

DEPOALI MIDDLE SCHOOL – INTERMEDIATE & ADVANCED BAND

2025-2026 HANDBOOK

Dear Band Parent(s)/Guardian(s) and Band Students,

I am looking forward to introducing band music to some of you while continuing the journey with others. This handbook explains the grading procedures for my class and gives information for several other aspects of the band program. **Please make sure your contact information is up to date in Infinite Campus and that you set your message settings to allow teacher messages to go to your email as this is the way I send out group emails with updates/info (instructions for this can be found at the bottom of the band website homepage—in red writing).** Also, please follow the 'To Do List' at the end of this packet so you're all set for band for the school year. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Barthel (Mr. B)
852-6700 (Depoali MS Office)
dbarthel@washoeschools.net (best way of contacting me)



Band Website: www.washoeschools.net/dbarthel

Band Grading Procedures

ASSESSMENTS (35% of overall grade)

- **Playing tests:** these will be done in class once per quarter so I can give each student feedback and grade their progress. Playing tests may be re-taken for a higher grade until the end of the quarter.
- **Pass-off tests:** there will be one of these assigned each quarter and they are submitted outside of class time (online or at lunch/after school). The requirement of these tests is to pass with near 100% accuracy as they cover the basic building blocks of musicianship. Students may retake to pass until the end of the quarter and if they are unable to pass with 100%, I will enter the grade they earn on their third attempt.
- **Written/Self assessments:** these will be given to show knowledge of music reading, symbols, terms, and to analyze self-progress.
- **To note for all assessments:** You will always be given ample notification and will only be tested on concepts that have been covered in class. If you are practicing regularly, you will not have a problem with any of the tests.



PRACTICE (20% of overall grade)

Home practice is a critical element of playing an instrument! Students will complete weekly practice assignments and then submit electronically at the end of each week (via the band website under the 'Practice Assignments' page). Each assignment will have a set amount of goals to complete, and students may complete more than the required amount to earn extra credit. Students should set aside about 75 minutes/week for practice and are encouraged to divide this time up evenly throughout the week (three 25-minute practices would be perfect). This means they will need to take their instrument home regularly (they may also practice in the band room after school or at lunch. Band room availability is posted on the band website homepage each week). Late work is graded at 70% after the due date and will be accepted for one week after the due date. After that time, no credit will be given.

CLASS PERFORMANCE (30% of overall grade)

Student performance in class is graded according to preparedness and active participation in class. Students can earn 20 points per class session. To be considered prepared for band; they need to bring the following items to every band class:

+Instrument: 10 points, +Band Book: 3 points, +Planner, pencil, practice log, additional music sheets, instrument accessories (reeds, oil, etc.): 1 point each. Participation points will also be subtracted if students are off task or late to class. If a student is absent, this grade will be entered as missing (see below).

ABSENCE MAKE-UP WORK POLICY: If a student is absent, they can earn the missed Class Performance grade by doing 15 minutes of make-up practice in the band room at lunch or after school. They will have until a designated date near the end of the quarter to earn the missing grade.

CONCERT ATTENDANCE (15% of overall grade)

We will have several concerts during the year. **Student attendance at these events is mandatory and a major part of your grade.** If you must miss a concert, please email Mr. Barthel either: two weeks before the concert for pre-arranged absences or within one week after the concert for unexpected absences (*sickness, family emergencies, etc.*). An alternate assignment will be given for excused absences. If you can avoid scheduling elective surgeries/procedures before concerts (*especially dental*), please do! See the band calendar on the band webpage so you can ensure your attendance at all concerts this year – concerts are a fun way to show what we've learned and an important part of being a musician.

CITIZENSHIP (Behavior/Work Ethic)

My rules for citizenship are basic manners that I hope students have acquired before this class:

- ✓ **Be respectful to teacher and fellow classmates**
- ✓ **Do not talk or play out of turn**
- ✓ **Enter and leave classroom quietly and orderly**
- ✓ **Employ all the elements of STRIKE!! (our school positive behavior system)**

DISCIPLINE PLAN: I will follow the discipline plan that is described in the Depoali student planner.



Intermediate & Advanced Band Supplies



Every student is responsible for purchasing or providing the following supplies by **August 25th, 2025**:

- 1) **Instrument** – Flute, Oboe*, Bassoon*, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Alto/Tenor/Baritone Sax, Trumpet, French Horn*, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba or Percussion
- 2) **Band Book – Essential Elements** (*Included in class fee*)
- 3) **Portable Music Stand** with cover (*optional- for practice at home*)
- 4) **Pencil** (*keep a pencil in your instrument case, we will use them daily!*)
- 5) **1" 3-ring binder to hold music and band book** (*included in class fee*)
- 6) **Accessories** for individual instrument:

Flute -Cleaning rod (normally included with instrument) -Swab for rod (any rectangular piece of cotton is fine) -Polishing cloth	Double Reeds/Clarinet/Bass Clarinet/Saxophones -Reeds: 1 box of 2.5 strength Vandoren or 3 strength Rico Royal -Cleaning Swab -Cork Grease -Neck Strap & polishing cloth (sax only) -Polishing Cloth	Trumpet/French Horn/ Baritone/Tuba -Valve Oil (Rotor oil for horn) -Slide Grease -Polishing Cloth	Percussion Must pay a fee of \$50. This includes instrument use, a percussion kit rental (with music stand), one pair of drumsticks, and contributes to shared materials.
		Trombone -Slide Cream/Oil -Water Spray Bottle -Polishing Cloth	

