

Grimsley High School

Band Handbook

2011-2012

From the Director:

Welcome to the Grimsley High School Band program. We expect this year's GHS Bands to carry on the rich tradition of musical excellence that has been the trademark of Grimsley High School over the last century.

This handbook has been written to introduce new members and veterans to the new operating procedures that will be implemented this year and to serve as a reference on policies and expectations throughout the year. In this handbook you will find information on all aspects of the band program, including the organizational structure of the bands, schedules, conduct, attendance policies, equipment, fundamentals of marching, and the Band Boosters.

It is our hope that everyone will adopt the following as their personal philosophy:

- 1) Do your best.
- 2) Respect others.
- 3) Have a good time.
- 4) Be flexible.

If we all strive to make these principles part of our personal philosophy then it is quite possible that this year's band experience will be one of the highlights of your life.

Welcome aboard--and GO WHIRLIES!!!

Dr. Stefan Stuber
Director of Bands
Grimsley High School

Organization of the Grimsley Band Program

The Grimsley Band program includes the Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Concert Band I, Concert Band II, and the Jazz Band. Please note that the Student Registration Guide provided by the Guilford County Schools lists additional band classes, but registration at Grimsley is limited to one of four options: Concert Band I, Concert Band II, Wind Ensemble, Honors Band Wind Ensemble or Jazz Band. Wind Ensemble and Honors Wind Ensemble are actually the same class, but registering for Honors credit involves doing additional assignments. The Marching Band is comprised of all members of the Concert Bands.

Marching Band: Any student who is enrolled in Concert Band I, Concert Band II, and Wind Ensemble is required to be a member of the Grimsley Marching Band. The only band students who are exempted from Marching Band are those who are enrolled in the Jazz Band or those who are members of the football team, cheerleading squad, or Flag Corps. Students who play non-marching instruments will be provided with percussion instruments to play. While Marching Band entails attending summer camp, evening rehearsals, and football games, the performances and camaraderie are well worth the time commitment.

Concert Band I: Concert Band I is what is called "Freshman" band and includes all freshman who do not make Wind Ensemble.

Concert Band II: Concert Band I is a non-audition group of upperclassmen with an "open door" policy for membership.

Wind Ensemble: Membership in Concert Band II is determined by audition in the spring. Even those who are in the band will be re-auditioned for seating. Auditions for rising freshmen will occur during the month of April. Auditions are done one on one with the director and the auditioning student. Audition materials include scales/chromatic, a prepared piece of the student's choice, and sight-reading. Students should select a piece which adequately displays their playing ability from both a musical as well as technical standpoint. (Central District Solos are appropriate for auditioning.)

Honors Wind Ensemble: Honors Wind Ensemble can be taken for honors credit, but only twice. Receiving honors credit involves a more extensive involvement in band, with the requirements including that the student attend four concerts (two each semester) and create type-written reviews of the concerts. (All

concert reviews must be pre-approved by the director.) In addition, honors students are required to participate in both the all-county and all-district auditions, be tested on all 12 major and minor scales, be involved in at least one solo/ensemble performance, and complete two additional assignments from the “grab bag” of assignments listed in Appendix B. Students enrolled for honors credit are also expected to assume and maintain leadership roles within the band and set a good example to others with their behavior and attitude.

Jazz Band: Membership in Jazz Band is determined by audition in the spring. Auditions for Jazz Band will include prepared pieces in a variety of styles, as well as scales and sight-reading. Students in Jazz Band are strongly encouraged to take private instruction.

Band Schedule

Marching Band: Marching Band season runs from mid-August until the end of football season. Members of the Marching Band are required to attend Grimsley's Marching Band Camp, which is scheduled for the final full week of summer vacation. The camp typically runs all day, from 8:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, with freshmen also required to attend an introductory day on the Saturday before camp begins. Once the school year starts, Marching Band rehearsals are usually scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 throughout the football season. The Marching Band plays at all home football games, plus there is the possibility of attending a local away game--and periodically the football team extends the marching season by making the playoffs.

Concert Bands: The Concert Bands and Jazz Band rehearse during their respective class periods during the school day. In addition, an evening rehearsal may be scheduled before each of the concert performances. The school's Concert and Jazz Bands perform three major concerts yearly: a Winter Concert during the second week of December, a Pre-Contest Concert the second week of March, and the Spring Concert at the end of May. A "general" Central District concert schedule of annual events is provided on the following page.

