William Fremd High School – Music Department

Recognized as a Grammy Signature School for Excellence in Music Education

Band Handbook - 2016-2017
Concert Band, Symphonic Band
Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble, & Wind Symphony

Matthew Moore – Director of Bands, Music Department Chair
Jeremy Figlewicz – Associate Band Director
John Teichert – Assistant Band Director

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FHS Website: www.fremdbands.weebly.com
**Philosophy of the Fremd Band Program**

We believe that music and the arts are essential and fundamental components of a well-rounded education. The arts require active participation which helps students to develop problem-solving and higher order thinking skills, and is a life-long learning experience. The arts allow multi-cultural relationships to be explored, enabling students to share in the spirit of the people who created the works and their heritage.

We believe that students gain personal satisfaction, intrinsic motivation, and enjoyment from participation in music classes. The music program provides a structure for continuous growth and development for all students to pursue their individual interests. **We believe that our band program has an obligation to help students develop their musical potential, and should provide an outlet for creativity, self-expression, and maintaining a balanced perspective on life. Through performing the highest possible level of music for each band, we hope to build self-discipline, character, pride, and self-confidence which will form a strong foundation for later achievements in adulthood.**

### Responsibility of Students in the Fremd Bands

1. **Responsibility to ourselves.** We owe ourselves the benefit of proper equipment and proper instruction.

2. **Responsibility to the school.** The school district provides the necessary setting, facilities, and directors, along with most of the larger, more expensive equipment. We have the responsibility to provide the best possible performances for the school, community, and citizens of our school district.

3. **Responsibility to music as an art form.** The performing arts have always been a vital part of humanity. You have been blessed with a very special talent; you have the obligation and responsibility to use that talent for the betterment of your school, community and country.

4. **Responsibility to each other.** Getting along with each other in our complex society is a challenging task all by itself. You have the obligation and responsibility to respect the rights of others.

5. **Responsibility for promptness and commitment to the band.** These are two facts essential to the success of the organization.

6. **Responsibility to the school/community.** As a member of the Fremd High School Bands you have a responsibility to both your school and community to perform at various performances throughout the 2015-2016 school year. School bands are a very important part of our American heritage and culture.

### Rules and Regulations of the Band Room and Program

1. All school attendance/tardy, disciplinary policies, procedures, regulations, and criteria listed in the FHS 2016-2017 Parent/Student Handbook, are strictly enforced by the Music Department and Band program.

2. Absolutely no gum, food, or drink (excluding water) are allowed in any of the music rooms, practice rooms, or music hallways.

3. FHS tardy policies will be strictly enforced. The band directors will set the requirements for each band.

4. Respect ALL school and personal instruments. Never borrow another student’s instrument. Do not walk in between percussion instruments!

5. Come into the Band Room with a positive attitude every day. See if your attitudes can “rub-off” on your peers.

6. Care about your individual band and section. Prepare your parts outside of rehearsal to make everyone happy.

7. Don’t be afraid to ask questions during or after class. Talk to your section leader or one of the directors.

8. Use your peers as a resource - our top players and upperclassmen enjoy helping younger students!

9. If you are asked to go somewhere for a rehearsal (such as the auditorium), get there quickly.

10. Sectionals - show up when scheduled and please be on time. If you are in charge of running a sectional be efficient!

11. **Challenge yourself as a musician and take advantage of the many opportunities available to you!** Practice other types of solo or ensemble music, take private lessons, buy recordings of concert bands, jazz bands, and/or professionals on your instrument, check out your instrument or recordings of your instrument/bands on the Internet, and form ensembles with your peers!
Financial Instrument Obligations and Concert Dress Requirements

*Any student/family who has financial difficulty in purchasing the required supplies for their instrument or dress attire, should consult Mr. Moore (mmoore@d211.org).

