

**NAPERVILLE NORTH**



## **NNHS SYMPHONIC BANDS**

### **2018–2019 POLICY HANDBOOK**

Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony & Concert Band  
Kevin Dobbeck & Kirk Hickman, Directors

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I, the parent of \_\_\_\_\_ (student name), hereby certify  
that I have received a copy of the 2018-2019 NNHS Bands Policy Handbook.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Return this slip to one of your band directors by Friday, August 24.

# NNHS Bands

## 2018–2019 Policy Handbook

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### ***Grading Policies***

Your course grade will reflect what you have learned and how you have demonstrated this through rehearsal, performance, coursework and assessment.

**Overall Semester grade:**      85% Course grade  
   15% Semester Final Exam

Your course grade will be divided into three separate, weighted categories; they are, as follows:

#### **Performances: 40% of Course Grade**

Participation in performances is a major component of your grade. Curricular Band is a **class**; it is not an activity or club. Missing a performance is like missing a major test: even if you are excused, you don't get a free pass. **You still have to make up the points!** You will only be excused from a performance (after the fact) in the event of illness or family emergency. The excuse will not be applied to your grade until either Mr. Dobbeck or Mr. Hickman has received a letter or email of explanation from a parent or guardian. Pre-arranged absences (for family trips, medical procedures, etc.) must be discussed with a director at least **one month in advance** (and you still have to make up the points). Please work out all transportation issues in advance; "I didn't have a ride" will **not** be accepted as an excused absence. "I had to work" will not be accepted as an excuse. Extra-curricular conflicts with these **curricular events** must be worked out in advance. It is **your** responsibility to inform your coach or sponsor of your impending absence at the **beginning** of the season, rather than the week before. We will work with you, your parents, and your coach to find a way for you to attend both events, but only if given fair warning. **Please keep in mind that you are expected to work out these conflicts even if an extra-curricular event has been rescheduled at the last minute.** Failure to do so could result in an unexcused absence, which could have a serious impact on your final grade.

**Each 100 point performance grade** will be determined by the following criteria:

Arriving by call time: 15 points

Wearing required concert attire: 20 points

Prepared to perform with all materials: 50 points

Assisting in concert tear down until job is done: 15 points

Please note that if the directors determine that your absence is excused, *you will still be required to make up the points* with the **Alternate Performance Assessment** (see attached.) Please fill out our request to be excused form in the incidence of a concert absence: <http://www.nnhsbands.org/request-to-be-excused/>

Your Performance grade is based upon two criteria; first, your musical contribution to the performance. If an unexpected medical condition inhibits your ability to perform, (i.e. broken arm, dental work, etc,) then you will be expected to complete the **Alternate Performance Assessment**. Second, you will be required be an audience member for the remainder of the concert. Be advised that this is part of your required participation, and if you leave the building before the conclusion of the concert, it will be considered an unexcused absence and you will not receive any points for the performance.

***Note: All curricular band students are expected to participate in the annual Naperville Memorial Day Parade scheduled for Monday May 27, 2019. Please plan accordingly.***

#### **Individual Performance Assessment: 40% of Course Grade**

Throughout the year, students will engage in periodic playing assessments to test proficiency. Students may be tested on basic skills, such as scales, or on specific passages of their music. At the discretion of the directors, these assessments may be used to determine part/chair placement for that concert cycle. Please note that if you miss an assessment due to an excused absence from school, you will need to make up the assessment, and will need to make arrangements with the directors.

**SMARTMUSIC** is a computer program which allows you to practice and perform your repertoire and perform for assessment. It will be accessible to every student on their Chromebooks. Grade curving for SmartMusic will be applied to your grade, please pay attention in class when your directors are discussing what percentage you need for an 'A' and what percentage would require to retake your SmartMusic exam. An 85% will earn you a grade curved up to 92%, 86-91% will earn you a 95%, a 92% or above will earn you a 100%.