Jazz Band: In addition to the three major joint concerts with the Concert Bands described above, the Jazz Band typically performs for the community in a variety of venues.

Band Trip

All Grimsley band students are encouraged to participate in the annual band trip. Destinations vary from year to year with recent trips including the Bahamas, Disney World, and Atlanta. Each trip includes at least one, usually adjudicated, performance. Besides providing the students with the chance to play, and be judged, in a completely different venue, the trips also give the students the opportunity to explore interesting places together and so become a more cohesive group. Fundraisers organized by the Grimsley band parents' organization, the Band Boosters, offer the students and their parents the opportunity to raise some or all of the cost of the trip. In addition, students who need financial aid are advised to apply for scholarships through the school.

Central District Calendar of Events

The following schedule includes a general outline of district events as well as major dates for Grimsley that are consistent from year to year.

Mid-August	Marching Band Camp
September (2nd week)	Central District Bandmasters Assoc. Meeting
November (2nd week)	NC Music Educator's Conference in W-S
December (2nd week)	Annual Holiday Concert (all bands)
January (1st week)	All-District Band Auditions
January (last weekend)	All-District Band Clinic
February (3rd week)	Jazz Band Contest
March (1st weekend)	All-State Honors Band Auditions
March (2nd week)	Pre-Contest Concert
March (2nd - 3rd week)	High School Band Contest
March or April	Annual Spring Trip
April (2nd weekend)	Solo and Ensemble Festival
April (last weekend)	NC All-State Band Clinic
April (all month)	Drum Major, Flag, and Band auditions for
May (1st weekend)	CDBA Fall Meeting
May (last weekend)	Annual Spring Concert
June (2nd weekend)	Graduation Ceremonies

Marching Band

Conduct

All members of the Marching Band are expected at all times to abide by our *Code of Ethics*:

- 1) Do your best
- 2) Respect others
- 3) Have fun

Having fun means having a good time in a positive way, being a part of experiences which will be great to look back on, etc. Do not violate #1 or #2 by irresponsible attention to #3.

The entire football game is considered a performance situation, and all parts of the uniform must be worn properly at all times, unless otherwise specified by the drum majors.

Absolutely no use of drugs or alcohol will be tolerated while you are with the band, either at a performance or rehearsal, or at any time during a trip. Violation of this rule will result in dismissal from the band.

All music performed on the field in a marching drill must be memorized.

Grading and Attendance Policy

Attendance and attitude are the determining factors in earning a grade for marching band. Perfect attendance at all marching band rehearsals and performances is expected from every member. The following are NOT valid excuses for missing marching band:

“I didn’t have a ride.”

“I overslept.”

“My family is going on vacation.”

“I have to study for the SAT.”

“I have to work.”

Attendance at a rehearsal means attendance for the entire length of the rehearsal.

There will be times, hopefully few, when a member must miss a rehearsal or come late. It is the responsibility of the member to request from the director an excused absence or tardy, and the request should be made in advance. Generally, personal illness, family emergencies and religious beliefs are excused. Medical appointments are not excused unless they are emergencies. In any case, be sure to contact Dr. Stuber in advance and in writing.

In addition, an uncooperative attitude will result in a lowering of the grade or expulsion from the band.

Uniforms and Equipment

In addition to a musical instrument, students are directly responsible for taking care of uniforms and equipment required by Marching Band.

Summer Uniform - Students are responsible for purchasing the necessary attire to be used in the early marching season when it is too warm to wear the school-owned uniform. For everyone but percussionists, this consists of: a navy blue Grimsley polo shirt with the band logo on it, white shorts (Bermuda type shorts, not nylon gym shorts), white socks, and white tennis shoes. Percussionists need a white Grimsley polo shirt and navy blue shorts. The shirts, which cost approximately \$15.00, will be ordered by the Band Boosters Uniform Chairperson at the beginning of Band Camp.

Winter Band Uniforms - The marching band uniform for cooler weather consists of a hat, overlay, jacket, pants, black socks, and Dinkles (black marching shoes). The students are required to purchase only the footwear; the shoes, which cost approximately \$24.00, can be ordered through the Band Boosters. The school owns the winter uniforms and will provide students with information during the first few weeks of school about the care and maintenance of uniforms. Students will be loaned a uniform for the year and will be responsible for ensuring the complete uniform is returned in good condition at the end of the year.

