

Lava Ridge Intermediate



Band Handbook 2023-2024

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

Mr. McGary's Class Schedule: Monday-Thursday

Period	Time	Class
Before School	7:00 am – 7:40 am	Prep/Available in Office
Advisory	7:40 am – 8:21 am	Advisory
1 st Period	8:24 am – 9:12 am	Beginning Band
2 nd Period	9:15 am – 10:03 am	Beginning Band
3 rd Period	10:06 am – 10:54 am	Prep/Available in Office
LUNCH	10:57 am – 11:22 am	1 st Lunch
4 th Period	11:25 am – 12:13 pm	Beginning Band
5 th Period	12:16 pm – 1:04 pm	Beg Percussion
6 th Period	1:07 pm – 1:55 pm	Intermediate Band
Advisory	1:58 pm – 2:00 pm	Advisory (Clean up)
After School	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Prep/Available in Office

Mr. McGary's Class Schedule: Friday

Period	Time	Class
Before School	7:00 am – 7:40 am	Prep/Available in Office
Advisory	7:40 am – 8:16 am	Advisory
1 st Period	8:19 am – 8:41 am	Beginning Band
2 nd Period	8:44 am – 9:06 am	Beginning Band
3 rd Period	9:09 am – 9:31 am	Prep/Available in Office
4 th Period	9:34 am – 9:56 am	Intermediate Band
5 th Period	9:59 am – 10:21 am	Beginning Band
6 th Period	10:24 am – 10:46 am	Intermediate Band
Lunch	10:49 pm – 11:14 pm	2 nd Lunch
Advisory	11:17 am – 11:20 am	Advisory (Clean up)
After School	12:00 pm – 3:00 pm	District/School PLC

Lava Ridge Intermediate School Band Handbook 2023-2024



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 many classes, Band is dependent upon all of its members! When students miss or refuse to participate, it does not only hurt them – it affects the entire band! Success and fun come through the participation and help of everyone.

Course Outline

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

- 1st Quarter – Fall Performance – Oct 10, 2023, during class, Band RM
- 2nd Quarter – Winter Concerts
 - Beginning Band/Perc - Dec 5, 2023 @ 6:30 pm, Gym
 - Intermediate Band - Dec 6, 2023 @ 6:00 pm, SCHS Auditorium
- 3rd Quarter – SUPAF – March 4-8, 2023 @ TBA, TBA
- 4th Quarter – Spring Concerts – May 7, 2022 @ 6:30&7:30 pm, LRIS Gym

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

Grading

The Band Grade reflects how proficient the student is on their instrumental skills, music reading knowledge, and evaluation skills. It also measures the level of effort and accountability the 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 ->	Two Levels, 50 points each
Playing Tests	25 pts ->	1 worth 25 points
Theory Quizzes	25 pts ->	1 worth 25 points
Assignments	50 pts ->	Total of various assignments
Performances	100 pts->	Attending all required perf.
Total		400 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, instruments (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 theory worksheet 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 practice at home in order to retain what we are learning in class. Each quarter, students will need to complete and submit at least two levels in the Gila Musician Level program, one by midterm and one more by the end of the quarter. How much time is spent practicing at home to accomplish this will depend on the student.
3. Playing Tests – One playing test will be required each quarter to test the playing skills taught to that point. Students will be expected to prepare for these tests and show proficiency on their instrument at the skill level required. These tests can be re-taken until a passing score is achieved, if needed.
4. Theory Quizzes – One theory quiz will be given each quarter. These will be given in class, and will test theory and/or history and culture discussed in class.
5. 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.
6. Performances – Performances in Band are like our Final Exam! Therefore, it is extremely important that ALL students are prepared for, and participate in each required performance! For band performances, students are expected to arrive on time, show proper performance etiquette (behavior), and do their best. Students who are on time, prepared with instruments & music, dressed appropriately, and are quiet both in the audience and on stage will earn full points. Missing a performance without prior authorization from Mr. McGary will result in a 0 for this assignment! If a performance absence has been excused by Mr. McGary, there will be a make-up assignment given to recover the points.



