



2009 - 10

Band Procedures and Regulations

The band office can be reached before and after regular school hours by dialing 633-4270. Mrs. Slinker, secretary, is available from 7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. on Monday-Friday. Contact information and building assignments are listed below

Name	E-Mail	Phone	Building
Mrs. Classen	classenr@wdmcs.org	633-4268	VHS
Mr. Garmoe	garmoet@wdmcs.org	633-4269	VHS
Mr. Kobberdahl	kobberdahld@wdmcs.org	633-6540	FM, WR, VHS
Mr. Strohmaier	strohmaierc@wdmcs.org	633-4509	VSW
Mr. Turner	turnerj@wdmcs.org	633-4293	WH, JC, VHS

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WELCOME

Welcome to the award winning Valley Band Program and congratulations on your decision to become a member of one of the finest high school organizations in the country. There are very few programs so rich in tradition and success which also include so many real-world experiences for young adults. The 2009-2010 year gives all of us the opportunity to carry on an outstanding tradition of excellence. The Valley Band Program offers everybody the opportunity to reach his or her highest potential and level of success.

The West Des Moines Community School District Vision states, "(We) . . . will be a caring community of learners that knows and lifts every child. We will inspire joy in learning. Our schools will excel at preparing each student for his or her life journey." We believe you will find the Valley Band Program an organization with a history of dedication to these ideals.

As a member of this program you can look forward to many exciting experiences. It is entirely possible that some of your most vivid high school memories may come through your participation in one of the symphonic bands, jazz ensembles, small chamber ensembles, All State Bands, honor bands, solo and ensemble contest, and, of course, the Valley High School Marchmasters.

The program offers three concert ensembles and five jazz ensembles. Each of these ensembles is respected for its educational and performance excellence. These ensembles have distinguished themselves at numerous local, regional and national events. In addition students may participate in any number of individual and small group music opportunities, including the IHSMA All State Band, SCIBA Honor Band, Drake Honor Band, ISU Honor Band, Perry Band Olympics and the IHSMA Solo and Ensemble Festival. While performance will be a large part of the curriculum, additional educational opportunities in the areas of research, theory, composition, improvisation, creativity, and discovery will also be available to interested students. The fall season of our program includes the excellence of the Valley High School Marchmasters. This tradition-rich organization is truly exceptional. Filled with the pride of a forty-eight year tradition of excellence, the Marchmasters will participate in home football games, parades, local and regional field-show festivals and the annual State Marching Band Festival.

While the musical activities are the core and center of the band program, the total band experience provides the student far more opportunities. During the year, students will be able to participate in leadership development programs, learn and apply time management skills, financial budgeting, and team building skills. Students in the Valley Band Program are expected to set high goals for themselves and their program. The reward for meeting these expectations is immeasurable. Valley Band members will grow musically, emotionally, mentally, and socially.

The main purpose and aim of this book is to acquaint all Valley High School Band Members with the procedures and regulations that help to make the VHS Band Program outstanding. In order to be a successful band member, students must develop self-discipline, dedication, good work habits, cooperation, pride, and spirit. They will be able to demonstrate their ability to learn and perform music and work with other members of the band. This book will be useful as a reference source for students and parents associated with the Valley High School/Valley Southwoods Band Department. Included are procedures and expectations relative to the operation of the department and to specific student responsibilities. It is important that both the parent and the student become familiar with the information contained here. If you have any questions at any time during the school year, first contact a band director. As with any course, if a student has a question about the program that cannot be answered by a director, he/she should address the question to the VHS Administration.

The traditions of excellence and the high standards of instruction maintained within the band department have been built upon the hard work and the dedication of band members and instructional staff who have walked before us. As each year represents a new beginning, it is now our time to step forward. Undoubtedly, we will enjoy the music we can call our own and the discoveries we will make through our musical studies.

Sincerely, VHS/VSW Band Staff

LARGE PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLES

Freshman Concert Band	2 nd Hour, Valley Southwoods
Ellington Freshman Jazz Ensemble	Before School, Valley Southwoods
Basie Freshman Jazz Ensemble	Before School, Valley Southwoods
Marching Band	Early Bird, Valley Stadium (*6:30 AM)
Studio Lab Ensemble	5 th Hour, Valley High School
Jazz Ensemble	5 th Hour, Valley High School
Jazz Orchestra	6 th Hour, Valley High School
Concert Ensemble	1 st Hour, Valley High School
Symphony Band	1 st Hour, Valley High School

Above is a list of large performance ensembles offered within the Valley Southwoods and Valley High School Band Program. The Ellington Freshman Jazz Ensemble and the Basie Freshman Jazz Ensemble rehearse outside the school day and are not considered curricular courses.

Freshman Band, Concert Ensemble, and Symphony Band meet all four quarters. Membership is open to all students who can demonstrate proficiency at a level satisfactory to the conductors' expectations. Placement into and within the ensembles is determined by an audition procedure. Each group will perform in 2 to 4 concerts during the year. In addition, the ensembles may participate in state sponsored contest events, independently sponsored festivals and special performances such as graduation performance.

Early Bird marching band will meet first quarter. Rehearsals will be Monday through Friday, 6:30 – 8:00 a.m. The group will include wind, percussion, and color-guard, with membership open to any student who plays a musical instrument and is concurrently enrolled in the concert band program at Valley High School (10-12) or Valley Southwoods (9) and was enrolled in band the previous semester. Preschool expectations will include summer rehearsals. Some band activities will be conducted off campus and students will be responsible for arranging their own transportation. Course may be used for .5 music elective credit. In addition to performing at home football games and IHSMA State Marching Band Festival, the band may perform at local and regional parades, celebrations, contests, and festivals. Historically the band has represented the West Des Moines Community outside Iowa at selected regional, national and international festivals.

The jazz ensembles rehearse Quarter 1-Quarter 4. The jazz ensemble curriculum will address the development of both individual and ensemble style in the jazz idiom. A significant portion of this course will be spent in the discussion, evaluation and performance of standard big band literature, and address the development of jazz improvisation skills. Jazz theory will be emphasized with concentration on listening and historical perspective. Each ensemble will perform at 2-4 concerts throughout the year as well as other local, state, and regional festivals and contests. Prerequisites for this course are tryouts/placement auditions and concurrent enrollment in Concert Band.

OTHER PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

Solo and Ensemble Festivals

The VHS/VSW Band Program places a strong emphasis on the development of independent student musicianship. The program supports an active solo and ensemble offering and all students are encouraged to be involved. Our primary solo and ensemble opportunities come at the Perry Band Olympics and the IHSMA State Solo and Ensemble Festival. Students must perform at one of these events to be eligible for a band letter.

