

Pleasant High School



Spartan Regiment Band Handbook 2018-2019

Service

Unity

Dedication

Attitude

Jason Frank

Director of Bands

If you have any questions about this handbook,
please contact me:

High School Office: (740)389-2389
or email me at:
jason.frank@pleasantstaff.org

The single biggest problem in
communication is the illusion
that it has taken place.

- George Bernard Shaw

I am responsible for my behavior and the results of that behavior.

I am responsible for what I become in life.

Life does not accept excuses.

I will do my best. I know I can. I am a winner.

I am somebody.

I am an integral part of the Pleasant Spartan Regiment Band.

Table of Contents

Important contact information	.....	2
Table of Contents	.....	3
Preface	.....	4
SUDA	.....	5
How to Demonstrate SUDA	.....	5
Overview of Expectations	.....	6
Basic Expectations	.....	6
Attendance	.....	7
Grading Policy	.....	8
Grading System	.....	9
Band Ensembles	.....	10
Rehearsal Procedures	.....	11
Extra Rehearsals/ Public Performances	.....	12
Travel/Trips	.....	13
Uniforms	.....	13
Music	.....	14
Equipment/Instruments	.....	15
Awards	.....	16

Preface

The success of the band program centers on pride, commitment to task, and the willingness to work hard to achieve a common goal. We do not expect every student in the band program to become a professional musician. We do expect every student to establish both short and long range goals for improvement on his/her instrument, to exhibit mature responsible attitudes and actions at all times, and to be willing to contribute lots of hard work for the benefit of all.

Members of the PHS Band develop musically, emotionally, mentally, socially, and physically during their time in the program. Objectives include character-building, commitment, cooperation, dependability, determination, discipline, leadership, punctuality, respect, responsibility, and self-control.

The band program also will develop a student's social skills. Participation in band enables the students to form close friendships within the school through their collaborative efforts. It also provides the opportunity to work with their peers as part of a team. As a member of the Pleasant Band, students make long-lasting friendships and develop a sense of camaraderie that is unique to our organization. There will be many opportunities for musical fellowship and fun through participation in band.

This handbook contains guidelines, regulations, and information to ensure the success of YOUR band. Please **read this handbook carefully** so that you may understand at the outset what is expected of you and what you should expect as a member of the band. Knowledge of the contents of this handbook will provide each student with an understanding of how he/she may best contribute to the productivity and overall success of the program, resulting in the optimum individual experience.

Commitment is what transforms a promise into reality.
It is the words that speak boldly of your intentions, and it is
making the time when there is none – coming through time after
time, year after year after year.
Commitment is the stuff character is made of, the power to
change the face of things.
It is the daily triumph of integrity over skepticism.

- Shearson Lehman Brothers

SUDA

Service	Having a giving attitude and spirit, helping out when needed.
Unity	Individual members & sections pulling together as one, striving for a common goal
Dedication	Being where you are supposed to be, when you are supposed to be there; Dressed in correct uniform for occasion.
Attitude	Having the desire to excel in performance Excitement, Enthusiasm, Desire, Pride, Self-Motivation Demonstrating good conduct Dedicating time for practice and rehearsal Showing responsibility with regard to: attendance, punctuality, care of equipment, use of the band facility.

HOW TO DEMONSTRATE SUDA

- Be the first, never the last, to rehearsals.
- Always have the needed and required rehearsal items.
- Wear appropriate rehearsal attire – proper shoes, shorts, etc.
- Demonstrate desire, spirit and enthusiasm for learning, working, and contributing.
- Be one of those students who is always “there”; a person who can be counted on.
- Prepare and master your part in advance - only your best is good enough.
- Refrain from making comments or carrying on a conversation during a rehearsal.
- Maintain silence and eye contact with Instructor or Officer in charge.
- Use “High-Intensity Listening.” (Listen and Silent are spelled with the same letters.)
- Stop and listen immediately when cut-off is given or move is completed.
- Exhibit enthusiasm and patience for practice - understand the need for repetition.
- If you experience failure, analyze it and make a plan to improve and succeed the next time.
- Turn work into fun. Enjoy rehearsing – hot, cold, or rainy.
- Try to learn something new and improve every day.
- Do your best to make those around you look and sound better.
- Be humble in your success. Demonstrate class in all situations.

Remember: “The Band will only be as good as my attitude and my contribution.”

