

Southeast Guilford Middle School

Band Member Handbook Rules, Guidelines and Expectations



2019-2020

Mr. Andrew Leib
Director

“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.”
-Aristotle

“I can accept failure, everyone fails at something. But I can't accept not trying.”
-Michael Jordan

“You can't expect life changing results without life changing effort”
- Unknown

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Welcome

Dear Southeast Middle Band families,

I hope to build off last year's success (1st time in 10 years the band received a "Superior" Rating at our Music Performance Assessment) and continue to grow our band family into something truly amazing and something all the students and parents can be proud to participate in.

This year, one of my main goals for the program and theme for the first 9 weeks of the school year will be, **"Excellence from Day One!"** We have achieved our current level of excellence by creating a strong family environment in our band room. This year I want to push the students incredibly hard to reach their potential in a safe and friendly setting that makes it okay for them to make mistakes as they progress.

A key component of **"Excellence from Day One"** is Accountability. Students in middle school begin shaping their academic and professional habits as soon as they start school in August as 6th graders. My job as their teacher is to prepare them with a toolbox of skills and knowledge (musical and non-musical) that will help them to be self-sufficient, independent, well-rounded students that are equipped to deal with the challenges they will face in high school and beyond. It is important to instill these positive habits as soon as possible and **"Excellence from Day One"** is how we will do that in the band classes.

We've all heard and know the benefits of children's participation in an organized performing ensemble. I want to help you maximize your "return-on-investment" AND take our success to the next level BUT, I can't guarantee that you'll see a "return-on-investment" unless each student is committed to doing their part and contributing to their own success as well as the success of the group (i.e. having all materials, being responsible, practicing at home, participating in rehearsals etc.). Band is a graded GROUP performance-based class where the success or failure of the GROUP is determined by each member's equal contribution.

Parents, the investment in your child's participation in band is far more than monetary. I intend to do my best to help you make the most return on this investment as I can, but I cannot do it alone. Your child will learn so many life skills and will have so many positive experiences while in band, but for you to capitalize on your investment your child needs you to be involved and to take an active role in helping them progress. As children get older parents become less of an influence on their children, that is an unfortunate fact, but you can help them by surrounding them with positive influences and role models. By being involved in the band, you are already doing that! I hope you will encourage your child by helping them along the way where you can, and by not letting them see challenges and setbacks as "failures" but as "opportunities" for growth. Together, we can position your child to be ready for success in high school and beyond, which is a priceless commodity!

We have quite a full calendar of events already scheduled for this year. Please complete the handbook signature page promptly after you have reviewed the contents of the handbook and bring the completed form with you to your next class. *Please feel free to contact me at 336-674-4280 or email Mr. Leib at leiba@gcsnc.com. I'm so glad you have chosen to be in Band!*

Sincerely,

Mr. Leib
Director of Bands, SEMS

Contact

Mr. Leib encourages positive communication throughout your students' musical endeavors and is always willing to discuss any aspect of your child's progress. Parents are encouraged to contact Mr. Leib directly for any concerns related to their student's band class.

Email: leiba@gcsnc.com

Phone: 336-674-4280

Student/Parent Communication

Students are also encouraged to communicate with the director before concerns become issues. They should do this in person at an appropriate time, one on one. Again, clarification and solid communication will keep everything running smoothly throughout the entire year.

Throughout the year, we will be sending quite a bit of information home in the form of letters. Please make every effort to read this information carefully, check calendars often and keep us informed of any conflicts. The sooner we know of a situation, the more options we have in solving problems.

Remind Class Notifications:

To aid in better student, teacher, parent communication, we use REMIND classes to send quick updates and reminders via text message throughout the year. Please use the information below to sign up for the appropriate remind class for your student.

