

# TCA HS BANDS OVERVIEW

**GRADING** - Simply stated- come to classes, rehearsals, and performances on time with needed materials, give solid effort, and communicate/ self advocate to earn an A-. Invest in personal practice as needed and get the A to A+.

More detail:

**DAILY CLASSES** - **Class time participation is worth 5pts a day. If a student is absent they cannot earn participation points (excused or unexcused).** Students may invest 30 minutes of practice time for every class missed to recover class points. They have until 3-4 weeks post the absence to log that time for credit. We cannot recreate the learning environment, but we can assist students as they need/ desire and they can invest the class time on the instrument they lost, for whatever reason.

Marching band rehearsals come as a summary of 400 pts at the end of October. If students communicate their needs, work to learn, communicate and plan how to achieve missed materials, come on time, help others as appropriate, and try hard, a student will earn 360-400pts. Unexcused and/or unknown reasons for absences, an abundance of spontaneous absence, apathy, disrespect to others, etc are what would drop a rehearsal participation grade below an A.

**PERFORMANCES** - **ALL concert band and marching band performances are 100 pts each.** So, in a preliminary/finals performance setting (marching band) that is a 200 pt competition. The only excused/ exempted absences are extreme illness and family emergency. Any unavoidable plans or TCA sporting conflicts notified 3 weeks prior are handled on a case by case basis. Club sporting conflicts, birthday parties, social gatherings, family events etc. are typically unexcused absences and will result in a "0" for the performance. There are exceptions, but only with significant advance notice. In those situations, the grading will be modified and there will be opportunity for the student to seek out extra credit to gain points to offset the grade deficit. **You can't earn points for a performance if you aren't there.** Long story short, performance attendance is imperative.

**PLAYING TEST** - We don't have weekly practice logs in high school. We do skill checks. For marching band, that is usually memorization checks of show music and sometimes the national anthem and fightsong. During the concert season, there will be chair auditions, and music checks. These vary in point value. Really, this is the individual check of what a student is contributing in class. If it is material we have covered and reviewed in class for 3 weeks or more, the point value will be high. If it's an evaluation of skill on scales and rhythm, especially new material, it will be of a lower point value. In wind ensemble, a higher emphasis is placed on playing tests than in the symphonic bands.

**ELIGIBILITY** - Marching band falls under CHSAA eligibility regulation. This means that a student must not have 3 or more points ( D = 1 pt, F = 2pts) during the weeks eligibility check the Wednesday before an event. A student who has 3 or more points at an eligibility check prior to a band completion **MAY NOT COMPETE**- be on the field!!!! This affects the entire band in addition to the student. **PLEASE...** ask for help when needed and don't wait until things get desperate!!!

## **SUPPLIES**

All students are asked to have the following for class everyday :

An instrument or required sticks/mallets

Issued music folder

Issued music

A pencil

For Marching band – add lanyard with coordinate sheets and music in page protectors in ¼” binder ( for outdoor use)

Students are **HIGHLY ENCOURAGED** to have at their access/ in their possession:

A metronome app on their smart phone

A tuning app on their smart phone

A metronome and/ tuner

A folding stand for home practice

## **SCHEDULES**

Both the marching band calendar AND the winter/spring concert band schedules are on the department pages. Please document and note as needed ( See attendance and grading ;-)). Address to reconcile or notify a director of any conflicts ASAP ☺ THANK YOU!!!!

## **UNIFORM**

TCA uniform/ dress code policy should be maintained during class.

The marching band uniform and/or warm up jackets should be worn as requested for performances. The marching band uniform **NEEDS TO BE STORED** in the garment bag, properly hung, when not being worn. The shako ( hat) needs to be stored in the hat bucket allotted. Lost and found items are subject to fees. Damage to the marching band uniform is a costly venture. The cost of replacement of the uniform is \$450.

**SHOES FOR MARCHING BAND – ‘FORMAL’ DINKLES** – Cost \$32 – purchased via the band or online

## **CONCERT DRESS THIS YEAR will be:**

### **SYMPHONIC BANDS – ALL BLACK:**

Gentlemen – black button down, black bottoms, black socks, black shoes

Ladies – black blouse – ¾ or long sleeve, ISSUED long black skirt, black shoes

### **WIND ENSEMBLE –**

Gentlemen – issued or owned tuxedo ( Gentlemen will **NEED TO PURCHASE THEIR OWN TUX SHIRT**), black socks, black shoes

Ladies – issued gowns, black shoes

## **FEES**

There is a fee assigned to this class. It is \$200 for the year. This partially funds transportation, music, clinicians, band t-shirts, gloves, drill writing, flags, props, entry fees to festivals, etc.

- If you rent an instrument from the school, there is an additional fee. Percussion students pay a fee, as these students use a great deal of school owned equipment which the school needs to maintain to the best of our ability.

- Colorguard members will be asked for some funds to help cover the costs of flags, equipment, and/ or uniforms as they change from year to year.

We will also be asking \$30 from each band member to help cover food expenses for the Legend (2 meals), Arapahoe (2 meals) and State Marching band (2 meals) events as well as supplement snacks for other events

throughout the year. Email parent coordinator Stephanie Gevedon [segevedon@gmail.com](mailto:segevedon@gmail.com)<<mailto:segevedon@gmail.com>> for more information.

We never want a band member to miss out on this experience due to funding issues. If there is a hardship, please contact our principal, Mr. Sean Shields, or Ms. Soper, so we can work together with you to help your student have an opportunity to participate.

### **HONOR BANDS:**

High schoolers have several opportunities to audition and participate in area and state honor bands;

- All - City Concert Bands
- All - City Jazz Band
- All - State Orchestra
- All - State Band
- All - State Jazz Band
- CU Boulder Honor Band

Information will be shared via email soon about all of these. The dates are on the attached calendars. Students want/need to get the music ASAP if considering auditioning for one of these SUPERIOR musical opportunities.