All State Band

Each year the IHSMA sponsors the Iowa High School All State Auditions. These auditions select students for participation in the Iowa All State Band, Orchestra and Chorus. Students are encouraged to audition for these prestigious organizations. Audition materials are posted on the IHSMA Website, late July. All State pre-audition procedures and deadlines will be posted in the VHS Band Hall the first week of school.

Honor Bands and Festivals

Many opportunities for participation in various instrumental music festivals and honor bands exist throughout Iowa and the Midwest. These experiences can be enriching both musically and socially. The caliber of performance is generally high and the chance to meet new people is always exciting. As a staff, we encourage student participation in these events. Some of the honor bands are selected upon director recommendation and others by competitive audition. Band students who try out for All State Band in the fall will have first priority for nomination. Other students will be considered based on student interest and instrumentation needs of a particular honor band.

Tiger Pep Band

Tiger Pep Band is open to all band students currently enrolled in concert band. Rehearsals begin in mid-December, preceding the scheduled games. The band plays a total of 3-5 games. Attendance at all basketball games is required. Students may miss one game with prior approval from the band director. Students must arrange their work schedule around pep band dates. Schedules are available at the first rehearsal.

Scholarship Opportunities

Scholarship information will be available through the band directors' office and will also be posted on the entry bulletin boards. Students and parents should contact the directors for specific information.

GENERAL OUTLINE OF COURSE CONTENT

The concert band curriculum is organized to teach music through the study and performance of quality literature. The literature selected is organized to introduce and reinforce musical concepts and skills that are important to musical studies. A scope and sequence format provides the structure and organization necessary to execute the curriculum over a four-year cycle. Literature selected for performance throughout the four-year curriculum is chosen on its musical integrity and its role as a structural component within the instructional sequence. The selections making up the core are arranged into study sequences, which support and reinforce the basic skills and concepts outlined below.

- I. Tone Production
 - A. individual
 - B. group
 1. balance
 2. blend
- II. Intonation and tuning
 - A. individual
 - B. group
- III. Expression and sensitivity
 - A. melody and accompaniment
 - B. phrasing
 - C. creativity
- IV. Inner sense of tempo and pulse
 - A. basic meter concepts
 - B. odd meter signatures
 - C. metric modulation
 - D. displaced accent patterns
- V. Sensitivity to conductor
- VI. Music reading skills
 - A. rhythms
 - B. accents
 - C. articulation
 - D. ensemble execution of score
 - E. technical development
- VII. Knowledge of music as an example of culture, character and style
- VIII. Knowledge of music from representative historical style periods
 - A. Renaissance
 - B. Baroque
 - C. Classical
 - D. Romantic
 - E. 20th Century
 - F. 21st Century

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS FOR MUSIC PERFORMANCE CLASSES

1. To what extent are students able to perform a varied repertoire music with expression and technical accuracy?
 - a. Can students perform in a large group, small ensemble and as a soloist?
 - b. Can students perform music demonstrating good tone quality, pitch, rhythm, tempo, intonation, dynamics, balance, blend, style, nuance, and with knowledge of structure and large form development? If so, to what proficiency level?
2. To what extent are students able to read and notate music?
 - a. Will students be able to demonstrate the ability to read an instrumental or vocal score of up to four staves?
 - b. Will students be able to sightread, accurately and expressively, music consisting of steps and leaps in major and minor keys?
3. To what extent are students able to observe, reflect, and understand the characteristics and merits of music?
 - a. Can students analyze aural examples of a varied repertoire of music by describing the uses of elements of music and expressive devices?
 - b. Can students demonstrate knowledge of the technical vocabulary of music?
 - c. Can students identify and explain various large musical forms and internal musical structures as well as analyze and describe uses of elements of music that make a work unique, interesting and expressive?
 - d. Will students develop specific criteria for making informed, critical evaluations of the quality and effectiveness of performances, compositions, arrangements, or improvisations?
 - e. Can students evaluate a given musical work in terms of its aesthetic qualities and explain the musical means it uses to evoke feelings and emotions?
4. To what extent will students acquire an understanding of music's evolution in relation to its historical development?
 - a. Will students study music by genre or style and by historical period?
 - b. Will students understand the evolution of the musician's various roles in a given society (time period)?
 - c. Will students understand and identify American music styles/genres and their evolution (examples: pop, jazz, Broadway, gospel)?
5. To what extent will students be able to create music through the use of their collected knowledge, experiences, and resources?
 - a. Can students arrange music for instrument other than those for which the piece was written?
 - b. Can students compose music in different styles demonstrating creativity in using the elements of music for expressive effect?
 - c. Can students improvise original melodies and harmonic material?

COURSE TITLE AND GRADING PROCEDURES

Concert Band is titled MUS 201 and MUS 202 in the Valley High School Curriculum Handbook. The course is awarded a full academic credit and is calculated into the student's grade point average. The band grade is comprised of three categories of scores or percentages:

- 40% Participation, attitude, conduct, rehearsal and performance attendance and classroom readiness
- 30% Lessons, preparation and attendance
- 30% Tests and quizzes

Students are expected to participate fully in rehearsals and performances. Students should maintain a respect for the rehearsal atmosphere. If a particular action or behavior detracts from the ability to make music together it is most likely not appropriate for the classroom setting. Students are expected to maintain a respect for themselves and the individuals who make up the band of which they are a member. Attendance is fundamental to ensemble participation. Every band member should bring instruments, music, pencil and the essential equipment to every rehearsal and performance.

Lessons begin the second week of each semester and are generally assigned during study hall times. In some cases lessons before or after school can be arranged for those students who have full schedules. While undesirable, it must be understood that lesson instructors may be gone during a student's lesson time. Scheduling meetings, department meetings, principal conferences, administrative meetings, formal performances, informal performances, fundraising meetings and program organizational demands all require the instructors to be out of the offices at certain times. Lesson absence forms are available for the students on the instructors' door should the instructor need to be absent from the assigned lesson time. Lesson absence forms should be completed, signed, and placed under the teacher's office door at the time of the lesson.

Playing tests are given each grading period. A syllabus will be issued at the beginning of each semester. During each semester, evaluations will include written theory and definition of musical terms that are appropriate to the material being studied. A grade of below 60% is failing.

Grading Scale

- A = 90-100%
- B = 80-90
- C = 70-80
- D = 60-70

Generally there will be 8 lessons in a nine-week period. While we always hope to have lesson availability each of the 9 weeks, it is our experience that snow days, teacher workshops, adjusted schedules, and in-service meetings, in conjunction with the black/orange rotation, make the expectation of 8 lessons per semester more representative. Below you will find an approximation of the lesson portion of the band grade. The weighting is demonstrated in the following approximated table.

