WINTER PARK HIGH SCHOOL BANDS

Pursuing Excellence in Instrumental Music Education & Performance for 87 Years

Student & Parent Handbook
2026 / 2027

Mike Clemente | Director of Bands
Raegan O'Rourke | Associate Director of Bands

www.winterparkhsband.com

CONTENTS

Performing Ensembles……page 3

Standards of Excellence……..page 4

Financial Obligations/Fundraising……page 5

Attendance……pages 6 – 7

Band Room and Rehearsal Expectations……..pages 7 – 8

Performances……...pages 8 – 9

Grading……...pages 9 – 10

Uniforms……page 10

Replacement Costs……..page 10

Travel…….... pages 10 – 11

Band Awards……pages 11 – 12

Band Council……....pages 12

Communication……...page 12 - 13

PERFORMING ENSEMBLES

CONCERT BAND
The Winter Park Concert Band is our ensemble designed for our freshman Band students. It meets daily at the WPHS Main Campus and performs several concerts throughout the school year, including Concert Band MPA in the spring. Students in Concert Band combine with students in the Symphonic Band, Wind Symphony, and Color Guard to make up the "Sound of the Wildcats" Marching Band. There is no audition to be a member of Concert Band.

SYMPHONIC BAND
The Symphonic Band is our intermediate concert band, and is open to all Winter Park Band students in grades 10 – 12. In addition to concerts throughout the school year, the Symphonic Band also performs at Concert Band MPA in the spring. Students in Symphonic Band combine with students in Concert Band, Wind Symphony, and Color Guard to make up the "Sound of the Wildcats" Marching Band. There is no audition to be a member of the Symphonic Band.

WIND SYMPHONY
The Wind Symphony is our advanced concert band. It is open, through an audition process, to grades 9 – 12. In addition to home concerts throughout the school year, as well as Concert Band MPA in the spring, the Wind Symphony frequently performs by invitation at regional and national concert festivals and conferences. Students in Wind Symphony combine with students in Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Color Guard to make up the "Sound of the Wildcats" Marching Band. Additionally, select members of the Wind Symphony perform as the wind and percussion section in the Park Philharmonic Orchestra.

PERCUSSION CLASS
Percussion Class is designed as a percussion intensive course for all our percussionists grade 9 – 12. Percussionists will perform with their respective concert ensemble at all home concerts throughout the school year, as well as Concert MPA in the spring. Students in Percussion Class combine with students in Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Symphony, and Color Guard to make up the "Sound of the Wildcats" Marching Band. Additionally, select members perform as the wind and percussion section in the Park Philharmonic Orchestra.

FRESHMAN JAZZ BAND
The Freshman Jazz Band is our jazz ensemble designed for freshman Band students and meets daily at the WPHS Main Campus. The Freshman Jazz Band performs at home concerts throughout the school year, as well as Jazz Band MPA and the Lakeside Jazz Festival – both in the spring. There is no audition for the Freshman Jazz Band, however, students must also be enrolled in either Concert Band or Wind Symphony.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE II
Jazz Ensemble II is our non-auditioned, intermediate jazz ensemble for Band students in grades 10 – 12. In addition to several home performances throughout the school year, Jazz Ensemble II also performs at Jazz Band MPA and the Lakeside Jazz Festival. There is no audition for Jazz Ensemble II, however, students must also be enrolled in either Symphonic Band or Wind Symphony.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE I
Jazz Ensemble I is our advanced jazz ensemble. It is open, through an audition process, to grades 10 – 12. In addition to home performances, Jazz Ensemble I also performs at Jazz Band MPA and the Lakeside Jazz Festival – both in the spring. They also often have performances in and around the Winter Park community, and students must also be enrolled in either Symphonic Band or Wind Symphony.

"SOUND OF THE WILDCATS" MARCHING BAND
The students of the Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Symphony, and Color Guard combine to comprise the "Sound of the Wildcats" Marching Band. All Winter Park High School Band students participate. Performances take place between July and November where the Marching Band performs at football games, Marching Band MPA, and the WPHS Homecoming Parade, along with performances at the Winter Park "Ye Olde Hometown" Christmas Parade, and the Baldwin Park Parade in December.

COLOR GUARD/WINTER GUARD
The "Sound of the Wildcats" Color Guard is the visual ensemble of the Marching Band. Students use flags, rifles, sabers, and other equipment to add visual flair and intrigue to the field show. Winter Guard is an extension of the Marching Band's Color Guard section and performs at regional and state competitions beginning in late November and throughout the spring. Members are expected to be in the Color Guard class during the school day and participate in both Color Guard and Winter Guard as a full year course.

STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE FOR PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL SPONSORED CO-CURRICULAR AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN THE PERFORMING ARTS

Winter Park High School is proud of its co-curricular and extra-curricular activities and the many contributions our students have made to build a strong sense of community. We expect that all students will embrace the school's tradition of excellence in academics, sportsmanship, citizenship, and fair play. Students participating in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities represent Winter Park High School in the community, district, state and even the nation. We believe the opportunity to participate in these activities is a privilege.

We expect all students to maintain Winter Park's tradition of excellence in behavior as well as academic excellence in and out of the classroom. In order to remain qualified for non-classroom based activities, a student must meet the requirements and fulfill the responsibilities outlined in the Performing Arts Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities Agreement. Failure to adhere to the terms and conditions of this agreement could result in the loss of a student's extra-curricular participation at Winter Park High School.

Parents, we need your support in our continued pursuit of excellence and ensuring that WPHS students develop a sense of responsibility reflected by good citizenship in all aspects of their lives.

Expectations for Participating in Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities

Address Accuracy
If at any time, a student has a change of address, the parent or student must inform both the director and school registrar. This includes moving from one parent or relative to another. Failure to do so can compromise the ensemble's ability to participate in district-sponsored events. In such cases, the principal, director, and district coordinator will review the case and determine the actions to be taken.

Attendance
Students must attend at least four (4) periods of school on the day(s) of an extra-curricular activity in order to participate. If a student is not in attendance for four (4) periods, a waiver must be requested in writing by the student or parent from the Standard of Excellence in the Performing Arts Review Committee. The wavier must be granted by the committee for a student to participate in an extra-curricular activity the same day. If it is discovered that a student participated in an extra-curricular activity and did not attend school for at least four (4) periods, the case will go before the Standard of Excellence in the Performing Arts Review Committee.

Standards of Behavior
All Winter Park High School students are expected to display exemplary citizenship and behavior when participating in school sponsored extra-curricular activities. These standards apply 24 hours a day for the duration of an academic year, beginning with auditions. All school rules as outlined in the Orange County Code of Student Conduct and in this form are to be followed.

A student involved in an extra-curricular activity will be ineligible for rehearsal or performance on any day if any of the following conditions exist:

1. A student is suspended from school by a school administrator.
2. A student is removed from an extra-curricular activity by the director(s) of the activity (e.g. band, chorus, guitar, orchestra, theatre).
3. A student is sanctioned by law enforcement outside of school (e.g. warrant, citation, arrest).
4. A student exhibits behavior not befitting the public face of the school.

Processing Reports of Violations
Reports of alleged violations of the Standards of Excellence for Participation shall be made to any member of the Standard of Excellence in the Performing Arts Review Committee. The committee shall conduct an investigation to determine the validity of any allegations. If it is determined that it is reasonable to believe a violation has occurred, the student and parents shall be notified of the alleged violation, of the possibility of extra-curricular sanctions, and of a right to a meeting with the Standard of Excellence in the Performing Arts Review Committee. Here evidence may be presented; however, these meetings are not formal legal proceedings and are not required to be conducted in accordance with the rules of procedure normally associated with formal meetings or court proceedings. The decision of the Standard of Excellence in the Performing Arts Review Committee is final and is not subject to appeal. If it is determined that a student committed a violation of the Standards of Excellence for Participation the sanctions shall be imposed immediately.

Standards of Excellence Review Committee
Mrs. Laurie Bitters, chair
Mr. Michael Clemente
Mr. Andrew Campbell
WPHS Administrator

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS/FUNDRAISING

Band Fair Share ($275)
The Band Fair Share pays for virtually everything we do. Some of our largest expenses are staff, band clinicians, instruments, and transportation of our equipment to performance sites. Other expenses include marching band drill writing, music purchases, show and sound equipment, competition and Music Performance Assessment (MPA) registrations, student awards, post-concert refreshments, and miscellaneous band supplies**. The Band Fair Share is representative of the entire year as whole, not just specific parts of the school year. The payments are spread across much of the year to help alleviate the financial burden.**

Jazz Fair Share ($25/semester)
The Jazz Fair Share is only for those students who are a part of our Jazz Program. This fair share helps to offset expenses for new music, uniforms, transportation, and clinicians. It is broken up into two payments – one for each semester.

School Instrument Maintenance ($75/semester)
Each student who uses a school-owned instrument and/or equipment for a will pay $75 per semester for the maintenance of that instrument. Instruments used only occasionally at the discretion of the band directors do not incur a maintenance charge. No student will pay more than $150 per school year for instrument maintenance. **Unusual or extreme damage resulting in repairs or replacement will be the responsibility of the student/parent.**

Marching Band Shoes (varies)
The purchase of marching band shoes is only needed for new students, or when a student outgrows their shoes.

