

Summit School District Band/Choir Handbook 2023-2024 School Year Mr. Jimenez

Dear Students and Parents,

I am Mr. Jimenez (Mr. J) and I am excited to be teaching at Summit School! It is my hope that you will not only enjoy your experience in the music world, but you will be challenged as well. In addition to learning about music, how to play your instrument better, or sing beautiful melodies, you will become more self-sufficient, responsible citizens. In striving for all students' success, it is necessary that the environment be conducive to learning. Therefore, it is important for students and parents to understand the procedures and expectations of the classroom.

Our mission:

The Summit School performing ensembles are dedicated to providing outstanding musical experiences and opportunities to its students, while helping them grow into responsible, mature adults and encouraging a lifelong love for music. To make these experiences successful, we require discipline, organization, and commitment to the program. Being a part of the band/choir is to be seen as an honor and students will be expected to help serve as role models for the school and other organizations within it. As a result of our high expectations, discipline, leadership, and social opportunities, the students have the opportunity to develop valuable life skills such as a positive self-image, time management skills, confidence, poise, responsibility, and loyalty as well as the musical abilities needed to be a successful musician.

Ensembles:

Marching Band/Pep Band /Concert Band: Open to 7-12 grade students. Placement in Concert Band will be determined by the band director. In this course, students will improve proficiency in all aspects of performing instrumental music. Through the rehearsal and study of quality wind band literature, students will strengthen individual playing techniques and skills; learn about the theory, history, and vocabulary of music; demonstrate confidence and poise during public performances; and learn to work collaboratively as a member of the ensemble.

- Pep band performances will be **mandatory** for all the students. If unable to attend, students must notify the band director a week in advance. Pep Band events are part of your grade and failure to attend will result in a lowering of grade. Excused absences will have make-up assignments to turn in.

Choir: Open to 7-12 grade students. Placement in Choir will be determined by the choir director. In this course, students will improve proficiency in all aspects of performing vocal music. Through the rehearsal and study of quality choral literature, students will strengthen individual singing techniques and skills; learn about the theory, history, and vocabulary of music; demonstrate confidence and poise during public performances; and learn to work collaboratively as a member of the ensemble.

Concert Attire/Uniforms:

TBD by director.

Scholarships:

Seniors who are members in band/choir will receive a scholarship upon graduating. The amount of money each senior will receive will be based on money fundraised throughout the years. Students who do not fundraise throughout school will not receive a scholarship.

Official Communications

All necessary communication with parents and students will be through the Remind app. Instructions are attached. All band/choir members and at least one parent/guardian need to join the Remind groups (students in both band and choir need to be in both Remind Groups).

We will also use Google Classrooms to post announcements and turn in assignments.

Music Room Policies:

1. The choir/band room should ALWAYS be kept neat and orderly. It should exemplify the PRIDE and ORGANIZATION that reflects the program. Students should clean up around his/her own area, instruments are to be restored in their designated places, and backpacks will be left against the wall or in cubbies.
2. There will be ***NO FOOD OR DRINKS*** in the band room at any time. Water bottles used for marching band will immediately be placed in backpacks upon entrance of the band room. (Gum and candy are also considered food that will not be allowed in the band.)
3. Students will only handle things that belong to them. No one should touch the instrument or personal belongings of another student. Any damage done to the school or other students' property will be the responsibility of the student at fault.
4. No phones during rehearsal or instructional time.
5. Mr. J can add/modify rules as he sees convenient for the ensembles.

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Grading Policies: Based on the schools system

1. Individual Performances 40%
 - a) Individual Playing on Lessons 20%

Students will periodically be given playing tests. These tests will measure the student's ability, their effort and preparation time, and their understanding of the musical concepts introduced during class. Students will have at least 3 playing tests per nine weeks.
 - b) Rehearsal Etiquette 20%

Students are expected to be prepared for rehearsal musically and must also use correct ensemble behavior for each rehearsal.
2. Group Performances 40%
 - a) All Public Performances, students are required to be at every performance with the band including all concerts, clinics, and contests (pep band included). Students are given notice of all events well in advance and should make sure that they are always on time and prepared for each event. Being prepared at each event means having all music fully prepared, being appropriately dressed, and using appropriate concert etiquette.
 - *EXCUSED ABSENCE*

Excused absences are those due to emergencies such as illness, death in the family and other extenuating circumstances. The student or family spokesman should contact the band director and relate the facts causing the emergency and the probable length of time the student will miss rehearsals. The student should bring a note to the director's office within two days upon returning to school.
 - *UNEXCUSED ABSENCES*

An unexcused absence is failure to attend a scheduled rehearsal or performance without the specific approval of the Director of Bands. An absence will be declared unexcused for students who do not bring a note within two days after returning to school. Work/job is not considered an excused absence.

