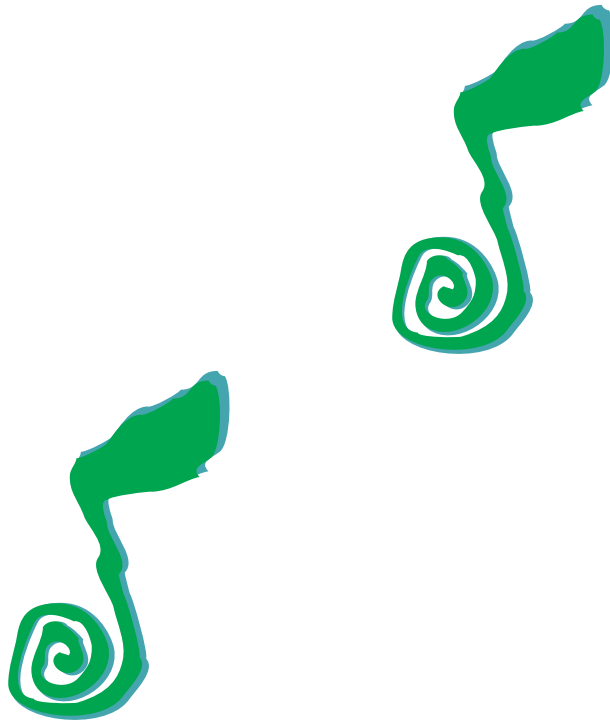


BAND PROGRAM
HANDBOOK
2011-12



F.E. Peacock
Middle School Bands
Itasca, Illinois

Timothy Loest – Peacock Band Director
Robert Wis – Franzen Band Director

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	1	PRACTICE REQUIREMENTS.....	14
MISSION STATEMENT.....	2	METHOD BOOKS.....	15
LONG RANGE GOALS.....	3	BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS.....	16
RECRUITMENT.....	4	DRESS CODE – UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS.....	17
DIRECTOR CONTACT.....	5	DRESS CODE – PERFORMANCE POLICY.....	18
BAND PLACEMENT AND REHEARSAL SCHEDULE.....	6	AWARD MEDALS AND PLAQUES.....	19
REHEARSAL PROTOCOL – VARSITY & CONCERT BANDS.....	7	FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS.....	20
ATTENDANCE POLICY.....	8	BUDGET.....	21
SMALL GROUP LESSONS.....	9	MUSIC BOOSTERS.....	22
PRIVATE LESSONS.....	10	SUMMER INVOLVEMENTS.....	23
PERFORMANCE DATES.....	11	WHY MUSIC?.....	24
BUS TRIPS.....	12	WEBSITE.....	25
CURRICULUM AND GRADE CRITERIA.....	13		

Band Program Handbook

2011-12

1. INTRODUCTION

Band is a group of student musicians bound by sound! In band, students share and bring to life musical works through the expressive playing of wind and percussion instruments. Because band is an elective class, students must meet proficiency, practice and attendance requirements to participate in various ensembles. Consistent and on time attendance is a prerequisite for continued membership.

2. MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the District 10 band program to provide a quality music education in a nurturing environment. The band program is dedicated to fostering aesthetic growth as an essential part of a child's total education. The band program exists to facilitate the highest level of musicianship through a comprehensive curriculum, in keeping with each child's interests, needs and abilities.

3. LONG RANGE GOALS

- To artistically share performance-based music composed in a variety of styles and forms
- To gain musical knowledge, to improve musical skills, and to engage in musical thinking
- To be ambassadors of musicianship

4. RECRUITMENT

Recruitment occurs each September at Franzen Intermediate School and involves students in grade 5. While middle school students may join band, they must first achieve a prescribed level of proficiency on an approved wind or percussion instrument before being assigned to an ensemble. To reach this level of proficiency, outside private lessons may be necessary.

5. DIRECTOR CONTACT

Phone: 773-1232, EXT 2133

Email: tloest@itasca.k12.il.us

6. **BAND PLACEMENT AND REHEARSAL SCHEDULE**

Franzen Falcon Band

The Falcon Band consists of fifth grade students who have met proficiency, practice, and attendance requirements. Proficiency requirements include demonstrating proper playing posture, correct embouchure or stick grip with a characteristic tone, and accurate performance of music at the grade ½ level, based on a standard 1-6 band music grading scale. The Falcon Band rehearses each Tuesday after school from 2:30-3:45 beginning January.

