



**WAYNE VALLEY
HIGH SCHOOL
2017-2018
SYMPHONIC BAND
HANDBOOK**

Mr. Gabriel Batiz
Band Director

Wayne Valley High School Band

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Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome!

The band program at 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 on 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/performance procedures.

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

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, inspection sheet, 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.
- *Band Polo and Khakis may be used as an alternate uniform for performance.*

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

Tentative Performance Dates/Rehearsals:

All dates are subject to change!

Wednesday, 12/13/2017: Music Department Winter Concert
TBD: Music Department Winter Concert Snow Date
Tuesday, 2/20/2018: Pop's Concert Dress Rehearsal (6pm-9pm)
Thursday, 2/22/2018: Pop's Concert "All That Jazz..."
Wednesday, 2/28/2018: Pop's Concert Snow Date
Wednesday, 2/28/2018: WPUNJ Band Day
TBD: North Jersey Area Band Concert Band Festival
Wednesday, 5/16/2018: Music Department Spring Concert
Monday, 5/28/2018: Memorial Day Parade
TBD: Annual Spring Band Trip
Monday, 6/25/2018: Wayne Valley Graduation

Graduation/Memorial Day Parade

All participants of the Wayne Valley Concert Band are expected to perform every year at the Memorial Day Parade and the WVHS Graduation Ceremony.

Similar to our sister school Wayne Hills, it is **mandatory** for all Concert Band and Marching Band students to attend the *Memorial Day Parade*. Lack of attendance will result in the marking period grade being dropped ONE LETTER GRADE (ex. An A will be dropped to B).

The *Graduation Ceremony* serves as the "Final" for the Concert Band. Failure to attend the ceremony will cause a failing grade for the final, and seriously jeopardize the student's 4th Marking Period Grade.

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 reeds at school for \$1.00 each during lessons, lunch, and before or 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
(973) 423-2522

Elefante Music
1790 Springfield Ave.
New Providence, NJ

Music & Arts
1770 US Highway 46
Little Falls, NJ 07421
(973) 901-6563

Dillon Music
6 New St.
Woodbridge, NJ
www.dillonmusic.com

Woodwind & Brasswind
www.wbw.com

Section Two

GRADING POLICIES

Marking Period Grade (100%)

Performances.....	40%
Class Participation.....	10%
Practice Sheets.....	20%
Inspections.....	20%
Assignments/Quizzes/Playing Tests.....	20%

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.

Inspection Sheets

Inspection Sheets will be discussed in detail during a student's lesson period. The inspection sheet serves as a tool that allows students to better prepare themselves for personal practice, in-school rehearsal, and finally, their performance. This grade will be counted twice – once for Symphonic Band and again for Instrumental Instruction. It is weighed more in Instrumental Instruction.

Practice Sheets/Journals

Practice Sheets will be handed out at the beginning of each marking period. Students are expected to practice AT LEAST 75 minutes a week (5 points). A parent/guardian must sign to confirm that the student honestly earned that practice time. Extra-Curricular Programs (Marching Band, Jazz Band, Spring Musical, etc.), outside performance opportunities, and live performances approved by Mr. Batiz can also be applied to Practice Sheets. Practice sheets will be due EVERY Monday, or the day immediately upon our return due to break/emergency days. At LEAST twice during the Marking Period, students will need to complete a *Practice Journal* which includes the submission of a video/recording of your assignment and a short "reflection" on your practice session.

Assignments, Quizzes, and Playing Tests

This percentage of the grading system will be based on written musical assignments, substitute assignments, scale quizzes and tests, class music quizzes and tests, *SmartMusic* assignments separate from lessons. 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 be split into 4 parts; A written exam, the Spring Concert, Memorial Day Parade, and Graduation Performance.

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 hundreds of 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 in every class. It is the student's responsibility to purchase a pair of snare sticks; this inexpensive material 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

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* the next 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:

The Music Shop
56 Fanny Road
Boonton, NJ 07005
www.themusicshop.com

Replacement Costs

Music Folder - \$15.00
Music Parts - current price listing for each piece on www.jwpepper.com
Brass Mouthpiece - \$40.00
Woodwind Mouthpiece - \$75.00

Section Four

MISCELLANEOUS

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

They include:

- Marching Band
- 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:

John Philip Sousa Award – Awarded to the most outstanding Senior Band student.

Patrick S. Gilmore Award – Awarded to an outstanding high school band student who isn't only a fine musician, but an exemplary leader in our program.

The Symphonic Band Director's Award – Awarded to a member of the Symphonic Band who is both outstanding in performance and leadership.

Louis Armstrong Jazz Award – Awarded to the most outstanding Jazz Musician, in our Jazz Program.

Matthew Mellon Memorial Award – Awarded to a student who has been shaped by the Band Program equally as much as they personally shaped the program in return.

National School Marching Band Award – Awarded to outstanding students who have marched at least 2 years in Marching Band, and have applied for the award.

Marching Band Boosters Scholarship – Awarded to deserving seniors who have marched at least 2 years in Marching Band, and have applied for the award.

Chuck Sastre Memorial Scholarship – Awarded to a deserving senior who will continue to study music beyond 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 15TH*** (If the form is NOT handed in – it will be assumed that you and your parents comply with all rules and procedures).

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

Print Student Name

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Wayne Valley Band Polo Shirt Order Form

**FORM DUE NO LATER
THAN FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 15TH.**



The WV Band Polo shirt will be worn as part of the uniform now and in future years. This shirt will be yours to keep for your entire band career.

All shirts will be 100% Pima cotton, light blue with embroidery on the left chest. Students will have their class (year) on the left arm.

Please complete the information below.

Name (print): _____ Graduation Year _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

Please circle:

Size: S M L XL \$24.00

 XXL \$26.00

Make checks payable to "Wayne Valley Band."