

How Music Education Orchestrates Success: A Guide for Parents

- Learning to play a musical instrument helps students **build confidence**. They take pride in their achievements, both individual and as members of an ensemble.
- Students who participate in music education programs see music as their “social glue,” **connecting them to one another** and the wider world.
- On average, music students **score higher** on both the verbal and math portions of the SAT, helping them to get into good colleges and universities.
- Students who take music classes tend to have **fewer drug and alcohol problems** and fewer brushes with the law.
- Music education **helps in the development of 21st-century skills** that employers prize, including:
 - 1) critical thinking and problem solving
 - 2) collaboration
 - 3) creativity
 - 4) initiative and self-direction
 - 5) leadership and responsibility

Source: www.nafme.org



Norwin Music on the web

Norwin Music Department

<http://bit.ly/NorwinMusicDept>

Middle School

<http://bit.ly/NorwinMSBand>

High School

norwinband.net

<http://bit.ly/NorwinHSBand>

Norwin Band Aides

<http://norwinband.net/nba>

twitter.com/NorwinBand

[instagram.com/NorwinBand](https://www.instagram.com/NorwinBand)

Norwin Middle School Band Winter Concert

December 12, 2017
Ross Cohen, director

From the Superintendent

As Superintendent of Schools and on behalf of all in attendance this evening, I congratulate and commend all student musicians who are performing tonight. The Norwin Board of Education and the Administration recognize the outstanding musical abilities of our students, acknowledging that they are among the best and the brightest of our youth.

The Norwin School District is an extraordinary model for supporting and advancing music education and the performing arts. It is an allegiance based on tradition and community pride and a commitment to academic excellence, music education, and the performing arts.

Parents and families are encouraged to be advocates of music education and performing arts, noting a strong correlation with high academic achievement. As such, these research points, published by Miami University of Ohio, are highlighted:

1. Children who study music tend to have larger vocabularies and more advanced reading skills than their peers who do not participate in music lessons.
2. Research shows that music is to the brain as physical exercise is to the human body.
3. A study from Columbia University revealed that students who study arts are more cooperative with their teachers and peers, have higher levels self-confidence, and are more equipped to express themselves and their ideas.

We thank our principals and music teachers, as well as the numerous Norwin parent and community volunteers who provide never-ending support to our developing musicians.

Best wishes for an enjoyable evening, and please continue to keep music and the performing arts in a prominent place in your lives, now and in the future!

Board of Education and Administration
William H. Kerr, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

Audience Manners

Thank you for joining us this evening. As the audience, you are an important part of tonight's concert. The audience's responsibility at formal concerts is to honor the efforts of the performers by providing a listening atmosphere in which their performance can be appreciated by all. To that end, we ask your cooperation:

Please silence your cell phones, and kindly put them away during the performance.

While the performance is in progress, remain seated and quiet. If it becomes necessary to leave the auditorium, please do so between musical selections.

If very young children become restless and disrupt others' ability to listen, please take them from the auditorium until they are quiet.

Please do not hum or clap along with the performers, unless specifically invited to do so.

Show your appreciation for tonight's performance by clapping after each selection. Whistling and cheering are not appropriate at a formal concert.



*“There is geometry
in the humming of the strings;
there is music
in the spacing of the spheres.”*

— Pythagoras

Norwin Band Aides

The Objectives of the Norwin Band Aides Corporation are as follows:

- 1. To stimulate and sustain interest among the Band Aides and the students at Norwin High School in band activities at Norwin High School by cooperating with school authorities and the Norwin Band Director.*
- 2. To raise and distribute monies, as required for the activities of the band, not funded by the Norwin School District. All fund drives to be organized at the recommendation of the Board of Directors.*
- 3. To support and promote music education in the Norwin School District by advocating for policies that will enhance the music education of students in the Norwin School District in cooperation with the Norwin Band Director and school officials.*

The Norwin Band Aides, the community support group of Norwin Band, was founded in 1961. Today, the Band Aides support the band program through fundraisers like the stadium concession stand, monthly hoagie sales, Sarris Candy at Easter and Christmas, and popular events as an annual craft show, a car cruise, winter guard shows, and the annual Band Festival, now in its 55th year. The Band Aides are not just a support group to provide for the students' opportunities & activities, but members also enjoy the support and friendship of other band and guard parents while fully engaging in their teen's band activities.

