

**Duncan Lake and  
Kraft Meadows Middle Schools  
Band Handbook**



# **Duncan Lake and Kraft Meadows Bands Handbook**

Welcome to Duncan Lake and Kraft Meadows Middle School Bands. My name is Don Raaymakers and I am the director of bands for Duncan Lake and Kraft Meadows Middle Schools. I am proud to be a part of the Caledonia community and I am thrilled to have you as a part of this fast growing band program! In the rest of this packet you will find some information including most of the concert dates for the rest of the school year.

## **Communication:**

It is important that we keep a strong line of communication between school and home. Parents can expect letters going home that will contain pertinent information. Should you have any questions, comments, or concerns please feel free to contact me at any time.

Don Raaymakers

Band Director

Duncan Lake and Kraft Meadows Middle Schools

Office: 891-1380 ext. 7205

E-Mail: raaymakersd@calschools.org

## **Extra Help:**

I try to keep students on the same playing level, however there may come a situation where a student is either struggling or excelling beyond expectations. I am available before and after school to help any student who may be struggling, or to supply advanced enrichment to those who require more challenge. I am also going to be offering an advanced percussion ensemble and an advanced jazz theory class to all interested students. I also highly encourage students to take advantage of private lessons; I can supply names of qualified private lesson teachers.

## **School Owned Instruments:**

There are a few school owned instruments available for student use. These consist of very large brass and percussion instruments. The \$50 insurance fee must be paid in order for the student to take the instrument. Checks are made payable to **Caledonia Bands 2000**. This fee covers all routine repairs and insurance. All students using school instruments must pay this fee before they will be able to use the instrument(s). If there are financial concerns, please feel free to contact me and we will make arrangements.

## **Uniforms:**

Students are required to wear black pants or skirt, black shoes and black socks, and a white, collared shirt for their concerts. Uniformity in concert settings is important for professionalism, our students work hard and we want them to sound *and* look nice. If finances are a concern, please contact Mr. Raaymakers and arrangements will be made to supply the needed items.

## **Grading:**

Grades are computed based on the following areas:

20% - Practice Records:

Will be turned in at the scheduled turn in dates, 100 minutes per week is required. If a student is sick or takes a vacation, they must make up the time in another week. Once a new six-week period begins, I will NOT accept practice records from the previous six weeks.

40% - Participation:

Students are expected to have their instrument, music, four working reeds if applicable, and a pencil in class every day. If an instrument is in repair or there is an illness that will not allow a student to play in class, a note from home is required. In a rare case that an instrument needs repair, a Meyer Music representative or a Marshall Music representative will be on hand to pick it up. Percussionists are required to have their own sticks. Students will be excused once each semester for forgetting their instrument. After that, students will receive a zero for participation for that day. Chewing gum will also result in a zero participation grade for that day.

35% - Concert Attendance:

Concerts are required with the exception of illness or family emergency, which must be excused with a letter or phone call **before** the concert. **If there is an absence that is not due to the above circumstances the student will only be able to receive 50% of the grade by playing the concert music for me in class.** The students work hard and deserve to be on stage and receive recognition.

5% - Playing tests and quizzes.

**Performances:**

6<sup>th</sup> grade band students will perform at 3 concerts and 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade band students will perform at 4 concerts. The first concert for 8<sup>th</sup> grade is a football game that they will perform the pre-game with the high school marching band! The 7<sup>th</sup> grade band will perform in the Caledonia Memorial Day Parade. These and the other 3 concert dates for all bands are scheduled and the dates are located at the end of this packet. Concerts are required and represent 35% of the students' grades. Any absence from a performance not due to emergency or illness must be notified by a written note at least two weeks in advance and will only be excused upon the director's discretion. Failure to oblige to the above criteria will result in a 50% for the performance grade if the student performs the music for me in class. DO NOT schedule vacations during concert times. It is not only important to the student but also to the rest of the group, as they depend on each other.

**Caledonia Bands 2000:**

Caledonia Bands 2000 is a band support organization. This organization supports all bands grades 6-12. It is a dynamic group that does a variety of things to help our band students and program. Though fund raising is an important part that is not all the organization does. The goal of this organization is to involve as many band parents as possible. If you could help in any way, please feel free to contact me. Everyone is invited! Meetings are held at 7:00 PM in the high school band room. Exact dates will be communicated as soon as they become available.

## **Middle School Band Concerts and Performances:**

-**September 24, 2010** – 8<sup>th</sup> grade performs pre-game – Practice is on 9/20 from 7-8 at HS.

-**December 5, 2011** – 6<sup>th</sup> grade rehearsal - KMMS 6:00-6:50 PM and DLMS 7:00-7:50 PM – DLMS band room.

-**December 6, 2011** – Holiday Concert – KMMS at 6:30 PM and DLMS at 7:30– Duncan Lake Performing Arts Center

-**January 26, 2012** – 8<sup>th</sup> grade rehearsal - DLMS 6:00-7:15 PM and KMMS 7:30-8:45 PM – DLMS band room.

-**February 13, 2012** – 6<sup>th</sup> grade rehearsal - DLMS 6:00-6:50 PM and KMMS 7:00-7:50 PM – DLMS band room

-**February 14, 2012** – Winter Concert – DLMS at 6:30 PM and KMMS at 7:30- Duncan Lake Performing Arts Center

-**February 17, 2012** – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band lock-in at Kraft Meadows Middle School from 7:30 PM – 9:00 AM.

-**March 4 - 9, 2012**– Possible dates for MSBOA Band Festival – location and time TBA 8<sup>th</sup> grade only.

