

Hilliard Davidson  
Band Program  
2011 - 12  
Handbook

Symphonic Band

## **Preface:**

This band handbook has been written for the members of the Hilliard Davidson Concert Bands and their parents. It includes information concerning the activities and expectations for members of the Concert Band, Symphonic Band and Wind Symphony.

All band members and parents are urged to read the entire handbook at the beginning of each school year to avoid conflicts with the policies and expectations stated herein.

## **Requirements for membership:**

All members of the Davidson High School Band Program are required to complete an audition in the spring of the previous year. A live audition is required for placement in Symphonic Band or Wind Symphony. A taped audition is sufficient for placement in concert band.

Members of the concert program are required to participate in marching band with the following exceptions 1) Membership in a fall school sport (including cheerleading) that has direct rehearsal/performance conflict. 2) Medical exemptions. All other exceptions are handled on an individual basis with the directors.

**Grading:** A student's nine weeks grade will include one or more of the following:

1. Playing quiz (taped or live)
2. Written quiz
3. Attendance at performances
4. Daily attendance
5. Attitude and awareness of band guidelines outlined below and the application of these guidelines.
6. Contribution to the individual part as well as the group as a whole.

**Grading: Percentages**

- 40% Performances – Band is a performance based class. Being present and on time to all performances is essential to your success and to the success of the entire group.
- 30% Participation – Three participation points are awarded daily to every student based on 3 areas.  
P - Participates fully and plays to the best of their ability.  
H - Has all materials needed. (music, instrument, accessories, PENCIL)  
D - Exhibits proper discipline in the classroom.
- 30% Assignments – Students will have both playing and written assignments. These will vary from prepared recordings or live auditions to short written quizzes or homework assignments.

## **Rehearsal Responsibilities:**

1. Band members will arrive and be ready to begin warm up at the time set for rehearsal
2. No cell phones
3. No eating, drinking or gum will be tolerated during rehearsal
4. Each member will have the following for each rehearsal:
  - a. All: Music, Instrument, Pencil
  - b. Brass: Valve oil, mutes
  - c. Woodwinds: Three reeds, cork grease, instrument swab
  - d. Percussion: Sticks, necessary auxiliary instrument
5. Each member is expected to play with the best possible posture: sitting up, feet on the floor.
6. Talking is not permitted while the director is giving instruction.
7. Cutting a rehearsal, unless excused in advance, will result in the lowering of the grade and immediate referral to the office for the necessary discipline.

**Behavior:** Listed below are the behavioral expectations in this class.

**Podium** – This is sacred space in my classroom. He/She who has the podium has the floor. When someone is on the podium, full attention must be given to them.

**Respect** – Students in this class will show respect to everyone and everything in it. This means other students, staff, equipment, and themselves.

**Golden Rule** – When in doubt, abide by the Golden Rule. Treat others as you would like to be treated.

## **Instrument Care and Maintenance:**

### **Personal Instruments**

Band members are expected to keep their personal instruments in good playing condition and all times. If the instrument becomes damaged or unplayable, the director should be notified immediately. Instruments that become unplayable must be repaired in a timely manner. See the directors for a list of quality repairmen.

### **School Instruments**

Students who rent an instrument from the school should treat the instrument as if it is their personal instrument. If you are the only band member playing an instrument, it is your responsibility to maintain the instrument as outlined below. If an instrument is shared between students, it is the responsibility of the most "senior" member of the band program to maintain the instrument as outlined below.

### **Instrumental Rental**

There is a \$50 rental fee (per year) for students who play a school instrument. This fee helps defray the cost of repair, replacement and maintenance. Students who rent an instrument for marching band do not pay a second rental fee for concert band. This fee is for the future replacement of school instruments. Normal wear is expected, however, excessive repairs will be the responsibility of the player. Please make checks payable to the Hilliard Music Boosters.

### **Instrument Maintenance**

- Brass:**           **Daily:** empty water before placing the instrument in the case  
**Weekly:** (or more as necessary) oil the valves, clean your mouthpiece  
**Monthly:** Grease the slides and "snake" the lead pipe
- Woodwinds:**   **Daily:** swab the instrument before placing the instrument in the case  
**Weekly:** clean your mouthpiece, check for three **GOOD** reeds  
**Monthly:** grease corks, check pads (flutes, check head joint cork)
- Percussion:**   **Daily:** use correct sticks with the instrument, return instrument/sticks to proper storage.  
Notify Mr. Ley **IMMEDIATELY** if an instrument is in need of repair.

### **Concert Attendance**

The public performance is the culmination of hard work and in-class preparation. Attendance at concerts/contests is mandatory.

1. If a family emergency or illness requires your absence from a concert, please contact your director at your earliest convenience.
2. If the absence was excused, make up work will be assigned by your director. All excused absences (with the exception of illness or emergency) must be discussed with the director a minimum of two weeks prior to the event.
3. If the absence was unexcused, no make up work is possible and points will be deducted from your grade.

### **Concert Procedure**

A quality concert starts at the time you arrive. Mental preparation is as important as the physical preparation.

1. Arrive on time for warm up and tuning
2. Arrive in concert dress, or arrive in time to change **BEFORE** warm up begins
3. No talking or playing while the directors are tuning individuals
4. Listen and follow all instructions during the warm up process
5. Concert Etiquette while listening to other bands (see below)
6. At the conclusion of the concert, all band members are expected to assist with the clearing of the stage.

### Concert Etiquette

1. No talking while a band is performing
2. If it is necessary to get up during a concert (rest room etc) do so while the audience is applauding. That includes returning to your seat. Wait at the back until there is a break in the program and return without distracting the performers or other audience members.

### Concert Dress

Ladies: Black skirt\* or black pants, black vest\*, bow tie/cummerbund\*, white tux shirt, black socks, black shoes.

Men: Black Tux\*, bow tie/cummerbund\*, white tux shirt, black socks, black shoes.

Items marked with \* are supplied through the Hilliard Music Boosters at a moderate rental cost to cover the cost of cleaning. Members of the marching band do not pay an additional rental fee for concert dress. Please make checks payable to the Hilliard Music Boosters.

### Required Concert Dates:

Tuesday, November 15 <sup>th</sup>	Fall Concert
Saturday, February 4th	OMEA Solo & Ensemble Adjudicated Event <sup>1</sup>
Thursday, March 8th	Winter Concert, Contest Preview
Friday/Saturday March 16/17	OMEA Large Group Adjudicated Event <sup>2</sup>
Thursday, May 10th	Spring Concert
Friday, May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Graduation <sup>3</sup>

1. Solo & Ensemble is not a required activity, but is HIGHLY recommended. Band members taking solos must have a private lessons instructor. Ensembles will be “coached” by one of the band directors.
2. OMEA Large Group may be scheduled on either Friday evening or Saturday morning/afternoon. **Place both dates on your calendar.** When the event site sends the performance time (usually 2 weeks before), you will be notified.
3. Graduation may be required of all band members except seniors. Underclassmen that have a sibling graduating are excused from graduation.

### Contact Us

#### Email

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#### Phone

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Band Office	614.921.7261
School Fax	614.529.7406

#### Web Site

[www.davidsonbands.org](http://www.davidsonbands.org)

# Symphonic Band

## Davidson Band Program Student and Parent Contract

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3. Graduation may be required of all band members except seniors. Underclassmen that have a sibling graduating are excused from graduation.

I have read the Davidson Band Program Handbook and placed the concert dates on the family calendar. I agree to abide by all rules and guidelines stated in the handbook.

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Students Name (Print)

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Students Signature

Date

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Parents Name (Print)

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Parents Signature

Date