Fairfield Ludlowe High School

**BAND HANDBOOK**

September, 2015



The purpose of this handbook is to provide students and parents with a description of the programs available to students in the Fairfield Ludlowe High School Band Program. It is not a substitute for the official "Program of Studies" published by Fairfield Ludlowe High School. In the event of any conflict or discrepancy between this Handbook and the Program of Studies, the Program of Studies shall prevail.

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**Fairfield Ludlowe High School Music Department, 785 Unquowa Road, Fairfield, CT 06824**



#### Important Contact Information

Fairfield Ludlowe High School main office: 255-7201

Fairfield town wide music office and resource center @ FWHS: 255-8454

***Email is always the fastest, easiest way to contact faculty.***

#### Music Department Faculty

Nick Albano – Bands, Lessons and Jazz Lab Band nalbano@fairfieldschools.org

Julia Brion – Lesssons jbrion@fairfieldschools.org

Kevin Cotellese – Choirs, Piano, Music Theory kcotellese@ fairfieldschools.org

Sam Eckhardt – Music Tech, Lessons and Jazz Ensemble seckhardt@ fairfieldschools.org

Lynda Smith – Orchestras and Lessons lsmith@ fairfieldschools.org

Susie Filipowich – District Music Secretary @ FWHS sfilipowich@ fairfieldschools.org

**Music Department Overview**

“The Music Department offers a wide-range of courses that develop the three artistic processes of creating, performing, and responding at all levels. Students are encouraged to continue their study of a musical instrument or voice throughout their high school years…”

**BAND OFFERINGS**

**Concert Band I & II**

This course includes all ninth-grade students, as well as upperclassmen. Students will receive further training in instrumental techniques, ensemble playing, and music reading. This course focuses on fundamental aspects of reading and performing all styles of band literature. This course is a prerequisite to audition for the Wind Ensemble. Music fundamentals and developing student musicianship are emphasized. An instrumental lesson is required for each student enrolled in this course. Selected players from the Band may also perform with the Orchestra. Participation in fall, winter, and spring scheduled performances is required.

**Wind Ensemble**

This band is chosen by audition and by recommendation of the Band Director. A limited number of students will be selected on each instrument to provide balanced instrumentation. This ensemble, the most advanced of the high school bands, will study and perform standard wind ensemble literature from a variety of styles and periods. An instrumental lesson is required for each student enrolled in this course. Participation in fall, winter, and spring scheduled performances is required.

**MATERIALS**

* All Students: metronome
* Brass Students: instrument and case, mutes, valve oil, slide cream, lyre, tuner
* Woodwind Students: instrument and case, at least 3 working reeds, lyre, tuner
* Percussion Students: 1 pair of snare sticks, 1 pair of marimba mallets, stick bag

##### UNIFORMS

Uniform fittings are noted in the “FLHS Band Dates” portion of this handbook.

#### Male students in all performing groups:

* Tuxedo (supplied), which includes;
* Black jacket
* White shirt
* Black pants
* Black bow tie
* Cummerbund
* Black dress shoes & black socks (students must supply)

**Female students in all performing groups:**

* Black concert dress (supplied)
	+ dresses must be hemmed
* Black dress shoes & black stockings (students must supply)

#### Pep Band – All Students

* Band Jacket (supplied)
* Black pants (Memorial Day Parade only)
* Black shoes in nice condition (Memorial Day Parade only)

**\*\* Students not properly dressed or prepared for any performance or rehearsal may result in a loss of credit or dismissal from the event.**

**How to care for your Concert Attire**

**For all garments:**

* **NO TAGS ARE TO BE REMOVED FROM ANY GARMENT—EVER!** If the tag is irritating there are products available to tape down the offending tag. See coordinator for questions.
* Accidents can happen, but please treat any stains IMMEDIATELY by blotting or gently rubbing with a little cold water.
* Be sure to try on all your items BEFORE every concert day to ensure they’re clean, complete and still fit!
* Don’t wait until the last minute for exchanges, repairs, etc.
* Garments must be cleaned as soon as possible after wearing (see Men/Women details below)
* Please contact the concert attire coordinator with any serious repair or cleaning issues.
* Minor repairs (hems, buttons) and cleaning (laundering, small stains/spots) are your responsibility. Please take care of them as soon as you notice them to avoid last minute snags next concert!
* There will be parents available on concert night to assist with any last minute emergencies.

