



Sixth Grade Band 2018
Eric Schaefer, Music Director
Email: eschaefer@wpschools.org

Welcome back for another year of band at Memorial Middle School! This year, we are adding Sixth Grade Band to our school's music program. Band members will continue to learn how to read music, develop their instrumental skills, perform in several concerts, and attend band trips. To join, please fill out the sign-up page and return it to Mr. Schaefer before the first rehearsal.

Rehearsal Schedule:

- Every Wednesday and Friday after school from 2:50 to 3:45
- Group lessons once per week during lunch or part of class

Sixth Grade Band rehearses every Wednesday and Friday after school in the gym from 2:55 to 3:45. Rehearsals will not be held on half-days. Setup in the gym will begin as soon as school ends. Band members are expected to be at every rehearsal unless a parent note or email is sent to Mr. Schaefer before the rehearsal begins. Unexcused absences will affect your attendance grade.

Band students are to be picked up no later than 4:00. If you are unable to pick up your child by that time, please arrange for another band parent to pick them up. If you will be walking home after band, I need an email or written note from your parent.

The first rehearsal will be held on **Wednesday, September 12th**.

Important Dates:

Sixth Grade Band members will perform in two concerts this school year. Please mark these dates on your calendar:

- The Holiday Concert will be held on **Wednesday, December 19th** at 7:00 in the Gymnasium.
- The Spring Concert will be held on **Wednesday, May 8th, 2019** at 7:00 in the Gymnasium.
- After the Spring Concert, band members are able to join Graduation Band, which rehearses during school and performs for the eighth grade graduation ceremony.

Needed for rehearsals:

- Instrument & accessories (cork grease, reeds, valve oil, etc.)
- Folder containing music, warmups & scales (given out during the first rehearsal)
- Pencil

It is important to come prepared to every rehearsal. Please remember to bring your instrument, music and pencil each week.

Do not leave your instrument in the music room overnight unless you have a lesson or rehearsal the following day. Instruments should always be at home over the weekend.

Grading Policy:

Sixth Grade Band is a graded class and students will receive a grade on their report cards. Grades will be based on these three areas:

- **40%: Rehearsal & lesson attendance**
For full marks in this category, be on time for all rehearsals & lessons.
- **40%: Attitude, effort, and preparation**
Students should demonstrate a positive attitude, help out with setup and take-down, and come prepared with music and their instrument at all lessons & rehearsals.
- **20%: Practice schedules**
Home practice is required and necessary to improve on your instrument. This year, you will be asked to fill out a practice schedule for every marking period with the days you practiced at home.

Webpage & Parent Portal:

The Sixth Grade Band webpage and parent portal has extra copies of the scales, warmups and notices given out during band. Memorial Middle School is going paperless – so please print out extra copies at home as not to waste our limited paper supply at school.

To access the Sixth Grade Band webpage, navigate to the Memorial section on **wpschools.org**. On the right side of the page is a “music” link. Click on that and navigate to the Sixth Grade Band section.

Sign-ups and Rentals:

To sign up for Sixth Grade Band, please fill out the form on the next page and give it to Mr. Schaefer or put it in the folder on the music board (outside the entrance to the gym).

Memorial Middle School uses *Music & Arts* in Wayne for instrument rentals. If you don't already have an instrument, you can rent one online at **www.musicarts.com/wayne** and they will deliver it to our school. If you have any questions about renting or purchasing an instrument, please email me at **eschaef@wpschools.org**.

Music & Arts
Plaza Square
661 Hamburg Turnpike
Wayne, NJ
(973) 956-0630
stores.musicarts.com/wayne



Sixth Grade Band 2018 Signup form

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

Instrument: _____

Homeroom: _____

I give my child permission to participate in Sixth Grade Band. I am aware of the rehearsal schedule and concert dates. I read the grading policy and I understand that my child needs to be picked up from school no later than 4:00 after a band rehearsal.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Parent email address: _____

**a frequently checked email address will be used to share changes in rehearsal schedule, newsletters and other communication*

Home telephone number: _____

Cell phone number (optional): _____

Please return to Mr. Schaefer no later than **Wednesday, September 19th**