

# Canton High School

# Band Handbook

2019-2020

# Table of Contents

Page 1- Philosophy

Page 2-Performance, Rehearsal Requirements

Page 3- Grading Policy, Attendance, Absences

Page 4 Absences Continued, Conflicts, Discipline

Page 5,6- Descriptions of Performing Ensembles

Page 7- Sectionals, Drug Testing, Fees

Page 8- Ordering Supplies, Band Trips, Fundraising, Student Accounts

Page 9- Student Accounts Continued, Uniforms

Page 10-Uniforms Continued, Website, Contact Information

The CHS Band Program at Canton High School provides the opportunity to perform and study literature in the following genres: Marching Band, Concert/Symphonic Band, Solos and Ensembles, Jazz Band, and Madrigal Brass.

### CHS Band Program Philosophy

#### **THE NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR MUSIC EDUCATION**

1. Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music
2. Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music
3. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments
4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines
5. Reading and notating music
6. Listening to , analyzing, and describing music
7. Evaluating music and music performances
8. Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts
9. Understanding music in relation to history and culture

#### **ILLINOIS LEARNING STANDARDS- FINE ARTS (State Goals 25, 26, 27)**

##### ***Goal 25 - Language of the Arts - Know the Language of the Arts***

- A. Understand the sensory elements, organizational principles and expressive qualities of the arts
- B. Understand the similarities, distinctions and connections in and among the arts

##### ***Goal 26 - Creating and Performing - Through creating and performing, understand how works of art are produced***

- A. Understand processes, traditional tools and modern technology used in the arts
- B. Apply skills and knowledge to create and perform in one or more of the arts

##### ***Goal 27 - Art and Civilization - Understand the role of arts in civilization past and present***

- A. Analyze how the arts function in history, society, and everyday life
- B. Understand how the arts shape and reflect history, society and everyday life

## Performance Requirements

Band is a performance based class. This means that every rehearsal during the school day and during the evening leads to some kind of public performance. **All students must attend their scheduled performances and rehearsals.**

The following is a list of all band performances that take place during a typical school year. The ensembles involved in the various performances are listed. If “Marching Band” is listed, it also includes color guard.

Friendship Festival Parade (Marching band)  
 All home football games (Marching band)  
 Homecoming Parade (Marching Band)  
 Competitions (Marching band)  
 Winter Concert  
 5-6 Pep Band Games  
 IHSA State Organization Contest  
 Mid-Illini Concert Festival  
 Spring Concert  
 Graduation  
 Mid-Illini Jazz Festival

## **Band Rehearsal Requirements:**

Symphonic Band/Concert Band/ Full Band- School Day

Jazz Band- Second Semester Early Bird Class

Madrigal Brass- After School rehearsals

Marching Band- Evening Rehearsals. Students in marching band are required to attend every evening rehearsal. Attending rehearsals will also be part of the semester grade and a schedule will be provided at the start of the year.

## Grading Policy:

The band program follows the CHS grading policy

A+	100.00
A	99.99 - 93.00
A-	92.99 - 90.00
B+	89.99 - 87.00
B	86.99 - 83.00
B-	82.99 - 80.00
C+	79.99 - 77.00
C	76.99 - 73.00
C-	72.99 - 70.00
D+	69.99 - 67.00
D	66.99 - 63.00
D-	62.99 - 60.00
F	59.99 - 0.00

Students will earn their band grade through attendance at performances and rehearsals, participation, testing (playing and written), and other various projects that will be outlined on the course syllabus each semester. Attending rehearsals / events / performances is absolutely mandatory. See the policies below for conflicts. Make-up work will be assigned on an individual basis and at the discretion of the instructor.

**Missing multiple rehearsals / events throughout the year because of family trips will result in a lowered semester grade! Please plan your schedules around our performances and rehearsals. The band events for the entire year can be found on the district calendars handed out before the beginning of each school year.**

### Points Assigned:

<u>Performances 70%</u>
<u>Concerts and Competitions: 100</u>
<u>Football games: 30</u>
<u>Other Required Performances: 10</u>
<u>Rehearsals and Quizzes 30%</u>
<u>After School Practices: 10</u>
<u>Quizzes: 10</u>
<u>Daily Participation: 1</u>

## Absences Due to Conflicts with other CHS activities:

**All rehearsals and performances are mandatory and graded.** If there is a sports practice at the same time as a band performance, the student will perform with the band. If there is a cross-country meet, volleyball game, soccer game, or golf match at the same time as a band rehearsal, the athlete will participate with the athletic team and come late to band rehearsal. If there is a sports practice and band rehearsal at the same time or a sports meet/game at the same time as a band performance, the band director, coach, and administration will discuss the conflict to decide the best solution so both organizations will succeed at their respective event.

## Absences Due to Conflicts NOT related to other CHS activities:

**Excused Absences from a performance include:** Illness, death in the family, and emergency situations. Other conflicts may be considered excused depending on the situation. These situations will be handled on an individual basis. Make-up work will be assigned on an individual basis at the director's discretion.