For each class send a text message to **81010** with the correct text below in the body of your message (there are no spaces in the join codes):

Class	Join Code
6 th grade	@semsband6
7 th grade	@semsband7
8 th grade	@semsband8

SEMS Band Program Objectives

SEMS instrumentalists will continually learn and exhibit superior musicianship through respect, responsibility, performance and sound musical technique. Students leaving the SEMS band program after three years of instruction will have demonstrated the following objective mastery;

- Organizational skills
- Practice techniques
- Mental and physical discipline
- Citizenship through group endeavors
- Cultural growth
- Value judgments
- Music theory
- Proper instrumental technique
- Life lessons
- Creative self-expression
- Aural skills
- Music appreciation
- Teamwork/social skills
- Performance skills

Instruments

You will need an instrument, cleaning/ maintenance supplies, method book, pencil and concert attire (see supply list attached).

Students in **BEGINNING BAND** may choose between flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, and saxophone. There are a limited number of spots available for saxophone. To aid in the instrument selection process, Mr. Leib holds instrument fitting sessions prior to the start of school. All factors will be considered carefully in accordance with each student's personal preference to help determine the placement of your student while building a balanced ensemble.

Please note that students wishing to play percussion are selected by the directors after first demonstrating musical proficiency on a wind instrument. Percussion auditions will occur in December and information will be sent home regarding these auditions then.

When you shop for an instrument, please look for a store that has its own repair shop. Instruments are bound to need a tune up from time to time, and typically repair shops will not repair an instrument if it was not purchased in their store.

Please make Mr. Leib aware of any difficulties you are having in purchasing or renting an instrument. Do not let cost prevent you from participating in music!

School Owned Instruments

SEMS has a limited inventory of school owned instruments such as baritone, tuba, tenor saxophone, bari saxophone and bass clarinet. You and your parents must sign a "School Instrument Loan Agreement" with the school system. Remember, you are responsible for taking care of school owned instruments (including regular maintenance or repairs). School-owned instrument repair needs must be immediately directed to the directors.

School instruments are assigned in the following manner; 8th Grade students get priority, then 7th grade, and finally 6th grade. Students needing assistance that are unable to acquire their own personal instrument, may be assigned a school instrument (if available, and may not be their first preference), but the student family is responsible for purchasing the appropriate mouth pieces and accessories (see “Required Materials & Supply List”).

Band Room Rules and Expectations

Classroom Rules (The Five B’s of Band):

1. **Be Silent** (While the Director is Speaking)
2. **Behave** (you will, or else...)
3. **Be Safe** (Everything is expensive, don’t touch what is not yours)
4. **Be Prepared** (with instrument/supplies, and practice)
5. **Be a Contribution** (always participate, give your best effort)

Consequences:

1. **1st offence: verbal warning**
2. **2nd offence: teacher/student conference**
3. **3rd offence: Parent phone call**
4. **4th offence: Alternate Intervention** (i.e. teacher assigned detention, office referral, silent lunch, etc.)

The classroom rules and consequences will be explained and practiced during the first two days of school.

Band Member Expectations

Care of Facilities

- No gum, food, or drinks are allowed in the band room except when authorized by the directors.
- All trash is to be deposited in the wastebaskets provided.
- Acts of vandalism or the willful misuse of school property will be dealt with severely and appropriately. Every band member is responsible to help the directors monitor the facility and control vandalism, which includes but is not limited to writing or carving on walls, destroying music, or breaking school property.
- Please knock on office doors; and, if you are invited in, you may enter. Otherwise, offices are off-limits to students. Students may not use directors’ phones without permission.
- The telephone in the band room may not be used by non-band members. This phone is not to be used for personal calls, but may be used to call parents for rides, etc.
- Students must ask permission to use the phone and all calls will be limited to two minutes

Safety

Due to the heavy student traffic going in and out of the band room, as well as the possibility of theft/damage of instruments, students not enrolled in the SEMS band are not allowed in the band room at any time. Friends of the SEMS band members may wait outside the band room to accompany their band friend to another location.

