

THE BOCA CIEGA HIGH SCHOOL



MIGHTY PIRATE BAND AND COLOR GUARD

BAND HANDBOOK

2017-2018

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TOGETHER, LET'S MAKE 2017-18 A GREAT YEAR FOR THE BCHS BAND AND COLOR GUARD!

Table of contents

Welcome Letter	3
Band Policy	4
Objectives	4
Goals	4
Did you know??	4
Band Curriculum	5
Merit System	7
Attendance Policy	8
Grading Policy	8
Playing Tests	9
Challenges	9
Duties of the Band Member	10
How parents can help	11
Fair Shares	11
Students responsibility to the band	12
Rules and Procedures	13
Use of the band facility	18
Practice habits	19
Leadership Staff	22
Parent Officers	22
Text Reminders	22



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Band Students and Parents:

Welcome to one of the most exciting experiences in which you can be a part – the band! Now, more than ever, we have information to justify why we participate in this demanding, yet rewarding activity. Experts have concluded that the study of music helps with spatial reasoning, test taking, and overall quality of life. Factor in social skills, emotional development, leadership training, group interaction, aesthetic perception, music-making, and the discipline of being in a band program, and I don't know why anyone would not want to be involved in a successful band program like the one at our school. The ultimate goal is a lifelong understanding and appreciation for high quality music and music making!

Everyone should read the information in the handbook, even veterans. Some of the information has changed, so make sure you're informed. For those new to the program, this is the "band bible", which keeps us running smoothly and efficiently. Most questions can be answered by consulting *the handbook*, and policies will be adjusted from year to year as the need arises to clarify issues within the program. It is my hope that the information contained in this handbook will both *inform* and *inspire!* The advocacy article "How Parents Can Help" is designed to give guidance to parents; read it carefully to gain important insights. Students need to know we think that what they do is important. You will quickly find that band is truly a family in and of itself.

This handbook is designed to answer any questions you might have concerning the band program. Please read all of the information and sign the perforated form in the back of the book. I am honored to be your band director and be at Boca Ciega High School. I am looking forward to a great year!

Musically,

Joe Sipiora

Director of Bands

The Boca Ciega High School

sipioraj@pcsb.org

"If better is possible, then good is not enough!"

Band Policy

In order to assist band members and parents in 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 high school band program, becoming a better musician, and becoming a better person:

We firmly believe each student should improve through regular practice. When the student has lost the will to improve him/herself, or to make a better contribution to the band, he or she is wasting the time and effort of fellow band members and the community by continuing in the program. The happiest band student is one who improves through regular habits of practice and daily progress. He or she must not only know right from wrong but must be able to stand for principles and develop a high sense of purpose toward which he or she is willing to work. Responsibility is the focus behind any level of achievement within this program. We intend to conduct ourselves in a manner that will facilitate the learning of all students.

Our mission:

To create a respectful learning environment, in which students develop integrity, identity, independence, and character; through studying, creating, and performing great literature at a high level.

Objectives of the Band Program

- To teach music by its actual performance
- To develop performance skills on the various wind and percussion instruments
- To provide for the musical needs of our school and community
- To develop discrimination with regard to the selection of music
- To acquaint students with music theory/history and how history and compositions relate to student's lives and musical experiences
- To provide students with the opportunity for worthy use of their time, a means for self-expression, and a healthy social experience
- To develop the ability to function as a responsible member of a group, enhance interaction, and develop *esprit de corps*
- To foster leadership skills within each student

Goals of the Band Program

1. Have FUN!
2. Learn something new every day.
3. Develop a love and appreciation for everything that we do.

Did you know?

- Students in band (performing ensembles) test 17% higher in math standardized tests, and 16% higher in reading standardized tests than students who are not in band (performing ensembles)
- 99% of students who are in band for 4 years graduate HS
- 93% of the students who are in band and graduate, attend a four year university
- 86% of the students who are in band, graduate, and attend a four year university, do so for FREE
- 96% of the students who are in band, graduate and attend a four year university for free go on to become: doctors, lawyers, teachers, engineers, politicians, etc.

Band Curriculum

Wind Ensemble

The wind ensemble is the primary performing organization in the instrumental music department during the spring. In the fall, all students are in the combined Wind Symphony. Membership is by audition. The Wind Ensemble focuses on the performance of significant wind band repertoire. Students participate in the marching band, All-County, All-State, solo & ensemble and District and State Concert Music Performance Assessments.

Symphonic Winds

The symphonic winds are the secondary performing organization in the instrumental music department during the spring. In the fall, all students are in the combined Wind Symphony. No audition required. Students participate in solo & ensemble, and District Concert Music Performance Assessment. Participation in Marching Band is expected, but not required.