**Unexcused absences from a performance include:** Work conflict, and failure to notify the director of an absence BEFORE the absence (except in the case of an emergency). Other conflicts may be unexcused depending on the situation. These will also be handled on an individual basis. Make-up work will NOT be assigned for an unexcused absence.

**Illness:** The director must be notified of an absence from a performance OR evening rehearsal due to illness. If a student misses school on Friday he or she will not be able to participate in a competition scheduled for that following Saturday.

*Absences need to be communicated with the director's **5 School Days** in advance by parents/guardians. The factors of the absence will be determined excused/unexcused based on the CHS Band Handbook and director's discretion.*

### **Band Room Discipline Procedure**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense- Warning

2<sup>nd</sup> Offense- 30 minute band room detention, phone call home

3<sup>rd</sup> Offense- Office referral

Further offenses- Follow CHS disciplinary procedures listed in the student handbook

### **Description of Performing Ensembles at CHS**

### Marching band:

Marching band is a class that meets during the fall semester each year. Students involved in marching band learn a show to perform at home football games and marching band competitions. The students also learn how to march in a parade block for various parades. Freshmen-Seniors enrolled in a band during the fall semester will be a part of the marching band. Marching band is an activity that involves many public performances. Therefore, there are evening rehearsals in addition to our practices during the school day. There are also evening and weekend obligations for performances. **All evening/weekend rehearsals and performance are MANDATORY and GRADED during the season.** Marching band rehearsals start in the summer with three weeks of morning 9am-12pm sectionals as well as a **MANDATORY** band camp from 9am-5pm during the first week of August. A sample summer schedule and season schedule can be found at the back of this handbook. Marching band runs from the third week of July-October.

### Color Guard:

The color guard is a part of the marching band as well. They provide the visual effects to the show with the use of primary flags, but sometimes they use other equipment. Students must audition to be a member of the color guard squad. Auditions take place in early May. Since the color guard is a part of the marching band, all schedules, rehearsals, and performances are the same. The color guard meets during the school day at the same time as the marching band for the 1st quarter after marching season is over, students in the color guard will join the band inside if they play an instrument or will be assigned another class

### Full Band:

After the marching band season is over, everyone that was marching in band practices together sitting down inside for the Winter Concert. This band is known as the full band. There are no evening rehearsals once full band starts.

### Pep Band:

All students in fall and spring semester band are required to participate in pep band. The pep band plays at five boys' games and five girls' home varsity basketball games. The students do not have to play all ten games, but are welcome to. Students are divided into two bands: Purple band and Gold Band. Each band is assigned to play at different games. All students in both bands play at the boys' senior night and the girls' senior night. Attendance is taken and this is entered as part of the 3rd quarter grade. The same attendance policy as stated earlier applies for these games. There are no evening rehearsals, but all of the games do take place in the evenings. A schedule is passed out in mid to late November.

### Symphonic Band:

This is considered to be the top-performing ensemble at CHS during the spring semester. Students interested in symphonic band must audition. Freshmen-Seniors are allowed to participate. Auditions take place in early November. A list of required performances was given on page two. There are no evening rehearsals, but there are some evening/weekend performances. This band meets 2nd hour during the spring semester.

### Concert Band:

Any student that does not wish to audition for symphonic band but still wants to be in band in the spring semester is a member of the concert band. Freshmen-Seniors are allowed to participate. A list of required performances was given on page two. There are no evening rehearsals, but there are some late evening/weekend performances. This band meets 3rd hour during the spring semester.

**\*\*Students are required to participate in either symphonic or concert band during the spring semester in order to be allowed to participate in marching band the next year. This ensures their progression in musical knowledge and continued development as a musician. Exceptions are made if there is a legitimate scheduling conflict that cannot be worked out with the guidance department.**

### Optional Ensembles

#### Jazz Band:

Jazz band is a group that meets during Early Bird hour of the school day to learn about various styles of jazz music. Jazz band starts after marching season has ended. An audition is required to get into jazz band. Freshmen-Seniors are allowed to participate. The instruments we look for are: alto saxes, tenor saxes, a bari sax, trumpets, trombones, drum set, piano, bass, electric guitar and sometimes clarinets, flutes, and vibes. Jazz band is a graded class and has performances on some evenings and weekends. A schedule for jazz band performances is handed out once jazz band starts. The jazz band performs the 1st half of the winter concert before the full band and has a concert in the spring.

#### Madrigal Brass:

This is an optional performing ensemble. It is made up of 2 trumpets, 1-2 trombones, 1-2 french horns, a tuba, and sometimes a baritone. This group performs at the annual Madrigal Dinner that is put on by the CHS Chorus and Madrigal Singers every December. There are evening

rehearsals and performances. Schedules are given out in November for this group--- it is strictly voluntary.

### **Other Important Information**

#### **Sectionals:**

Students with a study hall or P.E. class that coincides with an hour the director is allotted per the master schedule will have required sectionals. Students will miss their study hall/P.E. once a week for these sectionals. Any student missing P.E will be given make up work from the P.E. instructor, as this is the physical education department's policy. Students may be required to attend morning sectionals if they have not checked off their marching band music by the scheduled date. Failure to attend scheduled sectionals during the school day or in the morning will result in a lowered grade and/or disciplinary action.

