

Table of Contents

Letter from the Director	page 2
“Did You Know...”	page 3
Why Music?	page 4
Is Band Considered “Fun”???	page 4
Statement of Policy	page 5
Objectives of the Band Program	page 5
Duties of the Band Member	page 6
Importance of Attitude	page 6
Importance of Discipline	page 6
Band Beatitudes	page 7
General Calendar of Events	page 7
Band Curriculum	page 8
Attendance Policy	page 10
Tardies for Marching Band	page 10
Make-up for Unexcused Absences	page 10
Performance No-Shows	page 10
Sitting Third Quarter	page 10
Conflicts with Band	page 11
Grading Policy	page 11
Parents’ Responsibility to the Band	page 12
“How Parents Can Help”	page 12
Students’ Responsibility to the Band	page 13
Practice	page 13
The Total Effort	page 14
Rules and Procedures	page 14
Marching Band Participation	page 15
Marching Band Camp	page 15
Marching Band Practice	page 15
Marching Band Alternates	page 15
Uniforms	page 16
Consequences of Behavior	page 16
Inspection	page 16
Football Games	page 17
Traveling	page 17
Hotel Situations	page 18
Competitions	page 18
Hi-Stepper Auditions	page 18
Hi-Stepper Commitments	page 18
Hi-Stepper Practices	page 18
Hi-Stepper Performances	page 19
Hi-Stepper Uniforms	page 19
Hi-Stepper Parent Permission	page 19
Hi-Stepper Attendance	page 19
Hi-Stepper Manners	page 19
Hi-Stepper Morals and Ethical Values	page 19
Hi-Stepper Appearance	page 20
Hi-Stepper Parent Involvement	page 20
Hi-Stepper Traveling	page 20
Concert Band Auditions	page 21
Concert Band Attire	page 21
Concert Band Evening Practices	page 21
Music Pass-off System	page 21
Rehearsal Procedures	page 22
Materials Grade	page 22
Use of the Band Facility	page 22
Financial Obligations	page 23
School-Owned Instrument Rental	page 24
Use of School Band Music	page 24
Student Leadership	page 24
Letters & Bars	page 26
Percussion Needs	page 26
Instrument and Mouthpiece Upgrades	page 27
Recordings	page 27
Method Books	page 28
Irmo Band Booster Club	page 29
“What is a Band Parent?”	page 29
Master Calendar	page 30
Absence Form	page 33
Signature Page	page 34-Return to Director

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Band Students and Parents:

WELCOME to one of the most exciting experiences in which you can be a part – THE BAND! Now, more than ever, we have information to justify why we do this demanding, yet rewarding, activity. Experts have concluded that the study of music helps with spatial reasoning, test taking, and overall quality of life! College admissions officers cite participation in music as an important factor in making admissions decisions claiming that students participating in musical ensembles demonstrate time management, creativity, expression, and open-mindedness. Consider also the social skills, emotional development, leadership training, group interaction, aesthetic perception, music making, and the discipline of being in a band program, and I don't know why anyone would not want to be involved in a successful band program like the one here at IRMO! The ultimate goal is a lifelong understanding and appreciation for quality music and music making!

Participating in a musical organization can mean opportunities for you to take part in concerts, parades, contests, festivals, athletic events, trips, tours, and other special activities that will greatly enrich your school experience. Instrumental music is something that can bring you a sense of accomplishment and enjoyment lasting a lifetime. Al Hirt, the famous trumpet player, said, "It's hard to put the rewards of music into words...very few musicians can. That's probably because music is a feeling, not an idea."

As the newest member of this already well-established program, I thank you for welcoming me as your band director. This is a new year that will be full of great, new endeavors. As we grow as musicians and performers, we should always strive for the highest. While consistency is nice, we must continue to grow musically, physically, and socially to attain higher levels of success. If we truly want to be the best, we must keep our eyes focused on the goal not looking back to how and what we used to do. We cannot control the past, but we have ultimate control over the future.

EVERYONE SHOULD READ THE INFORMATION IN THE HANDBOOK. Most questions can be answered by consulting THE HANDBOOK. It is my hope that the information contained in this handbook will be both INFORMATION and INSPIRATION! The advocacy articles, "What is a Band Parent," and "How Parents Can Help," are both designed to give guidance to parents; read them carefully and with insight! These students need to know that we think what they are doing is important. You will quickly find that band is truly a FAMILY in and of itself.

Please read all of the information and return the signature form found in the back of the book. I am honored to be your band director and am looking forward to a great year!!

Roger E. Simpson, Jr.
Director of Bands
The Bands of IRMO

"If Better Is Possible, Then Good Is Not Enough!"

Did You Know...

1. In a 2000 survey, 73 percent of respondents agree that teens who play an instrument are less likely to have discipline problems.
- *Americans Love Making Music – And Value Music Education More Highly Than Ever*, American Music Conference, 2000.
2. Students who can perform complex rhythms can also make faster and more precise corrections in many academic and physical situations, according to the Center for Timing, Coordination, and Motor Skills.
- *Rhythm seen as key to music's evolutionary role in human intellectual development*, Center for Timing, Coordination, and Motor Skills, 2000.
3. A ten-year study indicates that students who study music achieve higher test scores, regardless of socioeconomic background.
- Dr. James Catterall, UCLA.
4. Students with good rhythmic performance ability can more easily detect and differentiate between patterns in math, music, science, and the visual arts.
- "Rhythm seen as key to man's evolutionary development," TCAMS Professional Resource Center, 2000.
5. On the 1999 SAT, music students continued to outperform their non-arts peers, scoring 61 points higher on the verbal portion and 42 points higher on the math portion of the exam.
- Steven M. Demorest and Steven J. Morrison, "Does Music Make You Smarter?," *Music Educators Journal*, September, 2000.
6. Researchers at the University of Muenster in Germany have discovered that music lessons in childhood actually enlarge parts of the brain. An area used to analyze the pitch of a musical note is enlarged 25% in musicians compared to people who have never played an instrument. The earlier the musicians were when they started musical training, the bigger this area of the brain appears to be.
- Pantev et al., *Nature*, April 23, 1998.
7. According to a 1991 study, students in schools with arts-focused curriculums reported significantly more positive perceptions about their academic abilities than students in a comparison group.
- Pamela Aschbacher and Joan Herman, *The Humanitas Program Evaluation*, 1991.
8. Students who are rhythmically skilled also tend to better plan, sequence, and coordinate actions in their daily lives.
- "Cassily Column," TCAMS Professional Resource Center, 2000.
9. In a 1999 Columbia University study, students in the arts are found to be more cooperative with teachers and peers, more self-confident, and better able to express their ideas. These benefits exist across socioeconomic levels.
- The Arts Education Partnership, 1999.
10. College admissions officers continue to cite participation in music as an important factor in making admissions decisions. They claim that music participation demonstrates time management, creativity, expression, and open-mindedness.
- Carl Hartman, "Arts May Improve Students' Grades," *The Associated Press*, October, 1999.

Music Makes the Difference!!!

Why Music?

- I. **Music is a Science!** It is exact, specific, and it demands exact acoustics. A conductor's full score is a chart, a graph which indicates frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody, and harmony all at once and with the most exact control of time.
- II. **Music is Mathematical!** It is rhythmically based on subdivision of time into fractions which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.
- III. **Music is a Foreign Language!** Most of the terms are in Italian, German, or French and the notation is certainly not English--but a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is the most complete and universal language.
- IV. **Music is History!** Music usually reflects the environment and times of its creation, often even the country and/or racial feeling.
- V. **Music is Physical Education!** It requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands arms, lip, cheek, and facial muscles in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragmatic, back, stomach, and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.
- VI. **Music Develops Insight and Demands Research!**
- VII. Music is all of these things, but most of all **Music is Art!** It allows a human being to take all these dry, technically boring (but difficult) techniques and use them to create emotion. That is one thing science cannot duplicate: humanism, feeling, emotion, call it what you will.

That is why I teach music!

Not because I expect you to major in music!

Not because I expect you to play or sing all your life!

But... so you will be human

so you will recognize beauty

so you will be closer to God

so you will have something to cling to

so you will have more love, more compassion, more gentleness, more good--in short, more life!

Is Band Considered "Fun" ???

Band, in and of itself, is not "fun." It is hard work. Where there are certain playful, funny moments, the overall one-word summation is most definitely not "fun." It is not "fun" to constantly be held to the highest critical standards. It is not "fun" to take an audition and know that you have one chance to get it right. It is not easy to strive for excellence.