Wind Symphony

The Wind Symphony is the entire winds and percussion from both the Symphonic Winds and Wind Ensemble. This group is what makes up the Fall band class. The Wind Symphony will have performances outside of the normal Winter and Spring Concerts. As part of school spirit it is required that all members of the band perform at all Home football games (dates and times below). Only members of the marching band will perform during half time. It is expected that students support their community and school for the betterment of Boca Ciega High School. The football games are performances and required, they are also a grade. If a student can not make it with an excused absence an alternative assignment will be given to make up the grade. The Home football games are as follows-

August 25th-report time 5:30pm in band room. Band shirt and jean pants
September 1st- report time 5:30pm in band room. Band shirt and jean pants
September 22nd- report time 5:30pm in band room. Band shirt and jean pants
September 29th- report time 5:30pm in band room. Band shirt and jean pants
October 27th- report time 5:30pm in band room. Band shirt and jean pants

Marching Band

The marching season takes place during the summer and the first 12 weeks of the school year. All students enrolled in the band program are expected; but not required, to participate in the marching band. For those students who do not participate, alternate assessment projects will be assigned to. The marching band performs in all home games, two to three away games, two to three competitive events, and Marching Band M.P.A.

Students who participate in Marching Band are granted a chair in the W.E., and J.E. They must complete an audition for chair placement only.

The rehearsal schedule for the marching band is:

Monday 2:30-4pm: open for sectionals

Tuesday 3:30pm-7pm: Full Band

Wednesday 2:30-4pm: open for sectionals

Thursday 3:30pm-7pm: Full band

Friday 5pm-6:30pm: Stands rehearsal (only for home games)

Marching band is a demanding part of being in band. But it is fun! And the experience is well worth it.

Jazz Ensemble

The Jazz Ensemble is the one of the premiere performance ensembles at The Boca Ciega H.S. Students are required to audition and participate in the marching band. Students will focus on the syntax and structure of the jazz language. They perform at school and community events as well as District and State M.P.A. events, solo ensemble, and one competitive jazz event each year.

Color Guard

The Color Guard is the visual part of the program. Students are required to audition and attend all summer camps and enroll in the Eurhythmics Class. Auditions are held in May, and callbacks are held in late July. Failure to attend rehearsals and performances will result in removal from the program.

Percussion Ensemble

All percussionists in the band program are enrolled in the percussion ensemble class. Students learn basic fundamentals on all percussion instruments and explore many styles and genres. Students participate in marching band, all-county, all-state, solo & ensemble, and District and State Music Performance Assessments.

Concert Band Camp

Two days of intensive training with a nationally recognized conductor. It will be held at Boca Ciega H.S. late January or early February. Dates and times are TBA. This event is mandatory for all members of the band program – with the exception of the color guard.

Leadership Seminar(s)

12 weeks of leadership and character development for all students interested in being a part of the leadership staff. This event is not mandatory, but it is strongly encouraged for all members of the band. Participation in marching band is required in order to be a member of the leadership staff.

All-State/All-County Auditions

Students interested in auditioning for these honor ensembles need to contact Mr. Sipiora for

materials.

S.P.C. Tuesday Night Concert Band

This ensemble meets on Tuesday nights from 7pm-9pm. It is comprised of HS students, college students, and community members. It is an opportunity to enhance (not replace) your HS Band experience. For audition information email Mr. Nathan Muehl, Director of bands, at: Muehl.Nathan@spcollege.edu

Participation/Preparedness Grade

Students will receive 20 points per week for their participation and preparedness for class and rehearsals. If they are unexcused from class or rehearsal they will lose points for this grade.

Tardiness to Marching Band/Wind Ensemble

Students will make up their tardiness at the conclusion of rehearsal.

Sitting Half Time Performance

During marching season, students will sit during half time of football games for the following reasons:

- Failure to pass-off music by the allotted deadline
- An unexcused missed rehearsal that week
- More than one unexcused tardy per week
- Any infraction of disrespect

Attendance Policy

The only *excusable* absences are prearranged school conflicts, and those that would be excused by the school for regular attendance records, e.g., illnesses, a death in the family, or a religious holiday. Individual needs will be addressed as they occur. Doctor's appointments and work schedules are not excusable absences for band-related events. This system is subject to modification by the director.

Performance no shows! The student will lose 40 points and a lowering of a letter grade on his/her report card.

For all absences, the student and the parent must follow the following procedure:

- The director must be notified two weeks in advance
- An absentee request form must be filled out and on file
- For illness, a parental note or doctor's excuse must be submitted
- Although cleared by the school office, absences from a band activity that same day must be cleared with the director as well – please call the band room office
- In extreme cases, a phone message may be left on the band answering machine with a follow-up personal call
- Follow-up is the sole responsibility of the student

The mere filling of an absentee request does not constitute approval. The above policy is cut and dry in regard to what is excused.

