

2009-2010
MASON HIGH SCHOOL

4TH PERIOD
WIND SYMPHONY HANDBOOK

INTRODUCTION

Since the first performances of wind bands in the United States around 1792, the musical function of Concert Bands has drastically changed. Due to the development of instrumental music programs in secondary schools and the growing repertory of serious wind literature, we now have the opportunity to expand our own individual talents and group performance levels higher than ever before. With this in mind, it is essential that we stress **MUSICAL GROWTH** as the first and primary goal in our approach to the Wind Symphony at Mason High School.

Daily instruction will involve musical fundamentals, sight-reading, chamber music, solo and ensemble music, and preparation of Concert Band literature. All band members will need to prepare accordingly for the demands set before them. **INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE TIME** will become necessary in order to accomplish successful rehearsals **TOGETHER!**

The individual and group achievements this year will be directly related to the quality of daily preparation; **PRACTICE** your part, **WORK TOGETHER**, and constantly **SET HIGHER GOALS!**

PHILOSOPHY OF MUSIC EDUCATION

Music is a fundamental piece of the human experience. This makes music education a necessary endeavor to ensure that the whole child is being educated. To this end, it is the philosophy of the Mason High School Band Program to educate, to the fullest extent, every child enrolled in band. This shall include skill development, cognitive understanding, and aesthetic appreciation for many forms of music from many cultures.

The primary objective of the Mason High School Band Program is to develop the performance, rehearsal, and personal practice skills of each student. Students are expected to have a good work ethic, show consistent progress, and develop goal setting/ achieving skills.

Public performance is viewed as a useful tool to help students achieve success in band. Mason High School band students are provided concert band performance opportunities plus experience in small ensembles and solos.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

- 1) Report to class promptly and prepare for rehearsal. To receive full classroom performance credit, students must have their instrument, proper accessory equipment (such as two working reeds, valve oil, stick bag with mallets and/or sticks), pencil, music, tuner, and anything else deemed essential by the directors.
- 2) Warm-up intelligently, moderate dynamic levels with maturity. Respect the rights and needs of the other band members.
- 3) Four minutes after the tardy bell rings, you should be in your seat, with all music and equipment ready to rehearse.
- 4) All members must be in the performance facility by tardy bell.
- 5) When the conductor steps onto the podium, everyone should cease what they are doing, be quiet, and listen to the directions for the start of the rehearsal. All announcements will be given at the beginning of each class.
- 6) Individual conversations and interruptions during rehearsals are not conducive to our primary goal of **MUSICAL GROWTH**. If you have a question or would like to say something, please raise your hand and you will have the opportunity to express yourself.
- 7) Take time after rehearsals to give your instrument and the music proper care. Neatness and cleanliness are essential in our organization. Please take pride in your facility and make sure everything is in its proper place.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR RULES

- 1) Be on time to class.
- 2) Sit in your assigned seat.
- 3) No gum or food permitted in the performance facilities any time.
- 4) No classroom disruptions during rehearsal time.
- 5) Take care of classroom materials and our facilities.
- 6) Students must have instrument, proper accessory equipment, red pencil, and music for every day of rehearsal.

BREAKING OF THE RULES

- 1) Verbal warning.
- 2) Detention with a student/teacher conference. (All detentions will be served in the band room for one half hour. Students and parents will be notified at least 24 hours in advance.)
- 3) Detention and personal contact with the students' parents.
- 4) Detention and parent/teacher conference. The director may have another music teacher or principal involved in the conference.
- 5) Discipline administration now takes over.

**SEVERE CLAUSE – A STUDENT MAY BE SENT TO THE OFFICE
IF THE DIRECTOR FEELS IT IS NECESSARY.**

FOLLOWING THE RULES

- 1) Enjoyable and fun rehearsal.
- 2) Praise.
- 3) Rewarding concerts and contests.
- 4) An assertive, responsible, and disciplined group.
- 5) Rewarding outside musical experiences.

GRADING

With **MUSICAL GROWTH** as our primary goal, two areas of importance surface when evaluating individual band members.