The Band Aides meet the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 pm in the high school cafeteria. The next meeting is January 8th.

***Watch for a couple of important upcoming events:
an informational meeting after the first of the year,
and the May unveiling of the theme of the
2018 marching band show.***

For more information, to donate or volunteer,
or to get information about sponsorship opportunities, visit us at:

<http://norwinbands.net/nba>

or email norwinbandaidesSM@gmail.com anytime.

From the Principal

Good Evening,

I want to thank all of you for your attendance at this evening's winter band concert. In addition to their fine efforts in the classroom, our young musicians have been working diligently under the direction of our Middle School band director, Mr. Ross Cohen. I am extremely proud of the time and commitment given by our students to make our music department such a rich program.

Please continue to encourage, enlighten, and support your children as they grow into quality young adults. Again, I thank you for being here and hope you enjoy this evening's program.

Happy Holidays,

Mr. Suman

The life benefits of music education

The musician is constantly adjusting decisions on tempo, tone, style, rhythm, phrasing, and feeling – training the brain to become incredibly good at organizing and conducting numerous activities at once. Dedicated practice of this orchestration can have a great payoff for lifelong attention skills, intelligence, and an ability for self-knowledge and expression.

— John J. Ratey, MD, *A User's Guide to the Brain*

In a year-long program focused on group music-making, 8- to 11-year-old children became markedly more compassionate, according to a 2013 study from the University of Cambridge. The finding suggests kids who make music together aren't just having fun: they're absorbing a key component of emotional intelligence.

— Rabinowitch, Cross and Burnard, University of Cambridge, UK

About the directors

Michael Szymanski is a 1991 graduate of Norwin High School and received a B.S. in Music Education from Duquesne University in 1995. Mr. Szymanski has been the Middle School Orchestra director since being hired in 1996 and became the High School Orchestra director in 1998. In addition to their annual winter and spring concerts, the H.S. Orchestra often performs with the Norwin Chorus, at invitational festivals and for various community and scholastic events. In recent years, the H.S. Orchestra has received numerous Superior ratings at PMEA Music Performance Assessments and other adjudicated festivals. During his time at Norwin, Michael has also taught elementary band and orchestra, elementary and middle school general music, music theory, and guitar. He has been the Music Department Chairperson since 2011. In his time away from school, Mr. Szymanski enjoys reading, hiking, camping and long road trips. He continues to be an active freelance performer on violin and viola. Michael and his wife Jennifer currently reside in North Huntingdon with their daughters, Betsy and Abby.

Tim Daniels is Director of Bands at Norwin High School. His duties include directing the Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble as well as teaching AP Music Theory classes. Prior to joining the staff at Norwin, Tim served as a Band Director in the Arlington School District in LaGrangeville, NY where he directed 9th Grade Band, Jazz Band, and assisted with the marching band. Tim has also served in various capacities on the band staffs of the Fox Chapel, Gateway and Penn-Trafford marching bands. In addition to this experience, Mr. Daniels spent the summer of 2009 marching with the Bluecoats Drum and Bugle Corps. Mr. Daniels received his B.M. in Music Education, trumpet applied, from Youngstown State University. His primary teachers included Dr. Stephen L. Gage, Dr. Brandt Payne, Dr. Christopher Krummel and Dr. Kent Englehardt. Tim is a member of the National Association for Music Education and the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. A native of North Huntingdon, PA, Tim graduated from Norwin High School in 2008. In addition to his responsibilities at Norwin, Tim enjoys performing and plays as a freelance trumpeter in the Pittsburgh area.

