

2024-2025 School Year

**Avon Lake High School
Instrumental Music Department**



Band Handbook

**Pride Motivates All to Achieve
Excellence**

Avon Lake High School Band Handbook

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A Message from the Director

Dear Band Students and Parents:

WELCOME to one of the most exciting experiences in which you can be a part - THE BAND! The ultimate goal of the band program is to provide our students with a lifelong understanding and appreciation for quality music and music making. In addition, we get to use the medium of music to teach some wonderful life lessons as part of our comprehensive program at Avon Lake.

For new folks, this is the "band bible" that keeps us running smoothly and efficiently. Most questions can be answered by consulting THE BAND HANDBOOK, the band app, or the band website: www.avonlakeband.org. It is our hope that the information contained in this handbook will be both INFORMATIONAL and INSPIRATIONAL. The advocacy articles, "How Parents Can Help," and "Parents' Responsibility to the Band," are both designed to give guidance to parents. Please read every word of The Handbook so that you are well-informed. We've included a **Signature Page** for you to return, stating that you're familiar with the information contained in The Handbook.

Last school year was full of successes by our students: A Superior rating at our first Marching Band event, Superiors in Sight reading for Concert and Symphonic Band at LGAE, and more participation and higher ratings overall at Solo and Ensemble contest

We continue to provide a well-rounded, comprehensive experience for our student. For the upcoming year, we are very excited about our Marching Show: GHOST SHIP, along with our Band trip to Indianapolis to experience Bands of America: Grand Nationals, along with Solo and Ensemble, OMEA Large Group and of course our performances!

We have included a list of private instructors in this edition of the BAND HANDBOOK. There is no better way for your child to improve their musical experience than to be involved in private lessons. We are very fortunate to have such fine professional players in the area. As the band program improves, the most committed student (those who practice) will have the most positive experience. In addition to making private instruction and solo and ensemble a priority, we have renewed our commitment to instill positive leadership qualities in all of our students. These are the "teachable moments" that develop important life skills.

This handbook is designed to answer any questions you might have concerning the program. **Please read all of the information and sign the signature page in the back of the handbook and return it to the band office.** I am honored to be your band director and I am looking forward to a great year!

Musically Yours

Mr. Josh Brunger, Director of ALHS Bands

You are joining an award winning organization. We are a twelve time OMEA state finalist

Course Objectives

1. To Teach music by its actual performance
2. To develop performance skills of the various wind and percussion instruments
3. To develop for the musical needs of the school and the community
4. To develop discrimination with regard to the selection of music
5. To acquaint the student with Music Theory and History and how history and musical composition relate to students' current life and musical experiences
6. To provide all students with the opportunity for worthy use of their time, a means for self-expression an a healthy social experience
7. To develop the ability to function as a responsible member of a group, enhance interaction, and develop Esprit de Corps
8. To foster leadership skills within each student.

CURRICULAR OFFERINGS

The Avon Lake High School Band program is dedicated to assist band members and parents and understanding areas of responsibility, a statement of band policy is herein set forth. Becoming familiar with this policy will enable each individual to make the most of this great opportunity to be a member of the Avon Lake High School Band program, becoming a better person, and a better musician.

Concert Band is open to 9-12th grade students who have achieved a reasonable degree of proficiency on a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument. Emphasis will be placed on basic skills and theory. The Band will explore traditional band repertoire, transcriptions, and contemporary works. We are dedicated to the performance of the finest wind repertoire, regardless of the period of disposition of the instrumental forces. This ensemble will perform at concerts and other functions. Members of the Concert Band are eligible to participate in the marching band, which is a co-curricular activity in the fall. *(Year course - 1 credit with an Honors opportunity)*

Symphonic Band is open to 9-12th grade students who have achieved a high degree of proficiency on a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument. A wide variety of music, individual skills and theory will be covered in this course. The Band will explore traditional band repertoire, transcriptions, and contemporary works. We are dedicated to the performance of the finest wind repertoire, regardless of the period of disposition of the instrumental forces. This ensemble will perform at concerts and other functions. Members of the Symphonic are eligible to participate in the marching band, which is a co-curricular activity in the fall. Students must audition with the band director to be placed in this ensemble. *(Year course - 1 credit with an Honors opportunity)*

Jazz Ensemble are offered as an important element of the Total Band Program. The jazz groups perform at concerts and possibly jazz festivals. Rehearsals are during the school day and after school one day a week following the Marching Band season. Students must be enrolled in Concert Band or Wind Ensemble to participate (except guitar, bass, keyboard). Students must audition with the band director to be placed in this ensemble. *(Year course - 1 credit)*

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Marching Band–The Avon Lake High School Marching Shoremen is one of the school's largest co-curricular activities. This award winning band performs at parades, football games, community events and band competitions and represents Avon Lake High School throughout the area, and state. (See "Marching Band Information" for complete information.)

Jazz Ensemble are offered as an important element of the Total Band Program. The jazz groups perform at concerts and possibly jazz festivals. Rehearsals are during the school day and after school one day a week following the Marching Band season. Students must be enrolled in Concert Band or Symphonic Band to participate (except guitar, bass, keyboard). Students must audition with the band director to be placed in this ensemble.

Winter Percussion are extra-curricular activities for those students interested in indoor competition. There are several rehearsals weekly and competitions on weekends including several overnight trips. These groups compete at local, state and regional events from December through early April. There is a participation fee and audition.

Solos and Ensembles are opportunities for band members to play in small groups to improve their skills. Much of the rehearsal is on an independent self-study basis. There are opportunities to perform such as the district Solo and Ensemble Competition and various community events.

Pep Bands are formed throughout the year as the needs arise. They perform for a variety of events such as school assemblies, sports activities, and community events. The Pep Band plays at 10 games (Hockey, Girls and Boys Basketball, Swimming, Diving, Lacrosse). The Pep Band rehearses one hour prior to game time.

The concert ensembles - Concert Band and Symphonic Band - are the foundation of the AL Band Program. The many co-curricular ensembles and music classes are offered to supplement the basic concert ensemble experience.



Mission Statement of the ALHS Band

The mission of the Avon Lake High School Band is to provide students with opportunities for self-expression, discipline, excellence, and life experiences through musical performance, fostering lifelong performers and supports of quality music.

We firmly believe that the student should improve through regular practice. In the Avon Lake High School Band program, we feel that when the student has lost the will to improve themselves or make a better contribution to the band, they are wasting the time and efforts of fellow members and the band community by continuing in this program. The happiest student is the one who is improving through regular habits of practice and daily progress. They must not only know right from wrong, but must be able to stand for principles. They must develop a high sense of purpose, toward which they are willing to work. Responsibility and effort are the focus behind any level of achievement within this program. We intend to conduct ourselves in a manner that will facilitate all students in learning and bettering themselves. This handbook is intended to outline rules, policies, expectations and opportunities for high school band students.

Band Expectations:

Be Your Best

A goal that everyone can achieve. This is not the same as “Be **THE** Best” which is something that few can achieve. It is all that is expected of you, but it is expected *all of the time*—every minute, every practice, every day and every performance. Further, it is expected that you will Be Your Best *outside* of organized band activities, as well as in rehearsals and performances.

You can measure your success and do not have to wait until someone else, like the director, senior or band judge tells you. *You know!*

Show Respect

Respect yourself. Respect others. Respect the band facilities, traditions, equipment and uniforms.

Be Prepared

Band members are responsible for doing their best, working on their individual skills and practicing. All equipment must be brought to rehearsals as requested.

Be on Time

Students and Parents **MUST KNOW THE BAND SCHEDULE**. Students should arrive at the building 15 minutes *before* the rehearsal is scheduled to begin in order to be ready to start on time. If you count on someone else to get a ride to practice, tell him or her the time you have to *be there*, not the time rehearsal begins. With this concept, you will be prepared physically and mentally to begin the rehearsal and not flying in at the last minute or worse—late. You also will have a cushion of safety if there is extra traffic or you are running a couple of minutes behind.

The Importance of a Winning Attitude

The greatest single factor that separates the winners from all of the others in the world is ATTITUDE. The desire to be the best at anything you do must come from within. Each individual must **want** to be the best in order for the organization to be the best. Only you are the one who can make you be the best at what you do. The rest of us can only help you.