Concert Uniform (varies)
Concert tuxedo jackets and pants, and concert dresses are owned by Winter Park High School and will be loaned out to students for use during the school year. Students are responsible for the purchase of a tuxedo shirt, black bow tie, and cummerbund (for the tuxedo only) and black closed toe dress shoes (all). The tux shirt, bow tie, and cummerbund are all purchased through the Band program.

Flip Folders and Marching Music Binders (varies)
Wind instrument players and percussionists provide their own a flip-folder and lyre appropriate for their instrument for stands tunes. They also provide their own 3-ring binder with plastic page protectors for larger sheets of music for marching band rehearsals.

Guard Fair Share ($375 Fall Color Guard/$375 Winter Guard)
The Guard Fair Share pays for virtually everything we do in both the Fall and Winter seasons. Some of our largest expenses are staff and transportation of our equipment to performance sites. Other expenses include show writing, music purchases, show and sound equipment, competition registrations, equipment purchases, student awards, flags, rifles, and miscellaneous equipment. Following the completion of the marching band season in November, the members of the Guard perform as the Winter Guard. Rehearsals for Winter Guard generally begin in late November, and there are performances throughout the winter and early spring.

Fundraising Credit / Band Accounts
Fundraising credit is used like a "coupon" toward future Winter Park Band expenses. It is the responsibility of the student and parent to monitor their Cut Time account and be aware of fundraising credit available to them. Unused fundraising credit rolls over to the next school year. **All monies raised through fundraising belong to the Winter Park Band Program and cannot be refunded for any reason.**

To assist with the financial requirements of being in the Winter Park Band Program, "Band Credit" accounts have been established for each student. This credit is considered part of the Band fund for use by the students following these conditions:

- All credit raised through Band fundraising belongs to the Winter Park Band Program and cannot be refunded for any reason.
- Band fundraising credit cannot be used to pay a financial obligation to other Winter Park (or OCPS) organizations (i.e. orchestra or ROTC).
- Any Band credit that remains in a graduating senior's account will expire on the date of the final payment. Band credit may be transferred to a younger sibling still in or soon to be entering the Band.
- Students who leave the Band Program forfeit their accrued fundraising credit, even if they return in a future year.

It is the responsibility of the student and parent/guardian to monitor their Cut Time account and be aware of outstanding balances. Past due Band Fees will result in the student being place on the school's "Obligations List," which potentially prevents them from obtaining parking passes, prom tickets, and graduation ceremony tickets.

If students or parents have any questions regarding their financial statement, please e-mail both our Band Treasurer at wphsbandtreasurer@gmail.com and copy both the Band Directors as well.

ATTENDANCE

Band students are required to attend all rehearsals and performances. As a co-curricular course, rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the educational process, and are a graded component. An absence necessitates repeating educational instruction when the student returns, as well as eliminating the opportunity to develop blend, balance, cohesion and precision with the other students in the ensemble. Equally as important, students must be on time for all Band functions. Learning to be early now will establish a life skill that is critical to success beyond high school. **A complete Band calendar can be found at www.winterparkhsband.com. It is the responsibility of both the students and parents to be aware of Band events.**

EXCUSED ABSENCE FROM REHEARSAL

Band members will not be excused from rehearsals except in cases of extreme emergency or illness. In these extreme cases, a parent/guardian is required to e-mail both Mr. Clemente (Michael.Clemente@ocps.net) AND Ms. O'Rourke (Raegan.Orourke@ocps.net) as quickly as possible. Emails from a student will not be accepted as reason for the absence. Appointments, meetings, work, homework, and vacations, etc., will generally not be valid excuses for missing a rehearsal. If an unavoidable absence from rehearsal is anticipated (i.e. a family wedding or family reunion), a parent needs to e-mail a written notification to the directors at least 60 days prior to the absence. Because of the missed material, excessive absences (excused or unexcused) may result in a student being placed on alternate status.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE FROM REHEARSAL

Any student receiving an unexcused absence for a rehearsal will receive a zero for that rehearsal. Likewise, being tardy to a rehearsal will also result in a lowering of the overall participation grade based on the severity of the tardiness. An unexcused absence may result in the student being placed on alternate status and unable to perform at the next performance for student safety. It is important that an excused school-day absence (i.e. illness) should be communicated to the high school Attendance Office as quickly as possible. Unexcused school-day absences result in a zero for that day's rehearsal grade. **Please refer to Attendance Office policy to excuse any absence.**

TARDY TO REHEARSAL/PERFORMANCE

Attendance will always be taken promptly at the beginning of a rehearsal or at call time before a performance. A student arriving late will lose points towards their grade. If a student is habitually late for rehearsals, they may be placed on alternate status and the appropriate school discipline policies will be enforced. Any student arriving late for a football game performance will lose their third-quarter break.

