

Name: _____

MBCI Intermediate Concert Band (Grade 8-9)

2016/2017 Course Outline and Band Members' Handbook

Mr. Andrew Klassen

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1. Welcome and Introduction

Welcome to the very first MBCI Intermediate Concert Band, which will include all Grade 8 and 9 band students! I am so happy that you have chosen to become or remain a part of this wonderful opportunity for instrumental music-making, and I hope you are richly rewarded!

Why did we join Grade 8 and 9 together to be one band? There are a number of reasons. With the school's smaller enrolment this year, it made sense to go for strength in numbers, even though the overall enrolment in the band program isn't that much less than last year. But a larger band will eliminate the need to recruit Grade 8 players to fill instrumental holes in a separate Grade 9 Band, as we often needed to do last year. This way, we will always rehearse with the full band present. Grade 8s will have the extra security of the older players, which will allow us to play some really cool music that might not be possible with just the 8s. Meanwhile, the 9s will have the opportunity to show leadership as the more experienced members of the ensemble, much like the Grade 11s and 12s do in the Concert Band. Finally, with the added time in my schedule, I will be able to help Mr. Taves out with some of his Music Director tasks, which will benefit the whole Music Program. While we might not always do things this way, at the present time, it makes a lot of sense to have one band for Grade 8 and 9. I know it's going to be a great year!

This Course Outline and Band Members' Handbook is meant to serve four purposes:

1. To give band members a general idea of what this ensemble course will be like.
2. To outline my goals and expectations for each of you.
3. To explain the policies and procedures necessary for the ensemble to function.
4. To highlight specific events and activities happening this school year.

Carefully read through this Course Outline and Band Members' Handbook. Please cut off and return the attached slip by Friday, September 16 at the latest, signed by you and your parent/guardians. These signatures will indicate that you and your parent/guardians have read the Course Outline, understand expectations, copied all appropriate dates into your School Agendas (or equivalent system) and home calendar, and promise to respect and follow the rules and procedures of the class.

In the Music Department, Mr. Taves and I are committed to making this school year as successful as possible. At MBCI we want to help each student foster a positive attitude toward music in all its varied forms, to provide opportunities for choral and instrumental performance, to develop each student's ability to the highest potential, and to help students use their musical gifts in serving the Creator from Whom all talent originates.

This year marks the 40th year of the MBCI Band Program, which has developed and maintained a reputation as one of the top instrumental ensemble programs in Manitoba. This will be my 30th year teaching at MBCI!

A few years ago, you began a special project: learning a musical instrument, developing skills that will stay with you the rest of your life. This past year you made great progress over the school year. You had discipline, enthusiasm, good rehearsal decorum, a high performance standard, and a determination to succeed. Each of your concerts during the year reflected these qualities. You have begun to reap many of the rewards from developing the talent God has given you. You have a lot to be proud of as you enter this new ensemble. I am looking forward to all that we will accomplish over the next ten months. A very special welcome to five new band members! I will work hard to make sure you feel comfortable in this ensemble as you continue your musical education at MBCI.

A healthy band program requires the presence of many components working together in harmony: students, parents, teacher, school support, and a considerable investment of time, energy, and finances. We are very fortunate to have all these ingredients in place. Parents, I thank you for supporting your children's progress in the band in previous years, as well as many other musical activities which contribute to their aesthetic education. I know that this support will bear much fruit as they advance in their ability and confidence and can take advantage of many opportunities to shine in performance. I would appreciate hearing from you if you have ideas on how best to accomplish these goals, and when you have questions regarding student progress. Feel free to contact me whenever you wish, through our new school online Edsby system (once up

and running), through my school email aklassen@mbci.mb.ca or phone, 204-667-8210 ext. 5002, home phone, 204-254-5580, or cell phone, 204-951-1289.

2. Goals

The central goal of this course is to develop the musical gifts the Lord has given you to your greatest potential, and to use them to His glory and service in the community. All creative talent originates from God, and should be used in good stewardship.

The Intermediate Concert Band is an ensemble course, where most of our class time will be spent developing a high level of performance. This will be accomplished through building comprehensive musicianship in style, critical perception, theoretical and historical knowledge, and development of aural ability, as all of these help contribute to stronger performance skills.

3. Start-Up Assignment

In order to quickly get things up and running for the year, I am giving each of you a “Start-Up Assignment”, which will be due by Friday, September 16, Day 1, 4:30 pm. Note: the time spent completing the various extra-musical items below can be counted as ‘practice time’ the first week. Here is what I would like you to do:

1. Carefully read through this Course Outline and Band Members’ Handbook. (A hard-copy will be given to you on Thursday, September 8 at our first class.) Cut off and return the attached slip by Friday, September 16 at the latest, signed by you and your parent/guardians. These signatures will indicate that you and your parent/guardians have read the Course Outline, understand expectations, copied all appropriate dates into your personal and family calendars, and promise to respect and follow the rules and procedures of the class.
2. This Course Outline will have been emailed to you on September 7. Information will be emailed to you throughout the year at whatever addresses you choose. Please email me back with a short note by Friday, September 16 at the latest to confirm that the email address(es) I am using for you are correct, and to indicate any additional email addresses you wish information to be sent to. Typically, emails will be sent to a ‘family’ or parent email or two, as well as a student email at the discretion of parents.

*Note - a standing offer throughout the year for any handouts or emails I give you, including this Course Outline and Band Members’ Handbook: if you discover a spelling or date error, let me know. The first student to notify me gets a trip to the goodie fridge!

