



Perry Bands Handbook

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Perry Bands Handbook

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Terminology

Some terms and acronyms are used frequently and interchangeably throughout this handbook. These include:

PBF: Puma Band Fans - Parent Association

CUSD: Chandler Unified School District

ABODA: Arizona Band and Orchestra Directors Association

AzMBA: Arizona Marching Band Association

WGAZ: Winter Guard Arizona

WGI: Winter Guard International

AzPAS: Arizona Percussive Arts Society

Preface

This handbook describes the Perry High School Band Program (Perry Bands) and its policies, rules, and regulations. The high school band program includes the following classes/ensembles: Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Colorguard/Winterguard, Percussion Ensemble, and Marching Band. Band members are required to follow the policies, rules and regulations of the Chandler Unified School District (CUSD) and the Band Program. School rules and policies are in force at all times that a member is directly or indirectly involved in any activity sponsored by or in the name of Perry High School. School policy shall have priority over band policy in the event of any policy conflict. The band directors shall have authority to suspend or amend any band policy at any time deemed necessary in the best interest of the overall band program.

To Band Members

What is the High School Band Experience?

Unlike most other classes, band offers a wide variety of opportunities for the student. Band is one of the few classes where excellence is not only expected, but also essential to success. Imagine if an English teacher graded everyone in the class to the level of the weakest student! In band, everyone **MUST** perform at the highest level of excellence or a performance will sound terrible. Even one person making a grade of 60% on a piece of music means 40% of the notes were played in error...not pleasant to hear!

In addition to teaching performance skills, band teaches the student to be an active, thinking person. For each note played, there are numerous considerations and instantaneous decisions to make. How loud or soft? How fast or slow? How does the note start? How does it end? Who else plays it? Am I in-tune? Nowhere else on campus is the demand for active thought any stronger.

Band also teaches life skills. Communication is the main component of music. The rehearsal and performance schedule of the band demands planning and time management...skills that will be valuable all through life.

Goal setting, problem solving, peer interaction... all of these develop quickly as a part of the band experience. The band program at Perry strives to be one of the finest in the Nation. Few other activities offer the travel opportunities, the chance to meet and interact with the legends in the field, and the satisfaction of knowing that your time, talent, and effort have paid off through the highest levels of achievement.

To Parents

Welcome to one of the most exciting organizations available to your student! The band program at Perry High School offers many varied performance opportunities and gives members the chance to learn with each other and grow closer to one another. We strive to offer the best available instruction and the widest array of events

for our members. We strongly believe that there is a place for everyone in the band. We have hundreds of success stories. Many times, members who thought that they were not interested have become some of the most dedicated members once they have been a part of the experience. If you choose to participate, you can reap a variety of rewards. In addition to all of this, you become a member of a very active, multifaceted family. The band program at Perry has established itself as one of the finest available in our area, with superb performing ensembles in marching, symphonic, chamber music, colorguard and percussion activities. We hope that you share our excitement in creating these phenomenal opportunities for the students. We encourage parents to be active supporters of our efforts through booster club participation (the Puma Band Fans or PBF), assistance in fundraising, and through volunteer work such as chaperones, equipment crew, or and countless other roles and duties. We also hope that you will be the most visible supporters of the students by attending as many performances as possible.

This handbook should help orient you and your student to the many different aspects of the band program. Attendance at band parent meetings is still advised. The band program produces a calendar kept on our website www.perrybands.com; you'll want to keep it nearby. Feel free to call any director or PBF officer for help and remember to come to the meetings to get the latest information about each event.

Rarely do you see such a large group of students assembled in one organization with such a strong focus on achieving excellence. Take the opportunity to get to know the instructors, other parents, and the members who make our success a reality.

On behalf of all high school band directors and staff:

Brandon Kiesgen

Director of Bands, Perry High School

Objectives of the Band Program

The Perry Bands form an integral part of school life and are recognized as an all-school activity. Band is one of the largest and most active voluntary student organizations and its members form an active group.

The primary objectives of the band program are:

- Cultural - To foster the continued development of music appreciation and understanding through the study and performance of the best in music.
- Educational -To develop interested and discriminating listeners, provide a well-rounded musical education and prepare members for musical activities beyond high school.
- Service -To lend color and atmosphere to certain school and community affairs while promoting and enhancing the dignity and reputation of Perry High School at all appearances.
- Citizenship -To develop the ability to function as a responsible member of the group, to enhance the member's ability to interact with others in a positive manner, and to develop the ability to function as a responsible member of the community.
- Recreational - To provide all members with the opportunity for worthy use of leisure time, an emotional outlet, and good social experiences.

Band Program Offerings

Concert Bands

Students enroll in band as a class, which meets during the normal school day. These classes are referred to as concert band and symphonic band. The percussion players enroll in Percussion ensemble which combines with the concert bands.

Marching Band

The Puma Regiment is a competitive marching band. Students audition for membership through the month of June. Membership is open to all performers that display the ability to perform both musically and visually.

Jazz Ensemble

Students may elect to enroll in jazz ensemble as a class, which meets during the normal school day. Audition is required for this ensemble and instrumentation is limited.

Percussion Ensemble

Percussion players participate in this unique ensemble where they learn percussion music to play with the concert bands. Additionally, this class works on a competitive concert percussion production that performs in the Winter Season as part of the WGAZ Circuit.

