



**Glades Middle School Band  
Handbook  
2019-20 School Year**

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Director of Bands

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## Section 1: Performance Dates

**September 19, 2019** – 5:00pm

Open House - Pre Concert - Jazz Band Only @ **Glades Cafeteria**

**December 17, 2019** 6:00pm

Winter Concert - All Band Classes @ **School Auditorium**

**February 20 -21, 2020**

Jazz Band District Evaluation/Assessment: Jazz Band Only @ **Coral Reef HS**

**February 21-22, 2020**

Solo & Ensemble District Evaluation/Assessment: Optional @ **Coral Reef HS**

**March 11-13, 2020**

Band District Evaluation/Assessment - Wind Symphony Period 5 & 6 Students @ **Zelda/MAS**

**April 29, 2020** - 6:00pm

Spring Concert - All Band Classes @ **School Auditorium**

**May 2020** –

Band Banquet - Optional for all Band Classes @ Venue Pending

**May 28, 2020** - During School

Day Concert for End of Year School - All Band Classes @ **Glades MS**

**OTHER PERFORMANCES WILL BE ADDED AS WE ARE OFFERED THE OPPORTUNITY IN THE COMMUNITY.**

*This handbook contains guidelines that may be revised throughout the course of the year.  
Revisions may be sent home to parents through students. Rev. 8/15/2019*

## Section 2: The Glades Band Commitment

Proficiency on a musical instrument takes time and effort. Being in the Glades Band is not merely an "activity"; it is a lifestyle, a commitment, and an academic endeavor. You are about to embark on an exciting, important experience that you will cherish for the remainder of your life. You will make new friends, devise new goals, and enjoy success through hard work.

Contained in this packet are rules, guidelines, and expectations for members of the band program. Should you not fully understand any statement, guideline, rule, or the necessity of any rule, you need to communicate your concerns and questions to the band director prior to signing any agreement contained herein. Should a conflict arise between the band and another school activity, sport, community activity, or a job, you will be expected to remain committed to the band. Your grade depends upon it.

In 2000, the State of Florida began to recognize fine arts courses as core curriculum when considering a student's G.P.A. for admission to college. Students who miss rehearsals or performances may place their grade in jeopardy. If you would like suggestions for alternatives to using band classes to discipline children, or if you have any other questions about this policy, you may contact **Mr. Illá the band director at (305) 271-3342 Extension 2226.**

## Section 3: Program Philosophy & Objectives

The director and staff are committed to developing a well-rounded, expressive student that not only is a fine performer, but demonstrates a heightened sense of personal/social skills which include, but are not limited to: team work, promptness, responsibility, conduct, and effort. Also important is the desire to emphasize artistic expression through music as a top priority. Band students will be able to demonstrate proficiency on a wind or percussion instrument through performance and practice. They will demonstrate music literacy in relation to reading music, as well as expressive and stylistic nuance associated with a piece of music. Furthermore, the student will demonstrate characteristics associated with good musicianship including, but not limited to: tone, posture, rhythmic accuracy, instrument care and maintenance, and social and conduct skills associated with performing ensembles. Specific classroom objectives are derived from the National Association for Music Education and are also cross-referenced using the benchmarks outlined within CPALMS Florida State Standards.

### National Association for Music Education

1. Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
2. Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
3. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments.
4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.
5. Reading and notating music.
6. Listening to, analyzing, and describing music.
7. Evaluating music and music performances.
8. Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.
9. Understanding music in relation to history and culture.

## Section 4: Course Overviews

### Glades Beginning Bands M/J Band 1 & Exploring Music (PERIODS 1 & 2)

These ensembles are open to all students that wish to learn a Concert Band Instrument. Please remember that we can only take a limited number of students on each instrument. In order to achieve a balanced instrumentation for the band we ask that your child have in my two or three instrument choices, so we are able to accommodate them. Your patience and cooperation would be greatly appreciated. We only have a limited number of working school instruments that we may rent. These instruments are issued on a first come first served basis. Students may have to share instruments. It is encouraged that families buy their own when possible. Please ask the director or a private teacher for suggestions before buying the instruments. This will help ensure that the parent is purchasing a quality instrument that will last. In order for the instrument to be rented to the student the rental contract must be filled out in it's entirety and the rental fee must be paid.