The Importance of Discipline

Members of our bands are constantly being observed by the public in rehearsals, performances, traveling, and at almost any other time. Band members should always strive to be recognized as first class. Poor behavior reflects negatively on you, on your parents, the rest of the band, our school, and our community.

As role models, band members must act more maturely and more responsibly than others.

Obligation to School

Band members are obliged to follow school rules and regulations at all times, including while traveling with the band. Use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, or illicit drugs is prohibited. Any violations of school rules must be reported to the high school principal(s). Any violation of civil law will be reported to the appropriate authorities. Inappropriate behavior can result in a student not being permitted to continue to participate in band.

Communications

The primary method of communication will be through the "Band" app. "Band Notes" are published annually through out the school year with information regarding rehearsal and performance dates, fund raising projects, and any other topics of special interest to our parents and students. A calendar is printed at the beginning of each school year with all important dates for band members for the entire school year, there is also Google Calendar which is posted on the website and the Band app. During each week of school, important upcoming information is shown on the screen or sent through the Band app as a reminder. Parents with questions or concerns can message Mr. Brunger directly through the Band app or through email the director at: Joshua.Brunger@alcsch.org.

The band web site is updated regularly and can provide helpful information:

<http://www.avonlakeband.weebly.com>

Class (rehearsal) Etiquette

1. Class will begin everyday promptly after the tardy bell.
2. Students are required to come to rehearsal prepared with their instrument, music, pencil, folder or binder. Students will be asked to make notations in their music on a regular basis. Only a pencil may be used to make light marks on the music. Books bags and other school or personal materials are to be under your chair or left out of the rehearsal set-up.
3. Attendance is required at all rehearsals and performances.
4. No talking during rehearsal (That means NO talking when the Director is talking)
5. Put your name on your binder/ folder
6. Put your name on your music (in pencil)
7. Number each measure (in pencil)
8. Write down every metronome marking
9. We play 3 minutes after the bell (If you are not warming up when we do, you are considered tardy)
10. Have your music, binder, pencil, instrument everyday (reed players, always have 4 working reeds in your reed case and rotate them)
11. NO CELL PHONES ON STANDS, they will go in the assign "cubby" at the beginning of class
12. NO EAR BUDS IN EARS DURING REHEARSAL.....EVER
13. Make sure your concert instrument is in good working order. If a director needs to make an adjustment for you to play, you will need to take it to the repair shop. (See the instrument maintenance sheet in the Band app)
14. Brass will bathe their instrument on a monthly basis. Oil and lubricate all valves and slides on a daily/weekly basis. (See the instrument maintenance sheet in the Band app)
15. Reed players should always have a water cup with a few reeds ready to go (reed players are expected to have 3-4 reeds on a rotating basis. (See the instrument maintenance sheet in the Band app)
16. Ask for permission to enter the band office..
17. You may borrow equipment and/or supplies from the music office with permission from one of the directors. Promptly return what you have borrowed!
18. After rehearsals and performances, leave the band room looking neat and organized. You can assist with this process by keeping your instrument in a locked locker. You may keep shoes, water bottle, and drill books in your locker if there is room.
19. All drums will be returned to lockers after rehearsals and performances and lockers will be locked. Assist with putting your drum stand in the proper storage location.
20. All percussionists are responsible for putting away all instruments, sticks, mallets, etc. and covering up all of the mallet instruments and the timpani.
21. YOU are only allowed to play YOUR assigned instrument. NO ONE ELSE HAS PERMISSION.
22. Music folders are to be kept in the folder slots (not in lockers).
23. Gum, candy, food, or beverages are not permitted in the band room or practice rooms.
24. A director/instructor must be present any time students are using the band room or practice rooms. Do not remain in the band area if a director/instructor is not present.
25. You are expected to KNOW YOUR MUSIC.

Band Code Of Conduct:

1. Band members conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen.
2. Band members exhibit good sportsmanship and friendly conduct, win or lose.
3. Band members display professional behavior while performing, rehearsing, and traveling.
4. Band members treat uniforms with care and respect.
5. Band members handle and play only their own instruments.
6. Band members respect the reasonable requests of all adults at all times.
7. Band members organize and use teamwork when there is work to be done.
8. Band members remain seated while traveling until instructions have been given.
9. Band members make a commitment to excellence.
10. Band members will never swear, nor use foul language

PRIVATE INSTRUCTION

One of the most important ways to improve as a musician is through private lessons. There is no substitute for weekly sessions of individualized instruction by an instrumental specialist. Private lesson instructors serve as an ideal model and mentor to assist in your child's improvement in the areas of tone, technique, and general musicianship.

Private instrument lessons are a small investment that helps insure success on your instrument. Times are arranged convenient to your schedule and prices for instruction are reasonable. If you would like more information about private lessons, see a director.

What are private lessons?

Your son or daughter is tutored by a professional musician who is an expert at the same instrument your child plays, once each week for a 30-minute lesson.

Can lessons fit in my child's busy schedule?

The time lessons are scheduled can be very flexible.

What are the benefits of private instruction?

Private lessons are a great motivator for kids to practice.

*A one on one experience can greatly enhance the student's musical experience
As students improve, they enjoy playing more.*

BAND OFFICERS

The Band Officers are as portion of the Student Leadership within the Marching Shoremen. These positions are described below:

Elected Positions

President: This position is an elected position. The Band President's primary function is to provide student leadership and direction to all of the ALHS ensembles. The Band President will be responsible for organizing, communicating, and leading activities, as well as leading weekly Band Council meetings. Added responsibilities include going to the Band Booster meeting on a monthly basis and reporting back to band council about what the band boosters have been working towards. The President is a position of service as well as leadership. The President's responsibility is to do whatever needs to be done for the students of the music program to have a successful experience.

Vice President: This position is an elected position. The primary function of the Vice President is to assist the Band President in providing student leadership and direction to the ALHS ensembles. The Vice President should be available to lead and step up in the case of the President's absence. Added responsibilities include going to the Band Booster meeting on a monthly basis if the President cannot and reporting back to band council about what the band boosters have been working towards. Vice President is tasked with being head of fundraising in the Band Council.

Secretary: The Secretary's job is to work with the President and Vice President and create the agenda for the weekly band council meetings. The Secretary is also responsible for keeping meetings on task, recording minutes of the weekly meetings, keeping meeting attendance, and preparing/ creating weekly marching awards. Secretary should be prepared to distribute and make copies of minutes when a copy is requested and to report back to the Director about the meetings.

Treasurer: Will work closely with the Band Aid treasurer to discuss/ plan/ collect any finances. STUDENTS DO NOT COLLECT ANY MONEY. This position is for keeping record of what is collected and by whom. The Student Treasurer has the option to discuss the use of funds in terms of "for the Band Students".

Public Relations/ Historians: This is a 2 person position. The PR/Historians will preserve the memory of the band by taking pictures and video of important band events and posting them on Instagram as well as making Youtube videos. The PR/Historians is also responsible for making slideshow videos and collages for all band recruiting events, community events, concerts, and our yearly band banquet.

Class Representatives (Senior, Junior, Sophomore, and Freshman): The Class Representatives should act as an extension of the class they represent. They are the link between their class and the band student leaders.

Appointed Positions

Equipment Manager: The responsibilities of the Equipment Manager include instrument inventory, transporting and maintaining equipment/lockers, leading equipment team, and working alongside parent volunteers for loading and unloading the equipment trucks. The Equipment Manager is also responsible for making sure: podiums, field markers, and megavox w/stand go out to the rehearsal space every rehearsal. The Equipment Manager will also create their own team for moving all equipment.

Librarians: The Head Librarian will utilize other student leaders to take responsibility for the library including (but not limited to) organization of the library, creating inventory, handing out copies, and any other duties needed. The Assistant Librarian works under the director of the Head Librarian and alongside student leaders to fulfill all of the library needs, as specified in the Head Librarian job description.

Auditioned Positions (your audition began on the first day of school)

Section Leaders: Section leaders will be responsible for efficient operations of their sections. They will complete weekly inspections, maintain field discipline, provide instruction, serve as positive role models, and assist the Field Commanders as needed.

Drum Majors: This position is based off of the Drum Majors of The Ohio State Marching Band. The Drum Major is a vital leadership role ON the field and must be the “model citizen”. They must show true leadership through servitude and be the example of what an ideal member of the band should be. This candidate must be proficient with marching and twirling a mace. They will work closely with the Auxiliary Directors in creating a proper routine to fit with the halftime shows as well as the competition shows. They will also be proficient in whistle commands along with leading the ensemble in parade block and more. The Drum Major is responsible for dismissing the Marching Shoremen after events. It is the Drum Major’s responsibility to create and keep *Espirit de Corps* with every member of the Marching Shoremen.

