

**Lava Ridge
Intermediate School
Band Handbook
2016-2017**

Director: Nathan McGary
Work Phone: (435) 652-4742
Cell Phone: (435) 231-4569
Email: nate.mcgary@washk12.org
Website: <http://irisbands.weebly.com>

Mr. McGary's Class Schedule

Period	Time	Class
Before School	7:00 am – 7:45 am	Prep/Available in Office
1st Period	7:45 am – 8:38 am	Prep/Available in Office
2nd Period	8:41 am – 9:31 am	Intermediate Band
3rd Period	9:34 am – 10:54 am	Beg Band/FLEX Time
4th Period	10:57 am – 11:47 am	Beginning Band
Lunch	11:47 am – 12:12 pm	2nd Lunch
5th Period	12:15 pm – 1:05 pm	Beginning Band
6th Period	1:08 pm – 2:00 pm	Beginning Percussion
After School	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Prep/Available in Office

Website Information

The LRIS Bands website is a work in progress, and has or hopes to contain the following:

- Information for parents and students on each class
- Links for class documents (i.e. this handbook, practice forms, etc.)
- Pictures and video of past concerts, trips, etc.
- Forms to submit comments, questions, etc.
- Calendars of upcoming events
- And more!



Lava Ridge Intermediate School Band Handbook 2016-2017



Mission

The mission of the Lava Ridge Intermediate School band program is to provide a unique and enjoyable educational experience through learning, understanding, and performing music in a concert band setting.

Philosophy

Unlike most other classes, band is dependent upon all of its members! When students miss or refuse to participate, it does not only affect them – it affects the entire band! We can only have success and enjoyment through the participation and support of everyone.

Course Outline

Because this class focuses on performance as the primary method of evaluation, each trimester will consist of preparation for these performances. Following are the main performances*, which will be counted as part of the students' grades:

- 1st Trimester – Fall Performance – Oct 20, 2016 during class, Band RM
- 2nd Trimester – Christmas Concert – Dec 1, 2016 @ 7 pm, LRIS Gym
 - Fine Arts Assembly (Int Band Only) – Dec 16, LRIS Gym
- 3rd Trimester – SUPAF Performance – Feb 22?, 2017 @ TBA, DHHS?
 - Spring Concert – May 2, 2017 @ 7 pm, LRIS Gym

This class will also discuss music history, culture, and theory, as all are vital to preparing for performance, as well as being part of the State Core Music objectives.

**Performance dates are subject to change, and other performances may be added.*

Grading

There are two types of grades given each trimester – **Academic Grade** (A, B, C, or NP) & **Effort Grade** (A, B, C, or U).

The Academic Grade reflects how proficient your student is on their instrumental skills, music reading knowledge and evaluation skills. The grade is based on the following:

Playing Tests	100 pts ->	2 worth 50 points each
Written Tests/Quizzes	50 pts ->	2 worth 25 points each
Assignments	50 pts ->	Total of various assignments
Practice Checks	50 pts ->	4 - 10 pts each + 10 pts complete
Performance Etiquette	50 pts ->	50 pts for proper perf etiquette
Total		300 pts / each trimester

1. Playing Tests – Two playing tests will be required each trimester, one by midterm, the other at the end of the trimester. We will be using SmartMusic and/or Google Classroom with video recording for these. Details for each playing test will be given at the beginning of each trimester. Students can usually complete the playing tests at their leisure before the due dates.
2. Written Tests/Quizzes – Two written tests or quizzes will be given each trimester. These will be given in class, and will test theory and/or history and culture discussed in class.
3. Assignments – A few small assignments will be given throughout the quarter. These could include worksheets, listening assignments, etc. Due dates will be given with each assignment.
4. Practice Checks – Using SmartMusic, students will submit 4 Practice Checks each trimester as part of their practice report. These will test certain skills learned in the method book, Sound Innovations. Students must pass these with 90% accuracy to receive 10 points. Scores between 75-89% will receive 8 points, 50-74% receive 5 points, and scores below 50% receive 0 points. Finally, 10 additional points are awarded for completing all 4 checks, regardless of the score.
5. Performance Etiquette – During band performances, students are expected to show proper performance etiquette (behavior). Students who are prepared with instruments & music, dressed appropriately, and are quiet both in the audience and on stage will earn 50 points. Student leaders will help monitor behavior.