There are other words, however, that describe the band experience. Challenge, discipline, fulfillment, pride, work ethic, emotional expression, respect -- there is almost no experience that is more REWARDING! If there were, students would meet in those classrooms first thing in the morning, or students would wear t-shirts with the logo of their favorite class, instead of band apparel. The reality is that the enjoyment of band comes from the interaction of people that ultimately leads to great music making. When the downbeat is given at the concert, that's the time to have "fun" because you get to share this incredible experience called band with others.

STUDENT HANDBOOK

2011-2012

A STATEMENT OF POLICY

In order to assist band members and parents in understanding areas of responsibility, a statement of band policy is herein set forth. Becoming familiar with this policy will enable each individual to make the most of this great opportunity to be a member of *The Bands of IRMO*, becoming a better person and a better musician.

We firmly believe that every student should improve through regular practice. In the Irmo Band Program we feel that when a student has lost the will to improve him/herself or make a better contribution to the band, he/she is wasting the time and efforts of his/her fellow members and the community by continuing in this program. The HAPPIEST student is the one who is improving through regular habits of practice and daily progress. He/she must not only know right from wrong, but must be able to stand for principles. He/she must develop a high sense of purpose toward which he/she is willing to work. RESPONSIBILITY is the focus behind any level of achievement within this program. We intend to conduct ourselves in a manner that will facilitate all students in learning and bettering themselves.

OBJECTIVES OF THE BAND PROGRAM

- To teach music by its actual performance
- To develop performance skills of the various wind and percussion instruments
- To provide for the musical needs of the school and the community
- To develop discrimination with the regards to the selection of music
- To acquaint the students with Music Theory / History and how history and musical composition relate to students' current life and musical experiences
- To provide all students with the opportunity for worthy use of their time, a means for self-expression, and a healthy social experience
- To develop the ability to function as a responsible member of a group, enhance interaction, and develop Esprit de Corps
- To foster leadership skills within each student

Duties of the Band Member

- Be on time to all rehearsals and performances. EARLY IS ON TIME – ON TIME IS LATE.
- Upon entering the rehearsal setting, acquire your instrument and go directly to your seat.
- When the director or staff member steps on the podium or asks for your attention, all talking should cease.
- Come to rehearsal with a GOOD ATTITUDE.
- There is no excess playing (i.e. horsing around on the instrument); only good solid material.
- Make a real effort to improve on a daily basis and establish a good practice routine.
- At the end of rehearsal, put all materials in their proper place.
- Maintain a strong academic standing in all course work.
- Become responsible for and assume responsibility for your own actions. Admit when you are wrong.
- Have a proper respect for yourself and those in authority.
- Read and play music with insight – have musical expectations.

The Importance of Attitude

The greatest single factor that will determine the success of any individual or organization is **attitude**. The kind of person that you are is an individual choice and how we feel about something, which involves attitude, is one of the few actual independent choices that we have in life. It takes intense dedication to reach goals. Students should learn to discipline themselves to daily practice on fundamentals. The “right attitude” must be present along with sincerity, concentration, and dedication as the basic foundation. Such an attitude makes an artistic performance inevitable and is the difference between a winning organization and a mediocre group. The band can do much for you. Make the most of it in every rehearsal and performance.

The Importance of Discipline

Because of the nature of the organization, band discipline must be strict! Band students and parents must believe in the ideals, principles, and philosophy of the organization. Each member must always be aware of good behavior and think for himself. Any misconduct casts a bad light on the school, community, and band program. Any member who casts discredit to the organization by his/her conduct or actions in band, in another class, or on a trip, shall be subject to dismissal from the band program or may lose a privilege within the program. This decision will be at the director’s discretion.

The Band Beatitudes

Blessed are they who play with spirit, for theirs will be a band with style.

Blessed are they that listen, for they shall have good intonation.

Blessed are they who follow the conductor, for they shall obtain precision.

Blessed are they with pure tone, for they shall be a credit to their band.

Blessed are the sincere players, for they shall be called artists.

Blessed are they which practice righteously, for they shall achieve perfection.

Blessed are they who do hunger and thirst for good music, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are they who play with good posture and deep breath, for their instruments shall be filled.

*Blessed are the fine bands, for they will inherit a **glorious tradition**.*

GENERAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(See back for detailed schedule)

July / Aug:	Camp and Community Show School Starts Football Season Competition Preparations	January:	Region Auditions All-State Auditions
		February	USC Clinic Region Band Clinic
September:	Football Games Competitions	March:	Jazz Band Festival All-State Band Clinic Symphonic Camp Concert Festival
October:	Football Games Competitions		
November:	Football Play-offs Region Preparations Winthrop Band Clinic	April:	Spring Break Spring Concert Leadership Workshop Drum Major/Leadership Tryouts
December:	Winter Concert Parades Region Preparations	May:	Band Banquet Graduation

BAND CURRICULUM IN BRIEF

Symphonic Band

The Symphonic Band is the primary performing organization in the instrumental music department during the winter and spring. Membership is by audition only with the possible exception of switchovers. The Symphonic Band will be comprised of students with the performing ability necessary to play level V/VI literature. In past years, the Symphonic Band has performed at many music conferences and conventions. Invitational Performances have included Midwest Clinic and the Grand National Adjudicators Invitational.

Concert Band

The Concert Band is a performing organization open to students, by audition, with the performing ability necessary to perform level III/IV literature. Younger band members should expect to be assigned to this band unless their playing abilities far exceed the average level of their experiences. The Concert Band has performed at Irmo Band concerts, the South Carolina State Concert Band Assessments, the annual Spring Concert, and the National Adjudicators Invitational in Atlanta.

Marching Band

Membership in the marching band requires strenuous physical exercise and the ability to play the difficult literature encountered in the activity. All band members who are capable are expected to perform in the Marching Band unless there is a physical problem or other conflict. The marching band primarily performs in the Fall.

Jazz Band

Students may elect to audition for Jazz Band. Instrumentation will consist of those typical of a Jazz "Big Band." Wind members and the drummer must be enrolled in one of the concert band classes. The Jazz Band plays for community events and performs throughout the spring. Jazz Band rehearses during the school day.

Percussive Arts

Percussionists will be enrolled in the Percussive Arts Class. This course focuses on meeting the needs of the advancing percussionist. Emphasis is placed on fundamental rudiments, percussion ensemble performance, battery percussion, and mallet technique.

Chamber Ensembles

During the fall and spring, chamber ensembles will be formed. ALL band members will be encouraged to perform in a chamber ensemble. Possible groups would be Woodwind Quintet, Brass Quintet, Saxophone Quartet, Horn Ensemble, Trombone Quartet, Low Brass Ensemble, Flute Choir, Clarinet Choir, Percussion Ensemble, as well as, additional small groups. There will be a chamber concert in the spring and opportunity for performance at Solo and Ensemble.

Hi-Steppers

This is a precision drill/dance team composed of students selected by audition in the Spring. During marching band season, they perform as an integral part of the Marching Band as well as serving as spirit boosters at pep rallies. Following marching band season, the Hi-Steppers perform at basketball games and other events, and in Spring and Summer competitions.

Summer Instruction

There are many nationally known summer institutes for instrumental instruction. Some of the best are Brevard Music Center, Sewanee, Interlochen Arts Camp, Aspen Summer Music Program, Kinhaven, Keystone Brass Institute, and Tanglewood. There are also regional summer music camps at several local universities.

Private Lessons

As one might expect, private lessons on a musical instrument are the best way to improve performance skills. The one-on-one approach allows the student to benefit from the individual attention as opposed to a teacher monitoring a class of over fifty. **A recent survey of students in the All-State Band revealed that approximately 80 % of the students in the band studied privately.** Students are generally more inclined to practice diligently for a weekly music assignment and this discipline increases the student's enjoyment with their instrument. The Director will be more than happy to assist in the selection of a private teacher.

All-State and Region Band

Members of the band program are eligible to audition for the Region and All-State Bands. Regional auditions are held in January with "finals" auditions two weeks later. The Region Band clinic is held at a school in the area and the All-State Clinic at a school of central location in South Carolina.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

THE ONLY EXCUSABLE ABSENCES ARE PRE-ARRANGED SCHOOL CONFLICTS AND THOSE THAT WOULD BE EXCUSED BY THE SCHOOL FOR REGULAR ATTENDANCE RECORDS, I.E. ILLNESS, DEATH IN THE FAMILY, OR RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY.

For ALL absences, the following procedure must be followed by the student and parent:

- Director must be notified in advance.
- An absence form must be filled out and on file (see page 33).
- For illness, a parent note or doctor's excuse must be submitted with the absence form.
- Although cleared by the school office, absences from a band activity on the same day must be cleared with the director as well – please call the band room.
- In extreme cases, a voicemail message may be left on the band office phone, with a follow-up personal call.
- Follow-up is the sole responsibility of the student!

The mere filing of an absentee request form does not constitute whether an absence is excused. The above policy is cut and dry in regards to what is excused.