ABSENCE FROM PERFORMANCE

Performances are a central focus of the Band Program, and every student is obligated to attend every performance**. Severe personal illness, death in the immediate family, and discretion of the directors or building principal will be accepted as legitimate excuses if the directors are notified in advance by the parents/guardians.**

Please review the Band Calendar online at www.winterparkhsband.com and coordinate with your family calendar. In the event that a student needs to miss a performance for any other non-emergency reason, the parents/guardians must notify both directors at least 60 days prior.

BAND AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

With regard to extra-curricular activities (athletics, clubs, etc.): most conflicts between extra-curricular activities and Band can be avoided, or alleviated, when **advanced planning** is done, and advance notice is given. It is critical for students and parents to coordinate their extra-curricular activity's schedule with the Band calendar well in advance. When a conflict is unavoidable, the two events will be weighted for "importance." For example, a Band **performance** would outweigh an extra-curricular **practice/rehearsal**. A **game** would outweigh a Band **rehearsal**, etc. **Again, advanced communication is critical to avoiding conflicts!**

ALTERNATE STATUS (MARCHING BAND)

It is imperative that all members of the Sound of the Wildcats be present at all rehearsals and performances. We understand that students get sick and that unforeseen emergencies may come up, however, our success as an organization is dependent on attendance. Even one person missing from a rehearsal or performance affects all members. Each member is relied upon heavily to maintain their responsibilities in the drill. We cannot improve the show or make changes when we have holes in our drill at rehearsal. Holes at performances drastically affect the confidence of the performing members around that missing person, which in turn affects the confidence of the entire ensemble. **Everyone is vital to the success of the whole!**

It is necessary to use alternates as part of the Sound of the Wildcats. Alternates are students that are members of the Sound of the Wildcats and the Winter Park Band Program, but do not have a designated position in the show for one or more musical selections. Students are placed on alternate status for a number of reasons that may include: not being cleared through FHSAA athletic clearance, absence from part or all of summer Band Camp, unexcused absence from one or more rehearsals, frequent tardiness to rehearsals or performance, or not turning in Band paperwork and fees. **Alternates are required to be at rehearsals and performances, as all of these students will perform.** Alternates will be added into the drill once they are cleared through FHSAA, if applicable. Alternates are members of the Sound of the Wildcats and are therefore responsible for learned material.

IB AND AP TESTING

During the end-of-year IB and AP testing schedule, Band students are asked to be in rehearsal whenever not actively sitting for an exam. Due to a shortened spring and an earlier end-of-school release date, it is necessary for some performances to fall within this time period.

BAND ROOM AND REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS

- There is to be no **FOOD** or **DRINK** in the Band Room at any time. This includes backpacks and Band lockers. Water is always acceptable.
- Due to the many thousands of dollars of instruments and equipment in the Band Room, **only current Band students are invited to be in the Band Room at any time of day.**
- Respect the property of others. If it is not yours, do not touch it without permission of the owner!
- Instrument Lockers
    - **OCPS does not have insurance to cover lost or stolen personal property.**
    - Students are responsible for the cleanliness and safety of all items in their lockers.
    - All students will receive a locker with combination lock at the beginning of the school year. These locks belong to the school, and lost locks are $10.00 to replace.
    - **Keep your locker locked at all times – including during rehearsals and performances.**
    - Food or drink are not permitted in the lockers or locker room at any time.
    - Items that can be kept in your locker include: instruments, music, mutes, marching rehearsal clothes, flip folders, and pencils.
    - Marching rehearsal clothes may be stored in lockers the day of marching band rehearsals and/or performances, but then must be brought home on non-rehearsal/performance days.
    - Locker checks will be done periodically by Personnel Crew and Directors.
    - Failure to keep your locker clean may result in a loss of privileges – namely, the privilege of having a locker to use.
    - The directors reserve the right to enter any locker as needed.
- Percussion equipment is to be used only by percussionists, and all percussion equipment is to be covered and organized at the end of every rehearsal. **Unless you have specific permission from one of the Band Directors, only percussionists are to be in the Percussion Storage Room at any time.**

