

Forest Park Schools Band Class Policies

Purpose

The purpose of these Band class policies is to inform band members and their parents of the expectations of the Forest Park Music Program. The following guidelines are designed to promote the constructive teaching and learning environment needed to maintain a successful program at the highest level of excellence.

Philosophy

The Forest Park Music department is dedicated to helping students become responsible adults through participation in musical ensembles. It is our goal to provide opportunities for the development of "esprit de corps", sensitivity, self-esteem, self-expression, self-evaluation, responsibility, and discipline through the act of creating, producing, and performing in band. We consider these traits to be vital in developing a well-rounded individual whom will include the fine arts as a part of their adult life. It is our goal to give every student the finest musical experiences available.

Classroom Guidelines

1. No gum, candy, food, or drinks are allowed in the band room unless given special permission by the director. Then, and only then, will food and beverages be allowed in the band room, with the understanding that the student/students are expected to clean up any messes. Under no circumstances are gum and or food to be consumed during any rehearsal and/or performance. Failure to follow this directive may result in disciplinary action.
2. Listen to and follow all directions the *first* time they are given.
3. Listen and refrain from talking or playing instruments while the director is giving instructions.
4. Always have a pencil ready to make changes to music, written directions, marching instructions, etc.
5. At the completion of class, the director will dismiss all students. Students who leave class early may be subject to disciplinary action.
6. Students must be on time and ready for every rehearsal. Students must be in their seats (or on the practice field, if necessary) and ready to rehearse with music, instrument, and any accessory needed by 2 minutes after the final bell. After 2 minutes, the student will be considered tardy. First hour students must be in their seats, with required equipment, before the AM announcements begin.
7. Students are allowed to play only the instrument(s) that is (are) assigned to them. Students must refrain from playing another persons instrument. Students are responsible for any items assigned to them by the school and will be responsible for any and all damage beyond normal wear and tear.

8. Students are required to constructively practice until the director is ready to start rehearsal and should warm up in an appropriate manner using class assigned materials.

9. Concert Band folders are to be kept in the folder cabinets only, and must not be housed in lockers or instrument cases.

10. Marching Band flip-folios are to be kept in the assigned boxes only, and must not be housed in lockers or instrument cases.

11. Students must raise their hand to be recognized.

12. Students must bring proper clothing for outside marching rehearsals. We often practice outside when it is hot, cold, muddy, wet, and sometimes snowy. Proper footwear, hats and gloves make for an enjoyable practice. Failure to have proper clothing is not an excuse to miss rehearsal.

13. Students must properly clean and store their instrument and accessories everyday as has been demonstrated by the instructor.

14. Reeds and other supplies should be obtained from the director *before* the class starts. (class begins 2 min. after 2nd bell)

15. Cell phones are not allowed in the Band room.

Uniforms

While in uniform, students are a visible symbol of our group as a school organization. Therefore, all uniforms must be kept and worn with pride and respect. Students must take care of the uniforms! The uniforms for Forest Park performing groups are as follows:

6th/7th Grade Band

The 6th/7th Grade Band will wear black slacks or skirts (No Jeans!), white button up shirts, black shoes (no tennis shoes) and black(full length) socks at all performances. All of these uniform items are to be provided by the students and their parents

8th -12th grade Marching Band

The Senior High Marching Band uniform consists of a helmet or beret, band jacket, band overlay, band pants, white gloves, black socks and black marching shoes. Summer shirts will be worn for summer parades instead of the band coat and overlay. All uniform parts will be provided except for black socks. The first pair of white gloves will be provided, after that, gloves can be purchased, for cost, from the director. All marching band members should wear a t-shirt under their band jacket to reduce wear and tear to the uniform.

8th -12th grade Flag Corps

The High School Flag Corps uniform will consist of a beret, ascot, blouse, skirt/slacks, cummerbund, black boots, and gloves. All of these items will be provided for the flag corps members.

8th -12th grade Concert Band

The Senior High Concert Band uniform will consist of band jacket, band pants, white button up shirt with collar, black socks, and black shoes. The student is responsible for supplying the white shirt and black socks.

Uniform Dress Code

When in uniform a student should have their entire uniform on properly. This includes:

1. Shirts are to be tucked in and overlays are to be buttoned.
2. Hair should be worn so it does not touch the shirt collar.
3. Excessive or distracting jewelry and makeup may not be worn while in uniform.
4. At the discretion of the director, students may be allowed to remove their helmets at certain times.
5. Black socks that are to be worn with the uniform should be of sufficient length as to not show any bare skin.

