

*Tapp Middle School*  
**BAND**



**HANDBOOK**

*2018-2019*

# Tapp Middle School

Cobb County School District

[www.tappbands.org](http://www.tappbands.org)

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the Tapp Middle School Band Program. You are part of an organization committed to excellence. In order for us to achieve our goals for the upcoming year, the cooperation and support of the parents, as well as the students is needed.

Band is not only instructional, but it is also a program that will help students build self-confidence and self-discipline. This is accomplished in a manner which builds self-esteem and success through musical enjoyment.

We are hoping that your child will make a three-year commitment to the band program at Tapp MS, leading to participation as a member of the McEachern HS Band. Learning to play a musical instrument requires skills and techniques that demand repetition over time. Our band curriculum is structured in such a way that a three-year commitment will result in maximum benefit for our students, leading to a successful transition to the McEachern HS Band.

This handbook is designed as a reference to keep you informed of the various activities that are planned for the year, as well as to inform you of the classroom policies and procedures.

We are very proud of our facility, and the directors would like for parents to know that you are invited to stop by any time to see our beautiful room!

We are very excited about the upcoming year, and hope that it will be a rewarding experience for every member of band. If at any time you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us through [www.tappbands.org](http://www.tappbands.org) or via the email addresses listed below. We look forward to seeing you at the first concert!

*Patrick Clark*

**Patrick Clark**  
**Band Director**

[patrick.clark@cobbk12.org](mailto:patrick.clark@cobbk12.org)

*C.J. Longabaugh*

**C.J. Longabaugh**  
**Associate Band Director**

[cameron.longabaugh@cobbk12.org](mailto:cameron.longabaugh@cobbk12.org)

# Tapp

## Band Program

The Tapp Band program has a long history of excellence. You are part of a nationally known band program! The band has performed at several statewide and international conventions and festivals as well as having many well-known band pieces commissioned. Take pride in being a part of one of the most well-respected band programs in the country!

### **Tapp Band Accolades:**

\*The Tapp band, flute ensemble, and percussion ensemble have all performed at the Georgia Music Educators Association Conference.

\*The Tapp Band was selected in 2004 to perform at the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago, Illinois. This is the highest honor a band can receive.

\*The band has been selected to be a featured performing ensemble FOUR times at the University of Georgia Middle School Festival. (1999, 2003, 2008, 2015)

\*The band was invited to perform at the Grand National Adjudicators Invitational in Chattanooga Tennessee, receiving straight Superior ratings from every judge as well as winning the high percussion award. The band was the only middle school band in the contest among some of the finest high school bands across the southeast.

\*The Tapp Band has consistently received straight superior ratings at every District 12 Large Group Performance Evaluation.

\*The Tapp Band commissioned “The Great Locomotive Chase” - Robert W. Smith

\*The Tapp Band commissioned “Simple Gifts - Four Shaker Songs” - Frank Ticheli

\*The Tapp Band commissioned “Ascend” - Samuel R. Hazo

\*The Tapp Band was part of a consortium to commission “The Seal Lullaby” - Eric Whitacre

# Mr. Patrick Clark

## *Tapp Band Director*

Mr. Clark received a bachelor of music education degree from West Virginia University in 2005. While at WVU, he was the principal euphoniumist with the Wind Symphony, and was featured as a soloist with this group on two occasions. Also a very active jazz musician, he did lead and solo trombone work with the Jazz Ensemble 1 and various jazz combos. He studied trombone and euphonium with Dr. H. Keith Jackson, conducting with Lawrence Christianson and Don Wilcox, and jazz improvisation with Paul Scea.

From 2004-2006, Mr. Clark was a professional euphoniumist with the River City Brass Band in Pittsburgh, PA. He performed as a soloist on two concert tours and later became the publishing coordinator and librarian for the band.

Mr. Clark's work as a freelance musician includes the Georgia Brass Band, Balcony Big Band, the Roger Humphries Big Band, and the Charleston Symphony Orchestra. He has performed with the Canadian Brass, Boston Brass, Arturo Sandoval, Maynard Ferguson, and the "President's Own" Marine Band. He can be heard playing both trombone and euphonium on the 2005 self-titled CD "Adam Evil and the Outside Royalty", a rock band based in London, England. In 2006, he was a guest artist with the Pittsburgh Philharmonic performing Herman Bellstedt's "Napoli".

