



Dear Band Parents and Students,

I am very pleased that you have made the choice of being in band at Davie High School. You are now part of one of the most successful and amazing band programs in Northwestern North Carolina. It is truly an honor and privilege to be your band director and I look forward to working with each of you this school year. I am confident that if we work together, high school band will be a positive experience for all involved.

I know this school year is full of uncertainty and may be a source of stress in our lives, but please know that band should be a safe and low stress environment. Yes, you will be challenged. Yes, you may be pushed out of your comfort zone at times, but stay positive and know that I am here to help you become better and successful musicians. My office is always open if you need anything. Don't be afraid to stop by if you need to ask for help, vent, or just chat.

This handbook has been provided to parents and students so that everyone is aware of how we operate our program. I believe it will help to keep everyone on the same page. We are the largest student organization in the county with more than 200 students in our high school band program and good communication, along with being fair and consistent, is essential.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at all. I am always happy to answer questions and discuss any concerns you may have. The first test grade for all band students is to return the attached signature page on the second day of class. If you are not on the Davie High Bands email list and would like to be, please print your email address in the space provided. Please keep this handbook for future reference and remember that it can always be downloaded from the band website, daviehighbands.com. Again, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew B. Jameson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Sincerely,

Andrew B. Jameson
Director of Bands
Email: jimesona@davie.k12.nc.us
Office Phone: 336.751.5905, ext. 5158

DAVIE HIGH BAND MOTTO

“We, the members of the Davie County High School War Eagle Band, will stand together united as a family of musicians with discipline, integrity and pride. While holding ourselves responsible for building a legacy of excellence in music, we will strengthen our work ethic, learn life lessons, exceed the expectations of the past, and set the standard for the future.”

HOW TO GET INFORMATION

WHO TO CONTACT

1. **Contact the band director (Mr. Jameson)** about anything related to band. Please **DO NOT** call the Davie High School Main office staff for information about band concerts, fundraisers, trips or other functions of the band unless it is truly an emergency. Band is one of the busiest activities at our school and with 200+ students involved in our high school band, we can very easily flood the office staff with phone calls without meaning to. Furthermore, the most up to date information is often available with the band director and the band website.

HOW TO STAY INFORMED

1. **Website:** Information will be posted on the band website for all activities we participate in. Again, our website address is **daviehighbands.com**
2. **Email List / Phone Messages:** Being on the email list and having an up to date phone number registered with the school is the best way to stay informed. Unfortunately, not all kids can be trusted to bring paper information home. We must be able to contact parents at a moments notice and this is the best way for it to happen. Please print (neatly) your email address on the signature page of this handbook or email Mr. Jameson to be placed on the list.

PLACES TO FIND INFORMATION

1. Check email from the band email group
2. On our band website click on “Monthly Newsletter” under the home tab.
3. Email us at jimesona@davie.k12.nc.us
4. Call Mr. Jameson (336.751.5905 ext. 5158)

If I have a regular planning period with no meetings, I will return phone calls during that time. Approximately one day a week teachers have a staff development meeting during that time and at times I am traveling to our middle schools to help out with their bands. As a result, I am much faster to reach by email. I receive email on my phone and computer so I am occasionally available to respond even if I am in a meeting.

MR. JIMESON’S SCHEDULE *(on a typical day)*

- 8:15 - 9:38.....Concert Band I - *Period 1*
- 9:48 - 11:11.... Symphonic Band - *Period 2*
- 11:16 - 11:56.... SMART Block
- 12:01 - 1:57.....Wind Ensemble - *Period 3*
- 2:02 - 3:25.....Planning Period - *Period 4*
- 3:45 - 5:00.....Marching Band Rehearsals (*Tuesdays and/or Thursdays as needed*)

MATERIALS FOR 2019-2020 BAND STUDENTS

CONCERT BAND

- Approved Instrument in working condition.
- Mask with proper adjustments for your instrument (*Mr. Jameson will explain*)
- **Black Three Ring Binder** with outside window (I suggest .5 inch)
- Sheet Protectors - 15-20
- Reeds for all Clarinets and Saxophones - can be purchased from Amazon
*recommended brands include, Vandoren, Gonzalez, and Legere
- Habits of Success Book - (will be delivered to students in class) (cost covered by band fee)
- Tuners with metronomes are strongly suggested for all high school band students but are not required. You can purchase these from Separk Music in Lewisville or Counter Point Music in Mocksville. If you have an iPhone you can download the “Tonal Energy” app for \$3.99. Other apps like “Pitch” are available for other devices for free.

