

Sterling Public Schools

Band Handbook 2009-2010



Sterling Band Handbook

The purpose of the band program at Sterling Public Schools is to provide the students the opportunity to:

1. Study music through the medium of instruments
2. Study the elements of music (tone, harmony, melody, rhythm, texture and form)
3. Experience all aspects of marching band, pep band, and concert band
4. Participate in small and large ensembles
5. Interact with other students, teachers and performers at music contests and clinics
6. Provide students with many performing experiences
7. Perform, study, and listen to many styles of music

Grading:

Each student will begin the quarter with zero points. Points are accumulated through regular class attendance, participation, and performances, HOWEVER, IF NO EXTRA POINTS ARE EARNED, AND NO POINTS ARE LOST, THE HIGHEST GRADE POSSIBLE IS APPROXIMATELY A 92%, DEPENDING ON THE TOTAL POINTS FOR THE QUARTER.

Regular Points will be earned as follows:

Weekly Participation/behavior/effort.....	25 points
Pep band performances.....	15 points
Playing/Written Tests.....	Variable, depending on assignment
Concert or contest.....	200 points

Extra Points may be earned for the following activities:

- Concert or Contest Solo
- Small Ensemble Member
- All State Member
- Audition for All State
- Honor Band Member
- Audition for Honor Ensemble
- Volunteer Departmental help
- Attend Outside Concert
- Documented Practice time (30 min)
- Lessons
- Perform in an outside activity (sing in church)
- Research Paper
- Other activities with approval by Mrs. LeMunyan

Points may be deducted as follows:

Tardy from daily rehearsal

Tardy from a performance

Unexcused absence from a rehearsal

Unexcused absence from pep band

Unexcused absence from a major performance (Concert, Contest)

Improper uniform attire or care

Absent from scheduled lesson time

Classroom disruption

Chewing gum, candy, pop, ect.

Absences and Tardiness

Every performance is required. Very few excuses will be accepted for missing a performance. These times will be limited to family emergencies, illness, and natural disasters. Work outside of school will not be considered an excused absence. An absence is not considered excused unless Mrs. LeMunyan knows about it in advance through a note from your parents. If an emergency occurs, CALL ME! An unexcused absence from a major performance can constitute in failure of the quarter, depending on the total number of points in that quarter. It will also result in loss of letter for the year.

An unexcused absence from a pep band performance will lower you grade and you will loose letter points.

Tardies occur when a member is not present when roll is taken in class situations as well as performances. Letter and grade points will be deducted.

Letter Awards

Students in grades 8-12 may obtain a music letter by:

1. Successfully completing the entire year.
2. Participating in ALL concerts and contest performances
3. Attend all pep band performances required by the director.
Students participating in NSAA sponsored activities that prohibit them from playing with the band (volleyball, football, basketball) will not be docked for missing the performance.
4. Special cases will be considered by the instructor.

Classroom Rules and Procedures

1. All students are to be in their assigned seat, with instrument, music, and stand out and ready to go when the bell rings.
2. No visiting while the group is playing in rehearsal or performance, or while instructions are being communicated.
3. Play your instrument only. This includes percussion equipment.
4. Treat all instruments in the manner in which they are to be treated.

5. Treat others as you wish to be treated. No put-downs. Encourage each other!
6. Food, pop, and gum are not permitted in the music room. This includes before and after school.
7. All instruments are to be put away in the instrument room, in closed cases, everyday, including percussion sticks, mallets, and small percussion instruments.

Supplies:

The band office will keep a few essential supplies on hand. Reeds, lyres, and oil are the responsibility of the student. Students are encouraged to visit music stores when possible to take care of their various equipment needs. **Repairs on your instrument are your responsibility.**

School Owned Instruments:

The school district owns many instruments for students to play that are extremely expensive to purchase. If the instrument is damaged during the school year and has to be repaired, the student to whom the instrument is checked-out to will be responsible for **one-half the repair bill.**

Uniforms:

1. Uniforms will be worn at every concert and contest.
2. The uniform must be worn correctly at all times. For concert uniforms this means the shirt is always tucked in and buttoned, the vest is buttoned, etc. This also means no changes to the uniform may be made, (you must wear the correct black pants). For marching uniforms, you must wear a shirt under the uniform, and keep the jacket on at all times.
3. Each student is in charge of caring for his or her own uniform.

Care Instructions: Concert uniforms can be washed and the pants and shirts can be dried. Please hang the vest up to air dry. Marching uniforms are dry clean only! They will be cleaned when you turn them in.

Uniforms are **not** to be kept in the locker room. Uniforms should be properly hung up after each performance. Points will be deducted if uniforms are found in locker rooms.

4. Each student is to supply their own black socks and black shoes to be worn with their concert uniform. Marching uniforms require white shoes and socks. White shoes can be checked out through the school at no cost.
5. If the uniform is damaged or lost in the course of the year, the student will be responsible for paying for the repairs/replacements needed.

Student Fees:

The following items are some of the responsibilities students may have if they choose to participate in music. Fee waivers are available for those who apply and are accepted (in which case it will become the responsibility of the school).

1. Instruments and lesson books are the responsibility of the student, but eligible for a fee waiver.
2. Instrument choices for fee waiver students are the schools decision based on availability.
3. Personal consumables are the responsibility of the students (reeds, oil, ect.)
4. Uniform cleaning is the responsibility of the student, but eligible for a fee waiver.
5. Appropriate attire for a performance (when not in uniform), is the responsibility of the student, as is proper shoes and socks when uniforms are worn.

Travel Information:

1. We are representing our school and school policy on travel will be used.
2. Busses will leave at the announced time. DO NOT BE LATE.

Trip Information:

Trips should be deemed a "privilege" and not a given "right". If it is financially feasible for a musical ensemble to take part in a trip, we will use the following trip schedule:

- 2009-2010 No Trip Planned
- 2010-2011 Choir/Band Trip Planned
- 2011-2012 No Trip Planned

The following rules and regulation will be applied when planning a trip:

1. Permission to participate on a trip must me given by the administration and director.
2. A student must me a member of the group one-year prior to the trip year. This enables the student to help with various fund-raisers that are necessary to participate in a trip. Special circumstances will be considered by the director and administration.
3. Participation in fundraisers is optional; however each student is responsible for funding their own trip. An account will be kept with records of what each student has earned. If a student has not participated in fundraisers, they will be expected to pay the full cost of the trip if they choose to go. Trip payments will be adjusted according to cost of trip and amount earned in fundraising.

Sterling Music Handbook

I have read the Sterling Music handbook. I understand the information and procedures covered. I will call Mrs. LeMunyan at anytime if there is a problem or question.

Parent/Guardian

Date

Student

Date

PLEASE RETURN THIS PAGE TO MRS. LEMUNYAN BY THURSDAY, AUGUST 20.