoes and clothing with minimal rips and holes.

What do I need for band this year?

You will need to keep your instrument in good working order throughout the year. Miss. West does her best to repair minor issues. Sometimes, though, you may need to take it to a music store.

Make sure you have all the accessories you need to keep your instrument in good working condition such as valve oil. Clarinet, alto, tenor, and bari saxophone players need to have a box of 10 reeds.

It is a good idea to have a music stand and a metronome at home as well. There are several metronome apps for free, or visit metronomeonline.com.

What should I do if I have a question or my parent/caregiver has a question for Miss. West?

Miss. West would love to talk to you in person! You are welcome to come watch us rehearse as well. Feel free to contact Miss. West with any questions via e-mail at janae.west@k12.sd.us

Woonsocket-Sanborn Central Band Lettering Requirements

Students can receive points by completing activities that go above and beyond what is required in class in order to earn a letter and pins to go on their letter. Lettering points have no effect on a student's grade. Points will accumulate over the course of a student's years in band. Students who earn the following number of points will receive their pin(s) at the Spring concert or Academic Awards Night.

20 points = pin

Participating in band in 11th or 12th grade	20 points
Participating in band in 10th grade	15 points
Earning a superior at solo and ensemble contest	5 points per superior
Auditioning for All State Band	5 points
Performing in a solo or ensemble at solo contest	5 points per event
Performing in a community or church related performance – Student must turn in a program or bulletin to the music instructor.	4 points
Participating in a band festival	4 points
Attending a summer band camp	4 points
Perfect basketball pep-band attendance – Student plays in pep band at all required basketball games. Student arrives on time.	3 points
Giving a lesson to a 5th, 6th, or 7th grade student outside of school – Lesson must be video recorded and turned into Miss. West	2 points
Attending a lesson beyond the 5 required each quarter	2 points per lesson
Summer lessons – Students will receive 2 points for every summer lesson they attend	2 point per lesson
Helping set up or tear down for pep band or a concert	1 point
Perfect football pep-band attendance – Student plays in pep band at all required football games. Student arrives on time.	1 point
Piano lessons - Student's instructor must provide documentation with the # of lessons student has attended.	1 point per lesson
Private lessons – Student's instructor must provide documentation with the # of lessons student has attended.	1 point per lesson