

# Dayton Oaks Elementary School

## *2020-2021 Virtual Band Handbook*



Name:

Instrument:

# Dayton Oaks Elementary School Virtual Band Handbook

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

Hello! My name is Amy Syversen and I am honored to be the band teacher at Dayton Oaks Elementary School. I know it will be a wonderful year in music at Dayton Oaks. I believe children have talent in music in their own special way and it is my job to help them discover their musical gift. In order to do that, the students will be taking part in a variety of music activities. These are designed to help your child develop musical skills and to know and appreciate many different styles of music.

Performing in instrumental music ensembles gives students so much more than just musical training. Students learn cooperation and teamwork, commitment and responsibility, tolerance and acceptance, and perseverance and self-discipline. Performing with a group that plays well helps build self-esteem, confidence, and pride in accomplishment. Studying music also reinforces reading and math skills and enhances gross and fine motor skills.

You can help reinforce what your child is learning in school in several ways:

- Listen to music together
- Attend virtual community and professional concerts
- Encourage your child, as I have, to share with you some of the things they are learning in music class

These are just a few ways music can be extended from school to your home.

Having high expectations and standards gives each student the benefit of enjoyment from their musical experiences. This handbook will explain those expectations and also the policies regarding your child's participation in the instrumental music program at Dayton Oaks Elementary School. Please read through this handbook with your child and sign and return the last page to me. Students will be asked to keep the rest of their handbook in their band binder.

If you have any questions, please contact me at any time!! My email address is amy\_syversen@hcpss.org.

Musically Yours,

Amy Syversen

# Dayton Oaks Elementary School Band

## Syllabus and Grading Policy

Dayton Oaks Elementary School Music Department

<b>COURSE</b>	Elementary Band, Grades 4 and 5
<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>	Amy Syversen Amy_Syversen@hcpss.org
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="https://daytonoaksband.weebly.com">https://daytonoaksband.weebly.com</a>

### **Course Description**

The **Dayton Oaks Elementary School Beginning and Advanced Bands** provide a performance-based curriculum for advanced level learners, focusing on the development of expressive and artistic musical experiences through student driven work. It is important to note that we will not merely be playing instruments in this course, but rather learning the language of music *through* performance. As such, a significant portion of your work in this course will be devoted to refining your performance skills, increasing your ability to read new music at sight, and exploring what it means to be an all-encompassing musician.

### **Materials**

See pages 7 and 8

### **Required After-School Performances:**

Refer to HCPSS Policy 8090 Non-School Hour Curricular Programs. The virtual school year may or may not have after-school performances.

## **Grading**

Grading categories from the HCPSS Music Grading Standards are weighted as follows:

<b>HCPSS Music Grading Standards</b>	<b>Grade Weight</b>
<b><i>Mus s1: Creativity &amp; Composition</i></b> Develops and applies strategies to generate and express a variety of musical ideas.	10%
<b><i>Mus s2: Musicianship</i></b> Uses best practices and experiences to inform and develop an authentic voice.	10%
<b><i>Mus s3: Applied Skills &amp; Technical Development</i></b> Demonstrates skills and strategies appropriate to music-making	40%
<b><i>Mus s4: Procedures &amp; Practices</i></b> Demonstrates appropriate musical practices in the classroom or rehearsal environment.	20%
<b><i>Mus s5: Reflection</i></b> Communicates an understanding of concepts and strategies through the evaluation of music.	20%

### ***Creativity and Composition - 10%***

Students will complete composition assignments to further their understanding of music theory and creative processes.

Examples

- Benchmark Assessments found in Canvas (Creating)
- Exercises provided in instructional books
- Opportunities to explore through improvisation
- Student composition assignments

### ***Musicianship - 10%***

Students will complete assignments that explore musical works performed in the class to further their understanding of performance practice. Assignments will include listening to personal, ensemble, and professional recordings and researching musical works to understand cultural and historical context.

Examples-

- Benchmark Assessments found in Canvas (Responding)
- Demonstrates applied skills and technical development
- Demonstrates understanding of the curriculum through non-performance means
- Practice journals (we may or may not have these)
- Listening and reflection

### ***Applied Skills & Technical Development - 40%***

Every student will receive graded performance assessments and skills tests throughout the year.