The Effort Grade reflects the level of effort and accountability your student shows in class and in home practice on their instrument. The grade is based on the following:

Participation	100 pts ->	Avg of 2 points per day
Practice	100 pts ->	4 reports worth 25 pts each
Performance Attendance	50 pts ->	50 pts for Perf attendance
Total		250 pts / each trimester



1. Participation – Students will start with 100 points for the trimester. They will keep these points by coming to class, on time, prepared with music, books, instrument (This includes supplies – i.e. reeds, oil, etc.), and pencil, and for participating during class. Students who come to class unprepared and/or do not participate will lose 2 points per day and will

be assigned a disruption sheet and/or other assignment to complete. Excused absences will not result in a loss of participation points unless the amount of absences becomes excessive. Unexcused absences WILL result in a loss of participation points.

2. Practice – Practicing is probably the most important part of band! Students will be required to turn in 4 practice reports per trimester, each worth 25 points. Two will be required by mid-term, two more by the end of the trimester. The reports will contain information about repetition and completion of method book assignments, scales, and other assigned skills and technique studies. These will be done through SmartMusic and Google Classroom.
3. Performance Attendance – Attendance at required band performances is mandatory! Students who are on time and stay for the required time will earn 50 points.

Grading Scale:

	<u>Academic Grade</u>	<u>Effort Grade</u>
100% - 93%	= A	Substantial Mastery
92% - 90%	= A-	
89% - 87%	= B+	
86% - 83%	= B	Proficient
82% - 80%	= B-	
79% - 77%	= C+	
76% - 73%	= C	Basic Proficiency
72% - 70%	= C-	
69% & below	= NP/U Standards Not Met	Does not meet expectations (Parent meeting required)

Music Software

Smartmusic is computer software that can accompany and assess what is being performed. In order to use this, students will need to know and provide an email address and password. These should be confidential but easy to remember! I would suggest using their school email for ease of remembering. This information will not be given to anyone and is only used for gaining access to the program and emailing results of the tests and class information.

Google Classroom is a web-based google application that will be used for a variety of things including theory instruction, tests, and other assignments. Students will use their Gmail account to access this. Assignments can be completed at home, if there is internet access available, or using the Chromebooks and computers at school.



Instruments, Music, & Lockers

Each student must have their own instrument. Area music stores in St. George have instruments available for rent and/or purchase. School instruments, except alto saxophones & percussion kits, are available to use for those who need them for a rental fee of \$75 for the year. If you are unable to pay the rental fee, please talk to Mr. McGary. No 6th grade student will be denied the use of a school instrument. However, please plan on renting or buying your instrument from a local store or using one you already own. There are a limited number of school instruments and they need to be available for those who cannot get their own.

Each student also needs the appropriate supplies for their instrument. Below is listed what is needed for each instrument:

Flute – Cleaning rod and cloth.

Oboe and Bassoon – At least one reed, because of expense, but it is recommended to have a spare.

Clarinet and Saxophone – At least two reeds (four or more is recommended) at all times, cleaning cloth, cork grease.

Brass (Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba) – At least one bottle of valve oil (slide oil/cream for trombones) and tuning slide grease.

Percussion – Percussion kit consisting of sticks, mallets, practice pad, & bells. (Local music stores have these available.)

All of these supplies may be purchased at any local music store.

Note: All instruments whether your own or the school's must be taken care of properly. If a student is unsure of how to maintain their instrument, they should see Mr. McGary immediately. The rental fee for school instruments covers normal wear and maintenance only! **Any damage caused to the instrument, accident or not, is the responsibility of the student to whom the instrument is checked out at that time!**

All music and folders handed out are the property of the school. Each copy of music and each folder will cost \$2.00 to replace. Please take care of these! The music and folder should be stored either in the instrument locker, or in the student's backpack while not in use. If a student loses music or their folder, it must be replaced and paid for before the end of the trimester in which it was lost. Failure to do so will result in a drop of an entire effort grade (i.e. from "A" to "B").

