

Dear Band Parents and Students,

“Success comes to those who work for it.” As you know, practicing is an essential part of “getting better” at anything you commit to do. Well, that remains true for band. In order to develop the skills you need on your instrument, it is imperative that you practice outside of school hours. Because of this fact, we require that all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade band members complete the **practice records** they will receive at the beginning of the school year.

Practice records are required of all band members. This allows you, as parents, to be involved in your child’s practice time at home. All of the students are required to practice at least **140 minutes a week**, which averages out to be **20 minutes a day**. The practice record is just to help you keep track of the time practiced. All I ask is that the parents be sure the card is filled out each day with the time your child practiced, and then sign the card weekly for your child so it will be ready to be turned in on the proper day.

The practice records are **due** to me every **Monday** and will be counted as **20%** of your student’s grade. If I do not receive them on Mondays, then they are allowed to turn them in on **Tuesdays** with the understanding that there will be a **10 point grade deduction**. After Tuesdays, I **WILL NOT** accept them anymore for that week. It is also important that **JUST THE CARD** is turned in. A parent signed sheet of paper stating the child’s practice, is **not accepted**. Students will not receive a practice record grade if this is the case. If a child loses their practice card, then they can purchase a new one for 25 cents from either band director. Students **MUST** turn in the required practice card with a parent signature. If a parent signature is not on the card, then the student will have one day in which to return it with a signature. If it is forgotten the next day, then it will not be accepted. Please understand, all students are required to follow the same procedure. If an exception is made for one child, then we must make an exception for all 300 students we teach. In the event that there is a teacher workday, holiday, or a student is out sick on a Monday, then I will allow that student to turn in their practice record on Tuesday or Wednesday.

If you have any question regarding practice records, please feel free to contact me at the middle school (704)225-7555 or the high school (704)292-7662.....or you are welcome to send me an email.

Thank you for your support!

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