Examples-

- Performance Assessments, formal and informal (ex- Scales, Concert Music, Exercises from Instructional Books)
- Benchmark Assessments found in Canvas (Performing)
- Demonstration of performance skills

### ***Procedures and Practices - 20%***

Students are learning to perform on their instruments, as well as learning to conduct themselves in a large ensemble rehearsal. This class will put the student in the role of a professional instrumental musician. As such, you will be asked to show your understanding of rehearsal and performance behavior. Students are observed and assessed on their instrumental performance and rehearsal conduct on a daily basis.

Examples-

- Utilizes required material during all classes
- Demonstrates best efforts on an individual basis and as a member of the ensemble
- Uses established rehearsal conduct on a daily basis

### ***Reflection - 20%***

Students will receive written reflection assignments over the course of the year. Students will evaluate their performances and performances by other groups in the following categories: tone, technique, intonation, musicality, balance, interpretation, musical effect, and other factors.

Examples-

- Benchmark Assessments found in Canvas (Responding)
- Informal Classroom Conversations/Discussions
- Exit Tickets
- Performance Evaluations
- Self Assessments

# Dayton Oaks Elementary School Band

## Student Responsibilities and Expectations

As a member of the Band you are an important part of a team. The rest of the group is relying on you to arrive prepared and on time to practice, to have a positive attitude, and to always do your best.

### Student Responsibilities

1. Be prepared – Have your music instrument, electronic device, lesson book, and all supplies at every lesson.
2. Be on time (but please don't come early!) – Know your lesson schedule.
3. Make up your missed work when necessary by going into Canvas and reading through the lesson pages.
4. Practice.
5. Get help if you need it and whatever you do, DON'T GIVE UP!
6. Always do your best!

### Student Classroom Expectations

1. No food or drink (including gum) is allowed in the virtual band room.
2. Please be courteous of the other students in the band program and arrive at your lesson on time and prepared to begin working. Please do not arrive to your lesson early!
3. Synchronous and Asynchronous classroom instructions will be in Canvas modules for each week's lessons. Please read these when you prior to entering the virtual band room so you can prepare for the day's lesson.
4. Please complete the Asynchronous lesson each week. These lessons will have a weekly assignment that is assigned each Monday and due the following Monday.
5. Please respect the teacher and do not talk (keep your mic on mute) while she is talking or working with other students.
6. You will be taught basic maintenance and will be responsible for your instrument's upkeep. Keep a good supply of reeds and oil on hand to keep your instrument in good shape. Clean out your instrument at least once a month (email me if you have questions on how to do this).
7. All students should have two pencils for their own use.
8. Use the bathroom before coming to class. Our time together is short!
9. Remember the instrument you hold in your hands is very valuable. Please be careful. Instruments can break easily and aren't always easily or cheaply fixed.
10. The following behaviors will not be acceptable in the band program: dishonesty and cheating, teasing, bullying, and disruptive behaviors.
11. You will be expected to try your best 100 percent of the time.

# Dayton Oaks Elementary School Band Required Materials

The following is a list of **required** materials for band. It is recommended that you rent your child's selected instrument from a local music store. *Please do not purchase an instrument online without speaking with Mrs. Syversen first!* Cleaning kits from the stores are not necessary, you only need the items below.

## All Students:

1. Wire Music Stand – this helps promote good posture
2. Instrument in good playing condition
3. Metronome (you can also use an online metronome or metronome app!)
4. Two pencils with erasers stored in your instrument case *at all times*
5. A folder where you can keep your lesson book and any other band related papers
6. Lesson Book: *Essential Elements Book One for Band* for your instrument **(NEW IN 2020-2021)**