TARDIES TO MARCHING BAND

Students will serve the amount of time of their tardiness at the conclusion of rehearsal. Consequences will consist of the loss of third quarter break(s) and other privileges.

REHEARSAL ABSENCES

Students will make-up unexcused absences by serving two hours of supervised practice per absence. An unexcused absence from a rehearsal will result in the loss of third quarter break at the next football game. If a student misses the run-through before a performance (excused or unexcused), the student will sit out from that performance. This is for the safety of the band members.

PERFORMANCE NO SHOWS!

The student will receive a "0" as an overall performance grade lowering the 9-weeks average by 20 points. Performances can only be excused by Mr. Simpson, at his discretion.

SITTING THIRD QUARTER

During marching season, students will sit during third quarter of football games for reasons such as:

- Failure to Pass-off Music by the allotted deadline
- Unexcused Absence or Tardy to rehearsal or sectional
- Any Infraction of Disrespect

CONFLICTS WITH BAND

Conflicts between band and other activities or events are the responsibility of the student. Rehearsal and performance schedules are given out in advance so that arrangements can be made. Students should not become involved with activities that may directly conflict with band activities. When outside activities create hardships concerning band, unless it is a rare and unusual situation that may only happen once, the student will need to consult with the director about alternatives that may be possible. Students should have a **calendar** and be aware of all band dates well ahead of schedule. It is the policy of the band to assist students when conflicts occur within the scope of the band policy. Students are reminded that band is a very demanding activity and that involvement in outside activities should be limited to those that are compatible with the band schedule. All conflicts in regards to **performances** must be worked out in favor of the student's responsibility to band. Work is not an excuse for missing any band activity.

GRADING POLICY

GRADES ARE ASSIGNED FOR THE BAND CLASS AND PERFORMANCES, WHICH ARE CO-CURRICULAR.

Class participation:	15%	This includes after school rehearsals which are on the schedule. Students must have their instruments every day, a pencil at every rehearsal, and show maximum effort to earn the best grade.
Performances:	20%	This includes attendance at all scheduled performances. An Unexcused absence from a scheduled performances will result in the loss of all 20% of the student's Performances Points. You are evaluated MOST during performances, not by me, but by the audience and community.
Test Grades/4Ts Assessment:	50%	This includes all written and playing tests and the individual completion of the 4Ts Assessment material every quarter.
Homework/Practice:	15%	This includes all graded homework assignments and practice materials.

PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITY TO THE BAND

It is the responsibility of every parent and guardian to see that the policies outlined in the HANDBOOK are followed and that the form in the back is signed and returned. This states that you UNDERSTAND the policies as set within, and that any questions are to be directed to the band director by making an appointment. Each parent IS responsible for the attendance of his/her child at all band functions. It is the responsibility of each parent to see that their child practices his / her instrument daily. The hands of the directors are tied without the help of parents.

“HOW PARENTS CAN HELP”

When a “band question” arises, it is important that you get factual information before discussing it with others. We do more harm to ourselves, the band family, when we talk about things that contain one or more “falsehoods” but consider them facts. If questions arise, it is important to remember this axiom: If it is a performance issue or anything dealing with the band proper, contact Mr. Simpson. If it is a fundraising question or anything dealing with parent issues, talk with the Band Booster President.

- Show an interest in the music study of your child.
- Arrange a regular time for your child to practice.
- Find a quiet place where he/she can practice without interruption.
- Listen to performances of practice material, when asked to do so.
- Help the student keep a DAILY RECORD of practicing.
- Come up with a reward system for DAILY practice.
- Keep the instrument in good repair and keep at least three reeds in the case; get a metronome!
- Be extra-careful with school-owned instruments. Repair costs are high!
- Teach your child to be prepared and on time to each rehearsal or lesson.
- Provide private instruction!
- Make faithful attendance at all band activities important.
- Buy your child a personal planner for marking important dates.
- Keep the Handbook in a safe place and refer to it often.
- Notify the teacher if the student is to be absent for rehearsals or lessons.
- Double-check behind the student to make sure that they have their instrument.
- If student is absent, make sure that their folder gets to school, if they share it with someone.
- Visit rehearsals occasionally.
- Attend booster meetings, concerts, games, and contests.
- Turn in fundraising money on time.

STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITY TO THE BAND

AS MEMBERS OF THIS ORGANIZATION, YOU HAVE A GREAT DEAL OF RESPONSIBILITY. IT IS ESSENTIAL TO ANY PROGRAM THAT IF CERTAIN EXPECTATIONS ARE TO BE MET THAT THEY COORDINATE WITH THE PRIVILEGES, REWARDS AND DUTIES OF THE BAND PROGRAM.

TO OURSELVES:

YOU have the primary responsibility of developing your own abilities. The benefits of a good instrument and private instruction can never be underestimated. What you put into it is what you will get out of it. The director is ALWAYS available for your guidance and encouragement – just ask!

TO THE SCHOOL:

School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties provides us with the resources for rehearsals, performances, and equipment. The Band Booster Club also provides a support network, both financially and philosophically. WE have the responsibility to provide the best possible services to our community.

TO MUSIC:

Music has always been a part of our culture. We must take what we have and use it for the betterment of that culture. No one expects virtuoso musicians, only your very best! The great composer Gustav Mahler once said that only 10% of a piece of music is on the page. If that is the case, then we as musicians have the duty of creating and producing the other 90%. The joy of music is not in everything that is apparent. It must be discovered and created.

TO EACH OTHER:

We must always do what is best for the WELFARE of the group. There can be no selfish acts solely for the benefit of the individual, but for all. Respect each other. If there are conflicts, find a way to resolve them. Never insult another band member's integrity. The word "band" means that we are banded together and that there is no separation. Since we are all in this together, you would be insulting your own pride as well.

PRACTICE

As with any activity, you get out of it what you put into it. Band will not be "FUN" unless you practice! There are many values in the study of music as a discipline that transfer to other areas of life. Although this will not immediately happen, persistent practice will lead to enthusiastic, driven practice. Remember: **"Perfect Practice makes Perfect!"** Here is a suggested plan of study:

Pick a set time each day	Use a tuner for a portion of your practice session
Have an acoustically dry place of practice	Increase dynamic range (work on pianissimo)
Use our daily warm-up & think "tone"	Increase endurance (15 minutes of full tone playing)
Play some form of scales at every practice session	Increase range (highest note with good tone)
Take a break every 20 minutes	Use a metronome for part of the time
Work on technique (articulations, accents, etc.)	"I will start with ___ minutes and increase to
Practice sight-reading	Use a practice record for personal progress

THE TOTAL EFFORT

In order for the *Bands of Irmo* to reach its highest potential, we must forego the luxury of making excuses or letting problems go unresolved. Marching and playing problems are going to happen in every rehearsal. The manner in which they are corrected will radiate in our performance on the field and on the stage.

The Band Staff (including student leadership, parents, and instructors) will respond to all band members fairly and courteously. If things go wrong, devote your efforts to trying to **REMEDY** the situation rather than deciding **WHO** is at fault. Rehearsals will move smoothly and efficiently if we decide to work together toward that common goal.

Each band member is blessed with common sense and intelligence. Your suggestion on how to solve a problem might provide the exact insight needed to straighten out those problems. Do not hesitate to communicate with the staff! Good communication is a vital ingredient in the promotion of a good attitude among team members, so speak up! **WE will listen**; however, communication is a two-way street. You should be prepared to listen as well.

Direct **YOUR** marching or playing problems to any of the teaching staff **DURING** rehearsals. This is the time to correct any problems. Any other problems can be resolved in the **BAND OFFICE** at another time. At that time you will receive our full, undivided attention.

EVERYTHING you do becomes a vital element in the success and character of our performances. The audience's attention is immediately drawn to any movement that is not absolutely uniform. Your **TOTAL** concentration during performances will ensure precision marching and playing befitting our organization. You will begin each performance as well prepared as humanly possible. Always add that final touch of mental alertness that can make your performance great. Do not sell yourself short or insult the band's integrity by doing anything less. Remember that any chain is only as strong as its weakest link!

RULES AND PROCEDURES

In Brief:

- Respect authority and others, including their personal property.
- Be in your seat, warmed up, and ready to begin on time.
- If you share a folder and are absent, make sure it gets to school.
- No hats or sunglasses inside the building.
- Food and drink are not permitted in the band room.
- Chewing gum is not permitted during a rehearsal or in the band room.
- Students may practice in the band room before school, after school, and during lunch with proper supervision.
- Students shall not damage property or equipment.
- Shoes and socks must be worn at all times for outside practices.
- A band member must respect his/her uniform, and wear it properly at all times.
- A band member will wear no exposed jewelry while in uniform; civilian clothes must be tasteful and within the boundaries of the Irmo High School dress code. Hi-Steppers are

- allowed to wear team earrings.
- Students are required to remain with the band after games and will dismiss as a group.
 - Bus lists will be posted before each trip.
 - All school rules, including no smoking, will be enforced.
 - Drinking and drugs are **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**. *All school district policies regarding such are in force during any band activity.*
 - Fundraising materials and other fees will be placed in the Booster Box. **Be sure to include the proper information on the envelope.**
 - The Director is responsible for the interpretation and enforcement of the Irmo High School Band discipline code.