Daily Procedures

Mr. Leib will go over, in detail, the daily procedures that all students are expected to maintain throughout the year. For music making to happen, there are very specific procedures that all students must follow in order to maintain a safe, respectful environment in the band classroom. The essential procedures will be practiced during the first two weeks of school. **After a procedure has been practiced and students demonstrate understanding, it is expected to maintain the same for the course of the year. Failure to follow the outlined procedures will result in disciplinary action as outlined above.**

Practicing

As with any skill-based activity, it is essential for students to practice at home **daily**. Students who wish to participate in All-County/District Band should seek additional help outside of school. A list of private lesson instructors will be provided. Parents I encourage you to listen to your student as they practice. Ask them what they played in class and then have them play it for you. Ask them what performance benchmarks are coming up and help them document their practice in the practice records. Be involved in the process, make it a routine to hear your student playing their instrument. Just showing interest in your student's music making will encourage them to practice!

Dropping Off/Picking Up Instruments

Due to sectionals before school, **no student should enter the band room before 8:45am** to drop off their instrument, except on days you have a sectional rehearsal or are attending a band tutorial. Students found in the band room without expressed permission from the director will be asked to leave immediately and a consequence shall follow for repeat offences. Students should not be entering the band room before the dismissal bell at the end of the day to pick up their instrument due to band classes being in session. The only exception would be on a day a student has an early dismissal.

Tardy

Mr. Leib abides by the SEMS tardy policy found in your student handbook. A student is considered tardy after Mr. Leib closes the band room door (2 minutes after "official" class start time) and must have a teacher signed note to be excused.

Two unexcused tardy = Silent lunch | Three unexcused tardy = Detention | Four unexcused tardy = Referral

Student Intervention Policy

All students are expected to maintain an appropriate level of respect and discipline in the classroom as outlined by the SEMS PBIS guidelines. In the event of disruptive behavior in class, the above consequences will be implemented. **SEVERE** behavior disruptions will result in an immediate referral to the office. This includes excessive horseplay, forceful push that results in a fall/injury, physical aggression/fighting, chronic defiance/disrespect, chronic dress code violation, chronic tardiness, chronic inappropriate language or direct inappropriate language to a staff member.

Attendance Policy

In order to have and maintain a high-quality band program, each member's attendance is essential. While the SEMS band follows all school and district policies and procedures, the following additional guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies for the SEMS band. These attendance guidelines also apply to activities held outside of the school day.

Excused Absence

Absences during the school day will be excused according to district guidelines. Absences from activities held outside the school day will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Appointments, tutorials etc. are not excuses for absence. Absences due to personal illness requiring medical attention, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances (approved by director) may be considered for excused status. Students who are continually ill may be required to provide a doctor's note releasing them from participation. Absences should be discussed with a director to determine whether or not they will be excused.

Unexcused Absence

Students with an unexcused absence from any required band activity will receive a zero in the grade book for the activity that was missed. Rehearsals, concerts, contests, and competitions cannot be made up. Students with an unexcused absence to a sectional rehearsal may be required to schedule a make-up time with the band director within one week.

Concerts/Performances

Concerts and performances are an integral component of the band curriculum. Students should consult the band calendars for dates and times. Each of the concert ensembles will perform at various times throughout the school year and are mandatory. Periodically, the schedule may change, and updates will be communicated. Concerts are considered to have three parts: warmup, performance, and listening. For the student, the concert begins at the warm-up. Punctuality is essential. A concert concludes after the last group has performed and directors give permission for students to be dismissed. A general report time will be given for all students. If a performance causes a student to miss another class, the student is responsible to make up all missed work.

Performances of the ensembles will include but are not limited to the following in 7/8th Grade:

- Fall concert
- Winter concert
- Band festivals
- Pre-MPA Concert/ adjudication
- **MPA contest** (See "Music Performance Assessment (MPA)" below)
- Spring Trip Festival
- Spring concert
- **All County/District Band Tryouts** (See "All-District/All-County Band Auditions" below)
- Solo and Ensemble contest
- Other events as scheduled

Performances of the ensembles will include but are not limited to the following in 6th Grade:

- Winter concert
- Spring concert
- Solo and Ensemble Contest
- Other events as scheduled

Special Note – Students absent from school for any reason or students who are in ISS or OSS on the day of a concert, contest, or competition may not participate.