Conflicts with band (for Wind Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Band, and Marching Band)

Resolving conflicts between band and other activities or events is the responsibility of the student. Rehearsal and performance schedules are given out in advance (August) so that arrangements can be made. Students should not become involved with activities that may directly conflict with band activities. When outside activities create hardships concerning band, unless it is a situation that should only happen once, the student will need to consult with the director for possible alternatives. Students should have a calendar and be aware of all band dates well ahead of schedule. It is the policy of the band director to assist students when conflicts occur within the scope of the band policy. Students are reminded that band is a very demanding activity and that involvement in outside activities should be limited to those compatible with the band schedule. All conflicts with performances must be resolved in favor of band participation. Work is not an excuse for missing any band activity.

Grading Policy

Grades are assigned for the band class, rehearsals, and performances, which are co-curricular.

Class participation = 40%. This includes after school rehearsals on the schedule. Every day, students must have their instruments at every rehearsal, and show maximum effort to earn the best grade.

Auditions, Playing Tests (pass-offs), Performances, Concert Band Camp, Sectionals, MPAs, Tapes, Self-Assessments = 45%. It is the student's responsibility to turn in all assignments, prepare for auditions, and make scheduled events. Playing assignments for the school will be short and must be submitted via email – or recorded in the director's iPad or computer during the school day.

Binder = 15%. Students are responsible for including all handouts and notes in the schoolwide binder system that is in place this year. This will be checked regularly throughout each quarter

The minimum expectation is 100% Hold yourself accountable!

Playing Test (Pass-Off) System

Every week, students will have a pass-off assignment(s).

- **Marching Band Pass-Offs:**
 - Students must play the weekly assignment(s) for their section leader.
 - Assignment(s) are posted each week.
- **Wind Ensemble/Symphonic Winds/Concert Band Pass-Offs:**
 - Students must play the weekly assignment(s) for the Director
 - Assignments are posted at the beginning of the 9 weeks.
- **Percussion Ensemble Pass-Offs:**
 - Students must play the weekly assignment(s) for the instructor or the Director.
 - Assignment(s) are posted at the beginning of the 9 weeks.
- **Jazz Ensemble Pass-Offs:**
 - Students will play the weekly assignment(s) for the Director.
 - Assignments are posted every week.

Challenge System

Students may challenge other students for a chair/solo. The policy below applies:

- The director must approve the challenge and the music in advance.
- If a student declines the challenge, he/she automatically loses the challenge.

- The student may only challenge the person one chair in front of him/her.
- Absences on a challenge day may only be excused, if the school excuses the absence. The student must contact the director in advance.
- Challenges shall not be rescheduled.
- If a student has an unexcused absence to a rehearsal, he/she will go to the end of the section.
- Solos are automatically assigned to the principal player.

Solos may only be challenged within the sub-section (i.e. 1st clarinets only)

Duties of the Band Member

- Be on time to all rehearsals and performances.
- Upon entering the rehearsal setting, get your instrument, and go directly to your seat.
- When the director or staff member steps on the podium or asks for your attention, all talking should cease.
- Come to the rehearsal with a good attitude.
- There should be no excess playing (e.g., horsing around on the instrument), only good, solid material.
- Make a real effort to improve on a daily basis, and establish a good practice routine.
- At the end of the rehearsal, put all materials in their proper place.
- Maintain a strong academic standing in all course subject areas (minimum of 2.0 required)
- Become responsible for and assume responsibility for your own actions. Admit when you're wrong.
- Have proper respect for yourself, those in authority, and your peers.
- Read and play music with insight – have musical expectations.

The importance of Attitude

The greatest single factor that will determine the success of any individual or organization is **attitude**. The kind of person you are is an individual choice, and how you feel about something is one of the few independent choices that you have in life. It takes intense dedication to reach goals. Students should learn to discipline themselves to practice fundamentals daily. The right attitude must be present along with sincerity, concentration, and dedication as the basic foundations. Such an attitude makes an artistic performance inevitable and is the difference between a great organization and a mediocre one. The band can do much for you. Make the most of it in every rehearsal and performance.

The importance of discipline

Because of the nature of the organization, band discipline must be strict! Band students and parents must believe in the ideals, principles, and philosophy of the organization. Each member must always be aware of good behavior and think for himself/herself. Any misconduct casts a bad light on the school, community, and band program. Any member who discredits the organization by his or her conduct or actions in band, in another class, or on a trip shall be subject to dismissal from the band program or may lose a privilege within the program. This decision will be at the director's discretion.

Parents Responsibility to the Band

It is the responsibility of every parent and guardian to see that the policies outlined in the handbook are followed and that the form in the back is signed and returned. This states that you understand the policies set within and that any questions are to be directed to the band director by making an appointment. Each parent is responsible for the attendance of his or her child at all band functions. It is the responsibility of each parent to see that the child practices his or her instrument at home. The hands of the director(s) are tied without the help of the parents.