Concert Rehearsals

- All concert band and jazz band daily rehearsals begin 2 minutes after the tardy bell. **Use of the restroom is to be done prior to the tardy bell. With the current bell schedule, this gives you 8 minutes to be ready and prepared for class.**
- If there is an emergency need for the restroom during rehearsal, please **ask a director before leaving**.
- Every student must have their music, instrument, pencil, and all necessary equipment (i.e. reeds and mutes) at every rehearsal.
- **A professional rehearsal environment will be expected at all times. Please stay focused on the task at hand!**
- No gum chewing during any rehearsal (or in the Band Room in general).
- A rehearsal outline will generally be posted on the Smart Board at the beginning of the rehearsal. **Please read it and be prepared before the start of rehearsal!** Percussion should check the board as you come into the Band Room so that the section may be properly prepared.
- The only materials allowed in the rehearsal area are your instrument, music, pencil, and necessary equipment. **Please leave cases, books and/or backpacks around the perimeter of the Band Room.**
- Additional after school rehearsals are required to combine winds and percussion of each concert ensemble before a performance. Like all co-curricular rehearsals and performances, these rehearsals are a graded component of the Band class and attendance is required. Please review the attendance policy.

Marching Rehearsals

- **Tuesdays:** 3:15 PM – 6:30 PM
- **Game Days:** 2:45 PM – 5:00 PM (*if no football game that week, this rehearsal shifts to Thursday)*
- **All students are expected to keep up with any missed work and/or instruction. This includes learning (on your own time) any drill or music missed due to an absence.** Because Mondays and Wednesdays are free of organized Marching Band rehearsals, it is highly recommended that students use that time after school to hold occasional sectionals, and for individuals who may have missed a marching band rehearsal to catch-up and review the work that was missed.
- Students will be marked tardy if they are not on their spot on the field at the starting time of rehearsal listed above. Arrive early so you can get your equipment and instrument out to rehearsal with plenty of time to spare.
- Every student must have their music binder, instrument, pencil, dot card, flip folder, water jug, and all necessary equipment (i.e. reeds) at every rehearsal, even if the student has "everything memorized." **This is part of your daily rehearsal grade.**

- **A professional rehearsal environment will be expected at all times. Please stay focused on the task at hand!**
- No gum chewing during any rehearsal.
- Rehearsal dress for marching band should be appropriate, comfortable clothing. Comfortable, lace-up athletic shoes and socks are a must for every marching rehearsal. Members without appropriate rehearsal dress will not be permitted to march and will have their rehearsal grade deducted.
- Students are required to have a container of water (minimum of ½ gallon) at all rehearsals. All students are provided with a jug from the Band program. If the provided jug is lost or damaged, students are responsible for paying for a replacement, $15.00.

PERFORMANCES

The complete Band calendar for the school year can be found at www.winterparkhsband.com. In addition, information regarding these events will be included in the newsletters, posted on the bulletin board outside of the Band Room, and discussed during rehearsals. **It is the student's and parent/guardian's responsibility to stay informed and up-to-date on this information.** The Band calendar does allow for downloading into a mobile calendar (i.e. Google Calendar or iCal), and it is recommended that everyone do this (both students and parents). Along those lines, students will be directed to sync the Band calendar to their school-owned laptop devices during the first week of school.

Concerts

Unless stated otherwise, the "call-time" for any concert will be 30 minutes prior to the concert start-time. At that time, students should be fully dressed and ready to walk on stage/perform. Marching Band call-times will vary depending on the week's schedule. **All Band students are required to attend all Band concerts for their ensemble, even if they are not performing (i.e. an injury preventing them from performing).**

Football Games

The "Sound of the Wildcats" performs at all varsity football games. SOTW has game day rehearsals immediately following school on days of a varsity football game. Students will be fed a meal before changing into uniform and getting ready to depart for the stadium, home or away.

The Band is generally the last group on campus following a football game, and the gates and building alarms cannot be secured until everyone has cleared the grounds. Please plan rides and pick-up times accordingly. Students are asked to contact their "ride home" at the conclusion of the game, and parents are asked to be punctual in picking up their child. All students must be picked up within 30 minutes of our return time to school, in accordance with OCPS supervision policy which reads:

> *OCPS employees are not responsible for supervising students who arrive on school grounds more than thirty (30) minutes before school or thirty (30) minutes before a school-sponsored activity is scheduled to begin or students remaining on school grounds more than thirty (30) minutes after school or thirty (30) minutes after the school-sponsored activity ends.*

All-State Band

The All-State Bands are ensembles drawn from the finest musicians in the state of Florida. They perform at the Florida Music Educators Association (FMEA) convention in Tampa. Participation in the All-State Band is a great honor! In the past, Winter Park has provided many of the All-State instrumentalists. All students are encouraged to audition, and it is an expectation for all Wind Symphony and Jazz Ensemble I members. **Auditions are held in September each year.** Audition information is generally published in the early summer so that students may use the summer months to prepare.