MARCHING BAND

PARTICIPATION

Participation in the Marching Band is not required, but it is strongly encouraged of all students participating in the Irmo High School Band Program. Students enrolled in the band program who choose not to participate in Marching Band will be required to fulfill alternative requirements and assignments. Marching Band is an essential part of the Instrumental Music (BAND) Education Curriculum.

CAMP

Held in July/August, Band Camp is taught by the *BAND* directors, camp staff, and student leadership. Camp is required of all students in the band. Approximately **six weeks** of normal rehearsal time is concentrated into the two weeks . . . so attendance is a must. Parent volunteers will be in attendance to help out with whatever needs may arise. Camp will end at the conclusion of the exhibition on a set evening.

PRACTICE

Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances. If there is a situation that will prevent this, an excuse form must be requested and filled out **BEFOREHAND**. After-school rehearsals will be on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. If a student is absent from school on the day of an after-school rehearsal, this does not automatically excuse the student for that afternoon. Someone must contact Mr. Simpson in the band office. **Do not leave a message with a student.**

ALTERNATES

One of the most important members of the marching band is the alternate. Due to absences of others and the inability of some to work at their part, it is necessary to “fill in” these spots with alternates. Alternate members must be enthusiastic and willing to learn new material at a rapid pace. Alternates are critical to our success!!! The chances of an alternate working his/her way into a spot are very good if that alternate participates, works hard, learns the music, and does it with a good attitude. The following policy will be used:

The marching routine will be written for a set number of positions. Two members will learn the same spot and will rotate. Spot assignments will be assigned by the director based on attendance, preparation, attitude, behavior and music pass-offs.

BAND UNIFORMS

The Irmo High School Marching Band uses two different uniforms during the marching band season, a warm-weather uniform and a dress uniform.

SUMMER UNIFORM: The warm weather uniform is utilized due to the extreme temperatures in August and September. This uniform will consist of school-code black shorts, black belt, a *Bands of Irmo* polo shirt, plain white ankle socks (must not stick out of the show more than one inch), and white (non-canvas, if possible) low-top tennis shoes. Only the polo shirts are purchased through the Band Boosters. Students are responsible for purchasing their black shorts, black belt, white socks and tennis shoes. The uniform is usually worn for football games in September, as well as travel to competitions when requested by the Director.

DRESS UNIFORM: Dress uniforms will be assigned to band members in August. A committee of band parents will fit students with a dress uniform. The dress uniform consists of a coat, bib pants, gauntlets (except for percussion), a hat and hatbox (except pit members and sousaphone players), and a uniform bag with uniform hanger. Please keep the uniform on the hanger it is issued on. If a replacement hanger is needed, notify a member of the Uniform Committee. Dress uniforms will be kept at school and issued prior to each event and returned after the event. They will be cleaned by the Band Boosters. **THE UNIFORM IS TO BE WORN PROPERLY AT ALL TIMES!** You are either **IN UNIFORM** or **OUT OF UNIFORM**.

CONSEQUENCES OF BEHAVIOR

The consequences of improper behavior may include individual conference, verbal reprimand, push-ups, laps, jumping jacks, etc. These consequences are assigned to students who disobey band rules or exhibit improper behavior in rehearsals or during performances. All physical consequences are SCDE state adopted Physical Education standards. More serious offenses may result in parent conferences and/or removal from the Irmo High School Band Program.

INSPECTION

Prior to performances of the band, all band members will stand inspection. Any member that does not pass the inspection will not participate in the given performance. Band members will be checked for the following:

- Clean, lubricated instruments
- Cleaned, pressed uniforms
- Correct hems on trousers
- Cleaned, polished shoes
- Hair correctly worn – all hair will be up off of the collar at all performances
- Jewelry – NONE for winds and percussion, other than YOUR OWN class ring; Hi-Steppers may wear authorized items.
- Piercings – All ear piercings must be removed or covered with a skin colored band-aid. NO facial piercings will be considered appropriate (lip, nose, eyebrow, etc.). See the Director for any clarification.

Do not get your ears pierced during marching band season!

FOOTBALL GAMES

- Report time for all games will be announced by Thursday prior to the game.
- Students should wear the full uniform. It is ALL or NOTHING.
- For home games, students will be dismissed by the band director and may not leave prior to dismissal. For away games, students may ride home with their parents, but a Release of Liability Form must be turned in prior to departure.
- When marching through the stadium, the band will remain at ATTENTION. When you have class IT SHOWS – when you don't, IT SHOUTS!
- Only uniformed band members are allowed in the band section.
- Students will stand at attention and will not talk when another band is performing.
- All members are to remain in their "section." Any "section cheers" will not be played unless rehearsed and approved by the director.
- There will be no eating or drinking in the stands unless authorized by the director. The band will have the third quarter off and must be back in their seats by the time designated by the director.
- All members should be alert as to what is going on down front. Be ready to react immediately to instructions given by the drum major or director.
- If a student must leave the band section, two students must accompany him/her and both must have permission from the director.

BAND TRAVELING

- Be on time. "Early is on time – On time is late."
- Adult chaperones will be on each bus and no changes in buses will be allowed. Students will be assigned to a bus in most cases. In some instances, students will be allowed to sign up for buses. Once the bus list is complete, changes will not be made . . . please do not ask!
- Students are to obey Mr. Simpson, staff members, and chaperones at all times. If a student feels he/she is being unfairly mistreated, that student should obey orders regardless and then discuss it with Mr. Simpson, BEHIND CLOSED DOORS.
- Permanent seat assignments will only be made as a result of disciplinary issues; however, males and females may not sit together at any time on the bus. This policy is strictly enforced (even for family members)! If at any point a male and a female student are found riding in a seat together, they will be permanently assigned to a seat directly next to a chaperone for the remainder of the season.
- If a conversation can be heard in the front of the bus, it is TOO LOUD!
- All talking will cease at railroad crossings. "Silent Bus"
- There will be no hanging out of or talking out of bus windows.
- Upon arrival to the stadium, all talking on the bus will cease. "Silent Bus"
- Students will be given as much free time as is consistent with the educational intent of the trip. Students must return at the appointed time. No one is to leave the group formation for any reason whatsoever until properly dismissed by the Director.
- Only exemplary conduct will be accepted from the Irmo High School Band. Members must be on their best behavior at all times. Be courteous to other schools' band members at all times.
- There will be NO smoking, drinking of alcoholic beverages, or drug use at any time at any band function. Violations will result in disciplinary action according to school policies.
- Band trips are school sponsored and therefore also fall under school policy and rules.
- Only Directors, students, chaperones, and invited guests will be permitted inside the buses.
- The band will travel as a unit to and from all events. A student may ride home from an event with his or her parents; however, a Release of Liability form must be submitted at least 24 hours in advance. The parent must speak with the Head Chaperone when picking up their student.
- Please keep the bus clean; pick up after yourselves and always thank the chaperones and driver!

HOTEL SITUATIONS

- Parents and students will be responsible for paying for any incurred charges, including lost room keys.
- Rooms are to be locked at all times.
- There will be no one of the opposite sex in your room.
- Please refrain from playing instruments in the room.
- All school rules will be enforced on trips.
- All students should realize that any personal desires or uniqueness may have to be put aside for the duration of the trip in order to facilitate large group control and management.
- No one is to leave the hotel alone. Any student found leaving the premises without permission will be dealt with severely.
- Profanity is not a part of our organization! Make sure your language is not offensive.
- Band members are expected to be at the right place, at the right time, ready to go!

COMPETITIONS

Competitions are special events where we get to perform for a sophisticated audience and very competent judges. **WE ARE THERE TO DO OUR BEST – NOT TO WIN!!!** If we do our best, then everything will take care of itself. Specific information is given prior to competitions as to directions, departure and anticipated return time. All parents are encouraged to attend competitions and support the band. Students may use their cell phones when returning from a competition to notify parents if we are returning sooner or later than expected.

HI-STEPPERS

AUDITIONS

Hi-Stepper auditions are held each year in the Spring. Prior to auditions, rehearsals are conducted to assist the candidates in preparing for the audition process. Returning Hi-Steppers will be required to re-audition.