“Superior Results require Superior Efforts.”

How parents can help

When a band question arises, it is important that you get factual information before discussing it with others. We do more harm to ourselves, the band family, when we talk about things that contain one or more falsehoods presented as facts. If questions arise, it is important to remember this axiom: if it is a performance issue or anything dealing with the band proper, contact the band director. If it is a fund-raising related question, or any parent-related issue, contact the band parent president.

Habits of successful band parents:

- Show an interest in the musical study of your child.
- Arrange a regular time for your child to practice.
- Find a quiet place where he or she can practice without interruption.
- Listen to performances of practice materials when asked to do so.
- Help the student keep a daily record of practicing.
- Come up with a reward system for practicing.
- Keep the instrument in good repair, and keep three reeds in the case; get a metronome and tuner!
- Be extra careful with school-owned instruments. Repair costs are high!
- Teach your child to be prepared and on time to each rehearsal or lesson.
- Provide private instruction.
- Make faithful attendance at all band activities important.
- Buy your child a personal planner for marking important dates.
- Keep the handbook in a safe place and refer to it often.
- Notify the teacher if the student is to be absent for rehearsals or lessons.
- Double-check to make sure students have their instruments.
- If the student is absent, make sure that his/her folder gets home if he/she shares with somebody.
- Visit rehearsals occasionally.
- Read all communications.
- Attend meetings, concerts, games, and contests.
- Chaperone an event.
- Turn in paperwork on time.
- Turn in fundraising money on time.
- Purchase the right uniform parts for your child.
- Volunteer at one or more events.
- Read this handbook!

Fair Shares

The district provides the program with 60% of our operating budget (facilities, instruments, and a band director); we are responsible for fundraising the remaining 40% (transportation, registration fees, uniforms, music, & repairs). Each band student is assessed a dollar amount determined by the budgeted needs of the band for that year divided by the number of band and guard members. The students may earn credit toward this assessment by participating in various fundraising events of the year. If the student does not earn enough credit to meet his or her fair share by December 1st, he or she is responsible for paying the remaining balance. Invoices will be sent out in two-month increments. Payment donations may be made out to the band in full or installments. The 2017-18 Fair Share is \$100.00 per student.

Students' Responsibility to the Band

As members of this organization you have a great deal of responsibility. These expectations coordinate with the privileges, rewards, and duties of the band program.

To Ourselves

You have the primary responsibility of developing your own abilities. The benefits of a good instrument and private instruction can never be overestimated. What you put into it is what you will get out of it. The director is always available for your guidance and encouragement – just ask!

To the School

The school district provides us with the resources for rehearsals, performances, and equipment. The band parents also provide us with a support network, both financially and philosophically. We have the responsibility to provide the best possible services to our community.

To Music

Music has always been a part of our culture. We must take what we have and use it for the betterment of that culture. No one expects you to be virtuoso musicians, only to do the very best you can. The great composer Gustav Mahler once said that only 10% of a piece of music is on the page. If that is the case, we as musicians have the duty of creating and producing the other 90%. The joy of music is not in everything that is apparent. It must be discovered and created!

To Each Other

We must always do what is best for the welfare of the group. There can be no selfish acts solely for the benefit of the individual. Respect each other. If there are conflicts, find a way to resolve them. Never insult another band member's integrity. The word "band" implies that we are banded together without divisions

No Excuses

Any excuse for non-performance, however invalid, softens the character. It is a sedative against one's own conscience. When a man/woman uses an excuse, he attempts to convince both himself and others that unsatisfactory performance is somehow acceptable. He/she is – perhaps unconsciously – attempting to divert attention from performance; the only thing that counts is his/her own want for sympathy. The user is dishonest with him/herself as well as with others. No matter how good or how valid, the excuse never changes performance.

The world measures success in terms of performance alone. No man/woman is remembered in history for what he/she would have accomplished. History never asks how hard it was to do the job, nor considers the obstacles that had to be overcome. It never measures the handicaps. It only counts only one thing – **performance**. No man/woman ever performed a worthwhile task without consciously ignoring many a plausible excuse.

To use an excuse is habit. We cannot have both the performance habit and the excuse habit. We all have a supply of excuses. The more we use them the lower become our standards, the poorer our performance. The better we perform, the less plausible our excuses become. Next time you want to defend your sub-par performance, say instead (at least to yourself):

No Excuses!

Notice the startling effect this will have on your own self-respect. You will have recognized your failure. You will have been honest with yourself. You will be one step closer to the performance habit. You will be a better person for it. "We will be a better team!"

Together Everyone Achieves More!