Junior Field Commander: This position is auditioned based. Students must be “model citizens” of the Band program and school. This candidate must be a natural leader and one that is individually driven, a positive influence within the Band as well as within the school. It is both Field Commander’s responsibility to create and keep *Espirit de Corps* with every member of the Marching Shoremen. On the field, The Junior Field Commander is the secondary leader of the ensemble. It is their job to lead conduct a portion of the competition show. The Junior Field Commander is expected to study the score and drill and have it memorized for the performances. The Junior Field Commander is also in charge of the Megavox and Dr. Beat. During rehearsals, they must carry both behind the lead snare to assist in keeping proper tempos. A deeper description of the field commander description will be in the Field Commander Handbook.

Senior Field Commander: This position is auditioned based. Students must be “model citizens” of the Band program and school. This candidate must be a natural leader and one **that is individually** driven, a positive influence within the Band as well as within the school. It is both Field Commander’s responsibility to create and keep *Espirit de Corps* with every member of the Marching Shoremen. On the field, The Senior Field Commander is the primary leader of the ensemble. It is their job to lead and conduct the majority of the competition show. The Senior Field Commander is expected to study the score and drill and have it memorized for the performances. A deeper description of the field commander description will be in the Field Commander Handbook.

****Band Officer Expectations:** All students who have earned their spots in Band Council are expected to do the following:

1. Lead by example
2. Any service must be in support of the Director’s vision of the program.
3. Follow their job description and ask for help when in need.
4. Attend all band council meetings.
5. Actively seek out ways to help other members of the ALHS Band, including, Director, Staff, Band Council members, and Band Aids.
6. Communicate openly and respectfully with the Director and other members of band council.

BAND BANQUET AND AWARDS

A banquet is held every year in May to recognize our students and their families for their musical service and achievements. Each student is recognized with service awards and several students are recognized for outstanding achievements, including:

Semper Fidelis Award: Latin for “Always Faithful”, this award is presented to a student who displays traits that the Marine Corps considers essential to being a good leader: endurance, knowledge, unselfishness, dependability, enthusiasm and loyalty. Award recipients are not necessarily the most outstanding musicians, but rather a student whose leadership qualities have contributed to the success of the band program.

John Philip Sousa Award: The pinnacle of achievement in a high school band program, the Sousa Award recognizes outstanding dedication and superior musicianship. The award has become a nationwide symbol of excellence in musical achievement. The Sousa Award recognizes superior musicianship, leadership, dependability, loyalty, and cooperation- the qualities directors strive to develop in all students.

Director’s Award: Awarded to two students, the Director’s Award for Band honors two outstanding junior or senior members of the ALHS Band program. It is awarded to students who display high qualities of dedication and conduct and is presented in recognition of the student’s outstanding contribution to the music ensemble.

Jazz Award: Awarded to one student, the Jazz Award recognizes an outstanding senior in jazz band. The recipient of this award has a thorough understanding of the jazz idiom, is an outstanding performer, and is an ambassador of the jazz genre.

Marching Band Award: Awarded to a member of the Marching Shoremen who has proven to have: strong marching and performing skills, who is motivated and inspirational, and who has led by example.

Outstanding Music Citizen: Awarded to a student who is a driven and caring band member with good attendance and high level of participation, They have keen interest in and concern for music, and is based upon student's contributions to the overall music programs

Jimmy Smith Herald Trumpet Award: This award is dedicated to the memory of a student who was very dedicated to the Avon Lake Band Program and performed at his highest capabilities. Jimmy Smith passed away at a young age while still in the band and this award is meant to go to a current junior who demonstrates strong playing abilities and musicianship, honorable character, integrity, and compassion. This recipient will be exempt from next year's Herald Trumpet auditions and will be performing with Jimmy's herald trumpet. This recipient must have strong playing abilities and musicianship, and show character, integrity, compassion.

BAND SCHOLARSHIPS

There are 2 scholarships the Band Aids (they can be found on the "forms" page of the website)

The Undergrad Scholarship is available based upon the amount budgeted year to year by the Avon Lake Band Aids, Inc. Students may ask for up to \$1000 although there can be no guarantee of receiving the full or partial amount. Consideration will be given to activities such as, but not limited to, Cleveland Youth Wind Symphony or similar audition-based musical organizations; DCI, WGI, or similar organizations; summer music camps; university sponsored honors' bands, master classes, or workshops; and other musical experiences related to the student's primary instrument and/or section of band. Students can apply annually at any time, and in multiple years, and will be awarded scholarships based upon merit and/or the amount budgeted each year by the Avon Lake Band Aids, Inc. At the completion of the activity for which the student was awarded any scholarship funds, the student must submit a one page summary of their participation in the activity including why it was a worthwhile musical experience.

CRITERIA FOR SCHOLARSHIP

- ▶ Student must be enrolled in Troy, Learwood, or Avon Lake High School.
- ▶ Academics: GPA of 3.0 (B average) or better.
- ▶ Student must be a dedicated member of the band program (includes guard, majorettes, and drum majors).

The Harry Pfingsten Senior Scholarship: Graduating seniors are eligible to be considered for the scholarship if they are enrolled in an accredited college or university, and have some form of music as part of their college experience. This could take the form of a course of study or participation in any form of instrumental program, i.e. marching or jazz band, wind ensemble, orchestra, etc. The graduating senior must have been a participant of the Avon Lake Band program for at least three high school years, with one being their senior year.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Band members must attend all rehearsals and performances. A schedule is published at the end of the prior school year on the website and the Band app so that you are aware of your commitments.

Anyone who has ever participated in a large group activity is aware of the reasons why attendance is so important. Your attendance affects not only yourself but all of the others. To maintain excellence, and to ensure a worthwhile and rewarding educational experience for all, an attendance policy has been established.

When you commit to being a member of the band, it is your responsibility to talk to all of the adults who direct activities in which you participate. They must know your schedule in order to help you avoid conflicts. Every member is as equally important as the next, a student's absence not only leaves a hole in the drill but a hole in the music as well. Everyone is required to know the schedule and attend all rehearsals and performances.

As we all know, there may be a time when you must be absent. If this occurs, families must fill out the absence sheet 2 weeks in advance in order to be excused. **Because you have provided a note in advance does not excuse you from a rehearsal or performance.** Examples of excused absences include illness, an accident or emergency, or death in your family. Some examples of unexcused absences include babysitting, working, homework, attending another activity or function where you are not a participant, or going to a social function such as a party.

A note to seniors: Choosing a college is a very important decision. However, we must ask you to avoid planning a college visit when you know it will conflict with a band performance. We value your experience and leadership and need you to serve as positive role models for the other members. **Your good attendance is as critical for outstanding performances for you as it is for all of the other members of our band. Absences from rehearsals or performances may result in the loss of certain privileges as a member of one of our bands.** For example, if you have unexcused absence from a Tuesday Evening, or Thursday after school rehearsal, it is up to the Director's discretion if you will march or not. Due to your absence, you will not be as prepared as everyone else and may actually hurt the performance.

GENERAL ABSENCE PROTOCOL

All students that will be absent from ANY event (rehearsal, football game, performances, sectionals, concerts, etc.) for any length of time MUST submit the "Absence Form" Google Form found in the band app or on the website. Absences will only be excused if submitted through this form (however, please keep in mind that even though you fill this form out with proper timing, your absence may not be approved to be excused). Contacting a section leader, talking to a band staff member, etc. but failing to turn in the form will result in an unexcused absence, regardless of the reason.

Unexcused Absence: Unexcused absence from a performance is unacceptable and may result in dismissal from the marching band. Absences, tardiness or leaving early because of work or homework are not excused. Problems with absences, tardiness or leaving early from rehearsal will be given appropriate consequences regarding performance opportunities.

