

# MT. TABOR BAND INFORMATION

Dear Students & Parents,

Welcome to the Mount Tabor Band program! I am extremely excited to be here and be part of the Mt. Tabor Band “Renaissance” with your son/daughter. Mt. Tabor in the past, under the direction of Warren Dalby, was considered one of the finest and well rounded band programs in the Portland area. Students I have worked with in high school over the last 20 years that came from Mt. Tabor were some of the finest musicians and responsible students I have had in my teaching tenure.

My main objectives for band students at Mt. Tabor are for them to enjoy participating in the making of music together and to excel on their respective instruments. I hope your child will be successful and an integral part of the Mt. Tabor band program.

In order to achieve these objectives the students have been made aware of specific performance and behavioral objectives critical to their and the groups success. When students participate to the best of their ability, follow classroom expectations and practice diligently, there will be definite success and enjoyment.

As a parent, you play a big part in the success of your son/daughter in the band program. You help in monitoring home practice, making sure they are prepared for class, understand behavioral expectations and that they participate in all performance events is essential to their positive progress. The following contract covers important details and expectations about the band class and grading – please go through the enclosed information together, then sign and return the Band Contract form enclosed at the end of this information packet.

## Class Expectations

A successful band student will:

1. **Follow Teachers** Requests and Directions
2. Stay **Focused**, Positive and On Task
3. Be **Responsible** and Prepared for Class
4. Be **Respectful** of Each Other, Each Other’s Performance and Instruments
5. Make Their **Best Effort**
6. Follow Basic **School Rules**

## Home Practice

Regular home practice reinforces the learning concepts that are presented in class and is necessary to successfully improve one’s skills and overall musicianship. Practice sheets with the number of minutes practiced each day are to be turned in on a weekly basis. Practice sheets are to be signed by a parent or guardian. Of course, accommodations will be made in case of extended absence, instrument repair, etc). A sample practice sheet is provided at the end of this packet.

## Attendance

All band students are expected to attend class regularly on time with their instrument & music. Concert attendance is mandatory. Unexcused concert attendance will result in a letter-grade lowering of the Classwork Grade. It is important to understand that many hours are spent as a group preparing for public performances and that we depend on everyone being in attendance so that we can perform with to the best of our ability.

### Student Progress and Assessment

1. Graded playing and written tests
2. Practice sheets
3. Cooperation and behavior
4. Effort
5. Attendance
6. Competencies

### Instruments & Miscellaneous

It is **preferred** that students do provide their own instruments, either through rental or purchase from a private vendor. I have found that this ensures that the instrument will be of high quality and that students are more responsible for their success on it if they have their own. For those unable to do so, however, there are a few school owned instruments available for use, which would involve a nominal rental fee. Instruments such as Tuba, Baritone, Bassoon, Oboe, Low Woodwinds and larger Percussion such as Xylophone, however, are best provided through the school, and would also involve a nominal user fee. I will provide a list of music stores located in the area for your consideration.

### Band Method Book and Regular Maintenance Supplies

The band method book we will be using is “Standard of Excellence Book 1” by Bruce Pearson. I would also like to suggest that you purchase one for you child. It comes with 2 accompaniment CD’s that can be critical to their progress and success. They are available at local music stores (\$10) that rent band instruments or on line. Maintenance supplies such as reeds, valve oil, & the like are in short supply from the district this year due to budget cuts. I will have some available supplies and used books if there are financial hardships in purchasing them. Please let me know ASAP.

Feel free to contact me via email (best way) or by phone if you have any questions, concerns or comments – my contact info is below.

I am looking forward to an exceptional year!

Sincerely,

Dan Foster  
Band Instructor  
(503) 916-5646  
[dfoster@pps.net](mailto:dfoster@pps.net)



# MT. TABOR BAND CONTRACT



(Please sign this page and return)

**As a Band Student, I understand and agree to comply with the band expectations for success outlined in this packet, and will devote myself to these principles for success in band on a daily basis:**

1. **Follow Teachers** Requests and Directions
2. Stay **Focused**, Positive and On Task
3. Be **Responsible** and Prepared
4. Be **Respectful** of Each Other, Each Other's Performance and Instruments
5. Make Your **Best Effort**
6. Follow Basic **School Rules**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

**As a Band Parent, I will support my child in achieving Success in Band this year.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Preferred Contact Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Preferred Contact Email

I am interested in helping with the following:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Providing transportation for field trips     | <input type="checkbox"/> Accompanist                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Listening to and helping individual students | <input type="checkbox"/> Recording (audio) students |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please list) _____                    |   |

# Sample Practice Record

## Daily Practice Form

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

| <u>Tue</u> | <u>Wed</u> | <u>Thu</u> | <u>Fri</u> | <u>Sat</u> | <u>Sun</u> | <u>Mon</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
|            |            |            |            |            |            |            |              |

- A = 120+ minutes/week
- B = 90-119 minutes/week
- C = 60-89 minutes/week
- D = 30-59 minutes/week
- F = < 30 minutes/week