

Duncan High School Bands

2009-2010 Handbook



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Band Office - 255-0700 ext. 270

www.duncanps.org/hsband

The Goals of the Duncan Band Program

The goals of the Duncan band program are as follows:

1. Increased musical development in
 - a. tone
 - b. intonation
 - c. appreciation of all kinds of music and musical styles
 - d. technique and musicality
2. Development of self-discipline and self-motivation.
3. Support of school and community activities through performances at athletic and community events and presentation of concerts and musical programs.
4. Development of school and community pride by representing Duncan at musical contests and parades.

Hints for a Successful Band

Without you this organization has no purpose or reason to exist, however, without your dedication and effort, it will not exist. Here are hints on how to make a good band a great band.

1. Give 100% of yourself 100% of the time--at least, if you are an exceptional band student, give more.
2. Anticipate all events by 30 minutes.
3. Attend all rehearsals and performances.
4. Have all necessary equipment and materials.
5. Be courteous to all band members, especially when correcting another student. Treat others as you would like to be treated.
6. **There is no place in this band for complaining. If you have a suggestion, please tell the directors, it will be considered.**

ATTENDANCE

1. Attendance of all rehearsals and performances is necessary for the success of our band program. Students on academic probation are expected to participate in the band rehearsals and performances
2. Always be in your seat, instrument out, ready to play ten minutes prior to a rehearsal or performance warm-up time.
3. If you have to miss an extra rehearsal or performance for any reason, **please have a parent call the Band office before the rehearsal, performance, or time of departure. (255-0700 ext. 270)**
4. **As the work you miss in band is difficult to make up, please schedule dentist and doctor appointments around band rehearsals if at all possible.**
5. Attendance of sectionals is required in order to be enrolled in band. If you have a transportation problem, we will be glad to help.
6. **During marching season, our rehearsals will begin daily at 8:00 a.m. In addition, the Colorguard and Percussion will have an extra rehearsal on Monday evenings and the full band will have an extra rehearsal on Thursday evenings.**
7. All detentions should be scheduled during encore or after school; not before school.
8. Bandmembers will not be allowed to miss any part of a rehearsal to attend a morning organizational meeting unless prior permission has been given.
9. Any absence prior to a performance, be it due to illness or any other reason, could result in the loss of your place in the performing band for that particular performance, depending on the closeness of the event.
10. Any avoidable absence from a performance (including in-school performances) can result in dismissal from the band program. An avoidable absence may be defined as: An absence not excused by the director prior to the event.

DUNCAN HIGH SCHOOL BAND GRADING SYSTEM

Grading will be based on playing requirements, preparedness, attendance and some written work. All performances are required unless it is a voluntary activity. **Work will not be accepted as a reason to miss a performance.** Students may be asked to turn in weekly playing "homework" assignments. These assignments will be recorded at home on a cassette tape. Students must maintain a passing grade in band for continued enrollment in the class. Attitude and conduct will be used as criteria for grading. Students are expected to maintain high standards in these areas to participate in the Duncan Band Program.

Tardy Policy

You must be in your seat with your instrument and ready to play when it is time to start. If not, you will be counted tardy. (This includes any rehearsal or performance.) Excessive tardies will be handled in accordance to the student handbook and can affect your chair placement in the band.

UNIFORM

It should be considered the highest honor to be allowed to wear the uniform of your organization. While in uniform, you are easily identified as a member of the Duncan H.S. Band. Your behavior is identified with your school and community. Therefore, your behavior and attitude should always be exemplary.

1. Band uniforms will be kept in the uniform room at the bandroom.
Uniforms may be taken home after getting prior approval from one of the directors and returned after a day or two.
2. You will be issued a clean uniform. It is your responsibility to keep the uniform dry-cleaned throughout the year. You have the option of turning your uniform in at the end of the **year in the dry-cleaning bag with receipt attached** or paying a \$20 cleaning fee to Duncan H.S. Band.
3. Students will need to furnish the following items to be worn with the uniform:
 - a. Current Show T-shirt – Cost is approx. \$15

I have read the preceding handbook and understand it completely. By signing this I agree to abide by the policies set forth in this handbook.

