



2023-2024

Band Procedures and Regulations

VALLEY BAND STAFF 2023-2024

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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 2023-2024 school year gives all of us the opportunity to carry on an outstanding tradition of excellence. The Valley Band Program offers everyone 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 to be an organization with a history of living up 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 our many ensembles.

The program offers two concert ensembles and three 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: IHSMA All State Band, SCIBA Honor Band, Drake 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 Marchmasters. This tradition-rich organization is truly exceptional. Filled with the pride of an extremely storied tradition of excellence, the Marchmasters will participate in home football games, local and regional field show competitions and 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 many 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 the 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 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.

The traditions of excellence and high standards of instruction maintained within the band department have been built upon the hard work and 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 call our own, and the discoveries we make through our musical studies.

Sincerely,
VHS Band Staff

Large Performance Ensembles

<i>Marchmasters</i>	Early Bird, Valley Stadium (*6:30 AM)
<i>Jazz Ensemble</i>	7 th Hour, Valley High School
<i>Studio Jazz</i>	7 th Hour, Valley High School
<i>Jazz Orchestra</i>	8 th Hour, Valley High School
<i>Symphony Band</i>	2 nd Hour, Valley High School
<i>Concert Ensemble</i>	1 st Hour, Valley High School

Above is a list of large performance ensembles offered within the Valley High School Band Program.

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 conductor's expectations. Placement into and within the ensembles is determined by an audition procedure held in May prior to the end of the previous school year. Each group will perform approximately four concerts during the year. In addition, the ensembles may participate in state sponsored contest events, independently sponsored festivals, and special performances, such as graduation.

The Valley Marchmasters meet during the summer and into the first quarter. Rehearsals are Monday through Friday mornings from 6:30-8:00 AM. The group will include wind, percussion, and colorguard, with membership open to any student who plays a musical instrument and is concurrently enrolled in the concert band program at Valley or Valley Southwoods. Requirements for participation in colorguard are similar, with concurrent participation in any music ensemble (Band, Orchestra, or Vocal) at VHS or VSW being the only difference. Preschool expectations 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 1 music elective credit. In addition to performing at home football games and the 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 both meet all four quarters. The jazz 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 discussion, evaluation, and performance of standard big band jazz 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 two to four concerts throughout the year as well as other local, state, and regional festivals and contests. Prerequisites for this course are tryout/placement auditions and concurrent enrollment in band.

ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

Solo and Ensemble Festivals

The Valley 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. All students are required to participate in either Perry Band Olympics or State Solo and Ensemble contest. For these events there may be a cost associated with it depending on the option your student chooses because your student needs to be accompanied.

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 in late July. All State Pre-Audition procedures and deadlines will be posted in the VHS Band Hall during 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 a volunteer organization open to all band students enrolled in concert band grades 9-12. Generally, this group rehearses once a week. The schedule includes boys and girls basketball games in December, January, and February. If one of our teams qualifies for the state tournament, these students are able to attend the games as members of the pep band before other students are considered.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Scholarship information will be available through the band directors' offices, and will also be posted on the entry bulletin boards. Students and parents may contact the directors for more information.

GENERAL OUTLINE OF CONCERT BAND 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 three-year cycle. Literature selected for performance throughout the three-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 reinforce and support the basic skills and concepts outlined below.

- I. Tone Production
 - a. Individual
 - b. Group
 - i. Balance
 - ii. Blend
- II. Intonation and Tuning
 - a. Individual
 - b. Group
- III. Expression and Sensitivity
 - a. Melody and Accompaniment
 - b. Phrasing
 - c. Creativity
- IV. Rhythm and Meter
 - 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

CONCERT BAND COURSE TITLE AND GRADING PROCEDURES

Course Title

Concert Ensemble is titled MUS 101 and MUS 102 while Symphony Band is titled MUS 307 and MUS 308. Both courses are awarded two academic credits, and are calculated into a student's grade point average. The band grade is awarded through the assessment of students on the standards listed below.

Students are expected to fully participate 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. Each band member should bring instruments, music, pencil, and the essential equipment to every rehearsal and performance.

Grading Criterion

Concert Band students will be graded by applying this rubric to the following categories. Students will be assessed both through performance and knowledge-based tasks in lessons, rehearsals, and at concerts.

