

***Harrison Bands
Student Handbook
2017-2018***

Welcome!

On behalf of the Harrison Department of Bands, I would like to welcome you to the 2017-18 school year. The Harrison Band Department is a thriving musical venture involving nearly 300 students. The heart of our program is the concert band exemplified by our six-time ISSMA Concert Band State Finalists the Harrison Chamber Winds (2004, 07, 08, 10, 11, 14). Concert Band class provides the students with the opportunity to learn historic band literature as well as numerous contemporary works. The Jazz bands, both curricular and extra-curricular, provide the students with instruction in America's contribution to the musical arts. Last year the Harrison Jazz Band became an ISSMA State Finalist (top 8) for the first time. The extra-curricular Marching, Pep, and Musical Pit bands provide enjoyment for the student, support for the athletic teams, and entertainment for the community.

None of this could happen without the hard work of the students and the support and encouragement of their parents. The music faculty counts it a privilege to work in a school community that supports our endeavors. Even greater is the satisfaction of knowing that we have supportive parents who go the extra mile to provide instruments, lessons, summer camps, and other outside of school musical activities for their children. Thank you for the opportunity to work with your kids. We hope to teach them not just about notes and rhythms, but also life skills that will transfer into every area of their futures. Working collectively towards a common goal, striving for excellence, analyzing a problem and planning the solution are all skills we practice in band every day. We hope you enjoy the results.

Steve Cotten, Doug Koleszar
Harrison Instrumental Music Faculty

Meet the Directors

Steve Cotten is in his twenty-seventh year as Director of Bands at Harrison High School having previously served a six-year tenure at Brookfield High School in Connecticut. Mr. Cotten also serves as Harrison Performing Arts Department Chair, and is a former President of the Indiana Bandmasters Association. A native "Hoosier", Steve holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Indiana University where he studied conducting with Prof. Ray Cramer and trumpet with Prof. Charles Gorham. Mr. Cotten also holds a Master of Music Degree from Valparaiso University where he studied under former IMEA and current IBA President Dr. Jeff Doebler. Mr. Cotten has been named Harrison High School and Tippecanoe School Corporation Teacher of the Year (2010) as well as Michiana Outstanding Music Educator (2012).

Doug Koleszar is in his fifteenth year as Assistant Director of Bands at Harrison High School, having previously served a three year tenure at Rensselaer Central High School. Doug holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from St. Joseph College where he studied conducting with Prof. Rob Thiel and trumpet with applied music instructors Joe Pelozza and Joey Tartell.

Curricular Bands Four curricular groups are at the center of the Harrison Band Program. All courses receive academic credit that applies to all diploma options at Harrison High School.

Freshman (Beginning) Concert Band is open to all 9th grade band students. The Freshman band meets in three section (Brass, woodwind, percussion) in order to facilitate student growth and transition to the High School level of performance. This band performs standard group III literature and competes in the ISSMA district Concert Band Competition.

Intermediate Concert Band is open to all band students grade 10-12 and to second semester 9th grade students based on selection and instrumentation needs. Wind Orchestra performs standard group II literature and competes in the ISSMA district Concert Band Competition.

Wind Ensemble (Advanced Concert Band) Membership is by selection/audition based on ability, attitude, participation, and instrumentation needs. Chamber Winds competes in the ISSMA State Qualifications and performs standard ISSMA group I literature. Private lessons and access to a professional quality instrument are recommended for this ensemble. Chamber Winds performs at several additional concerts/contests throughout the year.

The Harrison Jazz Band is an advanced level Jazz Band that rehearses daily as a curricular course. Membership is by selection/audition based on ability, attitude, participation and instrumentation needs. Previous experience in the extracurricular Jazz Program is expected. The Harrison Jazz Band performs numerous concerts, and at contests throughout the school year.

Extra-Curricular Bands

These Bands are extra-curricular extensions of the concert band program. All students must be enrolled as a Concert Band member in order to participate.

Harrison Militia Band (Marching Band) is open to all currently enrolled band members who wish to join and meet the Director's standards concerning attitude and participation. The Marching Band rehearses and performs outside of school August through mid-October.

