



## Student Handbook 2015-2016



Mr. Williams, Director of CHS Bands

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## CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS FOR CHS BAND STUDENTS

1. You are expected to be **PREPARED**. This includes: music, instrument, pencil, positive attitude, and to be in class **ON TIME**. Band rehearsals will begin promptly at 8<sup>th</sup> Hour. Be in your seat ready to play when the bell rings. The school's tardy policy will be followed.
2. **CANDY, GUM, FOOD, and DRINKS** are **NOT allowed** in the band room at any time. \*Any student caught with ANY of these items in the band room will serve a detention with Mr. Williams.
3. School property and the property of others should be respected at all time. This also includes school and privately owned instruments. **(Do not touch it if you do not own it!)**
4. Please, **NO** talking in rehearsal.
5. Respect the band room. **Put things where they belong.**

If a student fails to meet these expectations, the following consequences can occur in any order:

- ✓ Verbal Warning.
- ✓ Student stays after class for teacher/student conference.
- ✓ Student is given a detention.

Severe offenses (fighting, inappropriate language, insubordination, non-compliance, etc.) will be sent immediately to the office. All other policies of Carterville High School and Carterville Community Unit School District #5 will be enforced at all times.

## GRADING

Each semester CHS band students will be graded on the following aspects:

### REHEARSALS

Students will receive 10 points for each evening rehearsal (during the fall marching season), and 2 points for each daily rehearsal. Absences that are excused (see attendance policy) will not count against a student's rehearsal grade.

### PLAYING TESTS

Playing tests, 100 points, will happen as needed, announced and unannounced. Your placement test for our Symphonic Winds will also count as a playing test. There is also the possibility of a written portion for the semester final exam.

## PERFORMANCES

Performances are a vital part of the curriculum. **Attendance at all performances is REQUIRED.** Performances are co-curricular (not extra-curricular) and therefore receive a grade. For this reason, you are expected to be at all scheduled performances. You will receive 50 points for each performance. Performances missed will be calculated into your final grade for the semester. Students with excused absences that are not emergency situations must contact Mr. Williams within ONE week of the performance. All emergency situations (see attendance policy) will be automatically excused.

## EXTRA CREDIT

Extra Credit will be assigned at the discretion of the director.

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***Remember, you alone EARN your grade in Band!***

Your grade will be based on the number of points you earn throughout the semester, and will be determined by the percentage rubric found below.

### **GRADE BREAKDOWN/GRADING SCALE:**

✓ Playing Tests	100 pts
✓ IHSA Organizational Contest (Spring)	100 pts
✓ Semester Final Exam	TBA
✓ Performances	50 pts
✓ Evening Marching Rehearsals	10 pts each
✓ Daily Rehearsals	2 pts each

100% – 93% = **A**

92% – 84% = **B**

83% – 76% = **C**

75% – 68% = **D**

67% – below = **F**

## ***CHS BANDS ATTENDANCE POLICY***

As stated earlier, **attendance at all performances and rehearsals is required.** The only automatically excused absences are emergency situations: personal illness, a death in the family, etc. **Conflicts with sports and other school activities will be worked out!** I am firm believer in student participation in other school activities. However with this conflicts can arise. **Please keep in mind that I cannot help you if you do not let me know about the conflict well in advance!**

## CHS BANDS ATTENDANCE POLICY (CONTINUED)

Mr. Williams must be notified **prior to the performance** for any student who is unable to attend. Any student with an unexcused absence from a performance will not receive the points for the performance. The same will apply to an unexcused absence from any rehearsal. Please keep in mind that whenever you will be absent from a rehearsal/performance (except for an emergency), I must know as far in advance as possible. I will expect a note from your parents. **A note informs me of the absence, however does not necessarily excuse the absence.**

With regards to work, I will never accept work as an excuse to miss **(with a few exceptions)**. School should be your top priority at this time in your life.