Colorguard/Winterguard

The colorguard is a non-musical section that provides additional visual aspects to the performance. The colorguard interprets the music that the marching band is playing via the synchronized spinning of flags, sabers, mock rifles, or other pieces of equipment and through choreographed dance. In the Fall, the guard is part of the Puma Regiment. Following the Fall season, the students audition for placement in winterguard units to compete in their own competitions in the WGAZ circuit.

CONCERT BANDS

Because the marching band performs so often in public, concert season seems “forgotten”. This is far from being true. Concert season is the time when the majority of musical training takes place. Each band receives a performance rating during the ABODA Area concert festivals which is considered by many as the basis for evaluating the entire band program. Each band member will be placed in one or more band classes based on the number of members applying and the applicant’s playing ability. Tryouts are held in late spring and band selections are announced in May to facilitate the students’ class schedules.

Performances

Concerts

Three concerts are presented throughout the year and are open to the public. These are wonderful, well-attended concerts and you will hear challenging music. This is a great time to invite the grandparents, aunts and uncles and let them hear “what else the Perry Bands can do”.

Contests

ABODA Area and State Concert Festivals

The ABODA Area and State Concert Festivals are held in the months of December, February, and April. The concert bands travel to local high schools where they perform and are critiqued and rated by judges. Each

band performs their concert music followed by an instructional clinic or sight-reading portion of the contest. For the sightreading at the State level, the band is given music they (or the directors) have never seen or heard and have 5 minutes to talk their way through the piece. They then receive a “one-time-shot” at their performance. Many do not understand that ABODA concert contests are open to the public. Even though performance times are sometimes inconvenient, parents are encouraged to come listen to and applaud the bands.

AMEA Solo and Ensemble Contest

These contests are sponsored by the AMEA. These contests give the band member and director a good idea of how each member is progressing musically. The first round of the Solo and Ensemble contest is conducted via video submission. Our first concert of the year in November is where the performances are recorded. Students receiving a recommendation for advancement based on their video submission will be allowed to perform live at the State Solo and Ensemble Contest in January or February. Students will be given plenty of time to prepare a solo or ensemble performance. All band members must participate in these chamber music ensembles but submission for contest is optional and requires a small entry fee.

Regional and All-State Ensembles

Individual band members are strongly encouraged to tryout for these bands. Pre-selected tryout music is available to all students during the summer. The regional tryouts are held in January and students that successfully make the Regional Ensembles are then eligible to audition for the All-State ensembles in February.

Band members who become Regional and All-State musicians are highly praised and honored. The bands and orchestras made up of these wonderful musicians represent the top high school band members in the state of Arizona. Advancing to All-State is the highest individual honor a high school musician can achieve.

Special Events

From time to time, special events may arise in addition to school ball games, contests, parades, concerts, and other such appearances. Participation in special events not previously scheduled will be at the discretion of the band director and school officials after conferring with the band regarding the feasibility of the event. The band is not able to accept all invitations for obvious reasons and is not able to do instant performances. It is the policy of the band to cooperate as much as possible with special requests for performances.

Graduation Performance

All band and orchestra students combine to perform at the Perry Graduation Ceremony. It is not necessary for parents to attend unless they desire. Seniors perform during the special musical selection in the middle of the ceremony before returning to join their class.

Private Lessons

Private lessons give the student a chance to progress at an accelerated rate towards the mastery of his/her instrument. The private instructor is able to work with the student on an individual level, gearing the lessons to fit the specific needs of the performer. The student is able to hear the improvement in playing almost immediately, unlike the full band setting where players can “hide” or cover their areas of inexperience by allowing stronger players to carry the weight of the section. Students with the benefits of private lessons have a history of becoming top players in the program (and sometimes become private lesson instructors themselves while in college). The cost per lesson varies with the instructor, as does the location. Some teach at home, others at area music stores, and some at our neighboring universities. It is well worth the time and effort of scheduling lessons if the student can achieve higher ranking in their musical ensembles. A list of private instructors will be provided through the Band Office as teacher schedules become available.

Fees & Other Costs

The concert bands need a small operating budget in order to purchase new music each year and to offset the cost of festival registrations and transportation. The regular course fee will be **\$25** per student per year. There may be additional costs if taking an out-of-state or extended trip that year. Students will also be responsible to pay any extra audition or solo & ensemble fees that they elect to participate in although not required.

MARCHING BAND

The Puma Regiment is a state-of-the-art competitive marching band. It explores the latest trends in competitive marching band. The Regiment is a co-curricular activity for members at Perry High School.

Membership

Membership is voluntary into this co-curricular ensemble; however, an audition is required. The Colorguard and Percussion sections require a specialized audition and is considered a select ensemble of the Regiment. Potential members that audition will be granted membership based on their performance ability – both musically and visually. All students that wish to be members will become members, a field position will be determined based on the audition. Students that do not appear immediately ready, or join late in the season will be accepted with an alternate status.

Winds

The wind section consists of the brass and woodwind family of instruments and is selected based on the musical and visual camps that take place during June.