Jazz Lab is a beginning/intermediate level Jazz Band that is open to all currently enrolled band members who play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, bass or drums and meet the Director's standards concerning attitude and participation. The band rehearses once a week during 2nd and 3rd quarter and performs two concerts a year.

Raider Pep Band (Basketball Band) is open to all currently enrolled band members who wish to join, and meet the Director's standards concerning attitude and participation. The Pep Band rehearses and performs outside of school late-October through February

Musical Pit Orchestra Membership is by selection. The pit orchestra rehearses Jan-Mar on a full-length Broadway musical score in support of Harrison's school wide production.

Communication is a key factor in the success of any organization. The following modes of communication will be used throughout the year in order to keep families informed and up to date with Harrison Band activities.

- **Harrison Bands Website**- updated weekly. www.tinyurl.com/harrisonbands
- **Facebook**- This official fb page is administrated by the director. 'Like' us at: William Henry Harrison High School Bands
- **Instagram**- @harrisonbands
- **Daily/Weekly Announcements**- are posted on the Website and are on the board and read daily during all band classes.
- **Email**- is sent occasionally for reminders using the student TSC email accounts and the email address provided by parents at registration.
- **Band Notes Newsletter**- is published monthly throughout the school year and mailed home as well as posted on the website.
- **Handouts and Itineraries**- passed out in all classes prior to major band events and activities.
- **Archived Communication**- this handbook and other files are stored on the Harrison Bands website. www.tinyurl.com/harrisonband

Grading Policy Although there are some standards all students must meet, it is our policy that students are graded on their improvement rather than a rigid set of standards. This mastery learning approach allows students of all talent and ability levels to be judged fairly, and according to their own efforts. As students' progress through the various levels of the Band program, more effort is expected of them. Student grades in Band will be based on several different modes of assessment:

Concert/Contest Performance is both required and graded. (200 pts each)

Playing Tests covering instrumental technique over assigned musical passages. (100 pts)

Tests/Quizzes/Assignments over music theory, history and general musical knowledge. (varies)

Attitude/Participation will be evaluated by instructors on a weekly basis. (10 pts)

Concert Review of a College/Professional performance including your instrument. (100 pts/sem)

Bonus Points may be awarded toward in the following areas:

Extra-Curricular Participation (Marching, Pep, Jazz, Musical Pit)

Private Lessons (confirmation required)

Solo & Ensemble (additional entries beyond required)

Honor Bands/Camps/Clinics (confirmation required)

Outside Performances (confirmation required)

Concert Reviews (beyond 1 required)

Quarterly Grades will be computed based on total points earned:

A=90% B=80% C=70% D=60% F= 50% or less

Exam Grades

An exam will be administered during the Final Exam period each semester.

Semester Grades will be based on total points using the same scale as quarterly grade.

Harrison High School Co/Extra Curricular Conflict Policy

On rare occasions there may be a conflict between an extra-curricular school sponsored sport or activity and a required event for the curricular band class. Please be aware of the school policy #3 stated below. In the event of a conflict between an extra-curricular band (jazz, marching, pep) and another extra-curricular activity policies 1, 2 and 4 apply. For extra-curricular activities such as Quiz Bowl, Academic Superbowl and Robotics be sure to check the State/National competition dates. Please contact the band office as soon as you are aware of a potential conflict. Every effort will be made to facilitate an equitable solution within school policy.

1. A regular competition takes precedence over a practice.
2. A tournament game takes precedence over a regular competition. (A tournament is any series of competitions where a team, group, or individual moves from one level of competition to another.)
3. Co-curriculars (where class time has been spent preparing for the event) take precedence over extra-curriculars.
4. If all else is equal, the number of possible opportunities to participate will be considered. The activity with fewer participation opportunities will be given precedence.

Seating Placement Seating Placement in all bands is based on playing tests and attitude & participation in class. Periodic review and adjustments to seating may be necessary, and will be based on band class and sectional performance. All parts are necessary and important to the mature band sound.

