



## **2009-2010 HANDBOOK**

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**C**ommunicate

**E**xecute rehearsal procedures

**N**o excuses, only results

**T**ake ownership

**R**espect property and others

**A**ttend all rehearsals and performances

**L**isten

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Participation in the Davenport Central High School Band Program requires a strong commitment to all scheduled events. All members are a vital component of each and every performance. Attendance at all rehearsals directly impacts the quality of these performances.

Please examine the calendar carefully to avoid conflicts. Work schedules, other non-school activities, and family trips must not interfere with the schedule. Students who enroll in other school activities such as athletics, choir, drama, etc. need to plan ahead to resolve unavoidable conflicts. The band directors will work together with other teachers, coaches, and other activity directors to work out potential conflicts. Each student will be given **every** opportunity to participate in other activities. Jobs are not an excused absence for rehearsals and will not be approved. **Plan Ahead!!**

### **Absences**

All absences must be approved 1 week prior to the rehearsal and require a parent/guardian to complete and *Absence Request Form*. ALL forms must be submitted to Mr. Hatcher or Mr. Wilga at least one week prior to the absence. In case of a family emergency, see Mr. Hatcher or Mr. Wilga. Excused absences include:

- Illness
- Death in the Family
- Weddings
- Religious Events

### **Performances**

**ATTENDANCE AT PERFORMANCES IS MANDATORY!!** Any absences from a performance will directly affect a student's grade and their participation in any other ensembles in the future. An *Absence Request Form* must be completed no later than 4 weeks prior to the performance to be considered as an excused absence. An excused absence will require the student to make up the performance grade through a music research project. If there are any questions, please contact Mr. Hatcher or Mr. Wilga.

### **Tardy Policy**

Please refer to DCHS Student Handbook for the school tardy policy. Lateness to extra-curricular rehearsals or performances may affect the student's grade or forfeit their opportunity to perform.

## **GRADING POLICY**

### **Habits of Work (40%)**

"Habits of work" is a broad idea that encompasses such criteria as daily preparedness and responsibility. Students are expected to make daily improvements in their abilities and work habits. Musical ensembles will define this area further to meet specific expectations unique to their ensemble. An unexcused absence and tardies from a rehearsal, class, or sectional (during school or outside of regular school hours) will affect this portion of the final grade.

### **Performances (30%)**

This portion of the student's grade is based on attendance to the given performance. It is expected that every student be prepared both technically and mentally for each performance. The primary focus of daily rehearsals is to prepare for performances. Therefore, the penalty for an unexcused absence from a performance will be significant and appropriate. Each musical organization's performance is judged by our school, community, families and, in some cases, judges. One person's absence affects the entire ensemble's performance. You will have a schedule of events in advance; take care of problems before they happen!! An **unexcused absence** from a performance will result in a zero for the performance grade, plus a deduction of one letter grade.

### **Testing/Assessment/Assignments (30%)**

Regular testing and assessment will occur in each ensemble as prescribed by the directors. Both playing and written tests will take place. Also, assignments will be given to enhance musical knowledge and understanding.

### **Extra-Credit**

The following activities are options for students to receive extra credit toward their grade. Each activity must be approved for extra credit prior to its completion.

- All-State, SEIBA, or IBA Honor Band auditions
- Attendance at professional or collegiate band concerts
- District Solo and Ensemble
- Performing in an outside group on your primary band instrument

***The Grading Rubric can be seen in the CHS Student Handbook located in the student planner.***

**Receiving an "A" in band is as simple as showing up, being responsible, and a coming to rehearsal prepared.**

## **REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE**

All band members will be present in their seats or in “block band” (marching band) at the designated time for rehearsal. This simple procedure involves each member arriving 10 minutes before the scheduled “outside of school” rehearsal time. They should assemble equipment and music, take their place in the rehearsal setup and perform their personal warm-up or work on “trouble spots” in the music to be rehearsed. During regular class, two minutes will be allotted to assemble equipment and be seated in their assigned spot.

