



**Parent and Student
Band Policy Handbook
2009-2010**

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PARENT & STUDENT BAND POLICY HANDBOOK

2009-2010

A STATEMENT OF POLICY

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 Spring Valley High School band program, become a better person and a better musician.

We firmly believe that the student should improve through regular practice. In the Spring Valley band program we feel that when the 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 advanced music through instrumental performance
- To develop performance skills of the various wind and percussion instruments
- To provide for selected musical needs of the school and the community
- To develop knowledge and understanding the music selection process
- 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

STUDENT AND PARENT RESPONSIBILITY TO THE BAND

Being a member of a successful organization requires a great demand of the students, parents and staff personnel who are involved. Therefore it is essential that everyone follow through with their responsibilities. To meet these expectations, we must coordinate and balance our responsibility to ourselves, each other, our families, our school and community and to the music. We look forward to a very fun, productive and busy year.

- I agree to attend all rehearsals/ performances on time.
- I agree to prepare and practice for rehearsals/performances and express a willingness to accept responsibility and to follow through with such responsibilities.
- I agree to do my part in keeping the facilities clean and well kept. I will be responsible for my own instrument, equipment, etc. and will take an active part in clean-up activities.
- I agree to meet my student fair share obligations through fundraising or paying "out-of-pocket" expenses.

These are expectations of all successful band programs. Failure to meet these criteria quickly will slow the success of all students and the program

CODE OF CONDUCT

Because of the nature of the organization, band discipline must be strict! Band students and parents must believe in the ideals, principals, 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 may include the chance to go on any upcoming trip. This decision will be made at the director's discretion.

ATTENDANCE

Rehearsals and performances depend on 100% attendance to be effective. Each member depends on all other members. Unlike any other class, there is a negative affect on all students, both musically and visually, when a student is absent or late. ***You are important and we need you at each and every rehearsal and performance!*** Rehearsals will begin on time. Please refer to the district's attendance policy or class syllabus for further information.

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.

RULES AND PROCEDURES (miscellaneous)

- Shoes and socks must be worn at all times for outside practices.
- Chewing gum is not permitted during a rehearsal or in the band room.
- A band member must respect his/her uniform and wear it properly at all times.
- Food and drink are not permitted in the band room.
- Be in your seat, warmed up and ready to begin on time.
- Respect authority and others, including their personal property.
- A band member will wear no exposed jewelry while in uniform.
- When traveling, "civilian clothes" must be tasteful.
- Alcohol and drugs are **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**. *All RCSD2 policies regarding such are in force during all band activities.*
- All school rules will be enforced during all band functions.
- Students are required to remain with the band after games, competitions, and performances. We will dismiss as a group.
- If you share a folder and are absent, make sure it gets to school.

TRAVEL

Because performances are an extension of the classroom, the Spring Valley Bands travel to all scheduled events as a group. It is the parents' responsibility to make arrangements for their child's transportation to and from school for all of these events. Please refer to our band website for posted itineraries. All students must travel as a group unless prior arrangements have been made in writing.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS – FAIR SHARE AND FUNDRAISING

All band members are expected to help in fund-raising their fair share. We simply cannot have the type of program we desire with district funds alone. It is important to do your fair share by taking orders and turning money in on time. Parents who do not wish to participate in fundraising may make a contribution equal to the fundraising goal. Students that carry a debt will be required to participate in the class functions but not permitted to perform at games, performances, or competitions as suggested by the SV administration.

The fair share and fee schedule for 2009-2010 will be the following:

May 18 - \$100 Non-Refundable Band Camp Deposit (Reserves your child a spot in the show)

June 15 - \$150 Non-Refundable Band Camp Payment #2 (\$250 total band camp Fee)

July 15 – Fair Share Payment #1 - \$80

August 14 – Fair Share Payment #2 - \$80

September 15 – Fair Share Payment #3 - \$80

October 15 – Fair Share payment #4 - \$80

November 16 – Final Fair Share Payment - \$80

(Total Fair Share - \$400)

January 8 – Concert Camp Fee Due - \$50

Fair Share for Concert Only students is \$200
(\$40 per payment date)

****Note: Families with two or more siblings in the program will receive a 50% reduction on all fees for the second or third child.**

STUDENT ACCOUNT POLICY

The purpose of the Spring Valley Band Booster Club is to support and promote the Band Program; it is for this reason that the Booster Club sponsors its annual FUNDRAISERS. The school and district allocate funds for the basic band program which finance some of the staff, equipment and instruments, class music and instructional materials, fall marching uniform and some travel for some school events. Beyond this basic program the Booster Club establishes a budget to enrich the program by providing for items listed in the budget. Fund raisers generate funds for the entire program. These fundraisers will go towards each student's fair share until fair share and other fees are met. Further fundraising profits will go into a "student account." Policies for spending money out of a student account are outlined below.