## IMEA DISTRICT VI, ALL-STATE PARTICIPATION

All CHS students are encouraged to try out for IMEA District VI if they are interested. Students should let Mr. Williams know as soon as possible so that they can receive the required etudes and scales. Juniors and Seniors are possibly eligible for All-State selection if they are selected to the District Ensemble. District auditions are held in October, with the festival performance happening in November. IMEA All-State is held every January in Peoria. It is highly encouraged that all students take private lessons to help with IMEA preparation.

## IHSA SOLO & ENSEMBLE CONTEST

All CHS Band students are **encouraged** to participate in Solo and Ensemble Contest held in the spring. Each student has the choice to perform a solo and/or participate in an ensemble. Students who choose to participate will perform their piece for the class before the contest. Preview dates are set on the spring master schedule in January.

## IHSA ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEST

**All members of the CHS Band are REQUIRED to perform at Organizational Contest.** The CHS Symphonic Winds as part of their spring schedule does this contest each year. Schedule and details to come later in the year as the date approaches.

## CHS BANDS TRIP ETIQUETTE/ELIGIBILITY

*Marching Band, Pep Band Games, Solo & Ensemble, Organizational, Trips, etc.*

Students must handle themselves on **ALL** trips that **BEST** represent both CHS Bands and Cartersville High School. **All CHS rules and policies apply on band trips.** If a student cannot handle himself or herself in this manner, Mr. Williams will inform both the student and their parent/guardian in a private conference. They will then be assigned an alternative assignment to make up the performance points.

Band students who continue to break rules and policies on school sponsored band trips will face possible suspension from school, band, and/or future trips, or in severe cases, expulsion from band.

## DISCIPLINE

Traditionally, music students are usually the best students, both in terms of academics and conduct. However, the very nature of band class (both the high level of concentration required for optimum performance and the fact that the entire band is armed with noisemakers) demands that it be more structured than that of a regular classroom.

I do feel that in order to have an excellent band, a high level of discipline is a necessity. I have seen many schools, both Jr. High and High School, and without exception, the best bands are those that are highly disciplined. I do not think that this is a coincidence.

## CHS BANDS PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

All band students will need to purchase a Pride of the Lions T-shirt and a pair of khaki shorts. These will be worn at some Marching Band performances as well as all home Basketball games. Jeans will take the place of shorts at BB games. Also, students will need to have a black t-shirt, athletic shorts, and black socks to wear underneath their Marching Band uniform. Symphonic Winds for gentlemen is white and black. Ladies will need to have all black eveningwear for Symphonic Winds. Concert Jazz Ensemble attire is still to be determined.

## CARTERSVILLE BAND BOOSTERS

Attention all Cartersville Band Parents, the Cartersville Band Boosters is a great way to get involved in your student's music education! Please come and join the conversation, your voice is important. All parents of all grade levels are encouraged to attend!



## PARENT SUPPORT

An essential ingredient in any successful public school music program is parental support. It is just as important at the secondary level as it is at the previous levels. In High School we have an active program beginning with parades, half-time performances, field show performances, contests, concerts, etc., which take a lot of commitment from the students and their families. Being in band takes time, patience, and a lot of hard work to put together a program that one can look back on with pride. One can find numerous reasons to quit: lack of time or part-time jobs, however, skills received in the music program will far outweigh those short term activities.

Parents please encourage your child to: stay with the program, practice assigned music, be on time, keep you informed of activities, keep the director informed, and keep a POSITIVE attitude!

## SEMESTER MASTER SCHEDULE

Mr. Williams will hand out the schedule for each semester at the beginning of the term. These dates are REQUIRED! Missed rehearsals and performances will count against your grade for the semester unless approved by Mr. W. For marching band, evening rehearsals will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 – 8:30 PM.





**"Pride of the Lions" Marching Band**  
**Symphonic Winds**  
**Concert Jazz Ensemble**  
**Lion Basketball Band**

## **CHS BANDS HANDBOOK AGREEMENT**

- Please read, sign, and return the handbook agreement form to Mr. Williams by the deadline date given. Thank You!

*Please sign and return the following to Mr. Williams by Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015.*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and reviewed the Cartersville High School Bands Student Handbook with my child. I understand student expectations, the grading system, the attendance policy, trip etiquette/eligibility, and performance attire. I will help to enforce these and all other policies with my child.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