Student's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Date

This page must be signed and returned to the director by

Friday, August 28, 2009.

30 Football Game Home vs Western Heights (Senior Night)
Report @ 6:00 p.m.

November

3 Pizza Fundraiser Begins (HS Band only)
6 Football Game Away @ El Reno Report @ 4:15 p.m.
7 **ALL-STATE First Round Auditions & ALL-REGION Auditions –
Altus HS
13 Possible Football Play-off Game
20 Possible Football Play-off Game

December

5 **ALL-STATE Final Round Auditions – Westmoore HS
5 Christmas Parade – Downtown Duncan – Parade starts at 3:00 p.m.
14 Winter Concert with MS Bands – 7:00 p.m. – DHS Auditorium
17 **Christmas Caroling

January

20 – 23 **OMEA All-State Convention – Tulsa

February

5 & 6 **All Region Honor Band Clinic – Lawton
12 **SWOSU Jazz Festival – Weatherford
27 ****District Solo and Ensemble Contest @ Lawton Mac**

March

3 **Host OSSAA District Band Contest – Duncan HS
5 Possible Band Concert for 5th Graders
9 **Pre-State Contest Concert - 7:00 p.m. – DHS Auditorium**

11-16 *Band Trip to Orlando, FL*****

15 – 19 SPRING BREAK

April

14 **OSSAA State Concert Band & Sight-reading Contest @ Western**
Heights H.S.
21 ****State Solo & Ensemble Contest @ OSU in Stillwater**

May

10 **Evening of Percussion Concert - 7:00 p.m. – DHS Auditorium**
11 **Spring Concert with MS Bands - 7:00 p.m. – DHS Auditorium**
14 **Band Banquet & Dance – 6:30 p.m.
20 **Graduation Performance (9-11 grade Band Members)**

As stated at the top of this calendar, this is as accurate as can be at this time. As any changes or additions come up, you will be notified. Example: the basketball games are not listed. When we find out dates, we will let you know. If there is not a time listed for an event, you will be notified of the time as soon as it is available.

** - These activities are voluntary. **If not marked with asterisks, then those activities are required.**

- b. Black Socks
- c. Black Drillmaster Marching Shoes – approx. \$35

4. Warm Weather/Casual Uniforms consist of:
 - a. H.S. Band Polo Shirt (furnished by the Band Boosters for New band members) Replacements are approx. \$20
 - b. Black Dress Slacks - **NO JEANS!**
 - c. Black Socks
 - d. Black Drillmaster Marching Shoes
5. The Colorguard uniform will change each year to fit the show that we perform. Each member of the Colorguard is expected to purchase the complete uniform through personal funds or fund-raisers by the due date. Colorguard members are also required to buy a guard T-shirt (approx \$10) and black wind pants and red guard jacket (approx. \$60)
6. Uniforms are to be worn only at band performances by band members. Wear the whole uniform or none of it. **No jewelry or accessories should be worn with the uniform.** Only stud earrings worn in the ear lobe will be allowed. All other piercings should be removed or covered. Also no decorations or ornaments (medals, stickers, etc.) are to be worn on the uniform.
7. When traveling, **the student must provide a wooden hanger for the uniform** when not wearing it. It should be hung on the hanger when not being worn. Do not lay it on a seat. We have beautiful uniforms...please take very special care of them.

SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS

Duncan Public Schools has a limited number of instruments that are available to students.

1. When a school instrument is loaned to a student, the student must sign an Instrumental Agreement Form insuring that the instrument is properly cared for and will be returned to the school at the request of the director.
2. Any repair resulting from damages due to irresponsibility, misuse, or neglect will be the responsibility of the student and his/her parent or guardian.
3. Abuse of a school owned instruments will not be tolerated.