All-County Band

The OCPS All-County Band takes place in late January, and is traditionally hosted here at Winter Park. **Auditions are held in November, and the audition materials are taken from the All-State technical etudes and scales. All Winter Park Band students are strongly encouraged to audition for All-County, and it is an expectation for all Wind Symphony and Jazz Ensemble I members.**

Solo & Ensemble MPA

The Solo & Ensemble MPA of the Florida Bandmasters Association is held in the early spring each year. **The educational experience of preparing a solo or a chamber ensemble is invaluable, and it is among the most important events of the school year.** In addition, the opportunity to perform for an audience and receive constructive comments from a qualified adjudicator is a terrific learning experience.

All Winter Park Band students are required to participate in the official district FBA Solo & Ensemble event. If a member has an excused absence for Solo & Ensemble MPA, they will perform their selected piece for the Directors for the completion of the performance.

- Members select music from the FBA Solo & Ensemble Music List. This list can be found online at www.flmusiced.org/music-lists/solo-ensemble
- Members provide an original score for the judge (numbered measures).
    - The WP Band has a limited library of solos and ensembles at school. Anyone using school-owned music must communicate with the directors to coordinate borrow an original to give to the adjudicator.
- Members provide an accompanist, if the piece calls for accompaniment.
    - Some accompanists will rehearse with members at school. Members are responsible for paying the accompanist.

- Choose ensemble partners wisely!
- Begin rehearsals early(before winter break) and rehearse regularly.

GRADING

Grading is based on general rehearsal preparedness, performances, skill mastery, and playing evaluations, and the member's grade will be determined by a combination of points that they have earned during the nine-week grading period. Band members receive a grade for each rehearsal and performance.

Grading falls into three categories – **Participation** (Rehearsal Attendance and Preparedness, 20% of final grade)**; Classwork** (Skills Assessments and Playing Assessments, 35% of final grade)**;** and **Summative Assessments** (Performances, 45% of final grade).

- **Participation** (Rehearsal Attendance and Preparedness), and **Summative Assessments** (Performances) will be graded using a 10 – 0 point system: **10** = A+ / **9** = A / **8** = B / **7** = C/ **6** = D / **5 or lower** = F
- **Classwork** (Skills Assessments and Playing Assessments, 35% of final grade) will be made up of four assignments per quarter, each worth 25 points.
    - Skill and Playing Assessments can generally be re-taken for a higher grade if performed prior to the original due date of the assessment and before the end of the marking period. Students need to initiate a request to re-take an assessment with the Band Directors.

Excused Missed Performance Make-Up Assignment

If a member has an **excused absence from the directors,** following all guidelines and communicated properly, from a performance (i.e. wedding or family reunion excused a minimum of 60 calendar days in advance), that performance must still be made-up at the discretion of the directors. As a concert performance represents weeks of hard work and preparation, the make-up assignment should reflect the same effort and attention to detail. There is no make-up assignment available for an unexcused missed performance.

Make-Up Assignment Option 1

- Research one of the pieces performed (or a composer) within the past 2 years.
- Things to include:
    1. Information about the composer.
    2. Elements of musical style, form, melody, rhythm or technique.
    3. History of the piece. Did another school commission it? Where was the first performance? Was it influenced by another piece of music, or another style of music?
- Separate cover page with name, date, and missed performance date.
- 10-page minimum (not including cover page).
- Double-spaced and 12-point Times New Roman font.
- Students should be sure that all text is in their own words and is edited for sentence structure, punctuation, etc.
- No graphics and/or pictures within the body of the paper.
- Be sure to present a clearly defined and well-researched topic.
- All make-up assignments are due within one week and one school day of the student's return to school.
- Assignment *may* be submitted as a hardcopy, or e-mailed to Mr. Clemente (Michael.Clemente@ocps.net) AND Ms. O'Rourke (Raegan.Orourke@ocps.net) before midnight on the due date.

Make-Up Assignment Option 2

- Perform your individual part from the performance you missed for BOTH Mr. Clemente and Ms. O'Rourke.
- Grading considerations include:
    - Tone quality
    - Consistent tempo
    - Correct and appropriate style
    - Technical preparation
    - Phrasing
    - Musicality
- Students must perform their part for BOTH Mr. Clemente and Ms. O'Rourke within one week of the student's return to school.

As a rule, extra-credit is not offered; however, students who attend a musical performance, and bring in a signed program, will receive extra points added to their grade. Performances could include middle school/high school concerts, professional orchestras, etc. *The signed program should be submitted on the next school day after the performance.*

The **Common Final Exam (CFE)** for Band is taken toward the end of the school year. The test given is determined based on ensemble and the number of years in Band. It should be taken seriously, as it represents 20% of the total final grade!

UNIFORMS

Marching Uniforms

Marching Band uniforms will be stored in the Uniform Room at all times. Students will dress at the school for all Marching Band performances. Students are responsible for wearing their official, current year's Band Show Shirt, white gloves (on sale before performances), black marching shoes, calf-length black socks, compression shorts, and the shako. No students will perform without all parts of the uniform.

