



**WAYNE VALLEY  
HIGH SCHOOL  
2011-2012  
BAND  
HANDBOOK**

Mr. Gabriel Batiz

Band Director

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## Wayne Valley High School Band

551 Valley Road

Wayne, NJ 07470

(973) 317-2258

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Dear Students and Parents,

*Welcome!*

The band program of Wayne Valley High School is one of the most exciting and active groups of students on campus. The program has become one of the most outstanding traditions both within the community and throughout the area. Members of the band program take pride in our close knit and active performing ensembles. While music may require more commitment than some other activities in campus, there is no program more rewarding.

As a member of the band, you can make a valuable contribution to the excellence of our ensembles. This handbook is intended as a guide and source of information for students and parents. It is hoped that this information will answer many basic questions about our program; its activities, traditions, responsibilities of membership, and rehearsal and performance procedures.

We look forward to your enthusiastic participation in making this the most successful year yet.

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Mr. Gabriel Batiz

# Section One

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

### Attendance

For any ensemble to be successful, it is necessary that all students attend all rehearsals. Extended periods of absence will not only hurt individual progress, but will hinder the success of the entire group. All bands will follow the normal attendance policies set forth in the student handbook.

### Preparation

All students must report to the band room with all necessary equipment. This includes, but is not limited to; your instrument, folder, music, warm-up packets, pencil, instrument accessories, and anything else needed for a normal rehearsal. Students who choose to come to band unprepared will have points deducted from the participation/preparation portion of their marking period grade. In extreme cases, the student's ability to perform in concerts will also be affected.

### Rehearsals

Once in the band room, each student is to get their instrument and music, and proceed to their assigned seat. Once seated, students are expected to begin the warm-up procedure on their own. Each student is also expected to check the board for the rehearsal schedule and any special announcements. Once the conductor is in front of the band, all playing and talking should stop, and rehearsal will begin. Failure to do so will result in point deduction from the student's participation/preparation portion of their marking period grade.

**There should be NO TALKING while the conductor is on the podium.  
Every piece of information is important for EVERYONE!**

### Performances

***Attendance at all concerts and festivals is 100% mandatory!*** Students will always receive information well in advance of any performance. *Failure to attend any school performance or festival will seriously jeopardize a student's marking period grade*, as well as affect their future participation in all other concerts and performances.

### Performance Attire

The attire for all band performances, concerts and festivals, will be as follows:

- Men will wear black slacks, a white dress shirt, dark tie and dark dress shoes.
- Women will wear a long plain black skirt that falls to or below the knee or slacks, with a **BLACK** long-sleeve blouse and dark **dress shoes**. Flip-flops are unacceptable. A long black dress with sleeves will also be accepted.

Failure to follow the above will jeopardize a student's participation in the performance.

**Graduation**

All participants of the Wayne Valley Concert band are expected to perform every year at the graduation ceremony. Failure to attend will result in an “F” for the fourth marking-period. Graduation date will be announced as it becomes closer.

**Music**

Each student will have their own folder and their own copy of all band music. Students will be assigned a place in one of the folder cabinets.

**Reeds**

The better the reed, the better you will play. Please do yourself a favor and purchase a box of high quality reeds that will last you throughout the year. This will bring many positive results. Students may purchase Rico Royal or Van Doren single reeds at school for \$1.50 each, or double Reeds (oboe, bassoon, etc) for \$10.00 each, during lessons, lunch, and before and after school only. In order for students to stay well prepared during class, they must maintain two working reeds with them at all times, as reeds will not be available during class time.

*Music Vendors offering a wide reed selection:*

Millers Saxophone Shop  
535 High Mountain Road  
North Haledon, NJ

Music & Arts  
762 Route 17 North  
Paramus, NJ

Elefante Music  
1790 Springfield Ave.  
New Providence, NJ

Woodwind & Brasswind  
[www.wwbw.com](http://www.wwbw.com)

Dillon Music  
76 New St.  
Woodbridge, NJ  
[www.dillonmusic.com](http://www.dillonmusic.com)

# Section Two

## GRADING POLICIES

### Marking Period Grade

Performances.....	30%
Class Participation.....	10%
Preparation/Playing Tests.....	30%
Lessons (attendance, preparedness of material).....	30%

### Class Participation/Preparation

Students are expected to be prepared and participate in class at all times by having their instruments, music and folder, drum sticks and mallets (for percussionists), and a pencil. Students have 5 minutes from when the bell rings to warm up and be seated. Students who are late to their seat, have no instrument, no music, no pencil, are chewing gum, are incessantly talking or playing while conductor is on podium, or leave the assigned area without permission, etc. will result in an automatic deduction from the participation/preparation portion of their grade.