OVERVIEW OF EXPECTATIONS

Each band member is expected to do the following:

- ❖ Attend all rehearsals and performances - the minimum expectation is 100% attendance.
- ❖ Be on time for all classes, rehearsals, and performances.
- ❖ Be prepared for rehearsals and performances. Have instrument, music and drill, pencil, extra reeds, valve oil, mutes, etc.
- ❖ Keep instrument and equipment in performance condition.
- ❖ Understand the duties of the Leaders to work with them and not against them.
- ❖ Practice regularly at home and study privately if at all possible. Practice time should be spent on scales, music, and etudes assigned by the Director or private instructor.
- ❖ Keep the band facility neat, orderly, and free of litter. Store instrument and music in assigned places, NOT ON THE FLOOR. **Do not** leave books or personal belongings in the band room.
- ❖ If you use something, PUT IT BACK (i.e. stands, chairs, music folders, etc.)
- ❖ Keep up with and be responsible for the music and equipment issued to him/her.
- ❖ Demonstrate “SUDA.”

Basic Expectations

The band has the following expectations:

1. Arrive to class on time. After the tardy bell you have 2 minutes to be seated with your instrument.
2. No gum, candy, or beverages in the classroom.
3. Be prepared with your instrument, music, and pencil every day.
4. Respect the people, equipment, and furnishings of the band room.
5. Observe all rules in the student handbook.

The principle is competing against yourself. It's about self-improvement.
About being better than you were the day before.

-Steve Young

Attendance

ATTENDANCE at all rehearsals, performances, etc. is REQUIRED. The minimum expectation is 100% attendance. As a member of the band program, you occupy an important part and space in each band function. The band works as a finely trained team, it is essential that every member be present for ALL functions which include *rehearsals, concerts, festivals, football games, parades, and out-of-town trips*. Any member who is absent makes the band less effective and has an adverse effect on the morale of the band.

Procedure for Absence

Naturally, sickness and other hardships make it necessary to miss on a rare occasion. The PARENT must notify the director as far IN ADVANCE as possible if a student must miss a rehearsal or performance by:

- Filling out a Pleasant Band Absence Form (found on band website)
- Emailing Mr. Frank with the date and reason for absence.

After following the procedure above, the absence will fall into one of three categories:

1. PERMITTED (Advance notice given was *at least* 10 school days)
Reason: PHS-sanctioned activity.
(Student does not lose points for the activity/event)
2. EXCUSED Reason: Family emergency or illness.
(Student loses points for the activity/event; make-up is allowed)
3. UNEXCUSED Any absence which is not permitted or excused.
(Student loses points for the activity/event; no make-up)

|| "The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more
|| important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than
|| circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more
|| important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company...a church...a home.
|| The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that
|| day. We cannot change our past... We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We
|| cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is
|| our attitude... I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it
|| is with you... We are in charge of our attitudes."
||
|| **-Charles Swindoll**
||

Unacceptable Excuses

<u>Excuse</u>	<u>Solution</u>
1. Had to work.	Make arrangements with your employer early.
2. Couldn't get a ride.	Be responsible. Ask other band members to take you.
3. Didn't know about it.	Be responsible. You've been given a schedule.
4. Parents leaving town.	Clear your schedules in advance. Be responsible.
5. Parents made me stay home to work on homework.	Attendance is required! This is a co-curricular, graded class!
6. Had an appointment	Please schedule appointments when there is not band rehearsal/performances.

Grading Policy

Grades will be determined by the student's point total. (See Grading System next page)

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percent</u>
A	93-100	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	0-59

That you may retain your self-respect, it is better to displease the people by doing what you know is right, than to temporarily please them by doing what you know is wrong.

- William J. H. Boetcker

GRADING SYSTEM

Band is a class and students earn grades for both in-class activities and all after-school rehearsals/performances. All students should understand that band is a co-curricular class (it has both in-school hours and after-school hours obligations). If a student does not fulfil their obligations, they will lose points for all missed rehearsals/performances through the grading period. A student's grade will be determined using the following criteria:

Rehearsal Grade

- Attends rehearsals
- Rehearses as professionals
- Follows instructions
- Uses time wisely
- Has all materials needed
- Does not waste time

Performance Grade

- Attends and participates in performances
- Properly dressed in uniform for occasion
- Has all materials needed

Test Grade

- Seating/challenge playing tests
- Scales or rudiment tests
- Rhythm tests
- Etudes given by director tests
- Assigned music part tests

**Opportunity is missed
by most people because
it is dressed in overalls
and looks like work.**

-Thomas Alva Edison

There's a difference between interest and commitment. When you're interested in doing something, you do it only when circumstance permit. When you're committed to something, you accept no excuses, only results.

