



CONCERT BAND HANDBOOK

*“Music... gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind,
flight to the imagination, and life to everything.”*

-Plato

Ms. Shepherd

Director of Bands

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336-835-3858

EX: 2297

Grading Policy

Rehearsals Participation

Band is a participation-based class with ongoing formative assessment. Students will be evaluated on:

- Quality of Participation and demonstration of appropriate rehearsal etiquette (see “Rehearsal Expectations”)
- Students will start off with a 100 for the week. Students will be given a warning for a first infraction thereafter.

Concert Participation and Etiquette

Attendance is **required at all performances** (see “Attendance Policy”)

Concerts are considered to be a major examination for members of Elkin Bands. Rehearsal Etiquette and Concert Expectation Rules Apply.

Assigned Playing Tests

Attendance

ALL PERFORMANCES ARE MANDATORY

Work, transportation problems, sporting events, etc. are ***not excused***. Great effort should be made to schedule doctor visits and other appointments on days that there are no performances. In the case of an emergency, immediate communication with the band director is necessary so that he can plan accordingly. In the case of an unavoidable absence, communication at least 24 hours before the rehearsal must be given and an arrangement must be made between student and director.

If you are involved in a spring sport which has practice on the date of our performance, please notify me in advance so I can communicate with your coach. If you are very ill, a doctor's note will be required for excusal from a performance.

All students are expected to attend the following highlighted events:

[2023 IMPORTANT BAND DATES](#)

Required Materials

Everyone is expected to have

- ❖ Instrument in good working condition
- ❖ Folder to keep music in
- ❖ Pencil and highlighters
- ❖ All Assigned Music
- ❖ Scale Cheat Sheets
- ❖ Fingering Chart

In addition the following is required

Woodwinds

Clarinet and Saxophone

- ❖ At least 4 working reeds. Vandoren is preferred for quality and consistency.
- ❖ 3 – 3 ½ strength reeds
- ❖ Instrument Swab

Double Reeds: See the director for recommended reeds. Please no Jones reeds.

Brass

- ❖ Trumpets, Baritone/Euphonium, Tuba: Personal bottle of valve oil. Blue Juice.
- ❖ Trombones: Slide-O-Mix, Water Spray Bottle
- ❖ Everybody: Tuning Slide Grease, Mutes (as required)

Percussion

- ❖ Pair of SD1 General snare sticks, Pair of Matching Medium Tarn Mallets (Innovative Percussion IP 1002 or IP 240), Vic Firth General T1 Timpani Mallets, Chromatic Pitchpipe, and a stick bag
- ❖ The Vic Firth EP2 pack has many of the above mentioned items. It is a great value.

General Conduct for Rehearsals

1. RESPECT ONE ANOTHER. Respect one another by not worrying about anyone other than yourself when it comes to roles within the ensemble. Show respect for each other's instruments and personal property as well.
2. RESPECT ALL TEACHERS, CLINICIANS, AND STAFF THAT LEAD OUR ENSEMBLES. Our program will practice respecting people put in positions of authority. I, and any person I hire to work with you, will treat you with respect and care. If you have a concern about anything, use the appropriate method for voicing your concern. Disrespectful outburst towards me or anyone that comes to work with the band will not be tolerated.

Classroom Expectations and Materials

The following guidelines are the foundation of our rehearsal procedure:

1. Band members should have the following items at all rehearsals
 - a. Instrument
 - b. All music/ Cheat Sheets
 - c. Reeds, mutes, oil, cork grease, etc.
 - d. Pencil
 - e. Other materials as specified by the director

2. For class rehearsals, band members will have two minutes or less immediately following the tardy bell to complete their preparation for rehearsal. When the director steps to the conducting area, a student is considered tardy if he/she is not seated in his/her chair with the instrument, music, stand, pencil, and chair in place.

3. When someone is on the podium, give your full attention to that person.

4. Chewing gum, eating, and drinking anything but water in the rehearsal room or storage room poses a health and safety risk and is not allowed.

5. Use of electronic devices (phones, etc.) is not permitted unless permission is given. Consequences for using these devices will follow the EHS Student Handbook.

6. The rehearsal room will be kept neat and orderly. It should emit a sense of pride. The rehearsal room is not a locker.

7. At the end of rehearsal, all instruments, music stands and chairs are properly put in their place. Instruments are NOT to be left outside of cases or in the band room. Instruments belong in the storage room lockers - no touching carpet.

Concert Expectations

1. BE PROFESSIONAL
 - Arrive on time - ready to warm up
 - Follow the performance dress code as specified on page 11.
 - Own your part and play with authority

2. HELP CLEANUP
 - All band members will be responsible for assisting in getting appropriate percussion instruments, stands, and other materials to the stage for performance set up and tear down.

Consequences for Poor Rehearsal Participation and Rehearsal Etiquette

1st offense: Warning

2nd offense: Reduction of rehearsal participation weekly grade

3rd offense: 20 Minute detention of the following school day afterschool

4th offense: Parent/Teacher/Student Conference

5th offense: Office Referral

Performance Dress Code

An audience first listens to you with their eyes. In order to perform our best, we must also look the part.

Black dress shoes must be flats or have heels less than 3 inches; no sandals or excessive jewelry or perfume. Colors must be all black unless otherwise specified.

Ladies

Solid Black dress, solid pant suit, or solid black blouse and skirt (minimum knee length)/slacks

Gentlemen

Long sleeve black shirt, black pants; sport coats are optional. Black dress shoes and black socks must be worn, no sneakers or sandals.

BOTH: No denim, tennis shoes : The director reserves the right to exclude a student from performing due to inappropriate clothing. Exclusion from a concert can result in a failing grade in the performance.

School-Owned Instruments

Students who check out school-owned instruments from Ms. Shepherd are required to sign (and have their parent/guardian sign) an instrument use agreement. The agreement states:

- Students will be responsible for paying for any repairs beyond normal wear and tear and notify the director immediately if there is an instrument issue.
- Any abuse or mistreatment of an instrument will result in an immediate suspension of use and that instrument. Any cost associated with the replacement or repair of that instrument will be added to the student's school account. Balances must be paid in order to receive a diploma.
- The student will be responsible for providing their own mouthpiece, neck strap, reeds, oil, etc.

Fundraising

A successful band program has a variety of needs. Some of these include: quality instruments for students, instrument repair, reed/oil purchases, music stands, sheet music, performance-based trips, high-qualified percussion and guard instructor for the marching and concert seasons. Students will have the opportunity to strengthen our program by participating in fundraisers.

Band Boosters

The Band Boosters are a parent organization which supports students in 6th -12th grade with volunteer needs, fundraising, and more! We are always looking for help and ideas within the program and any parent/guardian may join the booster club or attend meetings.

Booster meetings are held in the high school media center the first Monday of each month.

Acknowledgement of Reading the Handbook

**Returning this form
Will count as a playing test grade.**

**Please return by:
Friday January 27th 2023**

I have read and understand the expectations of being a part of Elkin's Band Program. I understand how grades are assessed, requirements of concerts, testing, and classroom rules. I understand how to consult Ms. Shepherd if necessary.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Student Preferred Email: _____

Student Phone for Remind Text: _____

Parent/Guardian Names _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Parent Email Address _____

Parent Phone _____