

Graham High School

Marching Band

Policy Handbook 2004-2005

The students in the GHS band are responsible, capable young adults. In an effort to maintain a high level of responsible conduct from our students, I have put together this Policy Handbook to help both students and parents become more aware of our rules and policies. After you are through reading, please sign the detachment and send it back to school for our records. If you have questions, please call the school (326-1255) between 11:20 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Thank you for your cooperation.

GRADES

It is my belief that any student who can do all the things necessary to be a Graham Band member, and can show respect for his/her fellow band members and his/her teachers should receive a good grade. You can achieve a lower grade by:

- Failing to prepare music to an acceptable level of proficiency
- Failing to memorize music on time
- Missing practices or rehearsals
- Excessive tardiness
- Failing inspection
- Failing to turn materials on time (permission slips, fundraising money, etc.)
- ABSENCE FROM A PERFORMANCE

ABSENCES

Absences from rehearsals must be for legitimate reasons and must be approved in ADVANCE by the Director. Students will be excused for sickness when absent from school, doctor's appointments or for a death in the family.

Absences for any other reason could result in a lower grade or loss of membership in the Graham Band. Students and parents should realize that EVERY STUDENT IS DEPENDANT ON EVERY OTHER STUDENT to do his/her part so that our performances will be the best possible. This is especially true for competitions. We spend too many hours in preparation not to have everyone present at our performances!

If you are to be out due to illness, please call the school so we will know where you are and so that you will not lose your marching position or chair.

Two-week notice will be provided for all "called" rehearsals. An unexcused absence will result in a drop of one letter grade for the next six weeks!

CHAIR AUDITIONS

There will be one chair audition for chairs each year. It will be held sometime in November and will determine the chairs for the remainder of the school.

Freshmen will be listed at the end of the returning band list in the order in which they sat in Eighth Grade Band.

Seating in the concert band is also determined by the same audition. If a student would like to advance in his/her section, they may challenge the student one seat ahead of them. They must be prepared to play all twelve major scales, the chromatic scale, and sight read. Students challenging others must provide three days notice.

SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS

If you play a school owned instrument (baritone, tuba, tenor saxophone, percussion or any other instrument), you are responsible for the general upkeep of that instrument. The band will pay for all major repairs. However, if you caused the damage to the instrument being repaired, YOU are responsible for the repair bill!

BAND UNIFORMS

Band uniforms, with the possible exception of some drum major uniforms, are the property of the GHS Band. It is the responsibility of the student to keep the uniform clean and well maintained. There will be a uniform deposit. This deposit will be returned when the uniform is turned in UNLESS the uniform is in need of cleaning or is missing items.

REPLACEMENT COSTS OF UNIFORM PARTS

Coat \$200

Pants \$105

Cape \$50

Helmet \$60

Plume \$12

Shoulder Cord \$13

Raincoat \$60

Your uniform is almost brand new. It was very expensive (over \$500!) TAKE CARE OF IT!

INSPECTION

Inspection will be held before each performance to insure that each student is properly wearing his/her uniform and has all the necessary equipment for a performance. You will fail inspection if:

- You are missing any part of your uniform
- Your shoes are dirty
- Your instrument is dirty
- Your flag is dirty or wrinkled or both
- You do not have your flip folder and music
- Inspection will be a large part of your grade. Take it seriously.

INSURANCE

While band members are not required to carry school insurance, I strongly recommend that you do unless you have another health policy that covers you.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

Students are expected to get to the band room in a timely fashion. Students arriving late will be marked as tardy. Three unexcused tardy’s result in time in Saturday school. Band students will have two minutes upon entering the music department to get their equipment and be seated. Please do not stop to talk. Any student called down twice for talking or other disruptive behavior will be referred to the office for disciplinary action. Students are responsible for the condition of the band room and instrument room. **NO FOOD OR DRINKS ARE ALLOWED IN THE BAND ROOM.** Any student found littering the band room will “pick up” the entire band room. Students will keep their instruments in their cases and in the assigned areas. All reed players must keep two reeds in good condition at all times and all brass players will have valve oil or slide oil at all times. An instrument not in good playing condition will be sent to the repair shop at the student’s expense.

Mr. Brown
Band Director,
Graham High School

After reading this Policy Manual, please sign below, detach the Policy Manual Acceptance Form and return it to Mr. Brown or the school.

Keep the upper portion



Return this lower portion

POLICY MANUAL ACCEPTANCE FORM

We have read the Policy Manual. Further, we understand and agree to abide by the policies set forth therein.

PARENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____