



## ***Oak Leaf Jr. High School Yellow Jacket Band***

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www.oakleafband.com / Like us on Facebook: Oakleaf Jr. High Band

***\*WELCOME TO THE YELLOW JACKET BAND PROGRAM!***

***\*VISIT THE BAND WEBSITE IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO  
ALREADY: www.oakleafband.com***

***\*‘LIKE’ us on FACEBOOK: Oakleaf Jr. High Band ← this is important!!***

The start of a new school year can be quite crazy. I will do my best to provide ALL band info to you in order to get your student “plugged-in” to the most exciting band program around. The band website is updated every week- [www.oakleafband.com](http://www.oakleafband.com) / and this packet should help you get started.

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**\*\*\*CONCERT BAND / \*\*\*JAZZ BAND**---- You are the best-of-the-best!

-Back in May, I sent home the Band Calendar, Band Fees, and list of required supplies-

1. Every student should already have their instrument and hopefully you worked on the music I assigned to you over the summer. 😊
2. You need Accent on Achievement Book 2. Woodwind musicians still need the brand of reeds and size I require. Brass musicians have a certain mouthpiece I require. Please arrange to get these items ASAP.

-PLEASE CHECK YOUR BAND FOLDER OR THE BAND WEBSITE FOR A DETAILED LIST-

3. This band has many scheduled performances this year--- Check the band calendar for your important dates! All students are required to audition for All-County Band; and several students are advanced enough through a private teacher to audition for the All-State Band. Practice every day!!!

**-Please check the online grading system: FOCUS for dates of tests and your student’s band grades. “Poor planning or forgetting” does not excuse a band student from any REQUIRED date listed above associated with their band (s). Let your athletic coach know if there are any dates you will miss a practice/game due to a REQUIRED Band event.**

4. The majority of teaching this year will be getting all the 8<sup>th</sup> graders ready for high school band, and challenging the 7<sup>th</sup> graders to be better musicians and leaders for the future bands.
5. Jazz Band is also the Yellow Jacket Pep Band and DrumLine! Jazz Band/Pep Band will perform more than the other bands so please practice every day and BE READY!
6. Band Calendar and Band Fees can be found on pages 3 and 4. ---→ ---→ ---→

## **Making the ‘GRADE’ in Band**

First, let me say that the student truly controls their grade in the band class. The amount of practicing at home and desire to be the best young musician they can possibly be... will ultimately decide their grade.

Unlike the other core subjects, Band grades are 99.9% ‘subjectively’ calculated. Meaning: the individual musician is graded on:

1. correctly displaying the foundational techniques on their instrument
2. accuracy of notes and rhythms
3. proper breathing and tone production
4. mastery of the music they are performing for the Director

Evaluations/Tests in band are a little more complex than a *‘10 question test worth 10 points each’*...

I am not only listening for the song/musical exercise to be performed perfectly, but I am also looking for ALL the other details listed above.

Standard School Grading Scale: A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = 50-59	Florida Bandmasters Association Grading Scale: A = Superior B = Excellent C = Good D = Fair F = Poor
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Band Directors across the state strive for ‘Superior’ rated bands in their schools. The grade of ‘Excellent’ is also a goal for many Directors trying to turn around a program; or they are in certain communities where it is hard to have a growing band program.

My standards are high! I evaluate each student based on the state band standards and then try to give them a fair numerical grade based on the standard school grading scale. I expect all band students, no matter the level, to be making A’s AND B’s in their band class.

Every level of band has a ‘Level Form’ to complete for me for the school year. There are 3 levels: Level 1 –Beginning Band, Level 2- Intermediate Band, and Level 3- Concert Band. These forms list all tests/evaluations for the band the student is in.

**Here are tips on how to make the ‘GRADE’ in band:**

1. **Practice everyday and fill out the Practice Log. Make sure to practice the material we are working on in band class--- complete your LEVEL. ☺**
2. **Come to band class everyday with the instrument and supplies.**
3. **Be at the performances; whether you are performing or not.**
4. **Come before school and ask the Director for help.**
5. **Take private lessons from a professional musician if it is convenient for you.**
6. **Listen to the other musicians in class--- you might be able to learn from their performance or help them if they are struggling.**
7. **Dedicate yourself to being the best musician you can possibly be. Learning a band instrument and how to read music is not easy. It does take work and commitment.**

Parents please call me or email me if you have questions or concerns regarding the band program.  
**CHECK ‘FOCUS’ FOR BAND TESTS AND GRADES**

I look forward to another wonderful year. Let’s have a ‘SUPERIOR’ band program again this year.

