

Bath High School



Band Handbook

Dear Students and Parents: CONGRATULATIONS on your decision to be a part of the Tradition of Excellence! It is with great excitement and anticipation that we welcome you to the Bath High School Bands. The band program at Bath has an outstanding reputation of excellence, and the staff is looking forward to working with all of you in another successful year.

This booklet is designed as a guide for both parents and students to give specific details concerning all aspects of the Marching Band program. In reading this, we hope to eliminate student misunderstanding and/or misconduct by providing a reference for all band policies. It is imperative that every student/parent read this document and understands our procedures.

Please check Schoology/Google Calendar for updates throughout the year. The goals of our program are to: develop musical performance skills, demonstrate and apply these skills in a marching and concert band setting, develop leadership skills, learn to work together toward a common goal, foster a positive attitude, to conduct ourselves as a first-class organization, and finally, to enjoy ourselves and have fun in the process.

Regards,

Hannah Snyder, Director of Bands

Stephen Hanhold Assistant Director of Bands

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Description of Student Leadership Roles

1. *Band Member:* A Bath High School Band Member is a student who has, by choice, committed and dedicated themselves to the objectives of the Band program. A Band Member should always strive to be a successful part of the band.

2. *Band Officers:* Band Officers should, because of their position, serve as role models to all members of the band. In many instances, their standards must be set higher to achieve the goals of leadership and respect. Once leadership and respect are earned, the Band Officers should not hesitate to assume authority in the absence of the directors. They are responsible for welcoming visiting bands and directors to our stadium, as well as serving as ambassadors for the Bath Bands. Additional responsibilities include maintaining our rehearsal facilities and practice field.

3. *Leadership Team:* The Leadership Team, which will consist of Band Officers and Section Leaders, are a group of students who are VITAL to the success of the Bath Band Program. Primary responsibilities include: helping to teach the halftime show to members of their section, being a role model for the entire band, and judging music checks. The Leadership Team is also responsible for making sure every member of the Marching Band comes to rehearsals with flip folders, charts, and all components of their instrument.

General Information

Music: Every wind and percussion player is issued all music per show. Music is expected to be memorized and a memorization check will take place during scheduled times. Failure to prepare music will result in a lowering of your grade. You will be given **ONE** copy of your music. Music is to be kept in flip folders at all times. Should you lose your music, ask your leadership team or band librarian for help before asking the directors. You may also purchase extra flip folder sheets from the directors. All students (excluding percussion) are required to bring a flip folder and lyre to every rehearsal and performance. School owned instruments should be treated as if they are your own. Students using school owned instruments will be responsible for any damage due to negligence.

Uniforms: All members must wear their own marching band shoes, blue band tee shirt, tall UNMARKED BLACK socks, and white marching gloves. Gloves can be purchased from the uniform room before every performance. The Bath Marching Band uses black Dinkle marching band shoes. You will need to order these before the end of the school year!

Attendance/Grading Policy

A. *Procedure for missing a rehearsal or performance due to illness:* Absences at rehearsals and performances affect the entire band. All absences must be reported with an email or letter (signed by a parent/guardian) ahead of time. Reporting an absence does not necessarily mean the absence will be counted as “excused.” If the absence is

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excused from school, they will be excused from the performance but will need to complete a makeup assignment.

B. *Rehearsals*: The only excuses for missing rehearsals are as follows: family emergency, personal illness, or extenuating circumstances as deemed by the directors. Any unexcused absences from rehearsals will result in one or more of the following: 1. Deduction in grade 2. Loss of performance 3. Removal from leadership responsibilities 4. Dismissal from band

C. *Fair Show/Parade Week: (August)* Due to family vacations, rehearsals during Fair week are flexible as long as the directors are notified two-weeks in advance of the student's absence.

D. *Band Camp Week, Summer Rehearsals: (July/August)* Attendance at rehearsals beginning Band Camp week are mandatory. These rehearsals are crucial to the Band's success at all performances. Failure to attend these rehearsals will result in the student's grade being lowered. Dates for these rehearsals are announced in the spring.