Students should store their instruments in the lockers/bins when not in use. If a lock is desired, use a combination lock only! The student must provide the lock if

they desire to have one. The school will not provide locks for band lockers. Instruments are NOT to be left out in the band room. Keep them in the instrument locker when not in use. **Important: The school and/or band program IS NOT liable for lost or stolen instruments. It is the responsibility of the student to know where their personal instrument is AT ALL TIMES!**

Concert Attire

For each performance, every student will wear the white Lava Ridge Band shirt, with black or dark pants and dress shoes. No shorts or flip flops! The LRI Band shirts cost \$10. If you are unable to purchase a shirt, you may use a plain, white, collared shirt instead.

Classroom Rules

1. No food, gum or drink in the classroom, except on occasions approved by Mr. McGary. Water in a bottle is okay.
2. Students should show respect to each other and to the teacher.
3. Cell phones, ipods, or any similar electronic devices are **not allowed** in the classroom. If they are seen, whether being used or not, they will be taken – no questions asked!

Discipline

Rules and procedures will be given in class during the first few weeks. Failure to comply with these will result in the following actions:

1st offense – Warning from Mr. McGary

2nd offense – Conference with Mr. McGary and call home to parents

3rd offense – Sent to Principal and conference with parents

Make-up Work & Extra Credit

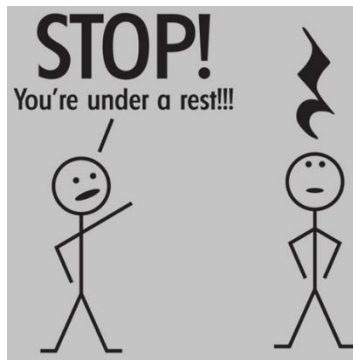
If a student misses class for a school activity or is excused by a parent, participation points will not be taken away. If, however, a student misses a concert, assignment, or playing test – and it has been cleared by Mr. McGary – they must make it up before the end of the trimester! There are make-up assignments available for excused concert absences.

Extra Credit assignments will be discussed at the beginning of the year. A student can only make up one full grade (i.e. from a “B” to an “A”) with extra credit.

Gecko Musicianship Program & Parental Involvement

The LRIS Gecko Musicianship Program is a reward program available for students who go above and beyond the normal curriculum of the class. There are three areas of requirements: A) Scales & Fundamentals, B) Participation, and C) Song Pass-offs. Depending on how much a student completes, they can earn a Bronze, Silver, or Gold Musicianship Level. If interested, see Mr. McGary or go to the band website for a list of requirements.

With any music program, there is always a need for Parent help and support. Throughout the year, parent help will be needed for things like chaperoning, concert ushering, and possibly fundraising, amongst other things. If you are able to help, please contact Mr. McGary, or fill out the "Parent Volunteer" form on the band website (see pg. 1 for contact and website info).



Music Calendar 2016-2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Place/Time</u>
October 20	Fall Performance	Band Room/During Class Time
December 1	Winter Concert	LRIS Gym/7 pm
December 6	SC Conesite Concert (Int Band)	SCHS Aud/6 pm?
December 16	Fine Arts Assembly (Int Band)	LRIS Gym/1 pm
January ?	Elementary Schools Tour (Int Band)	Elem Schools/TBA
February 22?	SUPAF Performance	DHHS?/TBA
April 25	Solo & Ens Concert (Select students)	LRIS Little Th/7 pm
May 2	Spring Concert	LRIS Gym/7pm

We may add other performances or activities. If we do, I will announce it in class, as well as send home a note and post it on our website and ask for feedback from parents before we decide to do it. Once a performance is added, the same rules and grading policies apply to it as do to our other performances.

**Dates and times are subject to change so listen for announcements given in class.*