No jewelry will be worn for marching performances. No medals or patches are permitted on the uniform – we want the Band to look the same! **Hair must be off the collar. If it is long, you must put it up under your hat. This applies to all students.**

Any part(s) of the uniform damaged or destroyed by anything other than "normal" use will be the responsibility of the student. Uniforms are very expensive (around $400 each) and need to be treated with care and respect!

Concert Attire

Option 1:

Members of the Band Program will wear a tuxedo (jacket and pants provided by the Band program) for all concert performances. **In addition to the tuxedo jacket and pants provided by the school, students are responsible for a black tuxedo shirt, black tie, cummerbund, black shoes and black socks.**

Option 2:

Members of the Band Program will wear a formal black dress (provided by the Band Program) and black dress shoes for all concert performances. **In addition to the dress provided by the school, members will wear a closed-toe black dress shoe.**

Option 3: (by request)

Members of the Band Program will wear a formal black top and black dress pants (provided by the student). Please contact the directors to set up a meeting where you will be provided with recommended options for purchase.

REPLACEMENT COSTS

There is a cost associated with the loss or damage of school-owned Band property (instruments, uniforms, music, etc.). It is important that every student treats our equipment and materials with the utmost respect at all times!

The replacement costs for school-owned property is as follows:

- Tuxedo Coat | $90.00
- Tuxedo Pants | $50.00
- Concert Dress | $100.00
- Leatherette Music Folder | $25.95
- Sheet Music | $8.00/part

TRAVEL

Throughout the course of the school year, the Band will travel to a variety of events and performances, including MPAs, football games, and other concerts. The following guidelines are to be followed on any Band trip:

- Chaperones and Student Leadership are to be treated with courtesy and respect at all times.
- A travel itinerary and procedures list will be published for each trip. It is important that these instructions be followed so the Band can move quickly, safely, and efficiently.
- Horseplay, profanity, singing, chanting, and screaming are prohibited on the bus.

- All students must travel to and from performances on buses, not in personal cars. Students who need to depart a performance with their parent or guardian need to have a parent-initiated e-mail sent to the Band Directors at least one day in advance of the performance.

- **The complete uniform is to be worn properly when in public. You are representing Winter Park High School.**

- Students are responsible for their own equipment, instruments, and music. The operations crew will load the equipment truck or buses.

- Chaperones will be in charge of each bus. They will be responsible for calling roll and maintaining good conduct.

- If an accident, injury, or illness does occur, the chaperone in charge should be notified at once. The chaperone will then notify the directors.

- **Possession or use of alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, or any illegal substance is forbidden.** There is zero-tolerance with these matters, and students will be turned over to legal authorities. Additionally, the student may also be suspended/dismissed from the Band Program.

- Proper behavior is expected when on a school-sponsored trip. **The Orange County Code of Student Conduct will be observed at all times.** Undignified conduct or reckless behavior may result in disciplinary action, suspension from school, and/or dismissal from the Band Program.

BAND AWARDS

Band Awards are given out each year as part of the annual Band Banquet.

John Philip Sousa Award
Introduced in 1955 to honor the top student in the high school band, the John Philip Sousa Band Award is in recognition of outstanding achievement and interest in instrumental music, for singular merit in loyalty and cooperation, and for displaying those high qualities of conduct that school instrumental music requires. It was created with the approval of Helen Sousa Albert and Priscilla Sousa, daughters of the famous composer and bandmaster. The band directors choose the recipient of this award, and consideration is given to seniors who excel in all areas of the Winter Park Band Program, including (but not limited to) solo & ensemble, All-State, and All-County.

Louis Armstrong Award
The Louis Armstrong Jazz Award was inaugurated in 1974 with the consent of his widow shortly after this great jazz artist died in 1971. It is in recognition of outstanding achievements in the field of jazz as demonstrated through superior musicianship, character, and individual creativity. The band directors choose the recipient of this award, and consideration is given to seniors who excel in all areas of the Winter Park Jazz Program, including (but not limited to) All-State Jazz and All-County Jazz.

Leonard Bernstein Musicianship Award
Leonard Bernstein was an American composer, conductor, author, music lecturer, and pianist. He was among the first conductors born and educated in the United States to receive worldwide acclaim. His fame originated from his long tenure as the music director of the New York Philharmonic, from his conducting of concerts with most of the world's leading orchestras, and from his music for *West Side Story*, *Candide*, *Wonderful Town*, and the motion picture *On the Waterfront*. The Leonard Bernstein Musicianship Award is given to one or more outstanding freshman Band students who demonstrate exceptional musicianship.

