

Name: _____

MBCI Concert Band (Grade 10-12)

2016/2017 Course Outline and Band Members' Handbook

Mr. Andrew Klassen

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1. Welcome!

Congratulations on your audition and welcome to the MBCI Concert Band! 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! I am very pleased with the quality of musicianship of the students in this coming

year's Concert Band. We are going to play some great music, have a lot of fun, and perform some wonderful concerts. I am excited about teaching and directing you in the coming year!

Auditions have already occurred and membership has been finalized, so Concert Band will begin rehearsing as an ensemble the second class we meet - Monday, September 12. We will spend the first few rehearsals gelling as a group, building community, and exploring repertoire before our first public performance on Tuesday, October 4.

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.

2. Information on the MBCI Concert Band

The MBCI Concert Band is the major instrumental ensemble of the school. 2016/2017 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!

The Concert Band is a full-credit curricular course open to Grade 10-12 students who successfully pass an audition. The program strives for a high standard of performance and achievement and offers many opportunities for enrichment beyond the basic curricular offering. The Concert Band performs over a dozen times each year at school events, festivals, church visitations, and on extended Music Tours together with the MBCI Concert Choir. Students perform a wide variety of music, ranging from standard repertoire to new innovative works for wind band, as well as contemporary arrangements and transcriptions from other genres. Many former members have gone on to further studies in performance, music education and composition, and many have made music their career. All have graduated with the tools for nurturing a life-long avocation in music, as creators, performers and listeners.

The Concert Band frequently collaborates with other ensembles in joint performances in Jubilee Place, including the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the Winnipeg Wind Ensemble, the University of Manitoba Wind Ensemble, and various high school bands. The Concert Band has played in workshop settings with a number of distinguished conductors, including John Paynter, Bramwell Tovey, Howard Cable, Dale Lonis, Fraser Linklater, Michelle Mourre, Julian Pellicano, and many others. At the Optimist Band Festival, the band regularly earns high ratings along with recommendations to perform at the national MusicFest, and has received the prestigious Chairman's Award, the Commendation Award, and the George Douglas Award. MBCI's senior music ensembles, including the Concert Band, have produced a double-CD entitled *Music Of The Soul*, and continues to record its best music for a future release. The Concert Band has also been involved in two composer commissioning projects, and will be a part of a third this coming year. As individual musicians, students perform in a chamber ensemble festival as an integral part of the course, and are often among the most frequent members of the Manitoba Honour Bands and the National Youth Band of Canada. Selected members of the Concert Band have also participated in the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra's renowned *New Music Festival*, and are regularly featured in the WSO's *Musicians in the Making* pre-concert recital series at the Centennial Concert Hall.

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 in its entirety by Friday, September 16, Day 1, 4:30 pm. 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 was emailed to you on Wednesday, 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, band 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. Ensure your band instrument is in excellent working condition and ready to go, with all needed accessories acquired. Those who are renting an MBCI-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, you should clearly label each stick and mallet with your name.
4. 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.
5. 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.)
6. Obtain a black concert folder from me if you do not yet own one, and neatly label with your name.
7. 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 sign-up sheet.) Percussionists may sign up for more than one slot if there are extra.
8. Grade 11 and 12 students only: Indicate whether you have the *Step By Step* method book, including Instrument and Part (in books which have different parts). Grade 10 students will receive their method books in an upcoming class.

4. 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.

Concert Band is an ensemble course, and 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.

Achieving a level where you are prepared to audition for this ensemble is a significant accomplishment in itself. A number of years ago, you began a special project: learning a musical instrument and developing skills that would stay with you the rest of their life. At this point, you are reaping the rewards from developing the talent God has given you. I am immensely proud of each one of you and am looking forward to all that we will accomplish this year. I know that you will be rewarded through the many experiences you will have in Concert Band.

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.

Parent/Guardians: 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 fortunate to have all these ingredients in place at MBCI. 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.

5. Expectations

Individual Practice - Concert Band members 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. Since you are chosen by demonstrating a high level of musical proficiency, I will not monitor your practice time through weekly records, etc. It is up to you to not only to continue the patterns of regular individual practice you have developed in younger grades, but to expand on them.

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 both students' calendar and family calendar, 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.

Purchased at a local retailer by the student:

Both boys and girls wear solid black dress pants.

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

All music students must 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.

Students who do not have the black shirt or tie/scarf, or who need to be sized for the top portion of the uniform (both ordered through the school) should see Mr. Taves as soon as possible to get this done.

