

# Mauro-Sheridan School Bands

Our recent awards and honors:

2018 Awarded "Best Middle School Band" for the Greater New Haven St.Patrick's Day Parade

2018 Awarded the "VH1 Follow Up Grant"

2018 Earned "2nd place" in the Music in the Parks Band Competition at Six Flags, New England for the 2nd year in a row.

2018 First year of participation in Southern Regionals

## 2018-2019 Band/Strings Handbook & Event Calendar

191 Fountain Street  
New Haven, CT  
06515

# Welcome to MASH MUSIC

To all band and strings students and parents,

I am pleased to start a brand new year at Mauro-Sheridan this year. Please read the entire handbook for details regarding instruments, performances, lessons and music events.  
**Sign and return the back 3 pages no later than September 14th.**  
The MASH instrumental program will feature 4th-8th grade band and string students. I am meeting with all 5th and returning 6th grade students individually in September to give each child an opportunity to try out the different instruments offered in beginning band. These are: flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, trumpet, trombone and percussion (which includes a bell set and drum pad). School instruments are first come first serve! By the end of the month everyone should have chosen an instrument to play in band!

Our performance routine will be the same as last year. Please make arrangements NOW to have students return at 6:15PM dressed, and fed on their performance day. **Students** are not able to stay after school on the day of the concert. **Concert dates will be announced shortly.**

## **For New Parents:**

**BAND MEET AND GREET NIGHT: Mandatory for 5th and 6th grade new parents\*\***  
5th and new 6th grade band and strings parents MUST attend the 4th annual band meet and greet night coming up on September 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30PM. I will briefly introduce myself and give an overview of my vision for the program to all parents and students. At 6:00 JC, from JC music store will speak to you about their instrument rental. Students will be able to try an instrument and rent from them that night. They will have band and string instruments. This is for all returning parents and **REQUIRED** of all new 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> grade band parents. Details inside this packet.

This is my chance to meet you in person! It's always easier during the year if I've had the chance to meet you all.

**Please Sign and return the Last 3 pages by September 14th\*\* School instruments are first come first served. When your child pays \$35 in they will get their instrument. Read on for more info regarding rentals.**

Get information on our MASH band and strings website is [www.Mash-band.weebly.com](http://www.Mash-band.weebly.com).

Sincerely,

Nick Drabik, Band Director    nick.drabik@new-haven.k12.ct.us

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# Instrument Rental

## Renting from school vs. Renting from a music store

Renting a school instrument: \$35 for the year! **First come first served.**  
But.....

This year ALL of our funding for repairs were cut. Normally the school pays for repairs.  
Until we can establish and obtain adequate funding for school instrument repairs it is up to you as the student to cover any repairs.

What this means for you:

- You are required to pay any instrument repairs.
- A repair job for an instrument is usually anywhere from \$30-60. This may happen at least once during the year.
- My instrument broke now what?
  - -A representative from JC music will come every Friday to collect instruments for repair. He will send me the bill, which I will forward to the parent to pay. You will not have to drive it anywhere or pick it up. When the instrument is repaired, they will deliver it back to the school.
- Can I pay the repair bill in payments?  
-YES, as long as you are able to pay it by June 5th.

Renting from a music store:

Depending on what instrument you get, you are looking at about \$25-100 a month for 10 month payments depending on the instrument you get.

The benefit:

- Better quality instrument.
- Repairs are included in your monthly payment. No extra fees.
- Option to rent to own. After 10 months the instrument can be yours to keep.
- Quick repairs. A representative from JC music will come every Friday to collect instruments for repair. He will deliver them back to school at no extra cost to you and will even give you a loaner instrument for the time being.

In my opinion, this is the best option. You are getting better support with the instrument. If the instrument breaks, it can get repaired quickly and at no extra cost to you. Plus you can own it after the 10 month period.

