

# Arcola Jr High Music Student Handbook



**Director:** Christopher Gore

cgore@arcolaschools.com

217- 268-4962

## Objectives

As a musician at Arcola, you are expected to perform to the best of your abilities and work with the fellow musicians to experience and understand music. Our attitudes and each of our performances reflect upon our community and school.

## Expectations

All musicians must be willing to cooperate with others and improve themselves through regular practice. We must have a sense of purpose toward a common goal and be willing to work toward that goal. We need to work hard to achieve individual and group goals. Each student is the determining factor in the success of the band. If you do not know how to do something, ASK!!

1. Respect- self, students, staff, space, equipment
2. Be regular in attendance; account for all absences
3. Be responsible for your actions
4. Make a **sincere** effort to improve and contribute
5. Follow classroom and rehearsal procedures, school regulations and instructions
6. No food, drink or gum! Water only
7. Keep your instrument cubby clean and tidy
8. Bring a pencil every day
9. Be in your seat with your instrument and music out ready to play at 1:28

## School Instruments

If you are currently using or need to use a school instrument, please fill out an instrument rental agreement form.

## Grading

### Band

Activity	Percentage
Performances	30%
Participation	20%
Instrument Cleaning	10%
Playing Evaluations/Projects	20%
In Class Activities	20%

### Chorus

Activity	Percentage
Performances	30%
Participation	20%
Singing Test/Project	25%
In Class Activities	25%

Attendance - Attendance is expected at all performances and at all pre-scheduled rehearsals. An excused absence from a band function will require the same criteria as an excused absence from school: personal illness, death in the family, or family emergency. Excuses for absences and tardiness should be submitted in advance, in writing with a parent's signature. Unexcused absences

from a performance or numerous rehearsals may result in removal from future activities. **Communication is important to avoid a failing grade for a performance.**

Instrument Cleaning- We will have an instrument cleaning inspection once per semester. I will notify you 2 weeks in advance before the inspection takes place. We will go over proper cleaning procedures for each instrument as a class and a how-to form will be sent home.

Playing Evaluations/Projects- Each quarter, we will have at least one playing/singing evaluation or project. First quarter project band is instrument cleaning. First quarter project for chorus is a composition project using solfege.

In Class Activities- Sometimes our theory lessons will require written work. I will always give you time in class to work on these assignments. Once completed and returned, you will have the opportunity to correct your work and turn it back in to earn full credit.

Exam- At the end of each semester, we will have one cumulative exam based on quiz materials and lectures. I will provide a study guide. The content will always be the theory we have learned that semester and translation of Italian symbols and terms.

## **Lessons**

I am available before and after school most days to provide one on one or group lessons. These lessons are free and not graded. I will gladly help you with music, instrument technique or solo repertoire. I will also even help you prepare for playing evaluations! Lessons are 20 minutes once a week and will greatly benefit you and the ensemble. Please check the signup sheet to the left of the board and speak to me one on one to find out more!

One lesson= 2 points extra credit

## **Arcola Band Boosters Association (ABBA)**

The Band Parents organization is a very active group of parents who support the band in countless ways. They raise funds for trips and parties, help with uniforms, organize, chaperone trips, and so much more. We hope that all band parents will become active members of this supportive organization. Encourage your parents to become involved!!!

### **Fundraising**

Band- We have 2 fundraisers each year to purchase new instruments and equipment and to further the success of our program. Your personal fundraising will be put into a personal account to help pay for trips when you are in high school.

Chorus- We have 2 fundraisers each year to help maintain a successful chorus program. Fundraising pays for our accompanist, entry fees to IMEA auditions, and new music.

### **Supplies/Equipment**

If you need new reeds or any other supplies for your instrument call B and J music at 2174431050 by Wednesday of that week. George, our B and J music representative, travels to the school every Friday for repairs and to deliver supplies. Calling the store directly works much better than students telling me and having me relay the information.

### **Resources**

Sign up for text alerts: Send a text to 2172538130 with the message @a6c31

Visit our website for copies of all handouts and information:

<http://www.arcolamusicdept.org>

For music theory help:

<http://www.musictheory.net>

## **Pep Band Schedule 2013-2014**

Jr high students are not required to attend pep band games. Attendance is strongly encouraged for experience and to meet your future classmates. Each game that you attend and play earns you 3 extra credit points.

Monday November 18<sup>th</sup> G

Friday December 6<sup>th</sup> B

Tuesday December 10<sup>th</sup> B

Friday December 13<sup>th</sup> B

Monday January 6<sup>th</sup> G

Tuesday January 14<sup>th</sup> B

Tuesday January 21<sup>st</sup> B

Friday January 24<sup>th</sup> B

Monday January 27<sup>th</sup> G

Tuesday February 4<sup>th</sup> G

Friday February 7<sup>th</sup> B

Friday February 14<sup>th</sup> B

Tuesday February 18<sup>th</sup> B

Friday February 21<sup>st</sup> B

## **Band Dates 2013**

October 14 <sup>th</sup>	IMEA Auditions @ Effingham HS
November 7 <sup>th</sup>	Jr High Band Festival
November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	IMEA District Festival- EIU
December 7 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Parade- Jr high band
December 8 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Concert-2:00pm band 3.30pm chorus

## **2014**

February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Band Dinner Concert-Dinner 6:00pm, Concert at 6:30
March 8 <sup>th</sup>	Solo and Ensemble @ Arcola
May 8 <sup>th</sup>	Band and Chorus Concert- Chorus 6:00pm, Band 7:00pm
May ?	Band and Chorus Awards Night 7:30pm

## **Chorus Dates 2013**

October 19 <sup>th</sup>	Fall Chorus Concert 6:30 pm
October 14 <sup>th</sup>	IMEA Auditions @ Effingham HS
November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	IMEA District Festival
December 8 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Concert-2:00pm band 3.30pm chorus

## **2014**

February 8 <sup>th</sup>	Choral Concert 6:00pm
March 8 <sup>th</sup>	Solo and Ensemble @ Arcola 10am
May 8 <sup>th</sup>	Band and Chorus Concert- Chorus 6:00pm, Band 7:00pm
May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion
May ?	Band and Chorus Awards Night 7:30pm