VARSIITY BAND

The Varsity Band consists primarily of sixth grade students who have met proficiency, practice, and attendance requirements. Proficiency requirements include demonstrating proper playing posture, correct embouchure or stick grip with a characteristic tone, and accurate performance of music at the grade 1+ level, based on a standard 1-6 band music grading scale. The Varsity Band rehearses each Tuesday and Thursday before school from 7:15-7:53.

Concert Band

The Concert Band consists primarily of seventh and eighth grade students who have met proficiency, practice, and attendance requirements. Proficiency requirements include demonstrating proper playing posture, correct embouchure or stick grip with a characteristic tone, and accurate performance of music at the grade 2+ level, based on a standard 1-6 band music grading scale. The Concert Band rehearses each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7:15-7:53.

JAZZ BAND

The Jazz Band consists primarily of seventh and eighth grade students chosen by audition. Qualified Concert Band members fill positions first. If a position goes unfilled, then Varsity Band members may be recruited. The Jazz Band rehearses one day each week after school for 90 minutes.

7. **REHEARSAL PROTOCOL – VARSITY AND CONCERT BANDS**

- 7:10 – Inside Band Room/Individual Warm-ups and Tuning
- 7:15 – Attendance/Announcements
- 7:20 – Group Warm-ups
- 7:30 – Rehearse Concert Repertoire
- 7:53 – Dismissal

8. ATTENDANCE POLICY

<p>EARLY-MORNING REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE POLICY</p> <p>Morning rehearsal begins at 7:15 and follows this schedule:</p> <p>7:10 Inside Band Room/ Individual Tuning</p> <p>7:15 Announcements/ Attendance</p> <p>7:20 Group Warm-ups</p> <p>7:30 Rehearse Repertoire</p> <p>7:53 Dismissal</p> <p>Consistent and on time attendance is a prerequisite for continued membership. Valid causes for absence are defined by BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:70.</p> <p><i>A valid cause for an absence includes illness, observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, family emergency, other situations beyond the control of the student, other circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's safety or health, or other reason as approved by the Superintendent or designee.</i></p> <p>Since poor attendance helps no one, Unexcused Tardiness or Unexcused Absences will lead to lower seating placement or dismissal. Jeopardizing one's membership is very serious. Therefore, the director will review each situation carefully when determining consequences according to the following steps:</p>	<p>UNEXCUSED TARDINESS</p> <p><u>Unexcused Tardy 1</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact <p><u>Unexcused Tardy 2</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Student Coaching Session* <p><u>Unexcused Tardy 3</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Lower Seating or Dismissal <p>UNEXCUSED ABSENCE</p> <p><u>Unexcused Absence 1</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact <p><u>Unexcused Absence 2</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Student Coaching Session* <p><u>Unexcused Absence 3</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Lower Seating or Dismissal <p><i>*Student will meet with the director and school counselor to implement a solution to the attendance problem.</i></p> <p>SCHOLASTIC ABSENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students may take one Scholastic Absence (SA) per term for academic reasons. Acceptable reasons include taking a test, attending tutorial, or completing homework. • The parent/guardian must notify the director <u>before</u> the SA is approved. • Before taking a SA, the student must check with the classroom teacher to see if there is another time to makeup work. If no other time exists, then the SA will be approved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students taking a SA should bring instrument and music to school in case plans change. • Each student's goal should be perfect attendance. Not taking a SA will result in Extra Credit. <p>PERFORMANCE EVENTS ATTENDANCE POLICY</p> <p>Each performance is a musical assessment in which students demonstrate what they have learned. In addition, performance provides artistic outreach to the community.</p> <p>Therefore, it is expected that families will prioritize band performance events above non-school sponsored activities.</p> <p>If an unavoidable conflict arises, the parent/guardian must notify the director <u>as far in advance as possible</u> to review the situation. All performance events are posted on the District 10 calendar. They are also posted online at: www.itascamusic.com.</p> <p>An excused performance absence may result in makeup work. An unexcused performance absence will result in lower seating placement or dismissal. Jeopardizing one's membership is very serious. Therefore, the director will carefully review each situation when determining consequences.</p>
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9. SMALL GROUP LESSONS

Small group lessons occur during the school day and rotate so that students do not miss the same core subject each week. Instruction includes warm-ups (flexibility studies, scales, chorales), lesson book assignments, rhythm studies, musical terminology, and concert repertoire.

10. PRIVATE LESSONS

A list of private band tutors is posted at:

www.itascamusic.com/bandhome/bandtutors.html.