Band Placement is based on musical ability, work ethic, attitude & participation and the instrumentation needs of the ensembles. In most cases, students will progress from Freshman (Beginning) Concert Band to Intermediate Concert Band before being considered for Chamber Winds. Students wishing to advance to Chamber Winds should study with a qualified private instructor on their instrument. The faculty reviews band placement every semester.

Behavior In any group of people there are rules in place that help to maintain order. We have a few simple rules that will help us to accomplish everything we need to do in band classes.

- Follow directions the first time asked.
- Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.
- No insults, name-calling or profanity.
- Touch only equipment to which you are assigned.
- Have all necessary equipment ready for rehearsal.
- No food, drinks, candy or gum in the band room.

Positive Consequences Research has shown that it is much better to reward positive behavior when possible in order to bring about learning. We will use a number of positive consequences including: Praise, Positive Parent Contacts, and Opportunity to Participate in Extra-Curricular Bands, Opportunity to Participate in Band Trips, Awards

Negative Consequences Some behaviors are so detrimental to the class that they need to be addressed with negative consequences. These consequences are applied only when a student chooses not to follow the rules. The more the student makes negative choices, the higher the consequences. Some behaviors are so disruptive that they will lead to immediate removal from class with a discipline referral.

Core Values

Punctuality Students are to be on time (early) for every rehearsal and performance. This means that students must organize their schedules in order to be available for all rehearsals and performances. Students must also arrive early enough to prepare adequately so that the rehearsal or performance can begin on time.

Preparation Students are responsible to arrive for each rehearsal or performance with their instrument in good repair and the correct materials including: music, reeds, oil, mutes, pencil etc., wearing the appropriate clothing for performances, and resolving any schedule conflicts.

Respect Students will demonstrate respect for the faculty, instructors, parent volunteers, students, and guests of Harrison High School and the Dept. of Bands. This includes respect for the facilities and equipment that belongs to the department or individuals within the department. Common courtesy and politeness, friendliness, support of this and other student activities, helpfulness, and positive behaviors are expected. Conflicts should be resolved maturely and privately if possible. Profanity and disrespectful speech or actions will not be tolerated.

Work Ethic Students in our department will demonstrate persistence toward musical excellence through regular practice of their instrument. This is vital to personal success, and the achievement of the ensemble.

Responsibility Students are to be responsible members of their ensembles. This includes: being present for all rehearsals and performances, performing their assigned part confidently and to the best of their ability, seeking out help for any areas in which they are deficient.

Volunteerism It is essential that every student actively seek out work that needs to be done to help the entire department. This includes, but is not limited to copying, moving equipment, setting chairs and stands, clean up, library work, etc. Ask questions like: "What can I do to help?" "Is there anything that needs to be done?"

Private Lessons Members of the Harrison Band program are highly encouraged to seek private instruction on their individual instrument. This is truly the best method for rapid advancement on any instrument. **Students wishing to advance to the Chamber Winds should be studying their instrument with a qualified Private Instructor.** Also, those students wishing to audition for All-State Band, or take Solos to contest at the Group 1 level should be taking lessons. Private lessons are available at a reasonable cost through a number of local teachers. A list of Private Instructors is provided on the Band website: www.tinyurl.com/harrisonbands

Band Room Lockers Each student will be assigned a locker in the band room. Instruments, supplies, and nothing else should be stored in it. Textbooks and materials from other classes may not be kept in your band lockers. Instruments should be disassembled and placed in their cases following each rehearsal. You may wish to lock your locker when it is not in use. Locks will be removed if keys or combos are lost or forgotten. If you are sharing a locker, please respect other people's property. Do not leave money, jewelry, etc. in your locker at any time.

Equipment Students are responsible for treating all of our equipment with respect, whether it has been issued directly to them or not. If a student repeatedly has problems being responsible with equipment, he or she may be barred from certain activities and will be responsible for any damage caused. Students who are renting an instrument and are not taking care of it will have their rental privileges revoked.