1. In order to be a successful musician, all band students must be prepared for each and every class and rehearsal. Each student’s instrument must be in proper working order and well maintained. This includes weekly care of cleaning, greasing and oiling the instrument.
   - Brass students must always have their own mouthpiece, one bottle of valve oil, and slide/valve grease at all times.
   - Clarinet and saxophonists are required to have at least two spare reeds in their case, spit swabs, and cork grease.
   - All percussionists must have their own stick bag with one pair of concert snare sticks, yarn marimba mallets, hard plastic xylophone mallets, medium rubber mallets, and timpani mallets. Additional mallets and equipment will be provided by the band program.
   - All band students are required to purchase their own Band method book at the start of the school year. (The Band Directors will place this order – all woodwind, brass, and percussion books are $11.00 each)

2. Parents/guardians of students performing on instruments owned by Fremd High School must sign a contract of care and obligation. This contract will state that the student and family is responsible for any damage that would occur to that instrument beyond normal wear, as determined by the directors. Each student is responsible for his/her individual school instrument(s) and will be charged repair fees due to accidental or intentional damage caused to the instrument. Students playing school instruments are required to purchase their own mouthpiece, reeds, and necessary supplies.

3. Each student is required to care for his/her marching band uniform if participating in the Viking Marching Band. Any damage to the student’s assigned garments (which include jacket, bib pants, hat, and plume) will result in the students being charged for the repair and/or replacement of the uniform.

4. **Concert dress attire for Concert Band:** Girls – black dress shirt or blouse, black pants or floor length black skirt, black dress shoes (no opened toes), and black dress socks (tall). Boys – black collared dress shirt with tie, black dress pants, black dress shoes, black dress socks (tall).

5. **Concert dress attire for Symphonic Band, Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble, and Wind Symphony girls:** All girls must purchase the two-piece black concert dress. The dress costs approximately $60.00 and will be used for student’s entire band career at FHS. Orders for the girls black concert dress will be taken in September 2016. All girls are also responsible for purchasing black dress shoes.

6. **Concert dress attire for Symphonic Band, Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble, and Wind Symphony boys:** All boys will be assigned a school tuxedo (black coat and pants) in September 2016. Any damage to either the tuxedo jacket and/or pants will result in the student being charged for the repair and/or replacement of the garment(s). Each student is required to pay $5.00 (September 2016) to have their tuxedo dry-cleaned at the end of the school year. Male students who perform in Symphonic Band, Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble or Wind Symphony must have their school issued tuxedo cleaned at least one time during the school year. This is due to the amount of concerts and festivals that the bands participate in. In addition, boys are responsible for purchasing a black bow tie, white tuxedo shirt, black dress socks (tall), and black dress shoes. Each student must return his assigned tux at the end of the school year by the designated date (May 2017). Failure to do this will result in students not be allowed to take final exams; senior students will not receive their graduation diploma.

Uniform Care and Responsibilities

When each band student is in uniform either with the band or without the band, they represent the band, school, and community. The wearing of a partial uniform in public is not acceptable! All members of the Viking Marching Band shall receive the full marching uniform: jacket, bib pants, cape, hat, plume, gloves and gauntlets. Students will be charged additional cleaning fees for their uniform due to negligence or accidental damage. All students are required to purchase a pair of the assigned black marching shoe, gold gauntlets, and white gloves (excluding Drumline and Percussion Pit) as part of their uniform. No other marching band shoes will be accepted unless given permission by the director. Black socks, white t-shirt and shorts are all part of the required uniform. No jewelry is to be worn with the uniform and all long hair must be tucked inside of the marching hat while performing. Destruction or damage to any part of the uniform (including the plume) will result in the student being charged for repairs or replacement of that item.
Performing Ensembles offered by the Fremd Band Program

The Fremd High School Band Program offers a comprehensive study of music, which develop skills in the psychomotor, cognitive, and affective domains. Instruction is designed so that students are able to connect, examine, compare, imagine, define, try, extend, refine, and integrate music study into other subject areas. Ensemble and solo activities are designed to develop the following elements of musicianship: (1) tone and air production, (2) individual instrument technical skills, (3) intonation, (4) music reading skills, (5) listening skills, (6) sight-reading, (7) music analysis, and (8) the study of historically significant styles of music. Through daily instruction, students develop the ability to understand and convey the composer’s intent in order to connect the performer with the audience. The Fremd Bands’ public performances serve as a culmination of daily rehearsals, technical accuracy, and individual musical expression. Each band performs a large and varied repertoire of concert band literature that is developmentally appropriate for the ensemble.