A student who is not properly uniformed will not be allowed to perform and will lose all points just as if he or she were absent. This will be treated as an unexcused absence as outlined in the attendance policy below.

Grading

Each student shall be graded on a basis of total accumulated points and their relation to the total points available for each marking period. This will include but is not limited to:

Weekly Grades

One weekly grade will be given to each student.

The weekly grade will be based on musicianship and overall improvement in playing ability. (this includes marching ability during the marching season.)It will also be based on energy while playing, promptness, and overall behavior during class time and any performances. This grade will also take into consideration material management, such as having instrument, music, folder, and pencil on-hand, music marked, & drill charts

prepared during marching season. It will also include the student's attention to the listed classroom guidelines as noted above. This grade will be worth 100 points.

Performances

Performances will be assigned a point value by the director and will be counted with the total points for the marking period. Inappropriate behavior at performances will result in a loss of some or all points as deemed appropriate by the director.

Playing Tests / Written tests

Written test and play test will be assigned as deemed necessary by the instructor.

Challenges

Challenges may occur under the following guidelines:

1. A student may challenge another of any chair—challenges do not need to be sequential.
2. A proper attitude of good sportsmanship and competitive spirit must be maintained.
3. Challenges will occur at the discretion of the band director.

Points for Forest Park Bands Grading

1st Marking Period

100 points/week x 9 weeks = 900 points (All Bands)

200 points/home football game x 4 games = 800 points (Sr. High Band only)

Tests & quizzes (written and/or playing) will be assigned as necessary and assigned a point value. (All Bands)

2nd Marking Period

100 points/week x 9 weeks = 900 points (All Bands)

Veterans Day Program 100 points

Tests & quizzes (written and/or playing) will be assigned as necessary and assigned a point value. (All Bands)

3rd Marking Period

100 points/week x 9 weeks = 900 points (All Bands)

Winter Concert 300 points (All bands)

Band Festival 300 points (Sr. High Band only- in the years we attend.)

Tests & quizzes (written and/or playing) will be assigned as necessary and assigned a point value. (All Bands)

4th Marking Period

100 points/week x 9 weeks = 900 points (All Bands)

Commencement 300 points (Sr. High Band only)

Memorial Day Parade 300 points (Sr. High Band only)

Tests & quizzes (written and/or playing) will be assigned as necessary and assigned a point value. (All Bands)

Extra Credit – extra credit points can be earned in the following ways

Participation in one of our summer parades. 75 points each

Participation in Honors Band 200 points

District Solo/Ensemble Division 1 rating 100 points

Division 2 rating 80 points

Any other rating 50 points

State Solo/Ensemble Division 1 rating 100 points

Division 2 rating 80 points

Any other rating 50 points

A student may also earn extra credit in other ways, but must be approved by the director first.

Attendance

All band students are expected to participate in rehearsals, concerts, football games, and any other functions in which the band performs. Attendance throughout the entire performance is expected. Absences from class will be excused according to regular school policy.

Absences from performance obligations may only be excused in writing at least two weeks in advance (except in emergency situations) by a parent or legal guardian and must be approved by the director. Absences due to illness must be made up through extra credit approved by the director. No excuses will be accepted after the performance has occurred. Employment obligations are not accepted as an acceptable reason for an excused absence. Students over the age of 18 may not excuse themselves.

Tardies to class may result in a loss of 20 points from the weekly grade per occurrence.

Attendance at Performances

Excused absences will result in loss of points for the given performance. Points can be made up through make up work or extra credit as determined by the director.

Unexcused absences will result in loss of performance points and can not be made up. More than one unexcused absence in a school year may result in removal from the class.

Tardies to a performance may result in a 10% loss of points.

At football games, the Marching Band will receive the 3rd quarter off to use the restrooms and purchase food from the concession stand. Students must follow the uniform dress code during this time. Students must be back in the stands ready to play by the time the clock expires on the 3rd quarter.

Summer Parades

Summer parades are an expected part of the class. Extra credit points will be given to those students who do perform in our summer parades. These points will be included into the next marking period grade. In order to participate in summer parades, students must attend the required practices/rehearsals.

Band Class policies can be viewed at:

<http://forestparkmusicdepartment.weebly.com/>

I have read the Forest Park Schools Band Policies and agree to abide by the classroom and performance requirements as they are written.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____