3. Check the General Supplies list further on and make sure you have obtained all needed items. A method book and cardboard folder will be provided to students in class. Neatly label all items with your name.
4. Ensure your band instrument is in excellent working condition and ready to go, with all needed accessories acquired. Those who are renting a school-owned instrument should make arrangements to receive your instrument from me, if you have not already. Make sure your case is neatly labeled on the outside with your name. Percussionists, your sticks and mallets should be labeled with your name.
5. Print your name on your practice record (distributed in class), put it on a sturdy piece of cardboard (for protection) and decorate it. Begin recording times and following the hand-in procedures.

6. Practice and get into shape on your instrument and start working on the music you will receive at the second class on Monday. I will email you links to online recordings of much of this music. Look them up, and become familiar with them.
7. Make sure you have been sized and have ordered the music uniform components provided through MBCI and have made arrangements to purchase the rest on your own. (Details below.)
8. If you don't have a storage cubicle for your instrument and folder, or percussion slot, sign up for one on the brown bulletin board. (Check that your name doesn't already appear elsewhere on the signup sheet.) Percussionists may sign up for more than one slot if there are extra.

4. Timetable

There are three 74-minute band classes per cycle. Sometimes these will be full band rehearsals, sometimes sectionals run simultaneously in different rooms, and sometimes a combination of both. Given that I am the only teacher involved, sectionals will sometimes be led by student section leaders.

5. Part Assignment, Chair Placement, and Section Leaders

The goal of part assignment in the Intermediate Concert Band is to place each band member in a position in which they will be able to contribute successfully and musically, and to help achieve a strong, well-balanced pyramid sound throughout each section from the bottom up. As a result, parts are assigned so that the strongest sound is not only coming from the top end of each instrumental "choir", but equally from all corners of the band. There are no "last chairs" in any section - each band member's contribution is vital and indispensable. Section leaders will be assigned to facilitate organization within each section, including assignment of parts and solos.

6. Expectations

Individual Practice - Band members must individually practice a minimum of 100 minutes per week. Times for each day should be recorded on a practice record, decorated and backed by cardboard, signed by a parent/guardian, and handed in to be checked at regular intervals. Blank practice records will be distributed the first class of each Term. Please ensure that these are submitted on time to avoid lost marks. Please read more details further on. The first practice record will be due Monday, September 19.

Attendance - Being in a music ensemble means being a member of a team. Band members must come on time or early to all rehearsals, sectionals and performances, and come warmed up and prepared. Everyone is vital to the success of each rehearsal and performance.

Performance Attendance Policy - Band members must take part in all performances as a requirement of the course, and are expected to remain throughout the entire duration of the program, supporting the other ensembles as good audience members. Dates and times are provided at the beginning of the school year, and for the most part are included in the Course Outline. Any additions to these dates will be rare, and made at least a month in advance. Performance dates should be copied into personal and family calendars, with potential conflicts dealt with early on. If it would be of help, I am willing to assist in the process of working things out with employers, coaches, or others, writing official school letters, emails, or discussing conflicts by phone. The goal and the payoff of all of this is an intact ensemble performance of which everyone will be proud.

If A Performance Must Be Missed - If a band member is absolutely unable to attend a scheduled

performance, they must email me at least three weeks prior to the performance date, requesting permission to be absent. This will allow possible accommodation to be made. Band members who miss a performance may lose up to 20% of their term grade, but will be given the opportunity to earn these marks back if the above correct procedure has been followed.

Concert Dress - We represent our school whenever and wherever we perform. MBCI bands and choirs wear a music uniform to all public performances, and members must be properly and completely outfitted for each event. Read on for uniform details:

Provided by the school:

Guys wear a black, long sleeved dress shirt with a long red tie.

Girls wear a black, long sleeved dress shirt with a red scarf inside the collar.

Students will be sized in class for the top portion of the uniform and can order the tie/scarf if they do not already have them.

Purchased at a local retailer by the student:

Both boys and girls will wear solid black dress pants.

(Skirts and skin-tight yoga pants such as 'lululemon' are not acceptable.)

All music students will wear black socks and closed-toed black dress shoes, with no bare feet showing. If a student wears a belt, it must be black with a buckle that does not draw attention to itself.

Concert Setup Responsibilities - Every band member is expected to help out with setting up and taking down at performances, and will be assessed on their contributions in carrying out these tasks.

7. Assessment

Band members are being assessed in a variety of ways, including technical and musical ability (Performance), cognitive understanding (Thinking), and actions (Doing), as evidenced by my observation in every rehearsal, sectional, and performance. Although these areas are the same for each grade, students are assessed at a level appropriate to their grade. Assessment of a more formal nature (tests) will also occur from time to time. Band members will be informed ahead of time of upcoming tests, and what to prepare for.

Each of the grading areas below is important, and each complements the others. Whether actions, attitudes, abilities, or achievements, all are readily observable as we rehearse and perform, and all contribute to determining your grade. If you are attentive to each area, your grade will reflect it. If you are falling short in an area, work at it, and ask for help to improve. There are many ways for you to demonstrate excellence in band, and all can contribute toward a better grade. Strive for improvement in every area, like ever-expanding spokes on a wheel which grows in size. There will also be opportunities to earn bonus marks, which can further raise your grade.