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.

6. Timetable

There are three 74-minute band classes or equivalent per cycle. Sometimes these will be full band rehearsals, sometimes a like-instrument sectional, and sometimes a group sectional. For the time being, each band slot on your timetable will be a full band. Please read on for info on the other kinds of band classes.

7. Like-Instrument Sectionals

Each of you will attend 4-5 like-instrument sectionals over the course of the school year, occurring 3:35 pm - 4:30 pm. (An imaginary second bell will ring at 3:40 pm.) Since this constitutes an extra class, each time after all sections have had one like-instrument sectional, a make-up spare will be announced to make this time up for all who attended. If a band member is unable to attend their scheduled like-instrument sectional, with prior permission, they could come for class as normal during that spare.

The first round of like-instrument sectionals will begin the first full week of school. I have put together a schedule below. Please make a note of the date and time when your section is meeting and make every effort to attend. If you have an irreconcilable conflict, please email me as soon as possible. Given enough lead time, there's always a chance that we could make a change or a switch that would make it possible for every section member to attend. If not, with prior permission, you could attend the make-up spare.

Here is the schedule for the first round of like-instrument sectionals:

Tuesday, September 13, Day 4, 3:35 pm - 4:30 pm - percussion
Wednesday, September 14, Day 5, 3:35 pm - 4:30 pm - piccolo and flute
Thursday, September 15, Day 6, 3:35 pm - 4:30 pm - trumpet
Monday, September 19, Day 2, 3:35 pm - 4:30 pm - oboe and clarinet
Wednesday, September 21, Day 4, 3:35 pm - 4:30 pm - trombone, euphonium, tuba, and bass
Thursday, September 22, Day 5, 3:35 pm - 4:30 pm - horn
Monday, September 26, Day 1, 3:35 pm - 4:30 pm - bassoon, contrabass clarinet, all saxophones

The make-up spare for this first round of like-instrument sectionals will be Friday, October 13, Day 1, period 1.

The second round of like-instrument sectionals will be scheduled between October 11 - 28. I will communicate those dates plus the other three to you in an email sometime soon.

8. Group Sectionals

Other than the above like-instrument sectionals, each of the three slots on your timetable will be a full band for the first few weeks of the year. Beginning Monday, September 26, Day 1, each of you will begin meeting in one of seven smaller groups of mixed instruments called a group sectional. This meeting time will occur once a cycle during half of what is currently a spare on your timetable. To make up for this, you will begin having a spare the last half of class each Day 5 period 2. Those of you who I am unable to schedule for a group sectional during a spare will form a group sectional that will meet the last half of Day 5 period 2. I have tentatively worked out which group sectional each of you is in and will announce this shortly. If any of you makes a course change that alters when your spares are, please let me know if your timetable no longer works for you to attend the group sectional you have been placed in.

9. Percussion Sectionals

When group sectionals begin, the percussion will not be a part of these groups but will have their own like-instrument sectional once a cycle. The way this will work is that each Day 5, percussionists will have a sectional during the lunch period, which will usually be from 12:22 pm - 1:02 pm. (An imaginary second bell will ring at 12:26 pm). On that day, with the full Concert Band rehearsing only the first half of period 2, percussionists will eat their lunch the last half. Because the percussion section will regularly be a like-instrument sectional, they will not meet for like-instrument sectionals after school other than their first one Tuesday, September 13.

10. Full Band Rehearsals

From September 26 onward, full bands will only occur each Day 1, Day 3, and the first half of the period on on Day 5 (normally 9:54 am - 10:33 am), and. Any changes to this schedule will be announced as early as possible in advance so that you can plan ahead.

We will occasionally schedule simultaneous like-instrument sectionals run by student section leaders in separate rooms. These will normally run only part of a period, with the balance being a full band rehearsal.

11. Part Assignment, Chair Placement, and Section Leaders

The goal of part assignment in the 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 like-instrument sectional scheduling and attendance reminders, as well as assignment of parts and solos.

12. Assessment

Band members are 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 Concert 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.