- 6 or more lessons= 90% or above on lesson portion of the grade (30% of total grade)
- 5 out of 8 lessons= 80% on lesson portion of the grade (30% of total grade)
- 4 out of 8 lessons= 70% on lesson portion of the grade (30% of total grade)
- 2-3 out of 8 lessons = 60% on lesson portion of the grade (30% of total grade)

JAZZ PROGRAM

The jazz ensembles at Valley are co-curricular classes offered for academic credit. Concurrent enrollment in Concert Band is a prerequisite for enrollment in jazz band. Exceptions to this would be for string players players enrolled in orchestra for their large ensemble credit. Piano and guitar players do not have to be enrolled in a large ensemble to be in jazz band. Attendance and participation policies are the same as those described for the concert band/marching band procedures. Jazz band auditions are in two parts, 1. audition tape, 2. live audition. The taped audition will be completed by the students over the course of the summer and will demonstrate the knowledge and preparation of the jazz packet handed out to all jazz students in the spring.

JAZZ GRADING PROCEDURES

Participation 50%

This includes actively taking part in class, participating through performing, answering questions, having equipment, music, and music preparation.

Playing Test 25%

This will include improvisation assignments, music review, scale assignments, and lick assignments.

Written Assignments 25%

This will include reports on composers or performers as assigned in class, CD review, and performance evaluation forms given at various festivals. Late assignments will be deducted one letter grade for every day it is late. For example, a CD review comes in two days late and is assessed a B+. The final grade on the paper will be a D+. The exception to this would be excused absences (such as illness, school activity, and doctor's appointments) on the day the paper is due.

STATEMENT OF EXPECTATION, RULES AND GUIDELINES

In order to help band members and parents understand their areas of responsibility this statement of band practices is set forth. Becoming familiar with these practices will help each band member make the most of his/her opportunity to become a better person through their association with music. The directors firmly believe that each student should improve through daily progress. It is felt that when a student has lost the will to improve and make a contribution to the band, he/she is not fulfilling their obligations to the school, fellow students, and the community by continuing in the program. The happiest band member is the one who is improving through regular practice and daily progress and takes pride in exceptional performance.

A. Each band member's responsibilities to the band program:

- Be regular in attendance and account for all absences.
- Make a real effort to learn and improve daily.
- Be respectful and attentive during rehearsals.
- Become responsible for and expect to assume the consequences for your actions.
- Follow all band rules, school regulations, and all travel instructions.
- Be honest and fair with others concerning equipment, music, and school life.
- Cooperate with fellow band members and share with them the responsibilities and privileges that are part of the band program.
- Follow rules and conduct as outlined in the VHS and VSW Student Handbooks.

B. The director's responsibilities to each student:

- Provide the proper rehearsal setting considered necessary to aid in developing each student's musical ability and education.
- Plan each day's assignments and encourage daily progress of the individual student and the entire band.
- Provide the band member with a full musical education through rehearsal, performance, teaching, testing, and listening.
- Deal appropriately with members that are not contributing to the band program due to poor attitude and/or lack of cooperation or improvement.
- Supervise the students in class and on school-sponsored band trips.
- Grade the progress of each band member on his/her musicianship and music education.

C. Expectations:

The following precedents have been established throughout the years to insure that we maintain the high quality of musicianship and discipline for which our band is known.

- When the director cuts-off the band, stop playing immediately.
- During marching season, after a cut-off is given, remain at attention until an "at-ease" is given.
- When given an "at-ease" you may talk quietly but do not move from your position in the formation.
- All marching music must be memorized and passed off by the assigned date.
- Respect should be given to every member of the band.
- Every band member's goal should be to do everything possible to make the band as good as it can be.

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

Band is a learning activity. Rehearsals, whether before, during, or after school, are the means by which students learn, and by their very nature cannot be reproduced or made-up. Therefore it is imperative that students be present unless the absence is absolutely unavoidable. Excessive rehearsal absences will undoubtedly affect a student's performance. This is the reason we are absolutely insistent upon each student's daily participation. Rehearsals are not optional, and are reflected in the student's daily grade.

Performances are viewed as major tests. A performance is a learning experience that cannot be duplicated in a rehearsal hall or practice room; the level of concentration required in a public performance assists each student in developing an insight into his/her own level of performance. A performance is an important assessment tool.

Performance groups, such as band, are both in-class and out-of-class-time in nature (co-curricular). A semester and yearly calendar will include known rehearsal times. Additional rehearsal times may be added as the year evolves. Students will be informed of these rehearsals at least 14 days ahead of time whenever possible. If there is a conflict with an added rehearsal time, parents and students should notify the director of this in a timely fashion, before the planned rehearsal in order to be excused. It is essential that students and parents understand that the conditions for a satisfactory (passing) grade in band also include out-of-class time practices and performances.

A schedule of performances for the semester and year will be prepared at the beginning of each semester and sent home to parents/guardian for their information. Approved absences will be honored when the director is informed by the parent/guardian, as stated below. If a student is absent for any reason other than another school activity conflict, arrangements to make up the absence should be discussed with the director, preferably before, and definitely right after the absence. All performing groups encourage parent/student communication with the director. Parental involvement and concern continues to enhance the program. As the directors, we will continually inform and remind students, administration, parents, and the community of upcoming events throughout the year.

REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

1. If a student must miss a scheduled in-class or out-of-class rehearsal for extenuating circumstances, a parent or guardian should write a note to give to the band director at least 14 days prior to the absence. If it is an emergency situation - such as a crisis or death in the family, or sickness, a parent should call the respective director with that information before the scheduled rehearsal if at all possible or as soon afterwards as possible.
2. A conflict with another school activity must be reported to the director as soon as it is known. Upon notification the director and the other school activity sponsor will work out the conflict. The Valley High staff and sponsors have agreed to work these out for the student so that the student is not in the middle. It is the student's responsibility to notify sponsors of activity conflicts as far in advance as possible so that no one is caught by surprise one day before a big game, meet or performance. An absence caused by another school activity conflict, which has been worked out by the sponsors, does not need to be made up.

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

The following description of the rules of attendance is to inform you of proper procedures when you are absent from school.

