

East Middle School Band

Grading

Check-In Items (at least 2 each, per quarter)

- 10 pts – Posture
 - Sitting upright and tall; both feet on floor; allows for proper breathing and puts the musician in a mindset to focus and perform at a high quality.
- 10 pts - Instrument Carriage
 - Holding the musical instrument in the correct playing position; fingers and hands placed correctly; held at an appropriate angle; allows for the best sound possible and more efficient playing.
- 10 pts - Tone Production & Breath Support
 - Tone is the quality of sound a musician produces on their instrument. The sound should be clear when playing at all volume levels and should have a characteristic sound of the instrument being played.
 - Musicians use their breath to play their instrument. Providing a fast, controlled airstream is required constantly.

Playing Execution (many per quarter, through Playing Quizzes) – 50 points* total each

- 10pts – Notes (Sticking for percussionists)
 - Each note is important. Students are expected to perform the correct notes when playing.
- 10pts – Rhythms
 - Rhythms are how musicians know when to play each note. Students will demonstrate proper counting of rhythms and perform rhythms accurately.
- 10pts – Tempo
 - Tempo is how fast or slow music moves. Students need to be able to perform their music at the right tempo.
- 10pts – Articulation/Tonguing
 - Proper tonguing will produce a clear beginning sound to the note being played. Students will demonstrate proper tonguing when necessary in the music.
- 10 pts Ensemble Technique – Phrasing, tuning, musical markings, dynamics
 - Ensemble Technique refers to all the things that make music interesting and *musical*.

*** Percussion students will not be graded on Tonguing. Each graded item is still worth 10pts.**

Scales Quiz – 10pts each

- Correct Notes and Fingerings/Slide Position/Sticking
- Performed at minimum tempo

Information for grading of performances will be coming soon.