SmartMusic assignments submitted 2 Weeks before the concert will no longer be eligible for the above curve. An assessment submitted after the concert will receive an additional 10% deduction each day late.

#### **Individual Written Assessment: 20% of Course Grade**

Periodically, we will spend a portion of the rehearsal listening to a recording of a previous rehearsal. Using an established evaluation form, students are expected to respond thoughtfully and musically to what they hear on the recording, using the appropriate musical terminology and academic vocabulary. This will not only help to

develop critical listening skills in each student, but will also help the ensemble to target weaknesses quickly and efficiently. In addition, each concert cycle will end with an evaluation of the recorded performance, allowing students the chance to reflect upon their progress.

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## ***Concert Dress***

The purpose of a dress code is to create a professional and uniform look within the ensemble. Students not following the dress code may be denied the opportunity to perform, resulting in an unexcused absence from a performance. (See *Grading Policies*) Black socks & black dress shoes (NOT BLACK SNEAKERS) are required for boys, while black hosiery and *closed-toe* black dress shoes are required for girls. If there a family financial situation which might inhibit ability to purchase the required items, please speak with a director about financial assistance.

### **Symphonic Wind Ensemble** (Advanced Band)

Boys: Black Tuxedo, white tuxedo shirt, black bow tie, black socks, black dress shoes.

Girls: Black Velvet Dress (ordered through NNHS,) pearl or stud earrings, black closed-toe dress shoes.

### **Wind Symphony** (Intermediate Band)

Boys: Black Tuxedo, white tuxedo shirt, black bow tie, black socks, black dress shoes.

Girls: Black Velvet Dress (ordered through NNHS,) pearl or stud earrings, black closed-toe dress shoes.

### **Concert Band** (Introduction to High School Band)

Boys: Black Tuxedo Pants, white tux shirt, black bow tie, black socks, black dress shoes.

Girls: Black Velvet Dress (ordered through NNHS,) pearl or stud earrings, black closed-toe dress shoes.

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## ***Community Service***

Each year, members of the NNHS Band Department are required to participate in one community service event. These include Graduation (SWE & WS), and Pep Band basketball games (Concert Band.) Members not able to attend their group's community service event will be required to make up the performance credit, at the discretion of the directors. Members wishing to earn extra credit are encouraged to attend events assigned to other ensembles (especially Pep Band!)

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## ***Instruments***

**School Owned Instruments** (Mr. Hickman is the teacher in charge of rental instruments.)

There are several instruments that the music department can supply such as tuba, bassoon, baritone, etc. Students are responsible for the instrument issued to them at the beginning of the year. All school owned instruments are issued with a contract stating the terms of agreement for the instrument, instrument condition, serial number, etc. Please refer to your contract for specifics. The student AND their parents will be held responsible for any damages beyond normal wear (Dents and broken keys are NOT normal wear and tear. Therefore, though all repairs of school-owned instruments must be done through the school, students/parents will be charged for repairs necessitated by abuse or neglect). The cost of renting a school-owned concert instrument is \$100 for the year (\$50 for marching/secondary/at-home instruments.) Please note that in all cases, students are responsible for providing their own mouthpieces, reeds, and other consumables. Mouth-piece/reed-sharing is absolutely not permitted (and pretty disgusting, when you think about it.)

All members of the NNHS concert band program are expected to treat all percussion instruments with respect. Any student that is found playing a percussion instrument without the expressed permission of a director will receive an immediate disciplinary referral. Please note that this also includes any percussion instruments located in practice rooms. Percussionists are responsible for daily care of the instruments, including covering and/or putting them away at the end of each rehearsal. Percussionists must supply their own stick bag, Vic Firth SD1 General snare sticks, Vic Firth Staccato timpani mallets, hard plastic bells/xylophone mallets, and cord marimba/vibraphone mallets. (See recommended percussion purchase sheet)