SYMPHONIC BAND

- Approved Instrument in working condition.
- Mask with proper adjustments for your instrument (*Mr. Jameson will explain*)
- Habits of Success book from last year
- **Black Three Ring Binder** with outside window (I suggest .5 inch)
- Sheet Protectors - 15-20
- Reeds for all Clarinets and Saxophones - can be purchased from Amazon
*recommended brands include, Vandoren, Gonzalez, and Legere
- Tuners with metronome are strongly suggested OR a smartphone app with those capabilities

WIND ENSEMBLE

- Approved Instrument in working condition.
- Mask with proper adjustments for your instrument (*Mr. Jameson will explain*)
- Habits of Success book from last year if you are a junior or a senior
- **Black Three Ring Binder** with outside window (I suggest .5 inch)
- Sheet Protectors - 20-25
- Reeds for all Clarinets and Saxophones - can be purchased from Amazon
*recommended brands include, Vandoren, Gonzalez, and Legere
- Tuners with metronome are strongly suggested OR a smartphone app with those capabilities

CONCERT DRESS

Students are expected to be dressed appropriately for all concerts. Any student that does not follow the required dress strictly will not be allowed to perform and will not receive credit for the performance. The appearance of the band is important to all of us.

GENTLEMEN:

- Shirt: Black, Long Sleeved, Button-up, Collared Dress Shirt. (pressed and tucked in)
- Pants and Belt: Black Dress Slacks (absolutely no denim) and Black Belt
- Shoes and Socks: Black Dress Shoes with Black Dress Socks (absolutely no tennis shoes)
- Tuxedo Package (for Wind Ensemble members only) more details provided later

LADIES:

- Shirt: Black Dress Shirt
- Pants: Black Dress Slacks (no denim)
- Shoes: Nice Black Shoes (absolutely no tennis shoes)

BAND GRADING POLICY

It is my goal for every band student to earn an “A” in band. Grades will be based on the following criteria...

1. **PRACTICE (20%)**: A daily minimum practice requirement has been set for each performing ensemble. *Wind Ensemble* - 150 minutes per week. *Concert & Symphonic Bands* - 120 minutes per week. A daily practice goal has been set for each student of a mere 30 minutes a day on scales, and fundamentals. PERCUSSIONISTS - Some of you will play instruments that are impossible to take home daily (i.e. Timpani) so you may practice before/after school or during lunch, to meet the practice requirement. Music as well as instruments must be taken home daily. A check for instruments will be made each day by the director.
2. **REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE & MATERIALS (20%)**: Following proper concert and rehearsal etiquette is extremely important. Students must show maximum effort to earn the best grade. Students must follow all band rules and procedures. Materials include: pencils, music, and your instrument. Students who do not have these materials will be given a written musical assignment during the class period.
3. **PLAYING TESTS (19%)**: Every nine week grading period you will be required to perform some or all of your major scales and your chromatic scales from memory for the band director. These playing exams can be done during lunch or after school. You may be asked to play a passage from your ensemble music or solo at any time during class.
4. **CONCERTS / PERFORMANCES (41%)**: Attending scheduled sectionals and performances wearing correct performance attire. We will have one concert per grading period. If you do not attend a concert, you will not make any higher than a 59 on your quarter report card. There are no “make-up” assignments for a missed concert.
5. **FINAL EXAM**: The final exam will be the final concert of the semester. A written final exam will be administered to those students that do not meet the school attendance requirements.

DAILY REHEARSAL PROCEDURES

CLASSROOM ENTRANCE PROCEDURES

- **USE OF TRAVEL TIME**: Socialize and go to the bathroom on the way to class. Once you are in class you should have no need to leave unless it is an absolute emergency.
- **ENTERING THE CLASSROOM**: Enter the auditorium from the doors on the ART HALL side. Go directly to your assigned seat with your instrument, music folder, and pencil. Do not place materials in your seat and then walk away. This is when accidents occur. Have your instrument and music in your possession at all times during transition. You only have 4 minutes to be ready for class.
- **BOOK BAGS & PERSONAL BELONGINGS**: Book bags and belongings can be placed in the auditorium chair directly in front of you or on the ground *if* you are seated in the front row.