Guard

The Color Guard is a part of The Puma Regiment. The Color Guard is a non-musical section that provides additional visual aspects to the performance. The color guard interprets the music that the marching band is playing via the synchronized spinning of flags, sabers, mock rifles, or other pieces of equipment and through choreographed dance. A successful audition is required to obtain Color Guard membership during each year of participation. Training Sessions are provided prior to the performance based auditions that are held in the Spring

Percussion

The percussion section of The Puma Regiment consists of the following: Field Battery Instruments (Snare, Tenor Drum and Bass Drums) and the Front Ensemble (Grounded Percussion Instruments, Mallet Percussion, Timpani, Electronics, etc.). The percussion section is selected based on performance at the May Audition Camp as well as the musical audition. The specific instrumentation and instruments used in the percussion section will vary from year to year based on the demands of the overall show design.

Drum Majors

Members are eligible to audition for Drum Major after completion of a full season in The Puma Regiment.

Drum Majors audition in areas that demonstrate their skills in leadership, conducting, maturity, musicianship and marching ability. A clinic is held in April to prepare the interested students, followed by an audition.

Rehearsals

Since The Puma Regiment is a co-curricular activity, its rehearsal schedule exists both during and outside of school hours. Regiment rehearsals are as follows, but not limited to:

- Audition/Rehearsal Camps: 4 days during the month of June.
- Band Camp: Begins approx. 2 weeks before the first day of school for 13 hours per rehearsal day.

- School Day rehearsals: Marching Band meets during “0 Hour” which begins early in the morning.
- Sectional Rehearsal: An additional rehearsal per week devoted to just the members particular section (i.e. Percussion, Guard, Winds, etc.).
- Extra Rehearsals: Typically every other Saturday rehearsal in the months of August and September.
- A Detailed calendar with all rehearsal dates and times will be available online at www.perrybands.com

June Training and Tryout Camps

Although the main purpose of the June Camp days is to introduce incoming prospective members to marching techniques, the full band is required to attend. These camp days will also serve as auditions for field spots within the Regiment. The older members are a tremendous help with the teaching process while building camaraderie with the new band members. The camp is traditionally held on Tuesday nights in June from 5pm to 9pm. If you anticipate any problems with attendance, please contact one of the directors. It is strongly recommended that you attend for best possible placement potential.

July Summer Band Camp

The 2nd week of July is the beginning of our busy marching season. Attendance at this camp is mandatory so plan vacations accordingly. Speak to the directors with any concerns.

The summer band camp will consist of the most concentrated rehearsal time for the entire season. During this time, we build fundamental skills and teach a large amount of the competitive marching show. As you can imagine, this puts important emphasis on this camp. The dates and times vary, but get ready for 13-hour days, 7am-8pm. Comfortable tennis shoes, light colored clothes, and a cap are the best type of attire. It also will be helpful to have a large water jug, sunscreen, and sunglasses. Have your band member check with their section leaders for other good advice.

Some of the things happening at this camp include:

- Final Marching tryouts
- Learning show music
- Learning drill
- Uniform distribution
- Learning “stand tunes” (music for football games and pep rallies)
- Purchasing of any accessories that may apply to your specific section
- Lots & lots of bonding between old and new band members.
- The final Friday night of camp, we will be doing a showcase performance for all parents, friends and family to kickoff the season.

Performances

The Puma Regiment performs at halftime of all home varsity football games as well as at pre-game of all away varsity football games (travel schedule permitting). The Regiment also performs at all competitive contests and festivals; approx. six contests per season. The Regiment also performs various community support appearances based on need and accessibility.

Varsity Football Games

Fridays in the fall semester become pretty fast paced for The Puma Regiment. The members will meet in the band room after school is dismissed, then the band will be fed dinner on campus. Following the dinner break, the members will have time to change into uniform and make necessary adjustments prior to the designated report time in the Band Room. Warm-ups and inspections will take place prior to marching down “Regiment Road” for home games or before loading the buses for an ‘away’ game.

The buses leave the stadium as soon as possible after each game. If you need to pick up your non-driving band member, you can wait in the east parking lot by the band room, but beware, there are many cars doing just the same thing. Car-pooling with other parents/students might be a good alternative to this problem.

Contests

ABODA Marching Festivals and Competitions

The Arizona Band and Orchestra Directors Association--ABODA--governs the state marching contest. Bands are placed in classifications based on band size. ABODA utilizes combination of a festival system where no scores are given and a competitive model depending on what the band prefers when registering. In an ABODA Festival/Competition, bands have one performance time throughout the day in their division. At the conclusion of the Festival, scores and placements are announced for each band as well as "Caption Awards" for High Musical Performance, High Visual Performance, High General Effect, High Percussion and High Auxiliary. The Award ceremony concludes with the announcement of ratings and scores of the bands that performed that day. Bands that receive a score of 80 or better during regular season shows become eligible for the State Festival. The ABODA state festival is a rating only system. Scores are computed but not published. The top 10 ensembles from each division perform the following weekend at the ABODA State Championships.

AzMBA Competitions

The Arizona Marching Band Association--AzMBA--is a strictly competitive circuit that is based off of state-of-the-art methodologies in marching band adjudication. AzMBA also places bands into classifications based on band size in order to place bands in comparative 'neighborhoods' to allow for a more equal competitive playing field. The band gets one performance in their division during the day. At the conclusion of the competition, scores are announced in each division and a single caption award is awarded for High Music, High Visual, High General Effect, High Percussion and High Auxiliary. All bands have the opportunity to also compete in AzMBA Championships which features a full band retreat awards ceremony.

Parades

All parade performances are scheduled and required for all Regiment members. Parade performances are no less important than any ABODA or AzMBA performance, and most of our community values the Regiment's local parade participation with the utmost importance to community service.