13. How You Are Graded Each Term

40% - Technical and Musical Level (Performance) - Assessment as observed in rehearsal, public 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 rehearsal, 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 personal and family 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% - Special Term Assignment - Students complete one special term assignment in each term:

- In Term One, the Special Term Assignment will consist of a chamber ensemble project, culminating in a performance of your ensemble at our MBCI Concert Band Chamber Ensemble Festival on Thursday afternoon, November 24, Day 2, in Jubilee Place, in front of a guest adjudicator.
- For the Term Two Special Term Assignment, band members may choose from the options given below. Individual handouts will be distributed, and available on my teacher webpage, explaining each option in detail. You will be asked to choose one option and submit details in writing for my approval. Your Term Two choice will be due by Thursday, April 6, Day 5, with the assignment itself due by Monday, June 12, Day 2.

Here are the options:

1. Perform a solo with your band instrument, or other instrument, in church or at a public event of your choice.
2. Perform in an ensemble (chamber or large) on your band instrument, or other instrument, in church or at a public event of your choice.
3. Perform on a worship team (any instrument, or singing) in church or at school, or at an event of your choice.
4. Review a concert performance of your choice. Come to me for suggestions.
5. Critique a musical recording of your choice. Come to me for suggestions.
6. Compare two different recordings of the same music. Come to me for suggestions.
7. Transcribe a hymn or worship song for full concert band using computer software.
8. Transcribe a piece for chamber ensemble (longer than the above) using computer software.
9. Teach a beginner student. Keep a written log of progress made.
10. Submit a Manitoba Senior Honour Band audition recording for assessment. This recording will have to have been prepared and submitted with application to MBA in by September 26, 2016, with a duplicate copy handed in for this assignment in June. Students in Grade 10 are also eligible for the Manitoba Intermediate Honour Band, and could instead submit that audition for this assignment. (In this case, the audition will have to have been prepared and submitted with application to MBA in by March 6, 2017 with a duplicate copy handed in for this assignment in June.)
11. Submit a National Youth Band audition recording for assessment. This will have to have been prepared and submitted with application to CBA by November 29, 2016 and a duplicate copy handed in for this assignment in June.)
12. Play in the Senior Jazz Band (by audition). Students must commit to this ensemble for the entire year.
13. Prepare and conduct a piece of band music in rehearsal.
14. Submit your own idea.

14. 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 - If a student attends or takes part in a concert outside MBCI, or attends an MBCI concert they are not already performing in as a member of the 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.

Some possible ensemble options 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), the National Youth Band, 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. This bonus is available even if you choose an Honour Band Audition as a Term Assignment. (Further information on Honour Bands and auditioning can also be downloaded from the Manitoba Band Association website at <http://www.mbband.org/?page=Honourconcertbands>.)

15. 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.

16. Term Weights and the Final Grade

Term 1 and Term 2 will collectively be worth 70% of the year, with the final Exam worth 30%. The Exam

will include both a WRITTEN and a PRACTICAL (playing) component, each worth half of the mark. The Concert Band written exam will occur in class June 5, Day 3, period 5, and a 20-minute practical exam will be taken individually sometime between June 13-21.

17. 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.

18. Some Individual Practice Guidelines

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.

19. 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 sign-up schedule). With some restrictions, Jubilee Place is also available.

20. Band Supplies

Some items will be covered as part of a Music Fee assessed to all students in the Music Program, and not separately charged. 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.

21. 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.

22. General Band Supplies

Black Folders/Pencils/Duotang - All Concert Band members are required to maintain a black folder (Deer River-style, with pencil holder) 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 be using the *Step By Step* method book in addition to a number of handouts such as a chorale booklet, a rhythm booklet, and a glossary of common musical terms and concepts. Students who do not yet have these will be provided them 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

23. Instrument Supplies

Flute - Cleaning cloth and rod in case. Buffing cloth for instrument surfaces. Do not put 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.

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 playing 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 - Concert Band 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.

24. 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.

25. 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.

26. Student Executive

A group of six band members, two from each grade, will be nominated and elected by the 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.

27. 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. Older students have sometimes made arrangements to sit in on classes with the younger grades, which I would greatly encourage. If you are interested in teaching beginner students on your instrument, you are welcome to advertise this on the band room bulletin board, or have me email the information directly to interested students.