8. How You Are Graded Each Term

40% - Technical and Musical Level (Performance) - Assessment as observed in rehearsal, performances, and periodic practical testing of the following: evidence of regular practice and improvement, not only of the full band repertoire at hand, but of the instrument itself - working to improve tone quality, intonation, dynamic control, rhythmic control, range, articulation, scale patterns, sight-reading fluency, style, expression, nuance, maturity, and overall technique.

20% - Cognitive Level (Thinking) - Assessment as observed in rehearsal, performances, and periodic

written and oral testing of the following: evidence of understanding of how music works, including listening, notation, key signatures, scales, modes, intervals, melody, harmony, rhythm, metre, time signatures, form, texture, style, and historical context, the ultimate goal being to progress beyond the ‘what’ and ‘how’ of music to the ‘WHY’.

20% - Action Level (Doing) - Assessment as observed in rehearsals, performances of the following: Coming to rehearsals on time, or early. Demonstrating a warmup and tuning regimen that enables you to play your best once rehearsal begins. Bringing all needed materials, (including your instrument in excellent working condition, your folder, music, other handouts, and a pencil) to every class. Taking good care of the handouts and music which you receive. Contributing to the ensemble with your attention, focus, good posture, enthusiasm, and effort. Giving positive support to other members of the ensemble, and me the teacher. Taking direction in rehearsal without making excuses. Penciling in reminders in your music. Understanding expectations. Keeping on top of announcements and keeping your calendars up-to-date with schedules, times, assignment due dates, email messages, and instructions on the board. Having a system where you write down and plan your schedule well in advance, so that you are able to attend all like-instrument sectionals. If you are absent due to illness, taking ownership over what you missed. When there are conflicts, misunderstandings, or just plain screwups (hey, it happens to me too sometimes), seeking to make amends - talking to me outside of class, or sending an email - not waiting for me to seek you out for an explanation. Adhering to the ensemble’s performance attendance policy and making every performance a priority. Helping out with setups and logistical needs when asked, or even without being asked. In short - giving your best.

20% - Individual Practice - Students must practice a minimum of 100 minutes per week. A mark will be assigned based on the number of total minutes practiced each Term, recorded and handed in on a Practice Record. Please read details further on. The first practice record will be due Monday, September 19.

100%

9. Bonus Marks

Band members will be given opportunities to earn bonus marks on their Term grade from time to time. The following are two ongoing ways:

Bonus Concert Performance Reviews - Observing the performances of high quality instrumentalists is essential when learning how to play your instrument and perform music. Listening to characteristic sounds of instrumentalists, ensembles, and repertoire will give you a better idea of the sound that you are trying to produce on your own instrument and within our band. Watching great musicians as they play in public is equally valuable in discovering how to get the best out of your own performances. If a student attends or takes part in an instrumental concert outside MBCI, or attends an MBCI instrumental concert they are not already performing in as a member of the Intermediate Concert Band, they may submit a one-page review reporting on what the performance was, and what they thought of the performance. These reviews are due by the end of each Term and will add a 2% bonus to the Term mark. Students may submit up to two bonus reviews per Term.

A partial list of possible ensemble options to review include:

- Winnipeg Youth Concert Orchestra and Youth Symphony
- Manitoba Provincial Honour Bands
- Winnipeg Wind Ensemble
- University of Manitoba Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, and Orchestra
- Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra

- Manitoba Chamber Orchestra
- Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra
- Winnipeg Chamber Music Society
- Groundswell
- Camerata Nova
- Musik Barock
- Virtuosi Concerts
- The Women's Music Club of Winnipeg

Honour Bands - If a student successfully auditions for and takes part in a Manitoba Honour Concert Band (Intermediate or Senior) or any level of the Manitoba Honour Jazz Bands, they will receive a 5% bonus per ensemble on their Term mark in the term the ensemble performs. (Further information on Honour Bands and auditioning can also be downloaded from the Manitoba Band Association website at <http://www.mbband.org/?page=Honourbands>.)

Handing in Practice Records on the first day of the week - More on this in the practice record section.

10. Retests and Improving Your Performance Level

Any test taken or assignment submitted during the course of the term may be re-taken or improved upon at a later date. If the new mark is higher, the average between the two marks will be used. Band members may repeat this process to successively improve their mark each time. A student who eventually achieves a perfect mark twice in a row through this process will be awarded a perfect mark. In general, with regard to both ongoing observational assessment and formal assessment, students and parents are always welcome and encouraged to ask me about specific steps students could take to improve and take their performance to the next level.

11. Term Weights and the Final Grade

In the case of Grade 8 students, Term 1 and Term 2 will collectively be worth 100% of the year, with final Practical and Written tests included as part of the term grade. In the case of Grade 9 students, Term 1 and 2 will be collectively worth 70% of the year, with the above Practical and Written Tests being counted as a final Exam worth 30%. The Intermediate Concert Band written test/exam will occur in class June 9, Day 1, period 4. Grade 8s will play an individually scheduled 15-minute practical test sometime between May 23 and June 2, while the Grade 9s will play an individually scheduled 20-minute practical exam sometime between June 13 and 21.

12. Communication Home

To avoid personally falling behind in course work, not to mention letting down the rest of your ensemble, it is crucial that you stay organized, keep your personal and family calendars up-to-date, and keep your parent/guardians in the loop. Board announcements, handouts, and emails will be given on a regular basis to help keep you up-to-speed on upcoming performance events, academic due dates, and opportunities for extra enrichment. Most of these will be sent via email to enable parents to also receive the material quickly and acknowledge receipt with an email reply. I will occasionally ask band members or parent/guardians for email acknowledgment that you have read and dealt with the information given. Some of this information will also be initially posted on my teacher webpage at <http://mbci.mb.ca/staff/andrew-klassen/>, but then on Edsby as we transition to this new online system of school communication. Please do not hesitate to email or call if you have concerns or a need for clarification.

