

2011-2012
Mason High School
Symphonic Band Handbook

www.masonbands.com

Avious Jackson
Jacksonav@mason.k12.oh.us
398-5025 ext 30272

Bob Bass
Bassb@mason.k12.oh.us
398-5025 ext. 30271

CLASSROOM MATERIALS LIST

- 1) Tuner- Every wind instrument student **must** have their own.
- 2) Black 1 inch 3 Ring Binder- **Every band member must have their own.** Every student will be responsible for having their practice copy music, as well as handouts in their binder everyday.
- 3) Metronome- **Required** for winds and percussionist. This is a small handheld device that registers tempo. This is important for effective practice, as well as for checking playing test tempos.
- 4) Pencil- All students are responsible for having a pencil in their binder for making changes to music, as well as taking notes.
- 5) Working instrument. This includes necessary equipment for instrument such as reeds, oil, grease etc. If playing a school owned instrument students are still responsible for reeds, grease, etc.
- 6) All percussionist must have a stick bag including the minimum requirements listed in Mr. Sleppy's list. You will receive this list in class.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

- 1) Be on time. This requires students to be in the band room before the tardy bell rings, and in their assigned seat ready to play three minutes after the bell has rung.
- 2) Sit in your assigned seat.
- 3) No gum or food permitted in the performance facilities any time.
- 4) Cell phones are not permitted in class.
- 5) Take care of classroom materials and our facilities.
- 6) Have all specified materials for class everyday.

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 student's 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

GRADING

MUSICAL GROWTH is our primary goal for all students involved in the program, our grading policy is guided by that principle.

- 1) **CLASSROOM PERFORMANCE** - musical performance in class, promptness, daily preparation and materials, respect for facility, attitude and discipline (30% of total grade).

 - 2) **CONCERT PERFORMANCE** – attendance at and performance (**These often occur outside the regular school day, but are still required**).
rehearsals (30% of total grade).
 - Concert Performances- Performance, as well as staying watching assigned bands is part of your concert grade.
 - Solo & Ensemble Adjudicated Event (All students are encouraged to take a solo and/or an ensemble)
 - Pep Band Performances
 - Memorial Day Parade (marching band members only in Symphonic Band)
 - Sectional and Dress Rehearsals- These often occur outside the regular school day, but are still just as vital to the success of the individual student and ensemble.

 - 3) **PERFORMANCE TESTING** - Testing of wind music-fundamentals of music, written, and aural (30% of total grade).
 - Testing of wind music-fundamentals of music (written and aural).
**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 as a result of an excused absence. Unexcused absences will not be granted an opportunity for makeup work.
- 1) **SEMESTER EXAM** - Playing/Written Final (10% of total grade)

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 specified times by the director.

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.

EXTRA CREDIT

Those students who are members of the Symphonic Band who participate in a private lesson program will receive extra credit that will be applied to their trimester grade. (A maximum of two "A" grades will be given to replace the students two lowest playing grades received in class).

PERFORMANCE DRESS

WOMEN- Black Concert Dress \$65

MEN- Tux shirt (purchased from the band boosters \$15)
Tuxedo

BUDGET/FEES

The members of Symphonic Band help support the band budget for the 2011-2012 school year. Each student is responsible to pay \$25.00. The budget covers a portion of solo and ensemble, method book, and clinicians. Checks should be made out to Mason City Schools.

In addition, gentlemen will have a one-time purchase of a tux shirt for \$15.00 (purchased from Mason Band Boosters).

Private Lessons

The best way to improve on your individual instrument is by participating in private lessons. Here at Mason High School we offer private lessons through several teachers, many of which host lessons at school during band class, allowing for less interference with other after school commitments. The individual growth from a private lessons regiment along with practice, and regular band instruction can bring about a whole new level of joy and understanding as a student musician. Students interested should simply contact Mr. Jackson or Mr. Bass.

SCHEDULED EVENTS

- Saturday, December 03- Honor Band Audition Day (8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.) Strongly Encouraged
- Friday, January 06- Concert Band Camp (5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.) Mandatory
- Saturday, January 07- Concert Band Camp (9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.) Mandatory
- Sunday, January 08- Concert Band Camp Performance (1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.) Mandatory
- Monday, January 09-Honor Band read-through rehearsal 10-12 bands (6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.) Selected Honor Band Individuals
- January 13-15 District XIII Honor Band
- Saturday, January 28 – Solo and Ensemble (Individuals Extra Credit Offered Strongly Recommended)
- Thursday February 2- Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra Concert @Mason (Extra Credit, Ticketed Event)
- Thursday, March 1 – Pictures (5:00 to 7:00 pm) Mandatory
- Thursday, March 1- 2nd Trimester Concert (7:00 pm) (All Bands) Mandatory
- Friday, March 02- Rehearsal for Chicago (2:00.-4:00 p.m.)
- March 03-07 Chicago Trip with the Symphonic Band
- Tuesday, March 06 Orchestra Hall Performance with United Township
- Thursday, March 15 District Contest Dress Rehearsal (3-5 pm) Mandatory
- March 16-17 OMEA District Contest (Selected Time TBD dependent upon registration) Mandatory
- Thursday, May 03 State Contest Dress Rehearsal (3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.) Mandatory
- May 4-5 OMEA State Contest (Selected Time) Mandatory
- Monday, May 28 Memorial Day Parade (9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.) Mandatory

Pep Band performs at most home boys and girls basketball games. Pep Band begins at the beginning of December. All Symphonic Band Members will be placed into one of four bands. Students will be required to attend the assigned dates for their band. If a student is not able to attend a certain date, they are responsible for finding a replacement on their instrument. Students not in attendance without a replacement, will not receive credit.

I have read the above dates and understand that all performances are required. I also understand that I am responsible for attending two pep band games throughout the basketball season.

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____