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# INSTRUMENTS TO RENT & FAQ's

## Band:

Flute  
Clarinet  
Alto Saxophone  
Trumpet  
Trombone

## Band Specialty Instruments:

Bassoon (Rent from JC Music) (1 slot available)  
Bass Clarinet (Rent from JC Music) (1 slot available)  
French Horn (Rent from JC Music) (4 Slots available)  
Tuba (Rent from JC Music) (2 Slots available)  
Oboe (Rent from JC Music) (2 Slots available)

## Strings:

Violin ( $\frac{3}{4}$  size)  
Viola ( $\frac{3}{4}$  size)  
Cello ( $\frac{3}{4}$  size)  
Bass ( $\frac{1}{2}$  size)

Some FAQ's:

### **Ok, I'm renting from school, so what exactly is my \$35 rental fee covering?**

-Repairs fund. Even though you are required to pay for repairs, we still need to have all of the instruments cleaned and serviced over the summer. That costs anywhere between \$800-1000 ALONE.

-Instrument purchase fund. Ideally, we would like to supply ALL of our band students with instruments to make playing an instrument affordable.

- Extra supplies, Music and money towards busses.

### **I can't afford to rent from school or from a music company, can I still be in band? Will I still get an instrument?**

-Yes, we will never turn anyone away from being in band regardless of their financial situation. Come talk to Mr. Drabik we can work something out.

### **I want to rent a school instrument how can I pay?**

-Cash, Paypal Mr. Drabik at [nick.drabik@gmail.com](mailto:nick.drabik@gmail.com), or you can also come in to school and pay credit card. Remember, First come first serve. If paying cash, attach in an envelope.

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# Fundraisers

Our music department has been given a fantastic opportunity to fundraise at both of our Election day events at our school. Mrs. Ortiz and myself recognize this as a chance to help fundraise for Six Flags, other trips, and supplies for our growing department. We are approved to sell baked goods and beverages. We are asking for all help from everyone to make this a huge success. With budget cuts this year, our department has suffered from these cuts. As many of you know, it takes a village.

**The first event** -MASH Holiday Wreath Fundraiser! We are getting started early on!

**The second event** will be November election day from 6AM to 6PM at Mauro-Sheridan. THIS WILL HAVE TO BE A PARENT LED FUNDRAISER AT SCHOOL!

We are looking for parents to donate and volunteer in shifts, especially on NOVEMBER 7th. Contact Mr. Drabik: [nick.drabik@new-haven.k12.ct.us](mailto:nick.drabik@new-haven.k12.ct.us)

**The third event-** MASH Music Tshirt campaign

**Ways to help:**

1. Donate:

Beverages: Coffee, Water, Soda, Juice, Milk

Food: Bags of Candy, Baked Goods, Crafts, Popcorn, Anything edible,

Utensils and Tools: Aluminum Foil, Grill? Giant coffee makers?

Condiments: Ketchup, Mustard, Relish

2. Volunteer: Hourly shifts as a Cashier, serve customers, work the coffee station

3. Draw signs for the MASH music department to put up for people to see.

4. Call local bakeries, food stores, ask for donations. (Email or text Mr. Drabik first)

5. Create signs to post around town to post advertising to come vote and support Mauro-Sheridan Music

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# Private Lessons

This year, we have many ways to get private instruction to students. Below are the following opportunities:

1. Yale Grad Student One to One private lessons: Free 30 min. on instrument. Yale students come to our school and teach your children for free in the morning.
1. Neighborhood Music: <https://nmsnewhaven.org/lce/>

100 Audubon Street, New Haven, CT 06510 (I-91, Exit 3)  
Phone: 203-624-5189

1. Family Music in Hamden, CT: 30 min. lessons at a low cost!

1396 Dixwell Ave, Hamden, CT 06514  
Hours: 9AM–7PM  
Phone: (203) 288-5647

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# Connecticut Southern Regionals

## Southern Regionals:

This year we are encouraging as many students as possible to audition for Southern Regionals Music Festival. In many ways it provides a musical experience for students similar to joining All-City Honors band/orchestra or Morse Academy. The difference is, students are auditioning to perform with the best Middle School students in the Southern part of CT, not just New Haven. Students who practice this material and make it past auditions, are selected to work and perform in the **Southern Regional Band or Orchestra** with a nationally renowned conductor. This experience is where it all begins for many future musicians.