ALL-REGION / ALL-STATE / SOLO-ENSEMBLE

1. Please notify Mr. Haas during the first few weeks of school if you would like to audition for the All-State or All Region Honor Band.
2. Because of the difficulty of the tryout material, and the limited amount of time to help students auditioning, a preliminary audition may be held to determine if a student possesses the musical ability and has done the necessary preparation to audition for the All-Region or All-State Band. Please do not ask to audition if you can not attend after-school extra-help sessions.
3. Notify Mr. Haas before Christmas break if you would like to participate in a solo or ensemble contest. Mr. Haas will pick or approve all solo/ensemble music. All solos must be memorized unless you do not plan on taking the solo to the State Contest.
4. In mid January, after the students have been given time to work on their solo/ensemble, they will perform for a director with music. Only those who have done some preparation will be allowed to enter their solo or ensemble at contest.
5. Students must pay the entry fee by the due date and there will be no refunds.
6. Students who use piano accompaniment must hire an approved accompanist. If you are unsure if an accompanist is approved, ask Mr. Haas. The average cost of an accompanist is approximately \$40 for District Contest and \$60 for State Contest.
7. All-Region, All-State and Solo/Ensemble events are strictly voluntary, however, they are counted as performances. If you sign up, attendance policies will be in effect. Also bonus points will be given for auditioning and attending the event.

PRIVATE LESSONS

While private lessons are not required, they are **strongly** encouraged. Private lessons are not only helpful to students who are struggling but are very beneficial to the more advanced students who might have goals toward All-Region, All-State Band and/or Solo Competition. Ask one of the directors for the names of approved teachers.

DUNCAN HS BAND 2009-2010 CALENDAR Updated 8/13/2009

Please read this over carefully. Mark all dates on your personal calendars or display this calendar in a prominent place in your home so scheduling conflicts can be avoided. This is as accurate of a calendar that can be given at this time. If there are any additions or changes, you will be notified well in advance. **Please schedule work schedules, vacations, and other appointments around the times given on this calendar.** If the football team makes it into the playoffs, the band will play at every game – please take this into consideration when scheduling anything in November. If a conflict does arise, contact the band office immediately so that we can try to work something out. If you have any questions, feel free to call.
Band Office: 255-0700 Ext. 270

August

- 13 First Day of School
- 17 Parent Performance & Hot Dog Social - 6:30 p.m. (Report @ 6:15)
- 24 **Weekly Monday Colonguard and Drumline Rehearsals Start until Oct. 19. (This does include Labor Day):**
Drumline: 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. Colorguard: 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

September

- 1 ****Magazine Fundraiser Begins**
- 3 **6:00 – 8:00 Weekly Thursday Rehearsals for Full Band Begin** until Oct. 22
- 4 Football Game Home vs Seminole Report @ 6:00 p.m.
- 11 Football Game Away @ Ardmore Report @ 4:30 p.m.
- 18 Football Game Home vs Carl Albert Report @ 6:00 p.m.
- 25 Football Game Away @ Chickasha Report @ 5:00 p.m.
- 26 **Marching Contest at Putnam City** (plan on all day)
~Note that this may be an SAT test day. All band students will need to schedule the SAT on another weekend.~

October

- 2 Football Game Home vs Altus Report @ 6:00 p.m.
- 9 Football Game Away @ Deer Creek Report @ 4:00 p.m.
- 10 **U.C.O. Marching Contest at UCO Stadium in Edmond** (plan on all day)~Note that this may be an SAT test day. All band students will need to schedule the SAT on another weekend.~
- 16 (Friday)Football Game Home vs Lawton MacArthur **(This is Fall Break. Game will still be required)** Report @ 6:00 p.m.
- 22 (Thursday) Final Thursday Evening Practice
- 23 Football Game Away @ Northwest Classen Report @ 4:15 p.m.
- 24 **OBA Marching Championships @ Union High School** (plan on all day)~Note that this is an ACT test day. All band students will need to schedule the ACT on another weekend.~
- 27 **OSSAA Regional Marching Contest @ Cameron University in Lawton**

HAAS'S 10 COMMANDMENTS

1. No food, gum, candy or drinks in the bandroom.
2. No talking during rehearsal.
3. **If you're not early, you're late.**
4. When in doubt, don't.
5. Stay seated at all times.
6. No PDA. **(PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION)**
7. Leave the bandroom clean and orderly; remember everything has its place.
8. Always be prepared, both musically and mentally.....anything can happen.
9. If it's not yours, leave it alone.
10. **Respect our band, our goals, and our members.**