**Men**:

* New men’s pants may be cut prior to hemming, but should retain at least 4 inches of material for later alterations.
* **Black socks** are to be worn with your tuxedo.
* Please keep your tuxedo on a good hanger at home.
* Return bowtie, cummerbund and all studs to their bag IMMEDIATELY after removing them. Hang the bag on your jacket hanger to ensure everything stays together
* **Launder your shirt** (machine wash, no bleach, tumble dry, light iron) as soon as possible after every concert wearing. Perspiration can stain the fabric and eventually cause it to deteriorate.
* **Pay special attention to collars and cuffs.** Pre-treat stains if necessary. Please DO NOT dry clean your shirts as this will set any stains that have occurred. Dry clean only when returning your shirt.
* Pants and jackets may be **dry cleaned only** as needed.
* Ties and cummerbunds can be spot cleaned as needed.

**Women**:

* Women’s skirts and gowns may be cut to properly hem them but please leave at least 2 inches. Hemmed skirts and gowns should be 1” off the floor with dress shoes on. These dresses should be considered “evening wear.”
* Women must wear dress shoes with their dresses or skirts.
* Gowns & skirts must be hemmed with **stitching ONLY.** Taping the hem will ruin the fabric and you will be charged a full replacement fee when the gown is returned.
* Please keep your gown on a good hanger at home. Loop the hanging straps over the top of the hanger to keep it hanging straight.
* Please clean your dress or top as soon as possible after every performance. Perspiration can stain the fabric and eventually cause it to deteriorate – Hand wash in COLD water
* Dry cleaning required only when returning the garment.

**Please contact the coordinator at any time with any questions, problems, clarifications, etc.**

**MPA (Music Parents Association) Uniform Coordinator:**

Lucy Buggy, lkbuggy6@gmail.com or 203-581-9119

**Grading Policy**

It is the policy of the FLHS Music Department that students be assessed on the basis of class performance, participation, attendance, and test grades. Each student is expected to contribute to the success of the group through his or her demonstrated dedication, commitment, maturity, and diligence during rehearsals and performances. The music faculty members believe that every student, regardless of musical ability, can achieve high levels of excellence. Band grades are determined using this weighting:

 **40% Ensemble and Rehearsal Skill**

* Classroom performance and rehearsal technique
* In-class assignments

 **40% Individual/Small Group Performance Skills (including Lessons)**

* 20% Smartmusic grade
* 20% Lesson Grade

 **20% Ensemble Performances**

 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **100% Quarter Average**

**\*\* Students not properly dressed or prepared for any performance or rehearsal may result in a loss of credit or dismissal from the event.**

**LESSONS**

Every band student is scheduled for a weekly individual or small group lesson. During the lessons students will continue to develop their technical skills and will be given the opportunity to work on solo or small ensemble literature. Lessons are not to be used for rehearsing Concert Band or Wind Ensemble material, nor will they provide students time to complete Smartmusic assignments. Lessons will be scheduled during a student’s free period, study hall or lunch. Lessons account for 20% of the student’s quarter grade. The lesson grade will be determined by attendance and performance. Lesson attendance is mandatory and under no circumstance should a student miss a scheduled lesson to make up work for other classes. A lesson textbook may be required for purchase depending on the needs of the individual student.

**SMARTMUSIC**

Smartmusic is software developed to assist students in practice their instruments as well as providing assessments for the teacher. Throughout the year students will be given assignments to be completed and submitted using this software. These assignments are designed to assess concert repertoire and technical skills, as well as giving a student assistance and feedback for practicing. Smartmusic is available for home purchase but is not required. Students will be able to use this software on school computers within the music department during free time or after school hours. The student’s Smartmusic grade average will account for 20% of the student’s quarter grade.