1. **Call the School** - On each day of student absence, parents are asked to notify the school by phone (633-4000) as early as possible, preferably by 10:00 a.m., when a pupil is being kept home for any reason. Please give your student's school I.D. number when calling.
2. **Admit** - If a student's absence has not been resolved **on the day of return** by a phone call or a note prior to returning to school, he/she must acquire an admit from the office before entering class.
3. **Leaving During the School Day** - A student leaving school is required to check out with the office. The student needs to give name, student I.D. number, time of leaving and present a written, dated note for the absence.
4. **Illness at School** - A student who becomes ill during the school day should report to the school nurse, who will determine the extent of illness. Parents will be called if a student needs further attention or is to be excused from school. A resting area is provided in the nurse's office. Any absence from class coded as "NU" is considered excused illness by the nurse.
5. **Make-Up** – For any absence, the student is expected to contact the instructor about assignments missed. The allowable time for make-up is two days for each day of an excused absence up to 6 school days for multiple, consecutive, excused absences. The time allowed for make-up work may be extended at the discretion of the teacher. Assignments, projects, speeches, tests, etc. that are due on a day of an excused absence are due the day the student returns. Loss of credit may result if make-up work is not completed within the allotted time period. Students should see teachers in advance of planned absences. Every student should be prepared for class discussion after an absence to the best of his/her ability. Assignments for an in-school or out-of-school suspension are due upon return.
6. **Incompletes** - All work from an incomplete semester or quarter must be made up within two (2) weeks from the last day of the grading period. Failure to make up the work within this time will result in a failing grade. Extenuating circumstances may be worked out with teacher and administration.
7. **Tardiness** - All students arriving fifteen minutes after their scheduled class period begins will be considered absent. Reasons found unacceptable by Valley High School will be considered unexcused. Five or more unexcused tardiness in the same period will result in an in-school suspension and loss of semester test waiver. Students arriving at this time must go to the front office for an admit to class. Throughout the day, a student will be considered tardy if not through the door when class is scheduled to begin.
8. **Detention** – Teacher detentions can be assigned at the discretion of the teacher. The teacher will give at least a 24-hour notice for all detentions. Failure to serve a teacher detention will result in a loss of credit for the assigned work. The administration may assign detentions based on excessive tardiness (5) to class. Each additional tardy will result in detentions. Failure to serve an administrative detention will result in an In-School Suspension.

9. **Excused Absence** is one, which falls into one of the following classifications and entitles the student to make up work missed and receive full credit:

- illness of student
- medical and dental appointment with verification from doctor's office
- religious observance
- prearranged family trips and college visitation
- student in-school or out-of-school suspension
- Valley activity

10. **Unexcused Absences - Any absences for reasons unacceptable by Valley High School will be considered unexcused.** If an absence is unexcused (truant) the student will not be allowed to make up missed school work. Missed work will be recorded as "zero". If the unexcused (truant) student missed any single assignment that is 10% or more of the semester grade, that assignment will be allowed to be made up on the next day of attendance with a 25% grade reduction. The following is a listing of but is not limited to attendance behaviors that result in an unexcused absence:

- oversleeping
- late arrival from leaving campus during lunch break
- absence from a class to do work or study for another class
- failure to clear up an absence within one day
- leaving class early without permission of classroom teacher
- family conveniences
- car problems (see administrator)
- truancy/leaving campus without permission
- Driving test
- Homework
- Attending a rock concert or pro-sporting event
- Birthday
- Work
- Trips that aren't given two weeks
- Didn't have a ride (your section leader or director can help you find a carpool within the band)

Any absence not cleared up within one (1) school day following the last absence will be considered unexcused. It is the responsibility of the student to follow-up on all absences to ensure their clarification.

- A. Parent will be notified on the first unexcused referral by the attendance secretary either by phone, email, letter or automated telephone call system.
- B. Parent will be notified on the second unexcused referral by the associate principal and who will then assign detention.
- C. The parent will be notified on the third referral by an associate principal who will assign an in-school suspension.
- D. The fourth unexcused absence may result in the student auditing the class for no credit and/or being dropped from the course with an "F".

11. **Dismissal for Tournaments** - Excused absences will be allowed if Valley is participating during the regular school day for state tournaments. Should a student wish to be excused, he/she is to present a note to the office for approval before they are dismissed to the tournament.

12. A missed rehearsal, for whatever reason, may result in the student not participating in a performance. This will be especially probable if the rehearsal is on a day of a performance. This will be determined at the discretion of the director if it is felt the student missed out on too much instruction or changes in the rehearsal to perform adequately in the performance.

PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

1. A 14-day notice is required to be excused from a performance for extenuating circumstances, which must be discussed with, and approved by the band director and the parent or guardian. In the event of an emergency sickness or family crisis, the parent or guardian is asked to notify the band director as soon as possible before the scheduled performance. Every effort must be made to be in attendance at performances, especially those in which the band receives judges' evaluation and critique. For these excused absences from a performance the student will be required to complete make up as assigned by the director. Make-up work will include a report and make-up time. Students will be responsible to contact the director for make-up assignments and make-up assignments due dates. Students will be allowed five school days for the make-up work. Loss of credit may result if make-up work is not completed promptly.
2. A performance that conflicts with another school activity must be brought to the director's attention as soon as the conflict is known. The conflict will be worked out between the sponsors with administrative approval. The involved student is responsible for making these conflicts known to the involved activities' sponsors as far as possible before the event. The school administration has asked that sponsors work out these conflicts by set rules so as not to put the student in the position of choosing. These absences will be allowed with prior approval, with no make-up.
3. Absence from a performance with no prior notification or excuse will result in the student receiving no points for that event. A conference with director, student and parent or guardian will take place to discuss the student's progress in the program. Students with an unexcused absence will not be eligible for a band letter.

SCHOOL LESSONS and HOME PRACTICE

We are fortunate in the West Des Moines Community School District in the fact that our students have the opportunity to receive the private or semi-private instruction as offered through the curriculum. No band has ever achieved greatness through class rehearsals alone. The only way our band program will reach the level of musicianship we all want is by individual practice at home. This is the way that you personally can make your contribution to the improvement of the band. Consistency is the key to success. It's much better to practice a little every day, than a lot just one day a week. Students should plan to take their instrument home every night, or make arrangements with the band directors for practicing before or after school in the band room. The following outline provides a basis for understanding and expectation and will help students to make the fullest use of their lesson time both in preparation and attendance.

Lesson Philosophy

- Everyone can improve their knowledge and skills provided they apply themselves to the right material with the right approach (attitude).
- The role of the teacher is to guide (using their experience as a teacher and player).
- The role of the student is to trust the teacher and to do what is asked wholeheartedly.
- The purpose of a lesson is to check on progress and introduce new material based on that progress.
- A private lesson has different objectives from the band ensemble practice.
- It should be considered a privilege to study music with a quality teacher.
- Patience is required!
- Music begins once technical problems have been solved.
- Highest respect is mutual and expected.
- Love of music should be a motivation for lessons.
- The student should make a genuine effort to devote time to practice.
- Look for solutions not excuses.
- The answers you seek can usually be found in the practice room.
- The only bad question is the one that is never asked.
- The spirit of curiosity and inquiry is always welcome.
- The beginning of understanding is the admission "I do not know".
- The role of the teacher is to encourage the student to think independently (learn to be his own critic and teacher).
- The body usually develops at a slower rate than the mind.
- Expectation can be a block to progress.
- The student should make a genuine effort to rise to the demands of the music.
- The role of the teacher is to clear up misconceptions.
- Fingerings are the responsibility of the student.
- Along with private study goes the assumption that there is consistent practice on the part of the student as well as the sacrifices that are necessary to achieve that on a regular basis.
- Your abilities as an instrumentalist rest on the foundation of the fundamentals.