Special Events

From time to time, special events may arise in addition to school ball games, contests, parades, concerts, and other such appearances. Participation in special events not previously scheduled will be at the discretion of the band director and school officials after conferring with the band regarding the feasibility of the event. The band is not able to accept all invitations for obvious reasons and is not able to do instant performances. It is the policy of the band to cooperate as much as possible with special requests for performances.

Uniforms

Perry HS owned uniforms will be issued to most marching band members. Members may be required to purchase uniform parts not owned by Perry HS. The Perry Bands has a large stock of uniforms that are inventoried, repaired, distributed, and collected by the PBF. There are several personal accessory items that each marching band member is responsible for purchasing. For marching band, these include gloves, shoes, socks, and t-shirts. All members (excluding color guard) will wear the same show t-shirt under their uniform at all times.

Fees & Other Costs

Each Regiment member's costs are based on but not limited to the following;

- **Uniform Accessories:** Each Brass, Woodwind, Colorguard and Percussion student purchases their uniform shoes, uniform T-shirt, and gloves. These items are ordered as a group to achieve the lowest possible discount pricing to each student.
- **Meal Plan:** The members are fed before every ballgame performance and at some contests. Although not required, most don't pass on this money saving and convenient option.
- **Instrument Rental:** If using a CUSD instrument, the cost is **\$40** per instrument per school year.
- **Participation Fee:** Each student will pay a fee that in turn will help offset the cost of instructional staff, equipment, awards, and other operational needs for the ensemble.
- **Competition/Festival Trip Fee:** Each student will pay a fee that in turn will offset the cost of transportation for all competitive events.
- **Out-of-State Trip Fee:** Each member pays or fundraises their share of the overall cost for the Regiment to travel to an out-of-state event. This cost includes transportation, lodging, meals, entertainment, etc. for the entire trip. While extended out-of-state trips are nice, they are not guaranteed to occur every season.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE

The Perry Jazz Band meets during the school day and is considered to be a primary performance ensemble. The jazz band performs at various events in the local area in addition to festivals where they receive a rating for their performance.

Membership

The jazz band is an elective and is based on a particular instrumentation with limited spots available. Auditions are held in May to determine admission and placement into this ensemble. The audition calls for etudes in the jazz style and an improvisation requirement. Students are also encouraged to participate in a concert band ensemble if they are able to fit it into their school schedule.

Performances

Concerts

The jazz ensemble is unique in that it performs in venues outside of the school. Jazz music is often perceived as a less formal music meaning it is more modern than what would be considered "classical". The Jazz band performs their concerts at a local coffee shop that has a more relaxed ambiance and makes the performers feel like they are providing more live entertainment in the community rather than on the school stage to the usual audience.

Contests

ABODA Area and State Jazz Festivals

The ABODA Area and State Jazz Festivals are held in the months of February and April. The jazz bands travel to local high schools where they perform and are critiqued and rated by judges. Each band performs their selected music followed by an instructional clinic by knowledgeable jazz musicians. Many do not understand that ABODA jazz festivals are open to the public. Even though performance times are sometimes inconvenient, parents are encouraged to come listen to and applaud the bands.

NAU and Highland Jazz Festivals

These festivals are similar to the ABODA festivals except they are independently run and often take place over the course of several days. These festivals typically bring in one big clinician to do master classes throughout

the few days and the students rotate through classes in addition to their festival performance. There is also a big concert that makes these festivals rewarding and unique.

Fees & Other Costs

The jazz band needs a small operating budget in order to purchase new music each year and to offset the cost of festival registrations and transportation. The regular participation fee will be **\$25** per student per year. There may be additional costs if taking an overnight trip to a jazz festival such as NAU in Flagstaff or out-of-state trips. If renting a CUSD Instrument, the cost is **\$40** per instrument per year.

Special Events

From time to time, special events may arise in addition to school ball games, contests, parades, concerts, and other such appearances. Participation in special events not previously scheduled will be at the discretion of the band director and school officials after conferring with the band regarding the feasibility of the event. The band is not able to accept all invitations for obvious reasons and is not able to do instant performances. It is the policy of the band to cooperate as much as possible with special requests for performances.

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

The percussion ensemble provides a unique opportunity for all percussionists to focus on the specifics of their unique instruments. The percussion ensemble not only plays percussion as a section of the complete band but also create entire performances on their own. The percussionists in this ensemble have greater versatility across the entire family of instruments as opposed to only being “stuck” playing one instrument. In the winter season the Perry Concert Percussion Ensemble performs in the WGAZ competitive circuit.

Membership

The percussion ensemble is an elective and is focused on the complete family of percussion instruments. The course is open to anyone learning to play percussion as well as seasoned percussion players. Auditions may be held for part placements and band assignments.

Performances

Concerts

The percussion ensemble will perform at the three concerts presented throughout the year and are open to the public. These are wonderful, well-attended concerts and you will hear challenging music. This is a great time to invite the grandparents, aunts and uncles and let them hear “what else the Perry Bands can do”.

Contests

AzPAS Festivals

The AzPAS holds percussion festivals throughout the year. The full ensemble as well as individuals can prepare pieces to perform at this festival and earn ratings and feedback.

WGAZ

In the winter season, the concert percussion ensemble will have an opportunity to perform in the WGAZ circuit in a special division that is dedicated to non-marching percussion ensembles.

