



De Smet MS Band & MS Choir Handbook

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Mission Statement

Mrs. Vockrodt’s Mission Statement

I am committed to the success of my students through providing a wholesome education and worthwhile life skills. I will mentor and grow students into musicians through efficient and effective hands-on learning while creating music and having fun.

De Smet Band/Choir Program Mission Statement

The De Smet Band/Choir Program serves to provide a high quality musical experience for all of its members while fostering in them a lifelong love for music. By pursuing excellence at all times, our members will have the opportunity to work in harmony with each other to develop skills that will benefit them in all of their musical endeavors. Students will learn discipline, commitment, perseverance, and the satisfaction of achieving success by being the absolute best they can be. Life lessons such as these will enable students to be successful in every area of their lives.

Goals

* To provide a comprehensive knowledge of music through the performance, creation, and promotion of music.
* To provide an environment that promotes and encourages life-long learning and personal as well as professional growth.
* To create an environment that provides all students with a sense of community and loyalty to an organization bigger than themselves.
* To provide an opportunity for students to develop as disciplined, organized, and mature adults.
* To allow students to express themselves in a different, creative manner through the means of music.

Band/Choir Director

**Director: Mrs. Kayla Vockrodt** graduated in 2013 from Deubrook High School in White, South Dakota. In 2017, she received her Bachelor of Music Education from Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota. She has a degree to teach both

K-12 Band and Choir. Mrs. Vockrodt was involved in many ensembles over the years including the National FFA Band, South Dakota All-State Band, Intercollegiate Band, Marching Wolves, including marching for the 75th anniversary of Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, Jazz Band, Orchestra, Clarinet Choir, Concert Band, Concert Choir, and was first chair clarinet for the NSU Symphonic Band. She enjoys teaching lessons and is excited to begin her career in teaching music.

Director Contact Information

Miss Kayla Vockrodt: 605-854-3674 (School Phone #)

Kayla.Vockrodt@k12.sd.us (School E-mail)

via Remind

Website: <http://desmetband.weebly.com/>

De Smet Music Department

Important Dates 2018-2019

**September**

Sept 5 Region III Music Meeting 4:30 P.M. Watertown

Sept 19 Registration deadline for All-State Orchestra Auditions

**October**

Oct 2 HS Pops Concert

Oct 5 All State Chorus Registration due

Oct 9 All-State Orchestra Auditions Huron

Oct 11 Choral Leadership Workshop (Mixed Octet) Brookings

Oct 18 Mixed Octet Workshop (AM) Arlington

Oct 25-28 All-State Chorus and Orchestra Rapid City

**November**

Nov 7 Instrument Day at Northern

Nov 9 Veteran’s Day program 10:30 A.M.

Nov 29 MS/HS Fall Concert

**December**

Dec 11 Registration deadline for All-State Band Auditions

Dec 13 LIW Christmas Concert

Dec 14 Audition deadline for Middle School All-State Band

**January**

Jan 25 All-State Band Auditions Watertown

**February**

Feb 7-9 SD Music In-service Conference Brookings

Feb 26 Afternoon of Arts De Smet

Feb 27 HS Region III Solo/Ensemble Contest Watertown

**March**

Mar 1-2 Middle School All-State Band Huron

Mar 5 East Central Middle School Honor Band Brookings

Mar 8 Audition deadline for All-State Jazz Band

Mar 12 USD Jazz Festival (Show Choir) Vermillion

Mar 21-23 HS All-State Band Aberdeen

**April**

Apr 4 4-8 Spring Concert

Apr 30 K-3 Spring Concert

Apr 25-26 All-State Jazz Band Aberdeen

**May**

May 2 HS Spring Concert (golf DS 1:00)