Expectations, Rules, and Procedures

- Shoes and socks must be worn at all times for outside practices (guard included).
- Chewing gum is not permitted during a rehearsal, a performance, or in the band room.
- Each band member must respect his or her uniform and wear it properly at all times.
- Food and drink are not permitted in the band room.
- No hats or sunglasses may be worn inside the building.
- Be on your seat (or your dot), warmed up, and ready to begin on time.
- Respect authority and others, including their personal property.
- A band member will wear no jewelry in uniform.
- **Zero tolerance** for substance abuse.
- Students are required to remain with the band after games and will be dismissed as a group.
- Young adults shall not damage property or equipment.
- Bus lists will be posted before each trip.
- Fund-raising materials will be collected in the band office. **Be sure that all your information is neatly printed on order sheets.**
- Fair shares will be collected in the barrel.
 - Put your money in an envelope.
 - Write your name and amount on the envelope.
 - Indicate cash, check, or money order.
 - Seal envelope.
 - Put the envelope in the barrel.
- If you share a folder and you are absent, please make sure the folder is at school.
- Students may practice in the band room before school, after school, and during lunch (with permission).
- **15-minute rule: parent pick-ups are to take place 15 min. after all dismissal times.**

Marching Band Policy

It is a H.S. musician's responsibility to provide for the musical needs of the school and community. Therefore, all students are expected, but not required, to participate in marching band. Marching season takes place during the summer and the first 12 weeks of school. The marching band performs at football games, pep-rallies, Marching M.P.A. and two-to-three competitive events during the fall season. Marching Band is an intricate part of our evaluation and development; and during this season, we develop leadership, character, and *esprit de corps*. Marching band also provides the students with fundamentals, and performance skills necessary for other music performance assessments.

Band Camp & Summer Rehearsals

Held during the last week of July. Directors, camp staff, and student leadership staff teach the Band Camp. Camp is required for all members of the band. Approximately seven weeks of normal rehearsal time is crammed into one week, so attendance is very important. Parent volunteer opportunities are vast and available.

The week prior to Band Camp, percussionists and color guard will attend a camp for their sections only –

these two sections have more material to cover than the winds.

Marching Band Participation

All students are expected to attend and participate in all Stands Rehearsals, Home Game Performances, and Parades. Members of *The Mighty Pirate Marching Band* attend all rehearsals, trips, and competitions. If there is a situation preventing this, an excuse form must be requested and filled out *beforehand*. After-school rehearsal schedule will be:

- Mondays 2:30-4pm – open for sectionals – see sectional schedule maintained by leadership staff
- Tuesdays 3:30-7pm – Full Band Rehearsal
- Wednesdays 2:30-4pm – open for sectionals – see sectional schedule maintained by leadership staff
- Thursdays 3:30-7pm – Full Band
- Fridays 5pm-6:30pm – Stands rehearsal (only if we have a home game)

If a student is absent during school, this does not automatically excuse the after-school absence. Someone must follow up with the director directly. Do not leave a message with a student.

Alternates

Students who wish to join marching band after the drill has been written will be allowed to on an *Alternate Status*. Some of the most important members of the band are the alternates! When other people are unable to participate in rehearsal, or in competitions, it is very important that we have students who are prepared to take on any performance role at any time. Alternates are **critical** to our success! Alternates must be enthusiastic and willing to learn new material at a rapid pace. The following procedure will be followed for alternate musicians:

- The marching band show will be written for a set number of positions.
- Alternates can shadow someone in their section, or learn the instrument & drill for any open spots.
- Two alternates may learn the same spot and rotate.
- Alternates may perform pre-game and stands routines with the band.
- Spot assignments, will be assigned by the director based on attendance, preparation, attitude, behavior, and music pass-off scores.

Marching Band Uniform(s)

The look is 75% of what we do. We must carry/wear our uniform with pride and honor. Any disrespect to the uniform will be treated as any act of disrespect towards an administrator of the school.

The student provides – out of pocket:

- Black marching shoes (provided for freshmen)
- Black crew socks
- White crew-neck shirt & black shorts

The fair shares provide:

- Marching Band Jacket
- Marching Band Pants
- Shako & Plume
- Travel bag
- Band t-shirt

Wind Ensemble Uniform:

The look is 75% of what we do. We must carry/wear our uniform with pride and honor. Any disrespect to the uniform will be treated as any act of disrespect towards an administrator of the school. On stage, we must look as outstanding as we sound.