All talking and warm-up should cease when the director steps on the podium. During the rehearsal you will be expected to give your undivided attention and cooperation to the director. When rehearsing of individual sections takes place, all other sections should sit quietly and listen to instructions being given to that section. Stops happen to advise individuals and sections on problems that are heard during the rehearsal. Unnecessary talking cuts down on the effectiveness of the rehearsal and it wastes all of our valuable time.

**Students must have the following at all rehearsals:**

- **Instrument**
- **Accessories (Reeds, mouthpieces, neck strap, any accessory required to perform in class)**
- **Music and Folder**
- **Pencil (No Pens)**
- **Tennis Shoes (Marching Band)**
- **Dot Books (Marching Band)**

***Failure to have any of the above items will result in loss of “Habits of Work” points.***

## **DETENTIONS**

Detentions will be given for tardiness to rehearsals/performance, class disruptions, or inappropriate behavior/language. All detentions will need to be served within 3 days of receipt. Detentions take place before or after school in the band room as scheduled with the directors. This is a punishment, in which the offending students will perform various tasks that will contribute to the band program. Failure to show up for assigned detentions will result in referral to the dean.

## **ATTITUDE**

Those students who have a positive mental attitude, regardless of their individual skills, will always have a place in the Davenport Central Band. Regardless of your ability, if your attitude is not positive and you are not doing your personal best to make the group successful, you should not be a part of this organization. Students who do not project an attitude that is positive and cooperative will be given the opportunity to change their personal perspective or else leave the organization. Those who have personal pride will generally project a positive mental attitude. Having a positive mental attitude includes an eagerness to do what is necessary to be successful.

**The total band member is someone who is always willing to give his or her best for the good of the whole!**

## **LOCKERS**

Each student will be assigned a locker and padlock for instrument storage. The lock will be returned at the end of the year. Loss or damage of a lock will result in a \$5.00 replacement fee. Locker combinations are given out once; please write it down somewhere, such as in your planner. Continuous issuance of a combination will result in the loss of a locker. Students must have a name label on their locker. The lockers are for instruments and music supplies only. Clothes, shoes, books, people or other items are to be kept out of band lockers. Abuse of this rule will result in loss of locker privileges.

## **SCHOOL INSTRUMENTS**

All school-owned instruments will be issued to you through the Director. Students needing to rent an instrument will be assigned one based upon availability. The student and parent will fill out and sign the rental agreement and pay a **\$40.00** rental fee per year. This fee covers normal maintenance of the instruments. While in student possession, any damage beyond normal wear and tear (due to accident, negligence, or carelessness) will be the responsibility of the student. Make checks payable to *Central High School*.

***NOTE: The school does not insure privately owned instruments. Individuals must use their homeowner's insurance policies to get these instruments insured. Central High School and Davenport Community Schools do not take responsibility for damaged or stolen instruments due to negligence.***

## **PERCUSSION**

All percussionists will be responsible to pay a \$30 instrument maintenance fee. This fee will be paid along with a percussion instrument care agreement. All percussionists are required to supply their own mallets and sticks. Please refer to the required instrument accessories list to know what to purchase. Instruments are provided by the school.

## **MUSIC**

All Central High School Band students will receive a copy of the music being rehearsed by their respective band, plus a music folder to store the music. It is each student's responsibility to keep the music in mint condition. Students may write notes on the music with a pencil only. Any damaged or lost music will be replaced at the student's expense.

## **TRIP PERMISSION AND MEDICAL CONSENT FORMS**

Before a student is allowed to travel with the band, trip permission and medical consent forms must be complete by a parent or guardian. The permission forms acknowledge that students and parents/guardians are aware of the terms and policies of the trip. All forms are kept confidential and information is only released to proper authorities in the event of a medical emergency while on a music trip.

## **PARTICIPATION FEE**

There is a participation fee of \$30 that must be paid to Central High School Bands at school registration. This fee covers curricular expenses, such as the purchase of music repertoire and other materials needed for music instruction. This is a one time yearly fee for students enrolled in band. This fee is paid through the school activity office.

## **MARCHING BAND FEES AND TRIP FEES**

Marching Band and Trip Fees are set in April before the fall season. A payment plan is devised to help families manage their budget. Fees need to be up to date for the student to be able to travel and perform with the band. The fees include bussing, housing, music and drill writing, show design, competition registration, and auxiliary instruction. Please refer to the Marching Band Fee Schedule for more information. Marching Band and Trip Fees are non-refundable.