Band Room Hours Due to the large inventory of school and personal instruments in the band department, it is necessary to lock the doors whenever a director is not present. The doors will generally be open at 7:15 AM each morning and locked at 2:45 PM each afternoon when there is not an after school rehearsal or performance.

Music Department Facilities

- Students may not be in the music department area without a music faculty member present.
- Students may not enter the storage areas without permission.
- Band members are not to be in the director's office unless a director is present.
- Students may not spend their lunch hour in the band room unless providing band service.
- Students using practice rooms must always ask permission of a director.
- Absolutely no gum, food or drinks (except water) anywhere in the band area.
- Practice rooms may be used before school, during study halls and after school. If a student is planning on staying after school he/she should contact the director in advance to make sure someone can be present.

Concert Dress Standards Uniform Concert Dress is required for all Harrison Band members at every performance. Please purchase needed items as inexpensively as possible and have them available for the first concert performance. Please contact a director in case of financial need.

Freshman Concert Band and Wind Orchestra

Navy Blue 'Harrison Bands' Polo Shirt (available to order)
Tan (Khaki) Dress Pants (Girls may wear a tan dress skirt-knee length or longer)
Dress Shoes (not Tennis Shoes)
Dark Socks (not white)

Advanced Band (Chamber Winds) There are two forms of concert dress used throughout the year: Formal/Informal.

Informal Concert Dress is worn for Open House, TSC North Band Festival, Children's Concerts and other less formal occasions as required.

Navy Blue 'Harrison Bands' Polo Shirt (available to order)
Tan (Khaki) Dress Pants (Girls may wear a tan dress skirt-knee length or longer)
Dress Shoes (no Tennis Shoes)
Dark Socks (not white)

Formal Concert Dress is worn for Fall, Holiday and Spring Concerts as well as Contest and other Formal occasions as required.

Boys White Dress Shirt w/Collar
Black Dress Tuxedo (Provided)
Black Dress shoes and Black Socks

Girls Black Concert Formal (Provided)
Black Dress Shoes

Jazz Bands

Boys Navy 'Harrison Bands' Polo Shirt (available to order-same as concert band)
Tan (khaki) Dress Pants
Dress Shoes (no tennis shoes)
Dark Socks (not white)

Girls Navy 'Harrison Bands' Polo shirt (available to order-same as concert band)
Tan (khaki) Dress Pants
Dress Shoes (no tennis shoes or flip flops)

Pep Band Navy 'Harrison Bands' Polo Shirt (available to order same as Jazz/Concert)
Blue Jeans
Tennis Shoes

Marching Band Two uniforms are worn depending on the performance.

Summer Uniform Marching Band T-Shirt (included in MB fee)
Tan (khaki) Shorts
White socks
Tennis shoes

Full Dress Uniform Harrison Militia Band Uniform
Marching Band T-Shirt
Light Colored Shorts (boxers or bike style)

Black Oxford style lace up Dress shoes
Black calf length socks

Fund Raisers Our major fundraisers consist of the following:

1. Fall- students may sell FLA Citrus and Fanny May candy in order to earn money for band trips. Cash prizes for top sellers. (November)
2. Band Memory book Ads- area businesses and professionals support the Band program by placing ads in our Commemorative Band Yearbook. (Spring deadline)
3. Band Booster Craft Show-Watch the Band Notes newsletter for more information. (Nov)
4. Spring- students may sell Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie Dough in order to earn money for band trips. Watch the Band Notes newsletter for more information. (January)

Band Trips

Every other year one or more ensembles within the Harrison band program may participate in an educational travel opportunity. Every effort is made to make these trips educational, economical, safe, and fun. Students may earn money toward trips by participating in the fund raisers. Financial assistance is available for those in serious need. Examples of past trips include Chicago, St. Louis, Washington D.C., Nashville, Orlando, Hawaii, Canada and England. Our next trip will be a Concert Band trip in 2019.

Band Incentive Awards Program

Awards will be granted twice a year following Marching Band and at the end of the school year. Recognition of awards will take place at the Spring Concert. Students must complete an application for awards form made available prior to awards presentations.