May 11 LIW/MS Band Contest De Smet

May 18 Graduation

**Pep Band Schedule 2018-2019**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Thursday, Sept 6 | Coronation | College Boy | Call time 7:15 pm |
| Friday, Sept. 7 | FB vs. Estelline/Hendricks | On Wisconsin | Call time 6:30 pm |
| Tuesday, Sept. 11 | VB vs. Sioux Valley | On Wisconsin | Call time 7:00 pm |
| Friday, Sept. 14 | FB vs. DRSM | On Wisconsin | Call time 6:30 pm |
| Friday Sept. 28 | FB vs. Elkton/Lake Benton | Notre Dame Victory March | Call time 6:30 pm |
| Thursday, Oct. 4 | VB vs. Deubrook | Washington & Lee Swing | Call time 7:00 pm |
| Tuesday, Oct. 9 | VB vs. Hamlin | Go Northwestern | Call time 7:00 pm |
| Monday, Oct. 22 | VB vs. Arlington | Arlington Fight Song | Call time 7:00 pm |
| Thurs, Dec. 6 | Wrestling vs. Huron, Watertown,  Warner/Northwestern | Illinois Loyalty, Original,  Notre Dame, Go NW Go | Call time 4:30 pm |
| Tuesday, Dec. 11 | BBB vs. Clark/Willow Lake | Wave The Flag | Call time 7:00 pm |
| Tuesday, Dec. 18 | GBB vs. Clark/Willow Lake | Wave The Flag | Call time 7:00 pm |
| Tuesday, Jan. 8 | BBB vs. Howard | College Boy | Call time 7:00 pm |
| Thursday, Jan. 10 | GBB vs. Colman-Egan | The Victors | Call time 7:00 pm |
| Thursday, Jan. 17 | GBB vs. Castlewood | Minnesota Rouser | Call time 7:00 pm |
| Thursday, Jan. 31 | BBB vs. ORR | Wave The Flag | Call time 7:00 pm |

As a member of the High School Band you are **REQUIRED** to be at the following events as part of your grade. Please see to it that you make arrangements to attend every event, according to the Band Handbook.

**You guys are GREAT musicians! Let’s show our Bulldog Spirit**

**and have some FUN doing what we do best ☺**

It is likely that we will be asked to play at some tournaments and other events on rather short notice. If that is the case, I will notify *you as soon as possible* so you can make arrangements.

Possible Games to Play:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| October 18th | Football Playoffs |  | February 18th | Girls BB Regions |
| October 25th | Football Playoffs |  | February 19th | Girls BB Regions |
| November 2nd | Football Playoffs |  | February 21st | Girls BB Regions |
| October 29th | Volleyball Regions |  | February 25th | Boys BB Regions |
| October 30st | Volleyball Regions |  | February 26th | Boys BB Regions |
| November 1st | Volleyball Regions |  | March 1st | Boys BB Regions |

Mrs. Vockrodt’s Weekly Schedule

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
|  | 8:00-8:20 | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons |
| **1** | 8:17-9:07 | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons |
| **2** | 9:09-9:59 | 8th Music | 7th Music | 8th Music | 7th Music | 8th Music |
| **3** | 10:01-10:51 | LIW Lesson | 6th Music | LIW Lesson | 6th Music | LIW Lesson |
| **4** | 10:53-11:43 | 5th Band at HS  11:15-11:45 | Plan | 5th Band at HS  11:15-11:45 | Plan | 5th Band at HS  11:15-11:45 |
|  | 11:43-12:09 | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch |
| **5** | 12:07-12:57 | HS Study Hall | HS Study Hall | HS Study Hall | HS Study Hall | HS Study Hall |
| **6** | 12:59-1:49 | Lessons/Plan | Lessons/Plan | Lessons/Plan | Lessons/Plan | Lessons/Plan |
| **7** | 1:51-2:41 | HS Band | HS Band | HS Band | HS Band | HS Band |
| **8** | 2:43-3:33 | MS Band | MS Band | MS Band | MS Band | MS Band |
|  | 3:33-4:00 | Lessons at HS | Lessons at HS | Lessons at HS | Lessons at HS | Lessons at HS |

