

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

MR. RYAN STAHL

MARCHING BAND/SYMPHONIC BANDS/JAZZ BANDS/PEP BAND

ATTENDANCE POLICY

All students are expected to be in their seats or on the field at the start of rehearsal (all marching rehearsals will start on the field - weather permitting). We have limited time to accomplish our goals during rehearsals, so do not be late. Tardiness will only be accepted if student has the required documents stating that they are excused. During marching band, the director will give ample time for students to get back into the band room to put away instruments and get ready for 2nd period.

Music practices and performances are required. Any request for an exception must be submitted in writing (see included document) and approved by the director two weeks in advance of the conflicting date - except in emergencies. **Work is not an acceptable excuse for missing any music event or practice.** Our schedule is always announced far enough in advance to avoid conflicts. Parents, please make every effort to schedule regular doctor's appointments around the music schedule whenever possible. If a change of schedule is necessary, a minimum of two weeks notice will be given. Students are responsible for arriving at each rehearsal and performance on time and properly prepared (properly dressed, instrument ready, music ready, materials ready).

Excusable absences are:

- Sick from school
- Unavoidable doctors appt. (if this is a check-up, try to schedule around rehearsal)
- Death in the family
- Important family engagement (wedding, vacation/trip)
- Religious holiday

Non-excusable absences are:

- Driving test
- Homework (you must learn to manage your time)
- Attending a music concert or pro-sporting event
- Birthday
- Work
- Trips that aren't given two weeks notice (for example, you know you are going to be at a wedding, and you don't tell us until the day before you leave)
- Didn't have a ride (your section leader or director can help you find a carpool within the band)

Scheduled Performance - an unexcused absence from a scheduled performance will result in a 1-letter grade deduction. Two unexcused absences will result in a failing grade per grading period.

Scheduled Rehearsals - an unexcused absence from a scheduled rehearsal will result in a 10-point drop in grade, for each occurrence during that grading period.

PARTICIPATION GRADE

Students will be given 2 points per day when they are fully prepared and participate in class. Students will lose 2 points for every day they attend a rehearsal and do not actively participate. Example - a student does not participate because they forgot their instrument, doesn't have a reed or flag. Students that have medical excuses or verified instrument repair issues will be exempt from penalty.

Tardy for a rehearsal or performance

Each tardy will result in a 2% deduction, therefore after being tardy four times an 8% deduction (one letter grade), will be assessed during the grading period.

STRIKE POLICY

A tardy will be anything from the start of rehearsal until 5 minutes has passed. The first strike is 15 minutes of "band community service". This will be helping clean up the band room, sorting literature in the library, etc. The second strike is 30 minutes of "band community service". The third strike is missing the next scheduled performance and making up 60 minutes of "band community service". Each strike after the three strikes, is a missed performance. We cant afford to have anyone gone, so be responsible and on time!

MARCHING SPOT CHECKS

During marching band, students will be checked individually on their performance skills i.e. music memorization & preparation, marching skills, dance or flag routines. Students will receive a pass or fail evaluation. All section leaders will perform their spot checks for Mr. Stahle. If you do not pass your spot check...you will need to schedule weekly lessons until you pass. Section members will perform these spot checks for their section leaders. If you are not comfortable performing your spot check for your section leader, you may schedule a time to do it with a staff member. If the section leader or staff member does not feel they passed, they will have to see Mr. Stahle, Mr. Jamison or Mrs. Jamison to schedule a time before the first competition to perform the segment again. If you fail the spot check and have not passed by the first competition, you will not march with us at that event. Below is the grading matrix for your spot check:

- Pass by 8.24 = 100/100 points
- Pass by 8.31 = 80/100 points
- Pass by 9.7 = 70/100 points
- Pass after 9.14 = 50/100 points

PERFORMANCE DATES (MARCHING AND SYMPHONIC)

DATE	EVENT
August 25	ROOSEVELT MARCHING CLINIC
August 25	FIRST HOME FOOTBALL GAME
September 4	COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE (Joe Quintal Stadium)
September 7	HOME FOOTBALL GAME
September 22	COMPETITION - MARSHALL, MN
September 24	Homecoming Coronation
September 28	HOME FOOTBALL GAME (Homecoming/Potential Lights Out)
September 29	COMPETITION – BRANDON VALLEY
October 6	COMPETITION – FESTIVAL OF BANDS (SIOUX FALLS)
October 12	HOME FOOTBALL GAME
October 13	COMPETITION – YOUTH IN MUSIC (MINNEAPOLIS)
October 25	POTENTIAL HOME FOOTBALL PLAYOFF (Stand Music Only / No Halftime Performance)
November 1	INDOOR MARCHING SHOW @PAC
November 2	POTENTIAL HOME FOOTBALL PLAYOFF (Stand Music Only / No Halftime Performance)
December 13	Combined Winter Concert with Choir at the PAC
March 19th	Spring Concert at the PAC
March 20th	Large Group Contest at the PAC
May 9th	Pops Concert at the PAC

