

# GREENVILLE JUNIOR HIGH



*Concert Band*

## HANDBOOK

### 2019-2020

# Contact Information

Shawn Cox

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School: (618) 664-1226

Welcome!

My name is Shawn Cox and I am the music teacher at Greenville Junior High School. I am so excited to be working with you and your children this school year. I love to teach music! This is my 18th year teaching music in our school district. Parents, I hope to have the chance to meet each of you face to face. Stop me anytime and introduce yourselves so I can begin making connections. If you ever have questions about band you can visit our website. This handbook is also a great guide. Inside you will find information about grading, my expectations, performances and a vision for our marching band.

We can communicate in a couple of ways:

## Paper Hard Copy

If you do not have internet access or printing capabilities I can send any of our forms/information home on a hard copy. Please request this on the contract page, only if you need it. I do want to be financially/environmentally responsible when it come to paper consumption.

## WEBSITE & EMAIL

You can find almost all of the information you need on the school website. Paperwork, handbook, performance dates and more. You are always welcome to send me an email any time.



<http://gjh.bccu2.org/music.html>



Remind is a free app that allows me to send messages & updates to your phones and/or your email address. I will use this form of communication the most. Simply text the following to sign up.

Text @2hkb8c to the number 81010

## PERSONAL CONTACT

If you need to contact me quickly you can call or text my personal cell phone. Please leave a message/text with you and your child's name as I will not have everyone's contact information in my phone. Please keep this method of contact as a last resort and for emergencies.

# Performance Dates

## ALL PERFORMANCES ARE REQUIRED

Greenville High School Homecoming Parade — Friday, September 20th

Mt. Vernon Fall Fest Parade — Saturday, September 28th

Jr. High Band Night at GHS — Friday, October 11th

Greenville University Homecoming Parade — Friday, October 18th

Vandalia Homecoming Parade — Thursday, October 24th

All new jr. high band students will be tested to determine how they will participate in the out of town Parades

Christmas Concert — Monday, December 9th 6:00 at the high school

Solo & Ensemble Contest — Saturday, February 29th *Highland Jr. High School*

Spring Concert — Monday, May 4th 6:00 at the high school

## OPTIONAL PARTICIPATION 7th & 8th Graders—Very Cool!

### Illinois Music Educators Association District Auditions

Monday, October 14th, at Mascoutah Middle School

The Illinois Music Educators Association, ILMEA, is the Illinois state-level affiliate of NAFME: The National Association for Music Education. Students from around the state audition to perform in an ILMEA ensemble (band, chorus, or orchestra). Bond County is in District 6, and our auditions take place at Mascoutah Jr. High School. Audition preparation consists of each student either preparing Instrumental/orchestra music or choral music. They will audition in front of a judge, and their score will be recorded and later compiled with all of the other students who auditioned. The district 6 officials will then choose the best students for each ensemble—band, chorus, orchestra—depending on what the student auditioned for. If a student is accepted into one of the ensembles, they then prepare music for the District 6 festival which will be at SIU Carbondale on Saturday, November 2nd, 2019. Students must meet preparation deadlines set by Mr. Cox in order to audition. There are fees for each person who auditions and or is accepted. Please mark on the contract if you and your child are interested in ILMEA auditions.

# Requirements

## Attendance

Attendance is required at all rehearsals and all performances. The more we practice together, the better our performances will be! If one person is missing from the ensemble, the sound and feel of the music changes. Attendance at school is important! This is especially true in marching band. Music is more fun with more people!  
Be There!

Excused absences are granted in extreme situations. If such an extreme situation occurs please text Mr. Cox as soon as you can.

## Marching Attire

Students will have a band uniform assigned to them during band camp for all marching band events. You will need to provide black shoes and **black socks** and purchase a polo shirt from the music department. Marching shoes are available for \$38. Marching band polo shirts and khaki shorts will be worn for all local parades.

## Formal attire for concerts

Girls: school appropriate dresses, long skirts, dress pants, blouse (hair out of face)  
Boys: dress shirt, tie, slacks, and shoes (hair fixed)

## Behavior Expectations

<u>RESPECT</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>	<u>ATTITUDE</u>	<u>EFFORT</u>
Others — Property	Be accountable for your actions.	Bring Positivity	Work with passion Play with passion

## **NEW! PAY FEES ONLINE WITH REVTRAK!**

Beginning this year all orders & payments to the music department must be made using RevTrak. Go to [bccu2.org](http://bccu2.org) to access RevTrak. You can also make payments directly to Mrs. Loucks in the main office.

# Requirements

## Band Lessons & At-Home Practice

Each student will be assigned a lesson time they will attend once or maybe twice a week. All students will be required to fill out weekly goal sheets. This sheet will help the student to develop the skill of setting a goal and working towards the completion of that goal.

Practice is **THE** most important part of learning music with an instrument. I recommend at least 120 minutes of practice a week. Some students will find that 120 minutes is not enough for them to master their music for that week's playing test, and might need to practice more. Practice must take place, preferably every day, in order to be a rock star on your instrument! One day of rest would also be great.