28. 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	CB dates and Course Outline emailed home to students
Sept. 7	Optional - MBCI musical production - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka</i> <u>Cast</u> audition info available
Sept. 8	First CB Class
Sept. 13-26	First round of after-school CB like-instrument sectionals (one for each section)
Sept. 15, lunch	Optional - Senior Jazz Band (10-12) Information Meeting (Attendance required for all would-be members)
Sept. 16, 4:30 pm	CB Start-Up Assignment Due
Sept. 16	CB Course Outline student and parent/guardian signature slips due, plus email responses due
Sept. 19	Optional - Senior Jazz Band Commitment Contracts must be returned
Sept. 26, Day 1	CB Group Sectional Schedule Begins
Sept. 26-30	Optional - Senior Jazz Band auditions
Sept. 26, 10:00 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</i> <u>Pit Orchestra</u> audition info available
Sept. 26, Mon, Day 1	first half of rehearsal: full band last half of rehearsal: Woodwind Scavenger Hunt Game (br&perc have a spare starting 9:07 am)
Sept. 28, Wed, Day 3	first half of rehearsal: full band last half of rehearsal: Brass and Perc Scavenger Hunt Game (ww have a spare starting 2:53 pm)
Sept. 28, 29, 30, after school	Optional - MBCI musical production - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka</i> <u>Cast</u> auditions
Sept. 30	Optional - Senior Jazz Band membership finalized
Oct. 4, 7:30 pm, arr. by 7 pm	MBCI Opening Program - Jubilee Place (Concert Choir, Concert Band, other choirs TBA)
Oct. 5, Day 2 lunch	Optional - first Senior Jazz Band rehearsal
Oct. 6, Day 3, 4:30 pm	CB Term One Special Term Assignment Part 1 due (chamber ensemble)
Oct. 7	Optional - MBCI musical production - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka</i> <u>Cast</u> list posted
Oct. 7	Optional - MBCI musical production - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka</i> <u>Cast</u> callback aud. list posted

Oct., TBA, 3:30 - 5:00 pm	Optional - Extra Senior Jazz Band Rehearsal
Oct. 11-28	Second Round of after-school Like-Instrument Sectionals
Oct. 12, 13, 14, after school	Optional - MBCI musical production - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka</i> <u>Cast</u> callback auditions
Oct. 13, Day 1, pd 1	Make-up spare for first round of like-instrument sectionals
Oct. 14, after school	Optional - MBCI musical production - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka</i> <u>Leads</u> list posted
Oct. 17, 4:30 pm	Optional - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka</i> Pit Orchestra 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 CB rehearsal with Intermediate Concert Band (8/9), 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. 14, Day 6, 4:30 pm	CB Term One Special Term Assignment Final Part Due (chamber ensemble)
Nov. 15-18, various times	Optional - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka</i> <u>Pit Orchestra</u> potential auditions
Nov. 21	Optional - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka</i> <u>Pit Orchestra</u> membership finalized, music distributed
Nov. 24, part of afternoon	MBCI CB Chamber Ensemble Festival (in JP)
Nov. 29	Optional - National Youth Band Applications Due (10-12)
Nov., TBA, 3:30 - 5:00 pm	Optional - Extra SJB Rehearsal
Dec. 1, 3:30 to 7:30 pm	Optional - <i>Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka</i> First Full Pit Orchestra rehearsal (with supper break)
Dec. 4, 1:00 pm	Optional - Manitoba Band Association Christmas Tuba Festival (tuba and euphonium ensemble)
Dec. 6, Dress rehearsals	TBA (JP)
Dec. 6, 7:30 pm, arr. by 7 pm	MBCI Senior Christmas Concert - Jubilee Place (CB, CC, SJB, CS)
Dec. 9, Chapel	Some 10-12 Ensemble Performances in MBCI Christmas Chapel (CB, CC, SJB, CS)
Dec. 21, Day 3, period 5	Christmas Handbells and Hot Chocolate (in-class party)
Jan. 13, 4:30 pm	Term One Band Assessment Deadline
Jan. 29, Sunday morning	Church Deputation Services - North Kildonan MB - English and German (CB, CC, CS)
Jan. 31, evening, times TBA	<i>MBCI Open House</i> - Potential Concert Band performance - to be confirmed
Feb. 9, during the day	Optional - 'Instrument Petting Zoo' at <i>A Middle School Day at MBCI</i> (volunteer assistants)
Feb., TBA, 3:30 - 5:00 pm	Optional - Extra Senior Jazz Band Rehearsal
Feb. 21-24, date TBA (eve)	Optimist Band Festival Performance - Level 5 - Winnipeg Convention Centre MBA will finalize and post the Optimist schedule mid-December.)
Mar. 6, 10:00 pm	Optional - Manitoba Intermediate Honour Band Applications due (9-10)
Mar. 7	pd 1 CB rehearsal cancelled in favour of Senior 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)
Mar. 19, 2:00 pm	Optional - Senior Jazz Band opens for the Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra (WAG)
April 6, Day 5, 4:30 pm	CB Term Two Special Term Assignment Option Choice Due
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 - May 7	Optional - National Youth Band Tour to BC with guest conductor Jeremy Brown (ages 16-22)
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 11-14	<i>Canadian Association of Mennonite Schools National Music Festival</i> (Wpg) (CB and CC)
May 12	Optional - Grade 9 and 12 Music Award Nominations due
May, TBA, 3:30 - 5:00 pm	Optional - Extra SJB Rehearsal
May 25, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Concert Band evening rehearsal together with CB Alumni guests (MS Cafeteria)
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)
May 30, Dress rehearsals	TBA (JP)
May 30, 7:30 pm	MBCI Senior Spring Concert - Jubilee Place (CB, CB and Alumni Band, CC, SJB, CS)
May 31 - June 9, TBA	CB in-class CD Recording Sessions - Jubilee Place
June 2, Chapel	Some 10-12 Ensemble Performances in MBCI Chapel (CB, CC, SJB, CS)
June 5, Day 3, pd 5	CB Written Exam in class
June 5-9	Sign Up For CB Practical Exams and Auditions, 20 minute slots to be held June 13-21
June, 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	CB Practical Exams and Auditions - 20 minute slots
June 27-29	Optional - student workers needed for band library and inventory