13. Band Homework = Individual Practice

In Band, students have an ongoing homework assignment: practicing their instrument and striving to take it to the next level. The success of any team is ultimately determined by the individual effort of each of its members. We will do many things we can collectively be proud of as a band over the next ten months, but these accomplishments will only be made possible through the individual contributions of each member. Band members are only in a position to contribute to the ensemble if they have done their homework. Studies show that the benefits of individual practice are enhanced significantly if students follow some simple guidelines. Here are a few:

1. Establish a specific time of day for practice and get in the habit of always doing it at that time.
2. Establish a suitable location - one with good acoustics and free from distractions.
3. Make sure practice location has all these needed items ready to go in position:
 - a proper chair which allows for and encourages good posture while sitting
 - adjustable music stand raised to eye level, with rack at proper angle, standing or sitting
 - music books and sheets neatly organized in folder within easy reach
 - pencil within easy reach
 - instrument case and cleaning accessories within easy reach

Additional items strongly recommended:

- electronic metronome - for checking and keeping steady tempo
 - electronic tuner - for checking and keeping correct pitch
 - CD/DVD/stereo player set up nearby - to play together with
 - audio recording device - invaluable for hearing yourself accurately and objectively
4. Do a warm up. Go from easy to complex, covering all the technical fundamentals.
 5. Set a specific goal for each practice session, then try to make some progress towards that goal.
 6. Play some music just for fun - something you can already play well. Play for others.

14. School Practice Facilities

Most individual practice is best done at home where the environment is controlled and parents can monitor progress. There are situations however, where it may be more convenient for students to practice at school, either before or after classes, or during a spare or lunch time. Band members are welcome to practice in the Main Band Room or practice rooms any time classes are not in progress, or in the Upper Band Room at any time (following a signup schedule). With some restrictions, Jubilee Place is also available.

15. Getting Marks for Practicing = Handing in Your Practice Record

Please study the following information on how practice records work:

1. Blank practice records will be distributed the first class of each Term. Print your name on your practice record, put it on a sturdy piece of cardboard (for protection) and decorate it.
2. Practice your band instrument at least five days a week either at home or before and after school, for a minimum of 100 minutes per week. Accurately and honestly record each day's practice time in the correct box.
3. Ask your parent or guardian to verify the week's total by signing the practice record on Saturday and bring it in Monday for marking by Mr. Klassen. Place it in the IN box in the Main Band Room. You may pick it up after it has been recorded and marked, usually on the same day. (Check that it has

been marked - if it hasn't, there may be a missing signature or total, etc.) If you don't bring it in Monday, you have until the following Friday to be considered on time. After that Friday, it will be marked as late. If a practice total is eventually submitted after that, only 50% of the mark will be awarded. The first practice record is due Monday, September 19.

4. You will receive a mark out of 20 for each week of practice using the scale below. Practicing the minimum 100 minutes gives you a mark of 13 (65%). A perfect 20 is earned by practicing 200 minutes or more. The average band student will likely practice about 150 minutes per week.

total minutes :	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79
mark out of 20:	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

total minutes:	80-89	90-99	100-109	110-119	120-129	130-139	140-159	160-179	180-199	200+
mark out of 20:	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

5. It is strongly recommended that you hand in your practice record on the Monday of each week to reduce the possibility of forgetting. Practice records handed in on Monday will also receive 'M's which are worth bonus marks.
6. As band members reach each higher grade level, they are expected to develop personal routines for practicing and take greater ownership of their technical progress. To reflect and encourage this direction, band members in Grade 8 may wait to hand in their record until after every two weeks, and Grade 9 until after every third week. In the final three years of the program, students gain entrance to the Concert Band through audition, and monitor their own practice without records.
7. The report card practice mark, which is the one that counts, also out of 20, is determined by your weekly average at the end of the each term. Divide your total time by one less than the number of weeks to figure out this average, which is marked on the same grid as the weekly totals.
8. Note that the total time will be divided by one less than the number of weeks per term when calculating the report card practice mark. This will have the effect of accommodating band members who would wish to practice less during holiday times, as well as those who would want to practice more during holiday times. In addition, the two weeks of the Christmas Break are counted as only one week of practice.
9. Band classes and performances should not be counted as practice time. However, you may record rehearsal and performance time playing your band instrument in other ensembles such as Junior Jazz Band (25 minutes each time), or ensembles outside the school, such as a church orchestra. Private music lesson time on your band instrument can also be recorded. However, the total of all such ensemble time must be at least MATCHED by individual practice on the band instrument on a weekly basis.
10. Band members who are taking lessons on a second instrument may count ONE HALF the time of practice or lesson time on that instrument, provided that this amount is at least MATCHED by individual practice on the band instrument on a weekly basis.
11. If you cannot practice the minimum time a certain week, because of illness, injury, or family trips, you can make up that time by additional practice in other weeks during the term. You should still hand in your signed record on time those weeks, even if the total is zero. Parents/guardians may request an adjustment to the practice requirement in these cases if circumstances warrant.
12. Practice records will only be marked if accurate, properly and neatly totaled, verified by

parent/guardian signature, and backed by sturdy cardboard with student's name at the top. In an emergency, parent/guardians may leave an email message with a practice total by the Friday due date, if need be.

