

# Hayes Concert Bands Handbook

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## Course Description

**Concert Band:** Concert Band is the entry level instrumental ensemble at the high school level. We will focus on building the individual musician through participation in adjudicated Solo & Ensemble events, learning appropriate concert repertoire, performing in Hayes concerts, pep band, OMEA Large Group Contest, and continued technique work.

**Symphonic Band:** The Hayes Symphonic Band is the elite instrumental ensemble at Hayes. The Symphonic Band performs music of the highest quality, participates in adjudicated Solo & Ensemble events, pep band, OMEA Large Group Contest, and performs at all Hayes concerts.

## Course Objectives

1. **The main objective of this course is to foster musical growth**
2. Students will understand their role as a member of a musical ensemble
3. Students will develop a sense of **individual accountability**
4. Students will demonstrate their musical ability through performance in large and small ensembles

## Materials

All students will be issued copies of the following texts. **Any lost, or damaged books and music will be replaced at the cost of the student.**

### >Concert Band

- > Habits of a Successful Musician, Lang
- > Pep Band Packet
- > Clarke Studies
- > Scale Sheet
- > All band pieces for the course
- > Pencil

### >Symphonic Band

- > Foundations for Superior Performance
- > Pep Band Packet
- > Clarke Studies
- > Pitch Tendency Sheet
- > All band pieces for the course
- > Pencil

## Class Guidelines

- I. Class will begin promptly after the bell is rung
  - A. Students must be in seats with instruments out no more than 2 minutes after the bell rings.
  - B. The first tardy is a warning
  - C. If frequent tardiness persists, you will receive detentions, extra duty assignments, and eventual expulsion from the ensemble
- II. Students are expected to have **all required materials** (pencil, music, technique book etc.) a EVERY rehearsal.
  - A. Students will receive random equipment checks over the course of the year.
- III. Attendance is **required** at all rehearsals and performances. Occasional sectionals and full band rehearsals may be scheduled after school (with at least two weeks of notice from the band staff). As this is a graded co-curricular course, **students are expected to plan around the band schedule**. Work is **NOT** an excused absence. Excuses for absences may not always be accepted. Acceptable excuses are illness (with a doctors note) family emergency, or another approved school function. All excuses must be from a parent, and emailed to Mr. Doherty ASAP.

## Class Expectations

- I. **LEARN YOUR MUSIC**
  - A. Students are expected to come into rehearsal with a basic understanding of the piece. In rehearsal, we will spend our time focusing on musical excellence.
  - B. Students will be graded on their performance using the attached rubrics.
- II. **RESPECT THE FACILITIES**
  - A. We are lucky to have great facilities, please be respectful. Remember, this is OUR band room and we all need to take part in keeping it clean and organized.
  - B. The instrument storage room is for INSTRUMENTS ONLY. Personal items are **NOT** to be stored in the instrument storage room. Instruments must be put away, CLOSED, AND IN THEIR CASE.
- III. **RESPECT THE MEMBERS OF THIS ENSEMBLE**
  - A. Treat each member of this group with respect - we all work hard to make this ensemble special.
  - B. If there is a problem with a member of the ensemble, please contact the directors so that the correct actions may be taken.
  - C. **E + R = O** You cannot control every event, only your response to the event.
- IV. **BE A PROFESSIONAL**
  - A. This encompasses everything we do. The way you play, speak to other members of the ensemble, speak to the staff, and the way you act reflect not only this band program, but the school and city.
  - B. Be prepared for rehearsal. Come with music ready, a good attitude, and start playing **BEFORE** we start class!
  - C. Practice at home! *“Amateurs practice until they get it right, professionals practice until they can’t get it wrong”*

- D. Remain quiet during rehearsal when you are not being addressed
- E. Leave a positive impression of our band EVERYWHERE WE GO!
- F. When in concert, **NEVER** speak. It is extremely unprofessional and distracting to the audience members.
- G. Be human. Kindness can have the most profound impact of all. If you have nothing nice to say, keep it to yourself. If it will brighten someone's day, say it!

### **Percussion Set-up and Storage**

Percussionists will be responsible for the set-up and storage of all percussion equipment. All instruments needed for the days rehearsal will be set-up PRIOR to warm-ups. This will be a portion of each percussionists grade.

### **Concert Attire**

- I. Men
  - A. Tuxedo Jacket *provided by school*
  - B. Tuxedo Pants *provided by school*
  - C. Bow-Tie *provided by school*
  - D. Some shirts are available, but your shirt is not guaranteed. If there are no more shirts left, you will be asked to provide your own white dress shirt.
  - E. Black Shoes *provided by student*
  - F. Long Black Socks *provided by student*
- II. Women
  - A. Long Black Concert Dress *provided by the school*
  - B. Black Dress Shoes *provided by student*
- III. Failure to report in complete concert attire will result in loss of points for the performance

### **Pep Band**

**All members of the concert bands are required to participate in pep band.** Each student must participate in 6 graded pep band performances. The pep band schedule will be posted shortly after concert season begins. Failure to attend your pep band assignments will result in loss of points, detention, and office referrals.

### **Honor Ensembles**

All students are encouraged to participate in honor ensembles throughout the year! If you are interested in participating, contact Mr. Doherty for more information!

### **Grading Scale**

Students will be graded based on the following information

- Performance
  - All students start each quarter with 100 points. Any unexcused absence or frequent unpreparedness will result in a loss of 25% of their performance grade. You may not earn these points back.

- Playing Tests
  - The other portion of your grade will be your performance on playing tests. All rubrics will be posted ahead of the test. Remember, **playing tests are designed to help you improve as a musician, not to scare you into practicing!** The goal is to give you helpful feedback for improvement, and to give you credit for your hard work.

### Concert Schedule

Please visit [www.hayesband.com](http://www.hayesband.com) for the most up-to-date schedule of upcoming events.