Ladies:

- Black concert dress
- Concert pearls – ear rings and necklace
- Hair: T.B.D.
- Light make up (provided by the student)
- Black closed toe heels or flats

Gentlemen:

- Tuxedo coat
- White Tuxedo shirt (provided by the student)
- Cumberbund & bowtie
- Black pants (provided by the student)
- Black socks (provided by the student)
- Black shoes (provided by the student)

Inspection:

This process takes place before each performance. Drum Majors and Captains assist with each section of the band in making sure that every member is wearing the uniform properly:

- Clean, pressed uniform
- Clean, polished shoes
- Clean, black socks (shin-high)
- No jewelry (Marching Band)
- No make-up (except for guard – they need make up!)
- Clean, white crew-neck under shirt (no logos)
- Hair gelled back in a bun (girls)
- Clean, cut, and shaven (boys)
- Jacket properly folded and placed inside shako
- Clean gloves
- Polished instrument (brass)
- Working instrument & reeds (woodwinds)
- Band Bag:
 - Poncho
 - Hoodie (if cold)
 - Other personal belongings

Traveling

- If a conversation can be heard in the front of the bus, it's too loud!
 - There will be no hanging out of or talking out of bus windows.
 - Please lower the volume considerably when entering towns or stadiums. This is for your safety, it's courteous to the bus driver, and is an act of class.
 - Please keep the bus clean; pick up after yourselves, and always thank the chaperones and bus driver.
- 🔍 **There is no talking** when on 58th St. S.

Football Games

- Report time for all games will be announced each week on the newsletter.
- Students must wear full uniform unless told otherwise by the director.
- For home games, students will be dismissed following the announcements in the band room.
- For away games, students may ride home with another individual, but the band director must have a note signed by the parents prior to departure from BCHS, and said person must make contact with the director at dismissal time. Parents must also contact the director prior to dismissal.
- When marching to and from the stadium the band will remain at attention. When you have class it shows – when you don't, *it shouts!*
- Only uniformed band members, staff members, and chaperones are allowed in the band section.
- All members are to remain in their section. Any stands music will not be played unless rehearsed and approved by the director.
- There will be no eating or drinking in the stands.
- The band will have part of the third quarter off and must be back in their seats for the downbeat with 3 minutes left in the 3rd quarter.
- All members should be alert as to what is going on down front. Be ready to react immediately to instructions given by the drum major or director.
- If a student leaves the band section, another student must accompany him or her and both must have permission from the director.

Competitions

Competitions are special events in which we get to perform for a sophisticated audience and very competent judges. We are here to do our best – not to win. If we do our best, everything else will take care of itself. Specific information is given prior to competitions as to directions, departure, and anticipated return time. All parents are encouraged to attend competitions and support the band. Students may use the band phone to call following a trip. Parents, please come immediately when called.

Wind Ensemble Auditions

In November there will be auditions to determine chair and band placements. Auditions will be announced well in advance and will consist of scales, technique, and a required solo/etude, sight-reading, tone, and range. Due to the difficulty of all parts, all players in the Wind Ensemble are considered principal.

“When you have class, it shows. When you don't – it SHOUTS!” – Scott Rush

Wind Ensemble/Symphonic Winds Rehearsals

Students in the wind ensemble are required to participate in a weekly sectional with the director/instructor and section leader. There will be no more than 3 rehearsals to a concert. Rehearsals will take place on Tuesdays (S.W.) and Thursdays (W.E.) from 3-6pm in the band room.

Rehearsal goals:

- To establish a professional **performance** environment.
- To achieve consistency and artistry for the music performed
- To enjoy the preparation process for a performance.

Rehearsal objectives:

- To ensemble the percussion and wind sections of the band.
- To enhance the understanding and performance of the literature.
- To host clinicians and guest conductors in order to receive feedback otherwise impossible to attain during the regular class time.

All Concert Ensemble Rehearsals are mandatory and a part of the Students' grade in the class.

Classroom Procedures

- You must be in the storage room or in your seat when the bell rings; a downbeat will be given three minutes after the tardy bell. During the three minutes beforehand you should move to your seat; obtain music, a music stand, and a pencil; and begin warming up for the day's rehearsal.
- Talking will not be tolerated during a rehearsal.
- The purpose of a rehearsal is for you to learn the music, and how your part contributes to others' and vice-versa. *Practice at home!*
- If you must leave your seat for any reason, please ask. Restroom breaks should be taken between classes.
- In your individual warm-up, it is important to practice long tones, lip slurs, scales, and that day's assignment on a daily basis.
- Announcements will be kept to a minimum – read the board, the bulletin board, and the weekly newsletter.

Materials Needed for Class

Every student should have the following items in class every day:

- A sharpened pencil
- Instrument (sticks & mallets)
- Music and folder
- At least three reeds (clarinets and saxophones)
- At least two reeds (oboes and bassoons)
- Tuner

School-Owned Instrument Rental

Students who are not able to provide an instrument are allowed to rent an instrument from school. These instruments are property of the school board and it is a privilege for you to use them. PLEASE, be careful with these instruments. The instrument rental fee for the year is \$60.00 and for one semester it is \$35.00. If you are unable to afford this for any reason, please provide that reason in writing, and we will do our best to reduce/waive the fee. **Summer Rental Fees are \$35.00.**

Use of the Band Facility

Band Room

The use of the band facilities before, after, and during school is a privilege. Students who abuse the facility will be disciplined accordingly. Any abuse or damage will be considered vandalism. **No outside students are permitted in the music building**, except for business with the director(s). There will be no horseplay, e.g., throwing things in or around the band room. All percussion and guard equipment is off limits to anyone not specifically designated to using it. There will be no storing of personal items – the band room is not a locker! Band Room use during lunch is limited to practicing and business with the director.