16. Band Supplies

A number of general items such as cardboard folders and method books are provided to band students as part of the Music Fee assessed to all students in the Music Program. However, students will be expected to take good care of the items given to them, keeping costs within reason. Students who incur excessive costs due to damage or lost items will be assessed an appropriate fee in June at report card time.

17. MBCI-Owned Instruments

If you are paying rent for an MBCI-owned instrument, you will be assessed a \$150.00 fee. Rent is paid to the school over a three year period only, after which the instrument can be used free of charge. Band members are allowed to take these instruments home to practice. Percussion equipment may be signed out by percussionists according to rules posted in the band room. Further information on MBCI's band instrument rental policy will be emailed to those concerned, and can also be found on my teacher website.

All MBCI band students are given instruction on the proper care and handling of instruments. Band members using MBCI-owned instruments are responsible for their condition throughout the time period they are assigned to them, and are encouraged to bring any repair needs to me as soon as they arise. Minor mechanical problems that occur during the year should be dealt with immediately to avoid greater costs later. Proper care and upkeep should eliminate the need for most such costs.

18. General Band Supplies

Cardboard Folders/Pencils/Duotang - All band members are required to maintain a folder in which all full band music, band books, and handouts should be kept. This folder will be provided by the school. Pencils need to be brought to every class, and all written work in band must be done in PENCIL. Band members should keep a sharp pencil in their case at all times, leave another one in their folder, and bring a third pencil from their previous class. A duotang should be kept in the folder to keep loose handouts organized.

Method books - We will spend the first part of the year working with the *Tradition of Excellence Book 2* band method, then transition to *Book 3* at the mid-point of the year. Both method books will be provided by the school.

Full band music - Each band member will be given their own part for each piece, distributed by student section leaders or myself. It is important that all music is brought to every rehearsal and kept in shape for collection in June to be used again in future years.

Adjustable music stand - for home practice. (Far better than a table top or your sock drawer!)

Optional items strongly recommended for home practice - electronic metronome, electronic tuner, CD/DVD/stereo player, audio recording device

19. Instrument Supplies

Flute - Cleaning cloth and rod in case. Buffing cloth for instrument surfaces. Avoid putting any other items in the case as this may damage the keywork.

Oboe and Bassoon - Customized double-reeds will need to be purchased periodically from local suppliers

ideally with guidance from an instrumental specialist who can determine how best to adjust these reeds to the individual needs of the player. Serious advanced double-reed players over time will usually learn how to make and adjust their own reeds to get the best results. Other supplies include a cleaning cloth with a string and weight, plastic or metal reed holders, "pad savers" (long brushes which absorb moisture while the instrument is in its case), and a buffing cloth for instrument surfaces.

Clarinet and Saxophone - Boxes of reeds of strength "2.5", "3", or "3.5" will need to be purchased periodically from the music store. Rico Royale (blue box) is a good medium-priced and consistent brand name for both clarinet and saxophone, whereas Mitchell Lurie (clarinet), Hemke (saxophone), and Van Doren (clarinet and saxophone) are more expensive and less consistent (!) yet are used by most advanced players. Reeds ordinarily last just a couple of weeks, but rotating them will maximize performance. All reed players should have at least three working reeds in class at all times. Other supplies include a cleaning cloth with a string and weight, plastic or metal reed holders, "pad savers" (long brushes which absorb moisture while the instrument is in its case), and a buffing cloth for instrument surfaces.

Trumpet, Horn, Euphonium, and Tuba - Valve oil for regular lubrication of valves and triggers, tuning slide grease for regular lubrication of tuning slides. Buffing cloth for instrument surfaces. Horn rotary-valve string may be obtained at the school when needed. Although not required, trumpet players should consider obtaining a 'combination' straight and cup mute, which will cover most performance needs.

Trombone - Slide cream used in combination with a water spray bottle for frequent lubrication of the moving slide, tuning slide grease for regular lubrication of the tuning slide. Buffing cloth for instrument surfaces. Although not required, trombone players should consider obtaining a 'combination' straight and cup mute, which will cover most performance needs.

Percussion - Percussionists should have their own personal set of wooden drum sticks and plastic bell mallets, provided by the school, which should be labeled with their name. All other needed mallets will be provided for shared use by all percussionists, and will be labeled as belonging to MBCI. Looking ahead to life after MBCI, percussionists are encouraged to develop their own set of sticks and mallets, adding timpani and yarn mallets of varying hardness, wire brushes, etc., and are encouraged to obtain a stick bag to store and protect these items.

20. Resource Materials and Equipment

Band members may sign out solo, technical, and chamber ensemble music from the band room office, including jazz improvisation tutorials and accompaniment CD's. I also make my CD collection available to band members, including recordings of soloists on each instrument, band, orchestral and vocal recordings, and jazz. Brass players may sign out various kinds of mutes to use as well.

21. Respect For Property

All band room areas and equipment must be treated with respect, whether it is owned by the school or by individual students. Equipment which is taken out or moved needs to be put back where it belongs. Band members should not handle each other's instruments, except in special cases with permission, and only when using their own mouthpiece. Percussion instruments are rented by percussionists, and are for their use alone. Other band members should not handle this equipment. (The various pianos and electronic keyboards located in the Main and Upper Band Rooms may be used for practice by any student.) Gum is not allowed in any part of the band room at any time. Please deposit gum in the garbage prior to entering.