**INDIVIDUAL ENRICHMENT / EXTRA CREDIT**

Individual practice during school or after-school (logged by Mr. Albano) +1 per hour (10 pt cap)

Participation in a student-run, FLHS-based, instrumental chamber +3 to +5 per qtr

 ensemble which maintains regular weekly rehearsals

Participating in after-school sectional or master class (logged by Mr. Albano) +1 per occurrence

CMEA Region Audition (or “Adjudication only”) +2 2nd MP

CMEA Region Participation +4 2nd MP

CMEA All-State Audition +3 3rd MP

CMEA All-State Participation +5 4th MP

Individual projects (research, poster, etc) +1 to +3 per qtr

Administrative assistance (helping with filing, organization, etc) +1 to +2 per occurrence

**Ensemble & Rehearsal Skills Scoring Rubric**

*This is the criteria that will be used to evaluate students’ Ensemble and Rehearsal Skills:*

**NAME \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ QUARTER: 1 2 3 4 WEEK \_\_\_\_\_**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Advanced – 4** | **Proficient – 3** | **Basic – 2** | **Below Basic - 1** |
| **Performance & Rehearsal Technique** | * Consistently exhibits proper playing position and posture
* Consistently performs correct articulations
* Consistently performs with appropriate air support and sound
* Consistently plays written dynamics/expressions
* Consistently demonstrates and performs with proper fingerings
 | * Almost always displays proper playing position and posture
* Usually performs correct articulations.
* Usually performs with appropriate air support and sound
* Usually performs written dynamics/expressions
* Usually demonstrates and performs with proper fingerings
 | * Displays proper playing position and posture only when reminded
* Occasionally performs correct articulations.
* Occasionally performs with appropriate air support and sound
* Occasionally performs written dynamics/expressions
* Occasionally demonstrates and performs with proper fingerings
 | * Rarely displays proper playing position and posture.
* Does not perform correct articulations
* Does not perform with appropriate air support and sound
* Does not perform written dynamics/expressions
* Does not demonstrate or perform with proper fingerings.
 |
| **Rehearsal Preparedness** | * Consistently updates and utilizes music folder/flip folder.
* Is consistently ready to begin class on time. Uses the beginning of class to tune and prepare for the rehearsal.
* Marks music and takes useful notes without prompting.
 | * Usually updates and utilizes music folder/flip folder.
* Almost always ready to begin class on time. Needs no reminding to prepare for the rehearsal.
* Marks music and takes notes.
 | * Updates and utilizes music folder/flip folder when reminded.
* Needs to be reminded to prepare for class.
* Marks music when prompted.
 | * Does not update or utilize music folder/flip folder.
* Is not ready to begin class on time.
* Does not mark music.
 |
| **Response to Conductor** | * Is able to watch conductor while performing.
* Consistently responds to and demonstrates understanding of conductor’s musical gestures.
* Consistently cuts off with the conductor.
* Is consistently ready to play when requested.
 | * Is usually able to watch conductor while performing.
* Usually responds to and understands conductor’s musical gestures.
* Usually cuts off with the conductor.
* Is usually ready to play when requested.
 | * Occasionally watches the conductor while performing.
* Understands gestures but has difficulty responding.
* Occasionally cuts off with the conductor (plays over extra beats).
* Is often not ready to play when requested.
 | * Does not watch the conductor.
* Does not respond or understand conductor’s gestures.
* Often does not cut off with the conductor (several beats elapse since cut off).
* Is not ready to play when requested.
 |
| **Collaboration** | * Provides insightful musical suggestions and directions to members of section.
* Demonstrates concentrated focus; refrains from side conversations.
 | * Is able to offer suggests for improvement and listens for discrepancies in ensemble.
* Demonstrates strong concentration with little distraction.
 | * Reinforces suggestions for improvement.
* Demonstrates adequate focus; occasionally needs to be reminded to refrain from talking.
 | * Is not aware of discrepancies in ensemble and unable to provide suggestions for improvement.
* Inconsistent focus; needs frequent reminders to sit still, refrain from talking or actively participate.
 |