BAND CAMP INFORMATION

PRE-BAND CAMP (week 1 of summer rehearsals)

SECTIONALS, VISUAL TRAINING, AND BAND CAMP (see the CALENDAR for dates)

Visual Training: The full band comes together to work on physical warm-ups and stretching, basic body movements, and marching style. These rehearsals are usually outside in the north parking lot or in the stadium. You will need to dress in lightweight clothing such as t-shirt, shorts, tennis shoes or sneakers, and socks. NO SANDALS OR FLIP FLOPS PERMITTED AT ANY REHEARSALS. Be prepared with your book bag or backpack for ALL rehearsals. See the list above for what needs to be in your bag. You bring your instrument and/or equipment to all rehearsals.

Visual Training/Sectionals Days: On the days when you have both visual training and sectionals, you will need to bring a sack lunch with you that you can eat between visual rehearsal and sectionals at school. Visual training is usually from 8:30-11:30 AM.

Sectionals (1-4 PM or evenings at times): Sections of the band work with instructors on music, with trumpets in one room, woodwinds in another, low brass, mellophones, percussion, all working independently. This is the time when you get a lot of individualized attention on your playing and we work on memorization of music. Most of the time you will be indoors for sectionals. Wear lightweight clothing such as t-shirt, shorts, and sneakers or tennis shoes with socks. NO SANDALS OR FLIP FLOPS PERMITTED AT ANY REHEARSALS. Bring your instrument and/or equipment to all rehearsals. Be prepared with your book bag or backpack for ALL rehearsals with:

1. Backpack (also known as "Go Bag") and hip sack
2. A 1/2 to 1 inch wide binder with 12 or more sheet protectors to store your music.
3. A pencil or two, and a highlighter
4. Your phone fully charges (or bring a charger, we are using the UDB app)
5. Sun screen/insect repellent, A hat and sunglasses
6. A quart or larger size water JUG that can be re-fillable
7. A poncho or lightweight raincoat
8. Other items of use in an indoor/outdoor rehearsal, such as valve oil, reeds, bandaids, tissues, etc.

School Issued Instruments and Equipment: If you use or will be using a school instrument, you will need to submit your band handbook acknowledgement (an all other forms from your handbook) signed by you and one of your parents. School issued instruments will be issued at the first week of summer rehearsals. Instrument lockers for all band members will be issued at that time.

BAND CAMP (week 2 of summer rehearsals)

The students remain on campus from 8:30 AM to 4 PM. Students bring a lunch and eat in the HS Commons. Students are released from 4 to 6 PM to go home and return to the HS for evening rehearsals from 6 to 8:30 PM. It is an intensified week of music and marching, and it is the week when the band members get to know each other and come together as a team.

POST-BAND CAMP (week 3 of summer rehearsals)

Students will remain on campus from 8:30 AM- 4:00PM and then will be dismissed for the day. Students bring a lunch and eat in the HS Commons.

Travel

1. When you sign up for a bus, print your name only. This will be your bus assignment for all trips.
2. Attendance is taken prior to all departures, coming and going.
3. The band will be dismissed from formation to the buses by the drum major(s).
4. Members must obey all school and bus rules. Show courtesy and respect to drivers and chaperones.
5. You will receive instructions to ride in full or partial (pants) uniform.
6. All property including instrument cases should be clearly marked with your name.
7. Remain seated on buses until you have received instructions.
8. **Remember that you are always representing the band and school.**

Marching Shoremen Performance Etiquette

- Arrive at the band room when "doors" are posted or announced.
- Use the restrooms before lining up for whistle. This may be your last chance for awhile!
- "Whistle" is the time to be completely dressed in uniform with instrument and ready to perform. We line up outside of the building near the band room doors. At this time, inspection will occur to be sure that uniforms and accessories are correct and hair is up, etc.
- Pre-game performance occurs soon after entering the stadium!
- All band members sit together during the 1st, 2nd, and 4th quarters of the game. Non-band members do not sit in the band seating area. All band members must return from 3rd quarter break by the end of the 3rd quarter and ready to play. Do not go into other sections of the stands at the stadium at any time.
- During the 1st, 2nd, and 4th quarters of the game Marching Shoremen can use the restroom in either pairs or with a Chaperone and do not go to the concession stand during this time
- Always remain in formation while marching to and from performances until after the halt and announcements have been made. The drum major(s) will then dismiss you.
- Know your uniform and raincoat number and keep track of your uniform items at all times.
- While in uniform, conduct yourselves with dignity and class. NO swearing or any misbehavior
- At OMEA Marching events, you will act with courtesy and be silent and attentive during other band's performances.

Be Your Best

Show Respect

Be Prepared

Be on Time

Marching Uniform Information

Each member of the marching band (majorettes and guard members have different uniforms and guidelines) is issued a complete uniform including the following items. Replacement cost is included beside the item.

Jacket with adjustable sleeves (\$100)
Bib pants with adjustable shoulder straps (\$75)
One pair of gauntlets: 1 black/1 white (\$25)
Baldric: sash going across front of jacket (\$40)
Shako (hat) or beret (\$60 or \$17)

Shako storage box (\$12)
Garment bag (\$10)
Raincoat/Parka (\$75)
Two hangers (\$4)
Shako Chains (percussion only) (\$5)

Each member of the marching band is responsible for purchasing (band director will place order):

Gloves (\$4 for an ADDITIONAL pair)
One pair of black marching shoes (\$32)
Black Duffel Bag for raincoat and other items: (\$30)
Band Polo (\$25)

Marching Band Registration is \$26 due at kick-off

Plain Black crew length socks are needed and must be purchased on your own.

Be Your Best

Show Respect

Be Prepared

Be on Time

Marching Shoremen Uniform Policy

In order to present a “uniform” look and make a great impression, it is important that uniform guidelines be strictly adhered to. The uniform is to be worn COMPLETELY at all times in public view. Looking “First Class” at all times is part of the band’s traditions

- **SHAKOS** (covers)- All hair must be up and off the neck. Your hair should never fall out of the hat. It should stay up when the hat is on or off. The front of the hat should sit two fingers above the nose.
- **JACKET**- The current Band T-shirt must be worn under the jacket at ALL times. Jackets always remain zipped up unless told otherwise by a Director. Jacket sleeves will NEVER be pulled or rolled up to show the forearm of the performer.
- **PANTS**- Black athletic shorts are to be worn under the pants.
- **SHOES**- “Dinkles” are the only shoe worn by the Marching Shoremen and are to be perfectly clean. Thursday night, not Friday afternoon. Plain black crew socks are to be worn with them at all times.
- **GLOVES/ GAUNTLETS**- Are to always be worn with the jacket unless instructed otherwise.
- **PARKAS**- “rain gear” will be provided when needed. They are to be treated careful when not in use.
- **PLUMES**- Plumes will be handed out at the appropriate time and will be returned after a game. Handle with care.
- **JEWELRY**- There should be no jewelry worn that is visible with the uniform except silver, black, maroon or gold studded earrings.
- **DUFFEL BAG**- are issued from the Uniform Crew and is the ONLY bag that can be carried with the uniform. YOUR PHONE WILL GO IN YOUR DUFFEL, NOT YOUR UNIFORM.
- **STORAGE**- When returning uniforms to storage, all items must be neat and properly presented.
- **PHONES**- and other unnecessary items are NEVER to be in the pockets of the uniform. These items only go in your bag.
- **SWEARING OR FOUL LANGUAGE WILL NEVER BE TOLERATED, ESPECIALLY IN UNIFORM**

For every performance, shako boxes will go in your duffel. And yes, you are required to take your duffel to every performance

Guidelines for uniform cleanliness and appearance:

- Marching Band uniforms stay at school and you change into uniforms at the school.
- Keep uniform hung up properly to eliminate wrinkling.
- Keep shoes clean. Use a damp cloth for top of shoe (polishing may be necessary at times) and a toothbrush for sides of soles and heels.
- During warm weather, wear black nylon or cotton shorts and a show shirt under your uniform.
- During cold weather, wear thermal underwear or sweatpants under your bibs and a long sleeved warm shirt under your jacket. If possible, you may also wear a woolen white and black glove.
- Long hair should be tucked inside your shako. Keep hair color a natural shade (no hair coloring that might run on the uniform or raincoat). No excessive make-up, jewelry should not be visible, no jewelry in visible piercings.
- No running or public display of affection while in uniform.
- No gum at any time and no eating while in uniform (except when permitted by the directors).
- The gloves should be treated with care because they tend to rip easily. All uniform items that are school owned must be returned and in acceptable condition by the end of the school year before grades and/or diplomas will be issued. There may be a charge for any unacceptable damage or if an item is lost.
- Uniforms WILL be hung correctly after each performance and cleaning. Section Leaders will train you