The Spring Valley Band Booster Club Board adopted the following policies for the use of Band Student Accounts:

1. Students will be able to request student account transfers to pay for transportation, lodging, food, tickets or other cost-based activities for extra-curricular band events, i.e. All-State & Region Band clinics, USC band clinic, etc. Request for payments are to be completed by the stated deadline.
2. Monies earned for the students' band account may be used for leadership and band camp, band banquet, band trips, and uniforms. Deadlines for requests for the expenditures listed in this policy are one week prior to the stated due date of the event. If approved, other band-related materials and events, which will be used for the purpose of strengthening the Spring Valley Band, may be funded from the student account money. Such purchases must be pre-approved by the director. No personal items such as clothing, souvenirs, etc., will be approved. All of these requests must be turned in to the Booster Club person in charge of accounts At least two weeks before expenditure. All receipts to be reimbursed must be turned within 30 days after expenditure. A paid receipt or a bill must accompany all requests from the vendor.
3. It is requested that each band family contribute to their fair share agreement through monthly payments as scheduled, or by fundraising opportunities provided by the booster club.
4. When a student has not turned in funds raised in a FUNDRAISER, that student will not be able to participate in future FUNDRAISERS until the amount in question has been remitted. In such a situation, funds beyond fair share in the student's account will be applied to the debt.

5. Individual fair share that has not been paid through fundraising efforts will be payable by personal check or money order. Delinquent fees or fair share payments will be collected by the school via debt sheet procedures.
6. **BY APRIL 30 EACH YEAR**, student accounts will be closed and no monies will be withdrawn for the remainder of that fiscal year. Money left at the end of the fiscal year will be credited to the upcoming year's band camp fees and/or fair share.

AWARDS

Awards given to band students at the Spring Awards Banquet include: Outstanding Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior; Outstanding Senior (Nancy Zuerner Award); John Philip Sousa Award; Louis Armstrong Jazz Award; Leadership Award; Best and Most Improved from each section; "Rudi" Spirit Award; and the Lazar Family Award for the new family who has stepped in and been the most active. Recipients are selected after careful consideration of musicianship, leadership, attitude and participation. Total Merit Points (see below) carry much weight.

AWARD LETTERS

Spring Valley Marching Band members who have shown the utmost dedication will have an opportunity to earn an Award Letter in Band. There will be two different sets of criteria-one for winds and percussion and one for color-guard members.

Requirements for Letter in Band – Wind and Percussion

- No unexcused absences from any rehearsals or performances
- Maintained at least a B average in band classes
- Earned at least 50 merit points
- No debts owed to the Band Program

Requirements for Letter in Band – Color Guard

- No unexcused absences from any rehearsals or performances
- Maintain at least a B average in band
- Met guard fund-raising requirements
- Earned at least 40 merit points
- No debts owed to the Band Program

Merit Points

Marching Band Members.....	25 points
Private Lessons.....	.2 points per lesson (max of 20 points)
All State Band Member.....	15 points
Region Band Member.....	10 points
Region Audition.....	5 points
Solo and Ensemble.....	2 points per event
Jazz Band.....	5 points
Percussion Ensemble.....	5 points
Winter Guard.....	10 points
Chamber Group (meeting on regular basis).....	5 points
Outside Clinics.....	5 points each
District Orchestra.....	5 points
SC Youth Philharmonic.....	5 points
Met 100% of fair share.....	20 points
Director-Approved Concert Attendance.....	2 points each (max of 5 for 10 points)

BAND CURRICULUM

Middle School Band - Pre-requisite to becoming a member of the SV Band Program: Each student entering the Spring Valley High School Band program should have successfully completed the requirements of a middle school band program. Without the help of our middle school directors, their programs, and curriculum, students would not be prepared for the rigors of the high school band experience.

Symphonic Band: Symphonic Band is the most advanced concert ensemble at Spring Valley High School. It is intended for the most mature, dedicated, and talented wind and percussion musicians in the school. Emphasis is placed on individual tone production and technical development, as well as ensemble balance, blend, and intonation. This will be accomplished through drilling of tone and technical exercises and the performance of literature. Students in this course will be held to the highest of musical standards. For more information, refer to your class syllabus.

Note: Students enrolled in the Symphonic Band are required to attend concert camp on January 29th and 30th. A \$50 non-refundable fee is required for this event. Student fair share for non-marchers is \$200.00.