11. PERFORMANCE DATES

<p>October 17 – Monday Concert Band 7:00 PM – Peacock Warm-ups at 6:15</p> <p>December 4 – Sunday Jazz, Varsity, and Concert Bands 3:00 PM – Peacock Warm-ups at 2:15</p> <p>December 6 – Tuesday Varsity Band 11:00 AM – Yorktown Center, Lombard Highland Avenue and Butterfield Road Carson’s Upper Level Warm-ups at 10:30</p> <p>December 12 – Monday Concert Band 11:00 AM – Yorktown Center, Lombard Highland Avenue and Butterfield Road Carson’s Upper Level Warm-ups at 10:30</p> <p>January 24 – Tuesday Franzen Falcon Band 7:00 PM – Peacock Warm-ups at 6:30 Ice Cream Social to Follow</p> <p>February 26 – Sunday Jazz, Varsity, and Concert Bands 3:00 PM – Peacock Warm-ups at 2:15</p>	<p>March 3 – Saturday Jazz Band – IGSMC Contest All Day Event Location and Time TBA</p> <p>March 17 – Saturday Concert Band – Northshore Festival of Music Northwestern University, Evanston All Day Event 2:30 PM – Pick-Staiger Concert Hall</p> <p>April 12 – Thursday Jazz Band – Fine and Applied Arts Fest 6:30 PM – Peacock Warm-ups at 6:00</p> <p>April 18 – Wednesday Varsity and Concert Bands 7:00 PM – Peacock Warm-ups at 6:30</p> <p>May 8 – Tuesday Franzen Falcon Band 7:00 PM – Peacock Warm-ups at 6:30</p> <p>May 28 – Monday Varsity and Concert Bands – Memorial Day Parade 9:30 AM – Franzen Roll Call at 8:30-8:45 Warm-ups at 9:00 Orchard and Maple Dispersal</p> <p>June – TBA Graduation Band 6:45 PM – LPHS East Warm-ups at 6:20</p>
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12. BUS TRIPS

Travel to and from field trip sites is by school bus. A band member confronted with a unique travel circumstance may travel with the parent/guardian pending director approval. The parent/guardian must notify the director regarding the circumstance as far in advance as possible to review the situation.

13. CURRICULUM AND GRADE CRITERIA

During the first term, students are graded on attendance. For terms 2-4, students are presented with a *progress chart* of required competencies. Band grades are based on points earned through daily preparation, practice, quizzes, and completion of assignments.

99.5 = A+	88.5 = B+	78.5 = C+	68.5 = D+
90.5 = A	80.5 = B	70.5 = C	60.5 = D
89.5 = A-	79.5 = B-	69.5 = C-	59.5 = D-
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14. PRACTICE REQUIREMENTS

Practice requirements are attainable: 20 minutes per day, five days per week. The card must be completed, signed, and submitted on time for weekly credit.

15. METHOD BOOKS

Essential Elements 2000 – Hal Leonard Corporation
A Fresh Approach to Mallet Percussion – Mark Wessels Publications
Measures of Success – The FJH Music Company
The Performing Percussionist – C.L. Barnhouse Company
Rubank Studies – Hal Leonard Corporation
Warm-ups and Beyond – The FJH Music Company

16. BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

In order to reach a state of achievement, students must follow specific behavioral guidelines.

Encore Team Achievement Guidelines

1. Demonstrate respect for one's teacher, classmates, and equipment
2. Follow safety rules and classroom procedures
3. Bring required materials to class
4. Keep personal property and equipment in designated areas
5. Keep food, drink, gum, and candy outside of class

Consequential Steps

1. Verbal warning
2. Written warning requiring parent signature
3. Behavior Adjustment Time (BAT) with direct parent contact
4. Administrative action

17. DRESS CODE – UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

Peacock band students are fitted with vests, cummerbunds, and bow ties that must be returned at the end of the school year. They are also fitted with new tuxedo shirts that may be kept. Families must provide black dress pants, black dress shoes, and black dress socks.

School Issued Items – Band members are issued vests, cummerbunds, and bowties each fall. These items are returned after the Memorial Day Parade. Lost items must be replaced at retail cost.

Tuxedo Shirts – Band members must wear white tuxedo shirts with 1/4” pleats and wing tip collars. Fittings occur each fall. The Itasca Music Booster Association covers the cost of the shirt.

Black Pants – Band members must wear solid black dress pants. Wool, synthetic, or smooth cotton pants are acceptable. Jeans, sweatpants, shorts, bib overalls, leggings, spandex, or Capri pants may not be worn.

Black Shoes and Socks – Band members must wear solid black dress socks and solid black, low-heel, tie-style dress shoes. Boots, clogs, athletic shoes, high-heels, flip-flops, slippers, and open-toed shoes may not be worn. For convenience, an optional black band shoe is available. Orders are taken each fall.