Marching Band Uniform – Washing Instructions

- Remove sashes if present (DO NOT WASH SASHES).
- Spray inside of collars of jackets, white gauntlets and any other stains with stain spray and then rub it in with a soft brush.
- Turn jacket inside out (to protect buttons) and zip partially closed. Wash black bibs, jacket and black and white gauntlets in COOL water with detergent. It is optional but recommended to wash the black gloves. **The black color in the gloves runs so please wash them in a separate load with only dark clothing and cold/cool water.**
- Dry bibs, jacket, gauntlets and gloves on LOW. After drying completely, remove and hang up the bibs and jacket. The dry gauntlets can be put in the garment bag and gloves in the duffle bag.
- Make sure ALL parts of the uniform are completely dry (bib hems especially) before putting them back together and in the garment bags. Snapped hems frequently come un-snapped in the wash, check and re-snap if needed.
- If you have any questions or problems contact Mr. Brunger or the Uniform Chair

Be Your Best

Show Respect

Be Prepared

Be on Time

Guard and Majorettes

1. Any student who will be attending Avon Lake High School may audition for a position in the guard or majorettes. Audition dates and times will be published.
2. Upon acceptance, guard and majorette members are required to enroll in Concert Band or Symphonic Band (the band director will help with placement). Majorette and Guard members are highly encouraged to play an instrument and continue in band the entire year.
3. Guard and majorette members are members of the Marching Shoremen and will adhere to the policies in this handbook. In addition to these policies, there will be other requirements as specified by your directors/instructors.
4. Additional rehearsals will be scheduled by your instructors as needed.
5. You are responsible for learning routines and drill. You will also be held accountable for your attitude and behavior at all times. Sitting out a performance or part of a performance or even an entire season can occur if these guidelines are not followed.

Tuxedo/Formal Uniform Information

Band students are fitted during band class and borrow (free) from the school and store at their own homes the items listed below which they wear at concerts and contests during the school year. Mr. Brunger will tell students when to return their tuxedo/formal uniform in the spring. **Seniors will not be allowed to walk at graduation and underclassmen will not be sent their report cards until their tuxedo or formal uniform is returned or until damaged, lost or unreturned items are paid for in full.** Following is a list of each piece and the replacement cost:

Boys	Girls
Tuxedo Pants \$35	Black Wool Skirt \$150
Tuxedo Jackets \$100	Black Jacquard Blouse \$40
Bow Tie \$4	Hanger \$2
Pocket Hanky \$1	Garment Bag \$15
Hanger \$2	
Garment Bag \$15	

In addition to the above items, **each boy is required to buy a tuxedo shirt with 4 black studs for \$18** that the Band Aids Uniform Committee will fit him into at the beginning of the school year and bulk order. Used shirts are sold for \$10. Students must also wear their own black shoes and socks. Please keep the tuxedo/formal uniform in the garment bag when not being worn, but do not store socks or shoes in the garment bag. **Parents or students need to wash at home or professionally clean only the tuxedo shirt and jacquard blouse after each concert.** The other tuxedo/formal uniform parts are professionally cleaned in the spring by the school. The blouse color runs so wash in cold water with dark colors. The blouse fabric also snags easily so be careful when putting on and removing the blouse. Stud earrings and a small chain necklace are the only jewelry allowed to be worn during performances.

Polos

Each band marching student is required to buy a maroon polo shirt for \$25. Students should wash their polos after each wearing.

Equipment Needs

Much like clothing, the older you get the different and appropriate size clothing you need. The same holds true with instruments and mouthpieces. When enrolling in the High School Band program, students are required to own the mouthpieces listed below. Having an appropriate mouthpiece will give students room to grow. Beginner mouthpieces can be restricting and make it harder to perform your instrument. An intermediate to professional level instrument is highly recommended for students who wish to further their musical career past high school. Below is a list of these recommendations:

Instrument and Mouthpiece Upgrades (Discuss with a director before purchasing)

Mouthpieces

<i>Clarinet</i>	J&D Hite Premiere or Vandoren 5RV Lyre (profile 88)Mouthpiece Rovner Dark Ligatures
<i>Saxophone</i>	J&D Hite Premiere Mouthpiece Rovner Dark Ligatures
<i>Trumpet</i>	Bach 3C
<i>Horn</i>	Schilke 30
<i>Trombone</i>	Bach 6.5, or Schilke 51
<i>Euphonium</i>	Schilke 51D
<i>Tuba</i>	Helleberg 120 Standard

Instruments (Intermediate and Professional Models, concert season only)

<i>Piccolo</i>	Yamaha YPC62
<i>Flute</i>	Yamaha 684H
<i>Clarinet</i>	Buffet R-13
<i>Oboe</i>	Loree or Fox 400
<i>Bassoon</i>	Fox Renard 222
<i>Saxophone</i>	Old Selmer Mark VI or Yamaha Custom
<i>Trumpet</i>	Bach Stradivarius
<i>Horn</i>	Conn 8D
<i>Trombone</i>	Bach 42B/ Bach 42BO or Conn 88H
<i>Euphonium</i>	King 2280
<i>Tuba</i>	King 4321W

Instrument maintenance

Instruments, like cars, need regular maintenance. Keys and valves should be oiled regularly, along with playing and tuning slides. Proper care of your reeds also needs special attention. YouTube has many helpful videos to see what is available for your instrument to make sure it is working correctly all of the time. All instruments must receive regular maintenance. For more detailed information, please see the Instrument maintenance guides in Google Classroom or in the Band app under "Files".

School Owned Instruments

It is essential that students treat all band equipment with great care. School equipment is shared by students of the program and its condition will be a direct reflection of those who use it. If a student damages the instrument by accident or on purpose, that student is liable to pay for it's repair or replacement. ONLY students assigned to that instrument is allowed to use it.

Use and Care of Music

For Concert Season, original printed music, texts, and more from the publishing company are passed out to each student. Students must return the music after the concert in the same condition it was distributed. The following expectations of music care are below:

1. Do not fold, tear or otherwise mutilate music.
2. Absence from school does not relieve students of the responsibility to have music brought to the rehearsal or performance. This applies mainly to the music in concert folders.
3. Do not mark on music without approval from the director. Use only pencil for marking the music.
4. Students will be charged for music that is not cared for properly.
5. Each student will be assigned a slot in the music rack.
6. Concert folders will be assigned according to instrumentation and parts. Each folder will be numbered to match a slot in the music rack.
7. Two or more students may be assigned to the same folder. They are responsible for sharing music and seeing that it is returned to the rack.
8. If students lose or damage music they may be charged the appropriate fee for its replacement.

STUDENT GUIDELINES FOR EFFECTIVE PRACTICING

PRACTICE HINTS:

- Warm up carefully.
- Select a time of day that is free from interruptions and use this time each day.
- Choose a place to practice that is free from distractions.
- Set a goal for the session: a scale; an exercise; specific sections of a piece; or even a measure that's giving you trouble. It may be a rhythm, the notes, articulation, or the tempo. Work it slowly, and then build up your speed gradually. Before leaving it, put it together with the rest of the line. Don't try to do too much at one sitting.
- Repetition of a problem area reinforces muscle memory.
- Use a metronome.
- Rest when you get tired.

Evaluation (Grading)

- The **Point System** is in place every quarter. Students will be awarded 100 points and points will be deducted based off of specific details (see the next page). Students will have the opportunity to earn points back as well. This Point System is in place not to punish, but to keep and instill the high standards that this program has held for many years.
- Quality time in daily rehearsals is a very important part of the evaluation process included in your grade. This also includes rehearsals or sectionals scheduled outside of class time.
- Performances are much like tests or exams. They are an integral part of the course and attendance is required.
- Show evidence of your desire to improve your skills through home or school practice and preparation for rehearsals. This includes an instrument in good condition, accessories, pencil, and music. Your weekly practice is part of your grade in band.
- Playing assignments will be given throughout the year that may include solos, etudes, music from folders, and scales. In the fall, the playing assignment is music memorization. Those not in marching band also have playing assignments but they do not have to be memorized.
- You may, on occasion, have a written assignment to turn in for a grade. On rare occasions, a student may be asked to write a two page paper for talking or disrupting the classroom or rehearsal process.
- You will receive credit for special projects such as performing in solo and ensemble contest, completing a listening or reading assignment, participation in fund-raising, or a self-assessment.
- Demonstrate your best effort and positive attitude at rehearsals and performances by showing your enthusiasm and your interest in music.
- Bringing ALL required materials to rehearsal (instrument, instrument accessories, band binder, pencil)
- Private lessons are not required but highly encouraged. There is no better way to advance your playing skills than through private study with a qualified teacher. Submit a private lessons form for each grading period to receive credit.
- Observe the band handbook guidelines for student conduct, attendance, communications, policies, rehearsals, and The Point System.
- Participation in outside organizations is encouraged and rewarded. Many of them require an audition. These include: All-State Band, Orchestra, or Jazz Band; SWC Honors' Band; OSU, BGSU, or Akron Honors' Bands; Cleveland Youth Wind Symphony; Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra; Oberlin CCW or NOYO; Patriots Community Band, DCI, etc.
- Extra credit for participation in volunteer school ensembles, fund-raising, and parent participation in Band Aids.