From 2002-2006, Mr. Ian Morrison served as band director. Under his direction, the Norwin Marching Band remained competitive and a new focus was brought to the Concert Ensembles of the Norwin Band Program, paving the way for the successes of the current Wind Ensemble and Concert Band.

Mr. Robert Traugh was band director from 2007 through 2013, assisted by Mr. Gregory Ondayko and Associate Director Mrs. Kimberly Glover. The Norwin Percussion Ensemble performed at the PMEA State Convention in 2009 and in 2013, as well as at the 2011 MENC All-East Convention. At PMEA State Adjudications the Norwin Concert Band received excellent ratings in 2008, 2009, & 2010, culminating in a superior rating in 2011. The Norwin Wind Ensemble received superior ratings in 2008, 2009, 2010, & 2011 at PMEA State Adjudications. The Norwin Jazz Ensemble in 2008 received accolades at the Slippery Rock Jazz Festival for best Saxophone Section, Best Rhythm Section, Best Trombone Section, and Best Trumpet Section. In 2008 the Norwin Marching Band performed at the Bands of America Super Regional in St. Louis and placed in the top ten at finals. In 2012 the marching band swept Bands of America Regional Championships in Monroeville (PA), Akron (OH), and Towson (MD), including high music, visual, and general effect captions.

Mr. Timothy Daniels, a 2008 Norwin graduate, began his tenure as director in 2013. Since then, Norwin took first place in their class in 2014 at the Bands of America Regional Championships at Gateway, bringing home the Championship in 2013. In 2014 and 2017, they earned the Championship trophy from the Bands of America Regional Championships at Newark, Delaware. Norwin also won the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Marching Band Association (PIMBA) Class AAAA competitions in 2013, 2014, 2016 and 2017. The 2015 marching season was capped off by winning the USBands Group VI Open Class National Championship, while in 2016, the Norwin Band was named champion of the Bands of America Regional Championships at Monroeville, and placed third in their class at the Bands of America Super Regional Championships at Indianapolis.

The band program continues to grow and new levels of performance excellence are set every year and in every ensemble at Norwin High School.

The Norwin Band has come a long way from the first 28 member group under the direction of Mr. Winters. This organization has seen thousands of students come through the program and each of them take into their lives experiences gained only by participation in this program.

***I devote my strength and presence to all those by my side;
With tradition in my heart, I continue on with pride;
We are musicians, performers, artists of sound and sight;
Presence, pride, artistry. We move forward Norwin Knights.***

About the band program

The first Norwin High School Band was formed in the 1923-1924 school year. It consisted of 28 members, all boys. The first director was Mr. Steven Winter. The 1924 Norwin yearbook stated "An organization, such as our Norwin Band turned out to be, is one that will make our high school known throughout the state." Little did they know how prophetic that statement was, for the Norwin High School Band has brought the notice of the entire nation to our community. By competing and receiving accolades nationwide, quality of Norwin's band program and the outstanding efforts of the band students are a credit to not only the school district, but to the community that nurtures them.



Mr. "Jimmy" Weaver was instrumental in establishing the early Norwin Band, acting as band director beginning in 1924-25. Mr. George Weaver was another influential individual to work with the band. With his father, Jimmy as assistant band director, George directed the Irwin High School band from the late 1940's through the 1950's while the district was temporarily divided into Irwin and North Huntingdon. He organized a junior band made up of elementary and junior high students to strengthen and continually improve the music program of the future.

The Norwin Band Aides, the community support group of Norwin Band, was founded in 1961, with Glen Zockoll as band director. The Band Aides have contributed enormously to the financial means of the band making it possible for the students to concentrate on their performances.

From the mid 60's through the mid 70's, band director Mr. Lawrence Radzevic led the Norwin Band with a program that resembles that of today. A student field conductor under Mr. Radzevic's tutelage, L.J. Hancock, would have an even greater impact on the band and the entire music program at Norwin.