Reminder: Please refer to page 6 to review lesson grade percentages.

Reminder: Students and parents should check the Infinite Campus portal to check lesson attendance and grade.

PRACTICE TIPS

1. Have a plan. Know what you are going to practice and how long you will spend on each item. Don't just plan one day at a time. Set goals for each week, month, and year. Write those goals down and put them somewhere you will see them often.
2. Avoid distractions. Practice in a quiet place so you can focus. Try not to practice while watching TV or listening to the radio.
3. When and for how long. Practice time should be a minimum of thirty minutes per day, even on weekends. If you're still not tired after thirty minutes, push yourself and see how long you can go.
4. Other suggestions: Always use correct posture. Use a mirror so you can see your embouchure and correct any bad habits quickly. Have your written plan nearby and check off things as you accomplish them. Use a metronome. Don't push yourself too far. When your facial muscles are hurting, don't be afraid to take a short rest before you continue your practice session. Your muscles will hurt some because you are building them up but the more often you practice, the more you'll know when it is time to rest.

SPECIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Private Lessons:

One thirty-minute lesson per week is recommended for students in our program. Contact the directors for recommended private teachers.

Quality Instruments:

It is recommended that the best possible instrument be purchased. Not only will it produce a superior sound and prevent some technical problems; it is also a wise investment and will increase the level of progress for the student.

Quality Mouthpieces:

Mouthpieces can make a big difference in proper tone production. Although there is no "magic" mouthpiece, there are those that produce a superior sound.

Quality Equipment:

All reed players should be very selective when choosing reeds and always go for high quality. Percussionists should always discard and replace warped or broken sticks. Brass players should have dents removed when they occur so the tone quality is not adversely affected. All slide valves and slides should be fully functional and in good working order.

FOOTBALL GAMES

The marching band is an integral part of our football games. Band members should make every effort to insure that the band's part of the game is outstanding.

The following expectations will be in place at all football games:

- Listen to the instructions given by the band directors throughout the week dealing with scheduled times. Loading times, leaving times and returning times are announced and will be closely followed. Returning times are given so parents will know when to pick up students after trips.
- The band will meet at the prescribed time and location so that the students may warm-up together as a unit. Each member is to have all equipment ready and be in full uniform at the given time.
- Allow yourself plenty of time to be at the proper place with the right equipment and in the proper uniform.
- Once you are seated in the stadium, do not move around to another seat.
- Instruments are to be held at all times, except percussion and tubas which should be adjacent to the student.
- Do not take unauthorized refreshments into the band seating area during the games. The VHS Band Boosters will provide water. Be extra careful while drinking in uniform to avoid spills.
- Take care of restroom needs before the game begins.
- Do not chew gum at any time while wearing the band uniform.
- Do not make sounds on your instrument when the band is not playing. Percussionists may play organized cadences and cheers with the cheerleaders.
- No one but uniformed band members are allowed in the band seating area, unless approved by the band director.
- Be ready to play at all times.
- Be completely and properly uniformed at all times.
- Treat everyone with respect and courtesy.
- Each student is responsible for his/her own instrument and music at all games.
- All rules and regulations concerning school-sponsored activities will be in place before and during all games and trips.

PERFORMANCE/UNIFORM PROCEDURES

In performance situations the uniform must be worn properly at all times unless otherwise specified by the directors. Students may be asked to sit out of a performance for any of the following reasons. Absence due to the following reasons will be counted as a missed performance.

1. Wearing the uniform in an inappropriate manner (this includes improper sock color, etc.)
2. The uniform looks unkempt, stained or wrinkled due to poor care.
3. Shoes are not properly cleaned & polished.
4. Long hair is not tucked into the band hat (marching band).
5. Failure to remove all visible jewelry.
6. Infractions of Behavior Policy.
7. Do not have their instrument/equipment/prop.
8. Chewing gum.
9. Fail to complete and return forms and information.
10. Unprepared due to extended absence.
11. Missing a practice prior to a performance.

REHEARSAL ATTIRE (Marching Band)

1. Dress for the weather.
2. Bring rain gear.
3. Sandals, flip-flops, open toed or flat shoes, etc., are not permitted.
4. Students should wear socks and tennis shoes.
5. Avoid perfume, hair spray, hand lotions, creams, etc., they attract pests such as bugs, bees, and wasps.
6. Use sunscreen.
7. Bring sunglasses and a hat.
8. Bring a water cooler or water bottle.
9. Any student not appropriately attired (especially footwear) will be asked to sit out.

GENERAL RULES FOR TRIPS

In order to prevent confusion and misunderstanding in regard to bus trips the following general rules are set forth here. It is our feeling that the fewer regulations we have, the more successful our trips will be in terms of efficiency and pleasure. It is also our feeling Valley High School students should be mature and intelligent enough to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. It is felt that all Valley High School members are willing and able to reflect the pride and spirit in the organization at all times. Each student must have on file, with the band directors, a **Medical Form** signed by their parents. A student must be considered in "good standing" to travel with the band. **Good standing includes, but is not limited to, eligible for participation in accordance with the VHS Conduct Code, has completed at least 50% of lesson requirement, is current with music memorization and assignments (where appropriate), and has been consistent in rehearsal and performance attendance.**

- When school transportation is provided all students will ride to the performance on the bus and return to Valley in the same manner. Exception: By mutual consent between the student's parents and band director, a student will be released to an adult relative or the parents of another band member after a performance. Notes must be received at least 24 hours in advance.
- Students are to sign their own name on the bus list. Do not erase or cross off the names of students who have already signed the list. Front seats are normally reserved for chaperones. You must ride the bus to which you are assigned.
- All students are to meet in the band room for announcements at the appointed time.
- Students will be released to load the buses. Roll will be called by chaperones each time we load the bus.
- Answer roll call for yourself only. Upon arrival at the destination students are to remain on the buses until asked to exit.
- Students are to remain in their seats while the bus is in motion, and refrain from extending arms, heads, etc., out of the window or throwing any object out of the window.
- Students must remain reasonably quiet while on the buses. Students may listen to personal audio players only if they use headphones.
- It is each student's responsibility to keep the bus clean and avoid damage to the bus. Snacks must not include any type of glass container. Canned soft drinks are permissible, but please deposit the cans in a trash bag. All trash should be placed in garbage bags before departing the bus.
- Couples will refrain from any open display of affections and intimate behavior.
- Where appropriate close the bus windows upon departure from the busses. This is assistance to the bus drivers.
- Students are responsible for their own equipment and belongings.
- Large instruments and equipment will be loaded onto the instrument truck or under the bus. Students are to take these to the loading area by the assigned time to be loaded by the loading crew.
- Directors, chaperones and bus drivers are to be obeyed courteously and without question. Be sure to thank the chaperones and bus drivers at the conclusion of a trip.
- Always conduct yourselves so as a credit to your band, your school, your community, your family, or your own personal reputation.