Grading

Band, unlike most other classes, requires a collective contribution of effort and collaboration. In band, our product (performances) is the result of everyone’s contribution every day. If every student in a 100-member band plays just one wrong note during a performance, that’s 100 wrong notes! Perfection is not expected, **effort** is. Musical achievement is not expected, personal growth is. Trophies and plaques are not expected, working hard together is.

Grades will be weighted each quarter in the following manner:

Percentage Weight	Grading Category
10%	Daily Contribution Grade
40%	Performance Benchmarks/Playing & Written Tests
20%	Practice Records
30%	Concert Performance/Extension of Class (Rehearsals/Sectionals)

The following list is provided to give students and parents examples of items that may be subject to grading. Additional assignments may be given at the discretion of the director.

- The student will receive a grade for each before or after school section or full rehearsal during a grading period.
- The student will be on task and focused during rehearsals.
- The student will have instrument, music, pencil, and supplies in rehearsals.
- The student will be prepared to play his/her part successfully.
- The student will mark music and take notes as needed.
- The student will be expected to improve individual music skills.
- The student’s individual skill development will be evaluated through recorded music tests, individual playing tests, scale tests, and/or written tests.
- The student will be evaluated on improvement of ensemble skills during daily rehearsals.
- The student will be expected to improve his/her performance fundamentals.
- The student will be evaluated for improvement of his/her music fundamentals through daily observation during the “basics” part of each rehearsal and during sectionals.
- The student will be expected to demonstrate correct posture, hand position, embouchure, air production, and articulation as monitored during rehearsals.
- The student will be expected to develop a historical knowledge of the literature relative to their respective instrument.
- The student will receive a grade for each performance during a grading period.

Daily Contribution Grade (DCG)

A superior performance is the result of everyone's collective effort every day. Students are required to bring their instrument, music, and a pencil to class every day in order to earn full credit for each nine weeks. The DCG is entered into the gradebook as one 100-point assignment at the beginning of each quarter.

- **To maintain 100 points, students must:**
 - Be on time, follow all classroom rules and expectations
 - Have ALL materials and instrument together by the end of the warm up period
 - Remain focused and attentive throughout classes and rehearsals
 - Contribute to the performance of the group in a positive manner
- **Students DCG will be reduced by 5 points** for forgetting **any** of their required materials (instrument, music, etc); **OR** a student with all materials fails to meet the expectations and guidelines in this handbook during a rehearsal.
- Students may also lose DCG points for other reasons at the discretion of Mr. Leib including but not limited to; leaving instrument out, leaving music on stand, not properly putting instrument(s) and music away, etc.

Cough, cold, headache or stomachaches are not valid excuses for not participating in class. If you are too sick to play, then you should be home.

Performance Benchmarks/Objectives (Tests)

Weekly performance benchmarks (playing/written tests) are necessary to monitor the growth of a student's individual musical abilities. Mr. Leib firmly believes that "growth" is the best measure of a student's musical ability. Talent, therefore, can be cultivated through effort and careful practice. Using this approach will allow Mr. Leib to tailor the benchmarks to each student's individual and unique needs. Performance benchmarks will be evaluated using a variety of teacher or student made rubrics.

Making Performance Assessments

Students may retake any performance assessment as many times as necessary to receive a passing score. Make up performance benchmarks can be completed by the student in one of the following ways; (1) sign up for a before/after school tutoring session (2) replay in class on a "replay" day (3) **if at the end of each quarter a student has no unexcused absences from sectional rehearsals, the TWO lowest scores will be raised to 100%**

Concert & Rehearsal Grade

Concerts and performances are an integral part of the band curriculum. Performances are the product of hours of rehearsal and practice and are equivalent to benchmarks and end-of-grade tests in other subject areas. **Because the concert grade makes up 30% of each marking period's grade, it is imperative that students and parents abide by the performance calendar attached to this handbook.**

Concerts/Performances are a REQUIRED part of the BAND grade. Alternative assignments will be assigned for UNEXCUSED absences or ANY reason deemed necessary by the Director including BUT NOT LIMITED to:

- Currently has a failing grade in band class

- Has not had instrument in class enough to practice concert music with the band
- Did not pass playing benchmarks to perform concert music
- Student's instrument is not in working order
- Student has indicated a scheduling conflict to the director

To receive 100% of the concert grade for each quarter, students must arrive on time and stay for the duration of the performance (unless schedule conflict was previously indicated). Students will also need to have correct concert attire and are expected to maintain appropriate concert etiquette to earn the full grade.