From 1976-2001, L.J. Hancock directed the Norwin Band, inspiring the students to some of the program's greatest successes. Due to his charismatic leadership, between 1980-1996 the Norwin Band placed in the top twenty bands at the Bands of America Grand National Championships. Under his direction the band took first place at the Bands of America Grand National Championships in 1982, and achieved the Sudler Shield award for musical excellence from the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

About the directors

Brandon Kandrack is in his first year as Associate Band Director & Percussion Specialist at Norwin High School. His responsibilities include directing the Percussion Ensemble; assisting with the Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Concert Band, and Jazz Band; and teaching music repertory courses. He also teaches instrumental lessons and assists with the bands at the middle school and Hillcrest. A native of Monroeville, PA, Mr. Kandrack holds a bachelor's degree in Music Education with a minor in Educational Psychology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. For the past several years, Mr. Kandrack served as the Front Ensemble Coordinator with the Gateway H.S. Marching Band & as Co-Director of their Winter Percussion Ensemble. Beginning in 2015, he taught the marching band, percussion ensemble, intermediate school percussion ensemble, and winter percussion ensemble at Kiski Area High School and was the Assistant Director of the Cavalier Percussion Group. Mr. Kandrack joined the Norwin Music Department in 2016 after teaching music in the Franklin Regional School District. He maintains an active studio of private students and freelances around the Pittsburgh area. He is a member of the Percussive Arts Society, NAfME, PMEA, and WCMEA.

Did you know?

In the past, secondary students who participated in a music group at school reported the lowest lifetime and current use of all substances (tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs).

Children who study a musical instrument are more likely to excel in all of their studies, work better in teams, have enhanced critical thinking skills, stay in school, and pursue further education.

About the directors

Ross Cohen is in his second year as the Band Director at Norwin Middle School. Born and raised in Silver Spring, MD, Mr. Cohen has a Bachelors Degree in Music Education from Penn State University and a Masters Degree in Music Performance from the University of Georgia. Mr. Cohen moved to Pittsburgh in 2007 to join the River City Brass Band, which he still performs with today. Prior to joining the faculty at Norwin, Mr. Cohen taught for five years at Propel Schools in Turtle Creek and Braddock Hills, and one year at the Environmental Charter School in Frick Park.

A graduate from the Norwin School District, **Ian Morrison** received his B.S. in music education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and his M.S. in Curriculum and Instruction from Clarion University. Mr. Morrison began teaching at Norwin in 2000 and his duties have included everything from Kindergarten Music to High School Band. Currently, Mr. Morrison teaches string instruments at Hahntown, Sheridan Terrace, Stewartsville, and Sunset Valley Elementary Schools and Hillcrest Intermediate School. Mr. Morrison resides in North Huntingdon with his wife Kim and son Aiden.

Devon Lippmann comes from a long line of musicians. His grandfather wrote barbershop arrangements, and his father is a retired band director. Currently the band director at Hillcrest, he also has served as high school band director, assistant director, middle school director, elementary instrumental teacher and as a general music teacher to elementary-aged children. He earned the Phoebe Apperson Hearst Outstanding Educator Award through the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. While attending IUP, he sung with an acappella group known as The Braxmen, later known as 4Real, which gained national fame by performing with numerous Pittsburgh-based groups such as The Vogues, Johnny Angel & the Halos, Pure Gold, The Lettermen, The Drifters, The Turtles and many more.

Seventh Grade Gold Band

Flute

Lauren Keller
Callie Kluegel
Emma Novotnak #
Emma Zahorchak

Clarinet

Amanda Anticole
Abigail Dopkosky
Tiffany Ford
Sydney Handra
Sydney Harris
Savannah Kuzma
Mackenzie Pawluk
Zoe Poplowski
Jenna Varney
Bret Vilage

Saxophone

Giavonna Cartia
Steven Chi # +
Paul Fennel
Brooke Gabris
Elijah Keaton
Aidan Neubert
Rachel Russman
Joshua Siegel
Noah Vogel
Caroline Watson
Aiden Yuscinsky