In the fall of 2006, Mr. Clark began teaching in the Cobb County School District where he has been the Music Specialist at Pitner Elementary School, Assistant Band Director and now Band Director at Tapp Middle School. Mr. Clark is also the director of the Tapp Middle School Jazz Band. Prior to moving to Georgia, he was an Elementary/Middle School Band Director in the Pittsburgh Catholic Diocese and the Assistant Conductor of the Pittsburgh Youth Philharmonic Orchestra.

Mr. Clark directed the McEachern HS Jazz Program from 2006-2017 and built the program to two full Jazz Ensembles and several small groups during that time. He currently serves as a brass instructor for the McEachern HS Marching Band. From 2007-2014, he was on staff with the Carlton J. Kell HS Marching Band and the National Champion Kennesaw Mountain Marching Band.

Outside of music, Mr. Clark is an active competitive fly-fisherman and professional fly-fishing guide. He is a member of the National Champion North Carolina Fly Fishing Team, has competed all over the country winning 10 individual competitions to date and was ranked #1 in the U.S. Fly Fishing League for the 2015 season.

Mr. Clark lives in Dallas, GA with his wife Cecilia, who is the Director of Bands at Allatoona High School, and their three weimaraners "Coltrane, Miles, and Mingus".

# Dr. CJ Longabaugh

## *Tapp Associate Band Director*

Dr. CJ Longabaugh recently his Doctor of Musical Arts in Saxophone Performance with a secondary emphasis in Musicology at the University of Minnesota. He received his Masters of Music degree in Saxophone Performance at the University of Minnesota and his Bachelor of Music Education at Kansas State University. Dr. Longabaugh has studied saxophone with internationally renowned concert artists such as Eugene Rousseau, Anna Marie Wytko, and Preston Duncan.

During his graduate studies Dr. Longabaugh competed at numerous prestigious solo and chamber music competitions. Most recently he was named a Finalist and a prizewinner at the 2017 William C. Byrd International Concerto Competition, a Finalist and a prize winner at the 2017 Plowman National Chamber Music Competition, and winner of the 2016 Masters Concerto and Aria Competition sponsored by the Kenwood Symphony Orchestra.

Outside of his graduate studies Dr. Longabaugh served as the woodwind specialist with the Irondale High School Marching Knights in New Brighton, MN. The ensemble has been named a twelve-time Bands of America Regional finalist in St. Louis and Pontiac, placing 8th out of 60 bands at the 2013 competition.

From 2011-2013, Dr. Longabaugh was the Assistant Director of Bands at Blue Valley West High School in Overland Park, KS. His teaching responsibilities included marching band, wind ensemble, concert band, and lab jazz band. Additionally, he taught fifth grade band at Lakewood, Liberty View, and Sunset Ridge Elementary Schools. His concert ensembles received exclusively superior ratings at all regional and national contests, and in 2013 the Blue Valley West Symphonic Wind Ensemble was selected to perform as the featured 6A concert ensemble at the KMEA In-Service Workshop.

Dr. Longabaugh is thrilled to be teaching at Tapp Middle School and continuing the tradition of excellence the band program has enjoyed!

# Tapp Middle School Band Supplies

## **Sixth Grade Band:**

1. Essential Elements Book 1
2. Instrument, Instrument supplies, and a pencil

## **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band:**

1. “Essential Elements Book 1” and “Habits of a Successful Middle School Musician”
2. PLAIN BLACK 3 RING BINDER and sheet protectors (this is for your sheet music)
3. Instrument, Instrument supplies, and a pencil

\*All band books are available at your local music store. However, please call ahead to verify that the book you need is in stock.

## **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Percussionists**

Percussionists need to purchase the book and black 3 ring binder with sheet protectors listed above as well as: **Innovative Percussion FP2 Intermediate Mallet Pack** (*available at most music stores and online*) or **Liberty 1 Basic Stick Pack** (*available exclusively at [www.steveweissmusic.com](http://www.steveweissmusic.com)*)

\*These texts are available online and at your local music store. However, please call ahead to verify that the book you need is in stock as these are very popular band method books.