Quincy Jones Musicianship Award
Quincy Jones is an American record producer, conductor, arranger, composer, musician, instrumentalist, and humanitarian. His career spans six decades in the entertainment industry with a record 79 Grammy Award nominations, 28 Grammys, including a Grammy Legend Award in 1991. Jones came to prominence in the 1950s as a jazz arranger and conductor before moving on to work prolifically in pop music and film scores. The Quincy Jones Musicianship Award is given to one or more outstanding freshman Band students who demonstrate exceptional musicianship in the area of jazz.

Winter Park High School Band Service Award
The Winter Park High School Band Service Award is given to a senior Band student who demonstrates outstanding service to the Band and a positive attitude. The band directors choose the recipient, and a $250 scholarship is provided by the Band fund.

Edgar W. Williams Award
The Edgar W. Williams Award is given to a senior Band student who demonstrates outstanding musical talent, service, and dedication to the Band Program. The band directors choose the recipient, and a $250 scholarship is provided by the Band fund.

National Color Guard Award

The National School Color Guard Award recognize outstanding contributions on the field. It honors the musical contributions and dedication of student leaders whose example inspires others. This award is chosen annually by the directors.

Outstanding Class Awards
The Outstanding Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior awards are voted on by the peers in each class. The recipient receives a plaque at the Band Banquet, and their name will be added to the main award plaque on display in the Band Room.

Outstanding Guard Award
This award is voted on by all members of the Guard. The recipient receives a plaque at the Band Banquet, and their name will be added to the main award plaque on display in the Band Room.

In addition to the above, the following general awards are also presented by grade level:

- **Freshman:** "First Year Certificate"
- **Sophomore:** Band Letter
- **Junior:** Band Pin
- **Senior:** Senior Blanket

BAND COUNCIL

The Band Council serves as an advisory and support role to the Band Directors and functions as the official representatives of the Band Program. The Council will help promote group structure and morale, as well as serving as a "sounding board" for students. The Band Council will organize social events for the Band (including the Band Banquet), and may recommend changes within the Band Program. The Council will meet with the Band Directors on a monthly basis unless the Band Directors or Band President calls additional meetings.

The Council will consist of the following students:

- **President** – a senior elected by all students within the Band Program.
- **Senior Representative** – chosen by the Band's senior class.
- **Junior Representative** – chosen by the Band's junior class.
- **Sophomore Representative** – chosen by the Band's sophomore class.
- **Freshman Representative** – chosen by the Band's freshman class.
- **Drum Majors** – chosen by the Band Directors.
- **Color Guard Captain(s)** – chosen by the Color Guard Director and Band Directors

Elections for Band President, Senior Representative, Junior Representative, and Sophomore Representative will be held in the spring of each year, with the Freshman Representative chosen at the beginning of the new school year. Candidates seeking one of these positions (with the exception of Drum Major and Color Guard Captain) must be nominated for that position. Nominees will prepare a one-paragraph statement that will be used on the ballot when student voting takes place.

COMMUNICATION

The Band Program communicates to students and parents through several methods:

E-Mail
When e-mailing questions, please always e-mail **BOTH** Mr. Clemente (Michael.Clemente@ocps.net) and Ms. O'Rourke (Raegan.Orourke@ocps.net). This will increase the speed in which you will get a response!

Band Website
The Band's website is **www.winterparkhsband.com**, and it is updated every week. This is the go-to place for all information regarding the Winter Park High School Band Program.

Cut Time
All Band students have an account on Cut Time located at CutTime.net**,** and students and parents are asked to keep the contact information on this account up-to-date. You should have already gotten an email with information on how to create your Cut Time Login. If you are unable to locate that email or are generally having trouble with logging in, please email the directors.

To access Cut Time, follow these steps:

1. Go to gocuttime.com
2. Click on "Login" at top right.
3. Enter your Username or Email and Password.
4. You are now on your profile, where you can access our calendar and handouts and files.
5. Click "Update Info" tab to input or update contact information. Don't forget to click "Update" when you are finished.
6. Click the "Finances" tab to view financial statements.

Weekly Newsletter

A newsletter is generated every weekend with information about the Band Program. This weekly newsletter is generally sent out on Sundays during the school year via e-mail to students and parents. If you do not receive the e-mailed newsletter, please verify your contact information (specifically your e-mail address) on the student's Cut Time account (see above). If that does not work, please contact Mr. Clemente at Michael.Clemente@ocps.net.

Bulletin Board

The Band bulletin board is located outside of the Band Room in the 600 Building. Most of the pertinent information throughout the school year (i.e. itineraries) will be posted on this bulletin board. Students should get into the habit of looking at the board every day.