Band Jackets Letterman Style Navy wool jackets with the Harrison Bands Logo may be purchased from 'Sports Etc' and worn by any band member who has earned their letter.

Band Letters Students may earn one Band Letter (orange Block H) which will be awarded for extra-curricular involvement after accumulating 5 points on the following scale:

- **Marching Band** 2pts/yr
- **Jazz Band** 1pt/yr
- **Pep Band** 1pt/yr
- **Pit Band** 1pt/yr

Insert Pins Students will receive all applicable insert pins after their letter is awarded. Additional pins may be applied for as they are earned. One pin may be earned in each category.

- **Marching Band**
- **Pep Band**
- **Jazz Band**
- **Pit Orchestra**

Other Awards Students in the Harrison Band program are eligible for a variety of awards and scholarships during their High School careers. Awards are given in the areas of Concert, Marching, and Jazz Bands as well as participation, service, and other areas. Awards are presented at our Spring Concert and Awards night.

Instrument Repair

We recommend that instruments needing repair be taken to “**Brent’s Bench**” 229 South 4th Street, Lafayette. 742-7428. Brent Laidler is the contracted repairman for all school owned instruments, and he will be happy to help you with your personal instrument repair needs.

Equipment and Supply Retailer

Quinlan and Fabish Music www.qandf.com is a full service instrumental music dealer with a new store located in Eastway Plaza at Greenbush and US 52 in Lafayette. They offer a full range of supplies as well as a variety of purchase plans on beginner, step-up and professional model instruments. Fliers are available in the band room.

Necessary Equipment

In addition to an instrument in good playing condition (personal or school owned) all students are required to have these basic supplies by August 26th. After that, students without necessary equipment will receive deductions from their weekly participation grade. They may be purchased at the local retailers listed elsewhere in the handbook or online.

WOODWINDS

Flute: Cleaning rod and soft cloth

Oboe/Bassoon:

2 good WOODEN reeds*

Recommended: Jones Medium

Film canister/reed soaker

Cork grease

Cleaning swab

Clarinet/Saxophone:

3 good reeds* (See note about reeds below)

Reed guard (holds 2-4 reeds; NOT the clear ones that come in the reed box!)

Cork grease

Cleaning swab

Neck strap (sax and bass clarinets only)

** You must have at least **3 working reeds** at all times, so just buy a big box now (and plan on buying one again later in the year!). High school players should have a minimum strength of 3—we do **NOT** want to see any 2½’s. Use your reed guard to **ROTATE** your reeds—they will sound better and last longer. As soon as a reed is at all chipped or cracked, it’s time to throw it away. You will sound much better! Brands to consider include Mitchell Lurie and Vandoren. Orange box Rico reeds are not recommended!*

BRASS

Trumpet*, Horn, Euphonium, Tuba:

Valve oil (Rotary Valve Oil for Horn)

Tuning slide grease

Trombone*:

Slide cream and spray water bottle

(Slide oil is NOT recommended!)

Tuning slide grease

**Advanced Band trumpet and trombone players will also need a straight mute. The cheaper brand of mute is the Humes and Berg Stonelined straight mute. More expensive brands will give you a better sound and intonation. Tom Crown is a good intermediate (metal) brand, and Jo-Ral is the best.*

PERCUSSION*

Stick bag with name tag,

Medium hard rubber mallets (such as Balter BB1)

One pair of WOODEN snare sticks (such as Vic Firth SD-1)

One pair general Timpani mallets (such as Vic Firth T1)

**You MUST label your sticks and mallets since most students end up with similar equipment.*

TUNERS / METRONOMES –RECOMMENDED (NOT REQUIRED)

A Tuner/Metronome combination is a valuable and recommended tool for HS musicians. They are available through Quinlan and Fabish for around \$20. There are also online tools and iPhone applications available for students practicing at home which are less expensive or free.

PURCHASING AN INSTRUMENT

Now that you are in high school, you may wish to consider purchasing an upgraded instrument. There are several different ways to purchase a step-up instrument.