*We make every attempt to limit the amount of fees charged to students to participate in band activities. Every year it is a challenge to keep it economical and still provide for our students. Please be aware that **NO** student will be kept out of a band activity due to financial difficulties. Anyone needing assistance must contact one of the Directors. All conversations are confidential and we will find the necessary aid for anyone in need.*

## **LESSONS**

All 9<sup>th</sup> grade band students are required to take individual weekly lessons throughout the school year. Lesson attendance and progress will be reflected in the “Habits of Work” and “Assessment” grade category. Students taking private lessons outside of school may fill out a *Lesson Exemption Form* with private teacher contact information. The directors will periodically contact private teachers for progress reports on students.

Students not taking private lessons must take a weekly lesson with Mr. Hatcher or Mr. Wilga. Mr. Hatcher’s lessons will take place during 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> blocks. Mr. Wilga’s lessons will take place during 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> blocks. If a student misses a lesson, makeup times are available before and after school. A minimum of 4 lessons per term are required. Lesson grades will be entered each week.

## **WEBSITE**

The CHS Bands website, [www.dcbands.org](http://www.dcbands.org), will be used as a way of communication and education reference to students and parents. Students will be held accountable for information presented on the website, such as announcements, assignments, and the calendar. The website will be updated every Sunday for information on the week ahead.

## **NEWSLETTERS**

Periodically, newsletters will be handed out to all students. Newsletters contain such information as announcements, news, and itineraries. Students and parents will be held responsible in understanding and knowing the information presented in the newsletters.

## **AWARDS**

Davenport Central band students may earn a variety of awards and merits each year.

*Davenport Central Marching Blue Devil Award*  
*Marching Band Merit Awards*

*Louis Armstrong Jazz Award*  
*John Philip Sousa Band Award*

Students participating in band and other instrumental activities may earn points toward a varsity letter. These points are tabulated each year and added to the cumulative total. After the letter is achieved, students may earn points toward additional gold bars.

## **UNIFORMS**

Marching band uniforms are fitted and assigned during August camp days. At this time, students purchase, if not already owned, shoes and gloves. The uniform cleaning fee is also paid at checkout. Students will be responsible for taking their uniform home and bringing it to performances and trips.

Marching jackets, pants, hats, and hat boxes are returned after the final marching band performance. At this time, missing or severely damaged uniform pieces must be replaced at the student's expense.

Concert attire is fitted at the beginning of the year by the Davenport Central Vocal Boosters. Boys purchase a tuxedo shirt; girls purchase a black formal dress. These items cannot be substituted for other dress shirts or dresses. At concerts, **boys will wear the tux shirt with plain black pants, belt, black dress shoes, and black dress socks.** Girls will wear the **black formal dress with black dress shoes.**

*Failure to have any or all parts of the uniform will result in students not being able to perform.*

## **MARCHING BAND UNIFORM GUIDELINES AND RULES**

Our uniforms are very slim fitting thus no clothing will be worn under the uniform except for those listed below.

Pants are never to be cut off or hemmed, this will be taken care of by uniform distribution personnel.

Uniforms will be turned in periodically to be washed by designated individuals. If your uniform is extremely soiled, please notify the uniform chairman and they will do the cleaning. We ask that no students or parents wash these uniforms.

At no time shall a uniform be pressed with an iron!! This will ruin them!