22. Intermediate Concert Band and Choir Overnight Workshop at Circle Square Ranch

There are a number of performances and activities scheduled throughout the year which will make the Intermediate Concert Band experience a rewarding one. These are listed in the next section, along with some important academic dates as well. One of the highlights each year is the annual Band and Choir Overnight Workshop at Circle Square Ranch, near Austin, Manitoba, scheduled for Jan. 13-14, 2017. This is always a fun time of team building, recreation, and in-depth ensemble rehearsal, all designed to help our band and choir ‘take it to the next level’. All Intermediate Concert Band and Choir students are **required** to attend this overnight workshop, the cost of which is covered through the school-wide Music Fee. More information on this trip will be communicated by email.

23. Important Academic and Performance Dates

Copy these dates into your personal and family calendars, and keep an eye out for them as they approach. Concerns regarding academic extensions or exceptions should be made in writing well in advance, not after the fact. For concerts, get your family and friends out to hear you perform and show their support of your hard work and accomplishments. Also see the earlier section regarding the MBCI Performance Attendance Policy.

Sept. 7	Grade 9 Band Course Outline emailed home to students
Sept. 7	Optional - MBCI musical production - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Cast</i> audition info available
Sept. 8	First Intermediate Concert Band Class
Sept. 16, 4:30 pm	Intermediate Concert Band Start-Up Assignment Due
Sept. 16	Intermediate Concert Band Course Outline signature slips, plus email responses due
Sept. 19	Intermediate Concert Band First Practice Record Due
Sept. 19, lunch	Optional - Junior Jazz Band (6-9) Information Meeting (Attendance required for all would-be members)
Sept. 26	Optional - Junior Jazz Band Contracts Due - Membership Finalized in upcoming days
Sept. 26, 10 pm	Optional - Manitoba Senior Honour Band Applications Due (9-12)
Sept. 27, 3:30 pm	Optional - MBCI musical production - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Pit Orchestra</i> audition info available
Sept. 28, 29, 30, after school	Optional - MBCI musical production - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Cast</i> auditions
Oct. 3-7	Optional - Junior Jazz Band auditions
(Oct. 4, 7:30 pm	MBCI Opening Program - Jubilee Place - Intermediate Concert Band not involved
Oct. 7	Optional - MBCI musical production - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Cast</i> list posted
Oct. 7	Optional - MBCI musical production - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Cast</i> callback aud. list posted
Oct. 8	Optional - Junior Jazz Band membership finalized
Oct. 12, Day 6, lunch	Optional - first rehearsal of Junior Jazz Band
Oct. 12, 13, 14, after school	Optional - MBCI musical production - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Cast</i> callback auditions
Oct. 14, after school	Optional - MBCI musical production - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Leads</i> list posted
Oct., TBA, 3:30 - 5:00 pm	Optional - Extra Junior Jazz Band Rehearsal
Oct. 17, 4:30 pm	Optional - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Pit Orchestra</i> Commitment Contracts must be returned
Oct. 18, 3:35 pm - 4:15 pm	Optional - Manitoba Music Conference Student Volunteers (20-25) meeting with Judy Giesbrecht
Oct. 20, 3:30 - 7:30 pm	Optional - Manitoba Music Conference Volunteers setup
Oct. 21, 7 am - 6 pm	Optional - Manitoba Music Conference Volunteers help throughout day
Oct. 29, Nov. 3-4	Optional - Manitoba Senior Honour Band with guest conductor Robert Taylor from UBC (9-12)
Oct. 31, Day 3, period TBA	Combined Intermediate Concert Band with Concert Band rehearsal plus some Grade 7s
Nov. 8, Dress rehearsals	TBA (JP)
Nov. 8, 7:30 pm, arr. by 6:45	MBCI Fall Band Concert - Jubilee Place (All bands and jazz bands)
Nov. 15-18, various times	Optional - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Pit Orchestra</i> potential auditions
Nov. 21	Optional - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Pit Orchestra</i> membership finalized, music distributed
Dec. 1, 3:30 to 7:30 pm	Optional - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka First Full Pit Orchestra</i> rehearsal (with supper break)
Dec. 4, 1:00 pm	Optional - Manitoba Band Association Christmas Tuba Festival (tuba and euphonium ensemble)
Dec. 13, Dress rehearsals	TBA (JP)
Dec. 13, 7:30 pm, arr. by 7 pm	MBCI Grade 6-9 Christmas Concert - Jubilee Place (all Grade 6-9 bands and choirs)
Dec. 21, Day 3, period 2	Christmas Handbells and Hot Chocolate (in-class party)
Dec. TBA (half day)	Optional - selected chamber ensembles perform a Christmas Program at a Seniors Residence, location TBA
Jan. 13	Term One Band Assessment Deadline