### Glades Wind Symphony M/J Band 2 & M/J Band 3 (PERIODS 5 & 6)

This ensemble is open to students through an audition. Students must demonstrate an above average desire to perform. Attendance at after-school rehearsals and sectionals are a requirement for enrollment in this course. Students are expected to obtain the highest quality instrument, mouthpiece, and/or mallets available. All students in this ensemble must prepare a grade 2 or higher solo from the F.B.A. list. Certain uniform and financial obligations are required. The band may travel and attend special events. We only have a limited number of working school instruments that we may rent.

### Glades Jazz Band (PERIOD 3)

This ensemble is open to students through an audition. Attendance at after-school rehearsals and sectionals are a requirement for enrollment in this course. Students are expected to obtain the highest quality instrument, mouthpiece, and/or mallets available. Certain financial obligations are required. All students must purchase a full tuxedo and alternate uniforms. The band may travel and attend special events.

## Section 5: Attendance Policies

The key to success for any performing group is regular attendance. The director and staff make a conscious effort to provide all students and parents with the earliest possible notification of all events.

### **DAILY CLASS ATTENDANCE**

- Band students will report to their assigned seat in the band room with a working instrument, all accessories, pencil, music, and a music stand no later than **2 minutes** after the tardy bell rings.
- Students must check with the director prior to staying with another teacher for make-up work or tests they desire to schedule with a teacher.

### **ABSENCES**

- It is band policy that students must advise the band director. Unless it is an extreme emergency must be made no later than 24 hours prior to any absence. 24-hour voicemail or email is available at the school phone **(305) 271-3342 x 2226 and/or [chrisilla@dadeschools.net](mailto:chrisilla@dadeschools.net)**
- Following an absence, the student must provide a note from a parent or guardian explaining the nature of the absence. Missed performances, class assignments and rehearsals will not be excused until the absence has been cleared with the attendance office and band director.
- Any absence from rehearsals, excused or unexcused, may result in loss of a performing spot.

## **PERFORMANCES**

- Students are expected to attend every performance.
- The director must be notified in writing of any pre-arranged absence that conflicts with a scheduled performance 60 calendar days prior to the performance.
- Performances include but are not limited to; band competitions, assessments, evaluations, any Honor Band, and the winter and spring concerts and recitals.

## **MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS**

Due to the limited amount of after-school rehearsals, parents are requested to make a reasonable effort to schedule medical appointments at times so that they will not interfere with scheduled events. schedule medical appointments during *off days* or teacher planning days.

## **ORTHODONTIC AND DENTAL PROCEDURES**

Be in communication with your band director before procedures. Please communicate at least 2 weeks in advance to help the band prepare.

# **Section 6: Eligibility**

Participating in the Glades Middle School Band program means that you are a member of a group of individuals that supports school spirit and pride. Specific standards of eligibility must be maintained.

## **GRADE REQUIREMENTS**

- Students must maintain a 2.0 minimum G.P.A.
- The director may review grades periodically.
- Failure to maintain minimum grade requirements may result in exclusion from certain activities as mandated by M-DCPS, FSMA, and Florida State Law.

All Glades Band members will have several performance opportunities throughout the year. There may, however, be times in each performance where the performance can only accommodate a set number of performers. Students must realize that membership alone does not guarantee a performance spot.

# **Section 7: Grading**

Everyone expects an "A" in a band or dance class elective. Although many students receive an "A", the fact remains that it is earned, not given. Just like all other academic classes, your grades will be determined by the course objectives as stated in **Section 1: Program Philosophy and Objectives**.

## **ACADEMIC, EFFORT, CONDUCT GRADES**

- All Tests, Worksheets, Classroom Evaluations, Playing Tests, and Performance Grades are averaged to produce an Academic Grade.
- Each performance is awarded 4 grades that are averaged into the academic grade for the grading period in which it was earned.
- Each student begins the grading period with a "1" in effort. Consistent failure to bring instrument and supplies or participate in daily classroom activities will lower the effort grade.
- Each student begins each grading period with an "A" in conduct. Consistent failure to adhere to the rules of conduct as outlined in this handbook will lower this grade. Other disciplinary consequences may also apply.

