

William Fremd High School – Music Department

Recognized as a Grammy Signature School for Excellence in Music Education



Band Handbook – 2021-2022
Concert Band, Symphonic Winds,
Wind Ensemble, and Wind Symphony

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JT Teichert – Band Director, Music Department Chair
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Fremd Band Directors – Contact Information

Mr. Moore – Director of Bands – mmoore@d211.org 224-653-2358

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Mr. Lober – Assistant Band Director – glober@d211.org

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 and community.** 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. As a member of the Fremd High School Band program you also have a responsibility to your community to perform as needed at times (Palatine Memorial Day Parade). School bands are a very important part of our American heritage and culture!
3. **Responsibility to each other, promptness, and Band commitment.** 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. Promptness to required call times, rehearsals, and concerts are detrimental to the success of any music program.
4. **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.

Policies of the Fremd Bands

1. **Challenge yourself as a musician and take advantage of the many opportunities available to you!** Take private lessons, 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 recordings of your instrument/bands on the Internet, and form ensembles with your peers!
2. Practice positive rehearsal skills daily! Show this in your preparation, posture, music/supplies, and attitude. Care about your individual band and section. Be accountable for learning your individual parts outside of rehearsal.
3. Don't be afraid to ask questions during or after class. Talk to your section leader or one of the band directors. Use your peers as a resource - our top players and upperclassmen enjoy helping younger students!
4. Respect ALL school and personal instruments. Never borrow another student's instrument. Please do not walk in between percussion instruments (which can be accidentally knocked over).
5. If you are asked to go somewhere for a rehearsal (pull out sectionals, auditorium rehearsals), please move quickly.
6. Sectionals - show up when scheduled and please be on time. If you are in charge of running a sectional be efficient!

7. All school attendance/tardy, disciplinary policies, procedures, regulations, and criteria listed in the FHS 2021-2022 Parent/Student Handbook, are strictly enforced by the Music Department and Band program. Baseball caps and hats of any kind are not allowed in the Band Room. FHS tardy policies will be strictly enforced and explained to each Band.
8. Absolutely no gum, food, or drink (excluding water) are allowed in any of the music rooms, practice rooms, or music hallways. Students are not allowed to eat lunch in the Music Hallway or surrounding area - please eat in the Fremd Cafeteria.

Financial Instrument Obligations

****Any student/family who has financial difficulty in purchasing the required supplies for their instrument or dress attire please contact 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 three spare reeds in their case, spit swabs, and cork grease.
- All percussionists must provide their own stick bag with one pair of concert snare sticks, yarn marimba mallets, hard plastic xylophone mallets, and medium rubber mallets. Timpani mallets are required for all Wind Symphony and Wind Ensemble members. Additional mallets and equipment will be provided by the Band program.
- All Freshmen 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 \$9.00 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 are 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.

Concert Dress Requirements

1. **Concert dress attire for Concert Band:** Girls – white dress shirt or blouse, black dress pants (no athletic or yoga pants), black dress shoes (no opened toes). Boys – white collared dress shirt with tie, black dress pants, black dress shoes, black dress socks (tall).

2. **Concert dress attire for 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 2021. All girls are also responsible for purchasing black dress shoes.

3. **Concert dress attire for Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble, and Wind Symphony boys:** All boys will be assigned a school tuxedo (black coat and pants) in September 2021. 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 \$6.00 (September 2021) to have their tuxedo dry-cleaned at the end of the school year. Male students who perform in Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble or Wind Symphony must have their school issued tuxedo cleaned at least one time during the school year (family expense). 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 (approximately \$60.00). Each student must return his assigned tux at the end of the school year by the designated date (May 2022). Failure to do this will result in students not be allowed to take final exams; senior students will not receive their graduation diploma.

3. **Viking Marching Band uniform** - 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 (jacket, bib pants, hat, gauntlets, and plume) will result in the students being charged for the repair and/or replacement of the uniform. The wearing of a partial uniform in public is not acceptable! Each member of the VMB will be assigned the full marching uniform: jacket, bib pants, gauntlets, hat, and plume. Students will be charged additional cleaning fees for their uniform due to negligence or accidental damage to the uniform. All students are required to

purchase a pair of the assigned black marching shoes, black gloves (excluding Drumline and Front Ensemble), and the VMB green dry-fit undershirt as part of their uniform. No other marching band shoes will be accepted unless given permission by the director. Athletic shorts are required for wearing under the uniform bib pants. No jewelry is to be worn with the uniform (including earrings).

