

## **HOW TO PRACTICE:**

Remember to warm up carefully before opening your book:

Flute players use the head joint.  
Brass players buzz the mouthpiece.  
Reed players wet the reed.

Play long tones- start with easy, comfortable notes. Keep them sweet and steady.

Brass players should practice lip slurs.

Begin tonguing. Make the beginnings of notes clear.

Move slowly from one note to the next- tongue some and slur some.

Practice with a purpose:

Review familiar songs. Strive for perfection. Increase speed gradually when appropriate.

Work on new material. Marking music, clapping rhythms and fingering are some ways to improve. Percussion players should go through the drum parts as well as the bell parts.

Play along with the CD once you feel you have mastered a song.

Think about all the things you've learned in band when you play:  
(Posture, Breathing, Tonguing, Fingerings, Tone Quality, Steady Beat, etc.)

## **WHAT TO PRACTICE: (particularly over the summer)**

Review familiar notes, exercises, and songs before working on new material:

**Be sure that you can play EVERY LINE in the book that we've practiced in class.**

Don't just play your favorites over and over again. Work on the ones you haven't played as much, too! This is your chance to really improve. Don't just mess around- get better!

Learn some new notes on your own (use your fingering chart). Find the note that you think has the sweetest tone, and try to get all the others to sound as nice.

Learn new songs using the PROCESS FOR LEARNING NEW MUSIC!

**HAVE FUN!**