0 - No attempt

2- Beginner (demonstrates little evidence of understanding)

2.5 - Developing (demonstrates partial understanding w/significant errors)

3 - Capable (Demonstrates partial understanding w/minor errors)

3.5 - Strong (Demonstrates high level of understanding w/minor errors)

4 - Exceptional (Demonstrates a thorough understanding)

Concert Band Grading

Individual Skills – Wind Players: 60% weight

Rhythm/Musical Expression – 50%

Pulse; full-beat rhythms; 8th notes; 16th notes;

compound meter

Phrase shape; line connectivity

Tone Quality – 25%

Tone control; breath; embouchure; intonation accuracy

Technique – 25%

Major scales; chromatic scale; range; articulation;

posture and mechanics

Individual Skills – Percussionists: 60% weight

Rhythm – 25%

Pulse; full-beat rhythms; 8th notes; 16th notes;

compound meter

Snare Drum Technique – 25%

Grip; accent/taps; stick control; double strokes

Marimba/Keyboard Technique – 25%

Major scales; chromatic scale; posture, stroke, and playing area; four-mallet

Timpani Technique – 15%

Ranges; pitch matching; tuning; flow

Small Percussion Technique – 10%

Tambourine; triangle; crash cymbals; latin instruments

Ensemble Learning – All Students: 40% weight

21st Century Skills – 40%

Productivity; accountability; collaboration

Group Intonation and Section Blend – 20%

Tone matching; pitch matching

Role Identification; Ensemble Prioritization and Balance – 20%

Melody; countermelody; harmony; rhythm

Form, Historical and Stylistic Context – 20%

Stylistic consistency; vocabulary; composer/piece information

JAZZ STUDIES AND PERFORMANCE

The jazz ensembles at Valley are co-curricular classes (MUS 303 and 304) offered for academic credit. Concurrent enrollment in a concert band is a prerequisite for enrollment in a jazz band. (Exceptions may be given in individual circumstances, such as a bass player's enrollment in orchestra). Attendance and participation policies are the same as those described for the concert band and marching band. Jazz auditions occur each spring to determine placement into the Jazz Orchestra, which rehearses 8th period. All other students will be placed in the 7th period section of the course, with auditions occurring within the first few weeks of each new school year to create additional ensembles such as Jazz Ensemble and Studio Jazz.

Jazz students will respond to, create, analyze, and make connections to the tradition of large and small ensemble music making. Students will gain skills in both individual and group settings through improvisation, jazz ensemble music, and instrumental sectionals.

All students in jazz ensembles have the opportunity to travel to and perform at festivals, competitions, and concerts as representatives of the Valley Bands jazz department.

Grading Scale

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
0-59%	F

Grading (cont.)

- Graded assignments will have rubrics that align with National and Iowa Arts Standards
 - <https://www.nationalartsstandards.org/sites/default/files/Music%20Traditional%20and%20Emerging%20Ensembles%20at%20a%20Glance%203-24-17.pdf>.
- Due dates and deadlines **will be required** for ALL evidence of learning which builds toward graded evidence/assessment.
- If a student does not meet due dates:
 - Families, Behavior Interventionist and/or Administrators may be contacted
- Pay attention to Canvas and Charms for descriptions of assignments as they become apparent.
 - Concerts and performances will have significant grades attached that align with the standards of creating, performing, responding, and connecting.
- Jazz ensemble grades will be weighted according to the following global groupings
 - Individual Skills
 - Ensemble Skills
- Grades will be further broken down in the following categories
 - Performances: 40%
 - Professionalism: 30%
 - Exams: 20%
 - Written Work: 10%

Grading (cont.)

- Arts standards will be pursued by attending to these topics
 - Rhythm
 - Pulse; full-beat rhythms; 8th notes; 16th notes; compound meter
 - Tone Quality
 - Tone control; breath; embouchure; intonation accuracy
 - Musical Expression
 - Phrase shape; line connectivity
 - Technique
 - Major scales; chromatic scale; range; articulation; posture and mechanics
 - 21st Century Skills
 - Productivity; accountability; collaboration
 - Group Intonation and Section Blend
 - Tone matching; pitch matching
 - Role Identification; Ensemble Prioritization and Balance
 - Melody; countermelody; harmony; rhythm
 - Form Historical, and Stylistic Context
 - Basic form understanding; phrase structure; road map; stylistic consistency; vocabulary; composer/piece information
 - 21st Century Skills – 34%
 - Productivity; accountability; collaboration,
 - Group Intonation and Section Blend – 24%
 - Tone matching; pitch matching
 - Role Identification; Ensemble Prioritization and Balance – 24%
 - Melody; countermelody; harmony; rhythm
 - Form and Structure – 9%
 - Blues form; rhythm changes form
 - Historical and Stylistic Context – 9%
 - Jazz icons; stylistic identification

