

# Sixth Grade Band Policies and Contract

## Keicher Elementary School 2019-2020

Dear Students and Families,

Congratulations on choosing to enrich your lives with music, and welcome to the sixth grade band!

Most of you already know me from fifth grade music class, but since some of you are new to Keicher Elementary School, let me introduce myself. My name is Lindsey Micheel. I graduated from the University of Michigan with undergraduate and graduate degrees in music education. I played bassoon in the University of Michigan Symphony Band, and I played cymbals in the University of Michigan Marching Band. This is my sixteenth year as a music teacher in the Michigan Center School District. Aside from being a musician, I am a mom, runner, gardener, and card maker.

As a band team member, you have a number of responsibilities to yourself, your teammates, and me. I will use the remainder of this letter to explain how our team will function and what I expect of you as a valuable contributor to the sixth grade band.

### Concerts

The sixth grade band will give three concerts this school year. Concerts are fun events for participants and audience members alike. Concerts are also venues for students to perform new skills and demonstrate new knowledge for family, friends, and community members. **Student participation is required. Except in cases of emergency, students are required to participate in all scheduled performances.** Please plan accordingly and contact me immediately if you foresee conflicts. Additional details regarding all concerts will be announced throughout the school year.

Date	Tuesday, October 22	Thursday, December 12	Thursday, May 7
Concert Time(s)	All Day	2:30 & 6:30 PM	2:30 & 6:30 PM
Arrival Time	8:30 AM	5:45 PM	5:45 PM
Location	University of Michigan	Keicher Elementary Gym	Keicher Elementary Gym

### Concert Uniform

Musicians take pride in how they look when they perform, and the sixth grade band will look sharp! **Our concert uniform is a white dress shirt, black pants, black socks, black shoes, a red cummerbund, and a red bow tie.** You will provide the white dress shirt, black pants, black socks, and black shoes. The school will provide the red cummerbund and red bow tie. **Please compile your uniform by mid October to avoid surprises at the first concert as students dressed inappropriately will not be permitted to perform.** Please contact me if you need assistance compiling your uniform or would like to visit the Keicher Band Clothes Closet.

## Class Schedule

Band classes meet twice a week, and individual instrument classes meet once every other week as shown below. **Please note: Band is a class, not an extra-curricular activity. As such, YOU MUST REMAIN IN BAND FOR THE ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR.** While you may struggle at times and want to give up, show perseverance, and you will become a confident and successful musician.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2:00-2:40	Baritone	Saxophone	Clarinet	Trombone	Flute Clarinet
	Bassoon	Trumpet	Flute	Percussion	
2:43-3:23	Baritone Bassoon Trombone	Percussion Saxophone Trumpet	Flute Clarinet	Baritone Bassoon Trombone	Percussion Saxophone Trumpet

	Instrument	Day	Time	Weeks	
Red	Baritone	Monday	2:00-2:40	August 26	January 20
	Saxophone	Tuesday		September 9	February 3
	Clarinet	Wednesday		September 23	February 17
	Trombone	Thursday		October 7	March 2
				October 21	March 16
				November 4	April 6
				November 18	April 20
				December 2	May 11
				January 6	May 25
Gray	Bassoon	Monday	2:00-2:40	September 2	January 27
	Trumpet	Tuesday		September 16	February 10
	Flute	Wednesday		September 30	February 24
	Percussion	Thursday		October 14	March 9
				October 28	March 23
				November 11	April 13
				November 25	April 27
				December 16	May 18
				January 13	June 1

## Instrument Supplies

**You are required to have the following supplies in class every day: instrument, pencil, and band folder with band book, class handouts, and music.** Being prepared for class with the proper supplies is essential if our team is to succeed because EVERY MEMBER COUNTS.

The school provides band folders, music, and pencils; students provide band books. Band folders are replaced free of charge, if necessary, due to common “wear and tear.” However, if you lose or mangle your band folder, you will be assessed \$1.00 for its replacement. As a team we must care for our equipment since much of it will be used for years to come, so do your part and respect your supplies.

The above-mentioned supplies are required for all students. However, you will also need additional supplies for instrument maintenance and care. You will learn how to care for your instrument in order to preserve your instrument, reduce repair costs, and improve your playing experience. **The instrument-specific supplies listed below must be maintained at all times and may be purchased from me for the prices listed on page 4.**

Although students will purchase instrument-specific supplies as needed throughout the school year, I made alternate arrangements for the initial purchase. I will distribute supply order forms during the second week of school. The order forms will show what supplies students must purchase and how much each supply costs. **Please return your form along with the appropriate payment by Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>.** Supplies will be distributed soon thereafter. Please contact me if you are unable to return your payment by September 20<sup>th</sup>.

