

Liberty Middle School

Beginner Band

2019-2020

Mrs. Gwen Rakoff and Mrs. Kayla Sims

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description

Beginning Band is designed for the student who has not played a band instrument before. Membership is open to students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades who have the fine motor skills and appropriate level of reading skills to be successful in the band program. Fundamentals of playing a musical instrument and accurate reading of music are stressed. Instruments must be provided by each student. The band director will help choose the instrument for which your child is best suited.

Supply List

Tradition of Excellence, Book 1 (specific to each instrument)
Appropriate instrument cleaning supplies (varies by instrument)
Pencils
Folding stand (recommended)

Classroom Expectations

The students in the Liberty Band program are expected to behave with respect and consideration for fellow band members, parent volunteers, and the band directors. Privately owned and school-owned instruments and equipment will be treated with appropriate care and usage practices. Students of the LMS Band will adhere to the attendance, discipline, and performance expectations outlined in the LMS Band Handbook and the MCS Student Code of Conduct.

Grading Policy

- 60% test grades, 40% daily grades

Opportunities to Make Up Work / Late Work Acceptance

Missed assignments and/or playing tests may be made up by appointment, either before or after school. If a chair-placement test is missed, the grade may be made up, but the student will sit last chair until the next chair test is given. In the case of missed performances, an alternate assignment may be completed only for excused absences. Acceptable excused absences are outlined in the LMS Band Handbook.

LMS Testing Days

Wednesday and Friday	Science and Math
Tuesday and Thursday	Social Studies and Language Arts
Monday and Thursday	Electives

Communication

- a. Mrs. Rakoff's school email: grakoff@madisoncity.k12.al.us
- b. Mrs. Sims' school email: ksims@madisoncity.k12.al.us
- c. CHARMS: Each student will be trained on the uses of CHARMS. Parent information/usage instructions will be given at the Band Booster meeting on Aug. 26.
- d. Google Classroom: Please email Mrs. Sims if you would like to receive email summaries of your child's work in Google Classroom.

Technology

Students may bring Smart devices to band rehearsal. These devices may be used only with permission from the director, and will be utilized mainly for tuning or metronome applications. Any use of a Smart device without permission, or for inappropriate means, will result in the student's loss of usage privileges for the device.

Student and Parent Signature required

Please read the LMS Band Handbook which is available on CHARMS, the Liberty Middle School Band website, and Mrs. Rakoff's and Mrs. Sims' teacher pages on the LMS website. By signing the Signature Page, the student and parent acknowledge understanding and agreement of the policies, procedures, and expectations of the Liberty Middle School Band program.