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 better through their association with the music. The directors firmly believe that each student should improve through daily progress. The happiest band member is 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:
 - a. Be regular in attendance and account for all absences
 - b. Make a real effort to learn and improve daily
 - c. Be respectful and attentive during rehearsals
 - d. Become responsible for and expect to assume the consequences of your actions
 - e. Follow all band rules, school regulations, and travel instructions
 - f. Be honest and fair with others concerning equipment, music, and school life
 - g. Cooperate with fellow band members and share with them the responsibilities and privileges that are part of the band program
 - h. Follow rules and conduct as outlined in the VHS Student Handbook
- B. The director's responsibility to each student:
 - a. Provide the proper rehearsal setting considered necessary to aid in developing each student's musical ability and education
 - b. Plan each day's assignments and encourage daily progress of the individual student and the band
 - c. Provide the band member with a full musical education through rehearsal, performance, teaching, testing, and listening.
 - d. Deal appropriately with members that are not contributing to the band program due to poor attitude, and/or lack of cooperation or improvement.
 - e. Supervise the students in class and on school-sponsored band trips
 - f. Grade the progress of each band member on his/her musicianship and music education
- C. Expectations
 - a. All Bands
 - i. When the director cuts off the band, stop playing immediately
 - ii. Respect should be given to all members of the band
 - iii. Every band member's goal should be to do everything possible to make the band sound as good as it can be
 - b. Marching Band
 - i. After a rep is completed, remain at attention until given a relax or adjust command
 - ii. Music should be memorized and checked off by the assigned date

ATTENDANCE

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.

Performances groups, such as band, are both in-class and out-of-class time in nature (co-curricular). A semester and yearly calendar will include all known rehearsal and performance times. This will be passed out at the beginning of the year, and posted at www.valleybands.org. Additional times may be added as the year evolves. Students will be informed of these at least 14 days ahead of time whenever possible. If there is a conflict with an added rehearsal or performance, parents and students should notify the director immediately upon recognizing the conflict, before the rehearsal occurs, in order to be excused. It is essential that students and parents understand the conditions to earn a passing grade in band also include out-of-class performances and practices.

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 BEFORE THE ABSENCE, where possible. 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, a parent or guardian should give a written note or email to the band director at least 14 days (two weeks) prior to the absence. If it is an unplanned absence (illness, death in the family), the band director should be notified at the earliest available time.
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 School 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.

Excused Absences

Excused absences fall into the following classifications, and allow the student to make up the work to receive full credit:

- Illness of student
- Medical and Dental Appointments with verification from doctor's office
- Religious Observance
- Student in-school or out-of-school suspension
- Valley Activity

Unexcused Absences

Any absences for reasons unacceptable by Valley High School will be considered unexcused. If an absence is unexcused, the student will not be allowed to make up missed school work. Anything missed will be marked as a zero in the gradebook. If an assignment missed while a student is unexcused is worth more than 10% of the semester grade, the student may make up the work upon their return with a 25% reduction in score. The following is a list of some (but not all) of the unexcused absences:

- Oversleeping
- Late arrival after leaving campus
- Absence from class to do work for another class
- Failure to clear up an absence within 1 day of returning to class
- Leaving campus without permission
- Driving Test
- Homework
- Attending Concerts or Sporting Events
- Work
- Excused absences not given two weeks' notice

If you do not have a ride to a rehearsal or performance, first contact your section leader. They will help try to arrange transportation. After that, contact a director who will find a suitable mode of transportation, or excuse the absence.

Performance Attendance Expectations

A 14-day notice is required to be excused from a performance. The absence must be discussed with, and approved by, a director and the parent/guardian. In the event of an emergency, the parent/guardian is asked to notify the band director as soon as possible. Every effort must be made to be in attendance for 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 a make-up assignment as assigned by the director. Students will be responsible to contact the director for make-up work and a timeline for completion.