Grading Scale:

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

Music Software

[Essential Elements Interactive](#) is an online resource that accompanies the method book we are using. Students will be able to practice with accompaniment, record themselves, and do many other things, all for free, as long as they have their own book!

[HabitsUniversal.com](#) is a website with many resources to help students learn to play their instrument. It includes, among other things, play-along tracks, coaching videos, downloadable fingering charts & exercises, and even access to a digital version of the student's method book. This is freely available with no login required.

[Flip](#) is an online site that allows students to video record themselves. We will be using this to record pass-offs, levels, and other assignments.

[Schoology](#) is a web-based Learning Management System that the entire district is using for school assignments. Various tests, assignments, quizzes, links, and other important information will be posted here throughout the school year. Students should check schoology regularly for updates. Students will be able to access ALL information for this class through Schoology, including links to other websites that are used.

[Google Classroom](#) is an online Learning Management System that will be used for some assignments, mostly quizzes and forms. Students will automatically have access to this site through their school email account.

[Ningenius](#) is a fun, engaging way for students to learn music notation, instrument fingerings, etc. through an interactive, gaming platform. Students will need to create an account to access this site. Parent permission is given through the band "Technology Use" agreement.



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, are available to use for those who need them for a rental fee of \$95 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.

Note: Please purchase good quality instruments. The old adage, "You get what you pay for," is definitely true here! Cheap instruments don't play as well, have more mechanical issues, and usually end up costing more in the end. See the list of [recommended brands](#) on the band website for more information.

Each student is **required** to have 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 \$6. If you are unable to purchase a shirt, you may use a plain, black, t-shirt instead.

Classroom Rules

1. Students should show respect to each other and to the teacher.
2. No food, gum or drink in the classroom, except on occasions approved by Mr. McGary. Water in a bottle is okay.
3. Cell phones, or any electronic devices, are not allowed unless permission is given by Mr. McGary. Failure to comply will result in device and/or privilege being taken away.

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 – Reminder of rules.
- 2nd offense – Redirection, warning from Mr. McGary.
- 3rd offense -- Relocation to another seat/spot in the room.
- 4th offense – Reflection of offense: Think Sheet required, Parents contacted.

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 quarter! 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.

LRIS Musicianship Program & Parental Involvement

The LRIS 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).

Website Information

The LRIS Bands website is a valuable resource and has, or hopes to contain, the following:

- **Information for parents and students on each class**
- **Links for class documents**
- **Pictures and video of past concerts, trips, etc.**
- **Lots of helpful videos and links for learning to play an instrument, and read music!**
- **Calendar of Performances**

And more!

BAND PERFORMANCES - 2023-2024*

<i><u>DATE</u></i>	<i><u>PERFORMANCE</u></i>	<i><u>GROUP</u></i>	<i><u>PLACE/TIME</u></i>
October 10 Class Time	Fall Performance	All Bands	Band Rm/During
December 5	Winter Concert	Beg Band	LRIS Gym/6:30 pm
December 6	SC Conesite Concert	Int Band	SCHS Aud/6 pm
<i>December 15</i>	<i>Fine Arts Assembly</i>	<i>Int Band</i>	<i>LRIS Gym/1 pm</i>
March 4-8 (one day)	Festival Performance	All Bands	TBA/TBA
<i>April 30</i>	<i>Solo & Ens Concert</i>	<i>Select Students</i>	<i>LRIS Little Th/7 pm</i>
May 7 pm	Spring Concerts	All Bands	LRIS Gym/6:30 & 7:30

***IMPORTANT!** - Performances in **Bold** are required for all band students. Dates and Times are subject to change. Please check the band website for the most current schedule. Emails will also be sent out if/when changes are made