

## ATTENDANCE

**ATTENDANCE at all rehearsals, performances, etc. is REQUIRED.** The minimum expectation is **100% attendance**. As a member of the band program, you occupy an important part and space in each band function. Inasmuch as the band works as a finely trained team, it is essential that every member be present for ALL functions which include *rehearsals, concerts, competitions, music performance assessments (MPAs), football games, parades, and out-of-town trips*. Any member who is absent makes the band less effective and has an adverse effect on the morale of the band.

### Procedure for Absence

Naturally, sickness and other hardships make it necessary to miss on a rare occasion. The PARENT must notify the director as far IN ADVANCE as possible if a student must miss a rehearsal or performance by:

- ▶ Calling the band office at 955-6995, AND
- ▶ Emailing Mr. Kaminsky with the date and reason for absence.

After following the procedure above, the absence will fall into one of three categories:

1. PERMITTED (Advance notice given was *at least* 10 school days)  
Reason: BHS-sanctioned activity.  
**(Student does not lose points for the activity/event)**  
*Note: A permitted absence may not be granted for a day on which the band gives a public performance.*
2. EXCUSED  
Reason: Family emergency or illness.  
**(Student loses points for the activity/event; make-up is allowed)**
3. UNEXCUSED  
Any absence which is not permitted or excused.  
**(Student loses points for the activity/event; no make-up)**

### Consequences for Absences

1. The first unexcused absence to a performance or rehearsal (outside school hours) will result in being *benched* for the next upcoming performance.
2. The second unexcused absence will result in DISMISSAL from the performing organization.
3. Missing two band classes may result in being *benched* for the performance that week.
4. Missing **ANY** out-of-school rehearsals may result in being *benched* for the performance that week.

A *benched* person must attend all band functions, sit in the stands and play in uniform.

Please understand that rehearsals and performances are the same as exams in other classes. **We cannot divert teaching time from those who have been in attendance in order to mainstream a student who has not been in attendance.** Since there is no way to “make up” these events, **missing a rehearsal or performance is equivalent to not taking an exam and receiving a zero as a grade.** However, **ANY** outside rehearsal or performance missed for an **acceptable** reason must be made up by completing an assignment approved by the Director. FAILURE TO MAKE UP AN ABSENCE WILL RESULT IN LOWERING OF THE BAND GRADE.

### Procedure for Tardy

**TARDINESS** will not be tolerated. Tardies cause delays in time schedules and are discourteous and irritating to your fellow band members who have to wait for you. All tardies are *unexcused* unless excused by valid reasons or a written pass. The procedure for tardies is the same as that for absences.

1. EXCUSED (Student does not lose points)
2. UNEXCUSED (Student loses up to 1/3 of points for the activity/event; no make-up)

**"FIVE MINUTES EARLY IS TEN MINUTES LATE!"**

## Unacceptable Excuses

<u>EXCUSE</u>	<u>SOLUTION</u>
1. "Had to work."	1. Make arrangements with your employer early.
2. "Couldn't get a ride."	2. Be responsible. Check with your Captain or other member.
3. "Didn't know about it."	3. Be responsible. You've been given advance notice.
4. "Parents leaving town."	4. Clear your schedule in advance. Calendars are available in May.
5. "Parents made me stay home to do work or study."	5. Attendance is required! This is a co-curricular graded class.
6. "Had an appointment."	6. Do not schedule appointments during a band activity.

Students do **NOT** pick and choose the band events in which they wish to participate. If the band performs or rehearses, **everyone** is to be there **every time!** **Conflicts with other activities (i.e. sport practice, MAO event, etc.) are to be resolved as far IN ADVANCE as possible (not the day of the event!)**

If an outside turn-out appears to be "rained-out", always report to the band room for indoor rehearsal. Rarely is a rehearsal ever called off because of rain.

Performance takes precedence over practice concerning another school activity. Only reasons of GRAVE EMERGENCY should be used for missing a performance or rehearsal. These arrangements must be made in advance.

**Remember, excuses, even *good* ones, will not produce a good band.**

## ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY / COMMITMENT TO BAND PROGRAM

In order to participate in band activities, a band student must maintain a cumulative G.P.A. of 2.0 or higher (Aviance 2.5 or higher). Any student whose points drop below 70 may be suspended from band activities and becomes ineligible for awards. A student must be in attendance at school at least a ½ day on the day of, or the last day before a performance. A student must attend the last rehearsal before a performance in order to be eligible to perform. Ineligible students are to attend band rehearsals and take rehearsal notes or do alternate work, as approved by the Director. They are to attend performances, sit in the stands, and help with equipment. They may not participate in performances.

This program runs for the full year. Considering the level of commitment required, participation in other co-curricular or extra-curricular activities might have to be limited.