SPRING AND SUMMER COMMITMENTS

Hi-Stepper practice begins shortly after the auditions. After the team is selected, a Parent Meeting is held to explain expectations and announce the Spring and Summer schedule of rehearsals, camps, and other commitments. All Hi-Steppers are expected to participate in these scheduled commitments unless the Director/Sponsor is notified in writing about prior commitments after the meeting.

Over the Summer, Hi-Steppers may attend a dance camp sponsored by the UDA (Universal Dance Association) and conduct a summer dance camp at Irmo High School. Hi-Steppers are also required to participate in marching band camps.

PRACTICES DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

Hi-Steppers will practice at the same time as the rest of the Marching Band during marching band season. Alternative practice times may be called as needed to rehearse the Hi-Steppers separately from the band proper. The dance season practice schedule will be announced after auditions with changes made when necessary.

PERFORMANCES

The Hi-Steppers perform at a variety of events during the school year. They perform with the Irmo High School Marching Band as a color guard/dance team at home football games, selected away football games, and band competitions. In addition, the team may perform with the band at parades and other special events during the year. Hi-Steppers perform as a dance team at several home basketball games, special events, and pep rallies. The performance team participates in at least one national dance competition each year. All events are scheduled by the Hi-Stepper Director/Sponsor.

HI-STEPPER UNIFORMS

Some parts of the performing uniform, shoes, and all practice uniforms are to be purchased by the Hi-Stepper. Most of the performance uniform, all props, and all equipment will be purchased by the Irmo Band Booster Club during marching season and from the general Hi-Stepper assessment and fundraisers during dance season. A Hi-Stepper is responsible for any item issued to her and will have to pay to replace the item should she lose or damage it. Poms will be kept in storage and issued prior to use.

PARENT PERMISSION

Each member must submit a statement from her parents permitting her to try out for and participate on the dance team prior to auditions.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Hi-Steppers are expected to be present at all rehearsals, meetings, activities, and performances. When sick, a Hi-Stepper is expected to attend rehearsals and watch if at all possible. Parental notes are not accepted. Appointments should be made on Wednesdays. A Hi-Stepper must be in attendance at the rehearsals prior to a performance or she will not be able to perform. If a member is sick and must miss a performance, she is expected to be at home. If she is able to attend the performance, she will sit with the team dressed in something that designates her as a Hi-Stepper, such as her jacket.

Work is never a reason for being late, leaving early, or missing a mandatory activity. It is suggested that Hi-Steppers not have a job until after football season.

MANNERS

Hi-Steppers are expected to follow certain rules that govern behavior and manners. All team members are expected to address staff members, the Director/Sponsor, and other adults with ma'am or sir. Team members are to always say "thank you" when receiving a critique.

MORAL AND ETHICAL VALUES

Members of this team should be leaders within the school and should set a good example at all times. A Hi-Stepper will be dismissed from the team immediately should it be reported that she was seen smoking, drinking, using drugs, participating in "unlady-like" conduct while in uniform or while involved in a Hi-Stepper activity. This includes practice uniforms, jackets, etc.

A Hi-Stepper is never to be rude or disrespectful to any adult, staff member, or other team member. Laziness and negative attitudes will not be tolerated. If any of these things become a persistent problem with any Hi-Stepper, she will be dismissed from the team.

A Hi-Stepper will be immediately dismissed from the team and will not be allowed to audition again should she be found to be in violation of the District Five Discipline Code. There are to be NO exceptions.

APPEARANCE

Hi-Stepper rehearsals and activities are very demanding physically. It is imperative that a Hi-Stepper take care of her body. She must eat well, drink plenty of water, and stay in shape. Regular exercise, especially during the time off, is a necessity. Parents are asked to support their daughter in maintaining healthy eating habits.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parents are encouraged to attend both Hi-Stepper parent meetings and Band Booster parent meetings. Being active participants will help parents to understand the demands of the program more fully. The Hi-Stepper and Band programs cannot be successful without supportive, enthusiastic, and positive parents. Parents are reminded that the Director of the *Bands of Irmo* and the Hi-Stepper Director/Sponsor are ultimately responsible for the group and, therefore, must make all decisions.

Parents can use this activity to help teach their daughters so many important life lessons. It is suggested that parents allow their Hi-Steppers to make her mistakes, take her consequences, and learn from those experiences. If a parent is consistently coming to the rescue, nothing will be learned. Parents should not interrupt a rehearsal except in the case of an emergency. Parents are encouraged to attend as many performances and competitions as possible and to wear black and gold. Be supportive and enthusiastic for Irmo's performance, but also remember to applaud the other competitors. Every child who has the courage to be involved and to compete for their school deserves to be applauded.

TRAVELING

When traveling with the group, Hi-Steppers are expected to conduct themselves in such a way as to leave a good impression of Irmo High School in the minds of those they meet along the way.

The Director in most cases will determine roommates for all trips, including those with the marching band. The Director will also make bus assignments.

Hi-Steppers will ride to all performances on the transportation provided by the team. A girl may ride home with her parents provided a Release of Liability Form has been given to the Director prior to the performance or trip. The parent or adult taking the Hi-Stepper home must pick her up from the group. The Hi-Stepper will not be allowed to find her ride. The girl's ride must be on time to pick her up, as she will not be allowed to remain behind and wait on her ride.

CONCERT BANDS

AUDITIONS

There will be auditions to determine chair or band placement. Auditions will be announced well in advance and will consist of required materials. The auditions will be judged by the band director. In some cases, a student with a higher score may be put on a lower part to achieve balance or to allow a younger student to develop his/her range. If this is the case, the student will be informed of the reason for his/her placement.

CONCERT ATTIRE

The Concert Attire will consist of Black Tuxedos for male students and long Black Concert Dresses for female students. Students will rent these items from the Band Booster Club annually. The current rental cost is **\$41.25**. The tuxedos and dresses will be issued prior to each event. Students are not responsible for dry cleaning these items; the cost is included in the rental and the cleaning is facilitated by the Band Booster Club. Male students **WILL** be required to purchase their own white tuxedo shirt and shoes. Female students will purchase shoes through the Band Booster Club for uniformity.

EVENING PRACTICES

Generally, most concert band preparations take place in class during the regular school day; however, there will be times when after-school or evening practices may be necessary. Evening rehearsals are not "Practice Time". These rehearsals are designed to prepare the ensemble for performance. Attendance at after-school rehearsal is mandatory to ensure proper fine tuning, balance, and blend.

MUSIC PASS – OFFS

To pass-off assigned material, the player must successfully demonstrate to the director or designated student assistant his / her ability to perform it. Every note and rhythm must be perfect, though standards will be adjusted to fit the level of musician. For example, a freshman **AFTER WORKING HARD** may be able to play an assignment note perfect and up to tempo, but with weak intonation, poor tone, and style. The flaws would be pointed out to the individual, but would be passed off. On the other hand, a senior might have done **VERY LITTLE WORK**, but still could play the assignment note perfect, up to tempo, with better tone, intonation, and style, and still be asked to go back and perfect the assignment.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

REHEARSAL PROCEDURE

- You must be in the band room when the bell rings. A downbeat will be given two minutes after the bell. During the two minutes you should obtain your seat, instrument and music, a music stand, a pencil, and begin warming up for the day's rehearsal. Woodwinds should be sure to have extra reeds. Percussionists should set up all equipment and music during the warm-up.
- Announcements will be made at the beginning or end of class and will also be written on the board.
- Talking will not be tolerated during a rehearsal.
- The purpose of rehearsal is for you to learn **the parts of others and how they relate to yours, not to learn your individual music!**
- If you must leave your seat for any reason, please ask. Restroom breaks should be taken between classes.
- In your individual warm-up, it is important to do each of the following on a daily basis:
 - LONG TONES
 - LIP SLURS
 - SCALES
 - THAT DAY'S ASSIGNMENT

MATERIALS GRADE

Each student should have the following items in class everyday:

- a sharpened pencil
- your instrument (sticks, mallets)
- your music and folder
- at least three reeds (clarinets and saxophones)
- at least two reeds (oboes and bassoons) and water canisters for soaking.
- water bottle (trombones)
- black three-ring binder

From time to time during the school year you will receive a materials grade. If you have all the items listed above, you will receive a daily grade of "A." Your grade will be lowered one letter for each item you are missing, but students will be given two days to bring in any missing items. The easiest way to avoid this is to have everything that you need, at all times!

USE OF THE BAND FACILITY

BANDROOM

The use of band facilities before, after, and during school is a privilege. Students who abuse the facility will be disciplined accordingly. Any abuse or damage will be considered vandalism.