The Concert Band (C157-01) is made up of freshmen band students. Primary focus of the Concert Band will be on the fundamentals of high school instrumental music both individually and through the ensemble. Emphasis is placed on music reading, counting rhythms, tone production, ensemble playing, listening, and intonation. The Concert Band will strive to help each student’s individual music proficiency and progress in the band program. Quarterly band grade will include the following: Homework assignments, daily participation/performance, four FHS Band Concerts, November “Solo and Ensemble Festival”, April Band Festival performance (tentative), designated Pep Band performances, semester concert review paper, and sectional attendance (one twenty-minute sectional every two weeks). Additional grading requirements are listed later in this handbook. The band is directed by Mr. Figlewicz and meets daily during 8th period.

The Symphonic Band (C257-01) consists of freshmen, sophomore, junior, and senior students. Freshmen will be placed in Symphonic Band based on director recommendation and/or instrumentation need. The band performs challenging band repertoire, striving for the highest level of performance. Continued emphasis is placed on music reading, counting rhythms, tone production, ensemble playing, listening, and intonation. Placement in the band is made by directors and based on musical ability. Quarterly band grade will include the following: Homework assignments, daily participation/performance, four FHS Band Concerts, November “Solo and Ensemble Festival”, April FHS Band Festival performance, designated Pep Band performances, semester concert review paper, and sectional attendance (one twenty-minute sectional every two weeks). Additional grading requirements are listed later in this handbook. The band is directed by Mr. Moore and meets daily during 5th period.

The Symphonic Winds (C257-02) consist of sophomore, junior, and senior students. The Symphonic Winds is Fremd’s third uppermost level of concert band. The band performs challenging band repertoire, striving for the highest level of performance. Continued emphasis is placed on music reading, counting rhythms, tone production, ensemble playing, listening, and intonation. Placement in the band is made by directors and based on musical ability. Quarterly band grade will include the following: Homework assignments, daily participation/performance, four FHS Band Concerts, April “Chicagoland Invitational Concert Band Festival”, designated Pep Band performances, semester concert review paper, sectional attendance, November “Solo and Ensemble Festival”, and additional festivals/performances as determined by the band directors. Additional grading requirements are listed later in this handbook. The band is directed by Mr. Teichert and meets daily during 7th period.

The Wind Ensemble (C357-01) consists of sophomore, junior, and senior students. The Wind Ensemble is Fremd’s second uppermost level of concert band. The band performs challenging band repertoire, striving for the highest level of performance. Due to the technical demands of the programmed music, it is assumed and highly recommended that each student studies privately. Students are expected to practice extensively every week to meet the demands of the literature being programmed. Failure to meet the demands of each instrument section will result in grade deduction and possible removal from the Wind Ensemble. Placement in the band is made by directors and based on musical ability. Quarterly band grade will include the following: Homework assignments, daily participation/performance, four FHS Band Concerts, April “Chicagoland Invitational Concert Band Festival”, FHS Graduation Band performance (non-Seniors), designated Pep Band performances, semester concert review paper, sectional attendance, November “Solo and Ensemble Festival”, and additional festivals/performances as determined by the band directors. Additional grading requirements are listed later in this handbook. The band is directed by Mr. Figlewicz and meets daily during 2nd period.

The Wind Symphony (C457-01) is Fremd’s premiere concert band and is made up of sophomore, junior and senior students. Membership is based on ability level and determined by audition. The ensemble performs outstanding upper level band repertoire expecting the highest level of performance. Due to the technical demands of the programmed music, it is assumed and highly recommended that each student studies privately. Students are expected to practice extensively every week to meet the demands of the literature being programmed. Failure to meet the demands of each instrument section will result in grade deduction and possible removal from the Wind Symphony. Quarterly band grade will include the following: Homework assignments, daily
participation/performance, four FHS Band Concerts, April “Chicagoland Invitational Concert Band Festival”, FHS Graduation Band performance (non-Seniors), designated Pep Band performances, semester concert review paper, sectional attendance, December “Eighth Grader Festival”, November “Solo and Ensemble Festival” (solo and ensemble performance), and additional festivals/performances as determined by Mr. Moore. Additional grading requirements are listed later in this handbook. The band is directed by Mr. Moore and meets daily during 3rd period.