## Instrument Specific Materials:

<p><b>Trombones:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bottle of Slide-O-Mix (do not use slide oil!)</li> <li>2. Tuning Slide Grease</li> <li>3. Small Water Spray bottle (3oz or smaller or “Bone” bottle)</li> <li>4. Polishing Cloth (for outer instrument)</li> <li>5. Microfiber Cloth (for internal slide wiping)</li> <li>6. Mouthpiece brush</li> <li>7. Cleaning Snake</li> <li>8. Cleaning Rod and Paper Towels</li> </ol>	<p><b>Trumpets, Euphoniums and Tubas:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bottle of Hetman Classic Piston Oil (Rotor Tubas need - Hetman Rotor Oil and Hetman Bearing Oil)</li> <li>2. Hetman Tuning Slide Oil</li> <li>3. Polishing Cloth (for outer instrument)</li> <li>4. Microfiber Cloth (for internal slide wiping)</li> <li>5. Mouthpiece brush and Cleaning Snake</li> <li>6. <u>Tubas Only</u> – Baltimore Brass Co. Tuba rest</li> </ol>
<p><b>Oboes:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Four extra handmade reeds AT ALL TIMES</li> <li>2. Reed case that holds four reeds</li> <li>3. Cork Grease</li> <li>4. Silk Swab</li> <li>5. Optional – water container for reeds</li> </ol>	<p><b>Bassoons:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Four extra handmade reeds AT ALL TIMES</li> <li>2. Reed case that holds four reeds</li> <li>3. Cleaning swab</li> <li>4. Bocal brush</li> <li>5. Seat Strap</li> <li>6. Crutch</li> <li>7. Silk Swab</li> <li>8. Paraffin/Cork grease</li> <li>9. Optional – water container for reeds</li> </ol>
<p><b>French Horns:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One bottle of Rotary Valve Oil by Hetman</li> <li>2. Hetman Tuning Slide Oil</li> <li>3. Hetman Bearing Oil</li> <li>4. Polishing Cloth (for outer instrument)</li> <li>5. Microfiber Cloth (for internal slide wiping)</li> <li>6. Mouthpiece brush</li> <li>7. Cleaning Snake</li> </ol>	<p><b>Flutes:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Flute tuning rod (should come with instrument)</li> <li>2. Flute Swab (cloth for tuning rod)</li> <li>3. Polishing Cloth</li> <li>4. Bo Pep Flute Finger Saddle (not the thumb rest) - optional, but will help with hand placement</li> <li>5. Pipe Cleaner(s) (keep one in case)</li> </ol>

<p><b>Alto Saxophones:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One Legere Signature Series 2.25 strength reed and a reed case for two reeds (Be careful not to break it! This should last all school year if you are careful)**</li> <li>2. Mouthpiece Cap</li> <li>3. Cork grease</li> <li>4. Body Swab</li> <li>5. Neck Swab</li> <li>6. Mouthpiece Brush</li> <li>7. Polishing Cloth and Pipe Cleaner(s) (for case)</li> <li>8. Vandoren VMCX6 THICK mouthpiece cushion</li> <li>9. Rovner Light (H) Ligature (optional, but worth it!)</li> <li>10. JD Hite Premiere Mouthpiece (optional, but worth it!)</li> </ol> <p><i>**You may purchase wooden reeds if you prefer. If you purchase wooden reeds, these need to be 2 strength</i></p>	<p><b>B Flat Clarinets:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One Legere Signature Series 2.25 strength reed and a reed case for two reeds (Be careful not to break it! This should last all school year if you are careful)**</li> <li>2. Mouthpiece Cap</li> <li>3. Cork grease and Q tips (keep a few in your case)</li> <li>4. Clarinet Swab</li> <li>5. Mouthpiece Brush</li> <li>6. Vandoren VMCX6 THICK mouthpiece cushion</li> <li>7. Thumb Rest Cushion</li> <li>8. Rovner Light (H) Ligature (optional, but worth it!)</li> <li>9. JD Hite Premiere OR Mezzo JN Gennusa Mouthpiece (optional, but worth it!)</li> </ol> <p><i>**You may purchase wooden reeds if you prefer. If you purchase wooden reeds, these need to be 2 strength</i></p>
<p><b>Percussion:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Percussion Kit that includes: Vic Firth SD1 General drumsticks, Vic Firth M132 mallets, an 8" tunable practice pad, practice pad/bell stand, and a set of bells. <i>*NOTE: It is NOT necessary for you to purchase a snare drum.</i></li> <li>2. "Alfred's Drum Method Book 1" (in addition to the book above)</li> </ol>	

# Dayton Oaks Elementary School Band

## Local Music Stores

Here is a list of some of the music stores in this area where you may want to rent or purchase your instrument from as well as all other required materials for band.

### **Baltimore Brass Company**

99 Mellor Ave.  
Catonsville, MD. 21228  
Toll Free: (866) TUBA-230/Local or outside of US: (410) 744-1723  
<http://www.baltimorebrass.net>

### **Bill's Music**

743 Frederick Rd.  
Baltimore, MD 21228  
Phone: (410) 788-8900 or Toll-Free: (800) 828-0023 Email: [sales@billsmusic.com](mailto:sales@billsmusic.com)  
<http://www.billsmusic.com/home.asp>

### **Coffey Music**

31 East Main Street  
Westminster, Maryland 21157  
Phone: (410) 876-1045 or (410) 848-5003  
<http://www.musicsalesandlessons.com/>