- 1) **CLASSROOM PERFORMANCE** - musical performance in class, promptness, daily preparation, respect for facility, attitude and discipline (30% of total grade).
- 2) **CONCERT PERFORMANCE** – attendance at and performance in all required concerts and rehearsals (30% of total grade).
 - Concert Performances (including chamber events)
 - Solo & Ensemble Adjudicated Event (all students must take a solo)
 - O.M.E.A. District and State Performances
 - Concert Band Camp
 - Pep Band Performances
 - Memorial Day Parade (marching band members only)
 - Community Performances
 - Sectional and Dress Rehearsals
- 3) **PERFORMANCE TESTING** - Testing of wind music-fundamentals of music (written, and aural).
 - Scale Jury-major scales up to seven flats and seven sharps, quarter note equals 120 beats per minute using rhythm pattern(s) established by the band directors.
 - Testing of wind music-fundamentals of music (written and aural).
- 4) **SEMESTER EXAM** - Playing/Written Final (10% of total grade)
- 5) **HONORS CRITERIA** -
 - 1) Prepare and perform an O.M.E.A. class A, B, or C small ensemble piece and an O.M.E.A. class A, B, or C solo to the standard of O.M.E.A. criteria of tone quality, intonation, technique, dynamics, phrasing, interpretation, and overall impression. (Juniors)
 - 2) Prepare and perform an O.M.E.A. class A or B, small ensemble piece and an O.M.E.A. class A or B, solo to the standard of O.M.E.A. criteria of tone quality, intonation, technique, dynamics, phrasing, interpretation, and overall impression. (Seniors)
 - 3) Write and play all major and minor scales, quarter note equals 120 beats per minute using rhythm pattern(s) established by the band directors.
 - 4) Prepare music for District XIII Honor Band Auditions.
 - 5) Create a written document or presentation, (i.e.: Power Point, or dramatization) addressing one or more of the following (Seniors)
 - a) musical period, b) composer c) musical style, d) musical form, e) major work,
 - f) analyzation of a musical composition.
 - 6) Attendance and critique of one collegiate or professional performance per trimester (Concert Critique). Students must identify theme, programming, musical elements, and presentation. (Juniors and Seniors)
 - 7) Ten hours of community music service/experience. (Seniors)

** 60% of your total grade will be a combination of performance opportunities and by how well you play your Concert, Solo and Ensemble, and contest literature. PLEASE NOTE: You must receive a grade of a “B” or better on all of your music. In addition, if a performance or rehearsal is missed without director approval, your grade will be affected based on the percentage designated. In rare occasions, a written musical assignment might be assigned to replace a performance or rehearsal that was missed.

CONCERT ATTENDANCE

Concert attendance is mandatory. All members are expected to play in all scheduled performances dressed in proper concert attire (see Concert Attire). Students are to arrive at the performance venue at least forty-five minutes before the concert starts to tune and warm up.

Performance attendance is equal to 30% of a student's grade in band. An unexcused absence from a performance will result in a failing grade for that portion of their average. Absences are unexcused except in emergency cases or personal illness. Any school activity conflict must be worked out between the advisors (including the band director), student and parents at least three weeks in advance. The student has the responsibility to inform the band director immediately when the conflict is discovered.

In the event of an excused absence, the student may receive the full 30% performance grade credit by bringing in a letter (in emergency/illness cases) upon their return to school, signed by the student's parents explaining the reason for their absence. The director may call for further verification. In addition, students with excused absences must attend a professional or collegiate concert and write a 2-3 page paper on their observations to receive full credit. Just as a student who is sick the day of a major test is allowed to make up the test, so is a student who is absent the day of a performance. For unexcused absences no make up opportunity is given.

CONCERT CRITIQUE

The purpose of the Concert Critique is to communicate the student's feelings and impressions about musical performances, to become a musically literate person, to listen critically, and to help develop attitudes, feelings, and make intelligent decisions concerning different types of musical performances. The Band Member will be required to attend and write a critique on their impressions of a live musical performance, collegiate or professional, not connected with the Mason Music Department.

TRIMESTER TESTING DATES

- A. FIRST TRIMESTER PERIOD August 27 – November 19
Playing and written evaluations will be done throughout the 1st trimester.
- B. SECOND TRIMESTER PERIOD November 23 – March 5
Playing and written evaluations will be done throughout the 2nd trimester.
- C. THIRD TRIMESTER PERIOD March 9 – June 9
Playing and written evaluations will be done throughout the 3rd trimester.

SEATING AND CHALLENGES

Through the scheduled music testing sessions in class, any student may move up or down within each section according to how well they perform their music. All testing will be done by the directors with results posted the day after the students play. Should anyone wish to schedule a music challenge, he/she should contact the director and schedule a time during trimester testing weeks. PLEASE NOTE: Students who opt to challenge in this manner must have a current grade of “B” or better in order to qualify. Challenges will involve sight-reading and/or Wind Symphony literature.