Flip Folder - Students are responsible for purchasing a flip folder in order to keep their music together at all times. This allows members to be mobile and play stand music at the football games. Flip folders will not be used on the field for the marching show since this music is memorized in advance; however, flip folders will be allowed on the field for special shows, such as for Homecoming.

Lyre - Students are responsible for purchasing a lyre for their particular instrument; the lyre attaches to the instrument and allows the student to perform outdoors without a music stand.

Name Tags - Each student is required to label his or her instrument and equipment with a name tag.

Rehearsal Procedures

In the early stages, the teaching and learning of drill on the field is a time consuming and complicated task which requires a great deal of cooperation from

each and every member of the band. Typically members are set into an opening position. Then individual sections are given drill instructions that are to be executed in order to march to the next position or set. While individual sections rehearse moving from the opening set to the second set, other sections are given their drill instructions. Drill instructions are always designed to follow the phrasing already implied by the music and should be memorized in relation to the music. In the initial stages of learning a new drill it is inevitable that it will seem a little confusing and even chaotic at times. Drill instructions are often difficult to execute on the first attempt. Practice makes perfect. This is why it is crucially important for band members to maintain discipline by being patient and by keeping talking to a minimum. This saves enormous amounts of time over the long haul and enables section leaders and the director to correct and “clean” the drill.

Another important aspect of running an effective rehearsal is having all members on time. Everyone involved in the drill needs to be in the drill in order for it to be taught and learned correctly. Missing persons create holes within the drill making it difficult for individual sections to compensate for the extra space created by an absent body.

Special Responsibilities

Drum Majors - Drum majors act as assistants to the director. Drum majors are selected by audition at the end of the fall season for the following year and are required to attend a drum majors camp over the summer. The responsibilities of the drum majors include, but are not limited to, helping run rehearsals, warming up the band, teaching marching fundamentals, assisting in musical interpretation and acting as field commanders during shows.

Section Leaders - Section leaders are responsible for a particular section of musicians. They take roll and report to the drum majors on those people in their section who are absent or late for rehearsals and/or performances, and they encourage their section members to try their best in terms of participation and attitude. Section leaders also help set and monitor drill and marching style. Section leaders do not assign responsibilities to other band members that they would not do themselves.

Librarians - The librarians organize, distribute, and collect music from band members.

General Principles of Marching

A glossary including both fundamental marching commands and field marking terms is provided in Appendix A of this manual.

For the most part the band marches at a two step interval. This means there are always two steps between members while moving from one set of drills to another. When set at a two step interval lengthwise on the field, members are set either on the yard line, two steps off, or in between the yard lines (four steps off or exactly in between yard lines). While moving between drill sets members will need to learn how to adjust and maintain this spacing by adjusting to the appropriate step size.

An adjusted step is often used to move from set to set. For example, if one were to march from one yardline to another in eight counts, a regular 22.5 inch step would be used. However, If one were instructed to move from one yard line to another in 16 counts, step size would need to be shortened so that the student reaches the halfway point in exactly 8 counts. Students are able to adjust the step size by visualizing the halfway point between the starting and ending positions.

Drill design is enhanced significantly by what the students do with their bodies, their feet, and their horn angles. Holding the directional instruments above parallel not only enhances the visual impact of a performance, it also improves the overall sound dramatically.

Perhaps our most important fundamental is the ability to achieve visual and rhythmic uniformity, executing the exact same maneuver as a group at the exact same time.

Concert and Jazz Bands

Music and Folders: When music is handed out it becomes the responsibility of the students. Music should be returned in the same condition that it was in when it was distributed. Students should be prepared to replace damaged or lost music at their own expense.

Seating: Seating is initially determined during the auditions conducted in the Spring of the preceding year. This seating is of course subject to change, but will serve as a guide at the beginning of the year for the addition of new people who missed Spring auditions. The initial seating will also be subject to changes which occur as the result of playing tests and challenges given throughout the year.

Challenges: Quite often students are not satisfied with the results of a playing test which determines the seating arrangement and they will desire to challenge the student above them in the ranking in order to improve their given “chair.” Challenges are held after school between 3:45 and 4:00. Other times can also be arranged if agreeable to all those involved. The procedure for challenging is as follows:

- 1) Notify the director that you want to challenge.

- 2) The director will determine what is to be judged during the challenge (scales, portions of the music being played in class, etc.).
- 3) A date for the challenge will be set. Note that challenges cannot be scheduled within the three week period before a concert.
- 4) Two students will judge the challenge. The judging is blind. The director's vote will break ties.
- 5) Failure to show for a challenge forfeits the seat.