Practice Rooms

Practice rooms are to be used for practice or private instruction. Keep the room neat with the appropriate music stands in place.

Library

The library is private and is to be used only by the library staff or for sectional rehearsals supervised by the director or a staff member. Materials may be checked out through the librarian; this includes solos, ensemble pieces, and etude/method books.

Band Office

There is an “open door” policy; however, the band office is private and is not to be entered by any student without the permission from the director or a staff member. All students should keep in mind that this is a place of business. If the door is shut, it’s for a reason, knock first. If the door is open, knock first.

Phone

Telephone use should be kept to a minimum and is not for personal use. **Ask permission before using the phone.**

Percussion Room

To be entered and used by the percussionists of the program only. Only percussion instruments and equipment shall be stored in this room. Percussionists may use this room to practice on large instruments during the day. **Any items that are do not belong to the percussion section shall be removed and discarded accordingly.**

Locker Room

To be used for the storage of your instrument, music, and marching band rehearsal materials only. Personal items (e.g. textbooks, food, clothes, etc.) need to be removed by the end of each day. Otherwise, they will be placed in the lost and found bin or discarded. It is the students’ responsibility to keep and maintain this area clean and organized.

Bathrooms

Will remain locked throughout the day and be opened at the end of the school day for use before and during rehearsals. Bathroom breaks during class are to be kept to a minimum. If you need to use the restroom, use it **before** rehearsal. Students are limited to five bathroom passes during every 9-week period.

Practice

As with any activity, you get out of it what you put into it. Band will not be fun unless you practice. There are many values in the study of music as a discipline that transfer to other areas of life. Although this will not immediately happen, persistent practice will lead to enthusiastic, driven practice.

Remember: "Perfect practice makes perfect!" Here is a suggested plan of study:

- Pick a set time each day
- Use a tuner for a portion of your practice session
- Have a non-boomy place of practice
- Increase dynamic range (work on *pianissimo*)
- Use our daily warm-up and think "tone"
- Increase endurance (10-15 minutes of full-tone playing)
- Play some form of scales at every practice session
- Increase range (highest note with good tone)
- Take a break every 20 minutes
- Use a metronome for part of the time
- Work on technique (articulations, accents, etc.)
- "I will start with _____ minutes a day and increase to _____"
- Practice sight-reading
- Use the practice record chart

Instrument and Mouthpiece Upgrades

Mouthpieces

Clarinet	Van Doren 5 RV Lyre mouthpiece DEG Barrels Rovner Ligatures
Saxophone	Selmer C*
Trumpet	Bach 3C or 1 ^{1/2} C
Horn	Shilke 29 or 30
Trombone	Bach 5G or 6 ^{1/2} AL Shilke 51 or 51D
Euphonium	Bach 4G or 5G
Tuba	Helleberg 120S Bach 18

Instruments

Piccolo	Yamaha YPC62
Flute	Yamaha 684 H
Clarinet	Buffet R-13
Oboe	Loree or Fox 400
Bassoon	Fox Renard 220 or 222
Saxophone	Old selmer Mark VI or Yamaha Custom
Trumpet	Bach Stradavarius or Yamaha Xeno
Horn	Conn 8D
Trombone	Bach Stradavarius or Yamaha Xeno
Euphonium	Yamaha 321-S or Willson
Tuba	St. Petersburg or Miraphone 191 or 187

Method Books

Flute

The Art and Practice of Modern Flute by William Kincaid
Eck Method for Flute by Emil Eck
Exercis Journaliers – Flute by H. Altes
Rubank Intermediate Method for Flute by A.C. Petersen
Rubank Advanced Method for Flute by Himie Voxman and William Gower

Clarinet

Forty Studies for Clarinet, Book I by C. Rose
Klosè's Celebrated Method for Clarinet by Hyancinthe Elèonor Klosè
Melodious and Progressive Studies by David L. Hite
Rubank Advanced Method for Clarinet by Himie Voxman and William Gower
Rubank Intermediate Method for Clarinet by J. E. Skornicka

Oboe

Barrett Oboe Method by A.M.R. Barrett
Fifty Classical Studies for the Oboe by Gunther Joppig
Practical and Progressive Oboe Method by Albert J. Andraud
Rubank Advanced Method for Oboe by Himie Voxman and William Gower