AVON LAKE POINT SYSTEM

	Item addressed	Points withdrawn from 100
1	Unexcused absence from full band rehearsal	5 (and possibly sit for halftime and/or 3rd quarter)
2	Unexcused absence from special rehearsal	10 (and possibly sit for halftime and/or 3rd quarter)
3	Unexcused absence from a performance	100
4	Tardy for special rehearsals	3
5	Tardy for band class or rehearsal	2
6	Tardy for performance (includes end of 3rd quarter)	25
7	Unexcused absence from section rehearsal	5
8	Tardy for section rehearsal	3
9	Inspection (instrument, uniform, equipment, and appearance) Each deficiency	1
10	Improper appearance for performances, festival, etc. (Not being fully dressed)	1-5
11	Failure to check off music (each selection)	5
12	Talking out of turn or use of profanity, or having phones out in class that is not educational	1-5
13	Improper care of uniform or instrument	5-10
14	Playing out of turn or playing instrument outside (inappropriately)	1-5
15	Poor posture (slumping), or Poor Participation (fake playing)	1 for each offense
16	Chewing gum, eating, drinking in band room	1
17	Playing another person's instrument	1
18	Leaning on music stands, littering or knocking down stands or chairs	1
19	Disturbing rehearsal, overcrowding practice rooms, disobeying director, noneducational phone use	1-5
20	Music, instrument, or personal materials out of place	1 for each offense
21	Failure to check in music, or equipment	Incomplete & 1-25
22	Failure to bring instrument, music, equipment, or UDB app to rehearsal	2
23	Entering instrument room, library, practice rooms, director's office without permission	1
24	Intentionally damaging school property, instruments, uniforms, or other equipment	Automatic Failure & possible withdrawal from Band
25	Smoking/vaping, drinking, or using drugs while attending any band function or while in band uniform	100 & possible withdrawal from Band
26	Stealing, fighting, or moral misconduct	Automatic Failure

Offenses which **CANNOT** be worked off:

1. Unexcused absence from special rehearsals
2. Unexcused absence from performances
3. Abusing or deliberately damaging school property, moral misconduct, fighting, or stealing
4. Smoking/ vaping, drinking, or using drugs while in uniform or at any band function

How to work off Offenses

1. Scales (1 point per scale, cannot repeat the same scale)
2. Running laps (3 points per lap)
3. Performing playing assignments for Director (1-10 points)
4. Playing an assigned exercise of the director's choosing (1-5 points)
5. Marching 50 yards with precision (1-10 points)
6. Attend Band performances outside of the Avon Lake District (10 points)

*definition of **unexcused absences**. ANY absences other than: personal illness, death in the family, or any discussed absences with Mr. Brunger. (Keep in mind that all planned absences must be submitted on the absence form **2 weeks prior to the absence**. This however, does not mean it is automatically excused.)

Grading Guidelines

Each student's semester grade will be determined according to the following grading rubric:

Point System	30%
Google Classroom Assignments & Skill Assessments	30%
Performances	40%
Total	100%

Each quarter, every student is assigned the "**Point System**". Points will be deducted due to:

- no music at rehearsal or music not organized nor where it should be
- no instrument at rehearsal
- lack of participation in rehearsal
- talking or phone distraction
- no equipment necessary to play or contribute to the rehearsal (i.e. reeds, sticks, valve oil, pencil, having instrument in proper playing condition, etc.)

Any unexcused absence from a performance will result in the deduction of 100 points from the 100 point allotment. Work, vacations, and family outings are not excused absences.

Google Classroom and Skill Assessments:

- Students will have quarterly assignments through Google Classroom. The assignments will be both for your concert music and fundamentals to improve your musical skills. It is the student's responsibility to turn in all assignments **ON TIME**.

Homework Assignments will be practical and will include playing assignments, and theory assignments. At various time during the semester extra-credit could be made available.

Rehearsals (Class Expectations: Marching and Concert)

No band performs better than its best rehearsal. Outstanding bands that have developed a winning attitude, along with strong discipline, approach each rehearsal as though it were a performance.

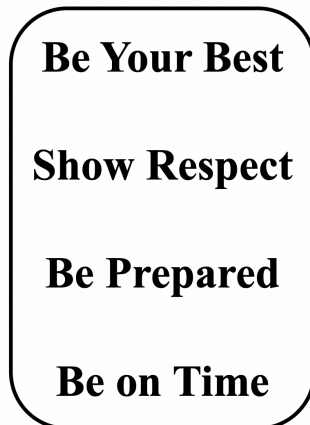
Some keys to a successful rehearsal:

- **Promptness:** To be on time is to be late, to be early is to be on time. (Arrive 15 minutes early. That is to be on time)
- **Attitude:** Clear your mind of other thoughts and start each rehearsal with a positive attitude and all items that you need.
- **Respect:** Respect one another by not worrying about anyone other than yourself when it comes to roles within the ensemble. Show respect to those talking to you and make eye contact. Show respect for each other's instruments and personal property as well.
- **Music Room:** This is YOUR band room. Everyone is expected to pick up after themselves, store instruments in the proper location, and not bring gum, food or drink into the room. Storage areas in the band area will be used for instruments and band equipment only. Please note that personal items (i.e. clothing, shoes, books, etc.) will be stored in lockers unless approved through the Directors.
- **Etiquette:** When the director is on the podium there is no talking. Be silent when someone is addressing you or the group. Play and handle your instrument only. Treat all others with respect to receive the same from them.
- **Listening:** Good musicians develop their listening skills for intonation, styling, articulation, length of notes and rests, dynamics, and numerous other musical reasons. Instructions given to one section will often apply to your section. Good musicians see and hear these things without waiting to be corrected. Also listen carefully to directions given to you.
- **Distractions:** Distractions interrupt concentration and can cause the intensity of a good rehearsal to be lost. Stay focused on the task at hand so that rehearsals can be run efficiently and desired goals can be met.
- **Equipment:** Have the following for every rehearsal:
 - Pencil and Highlighter
 - Band Folder or Band Binder (ALL music goes in your Folder or Binder (have one or the other, not both))
 - Music
 - Hand outs (tuning & fingering charts, instrument maintenance sheet, and more)
 - Instrument (in good working order) If you own your instrument, you know how important it is to maintain its care. If you are using a school owned instrument, treat it as if it were your own. Polish it, clean it, put it properly in the case, and store the case appropriately. NO ONE ELSE IS ALLOWED TO PLAY IT.
 - Reed players: reed case, 4 working reeds, water cup (to soak reeds) and any other instrument maintenance needs (refer to your instrument maintenance sheet)
 - Pitch Tendency Chart (Winds)

- Brass Players: ULTRA PURE synthetic valve oil, trombone “snot” (Yamaha Slide Lubricant), and any other instrument maintenance needs (refer to your instrument maintenance sheet)
- Percussion: proper sticks/ mallets (refer to your instrument maintenance sheet)
- **Learn Your Music.** Students are expected to prepare notes and rhythms during personal practice time at home. Students are given a rehearsal schedule in which they will base their home practice off of. Students are to prepare for the next day’s rehearsal.
- **You Must Attend All Required Events.** The calendar was created in June, all required performances and rehearsal have been posted since then. Work, last minute family vacations or event must be constructed around the band schedule. Remember, Band is a class scheduled inside and outside of the school day. Lack of attendance at any required event will result in a deduction in your grade.
- **Be Professional.** This is perhaps the most important expectation of all since it embodies and encompasses everything we do from rehearsal, to practice at home, to performance, to attending a concert.
 - Be Prepared for rehearsal
 - Practice at home, not at rehearsal. Amateurs practice until they get it right. Professionals practice until they cannot get it wrong!
 - Remain quiet during rehearsal when you are not being addressed.
 - Dress accordingly to the concert attire guidelines - professionally.
 - Always mind what you say when representing the ensemble and Midview. Leave a positive impression in the minds of others about our band and our school!
 - When in concert (band, choral, jazz, etc.) never speak during the performance , either on stage or in the audience.
 - Be human. Kindness can have the most profound impact of all. If you have nothing nice to say, keep it to yourself. If it will brighten someone’s day, say it!