June, TBA
June 29, 7:00 pm
Aug. 13-18

Optional - Manitoba Honour Jazz Bands at the 2017 TD Winnipeg International Jazz Festival
Optional - Graduation Ceremony - North Kildonan MB Church (chamber ensemble TBA)
Optional - 22nd Annual MBA Elmwood Junior Band Summer Camp at MBCI
- (staff needed - deadline for application is May 26)

In addition to the above events, the 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.

29. 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 Sr Jazz Band - audition
Chapel Worship Bands - see Pastor
Adrian

MBA Honour Concert Bands - audition
National Youth Band - 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
MBA Jr Band Summer Camp staff
U of M Jazz Camp
Chamber Ensembles
Teach a beginner student
. . . and many other opportunities

30. Senior Jazz Band

The Senior Jazz Band is a special co-curricular ensemble made up of interested Concert 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 Senior Jazz Band will rehearse at lunch time each Day 2 & 4 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 SJB, talk to me about it. All interested students should bring a bag lunch to the band room on Thursday, September 15, Day 6, 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 performance opening for the Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra on March 19, and a trip to the Brandon Jazz Festival in March. If you are interested, I hope to see you September 15 at lunch!

31. 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. Recent Music Tours have taken the Concert Band and Concert Choir to Dallas/New Orleans, Washington DC/New York, Texas, New York/Boston/Ontario, Nashville/Chicago, New York/Chicago, Dallas/New Orleans, and Victoria, BC. This year, MBCI will be producing a major musical production, *Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka*. If past years are a guide, a majority of the Concert Band 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.

32. Two Other Special Events This Year: CAMS and an Alumni Band

There are some events we run every two years, some every three years, and some every four years. As it turns out, all three of these will happen this year:

Every four years, over 400 music students from Mennonite high schools from across Canada get together for a few days of rehearsals, concerts, and community-building activities ending in a massed choir and massed band performance. This time around, the Canadian Association of Mennonite Schools (CAMS) National Music Festival will be held in Winnipeg, Thursday evening, May 11 to Sunday afternoon, May 14, and will be one of the most significant musical experiences you will have at MBCI.

Every three years, we invite MBCI Concert Band Alumni students to perform together with us at the Senior Spring Concert. We will have one rehearsal for this on Thursday, May 25, from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm in the MS Cafeteria (JP is booked), and one rehearsal prior to the concert on Tuesday, May 30, at 7:00 pm. Mr. Taves tells me that he will be doing something similar with a Concert Choir Alumni and a Chamber Singers Alumni, so our Spring Concert will be one to remember!

33. Student Fundraising Opportunities for Extracurricular Events

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 on the school website.

34. 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.

35. 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 available on May 1, and due May 12.

36. 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

37. 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 18 at the latest.

MBCI Concert Band 2016/2017

Student name (please print)

“I have read the MBCI Concert Band 2016/2017 Course Outline and Band Members’ Handbook, copied the 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.