Performing Ensembles offered by the Fremd Band Program

The Fremd High School Band program provides all students with a balanced comprehensive study of music, which develops skills in the psychomotor, cognitive, and affective domains. Instruction is designed so that students are able to connect, examine, 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. Semester band grade will include the following: homework assignments, daily participation/performance, Fremd Band concerts, performance assessments, designated Pep Band performances (3), semester concert review paper, and sectional attendance (one twenty-minute sectional every two weeks). Additional grading requirements are listed later in this handbook. Concert Band meets 5th period and is taught by Mr. Moore and Mr. Teichert.

The Symphonic Winds (C257-01) consists of promoted freshmen, sophomore, junior, and senior students. Freshmen will be placed in Symphonic Winds based on audition and possible 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. Semester band grade will include the following: homework assignments, daily participation/performance, Fremd Band concerts, performance assessments, Pep Band performances (3), 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 taught by Mr. Teichert and Mr. Lober and meets daily 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 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 Ensemble. Placement in the band is made by directors and based on musical ability. Semester band grade will include the following: homework assignments, daily participation/performance, Fremd Band concerts, performance assessments, Elmhurst College Band Festival, Pep Band performances (4), semester concert review presentation(s), sectional attendance, and other possible performances/festivals as determined by the band directors. Additional grading requirements are listed later in this handbook. The band is taught by Mr. Teichert 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. Semester band grade will include the following: homework assignments, daily participation/performance, Fremd Band concerts, performance assessments, November "Eighth Grader Band Festival", April "Chicagoland Invitational Concert Band Festival", Pep Band performances (4), semester concert review presentation(s), sectional attendance, and other possible performances/festivals as determined by the band directors. Additional grading requirements are listed later in this handbook. The band is taught 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, and Senior Recognition Orchestra Concert). Mrs. Caballero will give students all evening rehearsal dates at the start of the school year. 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 any 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' 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 125 students from all four curricular bands and the Varsity Guard (flags). 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 Viking Marching Band performs for all home football games (including home play-off games) and travels to four local marching band competitions. The VMB is co-directed by Mr. Moore and Mr. Teichert. For more information on the VMB please visit their webpage: <http://fremdbands.weebly.com/viking-marching-band.html>

The Green, Gold, and Viking Pep Bands are comprised of all students enrolled in the Concert Band, Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble, and Wind Symphony for the 2021-2022 school year. The Pep Bands perform at Friday and Saturday night home basketball games (boys and girls) from December 2021 through February 2022. Each student receives a point total for performing in each game (including proper attendance and game conduct). All band students are required to attend three Pep Band games as part of the curricular grade. 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 commitment. Students are able to "make-up" excused absences by replacing the missed date with another Pep Band game performance. Students will be assigned to specific Pep Bands in November 2021. Parents can request that the student is assigned a specific Pep Band by contacting Mr. Moore or Mr. Teichert by late October.

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 the Band Directors. Auditions for both jazz bands will occur in late October 2021, with placement into the ensemble being based on student experience and performance level. The band rehearses twice a week – Tuesdays and Thursdays (3:00-5:00 pm) November through February. Students performing in the Jazz Ensemble are expected to be at every rehearsal and performance unless approved by the Band Directors. 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: "Northshore Jazz Festival" at Glenbrook South HS, "Jazz in the Meadows" Festival at Rolling Meadows High School, January Winter Jazz Concert, 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 (taught by Mr. Teichert). The Jazz Ensemble is co-directed by Mr. Moore and Mr. Teichert.

The Jazz Lab Band is Fremd's intermediate 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. The band rehearses twice a week – Mondays and Wednesdays (3:00-5:00 pm) October through February. Students performing in the Jazz Lab Band are expected to be at every rehearsal and performance unless approved by the Band Directors. 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: "Northshore Jazz Festival" at Glenbrook South HS, "Frank Mantooth Jazz Festival" at New Trier HS, January Winter Jazz Concert, and the February "Jazz and Java" Concert. The Jazz Lab Band is co-directed by Mr. Moore and Mr. Teichert.