Solo and Ensemble

All Students are encouraged to participate in this event. Students will have the opportunity to learn to perform a solo, trio, quartet, quintet, or other ensembles. Honors students, please check your Honors Band worksheet. See a director for details



Avon Lake High School

Honors' Level Course Expectations

Workload—(both in-class and homework) exceeds that assigned in other courses at the same level / same department

Independent work—the amount expected of the student is greater than other courses

Complexity and difficulty of material—material is more difficult and complex than general education curricula

Critical thinking skills—Honors/AP classes require a greater amount of activity at the higher levels of critical thinking, including synthesis and evaluation

The student selection process for Honors or AP courses is designed to make the program available to those who will profit from the challenging work offered. Three (3) factors are considered before a student is admitted to Honors or AP classes.

1. Level of academic achievement
2. Evaluation of previous teacher
3. The expressed desire of student

Honors Band Credit

Requirements:

1. Enrolled in either Concert Band or Symphonic Band for the entire year.
2. Participation in Marching Band.
3. Participation in solo and ensemble contest second semester.
4. Permission from the director.

The goal of honors band credit is to improve student musicianship. There are a variety of activities from which you can choose to participate that are weighted based upon their time commitment and musical impact. Students are not required to sign up for honors credit, but once you do, you cannot change back to regular credit during the year.

Each semester, students must complete 10 honor points. If you do not reach ten points in a semester, the following grading scale will be used:

With an A being 10 points- All deadlines must be honored to receive credit.

B = 7 to 9 points

C = 3 to 6 points

D = 0 to 2 points

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Be on Time

(Honors' Credit) Each semester:

- 5 honor points if you are enrolled in Symphonic Band.
- 3 honor points if you are enrolled in Concert Band.
- 5 honor points for marching band 1st semester and 3 honor points for 2nd semester.
- 2 honor points for performing in a concert as a member of an audition-based all-star group such as the Cleveland Youth Wind Symphony or the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra (Bring the concert program showing your name).
- 1 honor point for participation in an honors' band such as BGSU, Akron, OSU, or D4.
- 2 honor points for attending a professional level concert such as the Cleveland Orchestra. Submit a one page review to receive credit (Check with the director in advance to be sure the concert you have chosen fits the requirements).
- 2 honor points for successful participation in the pit orchestra for the annual musical.
- 1 honor point for attending a concert somewhere else (community organization, another school, etc.). Submit a one page review to receive credit.
- Participation in solo and ensemble contest second semester is required of all students receiving honors' band credit. Up to 3 honor points based upon your judges' rating (I = 3; II = 2; III = 1). You can get points for BOTH a solo and an ensemble.
- 1 (in a group) or 2 (as a soloist) honor points for a public performance at a church or other community event. Provide a program with a listing of your name and piece performed.
- 1 honor point per semester for successful participation in the Avon Lake Jazz Ensemble or Indoor Percussion.
- 1 point per semester for weekly private lessons with a qualified instructor (minimum 12 lessons per semester for credit).
- 1 to 2 honor points per semester for tutoring a student from Learwood or Troy. The lessons should be one half hour each week for all (2 points) or most (1 point) of the semester. Keep a journal of dates and lesson times along with what you have learned from the experience. To receive credit, you cannot be paid for the lessons.
- 1 honor point for a recording of you playing all of your major scales and a two octave chromatic scale at a minimum of quarter note = 100.
- 1 honor point for a report on a composer. The report should be between two and three pages (font size 11 or 12) and include their biography and how the composer (or their music) has impacted your musicianship.
- 2 points for participating in 6-10 Pep Band events
- 1 point for participating in 1-5 Pep Band events

Band Dictionary

- **8 to 5:** 8 steps for every 5 yards (there can also be 6 to 5)
- **Attention:** The Position in which Marching Shoremen stand with heels together (feet are at a 45 degree angle), back straight with excellent posture, and horn held with 2 hands in the proper positions. The students are focused, not looking around and are not talking.
- **Auxiliary:** Another term for Guard or Flag member.
- **Band app:** The primary form of communication for Marching Shoremen members.
- **Battery:** The marching percussion on the field
- **Dinkles:** The official shoe of the Marching Shoremen
- **Dot Book:** A series of pages in which students create the marching field and use "dots" for their location on the field so the students know their drill
- **Drill:** The movements or marching steps on the field
- **Front Ensemble:** Also known as the "Pit" This is the portion of the percussion section that is only on the front of the field and doesn't march due to the instrument requirements.
- **Gauntlets:** Part of the Uniform, gauntlets go on the sleeves of the Marching Shoremen
- **Guard:** The Color Guard (flag and majorette) Auditions are in the spring
- **Mark Time:** To march in place
- **On Time:** To arrive to the event 15 minutes early
- **Parka:** The Marching Shoremen raincoat
- **Respect:** What we must show our Band Room, Teachers, Directors, each other and most importantly ourselves no matter what.
- **Rookie:** First year member of the Marching Shoremen
- **"Set":** A voice command used for our Attention position. There is no moving around at this time
- **Set or Page:** Our drill is organized by sets (sometimes pages). Members "dots on the field" is correlated with a set or page number.
- **Shako:** The Marching Shoremen hat.
- **"Stand By":** A voice command used for the first of 2 steps with being at attention
- **UDB app:** Ultimate Drill Book app

Remember:
To be on time is to be early. If you are on time, YOU ARE LATE!

Who are the Band Aids?

ALHS Band Aids, Inc. has been in existence since 1964 to provide financial support and assistance to the Avon Lake City Schools instrumental music programs, including programs at Troy, Learwood and Avon Lake High School.

Avon Lake Bands: Symphonic, Concert, Marching (including Color Guard and Majorettes), Jazz, Pep, Learwood Bands and the 5th & 6th Grade Bands at Troy

WHAT DOES BAND AIDS PAY FOR?

If you have bought an instrument or even an instrumental music lesson book, you understand how expensive these quality items can be. Think about all the things that you or your students participate in or partake of in the program that are paid for in full or in part by money raised annually by the Band Aids organization:

- Uniforms for all high school bands
- Auxiliary equipment such as flags, props, misc.
- Equipment trailer
- Concessions equipment
- OMEA Contest and Honors Band fees
- Instruments and music
- Directors' discretionary fund at all three schools
- Clinicians, auxiliary instructors
- Lesson assistance for unique instruments
- Full band meals for special events
- Snacks at all home football games for home and away bands
- Annual band awards/recognition event
- Holiday concert receptions
- Annual ice cream social
- Portions of trip costs for high school bands
- Scholarship fund
- Discounted lessons

HOW IS THE MONEY RAISED?

In recent years, our success with football concessions and with the August Shoremen Brass Classic - a Drum Corps International competition - has allowed us to hold fewer fundraisers. We also raise money via other smaller activities, like Band On Demand, Band-A-Rama, a Patron Drive, a springtime pancake breakfast, and Pops Concert to name a few.

Your volunteer support of Band Aids programs and activities is expected and essential to the continued success of the instrumental program at all schools in the Avon Lake City School district. Band Aids meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month in the ALHS Band Room from 7 to 8 p.m. Meetings are open to all band parents and alumni of the Avon Lake Bands.

2024-2025 Band Aids Meeting Dates:

Monthly Meetings (typically the third Wednesday of each month, 7-8pm in the ALHS Band Room)

Summer Trustee Budget Meeting- TBA

August 21

September 18

October 16

November 20

NO December Meeting

January 15

February 19

March 19

April 16

NO May Meeting

NO June Meeting

NO July Meeting

These dates are tentative -- awaiting the PAC/ Concert schedule, please check Google Calendar on the Band website or the Band app (same calendar)*

What do I do when I have no idea what is going on with band for my student?