**\*Each student in 7th and 8th Grade must have the materials needed for his/her class by Monday, August 13th! Books and other supplies will be checked.**

# Tapp Middle School Band Grading Procedure

## Sixth Grade Band:

60% - Class Participation – No Instrument = No Points for that day

40% - Playing or Written Tests

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band: \*7-1 Students will take the Student Growth Measure Test this year. Pretest in August, Post Test in May. \*

60% - Class Participation – No Instrument = No Points for that day

25% - Playing or Written Tests

15% - Practice Charts – **NOTICE!** Practice charts are 15% of your grade. You can not receive an “A” in band without practicing 60 minutes weekly and turning in your practice charts! Practice charts are due on Monday of each week and must be signed by a parent. Copies of practice charts are available in the band room and extras can be found on the next page if you’d like to make copies at home.

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## CONDUCT

Tapp MS is on a school wide discipline plan, and all school rules and expectations apply in the band room. **Discipline is your key to success in the Tapp Band!**

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## EXTRA CREDIT

Extra credit can be earned for concert attendance. Any instrumental music concert that you are not performing in will apply here. Popular music concerts do not apply. In order to receive extra credit, save your program and turn it in signed by a parent. Extra Credit points will be the equivalent of one playing test.

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## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The band is a sequential program with classes from 6<sup>th</sup> grade continuing through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. In each class, skills and concepts will be developed by means of band literature, etudes, and technical studies appropriate to the needs and abilities of each student. Students enrolled in band class will perform in concert at least once a semester. The required text is “Essential Elements for Band” Book 1 and “Habits of a Successful Middle School Musician”. The cost is roughly \$8-\$10. This syllabus is a guide and is subject to change to accommodate the class and individual student needs.

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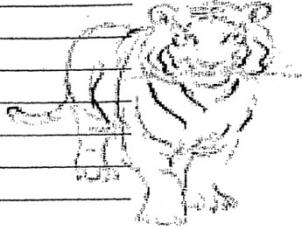
## GEORGIA PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR BAND

MMSIB 1.A-C - MMSIB 2.A-C - MMSBB 1.A-C - MMSBB 2.A-D - MMSBB 3.A-C

# Tapp Middle School Bands

**Weekly Practice Chart  
Due Each Monday  
60 min per week**

Monday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wednesday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Friday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Saturday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Time: \_\_\_\_\_



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

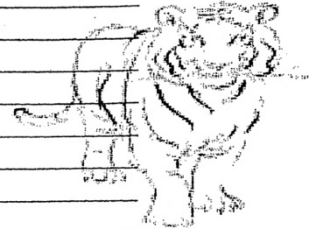
Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Tapp Middle School Bands

**Weekly Practice Chart  
Due Each Monday  
60 min per week**

Monday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wednesday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Friday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Saturday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Time: \_\_\_\_\_



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

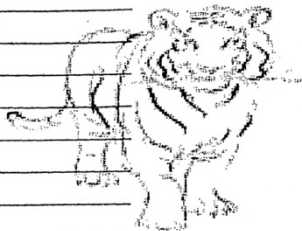
Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Tapp Middle School Bands

**Weekly Practice Chart  
Due Each Monday  
60 min per week**

Monday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wednesday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Friday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Saturday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Time: \_\_\_\_\_



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

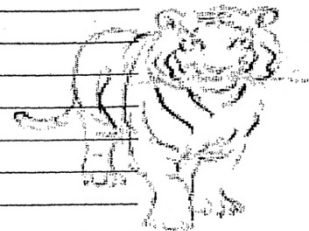
Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Tapp Middle School Bands

**Weekly Practice Chart  
Due Each Monday  
60 min per week**

Monday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wednesday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Friday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Saturday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Time: \_\_\_\_\_



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_





# Tapp M.S. Band

## Concert and Other Important Dates

### 2018-2019

<b>September 14<sup>th</sup></b>	8th Grade Night at McEachern Football Game. 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band Students Only.
<b>October 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Fall Tapp Band Spirt Night at Marco's Pizza 5pm-9pm
<b>November 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Solo and Ensemble Festival Hightower Trail M.S.
<b>November 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Tapp Performing Arts Holiday Celebration and Fundraiser 4:30pm-9:00pm at Tapp MS
<b>December 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Preliminary All-State Band and District Honor Band Auditions Dodgen M.S.
<b>December 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	6-1 and 7-1 Bands Winter Concert 7pm Tapp Theater
<b>December 4<sup>th</sup></b>	6-2 and 7-2 Bands Winter Concert 7pm Tapp Theater
<b>December 6<sup>th</sup></b>	8-1 and 8-2 Bands Winter Concert 7pm Tapp Theater
<b>January 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Final All-State Auditions Perry M.S.
<b>February 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	District Honor Band Lovinggood M.S.
<b>Feb 28<sup>th</sup> – March 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	All-State Band - Athens, Ga.