- **MATERIALS CHECK:** Instruments, music and pencils will be checked as a part of your daily rehearsal etiquette grade. Any student that does not have their instrument, music, pencil, etc. will receive a daily grade of ZERO and will be give an alternate assignment.

CLASSROOM ACTIVITES

- **FULL REHEARSAL:** Approximately 27 minutes of class time will be spent on warm-up and fundamentals. Usually the other 50 minutes will be spent in a large group rehearsal. This part of the rehearsal involves 50-70 individuals working together to do the exact same things at the exact same times. Silence is required in rehearsal and there are no exceptions to that rule. Your attention and interest in what is happening in rehearsal will determine the success of our group day to day, at concerts and at MPA.

CLASSROOM EXIT PROCEDURES

- **CLEAN-UP:** Pickup any material (paper, reeds, trash, etc.) that is in your area. Nothing can be left in your area except your chair and stand.
- **PLACEMENT OF CHAIRS & STANDS:** All chairs and stands should be placed back in the organized rows where they were found. (See the seating charts on the bulletin board if needed) If this cannot be done we will put the chairs and stands up at the end of every class.
- **ORGANIZATION OF THE PERCUSSION SECTION:** All parts of the percussion section must be placed back in the proper places, on the percussion rack, or in the storage rooms.
- **INSTRUMENTS:** All instruments have assigned locations, lockers, or spots in the storage room. Any instrument left out will be placed in the director's office and will be given back to you along with a written assignment.

INSTRUMENTS & MUSIC STORAGE

- Folders are to be stored in your bags or in your lockers. You are responsible for keeping up with your folder.
- Several students may use the same school owned instruments throughout the day. Please do not leave your personal belongings (mouthpieces, reeds, etc.) in the case unless you want other people using your things.
- All instruments have a locker or storage area that they are assigned to. They are to be stored in these assigned area when not in use. No Exceptions.
- Be careful when putting instruments in the lockers. Do not pull down or lean on the locker doors. Do not slam instrument cases down in lockers.
- You are not allowed to put locks on your lockers.

CHAIR PLACEMENT

The director will place students in chairs at the beginning of the semester. Students will be moved around at the director's discretion throughout the semester. Chair placement is NOT based on seniority. Every part is important and every performer plays a vital role in the ensemble. Remember, band is NOT about the individual, it's about the ensemble.

ABSOLUTE RULES

1. Refrain from having conversations during rehearsal without permission.
2. Questions/comments should be related to band, music, and our class.
3. Play instruments only when you are asked and stop playing when you are asked.
4. The only food or drink allowed in the band room is non-flavored water in a bottle.
5. Only percussionists are allowed to play percussion instruments (this includes the piano)
6. Keep your area clean during class and pickup all materials before you leave.
7. Keep feet off of classroom furniture.
8. Students are not allowed in the director's office, practice rooms, music library, uniform storage room without permission.
9. GUM/candy is NOT allowed in the band room/auditorium.
10. Cell phones are NOT allowed out during rehearsal unless you are using a tuner. The phone must be **put away** after tuning is over.
11. Doors to the band room are to always remain closed. If you see a door open, close it.
12. If you have time to whine, you have time to practice.
13. Always build others up. Never tear them down.

CONSEQUENCES

1. Immediate removal from playing rehearsal to do alternate assignments.
2. Parent phone call immediately following class.
3. Office Referral

WHAT IS DISCIPLINE?

Discipline is how you take pride in quiet rehearsals.

Discipline is how you march to the stadium.

Discipline is being early, not on time.

Discipline is how you enter the band room.

Discipline is how you come prepared to rehearsals.

Discipline is being a focused, musical player.

Discipline is understanding that there is a time to work and a time to play.

Discipline is taking pride in perfecting the little details.

Discipline is presenting yourself with dignity.

Discipline is choosing to be a person of good character.

Discipline is NOT yelling.

Discipline is NOT punishment.

Discipline leads to compliments.

Discipline leads to success.

Discipline leads to a tradition.

Discipline leads to sanity.

Discipline leads to togetherness.

Discipline defines who you are and what you are about.

If you have discipline, there is no need for punishment.

CELL PHONE POLICY

If Mr. Jameson sees a cell phone in this classroom being used for anything OTHER THAN TUNING during class time, it will be confiscated AND the entire class will put instruments away and will be given a written assignment.

BATHROOM POLICY

Go to the restroom BEFORE CLASS begins. You have FOUR minutes after the bell rings to be in your seat with your class materials, ready to warm-up. DO NOT ask to go to the bathroom during class unless it is an emergency.