Band Uniform

We will wear our uniform at all concerts and events. The uniform includes:

- Your band polo shirt OR t-shirt (*depending on the event, you need both shirts*)
- Solid black pants (*dress pants preferred, but nice solid dark black jeans are acceptable*)
- Solid black shoes, socks and belt (*If you can't get shoes, you can just wear black socks. Belt not required if not needed.*)

Band Instrument Rental/Purchase Procedures 2025-2026

One instrument rental will be provided from the school as part of the Band Fee. Please complete the [Band Registration Form](#) by Friday, August 15. This form will give Mr. Barthel information about the size and type of instrument your child will need. Failure to complete this form in time may risk your child not receiving a school instrument. If you don't need a school rental, this will be indicated on the registration form and your fee will be \$50 less

Depoali 7th/8th Grade Band - Required Events Calendar**

See band website for full calendar

Events listed below are required as labeled for your group(s) unless marked otherwise

Date	Event	Time	Location	Groups involved
Thurs, August 14, 2025	8th Grade Disney Trip Info Meeting	7:00pm (optional) – after Back to School Night	Depoali Cafeteria	8th Grade
Thurs, August 21, 2025	6th Grade Flute Boot Camp	2-5pm (optional)	Depoali Band Room	All flute players!
Fri, August 22, 2025	6th Grade Clarinet Boot Camp	2-5pm (optional)	Depoali Band Room	All clarinet players!
Mon, August 25, 2025	6th Grade Low Brass Boot Camp	2-5pm (optional)	Depoali Band Room	All low brass players!
Tues, August 26, 2025	6th Grade Trumpet Boot Camp	2-5pm (optional)	Depoali Band Room	All trumpet players!
Wed, October 1, 2025	Fall Band Concerts	Evening (see website for times)	Depoali Gym	All Band Students
Thurs, October 23, 2025	Fall Carnival Jazz Cake Walk Performance	4:45-7:00pm (optional)	Depoali Cafeteria	Jazz Band
Fri, October 24, 2025	Advanced Band performs at Damonte Football	3:00-9:00pm	Damonte Ranch Stadium	Advanced Band
Thurs, Nov 19, 2025	WCSD MS Honor Band Auditions	3:30-5:30pm (optional)	Mendive MS	7th & 8th grade
Wed, December 10, 2025	Band Winter Concerts (7th/8th grade)	Evening (see website)	Depoali Gym	All Bands
Fri/Sat, Jan 23-24, 2026	Jazz Band Trip to Folsom Jazz Festival	3pm on Friday - 8pm on Saturday	Leave from Depoali	Jazz Band
Jan 28-31, 2026	NMEA All-State Band (Vegas)	All Day (optional-for those who are accepted in after audition)	Las Vegas	7th/8th grade
Sat, February 7, 2026	UNR Jazz in the Schools Day	9am-4pm	Trip to UNR	Jazz Band
Wed, March 18, 2026	Band Zone Concert	6:00-7:15pm	Damonte Ranch HS Gym	All bands except Jazz
Friday, March 20, 2026	Band UNR Clinic & Trip to Coconut Bowl	9:00am-1:30pm	UNR/Coconut Bowl	Intermediate Band
Tuesday, April 21, 2026	Disney Chaperone Meeting	6:30-7:30pm	Depoali Band Room	Trip Chaperones
Tuesday, April 28, 2026	Disney Trip Full Group Meeting	6:30-7:30pm (required for those attending the trip)	Depoali Cafeteria	Disney students/families
April 29 - May 2, 2026	8th Grade Disney Trip	Wed 11:45am - Sat 6:00pm	Depart from Depoali	Disney students
Tues, May 12, 2026	Jazz Band Spring Concert with Damonte	6:00-8:00pm	Depoali Amphitheater	Jazz Band
May 20-21, 2026	WCSD Band Festival	TBA (School Day or after school)	Trip to UNR	Intermediate, Advanced
Thursday, May 21, 2026	Spring Band Concerts	Evening (see website)	Depoali Gym	All bands except Jazz

***Events may be added, changed, or cancelled. Advance notice will be given for any changes.*

7th/8th Grade BAND "TO DO LIST"

- 1) **Read the Band Handbook**
- 2) **Complete the [Band Registration Form](#) by Friday, August 15**
- 3) **Order the needed supplies for your child's instrument.** You can buy these through the band using the [Supply Order Form](#) (cheaper & easier than ordering most other ways!). Check or cash can be sent to school starting Tuesday, Aug 12. You can also order the supplies yourself from a local or online vendor (If you're buying reeds, please make sure they match those listed above).
- 4) **Set your Infinite Campus Message Settings to push teacher messages to email.** Most teachers use Infinite Campus as the primary means of communication with families. Instructions for this can be found at the bottom of the home page of the Band Website.