Written Tests: At least two written tests are planned during the year in order to obtain reflective thoughts of the band members on a variety of issues concerning the overall program, individual roles within the program, and general thoughts about music and its importance in life and school. These tests are graded as a 100% pass by virtue of participation alone.

Grading: Individual playing tests on scales are administered throughout the year and will affect seating. Tune tests and Rhythm tests are also so given to assess student grades and progress.

Responsibilities: Students are expected to practice their scales, learn their music, and take care of all of their stuff (instrument, music, flip folder, uniform, etc.). They should be on time. They should demonstrate good rehearsal technique by paying attention and being ready to play at a moment's notice. Chewing gum in the Band Room is strictly forbidden at all times.

Students enrolled in band should maintain a consistent practice schedule that involves a regimented and thoughtful routine of good practice habits. For example on a daily basis (*outside of class, every day*) the student should:

- 1) Warm up embouchure and instrument using long tones.
- 2) Play through scales.
- 3) Rehearse technical studies that are germane to one's instrument, e.g. tonguing, flexibility, vibrato, range, lip slurs, articulation, improvising, sight-reading etc.
- 4) Rehearse the music that is being played in band class.
- 5) Rehearse solos for one's instrument. (In addition to anything that is happening in class, each student should **always**--this means **at all times during one's musical career**--be working on some type of solo written for his or her instrument.)
- 6) Periodically check and maintain one's equipment and upgrade when necessary.
- 7) Never leave instruments in the Band Room during extended vacations and/or holidays.

Dress for Concert Band Performances: Male students are required to wear black pants, black shoes and socks, a long-sleeved white shirt, and a black bow tie.

Female students are required to wear a long-sleeved white blouse, a black skirt (mid-calf or ankle length, not short!) or dressy black pants, black hose, and black shoes.

Band Boosters

Grimsley's band parents' organization, the Band Boosters, was formed approximately ten years ago by parents who wanted to enhance the music curriculum and ensure that the students' music experience was as rewarding as possible. Through the years the organization has helped the GHS band program maintain its standing as one of the best in the state.

The Band Boosters organization provides essential support to Grimsley's Band Program in a variety of ways. Several fundraisers are undertaken each year in order to raise money for music, instruments, instrument repairs, uniforms, and many of the other basic needs of the bands. The Band Boosters also provide the manpower which is essential for maintaining uniforms, transporting instruments, chaperoning band functions, communicating information, providing refreshments, organizing get-togethers, producing concert programs, and arranging the annual trip.

Meetings of the Band Boosters are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M. in the Band Room. Information on how you can not only join Band Boosters, but, more importantly, become an involved member, will be sent to you at the beginning of the school year. Please consider serving on the Board or volunteering to help with one of the committees. Executive Board positions include: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Member-at-Large. In addition, the Board is composed of the Chairs of the following committees: Newsletter, Fundraising, Uniforms, Telephone, Chaperones, Hospitality, Membership, Spring Trip, Jazz Coordinator, Equipment, Flag Corps Coordinator, Publicity, Librarian, and Alumni Rep. If you would be willing to serve on the Board, please ask the Band Director for the name of the Boosters President.

Flag Team

The Grimsley Flag Team is an essential part of the Marching Band. Membership is based on try-outs which are held in the spring following a week of after-school practices. Like Marching Band, being a member of the Flag Team requires a major commitment, but the performances and camaraderie are worth the time and effort.

Schedule

The Flag Team's season runs from mid-August until the end of football season, with the addition of a week of Summer Flag Camp. The team performs at all home football games, plus there is the possibility of attending a local away game--and the season may be extended if the football team makes the playoffs.

Members are required to attend the Grimsley Marching Band Camp which is held during the last full week of summer vacation, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. After school starts, Flag Practices are held every Monday from 5:30 to 7:00 P.M., and, if needed, on Wednesdays from 3:45 to 5:00 P.M. and Fridays from 6:00 to 7:00 P.M. Members of the Flag Team are also expected to attend Marching Band practices which are held Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. throughout the marching season.

The Flag Team accompanies the band on its annual trip in the spring. (See page).