Students will have until December to prepare scales, and music. We will provide transportation to and from these events and Mr. Drabik will travel with the students to ensure a smooth and easy experience. This participation looks great for high schools when selecting students from New Haven, and even better for colleges.

**Stay tuned for more information!!**

Southern Regionals:

**Adjudication Dates:**  
December 1, 2018

**Festival Dates:**  
March 1 & 2, 2019  
SNOW DATE March 8 & 9, 2019

**Adjudication Location:**  
Fair Haven School  
164 Grand Ave.  
New Haven, CT 06513

**Festival Location:**  
Haddam Killingworth Middle School  
451 CT-81  
Killingworth, CT 06519

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# Yale All City Honors

**All City-Honors- NO COST TO PARTICIPATE!** Visit : <https://music.yale.edu/community/music-in-schools/all-city-2/>

Would you like to get your child on Yale's radar for college? Would you like your child to excel in the music program at Mauro-Sheridan? Sign them up to participate in Yale's All- City Honors Band and Strings when the sign up sheet comes around at the end of September. The Band rehearses once a week from 6-8 PM at Wilbur Cross High School. Strings will meet at another location TBD soon. Auditions will start in Early October and Rehearsals will start shortly thereafter.

The ensembles perform four times throughout the year at Yale's Sprague Concert Hall! Stay tuned for more information. The students start in October and end in May.

**\*\*We cannot emphasize enough the impact these ensembles will have on your child's growth. It gives students the opportunity to create lasting relationships with students across the district and make great music early on. We find that these students take these memorable and satisfying learning experiences back to MASH band class the next day as leaders who raise the bar for other students at our school. They want that continued success.**



# February Break & Spring Break Music Festival

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**EXTRA CREDIT!!! FREE TEST GRADE!!!** The February Break & Spring Break Festival is open to all music students in **4th-8th grades** who play **brass, woodwind, percussion and string instruments** at any New Haven Public School. **Participation in the Festival is free;** families must arrange their own transportation and snacks.



At the end of each festival, students perform for parents and are rewarded with a pizza party!

(\*\*\*These are dates and times from last year. Expect them to be around the same time. We will send home more information as time gets closer)

The February break Festival takes place during NHPS Winter Break: **Monday, February 19th through Friday, February 23rd, 2018, from 9:30am-12:00pm at Lincoln Bassett School** 130 Bassett St, New Haven, CT 06511

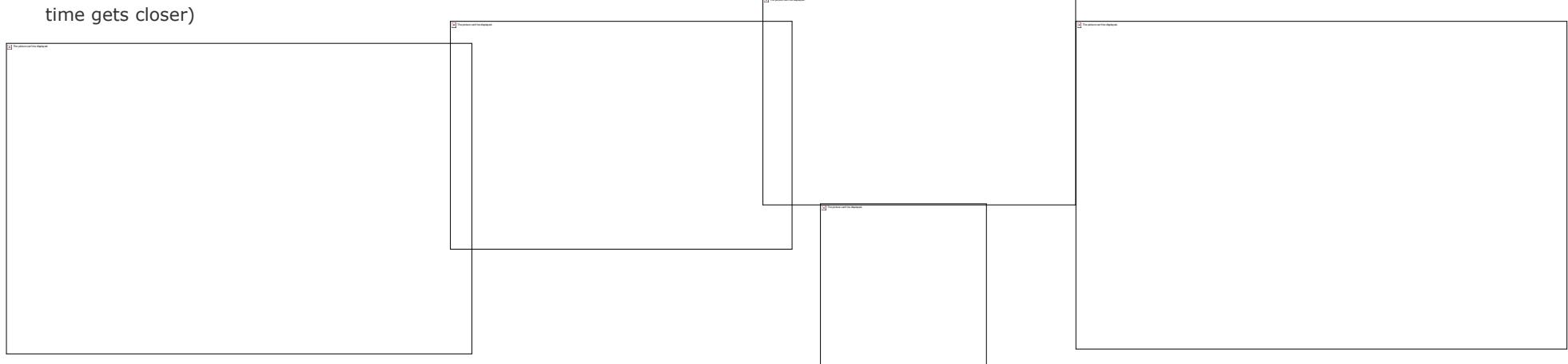
The Spring break Festival takes place during NHPS Spring Break: **Monday, April 16th through Friday, 20th, 2018, from 9:30am-12:00pm at Lincoln Bassett School** 130 Bassett St, New Haven, CT 06511