Quarters 1 & 3

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
|  | 8:00-8:20 | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons |
| **1** | 8:17-9:07 | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons | LIW Lessons |
| **2** | 9:09-9:59 | 7th Music | 8th Music | 7th Music | 8th Music | 7th Music |
| **3** | 10:01-10:51 | 6th Music | LIW Lesson | 6th Music | LIW Lesson | 6th Music |
| **4** | 10:53-11:43 | 5th Band at HS  11:15-11:45 | Plan | 5th Band at HS  11:15-11:45 | Plan | 5th Band at HS  11:15-11:45 |
|  | 11:43-12:09 | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch |
| **5** | 12:07-12:57 | HS Study Hall | HS Study Hall | HS Study Hall | HS Study Hall | HS Study Hall |
| **6** | 12:59-1:49 | Lessons/Plan | Lessons/Plan | Lessons/Plan | Lessons/Plan | Lessons/Plan |
| **7** | 1:51-2:41 | HS Band | HS Band | HS Band | HS Band | HS Band |
| **8** | 2:43-3:33 | MS Band | MS Band | MS Band | MS Band | MS Band |
|  | 3:33-4:00 | Lessons at HS | Lessons at HS | Lessons at HS | Lessons at HS | Lessons at HS |

Quarters 2 & 4

* **8th Grade Music**: MWF 1st and 3rd Quarters T-Th 2nd and 4th Quarters
* **7th Grade Music**: T-Th 1st and 3rd Quarters MWF 2nd and 4th Quarters
* **6th Grade Music**: T-Th 1st and 3rd Quarters MWF 2nd and 4th Quarters

Band Grading

**Daily Points**

Students will automatically receive 10 points each day for coming to class prepared. Participation points are kept by following expectations in class. S – Sit Tall, T – Track the Speaker, A – be Appropriate/Attitude, and R – Respect. Students will lose points if they do not follow these rules. If a student has an unexcused absence, they will receive a 0 for the day. Excused absences include: school activities, sickness, family emergencies such as a death in the family, etc. Refer to school handbook if needed.

**Practice**

Students are required to practice 50 minutes a week with a signature from a parent.

**Concerts**

Students are required to attend each concert for a grade. Parents are highly encouraged to come. Concerts are *required* as a final test in band each semester. If a student is unable to come to a concert, the parents *and* student must talk to me ahead of time. The student will have to make up the concert by watching the concert online, answering questions about the concert, and playing their music for me. If the concert is not made up, the student will receive a zero for work completed on the concert and will be in ICU until it is complete.

**Contest**

In May, Middle School students will be involved in contest. Students will work as a small ensemble during class and perform at contest held at our school. Students are also welcome to perform a solo if they would like to.

**Extra Credit**

1. At the end of each concert, students can bring me their music and show me the notes that they have made in their music. For every 5 markings, I will award 1 point.
2. For every 10 minutes a student practices at home, I will give them 1 point of extra credit. This must be a recorded session on the student’s computer and signed by a parent on a practice record.

**Other**

There may be other areas of grading depending on what we are learning each quarter. Other areas may include Class Trips, Projects, Signing the Handbook Contract, Rhythm Quizzes, and others.

Other Band Opportunities

**Middle School All-State Band**

Students in grades 6, 7 & 8 can audition to represent De Smet Junior High School at the SDMSASB. Recorded auditions are due in December. See me for audition music, more information, and to sign up for a few lessons with me.

**East Central Middle School Honor Band**

Select students in middle school can be nominated to represent De Smet Middle School at the East Central Honor Band in Brookings on. Let me know if you are interested.

**Pep Band**

Students that are in Middle School Band are more than welcome to join us for pep band games and receive extra credit. There is a schedule included in the handbook.

Choir Grading

**Daily Points**

Students will automatically receive 10 points each day for coming to class prepared. Participation points are kept by following expectations in class. S – Sit Tall, T – Track the Speaker, A – be Appropriate/Attitude, and R – Respect. Students will lose points if they do not follow these rules. If a student has an unexcused absence, they will receive a 0 for the day. Excused absences include: school activities, sickness, family emergencies such as a death in the family, etc. Refer to school handbook if needed.