A performance that conflicts with another school activity will be handled as mentioned on page 11.

Absence from a performance with no prior notification or excuse will result in the student receiving no points for that event. A conference with the director, student, and parent/guardian will take place to discuss the student's progress in the program.

SPECIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Private Lessons – One thirty-minute lesson per week is recommended for students. 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 the 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 aim for the highest quality. Percussionists should always discard and replace warped or broken sticks. Brass players should have dents removed when they occur so as to not adversely affect pitch and tone quality.

FOOTBALL GAME GUIDELINES (MARCHMASTERS)

The Marchmasters are an integral part of our football games. Band members should make every effort to ensure that the band's part of the game is outstanding. Please look for updates via email and in person instruction. The following expectations will be in place at all times:

- Listen to the instructions given by the band director throughout the week dealing with scheduled times.
- 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 uniform at the designated time
- Allow yourself plenty of time to be at the proper place. Remember, "If you're on time, you're late!"
- Once you are seated in the stadium, do not move to another seat
- Instruments are to be in your possession and your possession only at all times.
- NO FOOD OR DRINK (other than water) OR GUM while in uniform. NO EXCEPTIONS!
- Treat other band members and fans of both teams with respect and courtesy.
- All school rules and regulations are in effect at all times.

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 also our feeling 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 a **Medical Form** signed by their parents. In order to travel with the band, a student must be in good standing with the school and the band department.

- When school transportation is provided, all students will ride to the performance on the bus and return in the same manner. Exception: By mutual consent between the student's parents and the 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 24 hours in advance to be considered.
- Students are to sign their own name on the bus list. Do not cross off or erase the names of other students
- All students should be on time to every event as provided on the schedule
- Students are to remain in their seats at all times and refrain from anything being outside the window (limbs, trash, etc.)
- Couples will refrain from any open displays of affection or intimate behavior
- Students are responsible for their own belongings
- Chaperones and bus drivers are to be obeyed courteously and without question

CHARMS

The primary form of email communication and record keeping for the band is through Charms Office Suite. If you have not yet registered for Charms, or need to update your information, go to goo.gl/UfTFdu and select new or returning member, based on your previous registration status. If your information is not current, you will not receive all communication from directors and/or the Valley Band Boosters.

BAND HALL POLICIES

Band Office and Music Library

The band office and music library should be considered private areas. These areas should not be accessed by students unless granted permission by a band director. Students should be respectful of the fact that this is a work area. The copier may not be used by students without specific permission from their director to copy music.

Student Time in Band Hall

The VHS Band Staff invites students to spend study hall and resource time in the Band Hall. This invitation and opportunity must be considered a privilege. 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.

There is to be no propping of doors in the band hall.

All students must check in upon their arrival to the band hall during an off period/study hall. All practice rooms will be locked, and must be accessed via a director.

In the morning, do not enter the band hall unless a director is present. Any student found in the band hall before a director arrives will lose the ability to be in the band hall outside of obligations for class for the remainder of the year.

Practice Room Usage

Practice rooms are available for student use. Students are free to use them at their leisure. Practice rooms must be kept free of trash. Students doing homework will have priority in practice room use.

Locker Contents/Maintenance

The band instrument locker is to be used primarily for the storage of band instruments and study materials. It is not to be used as a PE 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, and kept locked when not in use. If a locker is found to be unlocked during a non-usage time, the first time a student will receive a warning, the second time, the student will lose their locker for 1 weeks' time, and a third violation will result in the student not having a locker to use in the band hall.

Uniforms

There is a maintenance and cleaning fee for using the uniform for both concert band and Marchmasters. All performance attire for both groups is checked out through the Valley Band Boosters. The fee for this is \$45 for a student's first uniform (concert band or marching band), and \$30 for students in both. There is also a one time shoe fee of \$40 for all Marchmasters. Any students needing assistance with this may contact their director. Students must wear the provided uniforms for all performances. All students are required to provide black shoes and socks to accompany their concert attire.

EXCUSED ABSENCE REQUEST (PERFORMANCE)

Remember to turn this in 14 days prior to absence

Student Name: _____

Date of Absence: _____

Reason for Absence:

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Directors Portion

Date Received: _____

Approved: _____

Not Approved: _____

Required Make-Up Work:

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Out of School Performance Practices Performing groups are both in class 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 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 during school time. Satisfactory membership must also include the out-of-class time 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 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 contact 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 junior and senior high schools enhance the performance program. The directors will be continually informing administrators, 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 music teacher.