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# Yale Summer Morse Academy

**The Morse Summer Music Academy** is open to all New Haven Public School students entering **4th-12th grades**. The program is available for **woodwind, brass, string, percussion, and choir students**. Applicants for the Academy must exhibit musical accomplishment, enthusiasm, and work habits conducive to an intensive music instruction program, including at least a "B" average on their NHPS report card, full participation in their school's music program (if available), and teacher approval. Interested students meeting these criteria may apply below.

After applying, all students interested in attending the Morse Academy must audition, and must be accompanied by a parent or guardian for a parent/guardian meeting. **Auditions** and parent/guardian meetings will be held at Wilbur Cross High School (181 Mitchell Dr, New Haven, CT 06511) on **Saturday, April 2nd and Saturday, April 9th**, from **8:30am-12:30pm**. [All-City Honors students will be excused from rehearsals for the length of their Morse audition slot.] Please arrive 20 minutes before your audition time to sign in. (\*\*These are dates and times from last year. Expect them to be around the same time. We will send home more information as time gets closer)



# The Basics

## Fundamentals And Practicing

Music educators have established that the best way to fix performance issues is learning to listen. Research suggests that listening to a model and utilizing self-evaluation techniques improve tone, melodic accuracy, rhythm, interpretation, and overall performance. After demonstrating the correct sound, the students will be given the tools to create that sound: posture and body position, breathing, embouchure, tone production, and tone quality.

“Perhaps the most important single focus of teachers of instrumental music students should be the development of a good characteristic tone in both the individual’s instrument and the ensemble as a whole” (Ramsey, 2004). Tone quality must include the basic fundamentals of embouchure, breath support, instrument brand and condition, mouthpiece and posture. Furthermore, the student must individually produce a tone quality that is beautiful to hear, and develop what it feels like to play in tune with their neighbors.

It is my goal to help students realize this tone, learn all the fundamentals of its production and develop listening concepts of ensemble balance, blend and intonation.

All MASH students will be taught to emulate the best musicians by learning to “lose their individual playing identity” by integrating it within the overall band sound. With this lies true success as a musician.

Further, each student is required to complete individual and group playing assignments at home on a daily basis. This practicing is band homework, is required, and is 30% of a student’s grade. Without individual practice, a student will never achieve their goals, or find success. It is encouraged for parents to urge their child to practice their band homework for twenty minutes a night along with their other school subjects. Many of the short pieces in the book are recognizable pieces of music from our adolescence. A great way to discover if your child has “done their band homework” is to ask them to play a new piece they have been working on. For many students, practicing is enjoyable and can be used to help the brain reset between other subjects. Have them plan 20 minutes of math, 10 of band, 20 of English, 10 of band, et cetera .

## Band Lockers

Lockers are available for student use and are located in the instrument locker room. Lockers are for daily instrument storage only. Food, drink, and personal items are not permitted in lockers at any time. Cases should always remain closed and latched. Some students will be required to share lockers. These lockers are for storage of instruments during the day only.

## Instrument Care

Students are expected to store their instrument between 9 and 9:30 am, and should pick them up between 3:15 and 3:45 pm.