|  |
| --- |
| 14-16 = A – A+ | 10-13 = B – B+ | 7-9 = C – C+ | 5-6 = D – D+ | 4 = F |

**Lesson Rubric Sample**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Day: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Ensemble:\_\_\_\_\_\_ Instrument:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1st / 2nd / 3rd / 4th Marking Period Goals:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date:** | **Notes:** | **Areas of concern:**Tone QualityPitch Production/IntonationTempo/RhythmArticulations/TonguingAir support/PostureInterpretation | **Next lesson assignment:**Scales \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Etude \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **Grade:****NA****NC****M****B****P****A** |
| Book: Y NPencil: Y N |
| TardyMissedAbsent  No SchoolNo Lesson |
| **Date:** | **Notes:** | **Areas of concern:**Tone QualityPitch Production/IntonationTempo/RhythmArticulations/TonguingAir support/PostureInterpretation | **Next lesson assignment:**Scales \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Etude \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **Grade:****NA****NC****M****B****P****A** |
| Book: Y NPencil: Y N |
| TardyMissedAbsent  No SchoolNo Lesson |
| **Date:** | **Notes:** | **Areas of concern:**Tone QualityPitch Production/IntonationTempo/RhythmArticulations/TonguingAir support/PostureInterpretation | **Next lesson assignment:**Scales \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Etude \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **Grade:****NA****NC****M****B****P****A** |
| Book: Y NPencil: Y N |
| TardyMissedAbsent  No SchoolNo Lesson |
| **Date:** | **Notes:** | **Areas of concern:**Tone QualityPitch Production/IntonationTempo/RhythmArticulations/TonguingAir support/PostureInterpretation | **Next lesson assignment:**Scales \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Etude \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **Grade:****NA****NC****M****B****P****A** |
| Book: Y NPencil: Y N |
| TardyMissedAbsent  No SchoolNo Lesson |
| **Date:** | **Notes:** | **Areas of concern:**Tone QualityPitch Production/IntonationTempo/RhythmArticulations/TonguingAir support/PostureInterpretation | **Next lesson assignment:**Scales \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Etude \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **Grade:****NA****NC****M****B****P****A** |
| Book: Y NPencil: Y N |
| TardyMissedAbsent  No SchoolNo Lesson |

**Grading Rubric:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MINIMAL**  | **BASIC**  | **PROFICIENT**  | **ADVANCED**  |
| No evidence of practiceNo progress since last lesson, student continues to make same mistakes | Moderate evidence of practiceStudent shows some progress since last lesson, however areas of concern still dominate overall progress made  | Strong evidence of practiceAssigned areas of concern have improved, however student needs to continue with assignment | Solid evidence of practiceAreas of concern have been addressed and student is ready to move on |

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Ensemble are performance-based classes: participation in these ensembles is similar, in many ways, to an athletic team, except that in Band, no one "sits the bench". Every member is vitally important to the whole group, so absence will affect everyone. Performances and dress rehearsals are the most important part of what we do in the Music Department, so absences should be avoided as much as possible. All performances are mandatory. The only acceptable excused absences for concerts are religious observances, personal illness, approved family emergencies, or participating in a state-level playoff game. Excuses for dress rehearsals are the same as for concerts with the inclusion of athletic games and matches. Work is not considered a valid excuse for absence.

MUSIC and ATHLETICS are important to our school community. Occasionally, there may an unavoidable conflict after-school and this is the hierarchy of acceptability, which has been accepted by our administration, teachers, athletic director, and coaches:

Sports practice VS. Any after school music event = go to after-school music event

Sports game VS. concert = go to concert

 VS. music rehearsal = go to game\*

 VS. Pep-Band performance = go to game\*

State playoff game VS. concert = go to game\*

 VS. music rehearsal = go to game\*

 VS. Pep-Band performance = go to game\*

\*Alternate assignment may be required by Mr. Albano

**Signed excuse forms from a parent regarding absences of a special nature must be submitted as soon as possible or at least one week before an after-school rehearsal, two weeks before a pep band performance, and at least one month prior to any concert or marching performance.** All conflicts regarding performances and dress rehearsals will be resolved on a case-by-case basis and the communication of all parties is the key to a successful resolution. In the unlikely event of an extended illness, an appropriate amount of time will be given for the student to make up any work missed when they return to school. Each case will be handled individually.

Students will be given a copy of the 2015-2016 FLHS Music Department Important Dates, which should be compared against their home calendar. Students may also access a complete listing of all Music Department activities and events by going to the calendar section of the FLHS Music Department webpage. Please list conflicts on the form at the back of this supplement or submit an excuse form as soon as possible.

***\* If a student has an excused absence, they must complete the approved alternative assignment within a week of the missed performance or rehearsal to receive credit.***

**PEP BAND PERFORMANCES (VARSITY FOOTBALL)**

The members of the Concert Band and the Wind Ensemble together comprise the FLHS Pep Band. The Band’s task is to provide a sense of community and school spirit to the home varsity football games, which has been a school and Fairfield community tradition for decades. The assigned football games include Ludlowe home games plus the annual Thanksgiving Day football game against Fairfield Warde HS (home or away). Band students are expected to be in attendance at all Pep Band performances, however with a parent-signed excuse form submitted at least two weeks before a game, students will be permitted to miss one game with no make-up necessary. If more than one game must be missed for an approved reason, students will be permitted to complete an alternate assignment in lieu of that Pep Band performance grade. A student may complete any of the following alternative assignment(s) in place of an excused Pep Band performance. These may all be done as needed, but not repeated in the same quarter.

