

**Pleasant Valley Community School District
Instrumental Music Department**



**2018-2019
6th Grade Band Handbook
Hopewell
Elementary Schools**

Jennifer Zeglis, band director

Hopewell Elementary School (332-0250)

zeglisjennifer@pleasval.k12.ia.us

www.spartanbands.com

Find us on Twitter! Search for:

@PVHopewellBand

BAND PROGRAM OVERVIEW

6th grade band meets at each elementary school every other day for 30 minutes each day. In addition, students are provided a 15-minute small-group lesson (1, 2, or 3 students) once every four days. Students are pulled from a variety of their subject areas for their lesson.

EXPECTATIONS

Students in band are expected to:

- Prepare for and attend **all** rehearsals and required performances on time.
- Contribute to the success of the program by demonstrating the proper work ethic and behavior in all rehearsals and performances.
- Have fun learning a band instrument! 😊

PRACTICING

Individual practice is crucial when developing a skill. This is certainly true when studying a musical instrument. Practice is required to prepare lesson material. It is also necessary to improve technique and build endurance.

Choose a convenient time, preferably the same time each day so that practice becomes a habit. When you practice, make sure to warm up. Don't just play straight through your music. Work on the difficult sections first, and then put the piece together. Metronomes are very helpful for rhythmic accuracy and maintaining a steady tempo. Never be satisfied with less than your best. Strive to improve every day and become an expressive musician.

REHEARSAL PROCEDURES

- 1) Students are expected to be in their place with their instruments, music, and a pencil by the start of class.
- 2) Every student should bring his or her instrument, music, pencil, and proper equipment to every rehearsal and performance.
- 3) Gum/eating is not allowed during any rehearsal or performance.
- 4) Music folders, instruments, and equipment should be kept in their proper storage places when not in use. Music and folders should not be left on music stands. Keep the music room tidy.
- 5) Have fun!

GRADING

A band grade will appear on each report card. The band grade is based on the following criteria:

- Participation in class. (Absence from school is automatically excused).
- Weekly Lesson. (Absence from school is automatically excused).
- Participation in concerts/solo festival.

SCHOOL INSTRUMENT RENTAL POLICY

Some instruments used in our ensemble are too large to be transported to and from school daily. In some instances, a school-owned instrument is issued (bassoons/horns/tubas). *There is a \$50 per year rental fee for these instruments.*

The school will take care of repairs caused by normal wear-and-tear. Students are required to pay for accessories (such as reeds and valve oil). We expect students to care for school instruments as if they were their own. This is also expected of students who use percussion instruments.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Private lessons are available for a fee outside the school day. These lessons are given by various teachers in the area. You are encouraged to take advantage of these lessons to make faster progress, be exposed to a wider variety of materials, learn new ideas and techniques, and have more fun with your instrument. Your director has a list of qualified teachers and would be happy to assist you in obtaining a private lesson instructor.

CONCERT POLICIES

Concerts are listed on the enclosed calendar. *You are required to participate in all concerts.* Excused absences include student illness or a family emergency. If such a situation arises, please make every effort to notify the director prior to the event.



ADVICE FOR PARENTS

There are many things parents can do to enrich their child's musical experience.

1. Be willing to occasionally listen to your student practice, offering encouraging comments and praise whenever appropriate.
2. Encourage your child to practice regularly and effectively.
3. Expect students to remember to take their instruments to school on the appropriate days and check to see that it is brought home after school.
4. Make every effort to attend all of the school concerts.
5. Give your child a chance to hear other performing groups.
6. Provide private lessons if possible - ask for a list of teachers!
7. Feel free to call with questions or concerns.

PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

The performances for each school are listed below. More information regarding these dates will be sent home closer to the event. Please plan these activities into your family calendar now!!

ALL STUDENTS

Winter Program	December 4 th	During School Day
District Solo Festival	February 25 th	4:00 - 8:00 PM at PVJH
8 th Grade Band Tour	April 2 nd	During school day
All-District 6 th Grade Band Rehearsal	April 15 th	7:00 - 8:00 PM at PVHS
District Band Night	April 22 nd	7:00 PM at PVHS
Fine Arts Night	May 2 nd	6:00PM
Summer Band	Starts June 5 th	9:00 - 10:00 AM at PVHS

This is a tentative date.

COMMUNICATION

My 6th grade band website is linked to the main websites for each elementary school. You can also find it at www.spartanbands.com. It will include updated lesson schedules, upcoming events, photos, and copies of letters that I have sent home with students. Also, be sure to find us on Twitter!. Search for @PVHopewellBand.

***Please complete this page and return to Mrs. Zeglis
no later than September 7th.***

Thank you!

Student Name _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Instrument _____ (ex. clarinet, flute, etc.)

I have reviewed the material in the Pleasant Valley 6th Grade Band Handbook. I have shared the contents with my child. Both my child and I understand the responsibilities involved with this program. I have noted the dates in my calendar and contacted the director if any conflicts exist. If I had any questions about the handbook, I contacted the director before I returned this form.

My child, _____, has permission to travel to band events by school transportation during the 2018-2019 school year.

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Questions or Comments: