

Performance Groups

Band

There is one performing concert band at Kinnikinnick School: the Beginner Band, which consists of 5th grade students. The 5th grade band students' instruction includes a group lesson once a week for twenty minutes and two large group rehearsals twice a week from 7:30 a.m. to 8:10 a.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Lesson/Rehearsal Attendance Policy

If a student has three (3) unexcused absences from either lessons or band rehearsals, the student will be asked to drop band. Parents will get a warning letter or call from Mrs. Carnine if the student has 2 unexcused absences. The main reason for this policy is to keep students up to date with what is going on in class and to encourage students to be responsible for showing up to class.

Dropping Band

The Middle School concept allows for students to explore a variety of activities in an effort to find out what he/she excels in and wants to pursue in the future. With this in mind, after a student has given band a fair chance and has decided that he/she does not want to continue, he/she will be allowed to drop band after completing a "Request to Drop Band" form with a parent's signature. **If the student is signed up for band, however, it is expected that he/she will participate until the end of the first quarter.** A "Drop Band" form is available from Mrs. Carnine and is included at the end of this handbook.

Concert Attendance Policy

Students who are members of a performing group are required to attend all band concerts. Please see the performance dates on the next page. **Performances are a large part of the band student's grade. It is the equivalent of a major exam because it demonstrates a culmination of a unit of study of what the students have learned.** If a student has an unexcused absence from any one of these functions, he/she will receive 0 points (or an "F") for that event and this will be averaged into the student's quarter grade. Excused absences include an excused absence from school on the day of the event due to illness, a funeral, or a family emergency. If you are concerned whether an absence is excused or unexcused, please call Mrs. Carnine at school at 623-2166 ext. 242.

Scheduled Band Events

Listed below are all of the required concerts for the upcoming school year. It is important that parents notify me as soon as possible of any conflicts with these dates so that we can work around the situation if possible. Concerts are a team effort and every student is an important part of the band. When students are not there, this could leave “holes” in the music that make it difficult for the students who are there because they are used to hearing the missing part. We work very hard to prepare these concerts to showcase our talented students.

Your commitment to the band program and to attending these concerts would be greatly appreciated.

Band Concerts for Kinnikinnick 2004-2005

(A full listing of all of our district music events is listed at the end of this handbook.)

October 20	5 th Grade Band Concert	Kinnikinnick Gym	7 pm
February 3	5 th Band Concert	Kinnikinnick Gym	7 pm
May 5	4 th -5 th Grade Festival of the Arts	Kinnikinnick	6:30 pm



5th Grade Beginning Lessons and Band

All 5th grade beginning band students must attend a group lesson once a week. Most lessons will be scheduled during Art, Music or P.E., however, due to changes in the schedule this year, a few students may have to come out of an academic class time. If you have a concern about this, please call 623-2166 ext. 242. Students will get a notice of when they are to attend their lesson from

their homeroom teacher. Please note that **it is the students' responsibility (not the classroom teacher's) to arrive to lessons on time and on the correct day with his/her instrument and lesson book/music.**

Large group rehearsals are in the mornings before school. Students should plan to attend both rehearsals a week on Tuesdays or Wednesdays from 7:30-8:10 a.m. These large group rehearsals won't begin until the end of September. I will send home a letter confirming the start date after the students have learned a little bit about their instruments and know a few notes.

Parents, it would be greatly appreciated if you would help to remind your student of lesson days and when to bring his/her instrument to school. **In an effort to help students assume more responsibility, they will not be allowed to call home to have their parents bring forgotten instruments to school. Students are, however, expected to come to their lesson with or without their instrument.**

Grades

Students will be given a grade card that they are to keep with their music in their folders. In this system, students are aware at all times of their progress and current grade. All students that do the work assigned will receive an “A.” It is my hope that this will motivate all students to practice and be prepared for these assignments. A sample copy is included at the end of this handbook. Students will be asked to play various assignments individually (not in front of the class). Points will be taken away if students: forget to bring his/her instrument and/or music to school, is talking or disruptive in class, is late to class, or does not put their instrument away properly in their slot. If a student’s grade is below a “C”, I will notify parents by either a phone call or a progress report.

Practice



Practicing is an integral part of the success of the band student. Without practice, the student basically will see only a minimal amount of improvement in his/her musical accomplishments. I consider practice time to be the student’s daily homework assignment for band class. Research shows that a skill that is rehearsed daily for a shorter period of time is much better than one marathon session the night before a concert. With this in mind, 30 minutes of practice each night would be ideal. Students might even wish to split this 30-minute session into two 15-minute sessions. All band students are highly encouraged to take their instruments home on a daily basis. I will expect that the instruments will go home for the weekend when students generally have more time.

