

Martin Luther King High School BAND AND COLOR GUARD POLICIES

- I. Students are allowed in the band room before and after school, at lunch, or when scheduled. Students that wish to visit the band room any other time will need to have a signed pass.

- II. Students are responsible for announcements on the white board in the band room!

- III. Attendance Policy:
 - A. Any performance is a required performance. Performances and rehearsals are mandatory and a large part of the letter grade is determined by attendance and participation at these functions.
 - B. Students are only excused from a performance or rehearsal with a phone call **and** written note from a parent **before** the absence occurs. The only valid excuses accepted are family emergency or illness and **must** be approved by the band director.
 - C. Failure to attend a performance under any other circumstance may result in the automatic lowering of the students' grade, OR an "F" in the class, OR removal from the program!
 - D. If the student is absent from school on the day of a rehearsal or performance, (regardless of the reason), it is his/her responsibility and common courtesy to let the director know whether or not they will be at the rehearsal/performance.
 - E. If the student misses a rehearsal the week of a performance, it may result in the student **not** performing that week!

- IV. Grading Policy
 - A. All evaluations for grades are based on individual performance only. No student is compared to, or evaluated with, any other student to arrive at a grade. All aspects of class will be reflected in the final grade.
 - B. Final grade evaluation in music is determined on many more levels than just playing ability. The following are examples:
 - 1. ATTITUDE
 - 2. Personal responsibility
 - 3. Attention to and acceptance of department policies/requirements
 - 4. Ability to interpret and follow directions
 - 5. Social and mental maturity
 - 6. Practice effort
 - 7. Punctuality and attendance at rehearsals and performances
 - 8. Playing and musicianship abilities

- 9. Participation in class activities
- 10. Improvement in all above areas
- C. Letter grades are also dependent on success in the following areas:

- 1. CITIZENSHIP

- a. Cooperation and courtesy with others
- b. Observation of school rules
- c. Observation of class rules:
 - i. Consistently punctual to class/rehearsals/performances
 - ii. Attentive during class/rehearsals/performances
 - iii. Attendance in proper attire at all Band/Guard performances
 - iv. NO gum or food at above activities!

- 2. ACADEMICS

- a. All Major Scales
- b. All Minor Scales
- c. Rhythm Exercised
- d. Sight Reading
- e. Understanding of music terms and symbols
- f. Honor Band
- g. Student solo/ensemble festivals
- h. Student recitals

- 3. EFFORT

- a. POSITIVE ATTITUDE
- b. Consistently good work habits
- c. Faithfulness in carrying our class responsibilities

D. Generally speaking, the letter grade is a reflection of total musical achievement – not necessarily just playing ability. The citizenship, academics, and effort are all figured into a student's grade based on the evaluation of the director.

E. ATTITUDE, MATURITY, AND PERSONAL GROWTH, as previously indicated, are major considerations in arriving at a student grade. The extent of the individual's contribution and effort to bettering these personal points can only be reflected positively in the total group. In other words, **AS THE INDIVIDUAL IMPROVES SO DOES THE ENTIRE GROUP!**

V. **STUDENT EXPECTATIONS IN BAND AND COLOR GUARD:** As a responsible member of the Band and Color Guard, other members should be able to count on you to bring only your best to class, and responsibly carry out the following each day:

- A. Be in your seat and quiet with your pencil and music out when the tardy bell rings.
- B. Have a pencil and all music at every rehearsal or class period.
- C. If you do not have a folder or music (or pencil, etc.) let the director know immediately.
- D. Be sure to put your folder away after each class period—do not leave it out.
- E. Personal belongings left in the band room will be removed to the lost and found immediately.
- F. If you are ill or cannot play, let the director know before class begins.
- G. Do not ever leave class without permission.
- H. Do not talk to people that enter the classroom while class is in session. You are to remain completely quiet whenever a guest enters.
- I. Do not touch anything that is not yours—period!
- J. Always represent the Band and Color Guard in a positive and professional manner.
- K. No radios, headphones, mp3/CD players, cell phones, or hand held video games (Gameboy etc.) may be used.
- L. It is strongly recommended that cell phones be left at school in lockers as the Band and Color Guard will not be held responsible for loss or theft **and** Booster parents and chaperones will have cell phones in case a student needs to contact parents while at an event. Cell phones on buses must remain off. Students may not make phone calls or text messages. Cell phones should only be used in case of emergency or to notify parents of change in arrival times.

VI. GROOMING POLICY IN MARCHING BAND UNIFORM

- A. No rings, watches, jewelry
- B. No make-up (band only)
- C. Fingernails cut/trimmed
- D. No facial hair
- E. Hair cut/trimmed (off eyes, ears, collar)

VII. CONCERT SEASON REQUIRED DRESS

- A. Men: Concert Black tuxedos. See Mr. Gray for ordering information.
- B. Ladies: Concert Black dress, pant suit. Please Note: See Mr. Gray for information on possible uniformed concert black.

THE STUDENT/PARENT CONTRACT MUST BE SIGNED AND DATED BY BOTH THE STUDENT AND THE PARENT, AND RETURNED TO MR. GRAY BEFORE THE STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED TO PERFORM WITH THE BAND AND COLORGUARD. If you have any questions you can call Mr. Gray at the band room 789-5690 ext. 62039.

Student's Name (Please Print)

Signature of Student

Date

Parent's Name (Please Print)

Signature of Parent

Date