

# Music Handbook



Hollis Grade School  
2018-2019

# General Music

## Goals

The K-5 General Music program at Hollis will promote life long learning and appreciation of music. Students will engage in sequential activities that meet the four artistic processes of the National Standards for Music Education: creating, performing responding, and connecting. Please see the attached "I can" statements for grade specific learning goals.

You may also view the following website for further information on the National Music Standards:

<https://nafme.org/my-classroom/standards/>

## Performances

- There are two major performances for the K-4 General Music Students. The Winter Concert and the Spring Concert.
- General Music students will also perform at the Spring Courthouse Arts in Education Celebration.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade General Music students will compete in the IESA Speech Contest with a choral reading and also perform at the winter and spring concerts.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Recorder Karate

- 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will begin working with recorders this year. Look forward to details on purchasing a recorder early in the school year. The approximate cost of one recorder and method book we will use in class is \$10.

## Assessment and Grading

- Music students will be evaluated on a daily basis with a variety of formal and informal assessments. General Music students will be assessed based on their participation and behavior in class, performance attendance, and written and verbal music skills.

## Parent/Teacher Communication

- My most efficient means of communicating is via email. If I feel I need to reach out to you, I'll start there. Please feel free to do the same for me and stop in and say hi when you can!



# Ensembles at a Glance



## Beginning Band 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

**Goals:** In Beginning Band, students will strive to achieve fundamental technical skills and a sound understanding of their instrument. Students will work on developing skills alone and in a full band setting. Skills learned in beginning lessons and band will provide a foundation for all future musical ensembles.

**Performances:** There are two major performances for the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Beginning Band. The Winter Concert and Spring Concert. These concerts will be presented with the 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band and Choir. Beginning Band will also perform at the Spring Courthouse Arts in Education Celebration.

**Concert Dress:** Unless otherwise specified, concert dress is "Sunday Best". No jeans, gym shoes, or t-shirts and in accordance with the Hollis Grade School Dress Code.

**Lessons:** In addition to band classes, Beginning Band Lessons will begin following the Kidder Display night, once all instruments and materials are delivered. Students will be grouped with like instruments and meet for 20 minutes, once a week. Lessons times will be assigned following Display Night.

## 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band

**Goals:** 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band students will focus on developing basic and extended techniques on their instruments as well as discussing musical style and history. Students will expand their knowledge of standard band literature.

### **Performances:**

- There are two major performances for the 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band: the Winter Concert and Spring Concert. These concerts will be presented with the Beginning Band and 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir.
- 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band will also perform at the Spring Courthouse Arts in Education Celebration, Pre-Game at LCHS Homecoming Football Game (7-8<sup>th</sup> grade students only), and LCHS Band Festival.
- Additional opportunities include IGSM Solo and Ensemble Contest.

**Concert Dress:** Unless otherwise specified, concert dress is "Sunday Best". No jeans, gym shoes, or t-shirts and in accordance with the Hollis Grade School Dress Code.

**Lessons:** 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Lessons will begin the week of 8/21! Students are grouped with like instruments and meet for 20 minutes, once a week.

## 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir

**Goals:** 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir students will focus on developing basic and extended vocal techniques. Students will develop aural skills, learn to read choral music, and expand their knowledge of standard choral literature.

### **Performances:**

- There are two major performances for the 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir: the Winter Concert and Spring Concert. These concerts will be presented with the Beginning Band and 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band.
- 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir will also perform at the Spring Courthouse Arts in Education Celebration.
- Additional opportunities include LCHS Choir Festival and IGSM Solo and Ensemble Contest.

**Concert Dress:** Unless otherwise specified, concert dress is "Sunday Best". No jeans, gym shoes, or t-shirts and in accordance with the Hollis Grade School Dress Code.



# Assessment and Grading



## GRADING SYSTEM

Grades will be based on a point system. Everything students do will be worth a specific number of points, detailed below, to create the final grade for each quarter. The totals will be different for each quarter. Final grades will be percentage based, following the grading scale from the Hollis handbook.

## ASSIGNMENT BANK OF POINTS

Concert Performances – 400 Points  
Pep Band Performances – 300 Points  
Solo & Ensemble Event – 200 Points; Additional events 100 Points each  
Written Assignment – 150 Points  
Preview Night Event – 100 Points  
Limestone Festival Evening Rehearsal – 100 Points  
Playing Test – 50 Points  
Performance of Star Spangled Banner at a Sporting Event – 100 points  
Private Lessons – 10 Points per lesson  
Attend a Concert as an Audience Member – 15 Points  
After School/Lunch Recess Practice – 10 Points  
Instrument Home on Weekend – 10 Points  
Performance of Star Spangled Banner at Morning Meeting – 25 points  
Optional Practice Chart – 1 Point per Minute

Other Opportunities – other options may arise as the year goes on. Anything you do with music will be worth points! If you have an idea of something that might earn points, please make a suggestion!

## CONCERTS AND PERFORMANCES

Music ensembles are primarily a performance-based class and this becomes the bulk of our grade. Unless otherwise noted, all performances and events are considered mandatory for students. The ensemble is a group and the absence of any one person will result in the lessening of our overall ability to have success. Mrs. Mills must be notified of any absence from a performance by a note or e-mail from a parent prior to the concert date in order for an absence to be considered excused. These absences are limited to family emergencies. Students sick from school are automatically considered excused. Students will need to complete a written make-up assignment to receive points for missing the performance.

Unexcused absences or those not communicated prior to the performance will receive a make-up assignment comprised of written and performance sections for half credit.

All written assignments will need to be completed on the student's own time so not to conflict with ensemble/class work.

## OTHER NOTES

6-8 band and choir members will need to choose between performing at solo & ensemble or completing a written assignment for each ensemble in which they participate.

5-8 band students are required to attend their sectional time each week to receive points if they are present at school their scheduled day. Make-up sectionals can be scheduled with me during lunch recess or before/after school within 7 days of the missed sectional.

# IGSMA Solo and Ensemble Contest

Solo and Ensemble Contests are held in early spring. Judging is conducted by adult judges and performances are evaluated with criteria for each event. Judges offer valuable suggestions and encouragement to each contestant.

Each student gets the chance to compete to their full potential and have the chance to earn the highest rating. Most importantly, each contestant is given a chance to express themselves through their music and gain self confidence.

Hollis Grade School **6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Choir and Band members** will have the opportunity to participate in this year's contest in their choice of a solo and/or small group ensemble. Students will choose contest music in December to prepare for contest. Those who do not participate will need to complete a written assignment for each ensemble in which they participate.

More information about IGSMA Solo and Ensemble Contest to come later in the year!

If you're interested in more information, contact Mrs. Mills or consult the IGSMA website:  
<http://www.igsma.org/>



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## Sign and Return

Please detach, sign, and return to Mrs. Mills by Friday, August, 24<sup>th</sup>.  
Keep the provided information and calendar for reference.

- \_\_\_\_\_ I have read and reviewed the information regarding my student's involvement in music.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand our commitments and responsibilities for the 2018-2019 school year.

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Student(s) Name(s) and Grade(s) (Print)

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Student(s) Signature(s)

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Parent Name (Print)

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Parent Signature