## DATES CONTINUED

<b>March 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup></b>	7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Large Group Performance Evaluation McEachern H.S.
<b>March 28<sup>th</sup></b>	Spring Tapp Band Spirt Night at Marco's Pizza 5pm-9pm
<b>April 25<sup>th</sup></b>	Jazz Coffee House with the Tapp and MHS Jazz Bands
<b>April 26<sup>th</sup></b>	Jazz Band Large Group Performance Evaluation Walton H.S.
<b>April 30<sup>th</sup></b>	6-1 and 7-1 Bands Spring Concert 7pm Tapp Theater
<b>May 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	6-2 and 7-2 Bands Spring Concert 7pm Tapp Theater
<b>May 6<sup>th</sup></b>	8th Grade Bands Spring Concert 7pm McEachern Performing Arts Center

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## **\*Concert Attendance Requirements**

**We are a team. Every person is an important member of our team. Your child has chosen to be part of a performing organization. In order for the Tapp Bands to continue in excellence, Attendance at All Performances is Mandatory! Only extreme illness or death in the family are excuses for missing a performance. A written excuse is then required. Sports activity games are not an excuse for missing a concert.**

***\*EVERY STUDENT MUST BE PRESENT AT EVERY CONCERT!***

# **Tapp Middle School Bands**

## **Before and After School Activities**

### **Early Morning Band**

Early Morning Band meets every morning from **8:20am – 8:50am** in the band room and is open to all members of the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade bands. **Students must arrive through the front doors of the school by 8:20am and wait in the cafeteria to be picked up by one of the band directors.** There will be a few times during the year when Early Morning Band will need to be cancelled due to faculty meetings. Students will be notified prior to these cancelled days. Students may use their time in Early Morning Band to practice on their own and/or seek individual help from their band directors. Early Morning Band is always supervised by the band directors.

### **After School Band**

After School Band meets every day from **4:10pm – 5:00pm** in the band room and is open to all members of the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade bands. **Students attending After School Band will dismiss from their last period class when “Students With Instrument Passes” are dismissed.** There will be times during the year when After School Band will need to be cancelled due to faculty meetings, after school sectionals, or band concerts . Students will be notified prior to these cancelled days. Students may use their time in After School Band to practice on their own and/or seek individual help from their band directors. After School Band is always supervised by the band directors. **\*Students must make arrangements to be picked up at the front of the school shortly after 5:00pm if they are planning to participate.**

### **Tapp Jazz Band**

Jazz Band is a performing group and participation will be determined by an audition process. Any 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade band members in the following sections may audition to be a part of the Jazz Band: **Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Percussion.** Any students who also plays **Piano, Guitar, and Upright or Electric Bass** can audition as well. Students in the Jazz Band will have the opportunity to explore the many styles within the jazz idiom, which are very different than the music we play in our band classes. Performance opportunities include school and community functions, our Jazz Coffee House, and the GMEA District 12 Jazz Performance Evaluation. The Jazz Band rehearses on Tuesdays until 6pm from January-May. **\*Students must make arrangements to be picked up at the front of the school shortly after 6:00pm when Jazz Band rehearses.**

# Tapp Middle School Bands

## Lockers, Nametags, and Serial Numbers

### Lockers

Lockers will be assigned to 8<sup>th</sup> grade band members first, followed by 7<sup>th</sup> grade band members. Due to large numbers in our band program and limited locker space, flute and clarinet players may be asked to share lockers. Once lockers are assigned, a **COMBINATION LOCK** must be purchased and placed on each locker. No keyed or remote locks please. If you are sharing a locker, the combination must be shared between both students and will be recorded by the band directors in case the combination is forgotten.