Example: 20 minutes a day for 6 days with a day to rest

## Preparedness & Participation

Students must have their instrument at school every day they have band or lessons. Each student must have the following for every rehearsal and lesson: band binder, music, instrument, a sharpened pencil or two, reeds for woodwind players, oil for brass players, and any other supplies that are needed for the individual student.

## 6th Grade Lesson Schedule:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Flutes	Clarinets	Trumpets	Low Brass & Saxophones	Percussion

\*7th & 8th grade lessons will be scheduled within the first 2 weeks of school.

\*6th grade band meets Wednesdays and Fridays 1st hour 8:20 to 9:05

\*7th & 8th grade band meets every day 9th hour 2:22-3:05

## DISMISSAL FOR EARLY BELLS

Please arrange to have your 7th-8th grade child stay until the third bell rings if at all possible. The class period is short already and some students are leaving at 2:55 for 1st bell. Third bell rings at 3:10.

## Items that need to be purchased

6th Grade & new students: Marching Polo, lyre, flip book, music book & marching shoes, percussionists must have 2 pair of drum sticks.

Returning students who need supplies can also purchase items on RevTrak.

# Instrument Repair

## Cleaning & Repair

Music & Arts

\*Refer to the following guidelines.

\*If you are interested in purchasing an instrument through Music & Arts let me know and I will send information home.

### Music & Arts

For all repairs: **I meet with the music representative every Thursday.** In many cases a loaner instrument can be given to your student while their instrument is being repaired. Contact me if you think there is something wrong with your child's instrument and I will arrange for the pick up/drop off. Be sure your name and phone number is on a piece of paper inside the instrument case along with your name and number on the ID tag attached to your instrument. Remove all personal items from the case. The company will contact you with a quote. You can then determine your course of action.

## SCHOOL INSTRUMENT RENTAL & FEES

There is a \$75 rental fee for students who rent a school instrument for the year. This includes all percussionists. You will need to fill out a rental form and pay your yearly fee online using RevTrak. This fee helps cover the general maintenance of the instrument. Damages to the instrument that require repair or replacement are the responsibility of the renter and not the school. By signing the contract and rental agreement you understand the aforementioned guidelines.

Brass & Woodwind Instruments — \$75 per year

Percussionists — \$75 per year

Marching season rental only — \$50 per year

Color Guard Fee \$30

# PRACTICE TIPS

Every good musician knows that regular practice is a must, but did you know that careless practice can actually make you worse? Before you tell your parent or your teacher that you have decided not to practice, think about the WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN and HOW of practice that will help you play better and enjoy music more.

## WHO?

YOU! Good practice involves your mind, your body, your emotions, and the music. Your parent or teacher may be able to force you to spend time playing the notes, but only YOU can focus your mind and your feeling on the sounds you are producing, so that the music you play is beautiful and expressive.

## WHAT?

Practice that progresses toward excellence will include:

- Warm-ups
- Review of scales, etudes, or pieces you have already learned
- Your new assignment
- Something you really love playing, or just for fun (maybe even make up a piece on your own)

## WHERE?

It's always best to have a special practice place carved out somewhere in your home that everyone knows about. This will help keep you consistent with your practicing, and it will also help other family members respect your practice time.

Choose a semi-quiet area with a chair and a sturdy music stand. There should be proper lighting and a place to store your musical accessories such as sheet music, pencils, markers, notebook and a metronome (specific instruments will require a drawer or cupboard for other things such as extra strings, reeds, valve oil, etc.). There should be minimal distractions such as TV, radio, other children, pets or telephone.

## WHEN?

Dr. Suzuki said, "Only on the days that you eat!" The best plan is to make practice a part of your daily routine. If you know you will practice at a certain time every day, it will happen with very few exceptions.

## HOW?

This is a VERY important question! Many students practice by playing straight through a piece or other assignment (often as quickly as possible) as if they were at a recital, then go on to the next thing, no matter what happened. Money won't buy better playing, but well spent practice time will. Here are some hints for getting the most for your practice "dollar."

- Set goals to try to accomplish in each practice session
- Be sure you know what the passage should sound like
- Work on the most challenging spots first
- Break the music down into small sections
- (How do you eat an elephant? - One bite at a time!)
- Repeat the passage many times AFTER you get it right
- Before you end each practice session, play the entire piece, and enjoy!



# Band Contract 2019-2020

## Parent/Students Contact Information

(Please Print)

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Names** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's Contact Phone Numbers** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's email address** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Student's Instrument Identification (Office use only)**

OWNER (personal or school)	INSTRUMENT	MAKE/MODEL	SERIAL #

I have received and reviewed the Greenville Junior High Band Handbook for the 2019-2020 school year. I have checked all concert dates & marked them on my calendar. I understand the attendance policy as stated in the handbook.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**(PLEASE RETURN TO MR. COX AT THE ROCK THIS HOUSE EVENT!)**

This contract is to insure that both parent and student understand the requirements to be involved in band. Since this is a performance-based class, students must attend concerts outside the normal school day. Please retain the attached handbook for your records.

**PLEASE MARK THE FOLLOWING IF YOU ARE INTERESTED**

I WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST PAPER—HARD COPIES OF ALL INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>
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My child is interested in auditioning for ILMEA Band Festival (7th & 8th grade only)	<input type="checkbox"/>
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