PERFORMANCE DRESS

- WOMEN-** Black dress (purchased from the boosters - \$65.00)
Pearls (purchased from boosters - \$10.00)
Tan or black hose
Solid black shoes

- MEN-** Tux (rented from the band - \$35.00)
Tux shirt (purchased from the boosters - \$15.00)
Solid black socks
Solid black dress shoes

SECTIONAL REHEARSALS

Starting in August, students will be required to attend sectional rehearsals. Each sectional will last approximately one hour and a half. Sectionals will deal with the very fine details of music (musicality, range, intonation, specifics on various instruments, and limiting during various music passages). **ALL SECTIONALS ARE MANDATORY.**

SCHEDULED PERFORMANCES AND DRESS REHEARSALS
2009-2010 SEASON

October 09	Written Senior Proposal (must have individual meeting completed)
October 27	Concert (7:00PM)
November 13	1st Trimester Concert Critique Due Date
December 05	Honor Band Audition Day (8:30AM-4:00PM)
December 14	Band Concert (7:00PM)
January 08	Concert Band Camp (5:00-10:00PM)
January 09	Concert Band Camp (10:00-9:00PM)
January 10	Concert Band Camp Performance (1:30-3:00PM)
January 15-17	District XIII Honor Band
February 06	Solo and Ensemble Adjudicated Event (All Day)
February 24	Concert Dress Rehearsal (6:00-9:00PM)
February 25	Group and Individual Picture Day (5:00PM-7:00PM)
February 25	2nd Trimester Concert (7:00PM)
February 26	2nd Trimester Concert Critique Due Date
March 11	District Contest Dress Rehearsal (6:00PM-9:00PM)
March 12	OMEA District Contest (Selected Time)
April 30	10 hours MUSIC community service/Senior Project
April 29	State Contest Dress Rehearsal (6:00PM-9:00PM)
April 30-May 01	OMEA State Contest (Selected Time)
May 14	3rd Concert Critique and Senior Project Due Date
May 19	Concert Dress Rehearsal (6:00-9:00PM)
May 20	3rd Trimester Concert (6:00PM)
May 27-31	Possible New York Trip
TBD	Graduation (Includes all WS and New WS students)
TBD	Chamber Night and Movie Concert Night

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

It is the policy of the Mason Music Department to provide this information regarding the finances of the performing organization. If there is a problem in meeting any of the commitments explained in this section, please feel free to contact Mr. Robert Bass at 398-2798 ext. 30271.

This section of the handbook explains the expenses of being in Instrumental Music during 1st, 2nd, and 3rd trimesters. Expenses include such things school band fees, which includes clinicians, award ceremonies, supplies, as well as contest fees. In addition there are costuming fees i.e. tux rental, dress purchase etc. It is necessary for each student to realize these expenses and be willing to help support their band and the entire instrumental program.

The Mason Booster Organization is a parent booster organization that assists each of the music students in meeting their financial obligations and therefore their success as a student in the Mason Music Program. The purpose of the Booster Organization is to take charge of fund-raisers so that additional finances can be raised to pay for needed items. Those additional monies pay for social events and awards for the students.

SCHOOL FEES

Concert band fees are charged with all other school fees and paid to Mason City Schools.

The members of Wind Symphony help support the band budget for the 2009-2010 school year. Each student is responsible to pay \$45.00 school band fees plus gentleman also pay a \$35 tux rental fee to Mason City School. The band fee covers a portion of solo and ensemble, method book, and Concert Band Camp costs.

Ladies - \$45

Gentlemen - \$45 + \$35 tux rental = \$80

APPAREL PURCHASES

All apparel is purchased through the Mason Band Boosters.

Ladies will purchase a black dress for \$65.00 and pearls for \$10 from the boosters.

Gentlemen will purchase a tux shirt for \$15 from the boosters.

(If you already have a tux shirt or dress/pearls from being in one of the other Mason ensembles from last year you do not need to repurchase them. These items are the same style.) The boosters will notify each class when they will be fitted for their apparel. Payment must be received by the boosters before apparel is distributed.