Helpful Practice Hints

- A minimum of 30 minutes per day (15 for beginners) of home practice should be a realistic goal for students. (This does not include band or school times.)



- Encourage your child to take his/her instrument home on a daily basis.
 - Try to establish a routine practice time for your child. It is much easier to find time to practice if it is at the same time each day.
 - Establish a place in the home that practice can occur without disturbing others and where the students will not have distractions or interruptions.
 - Make sure that the practice area includes a hard-backed chair (this promotes good posture) and music stand.
- The student should practice the current lesson assignment first, scales next, and band pieces last. Also keep in mind that we practice to be better musicians, not to just keep playing music that we already know.
 - Parents, encourage your child by listening to his/her practice. It always helps to have an audience.
 - Tape-record the student playing. Sometimes it helps for the students to tape themselves and listen to it carefully. Another option is for students to record themselves playing one part of a duet and then play the second part with the tape.
 - Allow students to invite a band friend to practice with them.
 - Have your student teach you how to play their instrument. You'll have fun and it will give you a greater appreciation of what your child has accomplished musically.

Repairs

Privately owned instruments:

If a student's instrument needs a repair, I will notify the student and/or send a note home letting the parents know that the instrument is not in working order. The best place to take repairs is to Jerry Disney at Stateline Instrument Repair, 5351 Stateline Road, South Beloit (www.statelineinstrumentrepair.com) 389-4380. Jerry asks that you call first for an appointment so that he can give you an estimate before he begins work on the instrument.



Rental instruments from Voigt:

If the student is renting an instrument from Voigt music, all repairs are covered in the rental price. A representative from the music store visits the school on Mondays to pick up any instruments in need of repair. The student will be given a loaner instrument to use until his/her instrument is returned. These repairs are usually done in a day or two. If a student does not have an instrument in class because it is being repaired, he/she will not be penalized.

School Rental Instruments:

If the student damages a school instrument, he/she is responsible for paying for repairs to the instrument. Parents will be notified of the cost of the repair. All of these repairs will be handled through Stateline Instrument Repair mentioned above.

Resale Items

Reeds, valve oil, flip folders, lyres, reed cases, and method books can be purchased from the school as a courtesy to parents and students. Please note that students must pay for these items when they order them. No IOU's will be given for any reason.



Reeds will only be sold in boxes and not individually. If you are interested in buying single reeds, please go to the music store. Beginners (most 5th graders) should buy Rico brand reeds in 2 1/2. Intermediate players (most 6th and 7th graders) should use Rico 3s. Advanced players (some 7th and all 8th graders) should use Vandoren reeds in 3 or 3 1/2.

Students should fill out a resale request form (sample found below) and turn it in to Mrs. Carnine.

PLEASE WAIT UNTIL THE ORDER IS RETURNED FROM THE MUSIC STORE TO PAY FOR MUSIC STORE ITEMS. THE EXACT AMOUNT WILL INCLUDE ALL STATE AND COUNTY TAXES. MERCHANDISE CAN NOT BE GIVEN TO THE STUDENT UNTIL HE/SHE HAS PAID FOR IT.

Orders will be filled within a week or so depending on availability of the merchandize at the music store.

Here is a sample of the order form for resale items. Students may use this form below or get copies in the band room at school. **If paying by check, please make it out to Voigt Music.** Thank you!

These are approximate prices for all items. Taxes will be calculated and added on to these prices.

Order Form for Resale Items

Name: _____ **Grade:** _____ **Inst.** _____

Circle the item(s) that you want to order.

***Make sure that you circle what strength of reed that you want to order, please!**

Clarinets and Saxes: 2 1/2 3 3 1/2 4

Oboe/Bassoon: Med. Soft Med. Med. Hard

Reeds:

Box of Rico (10) Clarinet Reeds	\$14*
Box of Rico (10) Bass Clarinet Reeds	\$24*
Box of Rico (10) Alto Sax Reeds	\$20*
Box of Rico (10) Tenor Sax Reeds	\$24*
Box of Rico (10) Bari Sax Reeds	\$32*
Box of Vandoren (10) Clarinet Reeds	\$20*
Box of Vandoren (5) Bass Clarinet Reeds	\$19*
Box of Vandoren (10) Alto Sax Reeds	\$24*
Box of Vandoren (5) Tenor Sax Reeds	\$18*
Box of Vandoren (5) Bari Sax Reeds	\$33*
Leshner Oboe Reed	\$8.50*
Bassoon Reed	\$9*

Other Items:

Clarinet Thumb Guards	\$5
Clarinet/Sax Mouthpiece Teeth Guard	\$2
Clarinet and Saxophone Reed Cases	\$3
Valve Oil	\$3
Standard of Excellence Book	\$6.50

Lyres and Flip Folders for Marching/Pep Band

Clarinet, Trumpet, Horn, Baritone, Saxes	\$6
Flutist's Friend	\$10
Trombone lyre	\$9
Baritone	\$9
Flip folders	\$5.50

TOTAL: _____

Please make checks payable to Voigt Music.