Top instrumentalists in the WS will be asked to perform in the Symphony Orchestra (which meets at the normal class time). If selected, students are required to attend all indicated evening rehearsals and three additional performances (Winter Orchestra Concert, Concerto/Aria Concert, Senior Recognition Orchestra Concert, and Graduation Symphony Orchestra). Mrs. Caballero will give students all evening rehearsal dates in late August 2016. It is the each student’s responsibility to inform Mrs. Caballero and Mr. Moore if they are unable to attend a specific rehearsal or performance with the symphony orchestra. Students will not be graded down for missing rehearsals or concerts if adequate notice is given (with the exception of personal illness or family emergency). Mrs. Caballero must be informed of complications no later than two weeks prior to a rehearsal or concert. Grades for performing in evening full orchestra rehearsals and concerts will be reflected in the students’ “Rehearsal Technique” portion of their Wind Symphony grade. Failure to attend any orchestra rehearsal or performance will result in a grade deduction.

The Viking Marching Band is a voluntary/extra-curricular marching band and made up of approximately 115 students from all five bands. The VMB rehearses outside of the school day twice a week in the evening. All woodwind, brass, and percussion students must be enrolled in a band class as a pre-requisite for being in the VMB. The Fremd Guard is the flag unit for the VMB. The Viking Marching Band performs for all home football games (including home and away play-off games) and travels to local marching band competitions. For more information on the VMB please visit their webpage or contact Mr. Figlewicz (VMB Head Band Director).

The Green, Gold, and Viking Pep Bands are comprised of all students enrolled in the Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble, and Wind Symphony for the 2016-2017 school year. The Pep Bands perform at Friday and Saturday night home basketball games (boys and girls) in December, January, and February. Each student receives a point total for performing in each game (including proper attendance and game conduct). All Band students are tentatively scheduled to perform in four pep band games for the 2016-2017 school year. Parents are required to contact the student’s assigned band director if they are not able to attend a Pep Band game performance due to a family or religious commitments. Students are able to “make-up” excused absences by replacing the missed date with another Pep Band game performance. More info on the Pep Bands will be given to students and parents in late November 2016.

The Jazz Ensemble is Fremd’s premiere jazz band and is open to band students currently enrolled in the Fremd Band program (with the exception of piano, bass, or guitar if needed). Membership is restricted to a specific instrumentation as determined by Mr. Moore. Auditions occur late August 2016 with placement into the ensemble being based on student experience and performance level. The band rehearses twice a week – primarily Tuesdays and Thursdays (3:00-5:00 pm) September through February. Students performing in the Jazz Ensemble are expected to be at every rehearsal and performance unless approved by Mr. Moore. Failure to be at rehearsals or performances will result in the student being removed from the Jazz Ensemble. Students are expected to spend adequate time preparing and practicing individual parts prior to rehearsals. Each student is required to perform at the following events: “Jazz in the Meadows” Festival at Rolling Meadows High School, “Northshore Jazz Festival” at Glenbrook South HS, ILMEA 2017 All-State Conference, and the February “Jazz and Java” Concert. Advanced jazz musicians will also have the opportunity to perform in the Jazz Combo per audition and student jazz improvisation level. The band is under the direction of Mr. Moore.

The Jazz Lab Band is Fremd’s less experienced jazz band and is open to band students currently enrolled in the Fremd Band program (with the exception of piano, bass, or guitar if needed). Membership is based on student experience and ability, as well as instrumentation as decided by the band directors. Rehearsals will be held once or twice a week after school (3:00-5:00 pm). Students performing in the Jazz Lab Band are expected to be at every rehearsal and performance unless approved by the director. Failure to be at rehearsals or performances will result in the student being removed from the Jazz Lab Band. Students are expected to spend adequate time preparing and practicing individual parts prior to rehearsals. Each student is required to perform at the following events: “Frank Mantooth Jazz Festival” at New Trier High School, “Northshore Jazz Festival” at Glenbrook South HS, and the February “Jazz and Java” Concert. The band is under the direction of Mr. Figlewicz and Mr. Teichert.