Jan. 13-14	Intermediate Concert Band and Choir Overnight Workshop at Circle Square Ranch
Jan., TBA, 3:30 - 5:00 pm	Optional - Extra Junior Jazz Band Rehearsal
Feb. TBA, afternoon	Optional - Junior Jazz Band performance at Concordia Place Seniors Residence
Feb. 9, during the day	Optional - 'Instrument Petting Zoo' at <i>A Middle School Day at MBCI</i> (volunteer assistants)
Feb. 21-24, date TBA (eve)	Optimist Band Festival Performance - Level 3 - Winnipeg Convention Centre MBA will finalize and post the Optimist schedule mid-December.)
Feb., TBA, 3:30 - 5:00 pm	Optional - Extra Junior Jazz Band Rehearsal
Mar. 6, 10:00 pm	Optional - Manitoba Junior Honour Band Applications due (5-8)
Mar. 6, 10:00 pm	Optional - Manitoba Intermediate Honour Band Applications due (9-10)
Mar. 7, period TBA	Optional - Junior Jazz Band dress rehearsal
Mar. 7, 7:30 pm, call 7 pm	Optional - Jazz and Chamber Ensemble Evening - Jubilee Place (JVJs, CS, JJB, SJB)
Mar. 16-18	Optional - Brandon Jazz Festival (JVJs, CS, JJB, SJB)
April 29, May 4-6	Optional - Manitoba Junior Honour Band with guest conductor Michael Brandon (5-8)
April 29, May 4-6	Optional - Manitoba Intermediate Honour Band with guest conductor Cheryl Ferguson (9-10)
April 26-29	Optional - MBCI musical production - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka</i>
April 30	Optional - (6-9) Register for the 22 nd Annual MBA Elmwood Junior Band Summer Camp at MBCI to ensure you have a spot
May 1	Optional - Grade 9 and 12 Music Award Nomination Forms available
May 5, evening	Optional - <i>MBCI Fund-Raising Banquet</i> - opportunity for soloists and chamber ensembles
May, date TBA (day)	Intermediate Concert Band and Choir Performance at an Elementary School - location TBA
May 12	Optional - Grade 9 and 12 Music Award Nominations due
May 15 - 19	Grade 8s sign up for Practical Tests - 15 minute slots to be held May 23 - June 2
May, TBA, 3:30 - 5:00 pm	Optional - Extra Junior Jazz Band Rehearsal
May 23 - June 2	Grade 8 Practical Tests - 15 minute slots
May 26, Chapel	Grade 9 and 12 Music Awards presented
May 26, 27, 7:10 pm	Optional - WSO <i>Musicians in the Making</i> Recital Performances - (selected student soloists)
May, TBA	Optional - WJO Manitoba Honour Jazz Bands online audition registration deadline (8-12)
June 6, Dress rehearsals	TBA (JP)
June 6, 7:30 pm, arr. by 7 pm	MBCI Grade 6-9 Spring Concert - Jubilee Place (all Grade 6-9 bands and choirs)
June 9, Day 1, pd 4	Grade 8 Written Test / Grade 9 Written Exam in class
June 5-9	Grade 9s sign up For Practical Exams and CB Auditions, 20 minute slots to be held June 13-21
June, lunch, date TBA	Optional - Jazz Ensembles wrapup party (MPR)
June 12	Term Two Band Assessment Deadline
June 12	Optional - Instrument Try-Outs at the Grade 6/7 Orientation (band volunteers needed)
June 13-21	Grade 9 Practical Exams and Concert Band Auditions - 20 minute slots
June 15	Optional - Elmwood Junior Band Summer Camp at MBCI Early Registration Deadline
June TBA	Optional - Manitoba Honour Jazz Bands at the 2017 TD Winnipeg International Jazz Festival
June 29, 7:00 pm	Optional - Graduation Ceremony - North Kildonan MB Church (chamber ensemble TBA)
Aug. 13-18	Optional - 22 nd Annual MBA Elmwood Junior Band Summer Camp at MBCI

In addition to the above events, the Concert Band, Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, Junior and Senior Jazz Bands, and the other bands and choirs prepare a busy season of performances. Check the new MBCI website and Edsby, or the bi-monthly Newsletter for these dates and times.

24. Co-Curricular Music

There are many opportunities to get involved in music beside the regular band and choir classes at MBCI. Band members who take part in other ensembles and clubs, or play more than one instrument are usually those who have the most enriching experience, because involvement in one area strengthens the others. MBCI is not a big school. We need many of you to get involved! Here are some possibilities:

MBCI Jr Jazz Band - audition
 Chapel Worship Bands - see Pastor Adrian
 MBA Honour Concert Bands - audition
 MBA Honour Jazz Bands - audition
 Winnipeg Youth Orchestras - audition

Mennonite Community Orchestra
 International Music Camp
 WSO *Musicians in the Making*
 MBA Christmas Tuba Festival
 Syrinx Flute Festival
 Winnipeg Music Festival

U of M Jazz Camp
 Chamber Ensembles
 Teach a beginner student
 . . . and many other opportunities

25. Junior Jazz Band

The Junior Jazz Band is a special co-curricular ensemble made up of interested Grade 6-9 band members who play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, guitar, upright bass or bass guitar, drum set, or percussion. Players on other instruments are often admitted as well on a case by case basis, playing parts written for the above instruments. The Junior Jazz Band will normally rehearse at lunch time each Day 1 & 3 after a short lunch in the band room and also a handful of times 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm during the school year (which will be communicated at the start of the year). If you are interested in being a member of the JJB, talk to me about it.

All students interested in the Junior Jazz Band should bring a bag lunch to the band room on Monday September 19, day 2, at the beginning of lunch that day (12:22 pm). Information will be given on membership procedure, rehearsals and performances, and other activities throughout the year, including a trip to the Brandon Jazz Festival in March. If you are interested, I hope to see you September 19 at lunch!