Concert Band: Concert Band is the intermediate concert band at Spring Valley High School. It is intended for the mature, dedicated, and talented wind and percussion musicians who are looking to advance to the next level. Emphasis is placed on individual tone production and technical development, as well as ensemble balance, blend, and intonation. This will be accomplished through the drilling of tone and technical exercises and the performance of literature. For more information, refer to your class syllabus.

Note: Students enrolled in the Symphonic Band are required to attend concert camp on January 29th and 30th. A \$50 non-refundable fee is required for this event. Student fair share for non-marchers is \$200.00.

Viking Band: Viking Band is for wind and percussion musicians and students who are members of the SV color guard. Concepts to be covered are tone production, music literacy, critical listening, expression, communication, auditory perception, and self-discipline. Students will have the opportunity to perform high quality band literature as well as solo and ensemble literature. All students involved in Symphonic or Concert Band are required to participate in the Viking Band. This class meets exclusively in the afternoon from 4-7 weekdays during the fall semester.

Note: Spring Valley Band Members are required to attend Summer Band Camp. A non-refundable deposit of \$100 must be paid in the spring of the previous school year, and the non-refundable balance of \$100 is due on the first day of Band Camp. 2009-2010 student fair share for band is \$400.00.

Jazz Band: Jazz Band is for students who are interested in learning to perform jazz music. This performance ensemble is limited to certain instrumentation needs as required by jazz music and arrangements. Students who participate in Jazz Band not only learn variety of jazz music, but also learn to build improvisational skills.

Spring Valley Colorguard: Students interested in dance, choreography, and movement may choose to audition for our Color Guard. Audition times for these units are set by the director. Auditions occur in May for the following year. These students will participate and will be held to the requirements and responsibilities of Viking Band. These students may also audition for winter guard in the spring if available. A fair share amount for Winter Guard will be determined at the beginning of the Winter Guard season.

ENROLLMENT

All after-school rehearsals and performances are extensions of the classroom. Therefore, all Spring Valley Band members (with the exception of guard members) are required to be enrolled in a concert ensemble (concert/symphonic band) class for the year and marching band during the first semester. Exceptions are rare and must be approved by the director.

GRADING SYSTEM

The total points system is used to calculate all grades in the band program.

Viking Band: Grades are based on the following categories:

- Attendance: at band camp, after school rehearsals, mini-camp, and performances
- Materials: Have all materials needed for a successful rehearsal or performance: i.e. flip folder, music, pencil, coordinate sheet, instrument, water bottle
- Music Pass-Offs: A schedule will be posted in the band room with pass-off dates and assigned points for each piece of music
- Uniform/Instrument Inspection: Inspections will be held before each performance. Students will be responsible for having met all requirements as requested by the uniform committee.

Concert Band / Symphonic Band: Grades are based on the following categories:

- Individual Playing tests
- Written tests
- Daily participation and performance
- Attendance at after-school rehearsals, performances and winter concert camp

REQUIRED CAMPS

Viking Band Camp: Summer Band Camp is held at the end of July and beginning of August. One week will comprise a focus for leadership, rookies, percussion, and color guard. All other members will be involved in the other two weeks. Camp is required of all students enrolled in a band class. Approximately eight weeks worth of normal rehearsal time is crammed into the main two-week camp, so attendance is a must. A non-refundable deposit must be paid in the spring of the previous school year, and the non-refundable balance is due on the first day of Band Camp.

Concert Camp: The Concert / Symphonic Band Camp is a two day intensive training with a staff of outstanding teachers. It will be held at Spring Valley High School after the winter break. This camp is required of all wind and percussion students. The exact dates are determined and announced at the end of the previous school year so that family arrangements can be made well in advance for all students to attend. Concert Camp will take place on Jan. 29th and 30th, 2010. A \$50 fee for this camp is required for all Concert and Symphonic Band students.

UNIFORMS

Spring Valley Band uniforms will be issued during the beginning of each marching band season. The uniform will be stored at the high school and dry cleaning will take place as needed. Damage to or loss of the uniform that is determined to be the fault of the student will be charged to the student.

Summer uniforms for wind and percussionists will consist of band shirt, khaki shorts, white socks and mostly white tennis shoes. The shirts can be purchased through the band during band camp. Students are responsible for purchasing khaki shorts on their own. The summer letter details costs. The guard instructor determines guard member summer uniforms.

In marching season, jewelry will not be worn while in full uniform. Long hair must be put up in the hat in full uniform. At no time is any part of the uniform to be removed when in public (except for hat and gloves). The student will have the responsibility to repair or replace any damage to the uniform beyond normal wear and tear. Wear your uniform with pride! You represent us all - be a "Class Act".