Fees & Other Costs

The percussion ensemble needs a small operating budget in order to purchase new music each year and to offset the cost of registrations and transportation. The regular participation fee will be **\$25** per student per year.

There may be additional costs if taking an extended trip or event. All percussion students need to also pay the CUSD **\$40** instrument rental fee. Lastly, percussionists are expected to provide their own sticks and mallets to play the instruments. These are personal items that need to be cared for so that they last through the school year.

COLORGUARD & WINTERGUARD

Color guard is a competitive dance theater using props along with dance as a visual expression of the music performed by either a marching band or pre-recorded. Color guard is both an athletic competition and a form of art that mixes modern dance and ballet and uses props traditionally including rifles, flags and sabres. The Perry Color Guard competes with the marching band from August through November, using choreography and equipment to enhance the visual effect of the marching band show. The color guard is judged both as part of the overall visual appeal of the show as well as in its own category. From December through April, the color guard competes in Winterguard, an indoor colorguard activity performed to recorded music, usually in a gym or indoor arena. The winter guard unit performs using dance, acrobatic features, and props including flags, rifles, and sabres. Guard members toss, spin, and do much more with their equipment, which can change throughout the show.

Membership

Prior to each season, auditions are held and open to anyone interested in joining. This gives the student an opportunity to try it out to see if they like it and also allows the instructional team to evaluate each person's skill sets. In the Fall season, the color guard is one large group and part of the marching band. During Winter Season, if there are large numbers of guard members, auditions will determine which color guard the member will perform in that is the best fit to their abilities.

Performances

The Puma Regiment performs at halftime of all home varsity football games as well as at pre-game of all away varsity football games (travel schedule permitting). The Regiment also performs at all competitive contests and festivals; approx. six contests per season. The Regiment also performs various community support appearances based on need and accessibility. The colorguard is a part of the overall Regiment and would also attend these same events. In the Winter Season, the colorguard performs in the WGAZ Circuit.

Varsity Football Games

Fridays in the fall semester become pretty fast paced for The Puma Regiment. The members will meet in the band room after school is dismissed, then the band will be fed dinner on campus. Following the dinner break, the members will have time to change into uniform and make necessary adjustments prior to the designated report time in the Band Room. Warm-ups and inspections will take place prior to marching down "Regiment Road" for home games or before loading the buses for an 'away' game.

The buses leave the stadium as soon as possible after each game. If you need to pick up your non-driving band member, you can wait in the east parking lot by the band room, but beware, there are many cars doing just the same thing. Car-pooling with other parents/students might be a good alternative to this problem.

Contests

WGAZ

In the winter season, the colorguards will have several opportunities to perform in the WGAZ circuit. WGAZ is the local competitive circuit and aligns with many of the core values of the national circuit, WGI.

WGI

Depending on the season activities, the colorguards will perform in WGI, the national winterguard circuit. Phoenix has hosted a Regional each year for the past 10 years. Occasionally, we will plan to travel to a bigger Regional event in the near by states to compete on a broader level.

Fees & Other Costs

The percussion ensemble needs a small operating budget in order to purchase new music each year and to offset the cost of registrations and transportation. The regular participation fee will be **\$25** per student per year. There may be additional costs if taking an extended trip or event. All percussion students need to also pay the CUSD **\$40** instrument rental fee.

Grading Policies

The following grading policy has been set up for all courses within the band program:

Quarter 1 or 3 = 40%

Quarter 2 or 4 = 40%

Semester 1 or Semester 2 Final Exam= 20%

The resulting percentage will be given a grade by the following structure:

A=90 to 100

B=80 to 89

C=70 to 79

D=60 to 69

F= 59 or below

Within this structure, quarter grades will be broken down in the following percentages:

Marching Band/Colorguard/Winterguard/Winter Drumline

Daily Preparation - 60% of Quarter Grade

This category will be where all things needed for rehearsal are tracked. Losing music, dot books, not being prepared for rehearsal will factor in this part of the grade.

Part Checks - 40% of Quarter Grade

This category will be where the student can assess their mastery of the materials. Periodic part checks will be administered to make sure the student is on track and receive feedback on areas of improvement.

Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, & Percussion Ensemble

Daily Preparation - 15% of Quarter Grade

This category will be where all things needed for rehearsal are tracked. Losing music, not having a pencil or not being prepared for rehearsal will factor in this part of the grade.

Playing Assessments - 30% of Quarter Grade

This category will be where the student will be assessed on their mastery of the materials. Periodic part checks will be administered to make sure the student is on track and receive feedback on areas of improvement.

Assignments- 15% of Quarter Grade

This category contains all other assignments given throughout the semester, typically non-performance assignments. Listening Journals, Concert Reflections, Writing Assignments, etc will be in this category.

Performances - 40% of Quarter Grade

This category will be where the student can assess their mastery of the materials. Periodic part checks will be administered to make sure the student is on track and receive feedback on areas of improvement.

THE PERRY BANDS BANQUET

The Perry Bands holds an annual awards banquet in the spring. The purpose of the banquet is to reflect upon the year's accomplishments, to honor those who have realized special achievements, and to recognize graduating seniors for their years of service to the band. Participation certificates and outstanding achievement awards are also presented at the banquet as well. We strive to make the banquet a special evening for everyone and the format changes slightly from year to year. This special evening brings the band together one last time to review the year and wish the seniors a fond farewell.