Concert points will be deducted for being late, not having all concert materials (music, instrument, etc.), being out of concert dress, not maintaining good concert etiquette, leaving early without prior consent, using cellphones during performances, or any other reason deemed necessary by Mr. Leib. TWENTY-FIVE (25) points will be deducted for the first infraction and FIFTEEN (15) points for each additional infraction. Points that are deducted during a concert are not redeemable and cannot be made up.

Concert Attire

Everyone will wear black pants, black socks/tights, closed toed black shoes and the black SEMS music polo shirt (which you will purchase from the boosters). With this dress code, we avoid hemline and neckline issues and achieve a very uniform look. Let's look as good as we will sound!!!

Concert Behavior Expectations

Band students will exhibit proper concert behavior during all performances, in either their own band or as an audience member. Students will be graded on their behavior. Concert etiquette is an integral part of music education. The following rules will be followed by parents and students at all times:

- Talking is not permitted on stage or in the audience. It is disrespectful to the performers on stage and audience members.
- Do not distract the performing band in any way.
- Do not leave your seat for any reason during a performance. You will be given ample time to use the restroom and drinking fountain before a concert begins. If you must leave, do so as quietly and inconspicuously as possible (make sure the doors do not slam shut). Leave between songs only.
- No food or drink is allowed on stage, backstage, or in the seating area. This includes water bottles and gum.
- Cell phones must be turned off (not on vibrate or silent) and stowed away. Any student using a cell phone during a performance may have consequences.
- Move between the seating area and stage in quiet, single-file lines. Sit in your assigned seat/row. Do not talk as you enter or exit.
- Support your fellow band members with appropriate applause. Yelling, whistling, shouting names, etc. is not acceptable.
- Set a good example for the audience and other students. Other people may not know how to behave in a concert setting.
- We hope all parents and guests will stay for the concert when bringing a student to a concert. If a student needs to be picked up, please do so in a timely manner. Any student not picked up on time may not be allowed to participate in future SEMS activities.
- Students are expected to stay for the entire concert.

Practice Records

The rewards (return-on-investment) of playing a musical instrument increases in direct proportion to the number of hours invested in individual practice. The key is to set aside a designated time every day for practice. Set up a daily schedule to ensure that practice is an important part of your daily studies. Each student will be given **ONE** practice record sheet (printed on cardstock) for each Semester. Students will be responsible for keeping the practice card in their band binder.

- Due every Thursday or the first day back to school (vacation or sick)
- Assignment Sheets (given each week by the director) should accompany the practice card
- Minimum 160 minutes of practice time per week for 2nd and 3rd year Band students
- Minimum 100 minutes of practice time per week for first year Band students
- **Only record minutes “played” (i.e. minutes of sound being made on instrument)**
- **Attendance at before/after school sectionals (see below) count toward weekly minutes practiced (60 min)**
- Signed by parent/guardian
- Can be turned in one day late, 10 points off
- Can be emailed to the director as a picture attachment of the original practice card
- Extra credit for more than required amount of time
- Practice Sheets will NOT be accepted after the 1-day late rule!!

Financial Obligations

It is the philosophy of the Southeast Middle School Band that no student should be denied the privilege of band membership due to financial hardship. For options in meeting financial obligations, parents should contact the director. Below are estimated events/costs of student activities and is intended for illustration purposes only:

- Band Spring Trip (all eligible 7th & 8th grade members) - approximately \$80-100
- SEMS Concert Polo - \$20
- District Band Festival fees (7th & 8th grade only) - approximately \$85.00 - \$120.00
- Pizza Party or incentive days (all members) - \$3.00 - \$5.00 each occurrence
- Possible Contest Fees not covered by SEMS budget (District Band, Solo and Ensemble) - 7th/8th grade only - \$7.00-\$10.00 for each occurrence
- Reeds and other instrument accessories – approximately \$30 - \$60 per nine weeks
- Instrument rental – approximately \$30 - \$60 per month

Fundraising

At SEMS, the band department holds ONE general fundraiser at the beginning of the school year. We don't believe in asking parents to give up their personal time to wash cars, sell cookie dough or magazines. The money raised from our beginning of the year fundraiser (donation drive), goes to cover general operating expenses of the band program not covered by the GCS budget. Last year's donation fundraiser brought in a little over \$8,000 for the band.