### UNIFORM PROCEDURES FOR STUDENT MEMBERS

1. Section leaders will check with each person in their section to make sure each has his or her instrument and all parts of his/her uniform upon arrival at football games and contest days.
2. Make sure your shoes, instrument case and all belongings have your name on them.
3. You should remain in full uniform (minus hat) at all times at performances, unless otherwise directed.
4. When hats are not on your head they are held in your left hand with the brim towards the front and the plume/top up. **Never** are they carried by the strap or place on your head backwards.
5. After you are dismissed following any performance, you are to take off your uniform and hang it up properly on your hanger, place your uniform and shoes into your garment bag. Your hat goes into its carrying case. Place gloves and gauntlets into your bag. Once everything is hung up properly in the bag, **HANG THE BAG UP! DON'T STUFF IT IN YOUR TRUNK AND FORGET ABOUT IT UNTIL THE NEXT PERFORMANCE. IT WILL NOT LOOK GOOD!!** Each student is responsible for keeping up with all parts of their uniform. You lose parts, you pay for the part.
6. **No jewelry is to be worn while in uniform.**
7. **There will be no public displays of affection while in uniform.**
8. **There will be no drinking or eating in uniform. The only liquid allowed to be consumed in uniform is water.**
9. Hair that reaches below your collar must be worn up in the hat.
10. Always wear a plain white t-shirt under your uniform jacket.
11. **ABSOLUTELY NO JEANS, PANTS, BULKY SHORTS, SWEATSHIRTS OR BULKY CLOTHING OF ANY KIND WILL BE ALLOWED UNDER YOUR UNIFORM.** Wear long underwear for warmth on cold performance days.
12. On days of performances, all band students should wear boxer shorts or gym shorts to make it easier when changing clothes.
13. Calf high, **BLACK** socks, will be worn with the uniform.
14. Failure to have **ALL** uniform parts for a performance will prevent the student from performing with the band.

**Any violation of these rules may require the student to pay for the uniforms or prevent them from performing with the rest of the group.**

## **Recommended Instruments/Accessories List**

It is recommended that high school students do not use their “beginning band” instrument past the 8th grade. Those instruments are designed for smaller bodies and are built to withstand the physical abuse that young students may inflict on them. Better quality instruments and accessories enable all students to learn more quickly and with greater ease. They are a necessity for each student to reach their full potential. The instruments and accessories listed below are highly recommended:

**Flute:** Yamaha 581 or 581 H

**Oboe:** Loree

**Bassoon:** Fox Renard

**Clarinet:** Buffet R-13; *Mouthpieces:* Vandoren 5RV or Vandoren M13; *Ligatures:* Rovner Dark Ligature or Vandoren Optimum; *Reeds:* Vandoren V12 or Legere Synthetic

**Bass Clarinet:** *Mouthpiece:* Selmer C\*; *Ligature:* Rovner C3RL or C1R; *Reeds:* Vandoren or Legere Synthetic

**Alto Sax:** Selmer 52 SA-80; *Mouthpiece:* Selmer S80; *Ligature:* Rovner C1RL or Rovner Dark; *Reeds:* Vandoren

**Tenor Sax:** Selmer 54 SA-80; *Mouthpiece:* Selmer S80(Tenor); *Ligature:* Rovner C-2M; *Reeds:* Vandoren

**Trumpet:** Bach Stradivarius 180S (43 Bell); *Mouthpieces:* Bach 3C or 7C

**Horn:** Conn 10D or Holton H181, *Mouthpieces:* Laskey or Holton Farkas

**Trombone:** Bach 42BO; *Mouthpieces:* Bach 6 ½ AL or 3C

**Euphonium:** *Mouthpieces:* Denis Wick or Bach 6 ½ AL (Large Shank)

**Tuba:** *Mouthpieces:* Laskey or Schilke

**Percussion:** *Concert Snare Sticks:* Vic Firth 2B’s or Tom Gaugers; *Timpani Mallets:* Vic Firth Staccato or Ultra-Staccato; *Yarn Mallets:* Vic Firth M2’s or M10’s; *Plastic Mallets:* Vic Firth M7’s

*(Caution: Be aware of instruments from certain nation-wide retailers!! They may seem to have a good value, but it is too good to be true. These instruments are not as durable, their sound quality is poor, they will hinder students’ development, and once broken, they may not be able to be repaired.)*

*Also, it is highly recommended that all students have a metronome and all wind players have a tuner*

## **REQUIRED Supplies**

*ALL STUDENTS should have the following supplies/accessories for their instrument:*

**Woodwinds:** 4 or more good reeds at all times (*always save your best reed for concerts*), mouthpiece (*even if you rent an instrument, it is necessary to have your own mouthpiece*), cork grease, cleaning cloth(flute), swab (clarinets and saxes).

