

**MARTIN J. RYERSON  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC  
DEPARTMENT**

**BAND MANUAL**



**Mr. Donald Van Teyens**  
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5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Director  
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**PHILOSOPHY**

To provide students the opportunity to develop musical skills and talents thereby giving them a more appreciative outlook towards music and the beauty it holds.

**GOALS**

1. To develop an appreciation for all types of music.
2. To work cooperatively with other students in a group setting while also contributing as an individual.
3. To develop rehearsal techniques which allow the student to respond to directions given by the conductor.
4. To demonstrate responsibility in adhering to scheduling.
5. To be responsible for the proper care of instruments and music.

**GROUP LESSONS**

Each band member will be assigned to a 40-minute weekly lesson. Lessons times rotate, but are always on the same day. Students must bring:

- ❑ Instrument, reeds/mouthpiece
- ❑ 3-ring binder containing all music, assignments and lesson schedule.
- ❑ A pencil

If a student misses a lesson due to a test he/she must let the band director know so that the lesson can be rescheduled.

Band members will receive a letter grade at each lesson. Grades will be placed directly on their band schedule.

**BAND REHEARSALS**

Each band member will participate in two rehearsals per week.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Rehearsal**

Tuesday – 3<sup>rd</sup> Period

Thursday – 8<sup>th</sup> Period

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Rehearsal**

Tuesday – 2<sup>nd</sup> Period

Thursday – 9<sup>th</sup> Period

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Rehearsal**

Monday – 7<sup>th</sup> Period

Wednesday – 4<sup>th</sup> Period

**HOME PRACTICE**

Each band member is encouraged to practice at least 20-minutes a day. Adequate practice will be reflected in the students' ability to perform assigned music and to improve steadily on their instruments.

**PERFORMANCES**

All band members are expected to attend all performances.

**CONCERT DRESS**

**Ladies** – White blouse, black pants or skirt, with black shoes.

**Gentlemen** – White dress shirt, black pants, black socks, black shoes and a tie.

**INSTRUMENT CARE**

All students are expected to maintain their instruments in top playing condition. This is vital if we are to achieve a high level of musical excellence. If you suspect your instrument is not playing correctly please see the band director first before taking your instrument in for repair.

### **Woodwinds**

Flute – Cleaning rod & cloth.

Oboe – Cleaning cloth, film case.

Bassoon – Cleaning swab, film case.

Clarinet & Saxophone – Cleaning swab.

### **Brass**

Valved Brasses – Valve oil, tuning slide grease.

Trombones – Slide cream and a spray water bottle, tuning slide grease.

### **Percussion**

Percussion students are expected to obtain a percussion kit containing a practice pad, drum sticks, xylophone and xylophone mallets,

### **SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS**

Students are responsible for all materials that are issued to them throughout the school year. Students will be charged to replace any missing materials or any requiring repair as a result of carelessness and misuse.

### **INSTRUMENT REPAIRS**

Ryerson School has a repair pick-up and drop-off agreement with Victor's Music and Arts in Paramus as a courtesy to our students. The repair shop will call you with an estimate before any work is done.

### **MUSIC STORES**

Victor's Music & Arts - Paramus

201-444-0700

The Music Shop - Boonton  
800-553-0633

The Music Den – Kinnelon Mall  
973-838-5444

### **GRADING PROCEDURES**

- ❑ Lessons – 60% of grade  
Attendance – 20%  
Preparation – 10%  
Playing Ability – 20%  
Written Assignments – 10%
- ❑ Band Rehearsals – 30% of grade  
Preparation – 10%  
Participation – 10%  
Attitude/Cooperation – 10%
- ❑ Marking Period Test – 10% of grade  
Test will be in both written form and playing form.

### **BASIC RULES OF CONDUCT**

1. Be on time for lessons & rehearsals.
2. Have equipment in good working order.
3. No gum, food, or drinks.
4. Do not talk while the music is being rehearsed.
5. Play your instrument only when directed to do so.
6. Treat others with respect.
7. Clean instruments and return them to their proper place after use.

### **PERFORMANCES**

Friday, Oct. 10 (5PM–9:15PM)

Ryerson 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band at LRHS  
Pizza Party & performance with the LRHS Marching Band

Dec. 11 (7:30PM)  
Holiday Evening Concert  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band

Dec. 18 (7:30PM) Ryerson 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Evening Holiday Concert

**2009**

Jan. 9 (7:30PM)  
Ryerson Talent Show

Feb. TBA (7:30PM) 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band and LRHS Band  
Winter Evening Concert at LRHS

March 5, 6, 7,  
Ryerson School Musical

Tuesday, March 31 (7:30PM)  
District Music Festival Ryerson Gym  
All Band & Chorus students from E.G. Hewitt and Ryerson.

Thursday, May 7 (7:30PM)  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Spring Band Evening Concert

Thursday, May 28 (7:30PM)  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band  
Spring Band Evening Concert

May/June 2009 Music Festival TBA