All instruments MUST go home daily. **MASH does not carry insurance and is NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ITEMS SUCH AS:**

**Instruments, clothing, phones, money that are lost, stolen, or damaged in the band room or**

**HOME.** Items that are left out in the band room are at risk to be taken. You must cover the cost of the instrument if it is lost, damaged or stolen.

# Equipment Basics

## Instruments PLEASE READ!!!

Your child's success significantly depends on the quality of their beginning instrument. Not all beginning instruments are made the same, and there are significant differences between brands and models. Reputable music stores can offer a quality instrument with a service agreement and a rent-to-own program. This will enable you to build credit towards an intermediate (step-up) instrument purchase that will allow the student to succeed through high school.

### **PLEASE CONTACT ME BEFORE BUYING ANYTHING!**

I strongly discourage parents from purchasing an instrument for a beginner. You do not know if your child will want to continue with music, and it is too soon to make that investment. **If you insist, do not purchase an instrument from Wal-mart, Target, Sam's Club or similar store. These instruments are JUNK.** They will not play well, and will not last the school year, no matter how well your child cares for them. MASH stocks very few instruments for student use.

### **Reeds:**

On a woodwind instrument, the reed vibrates to create the sound. **If your child plays clarinet, saxophone, oboe or bassoon, they must have at least two reeds at all times.**

Reeds can be obtained at a local music store by the box, or through Mr. Drabik at \$3 for clarinet and alto sax, \$4 for bass clarinet and tenor sax, \$7 for bari. sax, and \$10 for oboe and bassoon.

- Vandoren: 2.5 strength for 4-8<sup>th</sup> grade, 3 for others • Mitchell Loree - same strengths as Vandoren• Vito: AVOID the orange box! • Oboe - Jones, Lesher, or Fox (MH) • Bassoon - Jones, Lesher or Fox (MH)

For any family with a financial hardship, MASH does keep a small inventory of all instruments. Flutes, clarinets, alto saxophones, trumpets, trombones and percussion bell kits can easily be obtained at a local music store. Students playing more expensive instruments (oboe, bassoon, tenor sax, horn, euphonium, and tuba) will rent these instruments through the school for a \$35 per school year rental fee. Returning band students have been given priority on a first come first serve. Others will have to rent locally. Contact Mr. D for help financially if need be. In addition to the instrument, Percussionists are required to build a mallet bag over their years in the program. The school does not have insurance or a service agreement for their instruments. Students and parents sign a rental agreement, stating that they will be responsible for returning the instrument in the same condition as it was received. Absolutely no student will be kept from participating in band due to financial hardship.

**Required Instrument Care Supplies**  
purchase at a local music store or through MASH Band Boosters

Flute Cleaning rod & pull-through swab, music stand\*

Oboe/Bassoon Silk pull-through swab, cork grease, music stand\*

Clarinet Pull-through swab, cork grease, music stand\*

Saxophone Pull through neck swab, cork grease, music stand\*

Trumpet/Euphonium/Tuba Valve oil, slide grease, valve brush, music stand\*

French Horn Valve oil, slide grease, music stand\*

Trombone Tuning slide grease, Trombone slide cream (or slide oil), small spray bottle, music stand\*

4th/5th grade Percussion Beginning: 5b wood tip concert snare sticks, birch handled plastic head mallets, small stick bag

**Returning Percussion:** Above plus general timpani mallets, birch handled yarn wound mallets, birch handled medium rubber head mallets, set of three triangle beaters

\*A music stand and metronome are optional, but highly recommended.

# Upgrading Instruments

## Instrument Quality

A beginning student should play on a beginning level instrument while they are learning how to play and care for it. After the first year, the instrument will hinder them from reaching their full playing potential, causing frustration and struggle in their efforts. At this time, it is best for the student to "step-up" to

an intermediate level instrument that will be suitable through high school. This is the point a family makes the investment decision towards the future education and musical potential of their child. Please consider all prices and options, locally and at reputable online retailers such as Woodwind & Brasswind or

even Ebay or Craigslist can be an option knowing the correct model. If an instrument is not feasible at this point, a less expensive choice is the mouthpiece upgrade. The mouthpiece that comes with the instrument is a poor choice. For \$25-\$150, you can ease their struggles and upgrade their sound.