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

1. All students will ride the bus to band activities.
2. **A student may be released to ride home with his/her own parent with prior notification and a note signed by the parent.**
3. While riding the bus, the following rules are in effect:
 - a. No screaming, loud talking or other disruptive sound will be tolerated.
 - b. You are expected to sit facing forward for the duration of the trip. Please do not stick or throw anything out of the window at any time.
 - c. Ipod and mp3 style players and video players will be allowed **with headphones**. If you choose to take one, you are responsible for any damage or loss.
 - d. Before loading the buses, all students will meet in the designated area first for announcements and when dismissed will be expected to load in an orderly fashion.
 - e. On trips-When arriving at our destination or arriving back home, all students will remain seated until further instructions are given by the director.
 - f. **There will be no food, drink or candy allowed on buses unless OK'd by Mr. Haas.**
 - g. Drum Sticks and Mallets should be packed with the equipment and not carried onto the bus.
 - h. Promiscuous behavior and the public display of affection will not be tolerated. Any student wishing to sit with a member of the opposite sex is required to sit in the first 5 rows of the bus.
 - i. Directors, Sponsors and Drivers have the right to change your seating at any time. If we have repeated problems, we will go to assigned seating.

ELIGIBILITY

1. In accordance with OSSAA and Duncan Public Schools' policy, students must maintain a 60% in all classes in order to be eligible to participate in any extra-curricular activity. The Duncan High School Band will in every way adhere to these policies.
2. If a student begins to show a pattern of eligibility problems, or if a student's previous semester's grades cause him/her to be 6 weeks ineligible, he/she may be removed from band for a period of no less

than one block. If during this time, grades have risen to an acceptable level, the student may be re-evaluated for possible readmission into the band.

3. A student must maintain a passing grade in band to remain in the class. If a student fails band for a block, he/she will not be allowed to re-enroll in band the following block.

GENERAL POLICIES

1. Every rule has an occasional exception.
2. Only a director Okays that exception.
3. Every student will be given space to store his/her instrument and other necessary supplies. Do not leave anything out in the rehearsal hall.
4. Never let unauthorized people play or hold your instrument.
5. Only play your instrument in appropriate areas.
6. Do not use band as an excuse to get behind in your class work. Remember, bad grades can make you ineligible.
7. There will be no gum chewing, candy eating, food or drinks in the bandroom at any time.
8. No horsing around, screeching on instruments, or non-band students in the band room at any time.
9. Use or possession of tobacco, alcohol or drugs is prohibited during all band trips and functions and may result in dismissal from the band program and will be reported to school administration.
10. These policies are general in nature. Use your own good common sense to govern your behavior. Remember, you represent our band and our school.

CONDUCT ON TRIPS

1. Anticipate all departure times by 30 minutes.
2. Before you leave or return home, run through a mental check list to make sure you have everything necessary for the trip.
3. Always take some money with you, more if you feel you will need it.
4. Never go anywhere alone.
5. Buses are not mobile playgrounds; rowdy behavior is extremely dangerous in a moving vehicle.

CONDUCT IN THE STANDS

1. Your seating will be assigned.
2. **No one is to sit in the band seating area but the band members.**
3. Everyone plays on all numbers.
4. You will be given a portion of the third quarter off, and are to be back and ready to play at the time that is announced. If this rule is not followed, the privilege will be lost. Remember, you are always a representative of the band.
5. There is to be no horseplay in the stands. You could damage an expensive instrument.

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

Musical equipment is very expensive and hard to replace. Anyone found mistreating school property will be severely punished and held responsible for all damages.

LOADING AND UNLOADING EQUIPMENT

1. You are responsible for your horn being loaded or unloaded.
2. **Everyone** should help when loading or unloading. When everyone helps it goes a lot faster.
3. No one may leave until all equipment has been unloaded, the trash has been picked up off the floor of the bus and until the director has given permission to leave.