***Band Calendar of Events 2017-2018)***  
CB = Concert Band, JB = Jazz Band, DL = DrumLine

**\*The Band Calendar will be updated when necessary; so check the band website or Facebook often.\***

- DrumLine has before school rehearsals every morning until the music is learned & they perform at the home football games.
- \*8/15- Students start school- WELCOME BACK!
  - \*8/17- DrumLine rehearsals start--- 8:30-9:20, every morning until music is learned. © (REQUIRED EVENT)
  - \*8/17- RE-AUDITIONS --- and possible schedule changes! Students should have all required supplies needed- a handout was passed out at the end of last school year listing all new required materials and music to practice on over the summer.
  - \*1/17- Jazz Band Fee Payment #1 due / GET THOSE CHAPERONE FEES IN FOR THE TRIPS ©
  - \*8/24- Detach & return 'THE FORM' (bottom of this page for an easy 100/A).
  - \*9/16 (Saturday)- All State auditions- this is ONLY for those musicians who are selected by Mr. S and Mr. D to audition.
  - \*9/19- Concert Band Fee Payment #1 & Jazz Band Fee Payment #2 due / GET THOSE CHAPERONE FEES IN FOR THE TRIPS ©
  - \*9/26DrumLine perform @ football game / they will stay after school (REQUIRED EVENT)
  - \*10/3DrumLine perform @ football game / they will stay after school (REQUIRED EVENT)
  - \*10/10DrumLine perform @ football game / they will stay after school (REQUIRED EVENT)
  - \*10/17DrumLine perform @ football game / they will stay after school (REQUIRED EVENT)
  - \*10/17- Concert Band Fee Payment #2 & Jazz Band Fee Payment #3 due / GET THOSE CHAPERONE FEES IN FOR THE TRIPS ©
  - \*10/27 (Friday)- Jr. High Band Night w/OLHS Marching Band at football game- CB,DL & IB 8<sup>th</sup> graders /(REQUIRED EVENT)
  - \*11/4 (Saturday)- Clay County Honor Band Auditions / don't plan anything from 8am-2pm- CB (REQUIRED EVENT)
  - \*11/17- Concert Band Fee FINAL Payment & Jazz Band Fee Payment #4 due / GET THOSE CHAPERONE FEES IN FOR THE TRIPS ©
  - \*12/8 (Friday)- 6:30pm- Band Concert (REQUIRED EVENT)
  - \*12/12- Jazz Band Fee FINAL Payment due / GET THOSE CHAPERONE FEES IN FOR THE TRIPS ©
  - \*1/4 (Thursday)- 6-9pm- Clay County Honor Band rehearsal- required for the selected CB students.
  - \*1/5 (Friday)- 6-9pm- Clay County Honor Band rehearsal- required for the selected CB students.
  - \*1/6 (Saturday)- 9am-2pm- Clay County Honor Band rehearsal- required for the selected CB students.
  - \*1/6 (Saturday)- 5:00pm or 6:00pm- Clay County Honor Band Concert- required for the selected CB students.
  - \*1/11- FMEA All State Music Conference/Performance- required if student is selected by the State.
  - \*2/8- FBA Jazz Band Assessment – very important performance! (REQUIRED EVENT)
  - \*2/9-2/10- District Solo Assessment- only for CB musicians taking private lessons and/or selected by Mr. Summers & Mr. Dunn.
  - \*2/14?- JB (Wednesday)- recruiting trip to Elementary schools /(REQUIRED EVENT)
  - \*3/6 (Tuesday) OR 3/7 (Wednesday) - FBA Band Assessment -Concert Band performs for Judges!- Most important performance of year! Please plan accordingly. / (REQUIRED EVENT) Let coaches know you will miss the game or practice.
  - \*Month of February (5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>)- Auditions for all 6 & 7 grade band students for next year's Bands (REQUIRED EVENT)
  - \*4/6 (Friday)- 6:30pm- Band Concert & Awards /(REQUIRED EVENT)
  - \*April 28 (Saturday)- Concert Band performs at Disney. (REQUIRED EVENT)
  - \*5/10 (Thursday)- JB performs at OVE Fine Arts Festival /(REQUIRED EVENT)
  - \*May 24-27, 2018 (Thursday-Sunday) - BAND TRIP: Jazz Band performing in Nashville. 'MUSIC CITY USA'!!! ©

**LOOK!** → The Concert Band performance at Disney in April & the Jazz Band performance at the 'FMEA Conference in Tampa in January? & the Jazz Band performances in Nashville are by 'invitation only'. The Band Director must follow certain guidelines when accepting the 'invitation' to perform- specifically the number of musicians in the band- so it is important to have ALL of the members of the specific Band available to go. We will need CHAPERONES © !!

Please check the band website for updates throughout the year. [www.oakleafband.com](http://www.oakleafband.com)

Please check the online grading system: FOCUS for dates of tests and your student's band grades.

**"Poor planning or forgetting" does not excuse a band student from any REQUIRED date listed above associated with their band (s). Let your athletic coach know if there are any dates you will miss a practice/game due to a REQUIRED Band event.**

→ The OLJHS Band Program is one of the elite programs in the State and high standards/expectations are emphasized. By "electing" to sign up for BAND, the student (with parent support) commits to being at all rehearsals, performances, and/or scheduled events THAT APPLY TO THE STUDENT'S BAND THAT THEY ARE A MEMBER OF. There are State Standards that each band student is responsible for completing in the Band Class. All rehearsals & performances are a part of these standards / band curriculum and their attendance is crucial to their musical development and overall grade in band. The OLJHS Band Program participates in many events during the school day and several events throughout the year which take place during after school hours or on the weekend.