## Instrument Quality

The correct equipment is essential to achieve the best sound and ease of playing. It is the largest and most important investment to the musician. Certain instruments are better suited for different levels of the musician's development.

**Professional Instruments** tend to be hand-made and play-tested by master craftsmen, of the highest quality materials. They are, by far, the most expensive.

### Intermediate Instruments

(step-up) are machine made, may have some custom details, and are designed for the aspiring musician that will allow them to succeed through high school. **Beginning Instruments** are machine built, but designed to play in-tune and allow the student early success. They were created to allow a student to explore music without making a huge financial commitment

**Junk Instruments** are made by a non-standard companies, designed as cheap alternatives to brand names. They are not built with quality materials, not designed to play in tune, do not last, and cannot be repaired. These instruments are available at box stores such as Walmart, Sam's Club, Target, Costco, K-mart, Hastings. **These will hinder a young musician and are essentially a waste of money.**

## Recommendations

These instruments have proven their repairability and reliability. Included is an estimated cost. Rental fees are based on a percentage of the value of the instrument.

Flute  
Yamaha YFL221 \$800

Clarinet  
Buffet B12 \$600

Alto Sax  
Vito 7131R \$900

Tenor Sax  
Vito 7171 \$1,200

Trumpet  
Getzen 390 \$700

Trombone  
Yamaha YSL354 \$1,000

### Intermediate (step-ups)

Flute  
Gemeinhardt 2SH \$900

Oboe  
Fox Renard 330 \$3,200

Bassoon  
Fox Renard 240 \$7,500

Clarinet  
Buffet E11 \$1,000

Alto Sax  
Yamaha YAS475 \$1,700

Tenor Sax  
Yamaha YTS475 \$2,000

Trumpet  
Bach TR200 \$1,300

Horn  
Holton H179 \$3,500

Trombone  
(w/F) Bach Tb200 \$1,400

### Mouthpiece

- Bb Clarinet: Pyne Polycrystal \$45
- Saxophones: Selmer/Faxx C\* \$110-150
- Trumpet: Bach/Faxx 3C \$20-30
- French Horn: Bach 7, Farcus MDC \$30-40
- Trombones: Bach/Faxx 6 1/2 AL \$55
- Euphonium: Bach/Faxx 6 1/2 AL \$55
- Tuba - Schilke/Faxx 66 \$75

Euphonium  
Yamaha YEP321S  
\$2,400

Tuba  
Yamaha YBB321  
\$4,800

# GROUP LESSONS

- **Small group lessons** provides one-on-one individualized instruction alongside a specific sequence of growth. Lessons build musical, technical, and rhythmic understanding, as well as instrument fluency, on an individualized basis. Not only is the program based upon our curriculum, but it is developed to be easily modified to fit individual student abilities and needs. Lessons are an essential aspect of our band program.
- **Lessons are scheduled** in a way that requires students to leave certain classes once per week for small-group musical instruction. The schedule is rotating so that students leave 1 particular class no more than 3 times per quarter. Students may reschedule their lesson-time during a particular week ONLY if they have a test/quiz/lab in the scheduled class, or are earning a D or lower in said class.

► **The small group lesson program** not only teaches to our music curriculum, but it also requires students to develop responsibility by:

1. -Remembering when their scheduled lesson is, preparing for, and attending it each week
2. -Talking with their classroom teacher prior to the day of their lesson about their lesson
3. -Communicating with Mr. Drabik if they need to reschedule (test, lab, etc)
4. -Talking with teachers and peers to obtain any homework, notes, or other items from the class which they left for the lesson.
5. Our MASH staff is incredibly supportive of the music program and our students. They see and support the value of the Group Lesson program and have open communication with music teachers regarding specific student concerns. Please continue to contact Mr. Drabik with any concerns.
6. Group Lesson schedules are disseminated by academic quarter. \*\*Students are encouraged to write "Band Lesson" on the day/class period that they have a lesson in their assignment notebooks to help them remember each weekly lesson.