- Art Turock

Band Ensembles

Marching Band

Membership is open to 9-12th grade students with prior instrumental music experience. Membership could also be forwarded to select 8th grade students at the director's discretion. Attendance at rehearsals and performances outside the school day is expected of all members during the fall quarter and a few during other parts of the year (a schedule will be provided). The marching band performs at football games and may perform at a limited number of select off campus events.

Concert Band

This ensemble rehearses daily, and performs concerts during the school year. In addition to furthering technical facility as individual musicians, great emphasis is placed on creating a unified musical expression by the entire ensemble. A variety of repertoire will be explored, in addition to relevant theoretical and historical concepts and information.

Chair placement and part assignments in each section are determined by playing assessments held at the beginning of each term. Students are encouraged to do a chair challenge if they are interested in playing a more challenging part. Concert Band is open to any student with previous instrumental music experience.

Pep Band

Pep Band performs at home basketball games during the winter basketball season. Members will perform at a limited number of rehearsals and performances outside the school day. A schedule will be provided to the students.

Jazz Band

This is a select ensemble of limited instrumentation that performs more diverse styles of music. Instruments included are saxophone, trumpets, trombones, drumset, guitar, bass guitar, and piano. Student interest and ability will determine membership in this ensemble.

If your actions inspire others to dream more,
Learn more, do more and become more,
you are a leader.

John Quincy Adams

Rehearsal time is short and every moment is used for actual rehearsal purposes. If you delay the rehearsal for as little as one minute, you have wasted a great deal of time because every other member of the band has also been forced to waste one minute.

The following guidelines are used in all fine organizations and are the foundation of our rehearsal procedure:

Instrument Storage Room

- ❖ If your instrument is not stored in this area, **do not enter at all.**
- ❖ If your instrument is stored in this area, use the following procedure:
 1. Enter
 2. Get your instrument.
 3. Exit
 4. Enter the band room before you remove the instrument from its case.
 5. Store the empty case (during rehearsal) at your seat or as directed.
 6. At the conclusion of rehearsal, return your instrument to the storage room.
 7. Place your case in its proper location.
 8. Exit immediately.

Rehearsal

1. Band members should bring the following items to all rehearsals:
 - a. instrument
 - b. all music and/or charts
 - c. Reeds, mutes, oils, cork grease, etc.
 - d. Pencil!
 - e. Other materials, as specified by the director.
2. Upon arrival to the rehearsal room, all non-productive attitudes and behavior will cease. Once in the room your main focus needs to be on having a productive rehearsal. This means that loud talking will end after admittance.
3. All personal belongings are to be left near the rails of the raised floor.
4. Band members should spend the pre-rehearsal time assembling their equipment (instrument, music, stand, etc.) necessary for rehearsal.

5. For class rehearsals, band members will have two minutes or less immediately following the tardy bell to complete their preparation for rehearsal. When the director steps on the podium, a student is considered tardy if he/she is not seated in his/her chair with the instrument, music, and stand in place.

6. When someone is on the podium, your full attention must be given to that person, nothing should be allowed to distract you. Be quiet, listen, and watch.

7. Chewing gum prevents a student from playing correctly and poses a safety risk. Chewing gum, candy, and/or the presence of any other food item will not be allowed in any part of the rehearsal room. Being caught with food or drink items indicates that you do not care about the facility or for other band members. The resultant disciplinary action will be at the decision of the band director.

8. The rehearsal room must be kept clean and orderly. It should emit a sense of pride. Store your instrument, stand and music in assigned places. The rehearsal room is not a locker room. Books and other personal belongings are not to be left in the rehearsal room or the instrument storage room.

SUPERIOR BANDS ARE THE RESULT OF SUPERIOR REHEARSALS!

I learned that the only way you are going to get anywhere in life is to work hard at it. Whether you're a musician, a writer, an athlete, or a businessman, there is no getting around it. If you do, you'll win—if you don't, you won't.