EQUIPMENT

Only percussion students are allowed to play the percussion instruments. NO OTHER STUDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO PLAY THESE INSTRUMENTS unless prior approval from director is given. If you are not a percussionist and you damage one of these instruments (accident or not), you will be liable for damages. Please respect all equipment in the band room.

POP/FOOD IN STORAGE ROOM AND BAND AREA

There is at no time to be ANY pop/food in the storage room, band room or practice rooms....EVER! At times, we do allow pop, food, etc in the music theory classroom, SRB rooms and show choir practice rooms. There will be NO FOOD OR DRINK anywhere in area B (auditorium, black box theatre, dressing rooms, loading dock, etc). Please help us keep the area clean and respect this rule.

SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS

If you are using a school owned instrument (all-year, marching, etc), please keep instrument in proper working condition. This includes giving the proper maintenance care to the instrument (cleaning, etc). If the instrument incurs any damage while under your care, you are financially responsible for all damages.

LETTERING

All students enrolled in the band program are eligible to letter in the band program. The lettering system is on a points-basis. Points will be given for the following:

- 10 Points – For each pep band game attended
- 10 Points – For each private lesson taken from outside instructor
- 10 Points – For each quarter you are lead chair in your section
- 20 Points – For being selected as a section leader in marching band
- 50 Points – For being selected as a drum major
- 100 Points – For playing in musical pit
- 100 Points – For playing in show pit
- 100 Points – Auditioning for all-state band, all-state jazz band or all-state orchestra.
- 200 Points – Being selected for all-state band, all-state jazz band or all-state orchestra.

**The letters will be given out to the top 20% of all band members at the Pops Concert on May 9th 2019*

ENSEMBLE INFORMATION

Symphonic Bands

Symphonic band season starts immediately after the marching season is over. Symphonic bands give one Christmas concert, one spring concert and one pops concert. Concert band is primarily made up of 9th and 10th graders. Wind Ensemble is primarily made up of 11th and 12th graders. The director may occasionally move students up or down according to ability level and instrumentation concerns.

Funk Group/Pep Band

Pep band and funk group are voluntary, musical groups comprised of anyone wanting to provide an exciting environment at basketball, wrestling, volleyball or gymnastic events. There is NO audition process. Once you sign up to attend, you must make it to 80% of all scheduled events. If you do not make it to enough events, you will be removed from the group.

Jazz Band

Jazz Band is an audition only group that rehearses before school from 7:00-8:00AM or at a mutually agreed upon time. Instrumentation includes the following:

- Trumpets
- Trombones
- Saxophones
- Guitar and Bass Guitar
- Percussion
- Keyboard

Additional instruments will be added at director's discretion only. This group performs at concert events, competitions and at the annual Palace City Jazz Festival. All jazz band members need to be at rehearsal on time for every rehearsal. If any member is late or misses rehearsal more than 3 times, the director has the right to remove that student from the group or place them in a different ensemble. Just be on time!

Show Pit

Show pit is a voluntary musical group that provides dynamic backup to the singer/dancers in Mitchell's Show Choir. This is an audition only group. The show pit travels with the show choir to all of the competitions/performances throughout the year. Rehearsals are at night and on the weekends. Instrumentation ranges depending on those trying out and the needs of the competition show.

Suspension/Violation of Training Rules

All MHS band students must follow the training rules set forth in the school handbook. If any student violates the code of conduct (set forth in School Board Policy #1071), any position of leadership is automatically forfeited for that year. Home football games, symphonic band concerts and large/small solo performances are graded events and do not count towards suspension. The marching band competitions, pep band/funk group performances, jazz band performances show pit performances and any all-state/honor band festivals all count towards the suspensions. The director and activities director reserve the right to make the final decision on what will constitute as a suspension.