NO OUTSIDE STUDENTS ARE PERMITTED IN THE BANDROOM except for business with the director. There will be no horseplay, i.e. throwing of things, in or around the band room. All percussion and guard equipment is off limits to anyone not specifically designated to use them. No storing of personal items – **THE BANDROOM IS NOT A LOCKER!**

PRACTICE ROOMS

Practice rooms are to be used for practice or private instruction. These practice rooms are not to be used for personal storage or as “hang out” areas. The practice rooms are NOT to be used when Mr. Simpson is absent from school.

LIBRARY, BAND OFFICE, PHONE

The **band library** is private and is to be used only by the library staff. Materials may be checked out through the librarian; this includes Solos, Ensembles, and Etude Books. The **band office** is private and is not to be entered by any student without permission from the director or a staff member. All students should keep in mind that this is a place of business. If the door is shut, knock first. **Telephone** use should be kept to a minimum and is not for personal use . . . **Ask permission before using.**

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Each band student is assessed a dollar amount determined by the budgeted needs of the band for that year versus the number of band and guard members. This yearly assessment fee must be paid in full to remain active in the band program.

The Band Assessment for 2011-2012 is as follows:

Marching Band Members - \$400.00

Non-Marching Members - \$10.00

Hi-Steppers – \$425.00 (plus \$400 Marching Band Assessment)

Please note that this assessment does not pay for extra band trips. It is the desire of the band director to take a MUSIC related spring trip every other year!

This fee is very reasonable compared to most band fees assessed throughout the state. There are some programs with band fees close to and exceeding \$1,000.

Students and parents are encouraged to actively participate in fundraisers. These fundraisers serve two purposes: to reduce each members out-of-pocket band assessment responsibility and to provide for the additional expenses not included in the assessment fee paid by the Band Boosters on behalf of the members. Parents and/or students may choose not to participate in a fundraiser; however, these families may be asked to make a donation to the band program equivalent to the expected profit goal.

At times the financial obligation may be heavy, but no member will be denied the opportunities of our organization due to financial difficulties. Please contact Mr. Simpson or the Band Boosters to set up a payment plan or due date extension!!

SCHOOL-OWNED INSTRUMENT POLICY

Each student who uses an instrument owned by District Five, in some cases purchased by the Band Boosters, is completely responsible for the care of the instrument. A **\$25.00** rental fee will be assessed for the year. This fee will go toward any general repair work caused by normal wear and tear. If an instrument is damaged due to negligence, the student is responsible for the entire cost. Also, please do not use the large cases at chairs – they will break! An instrument check-out form must be filled out and on file with the director. Summer use does not require a fee and the check-out forms will be designated as “summer.”

USE OF SCHOOL BAND MUSIC

All music loaned to students is assigned by section and part. Students should always use a pencil when marking on music. Students are held accountable for all music that is loaned to them. Lost marching band music must be paid for at a cost of \$1.00 per part. Lost concert band music must be paid for at a cost of \$3.00 per part. Solo and ensemble music must be replaced according to the replacement cost. Students will be penalized for damaged parts only if the damage is severe and is clearly the result of their own negligence.

IRMO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

As the Director of a large operation, Mr. Simpson cannot accomplish every single task everyday. As with any organization, a chain of command is essential. Student Leaders are part of that chain.

He must depend on the Student Leaders and expect them to carry out their duties thoroughly and consistently. Student Leaders have accepted extra responsibilities and must fulfill them. **NO leadership position in this organization is a figurehead status.**

In addition to logistical duties already mentioned, Student Leaders must present a positive attitude toward their selves, the Director, and the band. Student Leaders must set the best examples for the younger inexperienced members. **Anyone who cannot own up to his or her responsibilities should consider being replaced.**

The Student Leaders will be responsible for weekly inspections of the uniforms. This will be done within sections by the section leader. All reports are to be turned in to the Drum Majors and then to the Band Director. No one will be allowed to march or perform when the uniform is not in proper form.

The leaders of the band will be responsible for setting the example in ensuring the behavior and conduct of the band during all public appearances. The band serves as the “goodwill” ambassador of the school, and an excellent reputation must be preserved and promoted in the future.

DRUM MAJOR

The Drum Major is responsible for leading the band on the field and in the band room when the Director is not present. The Drum Major should conduct himself or herself in a fashion to exemplify the highest ideals of the *Bands of IRMO*. He/she will assist the Director in Warming up the band, working on music, and problem solving on the football field. In general, the Drum Major is the right arm of the Band Director. When the Director is present, the Drum Major should always look for constructive jobs to do which will help the band, such as copy music, work marching band fundamentals, work conducting routines, handle any detail which will make the band run more smoothly, etc.

CAPTAINS (BAND, BRASS, WOODWIND, PERCUSSION)

The Captains represent the band at awards ceremonies and in media events. They will report directly to the Director any infractions or problems. The Captains will oversee the bus loading crew and place equipment in a neat, well-organized fashion on the vehicle that will carry the equipment. The Captains will be present with the loading crew, help with the work, make sure everything is unloaded properly, and reports to the Director when every piece of equipment is loaded and in place.

SECTION LEADER

The Section Leader listens to the music for proper playing and memorization and reports to the Director. The Section Leader assists the staff in drill problems and takes over in the absence of a staff member or Director. Section Leaders will conducting uniform inspections and are responsible for the band members in their sections.

HI-STEPPER CAPTIAN

The Hi-Stepper Captain(s) aid in polishing and perfecting routines, communicating messages to the Hi-Steppers, and assisting the Director in competitions and activities when needed. They will also teach and polish dance performances for pep rallies and other events.

2011-2012 STUDENT LEADERS

Drum Majors-----	Brooks Robertson & Jared Waters
Brass Captain-----	Trace Mole
Woodwind Captain-----	Emily Richardson
Percussion Captains-----	Justin Calwell & Braylen Dishmond
Hi-Stepper Co-Captains-----	Leann Legroon & Whitney Powell
Dance Captain-----	Kirstin Mcwhite
Flag Captain-----	Rachel Rudman
Flute Section Leader-----	Courtney Vance
Clarinet Section Leaders-----	Helen Birdsong & Ellen Skowronek
Saxophone Section Leader-----	Blake Bagwell
Trumpet Section Leader-----	Elliott Stewart
Mellophone Section Leader-----	Maddy Bell
Low Brass Section Leader-----	Miller Love

BAND LETTERS

LETTERING REQUIREMENTS

Students will be accountable individually for their letter. Enrollment in a band class does not qualify a student for a LETTER.

LETTERING QUALIFICATIONS – WINDS AND PERCUSSION

- Student must be at least a Sophomore.
- Student must participate for two years in Marching and Concert Band.
- Student must audition for Region/All-State Band both years.
- Student must participate in Solo & Ensemble both years.
- Student must have NO unexcused absences.
- Student has an “A” average in band.
- Student has attend all performances unless extenuating circumstances prevail.
- Student has performed to the best of his/her ability at all times.
- Student may not have any major disciplinary issues.
- Student may not have outstanding financial obligations.

LETTERING QUALIFICATIONS – HI-STEPPERS

- Student must be at least a Sophomore.
- Student must participate for two years in Marching Band and Hi-Stepper Class.
- Student must participate in Hi-Stepper Dance Competition(s).
- Student must have NO unexcused absences.
- Student has an “A” average in class.
- Student has attend all performances unless extenuating circumstances prevail.
- Student has performed to the best of her ability at all times.
- Student may not have any major disciplinary issues.
- Student may not have outstanding financial obligations.

EQUIPMENT NEEDS

PERCUSSION

2 pr. Innovative Percussion IP240(R) -- Medium Marimba Mallets
1 pr. Innovative Percussion OS-4 -- 1 1/8” White W/ Blue Tape Full, Forte Xylo/Glock
1 pr. Innovative Percussion IP902 -- Medium Soft Xylophone Mallets
1 pr. Innovative Percussion CL-1 -- Christopher Lamb Snare Drum Stick
1 pr. Innovative Percussion Ed Soph Model 1 Maple -- Drumset Stick
1 pr. Innovative Percussion CT-1 -- Legato Timpani Mallets
1 pr. Innovative Percussion CT-3 -- Medium Timpani Mallets
1 pr. Innovative Percussion CT-5 -- Hard Timpani Mallets
1 ea. Kratt MK2S Chromatic Pitchpipe C-C (or equivalent)
1 ea. Triangle Clip (\$20 wooden Grover clip, or small \$2 clip from Lowes - add fishing line)
1 ea. Innovative Percussion CB-1 -- Small Mallet Bag Cordura (or equivalent) (Owner must add luggage tag clearly marked with student name.)

*Percussionists will be assessed a **\$25.00** instrument rental fee for use of school equipment, provided that all accessory equipment is obtained.