## M-DCPS GRADING SCALE

GRADE	SCALE	VALUE	INTERPRETATION	G.P. VALUE
A	3.50-4.00	90%-100%	Outstanding Progress	4
B	2.50-3.49	80%-89%	Above Average Progress	3
C	1.50-2.49	70%-79%	Average Progress	2
D	1.00-1.49	60%-69%	Lowest Acceptable Progress	1
F	0-0.99	0%-59%	Failure	0
I		0	Incomplete	0

## Section 8: Conduct

In order to maximize rehearsal time and to maintain the stability of the band, certain codes of conduct are emphasized. Students must understand that we rehearse as a group, perform as a group, and are judged as a group. The quality of the group will only be as good as the weakest member. The consequences for failing to follow any of the following guidelines may result in one or more of the following actions: detention, forfeiture of a performance spot, exclusion from a performance. Repeated or deliberate infractions may result in one or more of the following: school referral, and withdrawal from the class. Refer to the M-DCPS Student Code of Conduct for further information.

### CONDUCT AT REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES

- Students will refrain from eating candy and chewing gum.
- Students are expected to listen attentively while the director, instructor, chaperone, or any officer is talking or giving directions.
- Students will stay until dismissed from all events ensuring that all equipment is put away properly.
- Students are allowed to use the restroom only when escorted by a chaperone if at an event. If at school the student must have a restroom pass from the teacher.
- Talking is not permitted when the band is warming up or tuning in the stands.
- Proper professional decorum is expected always.

### CONDUCT TO AND FROM PERFORMANCES

- Band members are expected to meet at the time and place designated by their director.
- All members are expected to ride the bus to and from the event.
- Talking is permitted on the bus, yelling is not.
- Students will stay on the bus until dismissed.
- Students are expected to follow all directions given by bus captains, chaperones, and bus driver.

### CONDUCT IN THE BAND FACILITY

- Students will enter the room quietly especially when another group is rehearsing.
- Students are not permitted to touch, tap, hit, or play any musical instruments that do not belong to them. No one is allowed to play percussion instruments unless they are a percussionist and have special permission from the band director.
- Students may use the stereo with permission from the director only.
- *Horseplay or roughhousing* will not be tolerated in or around the band facility.

### ETHICS

- All band members are expected to refrain from eating or drinking in the band room.
- Students are expected to care for personal property, the property of others, and school property.
- Band members are expected to act as a positive role model for all outside observers.

## CONDUCT ON TRIPS

- Students and their parents must attend a special trip meeting prior to departure.
- Special codes of dress and conduct will be discussed at the trip meeting.
- All paperwork involving parental consent must be completed prior to deadline.
- Financial obligations to the Band Patrons Glades should be resolved prior to departure.

### Failure to follow the rules of conduct will result in the following:

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense- Warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense- Call home to parents
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense- Parent/Teacher conference
- 4<sup>th</sup> or more- Referral to Administration

## Section 9: Uniforms

Because of their design, the uniforms make being a band member just that much more special than other organizations. When required, the uniform is to be worn in its entirety. It is to be worn with pride and dignity. When you wear your uniform you are representing your school, the band, the community, and the state of Florida, and the traditions and the honors earned by the members of the group before you.

It is each member's responsibility to obtain a complete set of uniforms. It is the student's responsibility to notify the band director of any financial condition that might preclude them from purchasing a uniform prior to the posted deadlines.

## CONCERT UNIFORMS

- Wind Symphony: Boys will wear Tux coat, black tux pants, Light Blue cummerbund & bowtie, black dress shoes. Each student will be required to purchase a uniform for the ensemble. Girls will wear the Glades Concert Dress, Imitation pearl necklace and ladies dress shoes.
- All concert uniform and accessory orders will be taken in September.
- Jazz Band: Boys and girls will wear the same uniform as the wind symphony. The student will also be required to purchase a Glades Band Guayabera Blue shirt with band logo for the Jazz Band and Tan Khaki Pants.

## ORDERING EQUIPMENT

- Following directions on the *Equipment Order Forms* is recommended in order to receive equipment in a timely manner.
- Initial equipment orders will not be placed for students who do not attach payment or return incomplete *Equipment Order Forms*.
- Due to the fact that many of the uniforms are custom fit, payment for uniforms parts and accessories is **non-refundable**.
- Refunds will not be issued to students who transfer to another school, or who decide to quit the band.