We would like to continue this style of fundraiser, but its success depends on everyone's participation. Here is a brief

list of the expenses not covered by the GCS budget:

- | | | |
|---|---|----------|
| • Funds to hire 5 professional instructors to teach instrument specific sectionals | = | \$10,000 |
| • Purchase New Mallet Percussion Instruments (Marimba, Vibraphone) | = | \$6,000 |
| • Extra music for concerts (6 new pieces per band, 18 total; between \$45-\$80 each) | = | \$1,200 |
| • Funds to bring in guest clinicians and conductors to work each band before contests | = | \$1,000 |
| • Misc. supplies, technology and equipment for the band department | = | \$2,000 |

The entire program will benefit from reaching our fundraising goals. If we do not reach our initial goal for fundraising, we may need to add an additional (more traditional) fundraiser later in the year. Details about the initial fundraiser, and each family's expected minimum contribution will be covered during our beginning of the year band parent meeting.

Trip Criteria

Every year the band takes a trip in April/May. This trip rewards the students for all their hard work throughout the school year. In order to participate in these trips, the students must do the following:

- Students must not be failing more than two core classes during the nine weeks of the trip.
- Turn in their medical release forms and permission slips.
- Must attend MPA Contest (7th & 8th grade).
- Must attend scheduled sectionals/practices.
- Must attend auditions for all-county/all-district band (8th grade only).
- Perform all competition music at designated metronome marking for the director at or above 90%. This includes correct notes, rhythms, intonation, and dynamics. Students may be required to perform music more than once. All music must be performed for the director by a scheduled date.
- Cannot have received an office referral at any time from the band director during the semester in which the trip occurs.

Music Performance Assessment (MPA)

Participation in the NC Bandmasters Music Performance Assessment (MPA) Evaluation is mandatory for all 7th and 8th grade band students, except for first year 7th grade students. This is an opportunity for the groups to be evaluated at the state level to better assess their proficiency as musicians and my efficiency as the director. The bands will travel to an adjudication site to be evaluated by a panel of distinguished judges in various areas and given a rating of Poor, Fair, Good, Excellent or Superior.

For more information about the NC Bandmasters Association's Music Performance Assessment visit:
www.ncbandmasters.org

All-District/All-County Band Auditions

All-District and All-county Band Auditions are a requirement for all 8th grade students. For students in the 7th grade (except for beginner 7th grade students), these events are **STRONGLY** encouraged. This is a large portion of the

preparation in the fall, as this helps to develop player’s individual performance abilities. For more information and details about instrument specific requirements, visit: www.nccdba.com/middle-school-auditions.html

Required Materials & Supply List

Each student should plan to bring the following items to rehearsals and/or performances. Other items may be added at the discretion of the directors.

- All issued music
- Measures of Success Book 1 (6th grade & beginner 7th grade only)
- Two different colored highlighters
- Mechanical Pencils
- Instrument (with case name tag)
- All supplies relative to their instrument (see below)
- 1-inch **Black** band binder (with labeled dividers & at least 30 clear protective sheets)
- Korg TM-60 metronome/tuner *
- Korg Contact Microphone Pickup *
- Other equipment as needed

* = These items can be purchased through the school. An order form will be available at the beginning of the year.