### **Chuck Levin's Washington Music Center**

Chuck Levin's Washington Music Center  
11151 Veirs Mill Road, Wheaton, MD 20902 USA  
Phone: (301) 946-8808 Email: [sales@chucklevins.com](mailto:sales@chucklevins.com)  
<http://www.wmcworld.com>

### **Mike's Music**

4872 Montgomery Road  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
Phone: (410) 465-0700  
<http://www.mikesmusicmd.com/>

### **Music and Arts Centers**

Chatham Station – Ellicott City  
9210 Baltimore National Pike, Rt. 40 West  
Ellicott City, MD 21042  
Phone: (410) 461-1844

Cherry Tree Center – Laurel  
11200 Scaggsville Rd Unit 111  
Laurel, MD 20723  
Phone: (240) 568-0600

### **Menchey Music (Formerly Stu's Music)**

723 Baltimore Blvd.  
Westminster, Maryland 21157  
Phone: (410) 876-7585 or (800) 908-7585

# Dayton Oaks Elementary School Band

## Suggested Materials

The following materials are not required but would be beneficial and may eventually be required in middle school and high school.

### Chromatic Tuners

These are recommended for all students, except percussionists. These devices help train students to center pitches and to learn how to adjust their instruments to match pitch with everyone in the band. I recommend the Korg CA30.

### Step-Up Mouthpieces

For most beginners, the mouthpiece that comes with your instrument is just fine. Clarinet, Saxophone, French Horn, and Trumpet players who have a year or more experience should consider moving up to the next level of mouthpiece. This allows for a better sound and centered pitch. Do not upgrade until you have been playing for at least one year and have spoken with Mrs. Syversen or your private instructor first. Due to physical limitations, many students do not upgrade until middle school. Here are recommended upgrades that will last up through high school:

Clarinet: Van Doran B 45 with Vandoren Rovner Light (H) Ligature

Saxophone: Selmer CHH with Rovner Light (H) Ligature

Trumpet: Bach 5C (after one or more years of playing on a 7C) and eventually Bach 3C

French Horn: Holton MDC

Trombone: Bach 6 1/2 A L (if still on a 12 student should go to a 7 next)

Euphonium: Schilke 51D

Tuba: Conn Hellenberg Standard/120

**Step-Up Instruments** (Do not purchase an instrument before consulting with a teacher)

## Instrument Repair Contacts

Ann and Steve's Music (Woodwind Repairs)  
28 Bloomsbury Ave.  
Catonsville, Maryland 21228  
410.747.4957 (Steve Ocone) [www.annandsteves.com](http://www.annandsteves.com)

Baltimore Brass Company (Brass AND Woodwind Repairs)  
99 Mellor Avenue  
Catonsville, Maryland 21288  
410.744.1722 (David Fedderly)

Baltimore Woodwind Repair (Bassoon Repairs)  
4307 Harford Road  
Baltimore, Maryland 21214  
410.444.6546 (Holden McAleer)

Brass Arts Unlimited (Brass Repairs)  
8050B Philadelphia Road  
Baltimore, Maryland 21237  
410.866.1587 (David Weiner)

Daudelin Woodwind Repair (Woodwind Repairs)  
6166 Downs Ridge Court  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075  
410.799.4363 (Keith Daudelin)

Lachman Woodwind Repairs (Woodwinds Repairs)  
7503 Creighton Drive  
College Park, Maryland 20740  
301.345-3389 or [llwvs@abs.net](mailto:llwvs@abs.net) (Lee Lachman)

Music and Arts Center (All Repairs)  
Chatham Station  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042  
410.461.1844

Mike's Music  
4872 Montgomery Road  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
Phone: (410) 465-0700 <http://www.mikesmusicmd.com/>

# Dayton Oaks Elementary School Band

## Home Practice Tips = SUCCESS

*Slow Practice = Fast Progress - Fast Practice = Slow Progress - No Practice = No Progress*

Here are some tips on how to get the most out of your home practice time:

Students (see practice steps on the next page on how to practice at home):