**Projects, Quizzes, and Tests**

Along with our daily work in our general music classes, we will also be doing some projects. Projects will be worth different amounts of points depending on the project and will be done mostly in class, depending on how much work gets done. Quizzes and tests will be performed at the end of a unit or sporadically throughout the year.

**Concerts**

Students are required to attend each concert for a grade. Parents are highly encouraged to come. Concerts are *required* as a final test in band each semester. If a student is unable to come to a concert, the parents *and* student must talk to me ahead of time. The student will have to make up the concert by watching the concert online, answering questions about the concert, and playing their music for me. If the concert is not made up, the student will receive a zero for work completed on the concert and will be in ICU until it is complete.

**Other**

There may be other areas of grading depending on what we are learning each quarter. Other areas of grading may include Class Trips, Projects, Signing the Handbook Contract, and others.

Other Choir Opportunities

**Triple Quartet**

Each year, Mrs. Vockrodt has an audition to see which part each students sings. During this audition, students have the chance to also audition for a special group made up of 6 girls and 6 boys. This group has the chance to sing extra music in a smaller ensemble. This group is kind of like Mrs. Warne’s All-State Chorus Quartet or her Mixed Octet and gives Middle School students the opportunity to be more involved in choir.

Rehearsal Expectations

Before class, you will have **3 minutes** **after the bell rings** until I start class. After about 3 minutes, I will start class and you must be sitting in your chair with your instrument in your hand. If you are not ready for class, you will lose points accordingly:

* Showing up on time.
* Sitting in your assigned seat with your instrument.
* Gum is not allowed.
* Please drink water! *No other liquids or food*.
* Have a pencil at all times.
* Sit in your assigned seat.
* Talk **only** if you have a question.
* Listen to me (your teacher!)
* No cell phones during class.

Concert Etiquette

for parents & students

1. **Don’t talk** **during performances!** Your children and peers worked very hard to put on a concert to entertain you. Let them show you how great they are!
2. **Please** **turn off your cell phone**. Not only could it go off during the performance and distract your fellow audience members, but it follows the same idea as talking. It takes away from you listening to the hard work of the students!
3. Take photos! Record the performance! I love that you want to support your students and peers in the De Smet High School Band Program, but please do not get in the way of other audience members. **Stay in your seat and turn off your flash on your camera.**
4. **Do not leave when you or your child’s portion of the concert is over**. Each student at De Smet has worked very hard on their music especially for you!
5. **Applaud between pieces**! If there is more than one movement to the piece, wait until the very end to show your appreciation of the music.
6. If you need to leave during the performance, **do not leave while a piece is being performed**. Leave and return to the concert hall between pieces. Don’t distract your fellow audience members from the performance.

Concert Dress Code

If we have a concert, are going to contest, auditions, etc., students will use the following guidelines below for concert dress code. Ask Mrs. Vockrodt if you are wondering about the dress code BEFORE the event. If you are questioning what you are wearing, you probably shouldn’t wear it.

Ladies

1. Modest clothing
2. Leggings worn as pants is not acceptable
3. Dresses must be no shorter than right above the knee

Men

1. Khakis or dress pants
2. Polo or dress shirt
3. Any kind of dress shoes
   1. NO tennis shoes
4. You may wear a tie

Instrument Step-Up List

**Flute (open hole)**

1) Pearl 665 RB Coda Series (Solid Silver Headjoint, with B foot)

2) Pearl 765 RB Coda Series (Solid Silver Headjoint, with B foot)

**Clarinet (all Grenadilla wood)**

1) Buffet R­13 (either Grenadilla wood or Greenline)

2) Buffet E­11

3) Leblanc Noblet 40 or 45

4) Yamaha YCL­450

**Clarinet Step­Up Mouthpiece Kit:**

1) **Mouthpiece**: Vandoren 5RV Lyre; Rico Reserve (see me about which kind!)