Accessories for each instrument:

Flute	Cleaning rod/ cleaning cloth
Oboe/Bassoon	Reeds (ask director for sizes) at least 2 at all times, cork grease, water cup (for soaking reeds)
Clarinet	Reeds (Vandoran or Rico Royal, ask director for size) at least three at all times , cork grease, silk swab (usually comes with instrument), reed case/guard
Saxophone	Reeds (Vandoran or Rico Royal, ask director for size) at least three at all times , cork grease, silk swab (usually comes with instrument), reed case/guard, neck strap or harness (for bari sax)
Trumpet/ Euphonium/ Tuba	Piston valve oil, slide grease, mouthpiece brush, cleaning snake (trumpets only), polishing cloth, dish rag or old t-shirt cut into square(s) for emptying water keys
Trombone	Slide grease (Slide-o-Mix recommended), small spray bottle for water (must fit in case), mouthpiece brush, polishing cloth, dish rag or old t-shirt cut into square(s) for emptying water keys
Horn	Rotary valve oil (hetmen), slide grease, mouthpiece brush, cleaning snake (if owned or rented), polishing cloth, dish rag or old t-shirt cut into square(s) for emptying water keys
Percussion*	Stick/mallet bag, Vic-Firth SD-1 sticks or similar concert snare sticks, med-hard bell/xylo mallets, med-hard yard marimba mallets, general timpani mallets, snare drum practice pad

Percussion students: 6th grade students that are selected to play percussion will be given an order form to purchase the required materials upon being selected. Percussion students are responsible for bringing materials to class every day. Sticks and mallets may not be shared or borrowed. Students that leave mallet bag and or sticks in the band are leaving them at their own risk. Students should carry the mallet bag with them to and from classes.

Student using school owned instruments: Students that use school instruments, usually larger and/or “harmony”

instruments, will be required to supply their own mouthpiece. The school does not have an inventory of mouthpieces to supply, nor is it sanitary to re-use old mouthpieces. See director for specific brand and model recommendations.

Instrument Storage and Identification

SEMS does not currently have Instrument lockers for secure instrument storage. Student Instruments are to be put in their cases, and the cases kept closed and latched while in their designated storage area (open shelves in band room) at the beginning of the school day and picked up at the end of the school day. **NO INSTRUMENTS ARE TO BE KEPT IN THE BAND ROOM OVERNIGHT OR OVER THE WEEKENDS.** Sixth grade students will begin to consistently bring their instruments home as soon as their band director instructs them to do so. It is suggested that all personal instruments have the proper insurance coverage. Band students will take home their instruments and band binders every evening. Students are expected to practice regularly outside of band class and sectionals. Students are not allowed to leave their instrument unattended at any time. There will be consequences for any student whose instrument is brought to Mr. Leib by another student, teacher, etc. -- whether it is found on or off school property.

ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE A CLEARLY LABELED NAME TAG ON THEIR INSTRUMENT CASE AT ALL TIMES.

Luggage tags work great for this purpose. Failure to have your instrument clearly labeled with result in instrument lockup (impoundment).

Band Room Hours

The band room normally opens for sectional rehearsals at 7:30 am, and closes at 5:30 pm, except on Fridays or the day before a holiday – in which case the band room will close at 4:30 pm.

Sectionals (tutorials) will be held from 7:45 – 8:45 am before school, and from 4:15 – 5:15 pm after school for 7th and 8th grade Band members. Sectional times may be adjusted when and if needed, depending on upcoming contests. On days when no sectionals are being held, the band room will open at 8:00 am, and will close at 4:30 pm.

Parent Drop-off and Pick-up

Parents must make arrangements for transportation of their children to and from section rehearsals, and to and from the band room during trips and special events. Lack of transportation will not be an accepted excuse for missing a band function. To ensure the safety of their children, parents are encouraged to have a plan for drop-off and pick-up of students in a timely manner for band events.

For the safety of all involved, students must go home after the band room closes. Parents, please be aware that the main office will be closed before sectionals end. Family transportation and car pools are ways to help your child get home safely and in a timely manner.

Do not let transportation become a reason to not attend a band function, Mr. Leib can put you in contact with other band families who may be able to assist with transportation.

SEMS Band Events Calendar 2019-2020

All highlighted events are required as part of students' concert grade.