E. *Performances*: All band members are required to attend all band performances. The only excuses for missing performances are:

- a. Court or legal proceeding that can not be changed
- b. Personal illness severe enough that the student cannot perform
- c. Death in the family.

d. Other extenuating circumstances are at the discretion of the directors. An example of an extenuating circumstance is "a wedding of a close relative that takes place during the performance." We must be notified of an extenuating circumstance 2 weeks prior to any performance. This allows another student time to learn the new spot or Symphonic Band part so the entire group is not penalized.

e. District Concert Band Contest and State Band Contest (held in the Spring of each year) are a major portion of the course curriculum. Attendance is mandatory for all students. Pieces are studied for almost 8 weeks in preparation for this performance. Evaluation is made on that day by 4 judges on the students' collective work. An unexcused absence by one band member has a negative effect on the performance level of the entire band. Thus, the grade for District and State Contest is a major portion of the student's grade for that 9 weeks. The high level of performance that the Bath Bands have achieved is due to the pride and dedication of its members. Attendance is an important part of a successful band program.

F. *Tardiness*: Students are expected to be punctual for all band events. If a rehearsal is scheduled for 8AM, the student should arrive at 7:45AM to allow adequate time to warm up and prepare for the day's activities. Tardiness at a rehearsal may result in a lowered grade, suspension of 3rd quarter privileges during marching season. Tardiness at a performance may result in the student not participating in the performance.

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Football Game Policy

A. Football games are fun, and we are there to perform and support the team. However, we must maintain a class act at all times. Band members may stand up and YELL/SCREAM in support of the game, but should always remain in their "spot". It is important to remain alert with all of the expensive equipment around you, as well as the need to play at a moment's notice.

1. Good bands look organized at all times! Your conduct in the stands during football games is important to the impression we leave with the general public. Poor discipline presents a negative impression and good discipline presents a positive impression. A part of that impression is showing school spirit and supporting the team.

2. Be alert!! Events happen quickly at football games. Watch the directors and be prepared to play the fight song after each touchdown or field goal. DO NOT play your instrument unless the entire band is playing.

3. Do not invite your friends/family to sit with you in the band stands. Only band students are allowed in the band section.

4. Do not bring food to the band stands. You may get refreshments during the third quarter, but you must eat away from the stands.

5. Keep your instrument with you at all times. This will prevent it from getting damaged.

6. Stay in your uniform at ALL times. Never place any part of your uniform or instrument on the ground.

7. Never leave the stands without permission from the directors/chaperones.

8. When you are in uniform, you represent the Bath Band, Bath High School, and the community of Bath, as well as your family, Mrs. Snyder and Mr. Hanhold. Always leave a positive impression!

B. Third Quarter Procedure

1. Make sure your instrument is secured and safe when leaving the band stand. You are responsible for your instrument AT ALL TIMES.

2. Do not bring food/friends back to the band stands.

3. Do not leave the stadium.

4. Stay in uniform at all times.

5. Public display of affection will not be tolerated.

6. You are expected to be in your seat, ready to play, at the end of the 3rd quarter. Violation of these rules will result in the loss of third quarter privileges.

C. Bus Conduct:

The band takes many trips during the school year. The majority of these trips are to away games and marching band shows, but these rules apply to ALL bus trips, no matter what time of year

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1. The bus driver is in control of the bus at ALL times. Also, the chaperone is in control of the bus. Insubordinate behavior to these people will result in disciplinary action by the directors and/or administration
2. Use moderation when talking.
3. Use of profanity is not tolerated.
4. Maintain silence at railroad crossings
5. Your uniform must be kept on during the entire trip, unless permission to do otherwise is given by the directors. (you may take your hat off)
6. Remain in your seat at all times
7. Remain on the bus until instructed to disembark.
8. Do not ask to change buses. Do not change buses.
9. Do not yell/scream out of bus windows.
10. When returning to school, leave the bus in better condition than you found it.
11. Do not forget to thank the drivers and chaperones for their assistance in making the trip safe and enjoyable.

E. Instrument Transportation and Care:

1. Small instruments (flutes, clarinets, trumpets) will go on the bus with the band members.
2. Instruments placed on the truck should be cased properly and placed by the truck by the band member.
3. Make sure your name is on your instrument case.
4. Never lay your instrument on the ground when wet.
5. Clean your instrument frequently. Use cork grease, slide grease, and valve oil as needed.
6. Make sure the mouthpiece is securely packed in your case to avoid damage during transport.
7. Clean your mouthpiece WEEKLY.
8. Never leave your instrument lying uncased in the band room.
9. Do not play other student's instruments.
10. During marching band rehearsals, NEVER leave your instrument unattended.
11. If a school owned instrument is damaged due to student negligence, the student is financially responsible for the repair of the instrument.