Bassoon

Practical Method for the Bassoon by J. Weissenborn
Rubank Advanced Method for Bassoon by Himie Voxman and William Gower
Rubank Intermediate Method for Bassoon by Himie Voxman

Saxophone

Rubank Advanced Method for Saxophone by Himie Voxman and William Gower
Rubank Intermediate Method for Saxophone by J. E. Skornicka
Thirty-five melodious and Technical Exercises: Saxophone by D. Gatti
Universal Method for the Saxophone by Paul de Ville

Trumpet

Arban's Complete Conservatory Method by Jean-Baptiste Arban
Daily Drills and Technical Studies for Trumpet by Max Schlossberg
Rubank Advanced Method for Trumpet by Himie Voxman and William Gower
Rubank Intermediate Method for Trumpet by J. E. Skornicka
Technical Studies by Herbert L. Clark

Horn

First Book of Practical Studies for Cornet and Trumpet by Robert W. Getchell
Lyrical Studies for Horn by Giuseppe Concone
Rubank Advanced Method for Trumpet by William Gower
Rubank Intermediate Method for Trumpet by J. E. Skornicka
Sixty Studies for Horn (two volumes) by G. Kopprasch

Trombone/Euphonium

Arban's Famous Method for Trombone by Jean-Baptiste Arban

Melodious Etudes, Books I & II by Joannes Rochut

Daily Drills and Technical Studies for Trombone by Max Schlossberg

Rubank Advanced Method for Trombone or Baritone by Himie Voxman and William Gower

Tuba

Rubank Advanced Method for Tuba by J.E. Skornika and E.G. Bolz

Rubank Intermediate Method for Tuba by Himie Voxman and William Gower

Recordings

Just as the blind child cannot paint a picture of the sunset, an instrumentalist cannot duplicate a characteristic sound on his or her instrument without an appropriate model to emulate. Below are suggestions of artists for each instrument. Every student in the band program should own at least one recording of the following artists:

Flute	Jean-Pierre Rampal, Jim Walker, Paula Robinson
Clarinet	Harold Wright, Larry Combs
Oboe	Joseph Robinson, John Mack
Bassoon	Bubonic Bassoon Quartet, Christopher Millard
Saxophone	Jean Rousseau, Joseph Lulloff, Steven Mauk
Trumpet	Phil Smith, Adolph Herseth
Horn	Dale Clevenger, Dennis Brain
Trombone	Joseph Alessi, Christian Lindberg
Euphonium	Brian Bowman, Roger Behrend
Tuba	Arnold Jacobs, Sam Pilafian
Percussion	Keiko Abe, Buddy Rich,

Percussion Accessories

All percussionists must obtain the following accessories:

- Mallet/stick bag
- 1 pair of snare drum sticks
- 1 pair of timpani mallets
- 1 pair of yarn mallets
- 1 pair of rubber mallets
- 1 triangle beater
- Tuner
- Battery percussion members must provide their own sticks and mallets (with the exception of extra implements)

Student Leadership Staff

These are the student leaders. They help make sure that all student-driven logistics and operations run smoothly, efficiently, and effectively. They are responsible to the director for the actions of the band at all times.

Drum Major	Alex Jenks
Band Captain	Gage Martin
Brass Captain	Jackson Ford
Percussion Captain(s)	Luke Nasworthy
Guard Captain	Natalie Giovinco, Jasmine Stone
Lieutenants	Rodney Berrien

Band Parent Officers

These are the parents that help run all operations of the band. They are also available to help answer any questions that you may have regarding parent involvement.

Band Parent President	TBD
Band Parent Volunteer Coordinator	TBD
Band Parent Secretary	Kelly Butler
Fundraising Liaison	TBD

The Boca Ciega High School Band Handbook Contract
PLEASE READ, SIGN, FILL OUT, AND RETURN IMMEDIATELY!!!

“I have read a copy The Boca Ciega High School Band Handbook and Calendar. I understand my responsibilities as a member of The BCHS Band and understand that I will be held accountable for the information contained within this handbook.”

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Personal Info (all information will only be used for record keeping and e-mailing band information)

Please print legibly.

Student Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Home Phone _____ Birth Date _____

Student E-mail Address (if available) _____

Same address and phone for mother? Yes/No Father? Yes/No

Grade _____ Gender male/female T-Shirt (Adult) Sizes (XS, S,M,L,XL,XXL) _____

I take Private Lessons Y/N Private teacher _____ I am interested in taking Private Lessons Y / N

“I have access to the internet at my home.” Yes/ No *“My computer is...”* Windows / Macintosh

Mother or _____ First name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Best time to call _____

Email Address (if available) _____

Occupation/Skills _____ Best time to call _____

Father or _____ First name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Best time to call _____

Email Address (if available) _____

Occupation/Skills _____ Best time to call _____

Please return this form by August 17th