Bruce Jenner

Extra Rehearsals and Public Performances

Due to the complex nature of a quality band program, rehearsals outside of class time are sometimes necessary. Generally, such rehearsals will be scheduled well in advance so that all conflicts can be avoided. All rehearsals are required, and will be factored as part of the grade.

Most of the performances of the band are scheduled outside of school hours and are required. At times rehearsals or last minute performances may arise. The director will announce any changes in the calendar as soon as possible, and communicate these accordingly. If there is a conflict on a sudden event, then an arrangement will be worked out by the student and the director.

The golden opportunity you are seeking is in yourself. It is not in your environment; it is not in luck or chance, or the help of others; it is in yourself alone.

Orison Swett Marden

Travel/Trips

You are expected to conduct yourself properly at all times while traveling with the band. Please remember that you are representing not only yourself, but also your community, and your family. Conduct yourselves as young ladies and gentlemen, so that you can be treated as such.

While traveling with the band you must remain with the group. All students must ride the bus to and from all band functions. The time of departure and the estimated time of return will be announced no later than the day before a trip.

Dress/Uniforms

Marching Band

The PHS band uniform should provide each member with a spirit of unity and a sense of purpose and pride. You should therefore give the utmost care to the uniform and in no way become careless with it.

Each band member will be issued an official PHS Band uniform. A parent volunteer will make every effort to properly size and fit each member. Should you encounter problems with your uniform, report it immediately to a chaperone/director. The time for repairs is not the hour before a performance. The loss or destruction of the uniform, or any part thereof, will be financially assessed and charged to the student.

Each student is responsible for providing his/her own **black** shoes, **black** socks, and **clean** gloves. Shoes and gloves will be sold through the band at the start of the marching season.

Pride is a personal commitment. It is an attitude which separates excellence from mediocrity.

Unknown

Uniform regulation

1. Uniforms are to be properly hung after each use.
2. Uniforms may only be worn to official band performances.
3. Members should wear the uniform with PRIDE. When wearing the uniform:
 - a. Always have it buttoned up and zipped up.
 - b. No wrinkles.
 - c. Gloves and shoes should be clean
 - d. Band shirt must be worn under the uniform.
4. No items will be attached to the uniform when being worn representing the PHS Band.
5. Hair should be neat, well groomed, and kept out of the face.
6. Jewelry is limited to a watch, a ring, and simple stud earrings. No other visible jewelry is allowed.
7. In situations where the band is traveling and the uniform is not being worn, you are to properly hang the uniform.
8. If you are not in full uniform, you may not be allowed to perform.

Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision- the ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.

Andrew Carnegie

Music

Replacement of lost music is expensive and time-consuming. Each band member is responsible for the music issued to him/her. The following guidelines will be observed:

Marching Music

- No sharing - each student will have his/her own folder.
- When not in use, the folder - with all music in it - will be kept in the case with the instrument or in the Instrument Storage Area, never left out in the Band Room.
- Replacement of music will cost 25 cents/ page.

Concert Music

- Many folders will be shared for performance and rehearsal. Make appropriate marks neatly and in pencil.
- When not in use, the concert folders will be stored in the assigned music cabinet slot only. No other location is acceptable.
- Replacement of music varies (\$2.50-\$5.00 per piece).

Jazz Music

- Everyone will have his/her own music. There is only one of each part.
- Replacement cost of lost jazz music varies (\$2.50 - \$5.00 per piece).

To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and to endure the betrayal of false friends. To appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know that even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded.

Equipment/Instruments

- Each member is responsible for the maintenance and care of his/her instrument.
- All school-owned band equipment must be checked out through the band director. Once issued, school owned instruments become the responsibility of the student for proper care, maintenance, and protection from damage. Students using school-owned instruments will be responsible for and charged for any damages beyond normal wear and tear.
- All marching instruments must be equipped with a lyre for the performance of stand music.

Awards

Band Letter (yearly awards) – awarded to all band members completing an entire academic year of band involvement with no unexcused performance absences. The first-year award is chenille graduation numbers, second is chenille band letter, third is a chenille spartan head, fourth/fifth is a plaque. Eighth grade marching band students earn a pocket-sized chenille letter.

Additional awards will be given by the director which could include the John Philip Sousa Award, Louis Armstrong Jazz Award, Nobilemte Awards, Spartan Spirit Awards, and other awards deemed appropriate by the director.

The band students will vote on a male and female Band Leadership Award and a male and female Most Improved Award.

The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand.

Vince Lombardi