F. Music Checks:

All band members are required to do music checks. Music checks are done to ensure that the music has been memorized and is being performed correctly.

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1. The Leadership Team will play their music checks to the directors.
2. Band members will play their music checks to the Leadership Team.
3. If a band member cannot pass his/her music check, the band member loses 3rd quarter privileges at football games. The band member will be required to check off again not more than 3 days later.
4. If a band member cannot pass music checks to his/her Leadership Team member on a consistent basis, they will be required to check off to one of the directors.
5. Failure of music checks will result in grade reduction and loss of 3rd quarter privileges at football games.

Rehearsal and Performance Conduct

A. Guidelines:

1. Be prompt and ready to start rehearsals on time. During the school day, passes are required for excused tardiness.
2. Inattentive behavior, disrespect, and excessive talking during rehearsals contribute to negative results and wasted time. Therefore, these actions will result in one or more of the following:
 - a. Removal from rehearsal
 - b. Grade reduction
 - c. Removal from band
3. Never chew gum.
4. When performing with the band, you are a reflection of the band, high school, and community. Poor behavior will not be tolerated.
5. Learn your part in each musical composition thoroughly. Practice outside band rehearsal is essential to your being adequately prepared.
6. Keep the rehearsal rooms clean and free of litter. Your storage area is not a litter box. Instruments should be kept in cases and put away properly. You are a member of an outstanding band program. Try to make a positive contribution toward the present and future success of our program.

B. Daily requirements for Marching Band:

1. Flip folder with music
2. Coordinate sheets
3. TENNIS SHOES ONLY
4. Instrument in working condition

C. Daily requirements for Symphonic Band:

1. Instrument in good working condition
2. Music
3. Pencil
4. Desire to be the best

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BATH MUSIC ASSOCIATION

The Bath Music Association is always looking for extra volunteers and help, many times our communications do not make it home for a variety of reasons. Please complete this form to indicate the capacity you desire for helping our music programs. The phrase, "It takes a village to raise a child" is especially true to continue having one of the best music programs in our area.

PLEASE ALSO COMPLETE THE VOLUNTEER INTEREST FORM BY CLICKING THE LINK BELOW/ FILLING OUT THE ATTACHED PAGE:

<https://forms.gle/na5NM5D7863Vcs4DA>

Find our Social Media Presence:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bathbandchoir/>

Instagram: @bathtraditionofexcellence

Twitter: @bathbandchoir

Band YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkpP_vMOZK7Tw9uSG3wd2xA/videos

Choir YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPn8GDQRUJ5ikyIDjNG417Q/featured>

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To add a Music Google Calendar to your phone/tablet:

- Choose which calendar you would like to add.
- Using a computer, click on the link below the chosen calendar.
- In order to get the calendar to sync to your phone/tablet you must first access the calendar through a computer.

- **MUSIC MASTER CALENDAR:**

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/3?cid=YmF0aHdpbGRjYXRzLm9yZ180cTNvc3AwdnBjNnAyY2ZoNm5waXZiOTMzOEBncm91cC5jYWxlbmRhci5nb29nbGUuY29t>

- **HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR:**

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/3?cid=YmF0aHdpbGRjYXRzLm9yZ19va2VsZjMzdDhsa2c5dWF0aG83aTVuN2ZINEBncm91cC5jYWxlbmRhci5nb29nbGUuY29t>

- **HIGH SCHOOL BAND:**

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/3?cid=YmF0aHdpbGRjYXRzLm9yZ18wczRucTJ1djF1a3JyZzhkZnZkcDE0cjV0Y0Bncm91cC5jYWxlbmRhci5nb29nbGUuY29t>

- **MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND & CHOIR:**

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/3?cid=YmF0aHdpbGRjYXRzLm9yZ19kcGt1aGtzcjVrZDNxM2g3YXFmNTRqcW5za0Bncm91cC5jYWxlbmRhci5nb29nbGUuY29t>

**FOR A HANDBOOK COMPLETION GRADE, PLEASE
FILL OUT THE HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
FORM:**

<https://forms.gle/sJTqMFWB6YCNvVCS8>