

# **Big Hollow Middle School**



Mrs. Kumpula—Band  
(847)740-5322, ext. 5028  
sarakumpula@bighollow.us  
mrskumpula.weebly.com  
@BHMSBands

## **Band Handbook**

Dear Parents and Students,

The following booklet is the Big Hollow Middle School Band Handbook for the 2018-2019 school year containing information about expectations, grading, and events for the upcoming year.

This handbook has been written for ensemble members and their parents to provide information regarding the various phases and activities of our program. This handbook also contains the regulations of the band program. All ensemble members and parents are urged to read the entire handbook carefully at the beginning of the school year to prevent conflicts.

Commitment is the essential element in maintaining a strong and growing music program. Only through hard work by all students, parents, teachers, and administrators can our goals be fully realized.

After reading through the handbook together, submit the electronic signature page. Directions are listed on the last page of the band handbook.

Please contact me for any questions or concerns. I look forward to a great year in band and hope you share my excitement!

Thank you,

Mrs. Kumpula

## Mission Statement

Our goal for the band program is to strive for excellence in personal and ensemble musical growth, build musical skills and knowledge, serve to promote music and the arts within our community, and make band an enjoyable musical experience for students, parents, community members, and audiences.

## Required Materials

- ◆ Each student should have his/her **instrument** and **music** at every rehearsal and lesson. Students can't play their instruments or practice their music without these essential supplies.
- ◆ Every student must always have a **pencil** in order to mark music or take notes.
- ◆ All reed players are encouraged to have at least two working **reeds** if not more. It is important to have extra reeds so a cracked or worn reed is never a hindrance to a performance or rehearsal.
- ◆ It is also suggested that brass players have **valve oil** at hand. A sticky valve can get in the way of rehearsals and performances. Water does not suffice!
- ◆ All students should own a 2018-2019 **Big Hollow Band t-shirt** to be worn at multiple events throughout the year. The design will be voted on by the students and the cost of each shirt is \$10. Details for ordering shirts are on the last page of this handbook.

## Grading

Student grades are calculated based on the three following categories.

**I. PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS – (40%)** Each grading period students will be required to complete two or more playing tests based on the skills and concepts for the trimester. Students may retake any performance assessments for a higher grade at any time before the end of the trimester

**II. WRITTEN ASSESSMENTS – (40%)** Each grading period students will be required to complete two or more written theory tests based on the skills and concepts studied that trimester. Students may retake any written assessments for a higher grade at any time before the end of the trimester.

**III. EVALUATIONS & JOURNALS– (20%)** Students will be asked to reflect on their performance and practice through two or more writing prompts each grading period. These assignments must be completed and turned in by the last week of the trimester for credit.

## Expectations

- ◆ Have all materials with you at the start of each rehearsal. These items may include: instrument, music, pencil, mute(s), reeds, sticks, or any other necessary items.
- ◆ Look ahead to future performances on your calendar so arrangements can be made to be present.
- ◆ All instruments, music, and equipment will be put away in their proper locations at the end of each rehearsal.
- ◆ Take care of your instrument to ensure that it is fully functional for rehearsal. Keep it clean and in good working order. Any repair or care should take place outside of class time.
- ◆ Show respect for all students, directors, or any guests in and out of rehearsal, whether at school or any other location.
- ◆ When in uniform, you represent not only our band, but Big Hollow School District. All students must act in a manner that respectfully represents the caliber of students at Big Hollow.
- ◆ You are financially responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen school equipment and sheet music.
- ◆ Members of the band will adhere to all policies, procedures, and guidelines as stated in the Big Hollow Student Handbook.
- ◆ Maintain a regular practice time and routine at home. This is key for progress in class.
- ◆ Any instrument or equipment not belonging to or specifically assigned to you is strictly off limits.
- ◆ Have fun and take pride in what you do!

## Big Hollow Fine Arts Boosters

The purpose of Fine Arts Boosters is to advance the best interests of the Big Hollow fine arts programs by giving support as requested to the program's needs. Maintaining a successful and active music program requires support and funding beyond that provided by the school district. The Fine Arts Boosters may provide support to the music program by raising money for the purchase and repair of school instruments, music, and equipment, acting as chaperones for events, organizing and executing fundraising programs, and advocating for arts education in schools.

Any parents interested in participating, please visit the booster website at [bighollowfinearts.weebly.com](http://bighollowfinearts.weebly.com). Parental backing is an invaluable aide to any fine arts organization. The success of the band is due, in large part, to the active participation of parents. The Fine Arts Boosters organization is a great way for parents to become involved in their child's music education and to show children their support. We look forward to seeing you at future meetings!

## Jazz Band

Jazz Band is an auditioned extra-curricular activity offered after school once a week to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students enrolled in band class. During this time, students learn the style and history of jazz music. Additional performance opportunities are available to students in Jazz Band, including competition and contest. Jazz Band is funded through the Fine Arts Boosters and a \$70 fee per student for half of the year. Jazz Band has two sessions—one in the fall and one in the spring. Please contact Mrs. Kumpula if you have questions about this group.

After reading the Big Hollow Middle School Band Handbook with your child, please submit the electronic form to Mrs. Kumpula by **Friday, August 31st**. If you have multiple children in the band program, please fill out a **SEPARATE** form for each child.

The electronic form can be located in one of three ways:

- ⇒ Find it on the band webpage at [www.mrskumpula.weebly.com](http://www.mrskumpula.weebly.com)
- ⇒ Go directly to— <https://goo.gl/forms/WSI9iSx1hQ2Q9Er63>
- ⇒ Scan this QR code.



**\*\* Please send in payment for the band t-shirt with your child's first and last name clearly labeled. The cost of the shirt is \$10.—cash or checks are accepted. All checks should be made out to BHMS Fine Arts Boosters. Please send in payment by Friday, August 31st. Sizes are selected on the online handbook form (see directions above).**