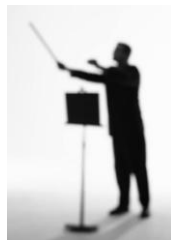




Philomath High School Bands

HANDBOOK

Excellence in Music Education



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

CLASSROOM RULES	4
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS	4
<i>Wind Ensemble (Coming soon to PHS)</i>	4
<i>Symphonic Band</i>	4
<i>Concert Band (returning soon)</i>	5
<i>Jazz Band</i>	5
<i>Marching Band (Football Season)</i>	5
<i>Basketball Pep Band</i>	6
ATTENDANCE POLICY	6
PRACTICE VS. PERFORMANCE	6
GRADING POLICY	7
<i>Credit Denial</i>	7
<i>OSAA Activities Policies</i>	8
UNIFORMS	8
<i>Wind Ensemble</i>	8
<i>Symphonic Band</i>	8
<i>Concert Band</i>	9
<i>Jazz Band</i>	9
BAND LETTERING REQUIREMENTS	9

Dear Philomath Band Member:

This handbook has been written for the Philomath High School Band members and their parents in order to provide information regarding the various policies and procedures of the program. You will find forms at the back of this handbook, which must be filled out completely and returned as quickly as possible so that I might have emergency medical information as we begin to practice. This handbook is quite lengthy to read. Please call with any questions or concerns you may have. It is very important that this handbook is kept and used during the year. A calendar of events is located on my teacher resource page: http://www.philomath.k12.or.us/phs/staff/johnson_d.php Establishing a calendar that is 100% accurate early in the year is difficult, and thus will be notified of any changes as the school year progresses. We will all need to be flexible in the event of changes the school or the district may make.

The band program at Philomath High School is a collection of **performance-based classes**. They are not extra-curricular, but are co-curricular. Many of the rehearsals and performances are outside of the school day; the students' grades and credit for the class are based on their attendance and participation in these activities as well as their class work during the school day. The band is a large, colorful, visible, and thus important segment of the school. The performances of the students at sporting events, assemblies, concerts, parades, and contests add a great deal to Philomath High School and our community. It is possible, by setting your schedule in a reasonable manner and by managing your time efficiently, to be in the program and still maintain a high scholastic standing as well as take part in many of the extra-curricular activities that Philomath High School has to offer. Being in the Philomath High School Band Program will greatly enrich your school experience through taking part in concerts, festivals, field trips and marching band.

The emphasis of the band program is two-fold. **MUSICIANSHIP** - essential to a successful band as well as **PRIDE**. Students should take pride in the job they are doing during each rehearsal, class period, public performance, and even during home practice. Achieved through hard work, the pride of a job well done is what makes our efforts worthwhile. The adoption of a positive attitude will allow the band's level of musicianship to grow and contribute to a musically successful year. Always remember that we can excel only to the level of our weakest member.

Sincerely,

Dr. J

Dan Johnson
Director of Bands
Philomath High School

CLASSROOM RULES

1. Be Ready
2. Be Responsible
3. Be Respectable
4. Be Safe

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

To be a member of any performing organization at Philomath High School you must be a member of the **WHOLE**. For example, you cannot be in the Winter Drum-line without being registered in a band class. Each band is a full year course and it is expected that students participate for the entire year.

WIND ENSEMBLE (COMING SOON TO PHS)

Prerequisite: Teacher Approval
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Length: Year Long

This all-level full-year course will be the most advanced band at Philomath. Repertoire includes the most demanding and rewarding wind literature suitable for very accomplished players. This group performs often, both at school and in regional and state contests. Weekly section rehearsals are mandatory, and thus part of the class. The sectional times are as follows: Woodwinds (Monday); Percussion (Wednesday); and Brass (Thursday). All sectionals will start 5 minutes after the lunch bell rings. A tardy or absence to a sectional is just like a tardy or absence to any class, and must be excused through the attendance office. Admission into the Wind Ensemble is by audition and consent of Mr. Johnson. Participation in marching band is required to be in this class.

SYMPHONIC BAND

Prerequisite: Teacher Approval
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Length: Year Long

The Symphonic Band is a performance-based class giving approximately three to five formal concerts each year as well as performing at the district high school band festival. This ensemble challenges the student's musical abilities through performance of some of the newest high school band literature being written today. Participation in marching/ pep band is required to be in this class.

CONCERT BAND (RETURNING SOON)

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Year Long

This course offers students the opportunity to fine tune musical skills and meet the technical challenges of their instruments through exposure to quality band literature. Students enrolled in Concert Band have the option to participate in marching band.

JAZZ BAND

Prerequisite: Teacher Approval

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Year Long

Period: Zero

This group is for the music student who wishes to further their musical vocabulary through the study of jazz music. Jazz Band meets Monday-Thursday 7:10-7:55am. Membership in this class is attained through audition. Members of the jazz band must make every attempt to enroll in a Philomath High School music class. The jazz band performs at concerts each year at Philomath High School, as well as numerous festivals around the area. Students must be flexible and committed to be in these organizations. Participation in marching/pep band is required to be in this class.

MARCHING BAND (FOOTBALL SEASON)

The Philomath Marching Band (PMB) will be the most visible component of the Philomath Band Program. The PMB will travel and compete against other high school marching bands at competition. This group also performs at ALL home football games and enhances school pride among the home crowd. PMB members (including color guard) must stay for the ENTIRE game and will be dismissed after all uniforms and equipment has been put away. Marching band is an extension of the Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band classes, and is thus co-curricular, NOT extra-curricular. Marching band factors in to the course grade for first semester Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band. A tardy or absence to a marching band rehearsal or performance is just like a tardy or absence to any class, and must be excused through the attendance office.