Travel /Transportation

Students are expected to travel with the band to and from all activities. In the event a parent finds it necessary to drive a student to or from a band activity (where group transportation is provided) the following policy will apply:

- 1) Prior written notification must be received at least two weeks in advance of the event and approved by the director. In addition to this, an email or letter must be sent to the activities director (Cory Aadland, cory.aadland@k12.sd.us)

- 2) Students will only be permitted to leave with their parents or an adult authorized by the parents. The director must make eye contact with the parents before they take the child from that event. The parent will also sign a document releasing child to parent.
- 3) Students will not be permitted to come or go with boy or girl friends, classmates etc.

GRADING POLICY

FIRST QUARTER

FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORES	JUNIORS/SENIORS
25% Marching Spot Checks	25% Marching Spot Checks
25% Lessons - 4	25% Participation
25% Performances	25% Performances
25% Conduct/Attendance	25% Conduct/Attendance

SECOND QUARTER

CONCERT BAND	WIND ENSEMBLE
25% Performances	25% Performances
25% Lessons - 4 (Freshman/Sophomores)	25% Participation
25% Conduct/Attendance	25% Conduct/Attendance
25% Playing Assignments	25% Playing Assignments
20% Semester Test (of sem. Grade)	20% Semester Test (of sem. Grade)

THIRD QUARTER

CONCERT BAND	WIND ENSEMBLE
25% Performances	25% Performances
25% Lessons - 4 (Freshman/Sophomores)	25% Participation
25% Conduct/Attendance	25% Conduct/Attendance
25% Playing Assignments	25% Playing Assignments

FOURTH QUARTER

CONCERT BAND	WIND ENSEMBLE
25% Performances	25% Performances
25% Lessons - 4 (Freshman/Sophomores)	25% Participation
25% Conduct/Attendance	25% Conduct/Attendance
25% Playing Assignments	25% Playing Assignments
20% Semester Test (of sem. Grade)	20% Semester Test (of sem. Grade)

*The MHS bands use the Mitchell High School grading scale.

EXTRA CREDIT

All students will have the opportunity to receive extra credit by attending any musical event. The student must bring a copy of the program and write a half-page paper about the event. All papers must be turned in 3 days before the end of the quarter to receive credit for that quarter.

PARENT/STUDENT SIGNATURE DOCUMENT

Please look this over and discuss with your parents. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by email (ryan.stahle@k12.sd.us) or by phone at 995-3040. If you agree to everything, please sign this and have your parents sign this as well. This form is due back Monday, August 27th.

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

All of this information can be accessed at any time by going to www.mitchellband.org

MITCHELL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

PERFORMANCE / REHEARSAL EXCUSED ABSENCE REQUEST FORM

This form should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the scheduled activity

Date _____

Student's Name _____

Grade _____

Instrument or Position _____

I am requesting permission for my son/daughter to be excused from the activity listed below according to the policies outlined in the band syllabus regarding excused absences.

Indicate the specific performance event or rehearsal here

date of the event

Briefly state the reason you are requesting your student be excused from this commitment below.

Parent's Signature

Phone #

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REQUEST FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE GRANTED ON _____

THIS FORM WILL BE KEPT ON FILE FOR REFERENCE DURING THE GRADING PERIOD

BAND MEMBERS SHOULD RETURN THIS FORM TO MR. STAHLE

Mitchell High School Music Department

School Instrument Issue Form

Name _____ Grade _____

Home Phone _____

Instrument _____ Model _____ Serial number _____

Accessories (please check all that apply)

____ case ____ strap ____ reeds (number) ____ bocal ____ bow ____ oil ____ rosin
____ grease ____ mouthpiece ____ cleaning rag ____ ligature ____ other: _____

Check out inspection date. _____

Please note any damage:

Director's signature _____ date _____

Student's signature _____ date _____

This instrument is property of Mitchell Public Schools and is intended for use of students duly enrolled in the ensembles of the instrumental programs of Mitchell Schools. It is the student's responsibility to maintain daily care of the instrument including proper cleaning inside and out and regular oiling/maintenance of moving parts. Any damage that the instrument incurs shall be reported to the director immediately and all repairs shall be arranged through the director. It is the student's understanding that they are financially responsible for all damage unless otherwise determined by the director.

Check in inspection date. _____

Please note any damage:

Director's signature _____ date _____

Student's signature _____ date _____

PLEASE NOTE: When checking in the instrument, the student must return it to the director in person who will then inspect it for damage and wear. At that time both the director and the student will sign this form. A copy of the signed form will be made for the student's records, and arrangements for repairs, if needed, will be made. If there is any cost to the student it is expected that the fee be paid in full in following with school policy on fines and fees. Failure to follow this policy will result in a hold being placed on all of the student's records.