-----DETACH AND RETURN by AUGUST 24-----

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Band \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Sign. \_\_\_\_\_

\*Note: By signing this form, the student & parent agree to be at all 'REQUIRED EVENTS' related to the student's band/group; and we understand that all rehearsals and performances related to the student's band/group; are a part of the State Standards for Band. Only an emergency can excuse a student-musician from a REQUIRED EVENT. (Mr. Summers' definition of an emergency: *an unforeseen family emergency due to death or serious illness.*) Failure to sign this agreement does NOT excuse the student from their responsibilities as a member of the Band Program.

## 2017-2018 BAND FEES for Concert Band and/or Jazz Band

Band fees are the amount that each student is responsible for contributing to the band program. Some people believe that the school or county should fund the band programs. Wouldn't that be great? That will not happen! So, the band programs must fund themselves.

**This fee pays for band shirts, music, in class supplies, state and district musician fees, & other miscellaneous items that every band is responsible for in order to exist and perform. The Concert Band & Jazz Band fee does pay for the trips and transportation.**

→ No refund & your park ticket is voided if a student does not perform with Jazz Band and/or Concert Band at the required performances.

You can pay the entire amount by the first due date; or you can pay smaller payments each month... -SEE BELOW-

### →PLEASE LOOK BELOW AND FIND THE BOX THAT APPLIES TO YOU←

Please let me know if other financial arrangements need to be made. My goal is to find a way for every band student to experience performing their instrument for thousands of people at all the events listed on the band calendar.

#### **\*Student is in BOTH Jazz Band & Concert Band 2017-18 → \$900 (cash or a GOOD check to Oakleaf Band)**

[Pay all on Aug 21, or 5 payments of \$180 each on Aug 21, Sept 19, Oct 17, Nov 17, and Dec 12]

***(LOOK---This fee is for the student who is a member of BOTH Concert Band and Jazz Band)***

\*This band fee **DOES** include ALL the band trips: Tampa, Disney, and Nashville!

\*Polo sizes come in: Youth L, Adult S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL / men & women styles

\*Parents must provide the band instrument, band book, and instrument care supplies listed on the REQUIRED INSTRUMENT LIST, through the Music and Arts Store (292-9705), or any other music store.

\*Note: Please provide the following for your child for the concerts:

UNIFORM #1- black band polo (included in band fees), black dress shoes, black dress socks, and black pants.

(sometimes jeans will be acceptable-Director will let you know)

UNIFORM #2- gold band polo (included in band fees), black dress shoes, black dress socks, and black pants.

(sometimes jeans will be acceptable-Director will let you know)

#### **\*Student is ONLY in Concert Band 2017-18 → \$300 (cash or a GOOD check to Oakleaf Band)**

[Pay all on Sept 19, or 3 payments of \$100 each on Sept 19, Oct 17, and Nov 17]

***(LOOK---This fee is for the student who is a member ONLY in Concert Band)***

\*This band fee **DOES** include the Disney band trip!

\*Polo sizes come in: Youth L, Adult S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL / men & women styles

\*Parents must provide the band instrument, band book, and instrument care supplies listed on the REQUIRED INSTRUMENT LIST, through the Music and Arts Store (292-9705), or any other music store.

\*Note: Please provide the following for your child for the concerts:

UNIFORM - black band polo (included in band fees), black dress shoes, black dress socks, and black pants.

(sometimes jeans will be acceptable-Director will let you know)

#### **-> -> \*Chaperones / Band Trips\* <- <-**

\*On ?, band is performing with the OHS Marching Band at the annual Band Night. Need 5 Chaperones.

\*???- [waiting on confirmation](#)/ On Jan 11, 2018- Jazz Band is performing in Tampa at the FMEA Music Conference. **Need 5 Chaperones- fee is \$50.**

\*On Feb 8, 2018- Jazz Band is performing at the FBA Jazz Band Assessment. Need 4 Chaperones.

\*On Mar 6 or Mar 7, 2018- Concert Band is performing at the FBA Band Assessment. Need 5 Chaperones.

\*On Apr 28, 2018- Concert Band performance trip to Disney. **Need 10 Chaperones- fee is \$120.**

\*On May 24-27, 2018- Jazz Band performance trip to Nashville. **Need 8 Chaperones- fee is \$700.** Parental units are strongly encouraged to go as this will help with hotel room assignments. ☺

#### **ONLINE PAYMENT WITH CARD**

This upcoming year, 2017-18, you will have an opportunity to pay your band fees online using a county approved website! I will get the details to you soon. This option is only available to Concert Band and Jazz Band fees.

There will be a specific 'open window' of dates to use the system. These dates will line up with the due dates that your fees are due and are listed above. Here are the dates to go online and pay your fees via a credit card/debit card:

→Student in both Concert Band & Jazz Band: Aug 21-22, Sept 19-20, Oct 17-18, Nov 17-18, and Dec 12-13.

→Student only in Concert Band: Sept 19-20, Oct 17-18, Nov 17-18