WIND SYMPHONY FOLDER ASSIGNMENTS

Oboe I		01
Oboe II		02
English Horn		03
Flute I	(01)	04
Flute I	(02)	05
Flute II	(01)	06
Flute II	(02)	07
Clarinet I	(01)	08
Clarinet I	(02)	09
Clarinet II	(01)	10
Clarinet II	(02)	11
Clarinet III	(01)	12
Clarinet III	(02)	13
Alto Clarinet		14
Bass Clarinet	(01)	15
Bass Clarinet	(02)	16
Contra-Bass Clarinet		17
Bassoon I		18
Bassoon II		19
Alto Sax I	(01)	20
Alto Sax I	(02)	21
Alto Sax II	(01)	22
Alto Sax II	(02)	23
Tenor Sax		24
Baritone Sax		25
Cornet I	(01)	26
Cornet I	(02)	27
Cornet II	(01)	28
Cornet II	(02)	29
Cornet III	(01)	30
Cornet III	(02)	31
Trumpet I & II		32
French Horn I		33
French Horn II		34
French Horn III		35
French Horn IV		36
Trombone I	(01)	37
Trombone II	(01)	38
Bass Trombone		39
Euphonium	(01)	40
Euphonium	(02)	41
Tuba I	(01)	42
Tuba I	(02)	43
Tuba II	(01)	44
Percussion I		51
Percussion II		52
Percussion III		53
Percussion IV		54
Timpani		55
Piano		56

Private Lessons 2009-2010

Half hour private lessons are offered to band students in the Mason City Schools. Lessons are taught by an outstanding staff of professional performer/teachers and are scheduled Monday through Friday after school and evenings at either Mason High School, Mason Middle School, or at the instructors' private studio.

The band directors in the Mason City Schools agree private lessons are the most effective way for young musicians to fully develop their performing talents. Private teachers help students develop tone quality, technique, musical style, practice discipline and preparation for solos, playing tests and auditions. The lessons use a combination of explanation and demonstrations while building the student's confidence to enjoy playing in group or solo situations. Private teachers use a variety of materials including solos, exercise books, audition materials, as well as parts from full band arrangements.

Private lessons are also beneficial for students attempting to learn a second instrument. In the Mason Middle and High School bands many of our players have worked to achieve this goal, resulting in opportunities to perform in many types of concert, marching and jazz ensembles plus helping to improve the instrument balance throughout our schools' band program. In addition, students who have fallen behind the performing level of their band and need extra help to catch up find the one-on-one attention of private lessons especially helpful.

The cost of private instruction ranges from \$15.00 to \$20.00 per thirty-minute lesson with payments usually made four lessons in advance. Lessons can be started or stopped any time during the school year with makeup lessons given for illness, emergencies, or other excused absences. Lessons are not given during holidays or on days when school is not in session. During the winter lessons are cancelled if school is closed or dismissed early. A few of our teachers continue their lessons in the summer but for the most part private lessons are taught from October through May.

Band students at Mason High School who do want lessons should fill out the bottom of this page and turn it in to the directors at school. A private teacher will call at home to explain more about their lessons and to arrange a day and time.

Students Name: _____ Grade: _____

Instrument: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Are you taking lessons currently? _____ If yes, with whom? _____

Mason City Schools

211 N. East Street

Mason, OH 45040

**PARENT/STUDENT PERMISSION SLIP FOR
EXTRACURRICULAR AND SCHOOL CLUB ACTIVITIES**

Activity: Concert Band Trips

Student Name: _____

Dates and Locations see below:

March 12 – OMEA District Contest

May 27-31 – New York (Tentative)

April 30 or May1 – OMEA State Contest

Date TBD - Graduation

This permission slip is for participation in the above referenced activities. These activities will be supervised by Mason City Schools staff.

We, the undersigned do hereby give permission for our child to participate in the above stated activity. We do hereby assume full responsibility for any risk of bodily injury, personal injury or mental injury or death due to our child's participation in these activities and the necessary travel to and from any activity site. We also further herby assume full responsibility for all lost, stolen, or damaged personal property and will not hold the school or its employees responsible for said loss or damage to personal property.

The undersigned further release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue the Mason City School District Board of Education, its individual members, its superintendent, principals, administrators, employees, agents or anyone acting on its behalf, from all liability, arising from or by reason of any bodily injury, personal injury or mental injury, known or unknown, including death, resulting from, or to result from our child's participation in field trips and co-curricular activities with Mason City School District.

We expressly agree that this release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Ohio or any other state in which said student may be injured and that if any portion of this release is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, nevertheless, continue in full force and effect.

We further state that we have fully and carefully read the above release and know the contents of the same and sign this release as our own free act.

We further consent to emergency treatment by a physician in the event of injury to or illness of our child during his/her participation in such activities.

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Student

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS FORM TO Mr. Bass or Mr. Ewing