**Brass:** A quality metal straight mute (*tpt, hn*), mouthpiece (*tpt, hn, tbn, euph*); cleaning supplies (*cleaning cloth, mouthpiece brush, cleaning snake*), valve oil, and slide cream.

**Percussion:** Snare sticks, timpani mallets, xylophone mallets, yarn mallets (marimba), and a stick bag.

## **Retailers**

**West Music**, 4305 44<sup>th</sup> Ave, Moline, IL 61265; 309-764-9300; [www.westmusic.com](http://www.westmusic.com)

**Griggs Music**, 3849 N Brady St, Davenport, IA 52806; 563-391-9000; [www.griggsmusic.com](http://www.griggsmusic.com)

**Woodwind Brasswind**, Online only: [www.wwbw.com](http://www.wwbw.com)

**eBay:** There is always a chance for good deals on eBay, however, buyer beware. [www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com)

Representatives from West Music and Griggs Music stop by Central every week if you would like to ask questions or have the directors ask questions for you. West Music does have a great reed ordering system, in which a student can fill out a form, bring in a check with the form, and have reeds delivered the following week.

*Please contact the directors if you have any questions.*

# 2009-2010 Performance Schedule

## Concert Bands and Jazz Bands

<b>October 24</b>	All-State Auditions – Fairfield, IA (ALL DAY) – <i>Select Students</i>
<b>November 19-21</b>	All-State Honor Band – Ames, IA – <i>Select Students</i>
<b>December 1</b>	District Holiday Concert – Lyceum Hall (7pm) – <i>Symphonic Band Brass</i>
<b>December 16</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Concert – Kahler Auditorium (7pm) – <i>Cadet Band</i>
<b>January 9</b>	SEIBA Honor Band Auditions – Fairfield, IA (ALL DAY) – <i>Select Students</i>
<b>January 13</b>	10-12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Winter Concert – TBA (7pm) – <i>Varsity and Symphonic Band</i>
<b>January 23</b>	SEIBA Honor Band Festival – Iowa City (ALL DAY) – <i>Select Students</i>
<b>January 30</b>	IHSMA State Jazz Band Festival – Clinton (TBA) – <i>Jazz Bands</i>
<b>February 20</b>	WIU Jazz Invitational – Macomb, IL (ALL DAY) – <i>Jazz Band 1</i>
<b>March 6</b>	SEIBA Jazz Band Festival – Iowa City (TBA) – <i>Jazz Bands</i>
<b>March TBA</b>	Jazz and Percussion Extravaganza – Kahler Aud. – <i>Jazz Bands and Percussion</i>
<b>April 8, 9, 10</b>	CHS Variety Show – Kahler Aud. (7pm) – <i>Symphonic Band, Jazz Bands, and Percussion</i>
<b>April 15</b>	Solo/Ensemble Recital Night – CHS Band Room (7pm) – <i>Select Students</i>
<b>April 17</b>	IHSMA Solo/Ensemble Festival – West (ALL DAY) – <i>ALL BAND STUDENTS</i>
<b>April 23</b>	Cedar Rapids Concert Band Festival – CR-Jefferson (TBA) – <i>Symphonic Band</i>
<b>May 5</b>	Final Band Concert – TBA (7pm) – <i>Jazz and Concert Bands</i>
<b>May 8</b>	IHSMA State Large Group Festival – Bettendorf (ALL DAY) – <i>All Concert Bands</i>

*PLEASE REFER TO THE MARCHING BAND SCHEDULE FOR MARCHING BAND EVENTS.  
PEP BAND PERFORMANCES WILL DIFFER FROM THIS SCHEDULE.  
ALL PERFORMANCES ARE MANDATORY FOR EACH STUDENT INVOLVED.*

*V. 8/26/09*

**Among the policies stated in this handbook, the student conduct code and school policies apply.**

## CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL BAND HANDBOOK AGREEMENT

Please review the CHS Band Handbook at [www.dcbands.org](http://www.dcbands.org). Then, sign the appropriate areas below and return it to one of the band directors (Mr. Hatcher or Mr. Wilga) by **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2009**. Hardcopies of the handbook are available upon request.

*We have read, understand, and will comply with all of the information contained in the Davenport Central High School Band Handbook.*

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_