CONTESTS AND FESTIVALS

Contests, festivals, and other adjudicated activities are important features of the Valley Band Program. It is through these activities that we obtain valuable feedback about our progress as individuals and as a program. Although we never "exist" by any one judge's or any panel's opinion of our performance, it is important that we learn the value of giving maximum effort and standing by the results as our best possible effort that day.

Competitive performances are packed with emotion. Because of the amount of time, work, and discipline required to produce quality performances, we develop great camaraderie within the organization. We share hardship, discomfort, fatigue, oppressive heat, chilling cold, long bus rides, disappointment, tears, success and joy. With the intensity of these emotions we must learn to control our emotions when faced with disappointment. We must learn to channel our energy and attention toward the goal of performance excellence and the ultimate success that will follow.

The Valley Band will stand with silent pride as scores are announced and graciously accept the results, regardless of outcome. We show our appreciation and respect for those who have earned the right to score ahead of us and gracefully accept our own successes. We know "winning" is the state of every individual having done their personal best in the pursuit of excellence. The band's image is based on each individual. Our public reputation is based upon our appearance, our actions, and our projection of pride and organization. It is the responsibility of each band member to insure that we present the best possible image at all times. (paraphrased from the John Overton High School Band Handbook)

LEADERSHIP

Student leadership plays a major role in the success of our program. Leadership positions within the marching band include Drum Majors and squad leaders, and upon director discretion, guard captains. Auditions for these positions take place in the spring.

Drum Majors

Drum Majors act as assistants to the directors. Drum majors are selected by audition during the spring for the following year and are required to attend a drum majors camp over the summer. The responsibilities of the drum majors include, but are not limited to, helping run rehearsals, warming up the band, teaching marching fundamentals, assisting in musical interpretation, and acting as field commanders during shows.

Squad Leaders

Squad Leaders are selected by audition during the spring for the following year. Section leaders are responsible for a particular squad of musicians. They take roll and report to the drum majors regarding those people in their section who are absent or late for rehearsals and/or performances, and they encourage their squad members to try their best in terms of participation and attitude. Squad leaders also help set and monitor drill and marching style. Squad leaders do not assign responsibilities to other band members that they would not do themselves.

BAND OFFICE AND MUSIC LIBRARY

The band office and music library should be considered private areas. These areas are not to be accessed by students unless granted permission by a band director. Students should be respectful of the fact this is Mrs. Slinker's work area. Students should not access the copier for their personal use.

STUDENT TIME IN BAND HALL

The VHS Band Faculty invites band students to spend study hall and resource time in the Band Hall. This invitation and opportunity must be considered a privilege. The first half of each period should be spent in active practice. The second half of the period can be spent as social time. During the second half of any period students should be in the band hallway, not the locker rooms or the ensemble rooms. Student conduct should be representative of a school or academic environment. Students who fail to follow these guidelines will lose the privilege of being in the band hall during free time. The band hall will be closed should the general environment not be conducive to study and practice.

FOOD AND DRINK IN BAND HALL

Food and drink is not allowed in the band facility. This is extremely important for the overall condition of the instructional and educational environment.

PRACTICE ROOM USAGE

Practice rooms are available for student use. Students are free to use the rooms at their leisure. Students must be careful not to leave the practice rooms unclean or disorganized. The larger ensemble rooms may be signed out for use during study halls as well as before and after school.

SCHOOL INSTRUMENT CARE

Students who rent instruments from the school must demonstrate quality care and maintenance of the school instrument. The student must lock the instrument in the student's band locker whenever it is not in use. Directors will monitor and evaluate the care students give respective school instruments. Improper care of a school instrument will warrant the removal of the school instrument from the student. At this point it will become the responsibility of the student to acquire an instrument through purchase or rental outside the district.

INSTRUMENT RENT

Instrument rent will be \$25.00 per semester. This applies to school owned equipment in the area of both wind and percussion. Band members using a marching and/or concert instrument will be assessed \$35.00 for the entire year. The rental fee may be paid at any time prior to the end of the first or third quarter.

LOST LOCK CHARGE

Students will be issued a locker lock at the beginning of the school year. The lock is to be used on the band instrument locker cabinet at all times. All locks will be collected at the end of the year. The replacement fee for a lost lock will be \$15.00.

LOCKER CONTENTS/ MAINTENANCE

The band instrument locker is to be used primarily for the storage of band instrument and study materials. It is not to be used as a physical education clothes locker, food and drink storage area or uniform storage locker. It is the responsibility of the student to maintain the locker in a clean and orderly manner throughout the year. Locker condition will be checked occasionally throughout the year.

PERCUSSION EQUIPMENT

Percussion students are expected to maintain a personal mallet and stick bag. This equipment will be used for the student's lesson. School mallets and sticks are not to be used for lessons and basic performance in the concert bands. Percussionists should use their personal sticks and mallets for band rehearsal where standard equipment is acceptable. Minimum student equipment includes:

- 1 stick bag
- 1 set snare sticks, No. 1 Vic Firth generals (or like sticks)
- 1 set medium yarn mallets
- 1 set timpani mallets, medium felt

PERCUSSION CABINET CHECKOUT

Students in each percussion section, (i.e. Freshman Concert Band, Concert Ensemble, and Symphony Band) will be granted access to specified percussion cabinets. The students in each respective ensemble will check out the equipment for use and will be expected to return all equipment at the end of the year.

UNIFORM CARE AND MAINTENANCE

The proper care and maintenance of band uniforms will be the responsibility of the student. Assessments will be made for damage and/or loss. Marchmaster uniforms will generally be stored on the equipment trailer between performances. Concert uniforms will generally be issued to the students.

Marchmaster Uniform Replacement Cost

Coat	\$175.00	Hat	\$40.00
Vest	\$50.00	Plume	\$20.00
Pants	\$100.00	Gloves	\$5.00
Gauntlets	\$35.00		

Concert Uniform Replacement Cost

Men's Uniform Cost

Tuxedo Jacket	\$140.00
Tuxedo Pants	\$80.00
Cummerbund	\$20.00
Shirt	\$30.00
Bow Tie	\$10.00
4 Shirt Studs	\$5.00

Women's Uniform Cost

Skirt	\$75.00
Blouse	\$40.00
Waist Wrap	\$20.00
Uniform Storage Bag	\$6.00

CONCERT DRESS RENTAL

Girls will wear a black dress rented from the Valley Band Boosters. Boys will wear black tuxedos rented from the Valley Band Boosters. Ties, cummerbunds, tux shirt, and studs will be provided with the rental tuxedo. Black socks and dress black shoes will be provided by the student. Rental for the tuxedos and dresses is \$40.00 for the year. (This includes cleaning and alterations). Rental is due prior to October 1. Checks should be made out to the Valley Band Boosters.