INSTRUMENT AND MOUTHPIECE UPGRADES

MOUTHPIECES

CLARINET	Van Doren B40 or B45 mouthpieces Rovner Ligatures
SAXOPHONE	Selmer C*
TRUMPET	Bach 3C or 1 ½ C
HORN	Schilke 29 or 30 Holton MDC
TROMBONE	Bach 5G or 4G Schilke 51 or 51 D
TUBA	Helleberg 120

INSTRUMENTS (Intermediate and Professional Models)

Piccolo	Yamaha YPC 62
Flute	Yamaha 581 H
Clarinet	Buffet R-13
Oboe	Loree or Fox 400
Bassoon	Fox Renard 220 or 222
Saxophone	Old Selmer Mark VI or Yamaha Custom
Trumpet	Bach Stradivarius, Yamaha Xeno
Horn	Paxman M20, Holton 179, Conn 8D
Trombone	Bach 42 B, BO , Edwards, Shires
Euphonium	Yamaha 321 – S or Willson
Tuba	St. Petersburg or Perantucci

RECORDINGS

Just as the blind child cannot paint a picture of the sunset, an instrumentalist cannot duplicate a characteristic sound on their instrument without an appropriate model to emulate. Below are suggestions of artists for each instrument. Every student in the band program should own at least one recording of the following artists:

FLUTE	Jean-Pierre Rampal, Jim Walker
CLARINET	Harold Wright, Larry Combs
OBOE	Joseph Robinson, John Mack
BASSOON	Bubonic Bassoon Quartet, Christopher Millard
SAXOPHONE	Jean Rousseau, Joseph Lulloff, Steven Mauk
TRUMPET	Phil Smith, Adolph Herseth
HORN	Dale Clevenger, Dennis Brain
TROMBONE	Joseph Alessi, Christian Linberg
EUPHONIUM	Brian Bowman, Roger Behrend
TUBA	Arnold Jacobs, Sam Pilafian

METHOD BOOKS

FLUTE	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Altes Method Art and Practice of Modern Flute Technique – Kincaid Eck Method / Practical Studies / Tone Development
CLARINET	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Klose Celebrated Method for Clarinet Rose: 40 Studies for Clarinet, Book I Melodious and Progressive Studies – Hite
OBOE	50 Classical Studies for the Oboe - Joppig Rubank Advanced Method Andraud Practical and Progressive Method Barrett Oboe Method
BASSOON	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Weissenborn Practical Method for Bassoon
SAXOPHONE	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Universal Method for Sax – DeVille Gatti: 35 Melodious and Technical Exercises
TRUMPET	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Arban Complete Conservatory Method Herbert L. Clark Technical Studies Schlossberg Daily Drills and Technical Studies
HORN	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Kopprasch – Sixty Selected Studies for Horn (Vol. 1 & 2) Concone – Lyrical Studies for Horn or Trumpet Practical Studies – Getchell
TROMBONE / EUPHONIUM	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Rochut Melodious Etudes Book I and II Arban Method for Trombone / Euphonium Schlossberg Daily Drills Clark Method for Trombone / Euphonium
TUBA	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Blazhevich 40 Studies Tirell 40 Studies

IRMO BAND BOOSTER CLUB

“Executive Board”

President – John Lindower
Vice President; Festivals – Chris and Caroline Buck
Vice President; Fundraising – Susan Robertson
Vice President; Hi-Steppers – Angela Lagroon
Treasurer – Liz Attaway
Secretary – Jane Richardson
Director – Roger Simpson

Committee Chairs

Camps and Clinics – Alice Jones
Chaperones – Tracy Skowronek
Website & E-Mail – Frank Johns
Equipment – Mel Love
Hospitality – Ray Bullock
Irmo Music Foundation – Ken Corbet
Spirit Sales – Bonnie Bagwell
Student Account – Kim Pierce
Uniforms – Barbara Mandeville, Kim Wisnewski, Alice Jones

Phone Message Hotline.....476-3243

Fundraising Hotline.....476-3243

Website Address.....www.irmoband.org

Irmo High School Band Booster Club

P.O. Box 595

Irmo, SC 29063

What is a Band Parent?

A band parent...

- ... is one whose child is the greatest. From the first note, (perhaps squeak is more descriptive) through the monotonous scales, the parent beams because this young musician is learning so fast.
- ... quickly learns that it requires considerable hard work, time, and money to have a championship band. After extending credit to purchase an instrument and finally locating a pair of marching shoes, the harried parent is then introduced to fund-raising campaigns. This usually means selling souvenirs during football games while the band is doing the half-time show. The parent dreams of a day when oil will be discovered in the end zone sufficient to finance all school functions, beginning with the band.
- ... is a calm, multipurpose machine that can bring order out of the chaos of getting ready for a competition. Dad rushes to the equipment trailer to help load up, while Mom finds the other black sock, combs hair, and herds the family into the van for a speed-breaking dash to the band room. Once everyone is loaded and the last stray uniform or instrument is safely secured, the band parent joins the caravan of vehicles headed to the competition miles away to sit together and cheer the band on. Some band parents become chaperones, and dispensers of hairpins, safety pins, aspirin, and other essential items.
- ... is one who criticizes the band director for yelling at band practice, praises him for instilling teamwork and discipline, and defends him from outside critics who scoff at his music selection.
- ... is a proud person, especially when his or her children make Region, All-State, or win a trophy.
- ... is a relieved person on graduation day. No more hectic pre-game nights, no more fund raising activities, and vacations can be taken anytime and not scheduled around summer band camp.
- ... is one who has a younger child who announces, "Guess what? I'm joining the band!"

**The Bands of IRMO
Master Calendar**

Please be advised that some of the listed dates are tentative.

<u>Event:</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Time:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
Band Camp	7/25/11	8:00am-9:00pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Band Camp	7/26/11	8:00am-9:00pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Band Camp	7/27/11	8:00am-9:00pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Cobb Fundraiser Begins	7/27/11	Ongoing	Community Fundraiser
Band Camp	7/28/11	8:00am-9:00pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Band Camp	7/29/11	8:00am-12:00pm; 5:00-9:00	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Band Camp	8/1/11	8:00am-9:00pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Band Camp	8/2/11	8:00am-9:00pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Band Camp	8/3/11	8:00am-9:00pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Band Camp	8/4/11	8:00am-9:00pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Band Camp	8/5/11	8:00am-12:00pm; 5:00-9:00	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	8/8/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	8/10/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Parent Preview Show	8/11/11	6:00 call time; 7:00 performance	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	8/15/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	8/16/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	8/18/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
FOOTBALL GAME	8/19/11	5:00pm Call Time	Dutch Fork – FULL BAND
Marching Band Rehearsal	8/22/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	8/23/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	8/25/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
FOOTBALL GAME	8/26/11	6:00pm Call Time	Irmo vs. Goose Creek – FULL BAND
Marching Band Rehearsal	8/29/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	8/30/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	9/1/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
FOOTBALL GAME	9/2/11	4:00pm Call Time	Fort Dorchester – PEP BAND
Marching Band Rehearsal	9/6/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	9/8/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
FOOTBALL GAME	9/9/11	5:00pm Call Time	Chapin – FULL BAND
Marching Band Rehearsal	9/12/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	9/13/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	9/15/11	6:00pm-8:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
FOOTBALL GAME	9/16/11	6:00pm Call Time	Irmo vs. Lexington – FULL BAND
Marching Band Rehearsal	9/19/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	9/20/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	9/22/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
FOOTBALL GAME	9/23/11	6:00pm Call Time	Irmo vs. Aiken – FULL BAND
MARCHING COMPETITION	9/24/11	ALL DAY	IRMO HIGH SCHOOL
Marching Band Rehearsal	9/26/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	9/27/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	9/29/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
MARCHING COMPETITION	10/1/11	ALL DAY	WHITE KNOLL HIGH SCHOOL
Marching Band Rehearsal	10/3/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	10/4/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	10/6/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
FOOTBALL GAME	10/7/11	5:00pm Call Time	Ridge View (Blythewood) – PEP BAND
MARCHING COMPETITION	10/8/11	ALL DAY	ROCK HILL/NORTHWESTERN
Marching Band Rehearsal	10/11/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	10/13/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
FOOTBALL GAME	10/14/11	6:00pm Call Time	Irmo vs. Spring Valley – FULL BAND
Marching Band Rehearsal	10/17/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	10/18/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	10/20/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
FOOTBALL GAME	10/21/11	6:00pm Call Time	Irmo vs. RNE – FULL BAND
Marching Band Rehearsal	10/24/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	10/25/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	10/27/11	4:00pm-6:30pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
FOOTBALL GAME	10/28/11	5:00pm Call Time	Blythewood – PEP BAND
Region Audition Fees Due	10/28/11	3:30pm	Mr. Simpson
MANDATORY CAMP	10/29/11	9:00am-4:00pm	IRMO HIGH SCHOOL
Marching Band Rehearsal	10/31/11	4:00pm-7:00pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	11/1/11	4:00pm-7:00pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	11/2/11	4:00pm-7:00pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
Marching Band Rehearsal	11/3/11	4:00pm-7:00pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility

FOOTBALL GAME	11/4/11	6:00pm Call Time	Irmo vs. Dutch Fork – FULL BAND
STATE COMPETITION	11/5/11	ALL DAY	SC STATE – ORANGEBURG
Marching Band Rehearsal	11/10/11	4:00pm-6:00pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
FOOTBALL PLAYOFF	11/11/11	TBD	TBD
Jazz Band Rehearsal	11/15/11	4:00pm-5:30pm	Bandroom
Concert Band Rehearsal	11/15/11	5:30pm-7:00pm	Bandroom
Symphonic Band Rehearsal	11/15/11	7:00pm-8:30pm	Bandroom
Marching Band Rehearsal	11/17/11	4:00pm-6:00pm	Marching Band Rehearsal Facility
FOOTBALL PLAYOFF	11/18/11	TBD	TBD
Jazz Band Rehearsal	11/22/11	4:00pm-5:30pm	Bandroom
Concert Band Rehearsal	11/22/11	5:30pm-7:00pm	Bandroom
Symphonic Band Rehearsal	11/22/11	7:00pm-8:30pm	Bandroom
Thanksgiving Break	11/23/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Thanksgiving Break	11/24/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Thanksgiving Break	11/25/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Winter Concert	12/8/11	TBD	TBD
Winter Break	12/19/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Winter Break	12/20/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Winter Break	12/21/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Winter Break	12/22/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Winter Break	12/23/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Winter Break	12/26/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Winter Break	12/27/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Winter Break	12/28/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Winter Break	12/29/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Winter Break	12/30/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Region Audition Help Session	1/2/11	3:45pm-5:00pm	Bandroom
Region Audition Help Session	1/3/11	3:45pm-5:00pm	Bandroom
Region Audition Help Session	1/4/11	3:45pm-5:00pm	Bandroom
Region Audition Help Session	1/5/11	3:45pm-5:00pm	Bandroom
Region Audition Help Session	1/6/11	3:45pm-5:00pm	Bandroom
Region Band Auditions	1/7/11	ALL DAY	TBD
All-State Audition Help Session	1/9/11	3:45pm-5:00pm	Bandroom
All-State Audition Help Session	1/10/11	3:45pm-5:00pm	Bandroom
All-State Audition Help Session	1/11/11	3:45pm-5:00pm	Bandroom
All-State Audition Help Session	1/12/11	3:45pm-5:00pm	Bandroom
Prof. Dev./Conferences	1/13/11	TBD	Irmo High School
Region Inclement Weather Aud	1/14/11	ALL DAY	TBD
Holiday	1/16/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
USC Band Clinic	1/16/11	4:00pm-9:00pm	USC
USC Band Clinic	1/17/11	8:00am-9:00pm	USC
USC Band Clinic	1/18/11	8:00am-9:00pm	USC
USC Band Clinic	1/19/11	11:00am-4:00pm	USC
All-State Audition Help Session	1/17/11	3:45pm-5:00pm	Bandroom
All-State Audition Help Session	1/18/11	3:45pm-5:00pm	Bandroom
All-State Audition Help Session	1/19/11	3:45pm-5:00pm	Bandroom
All-State Audition Help Session	1/20/11	3:45pm-5:00pm	Bandroom
All-State/State Jazz Auditions	1/21/11	ALL DAY	Lexington High School
Jazz Band Rehearsal	2/7/11	4:30pm-6:00pm	Bandroom
Concert Band Rehearsal	2/7/11	6:00pm-7:30pm	Bandroom
Symphonic Band Rehearsal	2/7/11	7:30pm-9:00pm	Bandroom
Jazz Band Rehearsal	2/14/11	4:30pm-6:00pm	Bandroom
Concert Band Rehearsal	2/14/11	6:00pm-7:30pm	Bandroom
Symphonic Band Rehearsal	2/14/11	7:30pm-9:00pm	Bandroom
Prof. Dev./Conferences	2/20/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Jazz Band Rehearsal	2/21/11	4:30pm-6:00pm	Bandroom
Concert Band Rehearsal	2/21/11	6:00pm-7:30pm	Bandroom
Symphonic Band Rehearsal	2/21/11	7:30pm-9:00pm	Bandroom
Region Band Clinic	2/24/11	ALL DAY	Lexington High School
Region Band Clinic	2/25/11	ALL DAY	Lexington High School
Jazz Band Rehearsal	2/28/11	4:30pm-6:00pm	Bandroom
Concert Band Rehearsal	2/28/11	6:00pm-7:30pm	Bandroom
Symphonic Band Rehearsal	2/28/11	7:30pm-9:00pm	Bandroom
All-State Jazz Clinic	3/1/11	TBD	Newberry College
All-State Jazz Clinic	3/2/11	TBD	Newberry College
Solo & Ensemble Fees Due	3/2/11	3:30pm	Mr. Simpson
All-State Jazz Clinic	3/3/11	TBD	Newberry College
Jazz Festival	3/3/11	TBD	Newberry College
Concert Band Rehearsal	3/6/11	6:00pm-7:30pm	Bandroom
Symphonic Band Rehearsal	3/6/11	7:30pm-9:00pm	Bandroom

All-State Band Clinic	3/9/11	ALL DAY	Furman University
All-State Band Clinic	3/10/11	ALL DAY	Furman University
All-State Band Clinic	3/11/11	ALL DAY	Furman University
Concert Band Rehearsal	3/13/11	6:00pm-7:30pm	Bandroom
Symphonic Band Rehearsal	3/13/11	7:30pm-9:00pm	Bandroom
Symphonic Camp	3/16/11	6:00pm-9:00pm	Bandroom
Symphonic Camp	3/17/11	9:00am-6:00pm	Bandroom
Symphonic Camp Performance	3/17/11	8:00pm	TBD
Concert Festival	3/20/11	TBD	Lexington High School
Concert Festival	3/21/11	TBD	Lexington High School
Concert Festival	3/22/11	TBD	Lexington High School
Spring Break	4/2/12	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Spring Break	4/3/12	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Spring Break	4/4/12	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Spring Break	4/5/12	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Spring Break	4/6/12	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School
Spring Marching Camp	5/14/12	4:00pm-6:30pm	Bandroom
Spring Marching Camp	5/15/12	4:00pm-6:30pm	Bandroom
Spring Marching Camp	5/16/12	4:00pm-6:30pm	Bandroom
Spring Marching Camp	5/17/12	4:00pm-6:30pm	Bandroom
Solo & Ensemble	5/4/11	Evening	TBD
Solo & Ensemble	5/5/11	ALL DAY	TBD
Holiday	5/28/11	NO SCHOOL	Irmo High School

ABSENCE FORM

This form must be completed and turned in at least **one week in advance** of any anticipated absence by a band student. (Excluding extreme emergencies!)

Student Name _____ Today's Date _____

Date of Absence _____

Reason for Absence _____

- *Please be specific! The policy is quite simple—if the school will excuse it, we will excuse it. If the school will not, we will not. The school does not consider “important matters or family matters” excusable.*

If the student receives a Doctor's Excuse, a copy should be placed on file with the band director.

Parent Signature

Student Signature

All forms must be submitted to the Director of Bands and will remain in the band office for a period of one year.

Director's Signature

Date

Signature Page

Uniform Contract

I understand that I am personally responsible for the uniform items assigned to me, and that I will be charged for any parts that are lost or damaged due to neglect or abuse. I also agree to take care of the uniform as directed. At the end of each event I will see that I have all uniform parts assigned to me properly stored in the garment bag. I will not assume responsibility for another band member's uniform. I will report any missing or damaged items immediately. I understand that failure to follow these rules will result in immediate disciplinary action.

Letter of Mutual Consent

I, the undersigned student, accept membership in the Irmo High School Band and understand that I am responsible for all the policies as set forth in the Band Handbook. I have read and am familiar with course requirement and syllabus for Band. I fully agree to carry out my responsibilities to the very best of my ability.

(Student Signature)

(Date)

I, the undersigned parent or guardian, have read and understand the policies as set forth in the Band Handbook and Course Syllabus. I also grant full permission for my child to be an active member of the Irmo High School Band. In addition, my child has full permission to attend all band functions. Furthermore, I understand that I must meet all financial obligations.

(Parent Signature)

(Date)

Address:

Street Address/PO Box #

City, State, Zip

Telephone: _____

Parent Cell Phone: _____

Student Cell Phone: _____

Parent E-Mail: _____

Student E-Mail: _____

Type of Instrument(s): _____

Manufacturer: _____

Serial Number: _____