The location varies from year to year but it is usually held at a nice venue and considered a semi - formal evening. Have your band member visit with older students on dress attire if you are uncertain on such details. Some students bring dates, but many prefer to come with their group of friends. Tickets are pre-sold for the event in order to cover the cost of the food.

Policies, Rules, Regulations

1. Observance of Policies, Rules, Regulations

- a. Band members are expected to behave properly at all times.
- b. Misbehavior reflects poorly on the band, school, and community.
- c. Students are expected to demonstrate knowledge of the Policies of the CUSD and the Band Program by their proper behavior.
- d. Professed ignorance of Policies will not be accepted as an excuse for misbehavior.
- e. Every effort is made to provide Policies. However, directors may find it necessary to add to or alter Policies. These may or may not be in writing as the situation allows.
 - i. Policies and directions delivered verbally should be considered the same as a written Policy

2. Consequences for failure to follow rules and policies may include the following dependent upon severity of infraction. A Director's decision for punishment is final

- a. Detention – band room service
- b. Suspension from performances
- c. Loss of Field Position; Alternate will take place
- d. School / Administrator assigned consequences
- e. Removal from band program

3. Attendance & Absences

- a. **School Attendance:** Students may be temporarily excused from rehearsal under the following conditions:
 - i. When personally ill and when attendance in school would endanger their health or the health of others. Documentation by a doctor's note is needed to excuse under this policy.
 - ii. On special and recognized religious holidays observed by their faith that is previously discussed with the band directors.
 - iii. Family Emergency that is communicated with the band staff.
 - iv. When mandated by order of governmental agencies (pre-induction physical examination of service in the armed forces or court order).
- b. **Absences From Required Rehearsals Or Performances**
 - i. Attendance is mandatory for all scheduled rehearsals and performances.
 - ii. The following rules will govern authorized absences:
 1. **Personal illness or Family Emergency**
 - a. The appropriate band director should be notified prior to the required rehearsal or performance.
 - b. A written verification from the school attendance office is needed upon return to school.
 2. **Conflicts with other school activities.**
 - a. Notify your band director **well in advance** of the date of conflict.
 - b. Written verification is needed to describe the problem and resolution.
 - c. Every effort will be made to coordinate with the conflicting school activity to accommodate participation with the other sponsors in both activities.
 3. **Religious observance**
 - a. The appropriate band director should be notified prior to the required rehearsal or performance.
 4. **Life Events**

- a. Weddings of Direct Family Members
- b. Funerals
- c. Birth of Sibling
- d. All other inquiries should be discussed with the director for authorization.

5. An absence for any other reason will be considered unauthorized.

iii. Consequences of unauthorized absences

- 1. Unauthorized absences will affect the members performance eligibility.
- 2. Process of Removal from a Starting Position due to unexcused absences from rehearsals.
 - a. First absence: Student and Director conference.
 - b. Second absence: Student is placed on probationary status by Directors.
 - c. Third absence: Student will lose his/her position in the performing group and become an alternate performer to the main performing group.
 - i. If the student is already an alternate and obtains more than the allowed number of absences, they will lose any future performance opportunities for that season.
 - ii. If an alternate is not available at the time the student is removed from the performing group, the student will not perform in two consecutive performances. Thereafter, the student may return to his/her position. This procedure is followed so that the performance ability of the group is not further jeopardized.
 - iii. Starting positions or chairs can be forfeited during the marching competition season. After the last contest, rehearsals are still mandatory.

c. Tardiness

- i. A student will be deemed tardy if he/she is not in his/her class when roll is taken. For extra rehearsals, the start time given will be the time used for Roll call.
- ii. Band members should attempt to avoid conflicts between band and other school activities. Directors will help resolve conflicts. Members must resolve conflicts **in advance** of the date of the conflict.
- iii. Tardies will be counted until the member reaches three unauthorized tardies at which time the three tardies will constitute one unauthorized absence. The policy for Absences from Rehearsals and Performances will be followed.
- iv. Per Perry Administration, when a student reaches 4 class tardies, a referral to administration is to be issued.

4. Band Room, Practice Facilities, Rehearsals

- a. Access to band rooms, practice facilities, and rehearsals is limited to band members unless authorized by a director.
- b. Food or drink is not permitted in band rooms, practice facilities, and rehearsals unless authorized by a director.
- c. **Instrument Lockers**
 - i. Members are assigned a specific locker for storage of instruments/accessories. Use only the locker assigned to you.
 - ii. Lockers must be kept clean and clear of excessive items.
- d. **Personal items**
 - i. CUSD and the band program are not responsible for personal items left in the band room or on CUSD campuses.

- ii. Store personally owned instruments in lockers.

e. Practice

- i. Band members may practice in the band room and practice facilities before and after school, or during lunch.
- ii. Directors will issue written permission for practice during lunch. Written permission must be obtained prior to 1st Period.
- iii. Practice rooms are for personal or ensemble practice or study only.

5. Appearance

- a. It is recognized that the Perry Bands maintain a conservative personal appearance in which limitations are placed on individual grooming and attire.
 - i. **Hair**
 - 1. All members must be able to place all collar length (or longer) hair neatly up so as to fit inside their band shako (hat).
 - 2. Hair Coloring: Any unnatural hair colors or dyes must be approved by the directors so that it does not create a visual distraction to the performance.
 - 3. In general, hair must be able to fit within the shako and not provide a significant visual discrepancy among members.
 - ii. **Jewelry**
 - 1. No visible jewelry shall be worn while in uniform
 - 2. Only a small stud earring may be worn while in uniform
 - 3. Facial / tongue jewelry is not permitted in uniform
 - iii. Visible fingernail polish is not permitted in Uniform unless it is deemed as part of the costuming needs for that show, season or performance.