2) **Ligature**: D. Bonade inverted 2250 Nickel; Luyben plastic ligature; or Vandoren “Optimum” Silver ligature; or Rovner Dark Bb (leather)

3) **Vandoren** **Reeds** (2.5 or 3)

4) "**Thumb Ease**" (thick thumb pad)

5) **Mouthpiece patch** (rubber patch that goes on top of mouthpiece)

6) **Reed Case**: Protec, Vandoren, Selmer

**Alto Saxophone**

1) Selmer La Voix II or Super Action 80 Series II

2) Yamaha YAS­62ll

**Tenor Saxophone**

1) Selmer Super Action 80 Series II

2) Cannonball wide­bell

3) Yamaha YTS­52

Lacquer: Silver (brighter sound), Black (mellow), Gold (usual)

**Sax Step­Up Mouthpiece Kit:**

1) **Mouthpiece**: Selmer C Star, Meyer G5 (jazz), Metal Jazz Selmer C Star

2) **Ligature**: D. Bonade inverted

3) **Vandoren Reeds** (2.5 or 3)

4) **Mouthpiece patch** (rubber patch that goes on top of mouthpiece)

5) **Reed Case**: Protec, Vandoren, Selmer

**French Horn**

1) Yamaha YHR­668NDII Professional Double French Horn

2) Conn 8­D Connstellation Series Double French Horn, Nickel Silver Fixed Bell

3) Holton

Mouthpieces: Laskey 75G, Moosewood B12

**Trumpet**

1) Yamaha YTR­8335RGS Xeno

2) Selmer Bach Stradivarius 180

3) Blessing BTR-1469

4) Bach TR200 or 180S37

Mouthpieces: Bach 7C, 3E, 1B, 17C,

Curry 7C, 3C, 00S, Jet Tone 10

**Trombone**

**(with F trigger attachment)**

1) Selmer Bach 36B Med­Lg bore .525

2) Selmer Bach 42B .547 bore

3) Conn 88H .547 bore

Mouthpieces: Bach 3G, 5G, 5GS, 7C, 6 ½ AL, Yamaha 51C4

**Euphonium (Large Bore)**

1) Yamaha YEP­321S

2) Mack Brass

Mouthpieces: Shilke 51D

**Tuba**

1) Holton Collegiate BB460

2) St. Petersburg 202

3) Conn 5J

Mouthpieces: Bach 18, 12, 7, 24AW,

Conn Helleberg Standard of Deep

Student/Parent Band/Choir Contract

SIGN AND RETURN BY September 4, 2018

* I have **discussed** and **reviewed** all the information in the handbook with my child, and I understand its contents and my responsibility as to these policies and conditions.
* As a student, I understand that I am an important part of the ‘team’ called band/music, and my participation and effort, whether positive or negative, greatly impact the overall outcome. A team cannot function without each player doing their part.
* As a parent, I support my student’s decision to participate in band at De Smet Junior High & High School.
* We understand that band is a unique experience filled with rewards for those who strive to meet goals. We also understand the idea of cooperative goals and the responsibility of each individual in meeting those goals in a timely fashion.
* We agree to do our part to help the director and the administration of De Smet High School to meet the musical demands of the De Smet High School Band Program.
* My child has my permission to attend district, out-of-district trips and school-sponsored extra-curricular and co-curricular activities.
* I understand that De Smet School District will not be liable for injuries and medical cost for students. My signature also serves as permission for my child to obtain medical treatment on a school-sponsored trip.

*I have read the policies and participant expectations, and agree to abide by them by signing this document.*

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

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

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

Remind

I will use Remind to send out reminders of concerts/pep band, stay connected with students/parents, and to keep everyone informed. STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED to sign up for Remind. If they do not have a cell phone, they can sign up with their school email. Please sign up you and your student(s) at [www.remind.com](http://www.remind.com), by downloading the Remind App, or by texting **81010** and join using these codes:

**Band** - @dsband **MS Band** - @dsmsband **5th grade Band** - @ds5band

**MS Music** - @678music

Parent signed up for Remind Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_

Student signed up for Remind (required) Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_