Purchase or Rent to Own a quality new instrument This is done by contacting our school music dealer, Quinlan and Fabish (Eastway Plaza-Lafayette) www.gandf.com or another reputable full service dealer. They have a number of options on purchase of intermediate and professional level instruments.

Purchase a quality used instrument - This can be done several ways. You may contact a reputable full service music dealer and purchase a quality used instrument. They may have options available. You may purchase a quality used instrument from a private party. We sometimes post available instruments on the band room notice board - check the newspaper, craigslist, and other places*

**Please be aware that Online sources, classified ads, pawn shops, Ebay, Craigslist and discount supercenters may offer cheap instruments. Many of them have fancy, vaguely Italian sounding names and claim to be “professional” or “director recommended”. However they are frequently of very poor quality, have intonation problems and cannot be repaired. Be sure to check with the band directors, sectional instructor or your private teacher concerning name brands and models which can be trusted prior to purchasing any instrument.*

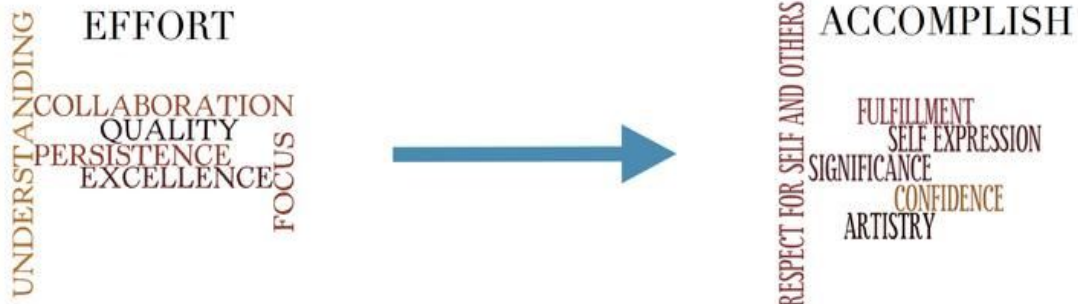
Having a quality name brand instrument will add to the enjoyment of your performing. If a price seems too good to be true, or the instrument comes in a variety of 'fun' colors you should probably pass. Quality instruments will last a lifetime if taken care of properly.

KNOW MUSIC, KNOW LIFE

WHAT IS THE POINT OF ALL THIS WORK?

SIMPLE...

EFFORT LEADS TO ACCOMPLISHMENT



SO YOU'RE NOT ALWAYS HAVING "FUN" BECOMING A GREAT MUSICIAN? **WELL SO WHAT.**

HERE'S SOME TOUGH LOVE: ANYTHING WORTH ACCOMPLISHING IS ALWAYS THE RESULT OF SUSTAINED EFFORT. "FUN" IS FLEETING, "FUN" IS TEMPORARY BUT ACCOMPLISHMENTS ARE FULFILLING AND **THEY** THE THINGS YOU ACCOMPLISH THROUGH SUSTAINED EFFORT WILL CHANGE WHO YOU ARE TODAY...RIGHT **LAST.** NOW...AND RESHAPE WHO YOU WILL BECOME TOMORROW.

NO ONE CAN HAND YOU LIFE-ALTERING ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

BY DEFINITION, THEY MUST COME FROM YOUR OWN EFFORTS...THE **DON'T WASTE** RESULTS OF OPPORTUNITIES AFFORDED TO YOU, SO **OPPORTUNITIES.**

AS YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TAKE HOLD YOU WILL FEEL GREAT ABOUT WHO YOU ARE AND WHO YOU CAN ONE DAY BECOME. OR, PUT ANOTHERWAY...

THE WAY YOU SEE THE WORLD AND YOUR PLACE WITHIN IT IS DIRECTLY LINKED TO HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT YOURSELF.

SO... THAT IS LIFE, THAT IS THE POINT OF "ALL THIS WORK." MAKE THE EFFORT TO KNOW LIFE AS AN ACCOMPLISHED

MUSICIAN

©2013

RACHEL MAXWELL & BRIAN WIS