Private Music Study

Individual lessons are not provided for 5th grade band students at school, but are a very important part of a student's musical growth and understanding. I would like to encourage parents and students to seek private music study because students have the opportunity to get individual help and encouragement with these lessons. Private lessons also allow students to study with an instructor who specializes on a particular instrument and can share a high level of expertise with the student. Parents are encouraged to seek out teachers who have an accredited music degree from a university and should ask a prospective teacher for their credentials and teaching experience. These professionals usually charge between \$8 and \$20 a half hour for music lessons. Lessons can be set up on a weekly or monthly basis depending on the instructor. Some teachers even have a recital once or twice a year for students to perform and share what they have learned with others.

Band Boosters Parent Organization

The Band Boosters is a parent organization that supports the Kinnikinnick band program. Last year the group organized a fruit sale, winter dance at RMS, a fall car wash and car wash token sale as fundraisers. With the money raised the group was able to purchase band music for the school, new storage cabinets for the RMS band room, held a picnic after the Memorial Day parade for the band members, and paid for several band students to go to summer music camps.

Any parent of a student enrolled in band is welcome to attend. We would appreciate your input and suggestions. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Roscoe Middle School band room. All meetings will also be included in the Kinnikinnick PTO calendar.

If you are interested in serving, please let Mrs. Carnine know immediately. Your help is always appreciated.

All Band/Music Events for 2004-2005

September 12	Roscoe Lions Parade 7-8 Grade Bands	Macktown Bank Parking lot	10:30 a.m.
October 8	Possible Hononegah Homecoming Pre-game show, 7-8 Band	Hononegah HS	TBA
October 16	All District Honors Band, Jazz, Auditions (7-8 Band Members)	Sterling HS	TBA
October 20	5th Choir and Band Concert	Kinnikinnick Gym	7 p.m.
November 9	6-8 Grade Band Concert	RMS Gym	7 p.m.
November 13	All District Concert Band Audition Winners (Grades 7-8)	NIU Dekalb	8 a.m.-5 p.m.
November 20	All District Honors Jazz Band Audition Winners (Grades 7-8)	Hononegah PAC	8 a.m.-5 p.m.
February 3	5 Choir and Band Concert	Kinnikinnick Gym	7 p.m.
February 16	6 th -8 th grade Band Concert	RMS Gym	7 p.m.
April 8	Hononegah Area Band Fest (8 th Band only)	Hononegah HS	2 p.m.-7 p.m.
April 21	Solo & Ensemble Festival (6-8 Band & Choir Members)	RMS	4-6 p.m.
April 27	6-8 Festival of the Arts	RMS	6:30 p.m.
April 28	4 th Grade Sign-up for beginning band	RMS Band Room	3:30-6 p.m.
May 4	Ledgewood Art Fair RMS Jazz Band	Ledgewood Gym	6:00 p.m.
May 5	4 th and 5 th Grade Festival of the Arts	Kinnikinnick	6:30 p.m.
May 13	Trills & Thrills Festival (8 th Band)	Johnsburg/Gurnee	TBA
May 30	Memorial Day Parade (6 th -8 th Band)	Downtown Roscoe	10:30 a.m.
June 6	8 th Grade Graduation (7 th Band only)	Hononegah PAC	7 p.m.

I hope that your child's band experience will be challenging, exciting, fulfilling and fun. If there is anything that I can do to help in this goal, please feel free to contact me at school anytime. Please return the bottom portion of this paper with your signature so that I know you have received and read this information packet. Thank you for your continued support of the Kinnikinnick School District Band Program.

Sincerely,

Nola Carnine, 4th & 5th grade Band Teacher

Kinnikinnick School, 623-2166 ext. 242

Email: ncarnine@kidsroe.org



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Check one of the two options below and please return to Mrs. Carnine by September 15, 2004.

Yes, I have read the band handbook, discussed it's contents with my child, and have received the band events for the 2004-2005 school year. To the best of my knowledge, **my child will attend all scheduled events.**

Yes, I have read the band handbook, discussed it's contents with my child, and have received the band events for the 2004-2005 school year. To the best of my knowledge, **my child will attend all scheduled events except:**

Reason: _____

Child's name: _____ **Grade:** _____

Parent's signature: _____

Please feel free to write any additional comments below or on the back of this form. Thank you!