# Concert Attire

## REQUIRED CONCERT UNIFORM

### Ladies must wear:

- Black socks
- Closed-toe black dress shoes
- A white long sleeve dress shirt
  - Black dress pants
- OR
- Black skirt reaching below the knees

### Gentlemen must wear:

- Black Socks
- Black dress shoes
- A white long sleeve dress shirt
- Black dress pants

## GRADING POLICY

- Participation (this includes daily attendance): 40%
- Practice charts: 20%
- Performances (This includes playing exams): 30%
- Other written assignments and quizzes: 10%

Participation grades are based on behavior, effort, and being prepared for class. This includes bringing your instrument, music, and a pencil to every class. If your instrument is being repaired and you let me know, you will not be penalized. The grade for each class is out of 10. Forgetting your instrument once is a 3 point deduction for that day's grade. Each time the instrument is forgotten, the penalty will increase by 3, so if you forget 3 times, your grade for that class will be 1/10.

Practice charts are weekly records of time spent. Ideally the student should practice 100 minutes a week spread over 5 days a week. If you have a private lesson, count that as 20 minutes on that day. Please mark that as "Private Lesson." Extra credit may be earned by practicing 6+ days a week and going over 100 minutes. The teacher will deduct 10 points for practicing 3 days or less a week.

Performances are required events. Students who are unexcused absent from a performance receive 0 points. Students who are excused absent from a performance will not have that performance factored into their grade. Included in this portion are playing tests. These tests will be over material assigned in class. Grading will be determined on several factors such as proper technique, embouchure, note and rhythm accuracy, etc.

Written Assignment and quizzes will be given periodically in class. These will assess students' understanding of key musical concepts.

## Recommendations

These instruments have proven their repairability and reliability. Included is an estimated cost. Rental fees are based on a percentage of the value of the instrument.

Flute  
Yamaha YFL221 \$800

Clarinet  
Buffet B12 \$600

Alto Sax  
Vito 7131R \$900

Tenor Sax  
Vito 7171 \$1,200

Trumpet  
Getzen 390 \$700

Trombone  
Yamaha YSL354 \$1,000

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- Bb Clarinet: Pyne Polycrystal \$45
  - Saxophones: Selmer/Faxx C\* \$110-150
  - Trumpet: Bach/Faxx 3C \$20-30
  - French Horn: Bach 7, Farcus MDC \$30-40
  - Trombones: Bach/Faxx 6 1/2 AL \$55
  - Euphonium: Bach/Faxx 6 1/2 AL \$55
  - Tuba - Schilke/Faxx 66 \$75

### Intermediate (step-ups)

Flute  
Gemeinhardt 2SH \$900

Oboe  
Fox Renard 330 \$3,200

Bassoon  
Fox Renard 240 \$7,500

Clarinet  
Buffet E11 \$1,000

Alto Sax  
Yamaha YAS475 \$1,700

Tenor Sax  
Yamaha YTS475 \$2,000

Trumpet  
Bach TR200 \$1,300

Horn  
Holton H179 \$3,500

Trombone  
(w/E) Bach Tb200 \$1,400

Euphonium  
Yamaha YEP321S \$2,400

Tuba  
Yamaha YBB321 \$4,800

# MUSIC DEPT. Events

## SEPTEMBER

- 4th annual band meet and greet night September 13th 5:30 in the band room. All Music parents invited to attend. (Required for all 5<sup>th</sup> and new 6<sup>th</sup> grade band/string parents)