1. **Find a quiet, distraction-free place.**
2. **Schedule a set time to practice each day.** Just as you schedule a set time for your academic homework, you should choose a specific time each day to practice at home. Some students like to practice in the morning before school, while other students prefer to practice as soon as they are done with school. A set time (time that remains the same each day) is most helpful.
3. **Always play with correct posture.** To play with correct posture, you will need a music stand when you practice. Wire music stands are inexpensive and can be a big aid during home practice.
4. **Never start out practicing a piece up to tempo (speed).** Always start it slow and gradually speed up to tempo until you can play the piece or section of the piece comfortably and correctly.
5. **Break it down!** Take phrases or sections of the piece you are working on and practice them at slow tempos then speed them up little by little. Next, add another phrase or chunk to the one you just worked on. Don't try to play the whole piece right away. Break the piece down and you will be much more successful.
6. **If you are stuck on a specific rhythm, put your instrument down in a safe place and clap and tap the rhythm out until you can get it.** Then add your instrument and play the rhythm. If you are still having trouble, try writing the rhythm in above the notes and using the clap and tap method once more. Clapping and tapping rhythms will do wonders!
7. **Three times is a charm.** Before moving from one phrase or section to another, be sure you can play the phrase or section correctly three times in a row; then you can move on.

Parents:

1. **Help your child schedule a daily practice time.**
2. Much like the study area a student uses for other homework, a music practice area is very important. Help your child **find a quiet distraction-free place** to practice and be sure there is good lighting and a wire music stand available for him or her to use.
3. When renting or purchasing an instrument, I would recommend brands such as Bach, Selmer and Yamaha. Please avoid purchasing instruments at local discount stores.
4. **Become involved with what your child is doing.** Listen to what he or she is playing. Ask your student for an explanation on what he or she has learned in band lessons that day. Look at his or her lesson book to make sure that what has been assigned is being practiced. Keep a steady beat for your child by clapping or encourage your child to use a metronome during home practice.
5. **Encourage your child** to always do his or her best.
6. **Praise your child** for work well done.
7. **\*\*\*Never use practicing as a punishment.** Practicing should be fun!
8. **Help to foster a musical environment** in your home. Attending local concerts, listening to recordings of professional musicians, and having your child give concerts for family members and friends are all great ways to encourage your up-and-coming musician.
9. **\*\*\*Help your child to persevere.** There are times when your child will feel less interested and not very motivated. This is normal. Try to withstand the tough times by reaffirming how far your child has come. Remind your child that he or she is a very important part of a team and that the rest of the band is counting on him or her to practice, attend rehearsals, etc. Treat your child to a special instrument accessory or book of popular songs that he or she can play. Learning to play an instrument requires a lot of discipline, perseverance, dedication, and determination.

# Dayton Oaks Elementary School Band

## Practice Steps

Remember, practice doesn't make perfect, "Perfect Practice Makes Perfect." Please use these basic steps when practicing your instrument at home. Incorrect practice habits are harmful to a musician's progress. *You may find it helpful to place this page near or on your practice stand.*

*Slow Practice = Fast Progress - Fast Practice = Slow Progress - No Practice = No Progress*

Steps	With Pencil	With Hands	With Foot	With Mouth	Set Metronome
1. Label	Write the counts under the notes, but DO NOT write the note names				
2. Clap		Clap the rhythms of the music	Tap foot silently on every beat	Say the counts out loud	72 Beats per minute
3. Finger		Push keys/valves or move slide	Tap foot silently on every beat	Sing/say the note names out loud	60 beats per minute
4. Play		Push keys/valves or move slide	Tap foot silently on every beat	Play with correct embouchure and clear tonguing	60 beats per minute and increase to at least 72

# Dayton Oaks Elementary School Band

## Contract and Commitment Statement

It is important for students and parents to understand that for Dayton Oaks Elementary School to have a successful and high quality band program, students participating must demonstrate a high level of commitment.

I ask that the student and parent/guardian demonstrate commitment to the band program by signing the below contract. You do not need to turn this in to Mrs. Syversen. This is a commitment to yourself as well as the other students on the band program's musical team.

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I acknowledge that **I have read and reviewed with my child the DOES Band Handbook**. I also acknowledge that breaking this contract may result in the lowering of a grade or possible dismissal from the band program. Students are required to attend all rehearsals, concerts (if/when they occur), and other performances (if/when they occur). The only exceptions to this are serious illness or family emergency. **Please bring all conflicts with rehearsals to the band director's attention well ahead of time.**

In order to be a productive member of the Dayton Oaks Elementary School Band Program I, \_\_\_\_\_ agree to:

1. Attend all required rehearsals and concerts (if/when they occur);
2. Arrive on time and prepared to do my best;
3. Take proper care of my instrument whether it is rented or owned;
4. Practice outside of band classes five days a week for 10-15 minutes each time;
5. Always have a positive attitude and work hard in both class and home practice;
6. Let my parents/guardians know of all rehearsals and other important events; and,
7. Always try my best.

Student Signature:

Parent's/Guardian's Signature: