**Woodlawn Beach Middle School Band Educational Information**

**Student Goals for Successful Achievement in Band**

The student should know the seven essentials of tone production-the definition and description of each essential and the student should perform each day using the seven essentials of tone production.

**Seven Essentials of Tone Production**

* Posture
* Embouchure
* Breath Support
* Attack
* Sustentation
* Release
* Ear

**Note/Rest Values**

The student should understand the name and value of each note/rest, how they relate to each other and how to count and perform the notes/rests in time.

Whole Note/Rest

Dotted Half Note

Half Note/Rest

Dotted Quarter Note

Quarter Note/Rest

Eighth Note/Rest

Sixteenth Note/Rest

\*Visit http://www.musictheory.net for further information.

**Notes on the Treble Clef**

There are five lines and four spaces that make up a staff. The treble clef is also called the G clef. The notes on the lines from the bottom to top is E, G, B, D, F. The notes on the spaces from the bottom to top are F, A, C, E.

**Notes on the Bass Clef**

There are five lines and four spaces that make up a staff. The bass clef is also called the F clef. The notes on the lines from the bottom to top is G, B, D, F, A. The notes on the spaces from the bottom to top are A, C, E, G.

**General Information**

A bar line separates the staff into measures. A measure if found between two bar lines. A double bar line is found at the end of a piece of music. It usually means the end of a piece of music. If you see a double bar line that is not “bold” it is an indication of modulation. Modulation means the key signature has changed.

**Key Signatures/Flats and Sharps**

The student will be able to understand the key signature and how it affects each note. The student will be able to perform the music using the correct key signature. Pay special attention to which notes are affected by the key signature.

The order of flats: B flat, E flat, A flat, D flat, G flat, C flat, F flat. (BEAD, Go Cats Fight!)

The order of sharps: F sharp, C sharp, G sharp, D sharp, A sharp, E sharp, B sharp. (Fat Cats Go Dancing After Eating Birds.)

An accidental lasts for an entire measure, unless there is another accidental that changes that particular note.

**Dynamics**

The volume of the music-how loud or soft!

pp= pianissimo-very soft

p=piano-soft

mp=mezzo piano-medium soft

mf=mezzo forte-medium loud

f=forte-loud

ff=fortissimo-very loud

cresc.-crescendo-gradually get louder

decrescendo-gradually get softer

Diminuendo also means to get softer

\*Always make sure to perform music with a good tone production. Have good breath support!

**Tempo**

The rate of speed of the music-how fast or slow! There are many terms that describe various tempos. These terms are generally in the Italian language.

Grave-very slow

Largo-to be played broad

Lento-slow

Adagio-at ease, slow, not as slow as lento

Andante-a walking speed

Moderato-moderate, medium pace

Allegro-fast (allegretto-fast and cheerful)

Vivace-fast and lively

Presto-quick

Prestissimo-extremely quick

Ritardando-often seen as rit. –this means to slow down.

Accelerando-means to get faster, speed up. The term piu mosso also means to get faster.

**Other Italian terms**

Cantabile-in a singing style

Con fuoco-with fire

Con Spirito-with spirit

Dolce-sweetly

Legato-smooth and flowing, connected with no space between the notes

Marcato-heavy, marked, emphasized

Staccato-short, light, separated, think of playing the staccato note with only one-half of the original notes value and give the note a tiny accent

Sostenuto-sustained

Tenuto-hold the note the full value

**Practice Comments**

Students are strongly encouraged to practice at least five times a week for thirty minutes each time. Each practice should consist of warm-ups, breathing, technique (the Rubank Book is a great method book to try for developing technique), class review and preparation, something fun! It is vital to your individual success as well as the success of our entire program- please find time to practice your part… Self Discipline is a great trait. Parents encouragement is a great help! Although private lessons are not required, they are strongly encouraged!

\*Recommended Practice Time:  
5 times a week for thirty minutes! \*Correct Notes and Rhythms\*   
As you practice…

* Watch your tempo- rate of speed of your music.
* Give special attention to DYNAMICS- how loud or soft; crescendos and decrescendos
* ARTICULATION, STYLE, BALANCE, BLEND, and TONE **QUALITY!**
* Don’t feel as though you must play through the entire piece of music-set short term and long term goals! It is perfectly fine if you even have a goal of playing one particular note that you couldn’t play before!
* Work on your phrasing-know where it is acceptable to take a breath.

***\*Please visit http://www.music theory.net for help with basic music fundamentals.***