Woodwind, Brass, and Percussion Ensembles perform at various times throughout the school year. The majority of these ensembles are run by upperclassmen students. Rehearsals are run usually outside of the school day. Students are not allowed to hold rehearsals in rooms 14, 15, 16, or 17 without approval from the band directors. Students are highly encouraged to form ensembles of their instrument or instrument class with their peers. Outstanding ensembles may be selected by the directors to perform at school concerts or outside of school events. The largest opportunity for students to perform solos and/or student ensemble is at the Fremd Band “Solo and Ensemble Festival” on Monday November 7th – 5:00-9:30 pm.
Concert & Performance Attendance Policies

Concerts, pep band performances, and festivals decided by the directors, are requirements for each student’s quarterly band grade. Being at school in the assigned location by the designated “call time” is a requirement to obtain all points possible for the event. Work, sports, school clubs, and other extra-curricular activities (excluding religious obligations) will not be considered as reasons for missing a performance. Conflicts with sports/clubs can usually be worked out between the directors and the coach or sponsor. Students who miss a performance due to an “Unexcused Absence” lose all points for the performance and are unable to make up the points. Students will be granted an “Excused Absence” from a performance for only the following reasons: family/religious obligations, family emergencies/illness, and personal illness.

- If a student must miss a performance due to a family/religious obligation, the parents must inform their assigned band director no later than two weeks prior to the performance. This is an “Excused Absence” and the student will be required to make up the points from the missed performance within one week from the date of the performance with a make-up assignment decided by the band director. Failure to make up the points by this time will result in a loss of all points from the performance.

- In the case of family/religious obligations, family emergency/illness, or personal illness, parents should contact their assigned band director via e-mail and also call the Fremd Bands (224-653-2358) prior to the performance. This is an “Excused Absence” and the student is required to make up the points from the missed performance within one week from the date of the performance with a make-up assignment decided by the band director. The student’s absence will not be considered an “Excused Absence” until a parent contacts the band director. Failure to make up the points by this time will result in a loss of all points from the performance.

Concert & Festival Performance Point Deductions

- Incomplete Dress for Concert – Failure to wear any of the assigned dress attire will result in a 25-50% point deduction, as determined by the band directors. Band directors also have the option to not allow students to perform on stage if dressed improperly.

- Late to “Call Time”: Prior to the concert each student must be in the designated rehearsal area by the call time set by the band directors. Failure to be on time will result in a loss of points, as determined by the band directors.

- Rude or Disruptive Behavior – Any student causing rude or disruptive behavior while watching another band perform will result in 25-75% point deduction as determined by the band directors.

Pep Band Performance Point Deductions

- Late to “Call Time”: Each student must be in the Band Room by the designated Pep Band game call-time. One to five minutes late: 15 point deduction, five minutes or later: 25 point deduction. Pep Band games are worth 100 points each.

- Improper Behavior during Pep Band game: Students will lose 25-50 points from the performance for improper behavior during the game. This includes: loud or disruptive comments, not seating in instrument section seat, leaving the band without director permission, improper playing of instruments or playing an instrument that does not belong to the student (both students would then loose the points), not standing with the band.

Grading for all Fremd Bands

*All students are required to perform at the 2016-2017 concerts/festivals as listed in the Band Calendar and Handbook

Performances (20-35%) - All required performances per academic quarter
Homework Assignments (15-30%) - Designated homework assignments per academic quarter
  - Concert Review Paper will be part of homework assignment grade for 2nd and 4th quarters
Sectionals (10-20%) - Designated sectionals per academic quarter
Playing Assessments (15-30%) - Playing assessments will occur at least once every academic quarter
Rehearsal Technique (15-30%) - Daily attendance, posture, participation, performance, conduct, and materials

*At the start of each academic quarter students will receive the correct percentage weights for the above listed categories from their primary Band Director.
Music Hallways and Practice Room Policies

1. Practice rooms are to be used for private lessons and for practicing only.
2. Practice rooms and ensemble rooms will be locked during the day, students must ask a director to unlock the room. Students with appropriate music passes during lunch periods can practice in the rehearsal rooms, practice rooms, or ensemble rooms (Rm. 14 & 15).
3. Students are not permitted to sit and eat lunch in any part of the Music Department.
4. The Music Department is not responsible for any instruments or other personal belongings left in the practice rooms.
5. Door windows will be left uncovered at all times and lights must be kept on.
6. All students in the Fremd Music Department share the Music practice rooms. We are very fortunate to have these practice rooms – please take care of them!