* Perform individually five (5) pep band charts on instrument, with appropriate style.
* Research the principal player of your instrument in two major orchestras (New York Philharmonic and the Philadelphia Orchestra, for example), and listen to solo music excerpts by both artists and write a reaction to what you heard (2-3 ¶) using music terminology. Also, write a brief biography of these performers (1-2 ¶).
* Do other teacher-approved, written research project.

**MEMORIAL DAY PARADE ALTERNATIVE ASSIGNMENTS**

It is an annual tradition in our community to honor our Veterans by performing in the Fairfield Memorial Day Parade. Should an extenuating circumstance arise in which a student has an approved excused absence for this event, a student must submit a signed request for an excused absence and complete this alternative assignment for the Memorial Day Parade and the associated evening marching rehearsal:

* Interview a veteran or active service member of any branch of the military concerning the history and importance of Memorial Day (at least two pages, double-spaced, with proper citations). Include your interview questions as well as the veteran’s feelings and experiences about his service to country.

**AND**

* Two (2) hours of community, school, or music department service with a signed note by an official adult representative describing the service performed.

**INSTRUMENT/EQUIPMENT STORAGE**

It is the responsibility of all band students to keep the instrument storage room and band room safe, clean, and orderly. **Excepted for water, there is no food, drinks or gum allowed in the band room, unless approved by the director**. Students should not keep personal items in the instrument storage room, except during band classes, and definitely not gym clothes or food overnight. Instruments should go home regularly to maintain a consistent practice schedule.Instruments that are habitually left in the instrument room over weekends and holidays may cause grade deductions unless the student has another instrument at home to practice.

Occasionally, Mr. Albano will do an inspection of the instrument and music storage areas. Please be responsible young adults and keep your locker clean. Grade deductions and/or detentions may be issued for:

* + Food left in the room or locker
	+ Abuse of an instrument (inappropriate storage procedure, etc)
	+ Instrument left out of its case
	+ Trash left behind

**DAILY PROCEDURE**

**INSTRUMENT ROOM HOURS**

**Morning drop-off 7:20-7:30 a.m.**

**Afternoon pick-up 2:20-3:00 p.m.**

Students are expected to be inside the band room by the second bell. Within **three minutes** after the bell, students should be seated in their assigned location with everything needed for class. Students should warm-up quietly and tune their instrument with proper technique. Any student who comes tardy to class must have a pass*.*

***“The sanctity of the podium” –*** once the Director or anyone designated as a teacher steps on the podium (including Mr. Albano, Mrs. Cotellese, Mr. Eckhardt, Mrs. Smith, or a substitute teacher) all playing and talking ends abruptly. Always maintain a quiet, professional atmosphere during instruction, performing, or announcements. Once instruction has begun, there is to be no more individual playing or talking unless indicated.

Students should use the lavatory or get a drink of water before or after the class period. In case of an emergency, students may use the restroom. Students must ask the director before leaving the room. Have a capped water bottle handy at your seat if you get thirsty while playing.

Students should use their time wisely as extra time is given after the second bell to be in your seat. This time is not for socializing, but for preparing your instrument, tuning, and warming up. Every effort will be made to release students one to two minutes before the end of the class period for the purpose of proper instrument, equipment, and music storage.

**OTHER BAND OPPORTUNITIES**

**CMEA Western Region Festival**

The CMEA (Connecticut Music Educators’ Association) Western Region ensembles are comprised of students from the Southwestern corner of the state. Students who audition for Region are eligible to be chosen for these ensembles: Band, Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble, Choir. The appropriate solo, scales, and sight-reading or improvisation must be prepared ahead of the November 14, 2015 audition date. The CMEA required music list and sign-ups are found on the white board in the band room. Please see Mr. Albano or your private instructor for more detailed information about the audition.