#### **Drug Testing:**

Any student in the band program at CHS must sign an adhere to the random drug testing policy that has been implemented in District #66. A positive test will result in disciplinary actions based on the stated consequences of the extracurricular code of conduct.

#### **Fees:**

This is a list of some of the required items that students will need to have/pay for.

Speedster Marching Shoes - \$20 (needed for marching band)

Gloves - \$2 (needed for marching band)

Every student is responsible for keeping his/her instrument in good working condition. If an instrument is broken it must be sent in for repair as soon as possible. A representative from Kidder Music and The Music Shoppe visit the high school once a week and can pick instruments up for repair.

Woodwind players are responsible for ordering their own boxes of reeds. Suggestions for reeds to purchase are listed on the band website. Individual reeds are sold by the director however can't be guaranteed to be in stock. Prices will reflect the instrument the reed is used for.

Brass players are responsible for ordering slide grease, valve oil, and polishing cloths. Suggestions for these products are listed on the band website.

## ORDERING SUPPLIES:

Any supplies can be purchased through Kidder Music in Peoria, IL. A representative from Kidder visits CHS weekly to deliver items / pick up orders and repairs. Order forms will be available in the band room at CHS. Students may place an order, turn in the form, and the needed supplies will be delivered to the high school the next time that the representative from Kidder visits. Money will be due when the supplies are delivered. Students do have the opportunity to fundraise to purchase supplies. See the section titled “Fundraising” for more information on this.

### **Instruments:**

Only instruments with traditional finishes (silver, brass, etc...) will be allowed in the CHS band program. There are companies that make instruments finished in bright colors (purple, pink, green, blue, red), but these are poorly made and are not quality instruments to purchase. Acceptable brand names for instruments include Yamaha, Conn, Selmer, Bach, Gemeinhardt, and some others. Please ask questions before purchasing a new instrument to make sure it is a quality high school level instrument.

### **Band Trips:**

It has been an established tradition at CHS for the band members to take an extended trip during Spring/Easter break every four years. The administration and the school board must give approval for the trip. It should not be assumed that this tradition will continue, but to this point there have been no problems that would suggest this would stop. Students will be notified well ahead of time concerning any such trip. The next trip (BOA) is scheduled for October 20th and 21st, which will include the current freshmen-seniors who want to go.

### **Fundraising:**

Students are given many opportunities through the school year to do some fundraising for band. Each student in band is given a “student account.” This system was set up to help parents with the costs of being in band. Below includes a description of how this works.

#### **Student Accounts:**

Students in the CHS band have an account through the P & O band club to put money earned in fundraising towards musical purchases and trips.

1. The money earned in fundraising is not personal money but P & O Band Club money. Any money not used when a student graduates goes back to the general P & O Band Club account
2. If a student isn't in band for a full year, their money goes back to the P & O account.

3. A student may only transfer funds to a brother or sister that is in band concurrently with them.
4. Money in band accounts may be used towards a band trip, band camp, summer music camps, and some musical supplies. The use of the band account money must be approved by the director and must be band related.
5. Any outstanding debts to the music department must be taken care of before they can attend a field trip or band trip.
6. Outstanding debts, at the end of a school year, will be given to the main office and charges will be placed on the student before his/her grades or diploma is released.
7. Student account money may not be used for damages to uniforms/band property.
8. Students accounts may not be used during the summer to pay for supplies until the band meets for summer band the 3rd week of July.

### **Uniforms:**

Students have various uniforms for the different performing ensembles

Marching Band-Students are provided with most of their uniform for marching season

Students are required to also have, **long black socks, gloves, and the required Speedsters marching shoes.**

For marching season, students will be assigned a uniform and a hat. Detailed notes will be kept on the previous condition of the uniforms. If a uniform is returned at the end of the season in WORSE condition than when it was given, the student will be required to pay for the damage (student account money will not be used).

*Fee for damaging Jacket/Bibbers--\$50-100 (depending on extent of damage)*

*Fee for damaging Hat/Hat box-- \$60*

*Fee for damaging Plume--\$15*

Full Band -- the school does not provide this uniform.

White dress shirt, black pants/skirt, black socks, black shoes

Symphonic Band -- the school does not provide this uniform.

Black dress shirt, black pants/skirt, black socks, black shoes

Concert Band --

White dress shirt, black pants/skirt, black socks, black shoes

Jazz Band -- Matching polo shirts are purchased

Black dress shirt, black pants/skirt, black socks, black shoes

**Website**

[www.littlegiantsbands.org](http://www.littlegiantsbands.org)

This website dedicated to the CHS band program. Information regarding schedules, grading, syllabi, and various events can be found on the website.

Please check the website for information BEFORE contacting the school if there is a question. If the information you are searching for is not on the website, please contact:

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Canton High School  
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