Concert/Performance Attendance Policies

Concerts, pep band performances, and festivals decided by the directors, are requirements for each student's semester 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. Students are also required to attend the entire concert to support the other bands performing.** Work, sports, school clubs, and other extra-curricular activities (excluding religious obligations) will not be considered as reasons for missing a performance. Conflicts with school 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 by email or phone call no later than two weeks prior to the performance.** This is considered an “Excused Absence”. 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 determined 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. If this is the day of a performance please contact the band directors as early as possible in the morning.** This is considered an “Excused Absence”. 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 determined 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.
- While last year’s circumstances allowed for flexible event attendance, please help us to ensure that your Band attends all required performances. Every member is integral to the success of the ensemble!

Concert, Festival, and Pep Band Game Point Deductions

- Incomplete Dress for Concert – Failure to wear any of the assigned dress attire will result in a 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 (including cell phone use) during the performance or while watching another band’s performance will result in a loss of points as determined by the Band Directors.
- Pep Band point deductions - 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 lose the points), not standing to perform as indicated by the drum major or Band Director.

Grading for all Fremd Bands (Concert Band, Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble, and Wind Symphony)

Performances (20-30%) - All required performances per semester

Homework Assignments (15-25%) - Designated homework assignments per semester

Assessments (15-25%) - Individual instrument performance assessments, as well as rhythm, music theory, terms/symbols assessments

Sectionals (10-15%) - Designated sectionals per semester

Rehearsal Technique (10-15%) - Daily attendance, posture, participation, conduct, supplies/materials, and individual performance

****At the start of each semester students will receive specific category percentage weights from their primary Band Director.***

Music Practice Room Policies

1. Please see a Band Director to use/unlock a practice room.
2. Private lesson instructors have first priority of practice room use.
3. Students interested in using the school practice rooms must sign in with a teacher in the Music Office. Practice rooms and ensemble rooms will be locked during the day, students must ask a teacher to unlock the room.
4. Practice rooms are strictly for practicing, private lessons, and completing work for music classes. This room is not meant for doing homework, eating, or socializing. *If you are in a practice room, you must be playing your instrument.*

5. Only one student at a time will be allowed to be in the practice room. Students that would like to practice together need to sign in together.
6. Keep the practice rooms clean! Do not draw or mark on anything in these rooms.
7. Students are not permitted to sit and eat lunch in any part of the Music Department.
8. If you do not need a piano, please use the practice rooms without pianos whenever possible.
9. Door windows will be left uncovered at all times and lights must be kept on.
10. Turn off the lights and remove any waste when you are done using the practice room.
11. The Music Department is not responsible for any instruments or other personal belongings left in the practice rooms.
12. Students are not allowed to eat in the hallway outside of the practice rooms or surrounding hallways during any class period.

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 and/or Music Education for their specific instrument. The majority of our instructors have earned Masters degrees in Music Performance and have been teaching at FHS for many years. The following is a list of our private lesson teacher staff:

Jennifer Nelson – Flute, Oboe	Sean O'Donnell – Trumpet
Sally Gerber – Clarinet, Bass Clarinet	Wanda Braden – Horn
Gerik Fon-Revutsky – Bassoon	Jeff Livorsi – Trombone, Bass Trombone
Eric Goluzska – Saxophones	Akshat Jain – Tuba, Euphonium
	Colin Rambert – Percussion

***All lesson 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.

Fremd Band Parent 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 receive excellent instruction and ensemble playing skills from daily instruction in band, however they are given even more specific instrument instruction from studying with a private instructor. Please consider this for your student so they can reach their maximum music potential!

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 are 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 concert or festival 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/equipment, entrance fees for competitions/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. Please see the next two pages for further information on FMA and the FMA 2021-2022 Membership Form.

Please contact Mr. Moore, Mr. Teichert, or Mr. Lober if you have any questions pertaining to the Fremd Band program or this handbook. **Thank you very much for your support and for being such an important part of your child's musical education!**