6. Rehearsals

- a. Band members are required be prepared for rehearsals including having required equipment and supplies. The requirements for various bands, ensembles, and marching bands will vary.

7. School Provided Transportation / Completion of Rehearsal or Performance

- a. Directors are responsible for band members until events are completed.
- b. Remain with the band or ensemble until dismissed following all events.
- c. Band members and their parents should arrange for transportation prior to dismissal from events. Members may choose to notify parents that events are completed using personal phones.
- d. All members must ride school provided transportation to and from performance events. Any deviation from this must be pre approved by the Director and Perry High Administration.

8. Performance Eligibility

- a. All members must be eligible to compete in extra-curricular activities according to guidelines set by the Chandler Unified School District Governing Board.
- b. Eligibility is defined as passing (60% or better) in all classes.
 - i. A member that is reported failing will be designated to a PROBATIONARY STATUS for the following week of school activities. This provides a week to improve the grade without penalty.
 - ii. A member who is unable to improve the grade during the probationary period be will designated to an INELIGIBLE STATUS for the following week of school activities.
- c. Ineligible members may not compete nor travel with the group in any capacity. In order to maintain the integrity of the group, the directors have the responsibility to replace or reassign positions as needed to cover the absence of ineligible members.

9. Hazing, Initiation

- a. Hazing or initiating practices are prohibited.

10. Internet & Social Media Guidelines

- a. Make sure you maintain appropriate conduct when it comes to social media. Negative, inappropriate, disrespectful or harassing posts on Facebook, Twitter, text message or any other form of social media are not acceptable and grounds for suspension.
- b. Though entertaining, social media sites can be littered with posts, which reflect poorly on individuals and organizations. Many people either don't realize or don't care that their personal thoughts, when subjective or inflammatory, reflect on their entire group.
- c. Unfortunately, we've had incidents where someone from Perry posted something they thought innocent, but it upset others when taken a certain way and drew criticism. Even when not intended, this is embarrassing.
- d. The safest way to avoid criticism or scrutiny is NOT to post anything about the organization that could be misinterpreted.
- e. This policy applies to members **and** parents.

11. Medications on trips

- a. In order to administer OTC medications to a student, we must have a Medical Consent Form that approves which medications the student is allowed to have.
- b. The student can self-administer medication as long as it is listed on the Medical Consent Form.

12. Grounds for dismissal from the band program.

Dismissal from the activity with no credit, and/or suspension from performances are set by the Band Directors and the School Board as described in the Student and Faculty Handbook. Additional penalties are at the discretion of the band directors and could be imposed for the following violations:

a. Consumption of alcohol & other drugs

- i. Drinking alcohol, taking drugs, smoking, chewing tobacco, or dipping is not permitted.
- ii. Violation of this policy may result in immediate dismissal.
 1. Violation of this policy at an event, which requires overnight travel, may result in being sent home in advance of the conclusion of the event. All costs associated with being sent home in advance will become the responsibility of the member and/or his family. This will include the cost of transportation for the member and a chaperone.

b. Destruction or damaging of property

- i. Clearly apparent attempts, whether successful or not, to damage or destroy property, are not permitted or acceptable.
- ii. This policy applies to any property, whether personal, school, or private.
- iii. Band members and/or their parent(s) will be financially responsible for costs associated with restoring or replacing damaged or destroyed property.
- iv. If required, band members who are suspected of violating this policy may be reported to appropriate civil authorities.

c. Using Profanity towards Directors, Parents or other students

d. Conduct detrimental to the organization

e. Willful Disobedience

13. School owned property

a. All property

- i. Band members must properly care for school owned property.
- ii. Band members may be financially responsible to repair or replace school owned property, which is not properly cared for.

b. Instruments and related equipment

- i. A **\$40** rental fee per year is required for use of school owned instruments (percussion included).
 - ii. If school owned property appears to require repair, notify a director prior to attempting to repair or hire such repair.
- c. Uniforms**
- i. Never wear the uniform to events other than those designated by the director. Always wear the entire uniform with all accessories. Never wear any jewelry (including watches) or make-up while in uniform.
 - ii. You are responsible for the EXACT NUMBERED UNIFORM ITEM that you receive.
- d.** Most marching band members will be issued a uniform (owned by the CUSD).
- e.** Members may be required to pay for some parts of their uniform (e.g. t-shirts, shoes, socks, gloves). Directors will identify which parts must be purchased and which must be purchased from designated sources.
- f.** Uniforms are inspected before every performance. Everything must be clean and in good repair. Failure to comply with this policy may lead to being excluded from performing.
- g.** CUSD owned uniforms will be stored at school and may not be taken home without being checked out from the Director.

