

Welcome to the Connolly Band Program! My goal is to teach the young musician all I can about music and to help him or her become the finest and most knowledgeable performer he or she can possibly be. Those who always make their best effort will experience much success here. The study of music is rewarding, a lot of fun, and a lifelong skill.

The purpose of this handbook is to ensure that all students and parents understand the responsibilities of being a band member. The success of a band program depends upon good communication between the teachers, parents and students. Please read the information carefully. All students will be held accountable for the information within this handbook.

I love to use email and text messages as much as possible to remind parents and students of upcoming events. If your family would like to be added to my email list please complete the Family Information Form as soon as possible so I have your correct email address and cell phone number.

### ***Music Room and Virtual Rules***

1. Arrive on time (in person or google meet), before the tardy bell rings, check google classroom, have music, pencil, and instrument ready when class begins. Sit in assigned seat (when in person)
2. Follow directions. Always try. Willingly accept suggestions for improvement
3. Respect the property and feelings of the teacher and other members.
4. Take special care of all equipment (including music stands, instruments, and chairs) and materials (music, books, etc.). Music and lesson books are borrowed and will be returned when required. Lost music must be replaced at the student's expense. All music will be marked ONLY in pencil.

### ***Behavior***

Our primary responsibility in a band is to learn about music. Any behavior that distracts from or interferes with this learning process will not be permitted. A great band consists of highly disciplined members who dedicate themselves to excellence in everything they do. They have exceptional work habits and maintain a positive mental attitude. They show pride in themselves, their organization and their school.

Infractions of the rules and/or disruption of the class will result in an attempt to adjust your BEHAVIOR. *Depending on the severity of the situation, the director may:*

- have a conference with the student to discuss how to prevent the behavior from happening again.
- take away points which will result in a lower grade.
- assign lunch detention. The detention may consist of practicing, a music theory assignment or any other music related activity.
- call or text home to discuss the situation with your parent(s).
- schedule a parent-teacher conference.
- possible removal from band -it is a privilege not a right to be in band

### ***Contact me***

#### ***Mr. Lemar***

Director of Band and Music Technology  
philip.lemar@tempeschools.org  
480-967-8933 ext. 4824  
<http://connollybands.weebly.com>

## **Grades**

Your basic grade is determined by how many points you have earned during the course of the grading period.

- Daily Participation/Practicing 30% of overall grade
- Playing/Written Test 35% of overall grade
- Performances/Concerts 35% of overall grade

Daily Participation Grade (based on participation, attitude, behavior, cooperation) (50 points total for the week...10 points for each day.) If a student is absent, **whether excused or not**, from class they must make up the absence just as they would make up class work. Each student must fill out a practice make-up form, practice 1/2 hour for each absence, have a parent sign the form, and return the form before the end of the grading period. Failure to do this will result in a grade of "0" for the day absent.

Practicing is defined as *performing (an activity) or exercise (a skill) repeatedly or regularly in order to improve or maintain one's proficiency.* Exercises, scales, etudes, and/or excerpts will be assigned weekly. These will then be assessed through the grading period and possibly throughout the year in the classroom setting.

- Students should plan to take their instrument home at least over the weekend and hopefully once or twice a week.
- If taking your instrument home is not possible, the band room is open after school for practicing most days until 4:00. The practice rooms are available in the morning on a limited basis as the Jazz Band will be rehearsing in the morning.

## **Performance Attire**

Band students will wear the official Connolly Band Shirt for all performances throughout the year. The band shirts will be heather gray with the Connolly band logo embroidered on the shirt. The cost will be \$15.00. As we get closer to performance dates, we will begin the process of ordering shirts.

The heather gray polo shirts are worn with black pants, (dark, solid black pants, no jeans or denim – gray or faded are not acceptable), black socks and black shoes (no white stripes or logos on the shoes). Shorts, capris, and skirts are not allowed. If you cannot meet these expectations due to financial reasons, you must contact me **immediately** so that assistance can be arranged. No student will be permitted to perform without the above-described uniform. Any student missing a performance due to inappropriate attire will have his or her grade lowered accordingly.