-**May 7, 2012** – 6<sup>th</sup> grade rehearsal - KMMS 6:00-6:50 PM and DLMS 7:00-7:50 PM – DLMS band room

-**May 8, 2012** – Spring Concert – KMMS at 6:30 PM and DLMS at 7:30- Duncan Lake Performing Arts Center

-**May 28, 2012** – Memorial Day Parade for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade band. Arrive to the Duncan Lake Band room at 11:00 AM.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to seeing you throughout the school year!  
Please sign and return the bottom portion to school.

Thank you,

Don Raaymakers  
Director of Bands  
Duncan Lake and Kraft Meadows Middle Schools

We have read through the DLMS and KMMS Band Handbook and agree to participate in accordance with these guidelines.

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Email

**Volunteer Opportunities:**

To run two middle school band programs, I rely a lot on parent volunteers. I know that there are situations where someone is just not at all able to volunteer their time and would rather give a monetary donation and I understand and welcome that as well. Here are a list of events and jobs. Please sign up for one or two by checking in the appropriate box. Please put the date of your volunteering on your calendar as I will send a reminder 2 or 3 weeks before each event.

**1. Holiday Concert, 12/6/11:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Kraft Meadows parent of an 8<sup>th</sup> grader to watch 8<sup>th</sup> grade band in the band room from 6:30-6:45 then walk 6<sup>th</sup> graders back to Auditorium.

\_\_\_\_\_ Duncan Lake parent of an 8<sup>th</sup> grader to watch 8<sup>th</sup> grade band in the band room from 7:30-7:45 then walk 6<sup>th</sup> graders back to Auditorium.

**2. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Rehearsal, 1/26/12:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Duncan Lake parent of an 8<sup>th</sup> grader to bring in and serve a dessert to 8<sup>th</sup> grade kids from 7:00-7:30 at DLMS.

\_\_\_\_\_ Kraft Meadows parent of an 8<sup>th</sup> grader to bring in and serve a dessert to 8<sup>th</sup> grade kids from 8:45-9:00 at DLMS.

**3. Winter Concert, 2/14/12:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Duncan Lake parent of an 8<sup>th</sup> grader to watch 8<sup>th</sup> grade band in the band room from 6:30-6:45 then walk 6<sup>th</sup> graders back to Auditorium.

\_\_\_\_\_ Kraft Meadows parent of an 8<sup>th</sup> grader to watch 8<sup>th</sup> grade band in the band room from 7:30-7:45 then walk 6<sup>th</sup> graders back to Auditorium.

**4. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Lock-in, 2/17/12:**

\_\_\_\_\_ 7:00 pm-12:00 am Check-In Shift/Game Room

\_\_\_\_\_ 11:30-1:30 am Pizza Dinner/Chaperone

\_\_\_\_\_ 1:30 am-9:30 am Overnight Crew - -YOU CAN DO IT, WE NEED YOU!! : )

\_\_\_\_\_ I am available to show up at 7:00 am to pick up and bring in the breakfast food.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a nurse and would be willing to chaperone. Please write

in the hours you would be able to chaperone: \_\_\_\_\_

**5. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Festival, week of 2/26/12 or 3/4/12, date TBD:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Chaperone the buses to and from Band Festival.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have a truck and will pull the trailer for the event that day.

**6. Band Chili Cook off/Jazz Dinner Dance, 3/24/12:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Set up Saturday during the day.

\_\_\_\_\_ Tear down Saturday night.

\_\_\_\_\_ Take tickets Saturday evening.

\_\_\_\_\_ Solicit donations from companies.

**7. Middle School Solo/Ensemble, 4/14/12 at Duncan Lake MS:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Friday night set up **4/15** from 3-5:00 PM

\_\_\_\_\_ Lunch help from 10:30 AM-2:00 PM

\_\_\_\_\_ Concessions from 7:30 AM-12:30 PM

\_\_\_\_\_ Concessions from 12:30 PM-4:30 PM

\_\_\_\_\_ I am available to show up at 7:00 AM to bring some breakfast food,

I will bring \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am available to show up at 11:00 AM to bring some lunch food,

I will bring \_\_\_\_\_ (we need deli trays and soups)

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday night tear down 4/17 from 5-6:00 PM

\_\_\_\_\_ Info desk from 7:30 AM-12:30 PM

\_\_\_\_\_ Info desk from 12:30 PM-4:45 PM

\_\_\_\_\_ Warm up room 7:30 AM-12:30 PM

\_\_\_\_\_ Warm up room 12:30 PM-4:45 PM

**8. Spring Concert, 5/8/12:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Duncan Lake parent of an 8<sup>th</sup> grader to watch 8<sup>th</sup> grade band in the band room from 6:30-6:45 then walk 6<sup>th</sup> graders back to Auditorium.

\_\_\_\_\_ Kraft Meadows parent of an 8<sup>th</sup> grader to watch 8<sup>th</sup> grade band in the band room from 7:30-7:45 then walk 6<sup>th</sup> graders back to Auditorium.

**9. Memorial Day Parade for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band, 5/28/12:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I am available to open the Duncan Lake doors for kids from 12:30 PM – 1:15 PM to put their instruments away.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have a truck and can meet the kids in the parking lot of the Methodist Church on Vine Street at 12:15 to carry percussion equipment and sousaphones.

**10. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade music students' trip to Craig's Cruisers, date in may TBD:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I am available to chaperone this trip.

**11. Playing quizzes:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I am available during the day to come in once every 6 weeks to record playing quizzes.