There are a lot of answers to this question. First, your student probably has received A LOT of information about the schedule and the expectations for band! It's kind of hard for some of the underclassmen to remember all the details, though. So here's what you can do to make sure you (and, most importantly, your student) are plugged in completely.

- Students and Parents, check the Band app!
- Check the avonlakeband.weebly.com site regularly! You'll see tabs for schedules, calendars and forms...and MUCH more. The summer and fall schedule is up there now.
- Like -Avon Lake Marching Shoremen, Avon Lake High School Band and *Shoremen Brass Classic* on Facebook. Follow @avonlakeband on Twitter and AVONLAKEBAND on Instagram.
- Attend Band Aids meetings to stay "in the know" and hear Mr. Brunger's monthly report.
- Make sure our Band Aids Secretary at albandaids@gmail.com has your email address so that you receive all Band Aids e-mail blasts and newsletters.

If you have questions, comments, concerns or would like to get involved, please feel free to contact Band Aids president Dawn Shivey at zora19sh@gmail.com

Avon Lake Band Performance Schedule

2024-2025

Please check the Band app calendar for all rehearsals and any updated performances. This schedule is subject to change

August

- 13- Preview Night & Ice Cream Social
- 23- Football @ Strongsville
- 30- Football Home

September

- 6- Football Home
- 13- Football @ Break Midpark
- 14- OMEA Marching Band Event
- 20- Football Homecoming
- 27- Football @ Amherst
- 28- Avon Lake Band-A-Rama

October

- 4- Band on Demand & Football @ Elyria
- 11-Football Home
- 12- OMEA Marching Band Event
- 18- Football @ North Ridgeville
- 24- Marching Band Concert
- 25- Football Home

November

- 1- Possible Play-off Football
- 2- OMEA State Marching Band Finals- Medina
- 8- Possible Play-off Football
- 14- Band Trip- Indianapolis BOA Grand Nationals
- 15- Band Trip- Indianapolis BOA Grand Nationals
- 16- Band Trip- Indianapolis BOA Grand Nationals

December

- ??- Holiday Learwood/ ALHS Band Concert

January

- 18- OMEA Solo and Ensemble Contest

March

- ??- Winter ALHS Band Concert
- 14- OMEA LGAE
- 15- OMEA LGAE

May

- 2- OMEA State LGAE
- 3- OMEA State LGAE
- ??-ALHS Band "Pops" Concert
- 26- Memorial Day

June

- 6- Commencement

**Make sure to join the Band app! ALL of performances and rehearsals (and details of each event) are there!!! Also, the calendar on the website is the exact same as the Band app calendar!

Be Your Best

Show Respect

Be Prepared

Be on Time



24-25 Avon Lake HS Band

All things ALHS Band! (Marching Shoremen,
Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band)

Scan this QR code and join!

Avon Lake Band Contract of Mutual Consent

(this copy is for home use)

I, the undersigned student, accept membership in the Avon Lake Band program and understand I am responsible for all policies set forth in the band handbook. I fully agree to carry out my responsibilities to the very best of my abilities.

Student Signature

Date

I, the undersigned parent or guardian, have read and understand the policies as set forth in the band handbook. I also grant full permission for my child to be an active member of the Avon Lake Band program and this form serves as a permission slip for all school trips (games, OMEA, etc.). In addition, my child has full permission to attend all band functions. Furthermore, I understand that I must meet all financial obligations and volunteer for at least 3 events (i.e. concession stand, chaperone, uniforms, etc.)

Parent Signature

Date

.....tear here.....

Avon Lake Band Contract of Mutual Consent

(Return this copy to Mr. Brunger)

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Parent Signature

Date

AVON LAKE CITY SCHOOLS – EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION FORM



Please PRINT or TYPE all information

Date ___/___/___

Student's Last Name _____
 First _____

___ Please check here if the following address or phone number are different from last year

School (check one) Eastview ___
 Erieview ___ Redwood ___ Westview ___
 Troy ___ Learwood ___ ALHS ___

Address _____

Grade _____ Age _____ Birthday ___/___/___ Approximate Ht. _____ Approximate Wt. _____

Purpose: To enable parents and guardians to authorize the provision of emergency treatment for children who become ill or injured while under school authority, when parents cannot be reached.

PLEASE LIST CURRENT PHONE NUMBERS; PREVIOUS NUMBERS WILL BE DELETED.

Mother's Name _____	Home Phone (____) _____
	Cell Phone (____) _____
	Work Phone (____) _____
Father's Name _____	Home Phone (____) _____
	Cell Phone (____) _____
	Work Phone (____) _____
Additional Contact Name _____	Daytime Phone (____) _____
Name of Relative/Child Care Provider _____	Relationship _____
Address _____	Daytime Phone (____) _____

PLEASE COMPLETE EITHER PART I OR PART II

PART I: TO GRANT CONSENT -- I hereby GIVE consent for the following medical care providers and hospitals to be called:

Physician _____	Phone (____) _____
Dentist _____	Phone (____) _____
Medical Specialist _____	Phone (____) _____
Local Hospital _____	Phone (____) _____

In the event reasonable attempts to contact me have been unsuccessful, I hereby give my consent for (1) the administration of any treatment deemed necessary by above named doctors, or in the event the designated preferred practitioner is not available, by another licensed physician or dentist; and (2) the transfer of the child to any hospital reasonably accessible. This authorization does **NOT** cover major surgery unless the medical opinions of two other licensed physicians or dentists, concurring in the necessity for such surgery, are obtained prior to the performance of such surgery.

Please list any facts concerning the child's medical history, including allergies, medications being taken, and any physical impairments to which a physician should be alerted. Please contact nursing staff for all health conditions that will require attention by school personnel.

Date ___/___/___ Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

PART II: REFUSAL TO CONSENT – I do **NOT** give my consent for emergency medical treatment of my child. In the event of illness or injury requiring emergency treatment, I wish the school authorities to take the following action:

Date ___/___/___ Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Student's Last

AVON LAKE CITY SCHOOLS – Bus Safety Rules



Whether a student rides back and forth to school or rides the school bus on an occasional field trip, it is important to know the bus safety rules. Parents and students should review rules together and sign the form below in the spaces provided.

1. Pupils must arrive at the bus stop before the bus is scheduled to arrive (5 minutes early).
2. Pupils must wait in a location clear of traffic and away from the bus stop - driver's designated place of safety.
3. Behavior at the school bus stop must not threaten life, limb or property of any individual.
4. Pupils must go directly to an assigned seat so the bus may safely resume motion. They must sit in a position that will provide maximum protection by the barrier.
5. Pupils must remain seated keeping aisles and exits clear.
6. Pupils must observe classroom conduct and obey the driver promptly and treat the driver and all other students respectfully.
7. Pupils must not use profane language.
8. Pupils must refrain from eating, drinking and chewing gum on the bus. *
9. Pupils must not use tobacco in school facilities, including on the bus.
10. Pupils must not throw or pass objects on, from, or into the bus.
11. Pupils may carry, on the bus, only objects that can be held in their laps. Do not bring large school projects or pets on the bus.
12. Pupils must leave or board the bus at the location they have been assigned. Parental and administrative authorization is required to do otherwise.
13. Guests may ride only in emergency situations, and then only after receiving permission from the building principal.
14. Weapons of any nature are not to be brought to any school building or function; nor are they permitted on the school bus.
15. Pupils must not put head or arms out the of the bus windows.
16. There should be a parent of the student at the stop both before and after school.

* There may be situations on field or athletic trips where food may be consumed on the bus with the driver's/administrator's permission, and only when the bus is stopped.

SAFETY SIGNALS

When students get on or off the bus, the driver will give the student the signal by slowly dropping their hand straight down when it is safe to cross or (door side) proceed to the bus. Students should always check traffic on their own before crossing. If the driver blows their horn that means DANGER! Check traffic again. If you see no danger, look back at your driver for further instructions.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Failure to obey the bus rules will result in a referral to the building principal. Disciplinary action may take the form of loss of transportation privileges.

Student's Signature _____ Date ___/___/___

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date ___/___/___

Show Respect

Respect yourself,

YOU are worth it!

Respect Others,

THEY are worth it!

Respect the Band Room,

This is a sacred place

Respect the facilities,

equipment, Uniforms, and

Traditions

YOU are a part of something very

special.