**Instrument Storage at School** (Mr. Dobbeck is the teacher in charge of lockers and locks.)

All instruments (except tubas and percussion instruments) are to be LOCKED in an instrument storage locker in the Music Department wing. ALL personal instruments should be labeled with the student's name and address. (It is a good idea to keep the make, model, and serial numbers of the instrument on record and on file at home for insurance reasons.) Because space is limited in the music area, and there are a finite number of music lockers, students are not to store **books, coats, or materials** for other classes in their music locker if they are not presently in rehearsal. Instrument cases will be stored either in your locker or under your chair during rehearsal, and are not to be left on the floor of the storage rooms. Large instrument cases *need* to be kept in your music locker during rehearsals. All lockers must have a blue "V63" music department lock, which must be purchased from your director. Locks should be secured at all times, including *during* rehearsal.

Any student found “squatting” in a locker to which they are not assigned will lose their locker privileges. If the locker that is assigned to you does not meet your needs, ask Mr. Dobbeck to resolve the issue.

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## ***Practice Rooms***

Practice rooms are available for practicing use during school lunch hours. Priority is given to private instructors, curricular ensembles and then a first-come-first-serve basis. Rules posted outside the rooms are enforced, and can result in disciplinary by the dean’s office. Please, no food or drinks in the practice rooms.

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## ***Private Lessons***

Private lessons are not required for participation in the instrumental program at Naperville North, but are *strongly* recommended. Weekly private lessons can be set up with individual instructors, most of whom teach in the building during the school day. These instructors are available to give lessons during your study hall period, your lunch period, during half a band period, or outside of the school day.

A number of private instructors utilize the school studio space to teach lessons during the school day. This makes lessons convenient and safe, as each instructor is employed by District 203 and subjected to a background check. These instructors will be available for seven lessons each quarter, at a rate of \$175.00 for the quarter (seven lessons). (Additional lessons may be purchased a la carte at \$25 per lesson). Because these instructors are employees of District 203, there are strict guidelines regarding compensation. **Payment must be in the form of a check made out to NCUSD 203 (with the private teacher’s name in the memo line), and must be turned in to the Music Hallway lockbox, no later than the third week of the quarter.** Again, please include the name of the private instructor in the memo line on the check. Also note that this procedure must be followed even if your lesson is scheduled outside of the normal school day. If you are absent from school on the day of your lesson, you are responsible for communicating and scheduling a make-up lesson with the instructor.

Again, the following information *MUST* be included on the check:

**TO:** NCUSD 203

**AMOUNT:** \$175.00 (+\$25 for any additional lessons)

**MEMO:** [Your private instructor’s name]

# 2018 – 2019 Calendar of Events\*

SWE	=	Symphonic Wind Ensemble	(Advanced Band)
WS	=	Wind Symphony	(Intermediate Band)
CB	=	Concert Band	(Intro to HS Band)
JE	=	Jazz Ensemble	(Advanced Instrumental Jazz)
JB	=	Jazz Band	(Intermediate Instrumental Jazz)
JL	=	Jazz Lab	(Intro to Instrumental Jazz)