	6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade
8th Grade Band Night <i>(at Southeast HS)</i>			Friday Oct. 18th 6pm <i>(details to follow)</i>
All-County Band Auditions <i>(location TBA)</i>		Tuesday, Nov. 5th <i>(audition times TBA prior)</i>	Tuesday, Nov. 5th <i>(audition times TBA prior)</i>
Beginner Showcase Concert <i>(in SEMS Gym)</i>	Thursday, November 14 <i>(Report: 6:45pm Concert: 7pm)</i>		
6 th Grade Percussion Auditions	Dec. 9th – Dec. 13th <i>Selection Criteria Sent home Dec. 3 Final Selection Announced Dec. 20</i>		
* All-County Band Clinic * <i>(Only for students selected to participate)</i>		* Wednesday & Thursday, Dec. 4th & 5th * <i>(details sent home following acceptance into the band)</i>	
Winter Concert <i>(at SEGHS Auditorium)</i>		Thursday Dec. 19th <i>(Report: 6:45pm Concert: 7pm)</i>	
All-District Band Auditions <i>(at Orange HS)</i>		Saturday, Jan. 11th, 2020 <i>(Audition Times TBA Prior)</i>	Saturday, Jan. 11th, 2020 <i>(Audition Times TBA Prior)</i>
* All-District Band Clinic * <i>(only for students selected to participate)</i>		* Friday & Saturday, Jan. 31st & Feb 1st * <i>(details sent home following acceptance into the band)</i>	
Pre-MPA Concert <i>(at SEGHS Auditorium)</i>		Thursday, March 12th <i>(report 6:45pm Concert 7pm)</i>	
CDBA MPA Concert <i>(at Asheboro HS)</i>		March 23rd - OR - March 24th <i>(Details released after final performance schedule set)</i>	
CDBA Solo & Ensemble Contest	April 28th <i>at SW Guilford HS Times TBA</i>	April 28th <i>at SW Guilford HS Times TBA</i>	April 28th <i>at SW Guilford HS Times TBA</i>
Carowinds Music Festival <i>(7th and 8th grade only)</i>		May 16th <i>(Full Day Field Trip Dates, Cost, etc TBA)</i>	
Spring Concert <i>(at SEGHS Auditorium)</i>		Thursday, May 14th <i>(Report: 6:45pm Concert: 7pm)</i>	

Mr. Leib has worked in accordance with the SEMS athletic director to avoid potential sporting conflicts. There should not be games scheduled on the day of a concert or audition. Students are to be excused from practice to attend concerts. If a game is rescheduled on the day of a concert, notify Mr. Leib as soon as possible to make arrangements. **Non-school sponsored athletic events and practices will not be considered an excused absence from a performance. When in doubt, contact Mr. Leib.**

Beginning of the year checklist/

Below is a check list you should complete before turning in this handbook agreement.

- ___ - We have **read and understand** the guidelines and expectations of the SEMS band handbook (found at www.semsfalconband.com)
- ___ - We have subscribed to the appropriate Remind class to receive notifications from Mr. Leib
- ___ - I have my **BLACK** 1-inch three ring binder with tab dividers, clear sheet protectors and a pencil pouch
- ___ - I have mechanical pencils/two different colored highlighters and all of the supplies listed for my instrument
- ___ - I have my Korg TM60 tuner and CM-200 clip on mic, **OR** I have ordered one
- ___ - I have located my SEMS Band polo and it still fits **OR** I have completed an order form to receive a new one
- ___ - I have subscribe to the SEMS band google calendar (visit: <https://tinyurl.com/SEMSbandcal>)
- ___ - My instrument has been recently cleaned or serviced and ready to play
- OR -
- ___ - My instrument has been ordered/rented and will be in class on the second day of school (7/8th grade only)
- ___ - **We have completed the online Student/Parent Handbook Acknowledgment form.**
(This form is located on the SEMS band website: www.semsfalconband.com)

If your instrument will not be in class on the second day of school, please use the space below to give Mr. Leib details about when to expect your instrument in class:

STUDENT NAME (printed): _____

STUDENT GRADE (circle): 6th Grade 7th Grade 8th Grade

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____