18. DRESS CODE – PERFORMANCE POLICY

Performance is contingent upon adherence to established uniform requirements. Prior to each concert, students must check in at the uniform inspection table. Students who are not fully or correctly outfitted will be asked to call home to remedy the deficiency before the performance begins.

19. AWARD MEDALS AND PLAQUES

Award medals and plaques are issued to celebrate student achievement and to motivate further achievement. Awards are based on student merit and are issued at the spring concert.

Service Medals

Medals are awarded for years of service. Fifth grade band students receive a multi-colored medal. Sixth grade band students receive a bronze medal. Seventh grade band students receive a silver medal. And eighth grade students receive a gold medal. All medals come with a blue and white neck ribbon.

Drum Major Plaque

This plaque is awarded to the eighth grade band student chosen to lead the Peacock Marching Band in the Memorial Day Parade.

Graduating Musician Plaque

This plaque is awarded to all eighth grade students who complete their eighth grade year of band, including participation in the Memorial Day Parade.

Instrumentation Trophy

This trophy is awarded to students who play a secondary instrument to help fill instrumentation needs.

Librarian Trophy

This trophy is awarded to students who serve as music librarians.

Outstanding Marching Plaque

This plaque is awarded to students who memorize their parade music and demonstrate superior marching technique. Attendance at the Memorial Day Parade and all parade rehearsals is necessary for eligibility.

Sammy Nestico Plaque

This plaque is awarded to one or more eighth grade Jazz Band musicians. Criteria include superior musicianship and personal integrity as demonstrated through hard work, consistent practice and preparedness, faithful concert attendance, a cooperative attitude, and faithful adherence to program standards.

Significant Achievement Concert Band Plaque

This plaque is awarded to one or more eighth grade band students who have demonstrated the highest level of commitment and service to the band program. Criteria include superior musicianship and personal integrity as demonstrated through hard work, consistent practice and preparedness, faithful concert attendance, participation in multiple ensembles, extra service (music librarian, student mentor, playing a secondary instrument), a cooperative attitude, and faithful adherence to program standards.

Student Mentor Trophy

This trophy is awarded to students who mentor others by playing in both Concert Band and Varsity Band.

20. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Participation in band requires financial investment. Each student must have the following items: instrument, accessories, music stand, and lesson books. The Itasca Music Booster Association collects an annual band participation fee to cover expenses associated with the program. The fee is \$45.00 if paid on time, and \$60.00 if paid late. This fee covers expenses which include: tuxedo shirts, vest dry cleaning, replacement cummerbunds and bow ties, warm-up books, awards, instruments, rental truck usage (offsite performances), clinician fees, postage, the Falcon Band ice cream social (first concert), and the cake and punch reception (spring concert).

21. BUDGET

The Itasca School District 10 provides funding for rehearsal room instruments and equipment, classroom music and supplies, contest and festival registration fees, and school instrument repairs. At times, the Itasca Music Booster Association provides additional funding in these areas.

22. MUSIC BOOSTERS

The Itasca Music Booster Association (IMBA) consists of parents or guardians of students participating in the organization's activities and any person whose interest is to further the purpose of the group. There are three regular meetings per school year with dates published in the District 10 calendar, as well as the music booster website: www.itascamusic.com. The IMBA sponsors limited fundraising drives which may include student dances, a coffee cake sale, and the spring Dinner and a Show (pasta supper).

23. SUMMER INVOLVEMENTS

Students are encouraged to explore the exciting world of music at a summer music camp! Music camp lasts for one or two weeks in June, July, or August. While tuitions vary, a week at camp costs approximately \$450.00. To help defray the cost, the Itasca Music Booster Association has committed scholarship money to each interested student. To be eligible, students must be enrolled in band or choir at F.E. Peacock Middle School. To learn about various camps and to apply for a scholarship, visit: www.itascamusic.com/summercamps.html.

24. WHY MUSIC?

Hanging on the east wall of the Peacock band room is a red, white, and blue banner that proclaims: *We're All Sound Bound!* This catchy slogan, created by a band member, celebrates musical sharing.

Most parents want their children to do well in school, to make trustworthy friends, and to enjoy the richness of life. This is where band has impact. While much of education is *impressionistic*, music is *expressionistic*.

The study of music fosters wonderment, imagination, appreciation, and sensitivity. As a unique form of communication, music allows children to experience creative thinking through the medium of shaped sound. It showcases artistic intelligence and self-expression while transmitting our cultural heritage to the next generation. Indeed, we're all sound bound!

25. WEBSITE

For more information about our music programs at F.E. Peacock Middle School, please visit the music booster website: www.itascamusic.com.