26. Musical Productions and Music Tours

Each year, MBCI alternates between a major music tour undertaken by the Concert Band and Concert Choir and a major musical production involving students from every grade. In recent years, MBCI has produced *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Sound of Music*, *Fiddler On the Roof*, *The Wiz*, and *The Pirates of Penzance*, (all five which received *Rainbow Stage Performance Awards*), and an additional 20 musicals before that. This year, MBCI will be producing a major musical production, *Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka*. If past years are a guide, a great many band students will be heavily involved in this musical, as Cast members, as Pit Orchestra members, and behind-the-scenes production. Information on Cast auditions for *Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka* is already available in the office, and Pit Orchestra audition information will be available on September 27.

27. Student Fundraising Opportunities for Co-Curricular Expenses

MBCI offers a number of fundraising opportunities each that students can take advantage of, to individually raise money for trips and other activities such as the biennial *Music Tour* (Concert Band and Choir), the *Brandon Jazz Festival* (jazz ensembles) or other areas of school life. Students may start early and bank funds for a trip or expense in a future year. **Note: These fundraising activities cannot be used to assist in tuition. They may only be used for school trips and other school activities.** Further fundraising information may be found at <http://mbci.mb.ca/parents/parent-life/resources/student-fundraising/>.

28. Private Music Instructors

A student working one-on-one with a qualified instructor outside of the group setting is able to make progress at a more individual rate than in class. Talk to me if you are interested in names and phone numbers of teachers on your band instrument. The Manitoba Band Association website also has a link to a list of excellent teachers on every band instrument. Follow the link <http://www.mbband.org/> to 'Private Teachers' for a complete list of names and phone numbers.

29. MBA Junior Band Summer Camps

Each August, the Manitoba Band Association runs six week-long Junior Band Summer Camps, located at MBCI, Vincent Massey Collegiate, Springfield Collegiate in Oakbank, Hedges Middle School, Edmund Partridge Community School, and in Dauphin. These day camps are geared toward students with one to three (or four) years of experience on their band instrument. Last summer, MBCI's camp was once again a huge success with a staff of 23 and 63 students coming from 18 different schools. 13 of those students were from MBCI, Grades 6-9. Many MBCI students have benefited greatly from these camps over the years, and had a lot of fun. The dates for next year's camps are August 13-18, 2017. If you would like more information, contact Mr. Klassen. Brochures for next year's camps will be available on the MBA website in February. Be sure that

you register early for this camp (ie. by mid-April) - the MBCI camp location is usually full with a waiting list a month and a half before the early registration deadline of June 15!

30. Student Executive

A group of six band members, three from each grade, will be nominated and elected by the Intermediate Concert Band membership. This body will be a sounding board for me in issues relating to the operation of the ensemble. The Executive will also act as a go-between when necessary between myself and band members.

31. Be a Model to Younger Grades

One of the benefits of a combination middle and high school is that younger band members have a chance to hear and learn from older members. Do a portion of your private practice at school, as this modeling will have a tremendous positive impact on the younger grades.

32. MBCI Music Awards

Each year, at the Music Awards Assembly, MBCI presents a dozen Music Awards, six to Grade 9 students, and six to Grade 12 students. Candidates are nominated by students and then selected by the Music Department (Mr. Klassen and Mr. Taves). Students may nominate up to six students from each of those two grades, considering the eight qualities listed below.

- Use musical gifts to glorify God, and encourage others to do so.
- Show exemplary participation in classes involving music at MBCI.
- Demonstrate superior musicianship.
- Show positive leadership and citizenship at MBCI.
- Show a willingness to work together with and help others in the area of music.
- Participate in co-curricular music ensembles.
- Be involved in music ministry at church.
- Participate in music activities outside MBCI.

Each name submitted must be accompanied by a rationale justifying the nomination. Forms will be emailed on May 1, and due May 12.

33. Top Ten Ways to Ensure Success in Band

10. Care for and maintain your instrument in 100% shape
9. Practice intelligently, regularly, and accurately
8. Warm up properly before every playing session and cover the fundamentals
7. Practice your full band music, your method book material, and rhythm sheet handouts
6. Practice other music in addition to your band material
5. Study the 'Glossary of Common Musical Terms and Concepts' booklet and other handouts
4. Watch for announcements and emails, and keep your calendars up-to-date
3. Ask questions - come for help outside of class
2. Listen to instructions at all times
1. Show consistent effort - always try to improve upon the day before

34. Student and Parent/Guardian Signatures

Students, please carefully read through this Course Outline and Band Members' Handbook together with your parent/guardians, make sure you understand expectations, and copy all appropriate dates into your personal and family calendars. Then complete the attached slip, cut off and return to Mr. Klassen by Friday, September 16 at the latest.

MBCI Intermediate Concert Band 2016/2017

Student name (please print)

"I have read the MBCI Intermediate Concert Band 2016/2017 Course Outline and Band Members' Handbook, copied all appropriate dates into my personal and family calendars, and understand what is expected of me in this ensemble course. I promise to respect and follow the rules and procedures of the class."

Student signature

Date

Parent/Guardian signature

*Note: This Course Outline was emailed Wednesday, September 7, and further information will be emailed to you throughout the year at whatever addresses you wish. Please email me back by Friday, September 16 at the latest to confirm that the email address(es) I am using for you are correct, and to indicate any additional email addresses you wish information to be sent to. Typically, band emails will be sent to a 'family' or parent email, or two, as well as a student email at the discretion of parents.