3. Daily Points 20%

These points are given to students everyday for attendance, showing up on time (which means showing up early), being ready to rehearse with instruments out and warmed up, and having all music and materials needed for that particular rehearsal. Students will get 5 points everyday for coming prepared to rehearsal and on time. If they are tardy or forget something 3 points will be taken off. If they are absent and it is unexcused they will lose all 5 points.



Sign up for important updates from D. Jimenez.

Get information for **7-12 Band/Choir** right on your phone—not on handouts.

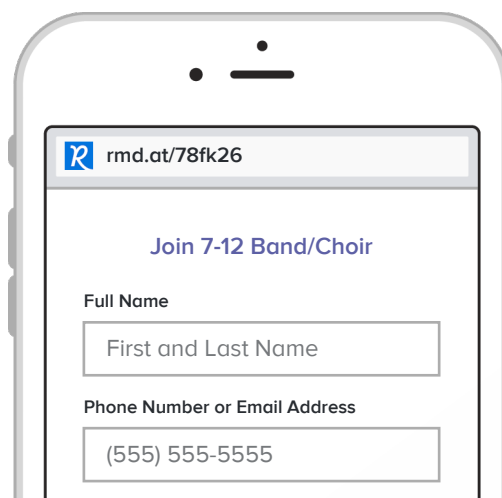
Pick a way to receive messages for **7-12 Band/Choir**:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/78fk26

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message **@78fk26** to the number **81010**.

If you're having trouble with **81010**, try texting **@78fk26** to **(484) 241-4261**.

** Standard text message rates apply.*



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/78fk26 on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.

Tentative Schedule for the upcoming year:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Who</u>
Sept 12	Volleyball-Pepband	Summit	Band/Choir
Sept. 22	Football-PEPBAND	Waubay	BAND
Sept. 22	HOMECOMING	Summit	BAND
TBD	All state workshop	NSU	all state singers
TBD	All State WorkShop	SDSU	all state singers
Oct 12	SDSU Choir Day	SDSU	All state choir
Oct TBD	NSU choir day	NSU	All state choir
Oct. 25	VB-Pepband	Summit	BAND
Oct 26-28	ALL STATE CHOIR	Rapid City	all state singers
Nov.TBD	Instrument Day	Aberdeen	band-sign up
Dec. TBA	Honor Band	Aberdeen	band-auditioned
Dec. 14	Winter Concert K-12 (time TBD)	Summit	everyone
Jan 16	PEP BAND-DH	Summit 4:00	Band
Jan. 26	PEP BAND-DH	Summit 4:00	Band
Feb 5	PEP BAND-DH	Summit 4:00	Band
Feb. TBD	Solo/Ensemble contest	Watertown	Everyone
March TBD	Whetstone Choral Festival	Sisseton	Choir
March TBD	Band Festival	TBD	Band
March TBD	Middle School Solo/Ensemble contest	Milbank	TBD which group
March TBD	Senior trip?	TBD	seniors
March 21-23	All State Band	Pierre	band-auditioned
April TBD	Large Group Contest	Watertown	Everyone
May TBD	Spring Concert	Summit	Everyone
May 2-4	All State Jazz-All State Show Choir	Aberdeen	auditioned

Dates are subject to change and additional events could be added throughout the year.

If a student is unavailable on any date, Mr. J has to be informed at least a week in advance. Grading will be affected upon consideration of the reason for absence.

Events in **BOLD** are events for all students.

Confirmation

Please tear this page and turn this page only; Keep the Handbook at home

- **I have read and discussed the Summit School Band/Choir Handbook with my parents/guardians and we will abide by the rules stated in the handbook. We understand the responsibilities that come with being a member of the Summit Band/Choir and will accept the decisions of the Band/Choir Director.**
- **I have joined the Remind group.**
- **I have joined the Google Classroom for band/choir**

Student Printed Name

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Printed Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

RETURN BY THURSDAY AUGUST 24 TO MR. J.