Conduct

All members of the Flag Team are expected to demonstrate dedication to the team, show respect for other team members and the Captains and the Coach at all times, and abide by all school rules during practices and performances. Inappropriate behavior will warrant a warning; a second instance of inappropriate behavior will result in benching for the next performance. Examples of unacceptable behaviors include: chewing gum, talking during instruction, yelling to friends walking by, disrupting practice in any way, or using disrespectful language or gestures. Members must always remember that when they are in uniform they are representing Grimsley to the community and so are expected to behave in a dignified manner.

Attendance Policy

The purpose of practice is to learn and perfect the basic skills and combinations for the next performance. It is expected that members will attend every scheduled practice, on time, or have a valid excuse for missing or being tardy. The full time allotted for each practice will be used. If the team is ready for the next show ahead of schedule and the Captains or Coach deem the next practice unnecessary, members will receive prior notice of the schedule change.

Communication is the key. Members are expected to take responsibility for notifying the Coach or Captains of any scheduling conflicts. Advance notice is required whenever possible, although it is understood that unexpected events may necessitate after-the-fact approvals, which will be based on written notification from a responsible party.

Absences

Excused Absences: Absences may be excused for medical reasons, emergencies, test make-ups, tutoring, classes, work (if a work schedule is provided), or any reasons which are deemed acceptable by the school's attendance policy. Absences should be approved prior to a practice or performance; in the event of an unexpected absence, a written note is required afterwards. There is no penalty for an excused absence, but it is the responsibility of the team member, on her own time, to make up the missed work with the Coach or Captains and to demonstrate she has made up the work and is capable of performing in the next show.

Unexcused Absences: When a member is absent without prior notice or without a reasonable excuse, she will be benched for the next show. The member is still expected to dress-out for the game, march into and out of the stadium with the team, and support the team throughout the event.

Tardies

Practices begin promptly at the designated times; tardiness will be handled as follows:

Excused Tardies: Tardies should be approved ahead of time by the Captains or Coach whenever possible. Unexpected tardies must be followed by a note. Members should attempt to arrive as quickly as possible and not disrupt practice upon their arrival. There is no penalty for an excused tardy, but the team member is expected to make up, on her own time, any work missed and demonstrate to the Captains or Coach that she is ready to perform in the next show.

Unexcused Tardies: When no prior notice is provided and there is no reasonable excuse for a member's lateness, the member is still expected to join practice in a non-disruptive manner, without any arguments. The penalty for being 5 minutes late is doing 60 right drop spins and 60 left drop spins. For every minute after the 5 minutes, the member must do 10 speed spins. In addition, the member receives an official warning about benching, which will be carried out according to the following rules:

- Unexcused tardiness of more than 15 minutes counts as ½ absence
- Two tardies in one week counts as ½ absence
- Three tardies in one week results in benching for the next show

Uniforms and Equipment

The Flag Team uniform consists of a white long-sleeved top beneath a black, palazzo pant jumpsuit, black shoes (with no extraneous markings) over black hose or socks. Hair is to be fastened up and away from the face and team members are expected to wear minimal jewelry and make-up so that nothing distracts from the flag performances or band.

The flags and other equipment used are the property of Grimsley. Members are responsible for any equipment assigned to them. Mistreatment of any of the equipment may result in benching or dismissal from the team.

Appendix A: Glossary of Marching Terms

Fundamental Marching Commands

Attention - The command: “Band - Ten - Hut!!!”

Response: “Hit!”

At attention, you do not talk, move, or look around. Feet are together, stand tall with legs straight, but do not lock knees. Your weight should be evenly distributed over both feet, directly through the center of your body. Head is up with the chin slightly above horizontal. Eyes are focused straight ahead. Section leaders and drum majors will assist band members in what exactly to do with their instruments while at attention.

Band Halt - Stops all marching. Command is given in three counts; the next two counts stop all forward movement with a forward step of the right foot which is “planted,” and halting by bringing the left foot even with the right. Members are encouraged to verbalize “one two” in time after the command to coincide with these last two steps.

Band Horns Down - Horns snap to rest position on four of command.

Band Horns Up - Horns snap to playing position on four of the command.

Band Parade Rest - On fourth count, feet are spread to shoulder width apart.

Band Ready Front - Given after Dress Center Dress to ready for the next command.

Detail to the Ready - Means that the command of attention is imminent.

Dress Center Dress - All heads turn down line in order to dress positions within the line.

Forward march - This command is given “in time.” On the fourth beat the students step off the line and begin marching forward with the left foot first on the first count (“one”) after the command.

Backwards march - Exactly like forward march, but marching backwards.