All 6<sup>th</sup> grade band members will store their instruments in the instrument storage room which is safely locked every day after school.

### Nametags

Each student participating in band **MUST** have a name tag on their instrument at all times. The name tag, whether it be tape or an actual tag must remain on the instrument for the entire year. This is **VERY** important!!! Many of our students have identical instruments with identical cases. If a student misplaces their instrument, or a director or parent is trying to locate an instrument, it will be near impossible to find yours if it doesn't have your name on it. Nametags should include a student's name, grade and band class on it. **Parents, please check periodically to make sure that your student's instrument still has a nametag on it.**

### Serial Numbers

Every instrument has its own unique serial number. You should keep a record of this, along with the brand, at home in case your instrument ever becomes lost or stolen. A serial number typically is 6-10 digits and can be found stamped onto your instrument itself. Do not confuse this with your instrument's brand or model number, which often includes letters and dashes. There is a place for this information to be included on the information sheet at the back of this packet. We highly suggest you include this information so that we can keep a record of it here at school as well.

## **TAPP BAND WEBSITE**

Please visit us at our NEW WEBSITE!: [www.tappbands.org](http://www.tappbands.org)

You will find most everything you need on this website, including copies of forms, our band calendar and important links and resources.

## **Email**

[patrick.clark@cobbk12.org](mailto:patrick.clark@cobbk12.org)

[cameron.longabaugh@cobbk12.org](mailto:cameron.longabaugh@cobbk12.org)

## **Band Office Phone**

Mr. Clark - 770-222-3758 extension 047

Dr. Longabaugh - 770-222-3758 extension 063

## **Twitter**

Follow us: @TappBands

## **Instagram**

Follow us: TappBands

## **TAPP BAND REMIND TEXTS**

Instructions on how to enroll for Tapp Band Remind Texts are on the back of this page. This is an essential part of our communication process and we highly suggest that all students and parents enroll. If you enrolled in remind texts in previous years, you will not need to enroll again.



## Sign up for important updates from Mr. Clark.

Get information for **Tapp Middle School** right on your phone—not on handouts.

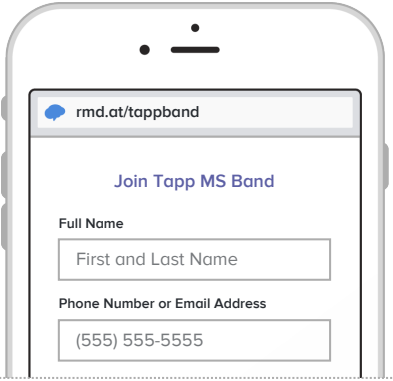
Pick a way to receive messages for **Tapp MS Band**:

**A** If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

[rmd.at/tappband](https://rmd.at/tappband)

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

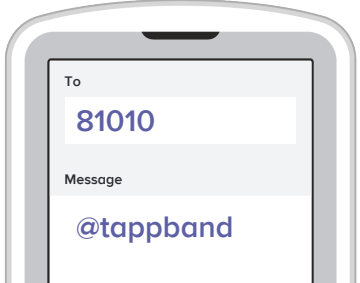


**B** If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message [@tappband](https://t.me/tappband) to the number **81010**.

If you're having trouble with **81010**, try texting [@tappband](https://t.me/tappband) to **(678) 394-0209**.

\* Standard text message rates apply.



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to [rmd.at/tappband](https://rmd.at/tappband) on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.

# STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET

\*This sheet is due by Friday August 10<sup>th</sup> for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade band members, and Friday August 17<sup>th</sup> for 6<sup>th</sup> grade band members! **It will serve as your participation grade for the first full week of classes!**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Band Class \_\_\_\_\_

Student Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email \_\_\_\_\_

Student Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email \_\_\_\_\_

## **INSTRUMENT INFORMATION:** (leave blank if you use a school-owned instrument)

Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_ Brand: \_\_\_\_\_ Model# \_\_\_\_\_ Serial# \_\_\_\_\_

**I have read the band handbook and reviewed it with my child. I am familiar with the grading procedure, supplies needed, concert dates, concert attendance requirements, and have filled out the important information above. I also give my consent for pictures of band activities that may include my student to be posted on [www.tappbands.org](http://www.tappbands.org).**

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_