AUDITORIUM RULES

1. NO FOOD or DRINK allowed in the auditorium
2. GUM is NOT ALLOWED
3. Keep feet off of chairs
4. Students are not allowed to use audio/lighting/video equipment unless they are properly trained.
5. Do not leave trash in the floor.
6. The stage must be swept after each use.

VANDALISM

Do your part to keep our facility and equipment clean. Encourage other students to do the same. Vandalism of school property is a serious infraction and will have extremely serious consequences. Some students may not consider writing on stands and chairs or drawing on walls as vandalism. It is school property, however. Please consider, as you contemplate any form of vandalism, I consider these immediate grounds for office referral and removal from band permanently. Our facility and equipment are not great but they are in good condition. It should remain that way.

BROKEN INSTRUMENT / FORGOTTEN INSTRUMENT POLICY

Every student is expected to be in class each day with an instrument in working condition. This is the most important part of being successful in band. Not having an instrument will result in loss of daily materials and rehearsal etiquette grades. If your instrument breaks and it is necessary to take it to a repair shop, you must bring a note from home AND a note from the repair shop. If you take your instrument to be repaired KEEP your mouthpiece and music. There is always a possibility an instrument can be provided for you to use until your is returned to you. Students that do not have an instrument with them and forget to bring the parent/repair shops notes, mouthpiece and music will be given an alternate assignment.

SICKNESS AND PLAYING IN CLASS

If students are at school, they are expected to participate in rehearsal. Students sometimes assume that they cannot play an instrument if they have cold. Playing an instrument while slightly ill will not add to the symptoms or progress the cold in anyway. A doctor's note is required to excuse a student from playing their instrument.

COVID-19 Safety Protocols for Band

- Self-isolation – if you are sick, stay home.
- Everyone must wear a mask *at all times*. When possible, a mask with a small slit for the mouthpiece should be worn while playing for all instruments except flutes, string bass, & percussion.
- Bell covers are highly recommended as "masks" for the instruments. Bell covers can be made of multi-layered high denier nylon material and provide a barrier for aerosols.”
- Practice social distancing of at least six feet to the greatest extent possible.
- Wash hands frequently (20 seconds with soap and water or use of a sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol).
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces or remove unnecessary frequently touched surfaces.
- Limit numbers of students in instrument storage areas at any one time. Students should use 70% alcohol wipes to clean up touched surfaces in the storage room and discard the wipe on the way out of the storage room.
- Avoid touching of eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze and throw used tissues away immediately after use.
- Avoid sharing of any equipment (i.e. percussion mallets, sticks, and accessories). Any equipment that must be shared (i.e. keyboard instruments, etc.) needs to be disinfected before and after each use.
- Minimize the use of soft surfaces like cloth covered chairs or area rugs that are more difficult to clean or disinfect.
- Do not release water and “spit” from instruments onto the floor. Consider using disposable cloth or containers
- Directors consider using a portable amplifier to keep your voice at a low conversational volume with a mask.
- Students should all face the same direction to minimize exposure.
- Trombones should have an additional three feet of distancing to accommodate the extension of the slide making their space 9x6 instead of 6x6.
- Outdoor rehearsals are best when possible - for marching and concert bands. A large outdoor tent would help shelter students from the sun while maintaining better circulation of air.



Band Handbook Acknowledgement Form
(Due the 2nd day of class - for a grade!)

I have received the Davie High School Band Handbook and I understand the grading policy, what materials are needed for the involvement in the band program, procedures for contacting the director and all other contents.

Student Name: (print) _____

Parent Signature: _____

Please provide your email address and contact information below for the band email group. Our monthly newsletter, information about concerts, fundraising dates and pickups and all other functions of the band will be communicated through this email group, the band website and by

NAME: (print clearly)	EMAIL: (print clearly)



Band Booster Parent Interest Form

Parent Name(s) _____

Student Name _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Email _____

There is no membership fee to join the band boosters. We simply ask that you support your child and the band by attending all the concerts throughout the year and volunteer in some form below.

I am interested in helping with...(check all that apply)

- Donate water for football games
- Helping serve food during 3rd quarter
- Chaperoning away games
- Driving an activity bus
- Pulling a band trailer
- Loading equipment on trailers
- Setting up for concerts
- Packing up after concerts
- Helping with end of the year band banquet
- Coming to booster meetings
- Becoming a board member