**CMEA All-State Festival**

All-State ensembles are comprised of Region students from throughout Connecticut. Students must audition at the All-State Solo Audition Festival to be eligible for All-State ensembles. The appropriate solo, scales, and sight-reading or improvisation must be prepared ahead of the January 30, 2016 audition date. An invitation to perform with any All-State ensemble is a great honor as only 500 students are selected from a total pool of 4,800 candidates. “All-State” is a wonderful opportunity to perform with the best instrumentalists in our state under the direction of conductors from across the country. The CMEA required music list and sign-ups are found on the white board in the band room. Please see Mr. Albano or your private instructor for more detailed information.

**HELPFUL HINTS**

**FOR SUCCESS**

Check your folder slot daily.

Observe posted notices and reminders in the band room and on the Music Department and Band web pages.

Keep your music organized and orderly for easy access during rehearsals.

Carry pencil(s), valve oil, reeds, sticks, mallets for every rehearsal and performance.

Put away music, instrument, equipment, and personal belongings after every rehearsal or performance. Do not assume someone else will take care of your stuff. Never leave music out on the stands or your instrument outside its locker or proper case.

Do your best to help keep the band room clean and orderly. Please, no food, drinks, or gum in the band room at any time, except with permission of the Director. Put stands and chairs back after moving them. Don’t leave personal items in your instrument locker or on the floor overnight. The Band Room is not a locker room.

Only play your instrument at the appropriate time or when instructed to do so.

Stay focused during rehearsals and always keep a professional atmosphere.

You are provided with one excuse forms in this packet. You may never have to use these. If a form is used, write on it legibly and have it signed by a parent. Excuse forms should be turned in to your Band Director ONE MONTH before a concert performance, TWO WEEKS before a football game, or ONE WEEK before a dress rehearsal.

Most music forms needed throughout the year can be found on the Band webpages.

**FLHS BAND DATES 2015-2016**

***NOTE: A great effort is made to make sure these dates and times are correct. Even with that, sometimes there are slight changes that need to be made.***

**Wednesday, September 16 Student Uniform Fitting – SOPH. - SEN. AS NEEDED**

Students must be fitted during one of the scheduled nights

 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**Friday, September 18** **Football Game – WIND ENSEMBLE ONLY**

 Be sure to have FLHS Band Jacket and flip folder

 6:00 p.m. rehearsal in band room, 6:45 p.m. in the bleachers

**Thursday, September 24 Student Uniform Fitting –ALL NEW STUDENTS**

Students must be fitted during one of the scheduled nights

 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**Friday, September 25** **Football Game – WIND ENSEMBLE ONLY**

 Be sure to have FLHS Band Jacket and flip folder

 6:00 p.m. rehearsal in band room, 6:45 p.m. in the bleachers

**Saturday, October 17** **Football Game – WIND ENSEMBLE & CONCERT 2 ONLY**

 Be sure to have FLHS Band Jacket, flip folder and jeans

 1:30 p.m. rehearsal in band room, 2:15 p.m. in the bleachers

**Tuesday, October 27** **Concert** – **ALL BAND MEMBERS**

 Report to Band Room in full concert dress at 6:30 p.m.

 **Concert Begins at 7:30**

**Friday, October 30**  **Football Game – ALL BAND MEMBERS**

 Be sure to have FLHS Band Jacket and flip folder

 6:00 p.m. rehearsal in band room, 6:45 p.m. in the bleachers

**Saturday, November 14** **CMEA Western Region Auditions @ Danbury HS**

 **Select Students**

 Time TBA, FLHS will not provide transportation

 Transport by parent/guardian per CMEA rules

**Thursday, November 26** **Thanksgiving Football Game vs. Warde**

 Arrive at FLHS at 9:00 a.m.

 Game begins at 10:00 a.m.

**Monday, December 14 Candlelight Dress Rehearsal – Wind Ensemble Only** 2:30 p.m. – necessary

**Tuesday, December 15 Candlelight Dress Rehearsal – Wind Ensemble Only** 2:30 p.m. – necessary

**Wednesday, December 16** **Candlelight In- School Concerts – Wind Ensemble Only**

 Arrival schedule TBA

 Performances times at 10:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

**Thursday, December 17** **Candlelight Concerts – Wind Ensemble Only**

 Arrive at the Band Room at 5:30 p.m.

 Performances times at 6:30 p.m. & 8:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, December 23**  **TENTATIVE** **Candlelight Concerts – Wind Ensemble Only**

 Times TBD

**Thursday, January 7th** **Concert** – **Concert 1, Concert 2, Jazz Lab (tentative)**

 Report to Band Room in full concert dress at 6:30 p.m.