MARCHMASTER DRESS RENTAL (full Marchmaster participation)

Marchmaster uniform fee will be rented from the Valley Band Boosters. Students will provide black shoes specified by the VHS Band Department, black socks and appropriate undergarments. Colorguard uniform will be rented from the Valley Band Boosters. The uniform rental will be \$55.00 per year. (This includes cleaning and alterations). Rental is due prior to October 1. Checks should be made out to the Valley Band Boosters.

MARCHMASTER DRESS RENTAL (WDM Marching Spectacular only)

Marchmaster uniform fee will be rented from the Valley Band Boosters. Students will provide black shoes specified by the VHS Band Department, black socks and appropriate undergarments. Colorguard uniform will also be rented from the Valley Band Boosters. The uniform rental will be \$15.00. (This includes cleaning and alterations). Rental is due prior to October 1. Checks should be made out to the Valley Band Boosters.

RENTAL FEES FOR TUXEDOS AND DRESSES ARE \$40 FOR THE YEAR (THIS INCLUDES CLEANING). FEE IS DUE PRIOR TO OCTOBER 1, CHECK SHOULD BE PAYABLE TO THE VALLEY ORCHESTRA GUILD

STUDENT CREDIT

The purpose of Student Credit is to help band students defray the cost of various trips associated with the instrumental music department. Student Credit is established for students currently enrolled in instrumental music. Credit is earned by participating in Band Booster fund-raising activities. The Valley Band Booster Board and the appropriate fund-raising chairperson determine the amount of credit earned. Student Credit is to be used primarily for trip transportation fees. Student Credit may be used for other band fees at the discretion of the Band Booster Executive Board and/or Band Directors. If there is any credit in an account when a student graduates from Valley High School, the balance of credit will be placed in a special account to be used at the discretion of the Band Booster Executive Board and the Band Directors. If a graduating senior has a younger sibling who is already enrolled in band or who will be enrolling in band the fall following graduation, the credit from that senior's account may be transferred to the sibling account. If a student drops from band and has an active account, the credit will either remain in his/her account until graduation from Valley High School or will be transferred to a younger VHS sibling's band account. If a student moves from the district and has an active account, that credit will be transferred to the special account.

This policy is effective July 1, 1993. This policy supersedes any previous policies, written or unwritten.

BIG ORANGE SOUND

The Big Orange Sound is the primary communication tool for the Valley High School Band Program and the Valley High School Band Boosters. The Big Orange Sound, also known as the BOS, will include updates on band events, VHS Band Booster news, and various information concerning band business and activities.

BAND LETTER POINT FORM

(800 POINTS NEEDED TO LETTER)

Complete and return this form to the Band Office by May _____

NAME _____ GRADE _____

High School Band - 1 st Year Participant.....	150	
2 nd Year Participant.....	175	
3 rd Year Participant	225	
4 th Year Participant	300	
All State Pre-Audition.....	150	
All State Audition.....	200	
All State Band/Orchestra Member.....	250	
Summer Band Camp Participant excluding Marchmaster Camp- (outside the district).....	300	
VHS Marchmaster Camp Perfect Attendance.....	200	
VHS Jazz Camp.....	100	

Solo and Ensemble (students must participate in one solo and ensemble event to be eligible for a band letter)

Perry Band Olympics - Solo	I.....	200	
	II.....	150	
	III.....	100	
Perry Band Olympics - Ensemble	I.....	150	
	II.....	100	
	III.....	75	
State Solo/Ensemble Contest - Solo	I.....	200	
	II.....	150	
	III.....	100	
State Solo/Ensemble Contest - Ensemble	I.....	150	
	II.....	100	
	III.....	75	
Honor Band (auditioned).....		200	
Honor Band (non-auditioned).....		150	
Attend Approved Master Class or Clinic.....		100	
Perform in Recital Class.....		100	

Private Lessons (band instrument) per semester, with approved teacher (does not include school curricular lesson) 200_____

A private lesson form must be filled out and signed by your private lesson teacher at the end of each semester verifying a minimum of 14 lessons attended per semester in order to receive total points.

Freshman Marchmaster.....	100	_____
Member of Drumline.....	100	_____
Member of Colorguard.....	100	_____
Pep Band.....	100	_____
Wind/Percussion Member of Valley Orchestra.....	100	_____
Audition for Wind/Percussion part in Valley Orchestra	50	_____
Chamber Group	100	_____
Drum Major.....	150	_____
Squad Leader.....	100	_____

Perform in other school related performances (Please list)..... 50 _____

Review an approved Concert (Please list)..... 25 _____

Community/Civic Performances
(List event/activity: 25 points each)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Service Work
(List activity and points assigned)

ValleyFest (50 points per shift)	_____
Large Group (50 points per shift)	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

TOTAL _____

Out of School Performance Practice Form

Performing groups are both classroom and out-of-class time in nature. They are considered co-curricular because the outcomes of class instruction are used in public demonstrations for an audience. The groups most frequently used in such a dual role are band, orchestra and vocal groups. The vitality and value of these classes are much affected through preparation as a group for public performances at out-of-class times. The student cannot be a satisfactory member of the organization if his/her only participation is that part carried on in the classroom in school time. Satisfactory membership must also include the out-of-class participation.

It is essential that students who enroll in such classes understand that the conditions for satisfactory grades include out-of-class performances. A schedule of performances for the semester will be prepared at the beginning of each semester and sent home to parents/guardians for their information. Written agreement of the out-of -class schedule from both parents/guardians and students is desirable. Approved absences will be honored when the director is informed before the 14 days before the performance. The principal, following consultation with the director will make decisions concerning absenteeism beyond this point.

If a student is absent, arrangements to make up the absence should be discussed with the director. Students are encouraged to make up the work in advance if possible. Parents are asked to telephone the director when their student will be absent from a performance. In the event a conflict should arise between activities within the school, an arrangement agreeable to all parties will be worked out in consultation with the student, the activity sponsors involved, the principal, and the parents.

All performing groups encourage parent/student communication with the respective directors. Parental participation in the high schools continues to enhance the performance program. The directors will be continually informing administration, students and parents of upcoming events, performances and festivals that will take place during the year. The structure and implementation of these out-of-school performance practices in the music disciplines should be consistent within each building and throughout the district.

Thank you for reviewing the information presented. The communication and performance expectations are important to your child's development in the music program. Please return the following form to your band director at your earliest convenience.