Private Lesson Teachers and Information

The Fremd Band Program offers private lesson teachers who teach during the school day and after school. Students may take private lessons during a lunch period, study hall, after school, or even during band once a week. The Fremd Band program has an outstanding staff of private lesson teachers - all of them have earned their bachelors degrees in Music Performance for their specific instrument. The majority of our instructors have earned masters degrees in Music Performance and have been teaching at FHS for at least five years. The following is a list of our private lesson teacher staff:

Jennifer Nelson – Flute, Oboe  
Chris O’Hara – Trumpet  
Sally Gerber – Clarinet, Bass Clarinet  
Wanda Braden – Horn  
Gerik Fon-Revutsyky – Bassoon  
Jeff Livorsi – Trombone, Bass Trombone  
Eric Goluzska – Saxophones  
William Russell – Tuba, Euphonium  
Andrew Veit – Percussion

Private lesson teachers charge a maximum of $22.00 per twenty-five minute lesson. All payments are arranged through the instructor and the student’s parents. Parents and student are usually requested to sign an agreement for payment schedule and method. Payment is never given to the band directors. Students are encouraged to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity – please see the Fremd Band website for more info.

Parental Responsibilities

It is crucial for the success of your student that the parents/guardians encourage their student to practice and improve on their individual instrument. Enrolling your student in private lessons is a very worthwhile and rewarding gift. Unfortunately, too many young musicians never reach their full potential due to lack of instruction from private teachers. Students learn a lot from daily instruction in band, however they are given even more precise and individual instrument instruction from studying with a private instructor. Please consider this for your student.

In order for the bands, orchestras, and choirs to be successful at FHS we need much support from the families of our students. Support and attendance at our concerts and performances is of the utmost importance to your student and us! Please help our bands by making sure that your student is at school by the specified “call time” for performances or rehearsals. This is also part of your student’s grade.

Due to the many opportunities we provide beyond the music curriculum, the expenses for the Band program are much larger than what the school district is able to provide. Fortunately, we have the Fremd Music Association to help us financially. These expenses include: music purchases for all bands, guest clinicians and performers, new instruments, miscellaneous supplies and equipment, entrance fees for competitions and festivals, and many more expenses. Please consider joining and becoming an active member of the Fremd Music Association. Your financial contribution will be well spent and we always are in need of parents to assist the bands, orchestras, and choirs with various concerts and events. Thank you so very much for your support and for being such an important part of your child’s musical future and education!

Thank you very much for your support of the Fremd Band program. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns regarding your student’s individual band or the Fremd Band Handbook.

Sincerely,

Mr. Moore – mmoore@d211.org  224-653-2358  
Mr. Figlewicz – jfiglewicz@d211.org  847-755-2802  
Mr. Teichert – jteichert@d211.org  847-755-2802
*Please fill out below and return it by Friday August 19, 2016*

**Student Acknowledgement**

I acknowledge that I have reviewed the 2016-2017 FHS Band Handbook and agree to abide by all rules, regulations, and policies. I further understand that I am responsible both academically and financially for all information stated in the handbook.

Clearly print student’s name: ______________________________________________________

Signature of Student: ____________________________________________________________ Date: __________________

**Parental Acknowledgement**

I acknowledge that I have reviewed the 2016-2017 FHS Band Handbook with my student. I further understand that my student is responsible both academically and financially for all information stated in the handbook.

Clearly print parent’s name: ______________________________________________________

Signature of Parent/Guardian: __________________________________________________ Date: __________________

**Website Picture Consent**

Throughout the 2016-2017 school year various group pictures of the students are put on the FHS Band website pages. Student names are never listed and all pictures are in a group setting. Please initial one of the following options regarding these pictures:

- [ ] I do give permission for the FHS Bands to post any group pictures including my son/daughter on the FHS Band website during the 2016-2017 school year.

- [ ] I do not give permission for the FHS Bands to post any group pictures including my son/daughter on the FHS Band website during the 2016-2017 school year.