### Woodwinds

Flute	Cleaning Rod Swab <sup>2</sup>
Clarinet	3 Reeds <sup>1</sup> Swab <sup>2</sup> Thumb Rest Cork Grease Woodwind Mouthpiece Brush Mouthpiece Patch
Bassoon	3 Reeds <sup>1</sup> Reed Soaker Swab <sup>2</sup> Cork Grease Seat Strap {provided by the school}
Saxophone	3 Reeds <sup>1</sup> Neck Strap Swab <sup>2</sup> Cork Grease Woodwind Mouthpiece Brush Mouthpiece Patch

### Brass and Percussion

Baritone Cornet Trumpet	Slide Grease Valve Oil Brass Mouthpiece Brush Cotton Rag <sup>3</sup>
Trombone	Slide Grease Slide Cream Spray Bottle Brass Mouthpiece Brush Cotton Rag <sup>3</sup>
Percussion	Snare Drum Practice Pad & Stand Snare Drum Sticks Bell Set Bell Mallets

<sup>1</sup>Reeds must be in working order with no chips, cracks, or mold.

<sup>2</sup>Pad savers will ruin the pads on your instrument. Make sure you have a swab, not a pad saver.

<sup>3</sup>Cotton rags are used for the water key and maintenance procedures

## Instrument Supply Prices

### Reeds

Bassoon	15.50
Clarinet	2.00
Saxophone	2.50

### Books

Essential Elements 2000 Book One & CD	Brass and Woodwinds	9.00
	Percussion	14.50

Please pay by cash or check made payable to **Michigan Center School District**. Place cash or check in an envelope labeled with your child's name and intended purchase(s). *Remember, I will distribute supply order forms in August for the initial purchase. Please wait to send money until you receive a personalized form.*

### Accessories

Bassoon	Swab	9.50
Brass	Mouthpiece Brush	2.75
	Slide Grease	2.00
	Valve Oil	2.50
Clarinet	Swab	12.00
	Thumb Rest	1.25
Flute	Cleaning Rod	3.25
	Swab	7.50
Percussion	Bell Mallets	11.00
	Snare Sticks	10.00
Saxophone	Neck Strap	19.00
	Swab	14.00
Trombone	Slide Cream	3.00
	Spray Bottle	2.50
Woodwinds	Cork Grease	2.00
	Mouthpiece Brush	3.00
	Mouthpiece Patch	2.25

## Practice Expectations

Playing an instrument is exciting, especially when you learn new songs and hear yourself improve. Like scholars and athletes, musicians require consistent and productive practice in order to excel. Thus, you will practice at home. You will receive weekly practice logs that explain your practicing assignments and teach you how to practice effectively. After you complete the assignments on your practice logs, you will submit your practicing homework using Google Voice. Simply call 734.743.2263, follow the prompts, and record your homework as described on your practice logs. I will listen to your recordings and provide written feedback. Practice makes perfect, so prepare to sound amazing!

## Assessment

Students will earn letter grades in band. Band letter grades will appear on students' official report cards and may be monitored in Power School. Grades are based on students' completion of weekly practice logs {50%}, attendance in class with proper supplies {30%}, and proficiency on playing tests {20%}. Please see page 4 for an explanation of weekly practice expectations and page 2 for a list of the supplies students must bring to class. There will be one playing test per trimester. Attend class, complete your work, fulfill your responsibilities, and try your hardest. You will surely succeed!

## Electronic Reminders

Are you a busy parent with a lot to remember? Would it be helpful to get occasional reminders such as when to send your child's band uniform to school, return a permission slip, or arrive at a concert? Use the information below to receive electronic reminders from me via text messages. You can also download the electronic reminder app by typing [rmd.at/msmicheel](http://rmd.at/msmicheel) in your web browser.

Send This Message	To This Number
@msmicheel	81010

## Parent/Guardian Involvement

One key to student success is parent/guardian involvement. From encouraging your child as she/he practices to helping move equipment after a concert, the investments you make in your child's education WILL make a difference. If you are interested in observing a band class, lending a hand in the classroom or at concerts, or chaperoning a field trip, please speak up. I welcome your enthusiasm and look forward to working as your partner throughout your child's music education experience.

## Contact Information

You have just consumed a great deal of information and may have questions and/or concerns. I am happy to speak with you by email, phone, or in person via the contact information below. If you plan to visit my classroom, please call ahead as I will make an appointment to ensure my availability and respect your time commitment. You may also visit my website where you'll find concert updates, recordings, class handouts, and more.

<b>Email</b>	lindsey.micheel@mccardinals.org
<b>Phone</b>	517.764.5200
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.singplaymove.weebly.com">www.singplaymove.weebly.com</a>

Thank you for your time. I look forward to making music with your child this year!

Thoughtfully,

Ms. Micheel

# Sixth Grade Band Contract

I have read and understand the above-stated Sixth Grade Band Policy. In signing my name, I agree to uphold the conditions of this contract throughout the 2019-2020 school year. Please keep the policy document for reference and **return the contract by Friday, September 20th. STUDENTS WHO DO NOT RETURN THE CONTRACT WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN BAND.**

Student's Name	
Student's Signature	

Date		
Adult(s) Name(s)		
Adult(s) Signature(s)		
Address(es)		
Daytime Phone Number(s)		
Evening Phone Number(s)		
Email Address(es)		

- Yes, I want to volunteer in the band classroom!
- Yes, I want to volunteer at band concerts!
- Yes, I want to chaperone band field trips!