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

Student _____

Parent _____

Date _____

VHS Handbook Acknowledgment and Instrument Information

Please digitally fill out this form at: <https://forms.gle/BXkGra2PhfE37pWU7> by September 1st, 2023.

Please Print:

Name as you would like it on concert programs _____

Nickname or name you wish to be called in class _____

Parents' or Guardians' names _____

Home Phone Number _____ Work Phone Number _____

Parent Email address (please print clearly!) _____

Student Email address (please print clearly!) _____

Personal Instrument _____ Make/Model _____

Serial Number _____ Private Teacher's Name (if applicable) _____

Private Lesson Teacher (if applicable) _____

Please list any medical concerns for rehearsals, concerts, field trips, etc.

I have read and understand the Valley Band Handbook. By signing this form, the student is given permission to travel with the band to and from performances on a school or charter bus as necessary for participation in Band.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Student Signature

2023-2024 BAND PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

8/25/2023	5:00 PM	10:00 PM	Marchmaster Performance	Valley Stadium - FBALL
8/26/2023	5:00 PM	10:00 PM	8 Man Football Game Performance	Valley Stadium - FBALL
9/1/2023	5:00 PM	10:00 PM	Marchmaster Performance	Valley Stadium - FBALL
9/7/2023	3:45 PM	9:00 PM	All State Prep Night/Preauditions	VHS Band Hall
9/9/2023	TBD		Grandview Football Performance	Duke Williams Stadium
9/16/2023	6:15 AM	11:00 AM	Johnston Marching Invitational	Johnston Stadium (9:00 AM Performance)
9/21/2023	5:00 PM	6:30 PM	Homecoming Parade	Valley Southwoods
9/22/2023	5:00 PM	10:00 PM	Marchmaster Performance	Valley Stadium - FBALL
9/29/2023	5:00 PM	10:00 PM	Marchmaster Performance	Valley Stadium - FBALL
9/30/2023	ALL DAY		BOA Iowa	Waukee Northwest
10/7/2023	ALL DAY		Valleyfest	Valley Stadium
10/12/2023	7:00 PM	9:00 PM	VHS/VSW Fall Concert	VHS PAC
10/13/2023	5:00 PM	10:00 PM	Marchmaster Performance	Valley Stadium - FBALL
10/14/2023	ALL DAY		State/Ankeny	Waukee HS/Ankeny
10/21/2023	ALL DAY		All State Auditions	Indianola HS
11/16-18/2023	ALL DAY		All-State Music Festival	Ames, IA
11/20/2023	6:00	p.m.	Jazz in the Hall	VHS Cafeteria
11/30/2023	4:00	p.m.	SCIBA Honor Band Auditions	Roosevelt HS
12/1/2023	7:00	p.m.	Symphony Band and Concert Ensemble Joint Concert w/ Dallas Brass	VHS PAC
12/7/2023	7:00	p.m.	VHS/VSW Band Concert	VHS PAC
12/9/2023	All Day		SCIBA Jazz Festival	Waukee HS
1/6/2024	All Day		SCIBA Honor Band	Ankeny HS
1/12/2024	All Day		Triton Jazz Festival	Iowa Central Community College
1/29/2023	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Valley Bands Jazz Showcase	VHS PAC
1/30 and 2/1 2024	3:45 PM	9:00 PM	Perry Prep Night	VHS Band Hall
2/16/2024	All Day		Tallcorn Jazz Festival	U of Northern Iowa
2/17/2024	All Day		Perry Band Olympics	Perry High School
2/19/2024	TBD		All-Iowa Concert Band Festival	Johnston HS
3/2/2024	TBD		Blue Note Jazz Festival	Waukee Northwest HS
3/5/2024	7:00	p.m.	VHS/VSW Band Concert	VHS PAC
4/2/2024	All Day		Iowa Jazz Championships	Iowa State University
4/26/2024	Evening	p.m.	Adventureland/Drake University Festival of Bands	Southeast Polk HS
5/3/2024	6:00	p.m.	Spring Fling Wing Ding	PAC