

Decatur High School Bands

2010-2011

As we begin a new year, it is important that we have clear-cut expectations. Yes, I expect you to be successful because you are a group of talented, intelligent, and hard-working young people. However, with these high expectations come many policies and procedures that help us to become effective members of the team. I am here to help you, so I am not going to allow you to do anything that would interfere with the success of the group. So that we can have a successful working relationship, the following rules are set forth.

*Hard work is required, but the hard work often pays off with **success**.*

Why do we do what we do? Why is it important to do our best always?

Tardiness for Marching Band

Roll will be taken promptly five minutes before the start of every marching band rehearsal (see www.decaturband.org for a full schedule of the year's events). You should be in the attendance block by no later than two minutes before every scheduled rehearsal. A representative of student leadership will record any tardies.

Rule: Do not be tardy to marching band rehearsal

Consequence: One 45-minute detention or you may make up the missed time immediately following rehearsal. More than two tardies will result in no third-quarter break, followed by possible alternate status.

Tardiness for Class Rehearsals, Symphonic Camp, or Morning Band

Roll will be taken promptly at the beginning of all rehearsals.

Rule: Do not be tardy to rehearsals of any kind

Consequence: Consult the school tardy policy. See the band handbook for no show policy

Absences

If the school excuses it, we will excuse it – otherwise it is unexcused. If you miss one entire rehearsal for the week, regardless of reason you will not participate in the half-time show on Friday night. For marching band rehearsals the following excuses will not be accepted:

Work – give your boss the schedule for the year NOW. Work is not excused.

Doctor's Appointment – Only excused in the event of an emergency, in which a signed note from your Physician will need to be presented.

Birthdays – Your birthday or the birthday of a family member or friend is not an excused absence.

Gum Chewing

Rule: Do not chew gum at any band function that involves playing your instrument, e.g. a rehearsal, performance, game, or any time you are in uniform, or in the band room.

Consequence: Detention will be served after school or during lunch (if the student so chooses) no more than two days following the infraction. First time = 20 minutes; second

time = 45 minutes; third time = school detention.

Appropriate Listening When Someone Else is Talking

It is expected that when a staff member is talking you address him or her with your eyes and full attention. We believe you should have enough self-respect that you honor this request.

Inappropriate Talking

When a staff member is talking, you should not be talking. If another student talks to you at an inappropriate time, don't respond. He or she will get the message! Although this is an expectation, an inability to comprehend this concept will result in a consequence commensurate with the frequency of talking.

Saying Thank You

It is expected that when you encounter deeds of goodness you will say thank you. People you should thank include chaperones, band parents, your peers, bus drivers, staff members, teachers, principals, and anyone else that you encounter.

Procedures

Procedures are how we do things. They are not rules and do not have consequences. This is just the way we do it.

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| Beginning of class | When the director steps on the podium, class is silent |
| Leaving your seat | Raise your hand and ask for permission |
| Using the band phone | Ask for permission |
| Entering the classroom | Go directly to instrument/music/seat/warm-up |
| Class dismissal | Teacher dismisses you, not the bell |
| Asking a question | Raise your hand |
| Responding to question | Raise your hand |
| Instrument Room | Kept neat and orderly – free of personal belongings |
| Passing in papers or music | Pass to the left |
| Turning in recordings | Tapes – in crate. Digital recordings on computer |
| Turning in money | Lock Box in office – name/purpose on envelope |
| Fire Drill | Go to the assigned area and remain as a class |
| Announcements | Check the board at the beginning of class. |
| Getting Help | Ask the teacher. She will set up a help session before or after school |
| Seeing someone for the first time | Say “good morning” or “hello” |
| Practicing | Structured, daily practice (see handbook/syllabus) |
| Storing Music | Folders go in numbered slot, flip books stay with you |
| Tearing down the set | Last group put your chairs along the wall and stands in 3 rows |
| Entering the band office | Knock before entering |

I have read, understand, and will comply with all rules and procedures. I believe that we are all responsible for making rehearsals run smoothly. I am willing to do my part!

Student

Date

Parent

Date