## Section 10: Winter/Spring Sports & Activities

As noted on the calendar, rehearsals and performance events continue throughout the year. Students are expected to continue attending all rehearsals, as they are a co-requisite for the band class they are enrolled in.

## Section 11: Student Officers

A committee comprised of the directors, instructors, and graduating senior officers selects officers annually. Students selected for an officer position are required to attend special leadership training seminars held during the summer. The selection process occurs in April/May and candidates will be evaluated as follows:

- Complete typed application with copy of 3rd nine weeks report card. Returning officer applicants will also be evaluated on past work.
- Applicants for the position of Band Captain and Jazz Band Manager must prepare a speech for all band classes.
- Officers will be removed from their position for dereliction of duty, and/or conduct and ethical violations.

***For the 2019 – 2020 school year we will select new officers this year in a similar system, but with different dates. Applications will be due September 5<sup>th</sup> and officers will be selected by September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019.***

## Section 12: General Information

### **Gator Musician Support Fund, Inc.**

All parents and students are encouraged to participate in this organization. Parent volunteers who have been nominated and elected by the general membership run the organization. All parents are considered members if their child participates in the *Glades Band*. The GMSF functions as a separate entity from Glades Middle School and publishes its own set of rules referred to as the GMSF Constitution and By-laws. This organization is a recognized as a non-profit organization and charitable contributions are always welcome.

### **CHAPERONES**

As per the state of Florida's Jessica Lunsford Act anyone that wishes to help chaperone/volunteer, or work around kids has to have a background check by Miami Dade County Public Schools Police Department. All applicants must fill out the volunteer registration application, be fingerprinted, and turn in a letter from the school be considered for approval. Anyone that does not possess a cleared volunteer number will not be allowed to volunteer nor chaperone any school activity.

### **INSTRUMENTS**

The band has a limited number of instruments for rent. Students who play flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, or trombone may need to obtain an instrument from an outside vendor. Students are responsible for the care and maintenance of all instruments issued to them. Students are not permitted to touch, hold, loan, or play an instrument except their own. Instruments must be placed in the designated storage area with cases latched when not being used. Personal items, including mouthpieces, should never be left in instrument case while not in use. All instruments should go home daily; the band storage cabinets are for convenience only.

- Brass players will provide their own Valve Oil.
- Woodwind players will provide their own Reeds, must have 3 at every rehearsal and change often for cleanliness.

- Percussionists need to supply their own Drum Sticks. All percussionists will be held accountable for the storing, securing, and maintenance of all school percussion instruments and mallets prior to and after every rehearsal. All percussion students must complete an instrument rental agreement prior to using any school equipment.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Throughout the year, memos containing pertinent information are signed out to students. It is the student's responsibility to deliver these memos to their parents.

### **FUNDRAISING**

The band program depends on money from a variety of sources to function properly. To help provide students with instrument general maintenance, accessories, and guests artists, the GMSF organizes and runs numerous fund-raisers throughout the year. Look for flyers, announcements, and newsletters that are periodically sent home describing current fund-raising opportunities.

These activities may be organized and supervised by parent volunteers associated with the band patron organization and not M-DCPS personnel so long as they are cleared by the Band Director, School Administration, and Miami Dade County Public Schools. It should be noted that roadside sales or donations (a.k.a. "Highway Holdups") are strictly prohibited, and are not condoned by the GMSF, or M-DCPS. Furthermore, students are not to hold signs in the median or near busy intersection.

## **Contact Information**

**Christopher A. Illá, Director of Bands**

**(305) 271-3342, ext 2226**

[chrisilla@dadeschools.net](mailto:chrisilla@dadeschools.net)

### **Notes:**

**Notes:**

# Syllabus and Handbook Receipt & Signatures



This form serves as the Glades Band Handbook receipt that must be signed and is the first homework assignment of the school year. The Handbook is available all school year long on our band website under Band Info at <http://www.gladesbandmiami.com/forms.html>

The signature of the student and a parent/guardian on the Syllabus and Band Handbook Receipt & Signatures sheet indicates that you have both received and read the 2019-2020 Glades Band Handbook policies.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Band Period(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Direct Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

### COMMUNICATION:

\*\*\*Visit the Band Website Often

Phone: (305) 271-3342 ext 2226 - [www.gladesbandmiami.com](http://www.gladesbandmiami.com) - [chrisilla@dadeschools.net](mailto:chrisilla@dadeschools.net)