Trumpet

Samuel Abraham
Sophia Alvarez +
Jacob Biehl
Adam Bilinsky
David Brokaw
Anthony Bruno
Jacob Cerra #
Ryan Dandar
Anna DeFazio +
Jonathan Funk
David Hersick
Shane Hornicak
Trey Huha
Mason Lisovich
Jeremy Lucotch +
Christopher Michaels
Sydney Novotny
Chase Rose
Ethan Shelander
Kyle Shumber
Austin Vitsas # +

Horn

Tyler Esasky
Sean Hanley

Trombone

Nathan Balog +
Logan McGarey
Hannah Nemeth
Christian Rhoads

Euphonium

Nico DeFrancesco
Zachary Short

Percussion

Gianni Betras
Nathan Chuba
Jack Conley
Alex Fry +
Nathan Link
Aidan Manly
Davis Schuller
Tori Sharp

* *Principal musician*
Wind Ensemble
+ *Jazz Band*



The Norwin Play It Forward Fund provides financial assistance for students in grades 5-12 in the Norwin School District's Instrumental Music Programs to afford private music lessons & summer music camp experiences. For more information, visit <http://norwinplayitforwardfund.org/>

Eighth Grade Band

Flute

* Alissa Brown # +
Catherine Bonnar
Katherine Dansak
Margaret Fite #
Piper Gorman
Brianna Hatok
Emily Hinchberger
Madison Jackson # +
Jessica Kessler
Alivia Leonard
Juliana Marflak
Jenna McGuinness #
Elizabeth Nicholson
Isabella Penrose # +
Olivia Posgay #
Makenna Puskar #
Madison Ruffin
Carly Sedlock
Shawna Sinchak +
Stephanie Stanley

Oboe

Olivia Knoechel

Clarinet

* Michelle Bojalad
Jenna Bernard
Kourtney Byers #
Jessica Bushik
Alaha Crutchfield
Jasella Davis
Gianna Disso #
Grace Fischer #
Alayna Francis
Jonna Gilarski
Victoria Hua # +
Julie Kevicki #
Taylor Lutz
Derek McCully
Maya Naponic
Alina Nestlerode
Zachary Palmieri
Taylor Podob
Isabella Recker
Colten Wobrak

Alto Saxophone

* Traye Geissler # +
Abby Burtnett
Robert Chappell
Angelica Davila
William Dillner
Matthew Falk
Carson Handra
Sebastian Rosado-Guindin
Nathan Safko +
Joseph Secosky # +
Sukhkaran Singh
Luke Weyandt

Tenor Saxophone

Anthony Barle # +

Baritone Saxophone

Joseph Zaradzki +

Trumpet

* Reese Pulkownik # +
Gabriel Anthony
Lucas Baer
Dominick Busato
Logan Clair
Ryan Dean
Christopher Fraser
Micah Gaydos # +
Logan Harhai
Adam Hathaway
Conner Henning
Alexander Hunn
James Kalb
William McCabe +
Nathan Petranka # +
Dylan Sacco # +
Quinn Thomas

Horn

Mallory Richel # +
Chase Rigo # +

Trombone

* Grace Heuer # +
Gavin Halloran
Nickolas Harris #
John Hill
Nicholas Hunn #
Shawn Kells
Mitch Kenney
Caden Kolb
Willem Neubert
Jacob Watson

Euphonium

Nathan Kanczes* #
Jacob Clark
Noah Harris

Tuba

Abigail Davis # +

Percussion

* Evan Blenko # +
Natalie Bown
Ella Cardiff #
Sarah Coll
Gabe Dunlap
Nick Dutka
Brayden Habarka
Cassandra Harris #
Brady Lackey
Joe Leonard
RJ Marcoz #
Andrew Marflak
Sara Matz #
Alex Redmond
Cole Seibert
Brooke Smarick #
Tyler Smurphat

Jazz Rhythm Section

Jake Capets, piano +
Betsy Szymanski, bass +
Rebecca Testa, guitar +

Special thanks to...