Mark Time march - This command is given “in time.” On the fourth beat of the command students begin marking time starting with the left foot.

Left Flank move - Left or right turns are executed while marching in place and turning to a specified number of counts.

Right Flank march - See left turn march.

Left Flank Move - A 90 degree turn which is executed on the right foot on the fourth count of the command. Therefore the first step in the new direction is a left foot “on one.”

Right Flank Move - Just like the left flank. Also executed by turning 90 degrees to the right in one count on the right foot so that the first step in the new direction is a left foot on count one.

About Turn march - This command is for turning in the opposite direction and is a specified number of counts done by marching and turning in position. (Turns are usually 4 or 8 counts.)

To The Rear march - One count turn to the rear, pivoting on the right foot so that the first step in the opposite direction is a left foot on count one. Always turn to the left unless instructed otherwise.

Instrument Carriage - Each of the various instrument carriages will be explained in detail during band camp. The way in which the instrument is held while in rest position varies for each individual section within the band. Instrument carriage is essential for achieving visual uniformity on the field.

Field Markings

Every football field is marked in a particular way. It is important for each band member to understand how the field is marked in order to easily determine his or her position on the field at any given time. Below is a list of field markings that are important to know and remember.

End zones - The area (approximately 10 yards) after the goal lines on each side of the field.

Goal lines - These lines indicate the “zero” yard line on each end of the field.

Hash marks - Hashes divide the width of the football field into thirds. Using a 22.5 inch step students will discover that there are 28 steps between each third (from the home stands side to the first hash, between hashes, and between the back hash and the visitor stands sideline).

Press Box - The box where the announcer is situated in the center of the home stands.

Sidelines - This is simply the length of the field on the home and visitor sides of the field.

Yard lines - The length of the football field is marked off in yard lines that span five yards each, ascending from each goal line toward the middle of the field which is the 50 yard line. The first yard line from the goal is designated the “five,” and it is followed by the 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50--which is the center of the field.

It is extremely important to understand that when marching across the length of the field members will march “8 to 5.” This is an acquired skill which requires adjusting the size of one’s step. If standing on a given yardline facing a goal line one is given the command of “Forward Harch,” the left foot will take the first step toward the next yard line. The left foot will fall on counts 1,3,5,7 and the right foot will fall on counts 2,4,6,8. This means that the right foot will hit the next yardline on count 8 **BUT** only if the steps are adjusting correctly. Students must concentrate on adjusting their individual step size in order to execute this maneuver correctly. Step sizes are technically 22.5 inches in length.

Appendix B: “Grab Bag” of Additional Assignments

The following list of assignments is for those taking band for honors credit and for those who need to make up time for missed rehearsals or performances.

- 1) Read/Write:** Read an article from the newspaper or one assigned by the director that has to do with some current issue in music or music education. Write a short paper (two pages typed, double-spaced with a 12 point font) describing the content of the article and your reactions, relating it to your own personal experience in some way.
- 2) Special Performance:** Organize and execute a special performance for an audience. The audience can be fellow classmates in an actual band class or the performance can be done outside of school in another venue. The event must be documented with video tape. The type of performance must be agreed upon in advance with the director in order to receive credit.
- 3) Ensemble Critique:** Arrange to critique another section's performance using an ensemble critique form. The critique must be in writing.
- 4) Get the Facts:** Create a word list (of sufficient length) of the musical terminology contained inside and outside the music being performed in class. The list must be typed, and copied for the entire class. This can also be done as a research project using composers instead of musical terminology. Compile a list of various composers and write a short paragraph on each. See director for references.
- 5) Board Duty:** Volunteer to organize equipment in and out of the Band Room. Clean boards, put instruments away, pick up trash, organize chairs and stands, re-file music when needed, etc.
- 6) Insight Spotlight:** Research the actual composers of the music currently being performed in class and create program notes to be read at concerts.
- 7) Progressive Progress:** Choose a musical goal in concert with the director that you are willing to achieve and document progress toward that goal on video. Each practice session involving work on the goal must be videotaped and timed. This will produce a clearly documented record of what was done and how long it took to do it.
- 8) Daily Bugle:** Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper extolling the importance of music in the schools. Be persuasive and passionate when expressing your ideas.
- 9) Selection Section:** Compile and/or create a list of materials (in addition to the one given to you by the director) to be distributed to the members of your section that includes scales, warm-ups, lists of method books, catalogs, solo and ensemble literature, etc.