**\*Marching Huskies events are published separately**

<u>October</u>	2:	ILMEA District IX Auditions, Addison Trail (Selected SWE/JE)
	24:	<b>BAND-O-RAMA Concert, Fieldhouse (CB, WS, SWE &amp; MB)</b>
<u>November</u>	3:	ILMEA District IX Concert Festival (Selected SWE members)
	8:	<b>NORTHSIDE BAND FEST, NPAC (SWE only)</b>
	17:	ILMEA District IX Jazz Festival (Selected JE members)
<u>December</u>	12:	<b>NNHS Bands Holiday Concert, NPAC (CB, WS &amp; SWE)</b>
<u>January</u>	19:	North Shore Jazz Festival, Glenbrook South HS (JE & JB)
	22:	Jazz Concert, NPAC (JE, JB, & JL)
	23-26:	ILMEA All-State Festival, Peoria, IL (Selected SWE/JE members)
<u>February</u>	12:	NNHS Percussion Concert (percussionists)
	23:	Jazz in the Meadows, Rolling Meadows (JE & JB)
	24:	NNHS Fashion Show (JB)
<u>March</u>	2:	<b>NNHS Solo &amp; Ensemble Festival (optional)</b>
	18:	<b>Wind Symphony Festival, Wentz Hall (WS)</b>
	20:	<b>MARCH BAND CONCERT, NPAC (CB &amp; SWE)</b>
<u>April</u>	6:	<b>Chicagoland Inv. Concert Band Fest, Hersey HS (WS/SWE)</b>
	8:	NNHS 2019-2020 Band Auditions
	12:	NNHS Swing Dance, (JE, JB, JL)
	29:	Freshman Jamboree, Fieldhouse (JL)
<u>May</u>	4:	<b>Illinois Superstate Band Festival, U of I (SWE)</b>
	9:	<b>SENIOR FAREWELL CONCERT (CB, WS &amp; SWE)</b>
	20:	<b>COMMENCEMENT (WS &amp; SWE)</b>
	27:	<b>Memorial Day Parade (CB, WS &amp; SWE)</b>

# NNHS Music Alternate Ensemble

## Performance Assessment

If you have been assigned this project, it is because you were absent from a required performance for an excused reason. You now have the opportunity to make up these points by completing a brief research paper on a composer of one of the pieces that you've had the opportunity to perform during *this year*. Please keep in mind that it will be easier to find information on an older (or dead) composer. Also keep in mind that there is more written about certain composers because of their greater historical significance.

### Sources may include the following:

- As many periodical sources as desired (these may be accessed via PROQUEST on the NNHS library website.)
- CD liner notes (optional)
- Any websites that you use must be *citable*... in other words, they must have an author that you can credit. Use of Wikipedia will result in an automatic zero. Plagiarism will result in an automatic zero, as well as a disciplinary referral.

### The body of the paper must include the following:

- An Introduction and Conclusion
- A thorough biographical sketch of the composer in question
- A brief description and analysis of at least one major work by the composer in question
- Don't forget to give credit to your sources with a **Bibliography** page, and to credit any quotations with a **Works Cited** page.

The final product of this project will be a paper, (5 pages minimum, 12 pt. Times New Roman font, double spaced.) This paper must be turned in *before* semester exams begin in order for you to receive credit for the missed performance. Failure to turn in the project by this date will be the same as missing the concert... you will receive a zero in the "performance" category, which constitutes a significant portion of your quarter grade. If the paper fails to meet any of the above requirements, it will be returned to you for editing. If you require any guidance on this assignment, please feel free to discuss it with your directors at any time.



## ***Charms***

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www.charmsoffice.com is our resource for all things informational, documents, calendar, inventory, fundraising, spirit wear sales and volunteers.

To enter charms without accessing your individual information account information, simply go to the [www.charmsoffice.com](http://www.charmsoffice.com) , log-in as a student and enter in school code "NNHS."

Each student will have an individual account that is different for band/orchestra/show choir. So, if you have a band account, it has a different account that your account for other NNHS activities.

When you type in your student password (initially your student ID), you can see your fundraising balances, dues owed for participation in extra-curricular groups/offerings, and forms collected or outstanding.

Students and parents access the same account, so, if you change your password from your ID (which you should), make sure other members of your family are aware of your password change.

Charms allows our volunteers and directors better communicate to families, provide cloud based access/oversight to balances, create accountable capital inventory, and save hour of time on organizational jobs.

Information for creating your personal account will be emailed from Kirk Hickman.

## ***Social Media***

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NNHS Bands Official Social media include:

Facebook: Naperville North High School Band

Twitter: @NNorthBands

Insta: nnorthbands

Our social media platforms largely function as "fan pages" more than communication and informative sites.