

# North Scott Band Department

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter "Cheat Sheet" for Parents

**Lessons:** Each student is required to do FIVE lessons this quarter. Those students studying privately on their primary band instrument will receive credit for two of those lessons by having their instructor fill out the LESSON VOUCHER. These may be found on the webpage under "communications"

CONCERT WRITE-UPS: Students *may* elect to write a paper on a band concert they attend, and that grade will take the place of one lesson. IT MUST BE A CONCERT THEY ARE NOT ALREADY PERFORMING IN and MUST FEATURE BAND INSTRUMENTS. It should be 500 words, typed, and treated as an English paper. In other words, we will be not only grading on content, but also grammar, form, spelling, etc. They are to take notes at whichever concert they attend and include detailed, specific information about the performance. These reports must have substance, as they are taking the place of one band lesson. If there are any questions as to which concerts are acceptable, please call or email us. We have had some papers in the past that we have been unable to accept. This is an option we have provided for our students to not only help them get their lesson grades in, but also entice them to attend some outside concerts.

Students are only allowed to come out of the same class twice per quarter to minimize the amount of time taken away from instruction.

Students can only sign up for one lesson per week.

Lessons are on the materials assigned in their LESSON BOOK. If there is time, the band music will also be worked on.

**Computer Assignments:** Each student is required to do the following grade-specific computer assignments for the third quarter:

Freshman/New Members:	Volume 1, Units <b>4 and 5</b> (notice there are <b>2</b> )
Sophomores:	Volume 2, Unit 9
Juniors:	Volume 2, Unit 13
Seniors:	Volume 3, Unit 17

These must be done in the music computer lab (the program is on the network) and can be done at any time between 7:00 am and 3:45 pm on school days. The scores from these assignments count as part of their lesson grade. **REMINDER: They can re-do the computer assignments as many times during the quarter as they want to improve their grade.** These scores count twice, giving the student SEVEN grades in the lesson/computer assignment category (5 lessons + 2 Comp)

*HINT: If the students go through the lessons before taking the review, they have an opportunity to take notes. These notes may then be used when they take the review. (In other words, they can do as well as they want- they just have to take the time!)*

**Scale/Arpeggio Lessons:** These are required lessons, during which the students will play the assigned six scales from memory. The scale sheets are available on the web page (Communications)- just scroll down to "Scale Lesson Sheets" and click on the appropriate instrument for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter. **IMPORTANT: These are not the scale sheets they used for auditions- they have different scales, plus arpeggios.** Please check to make sure it says "3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter" at the top of the scale/arpeggio sheet.

**Understanding PowerSchool:** Due to the nature of our lesson grading system, it is necessary for us to create a checkpoint for Mid-Term reports (**Friday, February 3**). This Quarter, we will be basing them on 3 grades, two of which MUST be lessons. (In other words, they need to have TWO lessons in before February 3) After that, we will plug zeros into the remaining grades they have yet to complete. (If you see a zero, please check the heading- that indicates that they have yet to complete that assignment/lesson). This is not a scare tactic, but merely to show the students and parents what their grade will look like at the end of the quarter if they don't do anything else. The zeros will be replaced with grades as they complete them. Again, we are trying to eliminate any surprises and let parents know exactly what has to be done before the end of the quarter.

**Pep Band:** Students are required to attend FOUR pep bands each season. Attending less than four will impact their 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter grade. They will receive credit toward their band letter for each pep band attended. Please refer to the schedule below for dates and times. For those students with athletic conflicts during pep band, we just ask that they talk to us about it and do what they can to make as many as possible. (We won't penalize anyone for a legitimate conflict)

**Band Web Page:** Please check the band webpage ([www.nsband.com](http://www.nsband.com)) if questions arise. Between the on-line handbook, the "communications" page (where most schedules, downloads, etc. are found) and the calendars, the web page provides 95% of the information parents need to stay on top of things in the band department. If questions are not answered via the webpage, please feel free to call us (Kessinger: 285-3316; McMann: 285-3317) or email us ([bill.kessinger@north-scott.k12.ia.us](mailto:bill.kessinger@north-scott.k12.ia.us), or [mike.mcmann@north-scott.k12.ia.us](mailto:mike.mcmann@north-scott.k12.ia.us))

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Band Events

Date	Event	Place	Time
1/6/11	Pep Band		6:00 pm report
1/7/12	SEIBA Honor Band Auditions	Fairfield HS	All Day
1/10/12	Pep Band		6:45 pm report
1/13/12	Pep Band		6:45 pm report
1/15-1/16/12	Augustana Honor Band	Augustana Coll.	All Day
1/20/12	Pep Band		6:45 pm report
1/21/12	SEIBA Honor Band Festival	IC West HS	All Day
1/24/12	Pep Band		6:45 pm report
1/26/12	Jazz Combo Jam	Mojo's	7:00 - 9:00 pm
1/27/12	Pep Band		6:45 pm report
2/3/12	NIU Jazz Day (Jazz 1 & Jazz 2)	DeKalb, IL	All Day
3/3/12	SEIBA Jazz Festival	IC West HS	All Day
3/4/12	Spring Band Concert	NSHS Aud.	7:00 pm
3/8/12	Jazz Combo Jam	Mojo's	7:00 - 9:00 pm

*www.nsband.com*