All students must have a 1" three ring binder to store their show music and drill. Plastic sheet protectors are suggested. Students will be provided with music and drill during band camp. Color Guard members must have a 6-foot long flag bag to carry their flags.

BASKETBALL PEP BAND

The Philomath Basketball Band performs at selected boys and girls home basketball games in addition to occasional school pep assemblies. Members must wear their pep band shirt to every game.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Membership in the Philomath High School Band carries with it the responsibility of attendance at all rehearsals and performances. The majority of the band student's grade is based on participation at rehearsals and performances. Band is a performance-based class. Members must attend all public performances (parades, sporting events, concerts, contests, and festivals) and come prepared with instrument and music, in uniform, and ready to work. **Please understand that there is an impact on the band when even one student is missing from a rehearsal or performance.** Unfortunately there are occasions when a student must miss a rehearsal or a performance. Please contact Mr. Johnson no later than one week prior to the pre-arranged absences. Every student must do their best to attend functions when events are given to us at the last minute and are not on the calendar. Band members will be notified of performance dates with enough time to arrange work schedules. Thus, absences or tardies due to work will NOT be excused. **All tardies and absences from a class OR class related event must be excused through the attendance office.**

When a student has a scheduling conflict between **two school activities** it is vital that teachers, coaches and parents are aware WELL in advance. Ideally, we (parents, coaches and teachers) will find a way for you to attend both functions, or at least part of both functions. A teacher from another class is NOT permitted to excuse you from any rehearsal-use your time wisely- plan ahead to avoid conflicts!

PRACTICE VS. PERFORMANCE

- If you have a band rehearsal and a basketball game, you should go to the game
- If there is a band performance and a track practice, you should go to the performance
- In the event a choice must be made neither teacher should penalize the student. The parents and the student NOT the teacher/coach will have the final say.

Think of a band performance as a final exam; there really is no way to make it up. Any **unexcused absences** will result in a loss of two full letter grades. Three **unexcused tardies** will result in detention. Missing two or more performances without prior written notification will result in removal from the registered band course. If a student is removed from a performance due to inappropriate behavior or attire, the student's final grade will be lowered by one full letter grade.

GRADING POLICY

Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and Jazz Band

Grading the concert bands are based on the following criteria:

1. Attendance at rehearsals, concerts, and games
2. Playing tests
3. Classroom participation, preparation and behavior (double points)
4. Semester finals playing and written (double points)
5. PE

Example:

Playing test #1	80%
Playing test #2	85%
Performance #1	100%
Performance #2	100%
Final Playing Test	80% (x2)
Class Participation	90 % (x2)

Student's final grade would be: 88%.

A student will lose classroom participation points for poor citizenship. Your ability to play your instrument well is affected by poor behavior and disrupting the rehearsal. You can't possibly play well if you are fooling around or not concentrating during rehearsal. You also prevent others from getting the most out of class.

CREDIT DENIAL

A student will be denied credit if the total number of unexcused absences reaches six (6) in a trimester. Four unexcused tardies are counted as one unexcused absence. Absences identified as —U|| count towards credit denial.

OSAA ACTIVITIES POLICIES

A student participating in a school sponsored activity shall have a 2.0 GPA, receive a passing grade in all classes, and be enrolled in 4 classes at PHS.

Teacher reporting periods are at the half and end of each trimester.

These rules apply to anyone participating in a school sponsored club or activity.

A student participating in a school sponsored activity receiving an “I” (incomplete) for the regular teacher reporting term will have two weeks to make up the —incomplete “I” and obtain a passing grade.

If, after the two weeks, the “I” (incomplete) is not a passing grade, the student/athlete will be either on academic probation or declared ineligible for the remaining grading period.

Students dropping a class after the initial six (6) weeks of the class will be held accountable for their grade at the drop date (PHS Student Handbook).

Special circumstances will be handled by the building Principal.

UNIFORMS

WIND ENSEMBLE

Ladies and Gentlemen

Gentlemen: Black Tuxedo, white tux blouses, black full length tie, black full-backed vest, black shoes (non-tennis), and black socks.

Ladies: Black Formal dress (ordered through school).

SYMPHONIC BAND

Ladies

Black skirts or slacks, white tux blouses, black full-backed vest, black full length tie, black dress shoes, and black socks or nylons.

Gentlemen

Black dress slacks, white tux shirt, black full-backed vest, black full length tie, black dress shoes (non-tennis), and black socks.

CONCERT BAND

Ladies

Black skirts or slacks, white tux blouses, black cummerbund, black bow tie, clean black dress shoes, and black socks.

Gentlemen

White tux shirt, black dress pants, black cummerbund, black bow tie, clean black shoes, and black socks.

If you need help finding concert dress items, go to Mr. Formal and tell them that you are from Philomath and your specific needs. Please be sure to make your purchases as soon as possible, as not all items will be in stock and will need to be ordered.

JAZZ BAND

Ladies

Black dress shirt (blouse), black skirt or slacks, clean black shoes, and black socks.

Gentlemen

Black slacks, black buttoned shirt, tie, black socks, and clean black shoes.

BAND LETTERING REQUIREMENTS

See my teacher website at: http://www.philomath.k12.or.us/phs/staff/johnson_d.php