BANDYLAND

A PRACTICE-INCENTIVE GAME!

**INTRODUCTION**

* Bandyland is similar to the board game “Candyland”. The game is a fun way to track your practice progress and ensure that all members of the band are improving on their instrumental skills!

**OBJECTIVE**

* Be the first in your band to reach the end of “Achievement Avenue” in order to “win” the game!

**HOW TO PLAY**

* The board is divided into nine “practice paths” (Flute Freeway, Double-Reed Road, Ligature Lane, Horn Highway, Cornet Court, Slide Street, Buzz Boulevard, Percussion Pass, and Achievement Avenue).
* “Practice Partners” appear at the end of each path as a benchmark check-off site before passing to the next path.
* Each path has a certain number of spaces, each space represents 15 minutes of at-home practice time.
* Everyone in the band begins at “START” and continues down each path beginning with FLUTE FREEWAY.
* Each “practice path” has corresponding lines from our ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS 2000 method book that students must work on during their at-home practice sessions.
* For each 15 minutes of practice that a student puts in at home, they will move up a space on the game board.
* Once a student reaches a new “practice partner”, they must check-off the corresponding method book lines with a teacher before they are allowed to proceed down the next practice path.

**EXAMPLE**: A student will stay on the space marked with PICCOLO PETE until #s 14, 17, 18, 23, 25, 27, 28, 29, and 31 are successfully passed by performing them for Miss Jablonski or Ms. Ahl.

 \*NOTE: Students may “test” lines as they finish practicing and feel they have mastered them. They DO NOT have to wait until reaching a “practice partner” space to test all of the lines. This would take too long! Feel free to pass a couple of lines at a time to continually see progress. You simply must have all of the lines completed by the time you reach the practice partner space before you can move onto the next practice path.

\*NOTE: After three sincere attempts have been made to pass these items, students may move on as to not stagnate and be too far behind…as long as improvement has been made!

* Proceed down each path, checking off when you reach each new practice partner until you reach the end!

**HOW TO CHECK-OFF/TEST**

You choose when you’d like to check-off/test. When you feel you are ready to test at least two lines in a row on your check-off sheet, follow these procedures! --This can be done on any day you have band class (unless class is interrupted by a fire drill or all-school assembly).

* When you get to school on your next band day, sign up for a three-minute slot on the band office door. This is first-come, first serve, so get there ASAP! I’d suggest signing up right when you arrive in the morning, even before checking in with your locker/homerooms. You can check after announcements, too, but are still responsible for finishing your theory packets, etc.
* There will only be room for **FIVE STUDENTS** to test each day. You may fill in your name as a 6th-8th entry in case testing goes quicker than usual.
* Look at who is before you on the sign-up list. When they are in the room testing, you should be waiting quietly outside the door with your instrument, and folder (should include method book, bandyland check-off list, and your practice chart pack.) This is the “on deck circle”.
* When it is your turn, give your Bandyland check-off sheet to Ms. Ahl and show her your practice chart pack. She’ll log your minutes on your personal “board” while you set up your music for check-off.
* Take a deep breath to relax yourself, smile, and tell Ms. Ahl which lines you’ll be testing. Try to test in numerical order most of the time. (If you get stuck on one, you can proceed forward and come back to it….within each path, of course, as you can’t hop on the next path until all exercises are completed.)
* Play to the best of your ability. You’ll be able to restart once if needed. Relax! ☺
* She’ll either tell you that you passed, or that you need to make another attempt (and will mark it accordingly on your sheet!).
* Return to your seat and join the rest of the band in rehearsal.

At the end of class, report with your personal board up to Miss Jablonski, who will mark your spot on the classroom board with a new dot sticker.

You may test as often as you’d like, but please do not attempt to test unless you know you have a good chance of passing the lines. We don’t want to waste Ms. Ahl or other students’ time!

Here are the approximate guidelines to help you gage your progress on each practice path.

**PRACTICE PATH NAME # of SPACES # of minutes of at-home-practice approx. time to spend on this path**

Flute Freeway 10 150 minutes 2 weeks

Double Reed Road 27 405 minutes 5.4 weeks

Ligature Lane 13 195 minutes 2.6 weeks

Horn Highway 16 240 minutes 3.2 weeks

Cornet Court 15 225 minutes 3 weeks

Slide Street 13 195 minutes 2.6 weeks

Buzz Boulevard 17 255 minutes 3.4 weeks

Percussion Pass 12 180 minutes 2.4 weeks

Achievement Avenue 12 180 minutes 2.4 weeks