### Lessons

Each student will be placed into lesson group. Your lesson group will be rotated weekly during your lunch period, and will be designated by the second week of the school. Lesson material will include, but is not be limited to, band music, chamber ensemble music, and overall technical and musical ability material. Each lesson will be graded with a point system to fulfill the 30% lesson portion of the student's marking period grade. (For example, if a student has 5 lessons scheduled in a marking period, each lesson would account for 6 points therefore totaling 30%.) These point values will be adjusted according to the amount of lessons a student has in a single marking period. A full lesson will be considered one that has lasted 30 minutes; allowing students several minutes to eat their lunch. Grading criteria for lessons will include overall preparedness and improvement in the individual's playing.

### Assignments, Quizzes, and Playing Tests

This percentage of the grading system will be based on written musical assignments, substitute assignments, scale quizzes and tests, and class music quizzes and tests. Students are expected to play certain quizzes and tests during the class period.

### Final Grade(s)

Final Grades will be determined by the aforementioned percentages. The midterm exam will consist of a comprehensive playing exam (which will serve as a seating test for the spring concert), the final exam will consist of a comprehensive written and playing exam.

## **Section Three**

### **EQUIPMENT AND STORAGE**

#### **The Band Room**

The maintenance and organization of the Band Room is everyone's responsibility. Here are some simple rules to follow:

1. Only water is permitted in the band room. **NO GUM AND OR FOOD** (unless a student has a scheduled lesson during their lunch period).
2. All instruments, equipment, and music must be stored in their proper location at all times.
3. Treat all school property (and others property) with respect.

The band room has around 100 students passing through it everyday! It is essential that we follow the above rules and work together to keep it neat.

#### **Storage**

All wind players are expected to return their instrument neatly to their original location. WVHS, WVHS Band, and the Wayne BOE is not responsible for lost/stolen instruments. ***Please protect your personal instrument with high regard.***

**PLEASE RETURN MUSIC FOLDERS TO FOLDER CABINET, AND KEEP THERE AT ALL TIMES; UNLESS TAKING FOLDER HOME TO PRACTICE.**

All instrument cases should have the student's name clearly labeled somewhere on the outside of the case.

#### **Percussion Instruments**

All percussion students are required to have their own sticks and mallets in every class. It is the student's responsibility to purchase a pair of snare sticks and chromatic percussion mallets (soft or hard). These inexpensive materials can be purchased at:

Millers Saxophone Shop  
535 High Mountain Road  
North Haledon, NJ

Guitar Center (Sticks ONLY)  
1 Route 46 West  
Totowa, NJ

Woodwind & Brasswind  
<http://www.wwbw.com/Drum-Sticks---Mallets-Drum-Accessories.wwbw>

Other options to buy percussion equipment:

Steve Weiss Music Online: [www.steveweissmusic.com](http://www.steveweissmusic.com)

**These materials must be purchased by the end of the first week of school or the student will face class participation grade point deduction and possible removal from the class.**

All percussion equipment must be returned to its proper location in Mr. Warfields room at the end of all rehearsals. The last student to use a piece of percussion equipment is personally responsible for putting away that piece of equipment for the *Percussion Ensemble* later that day. Time will be left at the end of the band class to prevent lateness to the following period.

### **Instrument Repairs**

If your instrument is in need of repair, you must report the situation immediately. If the instrument is a personal instrument, the student is responsible for either getting the instrument repaired him/herself or having the instrument repaired through the school, at the student's cost. If the instrument is school owned, and the damage was not due to negligence, the school will pay for the repair. Repairs through the school are sent to:

Millers Saxophone Shop  
535 High Mountain Road  
North Haledon, NJ

### **School Instrument Loan Policy**

Please see Mr. Batiz IMMEDIATELY in inquire about school instruments!

### **Replacement Costs**

*Music Folder* - \$15.00

*Music Parts* - current price listing for each piece on [www.jwpepper.com](http://www.jwpepper.com)

*Brass Mouthpiece* - \$40.00

*Woodwind Mouthpiece* - \$75.00

## **Section Four**

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

Besides the band the meets during the school day, there are other exciting musical groups for you to be a part of.

They include:

- Marching Indians
- Jazz Band
- Pit Orchestra
- Chamber Ensembles
- Percussion Ensemble

The aforementioned groups are available to all WVHS students.  
(Pit Orchestra/Jazz Band/Chamber Ensemble are done through audition)

### **BAND AWARDS**

The following awards are given at the end of each school year:

**Directors Award** – Awarded to an outstanding Freshman Band Student

**John Philip Sousa Award** – Awarded to the most outstanding Senior Band Student

**Louis Armstrong Jazz Award** – Awarded to an outstanding Jazz musician.

**Chuck Sastre Scholarship** – Awarded to a deserving senior who will continue to study music past high school.

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### Statement of Agreement

The rules and policies set forth in this handbook are to assist us in having the very best year possible. Please read them with your parents/guardians and return this page, completely signed, on September 12<sup>th</sup> (If the form is NOT handed in – it will be assumed that you and your parents comply with all rules and procedures).

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I have carefully read the Wayne Valley High School Band Handbook and agree to abide by the rules and policies set therein.

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Print Student Name

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Student Signature

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Date

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Parent Signature

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Date