*We have read the Band Handbook and above information on the attendance guidelines and the guidelines of the Valley High School Band Department. We recognize band as a co-curricular activity, which includes both in class and out-of-class time rehearsals and performances. We **are aware of and will participate in these performances and rehearsals in and out of class time as scheduled.** We are aware failure to do so will be reflected in the student's grade and eligibility in the band program if unexcused.*

We have received and reviewed the information and understand the additional commitment to out-of-school performances and presentations.

Student _____

Parent _____

Date _____

Student Eligibility Expectations for Overnight /Extended Band Trips

Extended and overnight trips are special and unique opportunities made available to the students in the VHS Band Program. These trip opportunities are to be considered privileges earned through the individual student's commitment, dedication, and outstanding conduct within Valley High School Band Program, Valley High School and the entire West Des Moines Community.

- I. Students must meet all eligibility requirements for co-curricular activities as set by the West Des Moines Community School District.
- II. Students must be a member “in good standing” in band class, which includes:
 - A. Student must have zero unexcused absences from rehearsal or performance (for current academic year)
 - B. Student must maintain a grade of C or above in band class (for current academic year)
 - C. Student must have zero in or out of school suspensions (for current academic year)
 - D. Student must have zero activity code violations (for current academic year)

Any exceptions to the above criteria would need to be approved by the Valley High School band directors and administration on a case by case basis.

PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION, SIGNED, TO YOUR BAND DIRECTOR

Student Name (please print)

Parent Signature

Date_____

Student Signature VALLEY BANDS

**REQUEST FOR AN EXCUSED
ABSENCE FROM A PERFORMANCE FORM**

Please remember this form must be turned in to your band director at least 14 days prior to requested absence for approval.

Student Name _____

Date of Absence (include date month and year) _____

Reason for Absence _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

Director's Portion – to be returned to student within a week of being submitted.

Date Received _____

Approved _____
(Signature of Band Director)

Date _____

Not Approved _____
(Signature of Band Director)

Date _____

REQUIRED MAKE-UP WORK:

DATE DUE:

VHS-VSW BAND CALENDAR 2009-10

MONTH	DAY	DATE	EVENT	PLACE	TIME
AUG.					
	M-F	3-7	Marchmasters Camp	Valley Southwoods	8:00am-4:00pm
	TUES	11	Jazz Band Auditions		
	SAT	22	Marching Preview & Ice Cream Social	Stadium	a.m.
SEPT.					
	FRI.	11	Football Performance	Valley Stadium	5:30pm
	FRI.	18	Football Performance	Valley Stadium	5:30pm
	SAT	19	Johnston Invitational Marchmasters	Johnston	a.m.-early p.m.
	SAT	26	Marching Contest, TBA	TBA	TBA
OCT.					
	THURS.	1	Homecoming Parade	Valley Stadium	5:00pm
	FRI.	2	Homecoming Football Performance	Valley Stadium	5:30pm
	THURS.	8	All State Recital	TBA	TBA
	SAT.	10	ValleyFest	Valley Stadium	All Day
	SAT.	17	IHSMA State Marching Band Contest/Ankeny-Mid Iowa	Waukee/Ankeny	All Day
	THURS.	22	Football Performance /Senior Recognition	Valley Stadium	TBA
	THURS.	22	WDM Women's Club (Band)		1:00pm
	SAT.	24	IHSMA All State Auditions (Band Choir Orchestra)	Indianola High School	All Day
	MON	26	Jazz Band with DM Big Band	Adventureland Inn	6:30 p.m.
	THURS.S	29	VSW Band Concert	VSW Forum	7:00 p.m.
NOV.					
	THURS.	19	IHSMA All State Music Festival	Iowa State University	All Day
	FRI.	20	IHSMA All State Music Festival	Iowa State University	All Day
	SAT.	21	IHSMA All State Music Festival	Iowa State University	All Day
	MON.	23	Alumni Jazz Band Concert	VHS	7:00 PM
	MON.	30	Jazz Orchestra w/Des Moines Big Band	Adventureland Inn	6:30 p.m.
DEC.					
	THUR-SAT	3,4,5	Fruit & Cheese (Band)	VHS Auditorium	TBA
	THURS.	3	SCIBA Honor Band Auditions	Roosevelt HS	4:30 p.m.
	FRI-SAT	4,5	Drake Honor Band	Drake	TBA
	THURS.	10	SB/CE Band Concert	VHS	
	SAT	12	SCIBA Jazz Festival	Waukee High School	TBA
	MON.	14	VSW Band Concert	VSW Forum	7:00 p.m.
JAN.					
	SAT.	9	SCIBA Honor Band	Drake	TBA
	TUE.	19	All District Concert Band Festival	Vets Auditorium	
	SAT.	23	STIL/VSW/IH/VHS/JAZZ BAND Wkshop/Concert	VHS	TBA
	THURS.	28	WDM Women's Club - (Band)	WDM Meth Church	1:00pm
	SAT.	30	High School Jazz Band Clinic Day	VHS	TBA

FEB.

TUES	2	Perry Prep Night	VHS/VSW	4:00
THURS	4	Perry Prep Night	VHS/VSW	4:00
SAT.	6	Urbandale Jazz Band Colloquium	Urbandale High School	TBA
MON.	15	Freshman Jazz Band with DM Big Band	Adventureland Inn	6:30 p.m.
SAT.	20	Perry Band Olympics	Perry	8:00 a.m.
FRI-SAT.	26,27	Jazz Band Trip- Coe	Cedar Rapids	TBA

MAR.

THURS.	4	VSW/VHS Band Concert	VHS	7:00 p.m.
FRI	5	SCIBA District Concert Band Festival	Johnston	TBA
SAT.	6	Hoover Jazz Festival	Hoover	TBA
FRI.	26	Jazz Live-In	VHS	TBA
MON.	29	Jazz Orchestra w/Des Moines Big Band	Adventureland Inn	6:30 p.m.

APR.

TUE.	13	Iowa Jazz Championships	Civic Center	TBA
SAT.	17	IHSMA State Solo and Ensemble	TBA	TBA
FRI.	23	Adventureland Concert Band Festival	Waukee High School	
MON.	26	Jazz Ensemble performs w/ Des Moines Big Band	Adventureland Inn	TBA

MAY

SAT	8	IHSMA Large Group Festive (Band and Choir)	TBA	TBA
Th-Sat	13-15	All State Jazz Band	Hotel Ft. Des Moines	TBA
FRI	21	Big Spring Fling Wing Ding		7:00 p.m.
SUN	23	VSW Orch/Band/Choir Concert	VSW Forum	
SUN.	30	Commencement ORCHESTRA/CHOIR Performance	Knapp Center	1:00