14. Trips - In-State and Out-of-State

a. Code Of Conduct

- i. As members of the Perry High School Music Department you will be highly visible, not only as a musical organization, but as representatives of our school, community, and state. That responsibility and opportunity carries with it an obligation to project and maintain the absolute highest moral and musical integrity. Many of those who come into contact with us as we perform and travel will form their opinions of Perry High based upon the impressions we create, both in close proximity and from a distance. Therefore, the rules of the Chandler Unified School District and individual campus program rules and regulations apply at all times. As in any situation, good judgment must always prevail.
- ii. All rules and expectations are set forth to help you enjoy your trips to the fullest and to avoid the embarrassment and inconvenience which momentary lapses in judgment may bring about. It is the goal of the Perry Bands, that upon our return home to Perry, you will have acquired an even greater sense of pride as a Perry student and as a Perry High School musical ambassador.
- iii. Punctuality is essential in adhering to our busy trip schedule. Be early for everything and help each other stay organized. When enjoying free time and during sightseeing excursions, always stay in groups of three or more members. This is for your safety. There should not be any deviation.
- iv. School dress code is required on all trips. In swimming pool areas, keep attire modest. When in concert attire, remain in full concert attire. It is unprofessional to have shirttails out, to wear athletic shoes while in formal attire, to chew gum, etc. The loading of equipment may necessitate adjustments to these expectations. Follow the instructions of the chaperone or director in charge.
- v. Mixed company in hotel rooms is prohibited.
- vi. While staying in hotels, we will share facilities with other student groups and individuals from other schools and programs. Some of these groups and individuals may be unsupervised at times and may engage in behavior that would violate this Code of Conduct. Do not be influenced or persuaded to engage in any behavior that is in conflict with the spirit of this Code of Conduct.

- vii. Members must remain reasonably quiet at all times when in hotel facilities. Curfews will be strictly observed. Any personal needs, which might require leaving your room after curfew, must be arranged in advance with a chaperone or director.
- viii. Band members are responsible for all their own equipment and personal items (triple check for uniform parts, extra reeds, valve oil, mutes, music, etc.) However, we all must share in the logistical responsibilities of the trip. We will all participate as equipment movers, sanitation engineers, stagehands, etc. Please perform the duties asked of you.
- ix. There will be times when changes to our plans become necessary. Look for solutions to problems and avoid complaining. Concerns should be expressed at an appropriate time and in an appropriate manner. **Suggestion: Never complain to anyone who cannot solve your problem. See a director.**

Procedures

All Ensembles

1. Buses

a. Seating

- i. Band members are required to sit in designated seats for attendance purposes.
- ii. Band Members will sign up to request specific seats and seatmates on specific buses. Preference will be by seniority. Band members who fail to sign up will be assigned a seat and bus by the directors.
- iii. A members seat can be changed at anytime at the discretion of the directors.
- iv. Students must sit with a member of the same gender and/or cannot be an affectionate couple.
- v. Stay seated when requested to do so and when buses are in motion.

b. Chaperones

- i. Bus Chaperones will be assigned for each trip.
- ii. Band members are expected to respond appropriately to directions given by chaperones.

2. Rehearsals

- a. Upon entering band rooms, take your assigned seat with necessary instruments, music, and equipment.
- b. Cease talking and making noise when the director/instructor steps in front of the ensemble.
- c. Warm-up should take place per normal instruction of the director.
- d. Return instruments, music, and equipment to storage upon dismissal by the director. Each member should store his or her own items.

Regiment

1. Alternates

- a. Some members of the Regiment marching band may be alternates. Members may become alternates after evaluation of their marching and playing performance from the June audition camps as well as continued monitoring throughout the season.
- b. Members who are alternates will be assigned a permanent marching position as soon as one becomes available. Positions become available as the members assigned to the position

encounter attendance problems, eligibility problems, performance inadequacies, or physical injuries.

- c. Alternates will be ranked by their scores as listed above and will be assigned to the open position. Instrumentation will be adhered to when possible.
- d. Alternate performers will be assigned to performance positions by the staff. Alternates that maintain an acceptable performance level will have an opportunity to perform at at least one home game or as determined by the staff.

2. Football games

- a. Band report times will vary with the football schedule, and will be announced prior to the day of the game.
- b. Members will change into FULL uniform in a facility on campus. Once dressed in uniform, all members will remain in FULL uniform for the entire event. NEVER wear a "partial" uniform, unless instructed by the directors.
- c. Instrument cases will not be needed in the stands for a performance, except in the event of inclement weather.
- d. All instruments and uniform parts should be CLEAN and in good condition. Instruments should be cleaned regularly to remove the excess dirt that accumulates when playing outdoors.
- e. No band member is permitted to leave the organization in advance of group dismissal at any time, unless excused by the director PRIOR TO THE PERFORMANCE.
- f. While seated in the stands, only band members are allowed in the ranks.
- g. The band will always sit in assigned seats and sections.
- h. Attention should be given to the Band Directors and Drum Majors when they are standing in front of the band.
- i. We play only as a group in the stands. Solo performance is strictly prohibited.
- j. No inappropriate cheers. Organized cheers, planned ahead of time, or done with the cheerleaders are permitted, once approved by a director prior to a ballgame.
- k. Members should avoid jumping around in the stands, and should remain seated whenever possible in order to avoid accidental damage to the instruments.
- l. In order to move from place to place in a rapid manner, we must be able to give instructions to the group in an organized manner. Everyone will give full attention to staff members, chaperones, or to the Drum Majors when instructions are being given.
- m. Members will ride buses back to Perry following away games (except members who have been released to their parents, with written approval) and will be released after the announcements.
- n. Members are personally responsible for loading and unloading their own equipment from trucks and buses.