 **Concert Begins at 7:30**

**Friday, January 15**  **CMEA Western Region Festival, Trumbull H.S.**

 **Select students**

 3:30p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

 FLHS provides bus transportation to and from DHS

**Saturday, January 16**  **CMEA Western Region Festival, Darien H.S.**

 **Select Students**

 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

 FLHS provides bus transportation to DHS.

 Parent/guardian pick-up after concert.

**Saturday, January 30** **CMEA All-State Auditions @ North Haven H.S.**

 **Select students**

 Time TBA, FLHS will not provide transportation

 Transport by parent/guardian per CMEA rules

**Tuesday, March 8**  **Concert** – **ALL BANDS**

 Report to Band Room in full concert dress at 6:30 p.m.

 **Concert Begins at 7:30**

**Friday, May 13**  **Jazz Dinner Dance – Jazz Ensemble**

 TBD

**Wednesday, May 25**  **Senior** **Awards Concert** – **Wind Ensemble Only**

 Report to Band Room at 6:30 p.m.

 Concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

**Monday, May 30**  **Memorial Day Parade – ALL STUDENTS**

 Report to corner S. Pine Creek & Post Rd. at 9:00

**Thursday, June 2**  **Spring Concert – Concert Band I & II**

 Report to Band Room at 6:30 p.m.

 Concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, June 9**  **Jazz A Capella Concert – Jazz Ensemble & Jazz Lab**

 Report to Band Room at 6:00 p.m.

 Concert begins at 7:00 p.m.

*Let’s have a great year!*

**FLHS BAND HANDBOOK**

**RETURN FORM**

**Due no later than Sept. 15, 2015**

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*“I have reviewed the Band Handbook. I have also reviewed the dates and the following is true:”*

 \_\_\_\_\_ **My child will be in attendance at all listed functions.**

 \_\_\_\_\_ **My child has a conflict on the circled dates below:**

* Wednesday, September 16: Student Uniform Fitting – SOPH. - SEN. AS NEEDED
* Friday, September 18: Football Game – WIND ENSEMBLE ONLY
* Thursday, September 24: Student Uniform Fitting –ALL NEW STUDENTS
* Friday, September 25: Football Game – WIND ENSEMBLE ONLY
* Saturday, October 17: Football Game – WIND ENSEMBLE & CONCERT 2 ONLY
* Friday, October 30: Football Game – ALL BAND MEMBERS
* Tuesday, October 27: Concert – ALL BAND MEMBERS
* Saturday, November 14: CMEA Western Region Auditions @ Danbury HS: Select Students
* Thursday, November 26: Thanksgiving Football Game vs. Warde
* Monday, December 14: Candlelight Dress Rehearsal – Wind Ensemble Only
* Tuesday, December 15: Candlelight Dress Rehearsal – Wind Ensemble Only
* Wednesday, December 16: Candlelight In- School Concerts – Wind Ensemble Only
* Thursday, December 17: Candlelight Concerts – Wind Ensemble Only
* Wednesday, December 23: TENTATIVE Candlelight Concerts – Wind Ensemble Only
* Thursday, January 7th: Concert – Concert 1, Concert 2, Jazz Lab (tentative)
* Friday, January 15: CMEA Western Region Festival, Trumbull H.S. Select students
* Saturday, January 16: CMEA Western Region Festival, Darien H.S. Select Students
* Saturday, January 30: CMEA All-State Auditions @ North Haven H.S. Select students
* Tuesday, March 8: Concert – ALL BANDS Concert Begins at 7:30
* Friday, May 13: Jazz Dinner Dance – Jazz Ensemble
* Wednesday, May 25: Senior Awards Concert – Wind Ensemble Only
* Monday, May 30: Memorial Day Parade – ALL STUDENTS
* Thursday, June 2: Spring Concert – Concert Band I & II
* Friday, June 9: Jazz A Capella Concert – Jazz Ensemble & Jazz Lab

If an illness or a family emergency comes up before a rehearsal or performance, please get word to Mr. Albano via email at nalbano@fairfieldschools.org as quickly as possible.

*“I realize it is my son/daughter’s responsibility to make-up missed dress rehearsals and performances within one week or the quarter grade will be penalized.”*

**Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date of return** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_