The parents of all the students
represented tonight for
supporting Fine Arts
Education

Our student musicians
Norwin School District
Board of Education
William H. Kerr, Ed.D.,
Superintendent of Schools

Timothy J. Kotch, Sr.,
Asst. Superintendent
Dr. Natalie A. McCracken,
Asst. Superintendent
and the Norwin School
District Administration

Norwin Faculty and Staff
Michael D. Choby, Principal
Joseph V. Shigle, III,
Assistant Principal

Timothy P. McCabe,
Assistant Principal
and the Norwin H.S.
Administration

Debbie Depp, Mary Rorabaugh,
and the Norwin H.S. Staff

Mr. Robert Suman, Principal

Mr. Troy Collier,
Assistant Principal
and the Norwin M.S.
Administration & Staff

Mr. Brian O'Neil, Principal

Ms. Lisa Banasick,
Assistant Principal
and the Hillcrest Intermediate
School Administration & Staff

Todd Leighty and the
Auditorium Production Team
Mr. Evanov and the stage crew
Pat Geiger, Jim Dezorzi and the
Norwin Maintenance
and Custodial Staff

Ushers and Volunteers
The Norwin Music Department

Michael Szymanski
Tim Daniels

Brandon Kandrack
Ross Cohen
Ian Morrison

Devon Lippmann
Bridget Faulk

Lauren McCurdy
Elizabeth Stephens
Fred King

Lynn Spiegel
Greg Ondayko

Norwin Band Aides, especially
Bill Bojalad, President
Heather Horton,
Vice President

Ann Kratzenberg, Secretary
Kevin Horton, Treasurer
Missy Davis, Asst. Treasurer
Kathleen Heuer,
concert program design

Tonight's Selections

Seventh Grade Gold Band

Liturgical Fanfare. Robert W. Smith
Frosty the Snowman Walter Rollins/Steven Nelson

Seventh Grade Blue Band

Courtly Dance and Procession. Brian Balmages
Jingle Bells James Pierpont, arr. Ross Cohen

Jazz Band

April in Paris Vernon Duke, arr. Rick Stitzel
Sonny Moon for Two. Sonny Rollins, arr. Paul Murtha

Wind Ensemble

Afterburn. Randall Standridge
Twilight is Falling. Robert W. Smith

Eighth Grade Band

Falcon Fanfare. Brian Balmages
Of Gentle Spirit William Owens
And to All a Good Night. Andy Clark

Seventh Grade Blue Band

Flutes

Shannon Daley #
Sadie Farrah
Amina Nazarei
Olivia Swager

Clarinets

Aubrey Biedrycki
Molly Campbell
Jacqueline Chen
Aidan Gilbert
Amelia Heit
Makenzie Krance
Savannah Long
Kinsey Momeyer
Alessia Sandala
Laura Shuster

Saxophones

Zachary Corlazzoli
Joseph Ferrari
Kaitlyn Frye
Brady Johnson
Matthew Morrow
Brett Myers

Trumpets

Andres Breauchy
Jack Chaney # +
Sam Kodrin
Timothy McCabe
Ryan Mesko
Josiah Pastories
Tyler Przybylski +
Zachary Rymarowicz
Elijah Sloan
Nathaniel
Szwecki-Mazzoni
Nicholas Urda
Abby Wisniewski

Horns

Lindsey Halpern
Anna Little # +

Euphoniums

Zachary Bolton
Joseph Fitzgerald

Percussion

Tyler Artim
Lucian Bokin
Sean Criner
Kaleb Eddy
Collin Gunzberger
Jordan Guy
Lloyd Guy
Sean Ludwick
Lucas Mordaunt
Michael Sincak
Brayden Williams

** Principal musician
Wind Ensemble
+ Jazz Band*

**If you won't be taking your program book home,
please recycle it in one of the bins as you leave.
Thank you!**