## NOVEMBER

- Election Day Fundraiser
- Quinnipiac Hockey Game

## DECEMBER

- Holiday performances at Nursing Home TBA
- Holiday performances at Milford Mall TBA
- All-City Honors Performances TBA
- Winter Concert I TBA shortly
- Advanced Concert II shortly

## JANUARY-JUNE

- Spring Concert I Beginner Ensembles will perform June 6th 2PM, 7:00PM (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Spring Concert II Advanced Ensembles will perform on June 13th at 7:00PM (6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- St. Patricks Day parade TBA
- New Haven Band Adjudication (5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade band) TBA
- Simply Strings String Festival TBA
- February Break Winter Festival
- March Break Spring Festival
- String Improv Masterclass TBA
- 6-8th grade Six Flags trip, May 4th

# Google Classroom

Since we are limited in our schedule band students will have an online component to the schedule. We will be integrating google classroom for all grades. Students will receive weekly practice assignments like last year and will be required to submit online audio recordings for assessment.

Students will be able to listen online to their part, and receive one on one feedback. The goal is to implement this through all the grades in the years to come!

Stay tuned for more information regarding this!

# The MASH band website

[www.mash-band.weebly.com](http://www.mash-band.weebly.com)

Our website is an amazing way for me to update you all on what we're doing. I can't stress enough the importance of this website. Check it out. I also post to the Mauro-Sheridan Facebook page.

- Video tutorials on instruments
- Links to band supplies
- Monthly pull out schedule will be posted
- Pictures of our progress
- Interesting articles on being a band parent and how to practice
- Links to music events happening in New Haven, or CT
- Google Classroom
- Daily practice assignments
- IMPORTANT REMINDERS

# MASH BAND and STRINGS are FAMILY



# Join our family

We Practice  
We Learn  
We Grow  
We Excel  
We are MASH  
PRIDE



## **Handbook Contract Signatures. (Please sign or initial below. Return to Mr. Drabik ASAP.) Please read carefully.**

I understand that my child is not able to stay after school on the day of concerts, and that I will have to make arrangements ahead of time for my child to be dropped off, dressed, and fed at school no later than 5:00 pm on the evening of our winter and spring concerts. This is a new commitment that I make as part of being in the MASH Band family.

I understand that I will plan a scheduled practice time each day that is convenient and consistent for the family. 100 minutes per week is required.

I understand that I will sign off on weekly practice logs for a grade if my child is in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

I understand that I will not get a refund of money if my child is kicked out of band or my child is kicked off a school field trip

\*\*I understand that Mr. Drabik and the school is not responsible for lost or stolen instruments, or other items that are left in the band room, at home, at any event, during any time during the rental contract. I will replace the instrument if it is lost, stolen or damaged due to neglect.

I understand that if the instrument is not returned to school by June 10<sup>th</sup>, I will be charged a late fee of \$50 for every day late. If the instrument is not returned by the last day of school I will be billed to cover the cost of a new instrument as it is assumed a total loss for the program. Instruments that are not turned in miss being sent in for maintenance for the next year.

I plan on attending the 4th annual MASH Band Meet and Greet night on September 13th at 5:30 in the band room. JC from JC Music will be here for students to try instruments sign contracts. Take home instruments that night. (Mandatory for 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents and new 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents)

I understand that I will visit the MASH Instrumental website at [www.mash-band.weebly.com](http://www.mash-band.weebly.com) regularly to find the latest information on trips, homework etc.

I understand that I can email, text or call Mr. Drabik at any time with questions.

## **Handbook Contact INFO. (Please sign or initial below. Return to Mr. Drabik ASAP.)**

Please provide the best way to contact you below.

Parent/Guardian First and Last Name\_\_\_\_\_

My child is\_\_\_\_\_

Email address\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number\_\_\_\_\_

Cell number\_\_\_\_\_

It is okay to receive communicate via text with Mr. Drabik for grade discussion, lesson reminders, updates  
(circle one) YES or NO

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to allow my child's picture to be featured on the MASH band website for recognition.

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