Uniforms for concert band will be tuxedos for guys and black dresses for girls. Guidelines for what to purchase was passed out in the course syllabus.

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

Private Lessons

Private lessons should be considered for all students. They are the best way to improve performance skills as the one-on-one approach allows students to benefit from individual instruction. A recent survey of students in the All-State Band revealed that approximately 80 % of the students in the band studied privately. Please visit the SV Band website to access our list of private lesson instructors.

SCBDA Region and All-State Bands

Students audition for these bands in January. Audition material consists of performance of a required prepared piece, scales, percussion rudiments, sight-reading and recalling assigned musical terminology. Students who earn a position in one of the Region Bands will attend the clinic at the end of February in Rock Hill, SC; those who earn a seat in one of the All-State Bands will attend the clinic at Furman University in Greenville, SC in March. Student financial obligations include registration fees and the cost of the trip if they earn a seat in one of these bands. **STUDENTS WHO SIGN UP FOR THIS EVEN MUST PAY THE REGISTRATION FEE.** Please sign up and pay the required fee by the announced deadline.

Solo & Ensemble

This provides an opportunity for all students to perform a solo and /or participate with an ensemble before a qualified adjudicator for constructive criticism and a rating. Students receive a rating according to their demonstration of the following components: tone, balance and blend, intonation, characteristic instrument sound, musicality. Students are responsible for selecting music, choosing and rehearsing with their partner(s) or accompanist. (If a student decides to perform a solo, he/she must find an accompanist to perform with them.) Students may register to participate in two different playing events if they so choose. **STUDENTS WHO SIGN UP FOR THIS EVEN MUST PAY THE REQUIRED REGISTRATION FEE.** Please sign up and pay the required fee by the announced deadline.

Concert Band Clinics and Music Camps

Band Clinics and music camps offered by USC, Winthrop, Furman, etc. provide students the opportunity to meet music faculty and students from various colleges while working with them and some of the nation's top clinicians to sharpen their musical skills. Students are also able to audition for scholarship opportunities during this clinic. Students who attend this clinic must be nominated by their director and are usually region or all-state band members. A fee may be required to attend these events.

South Carolina Youth Philharmonic

The South Carolina Philharmonic Youth Orchestras provide a quality education in classical music through the performance of symphonic and chamber music to as many talented young musicians as possible from the Greater Columbia area and surrounding counties. This experience enables the young musicians to achieve their highest potential as both performers and patrons of the arts. Auditions for this group occur each May, and membership is granted for an entire year. More information can be obtained from the directors.

THE SPRING VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL BAND BOOSTERS

The Spring Valley High School Band Booster Club is an organization developed to further aid the needs of the band program. This group coordinates fund-raisers, chaperones, equipment personnel, uniform personnel, etc. Active club members are asked to chaperone, etc. Please see our website for current officers and other information at www.springvalleybands.org.

SV Symphonic Band Syllabus – 2009-2010

Teachers

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803-699-3500 x 69810

Website

www.springvalleybands.org

Course Description:

Symphonic Band is the advanced level performance-based ensemble at Spring Valley High School. Students must be able to read music well and comfortably perform advanced level skills. Emphasis is placed on individual tone production, technical development and sight-reading, as well as ensemble balance, blend, intonation, and aesthetic musical growth. This will be accomplished through the drilling of tone and technical exercises and the performance of literature. After school rehearsals and local, regional, or national performances are to be expected and required. A weekend concert clinic will also be required during the first weekend of February. Honors Credit may be earned for this course by Juniors and Seniors only. For further information, you may see the director(s).

Prerequisites:

By audition, including the following:

- 9 to 12 major scales (grade appropriate) plus chromatic played by memory.
- A clinic level region band solo required by the state curriculum.
- A sight reading example
- Incoming 9th graders must play their 7 major scales from memory and have the recommendation of their middle school director.
- Students must also be enrolled in Viking Band

Goals and Expectations:

Students will improve performance skills, demonstrate knowledge of some basic music theory, analyze and evaluate performances, and gain a deeper understanding of music's role in society and throughout various historical periods.

Students will attend all concerts and rehearsals involving Sym. Band, unless an excuse is granted by the band director in advance. A list of dates can be found on the band website at www.springvalleybands.org. Symphonic Band will perform various levels of music ranging from Grade 4 through 6 band, chamber (small ensemble), and solo literature. Students will be held accountable for learning their music outside of class. Students are expected to improve through regular habits of effective practice outside of class. When a student has lost the will to improve himself or to make a contribution to the band, he has wasted the time and efforts of his school, his fellow students, and his community by continuing in the program.

Curricular Topic Sequence:

Tone Production, Technique, Articulations, Balance, Blend, and Music Reading will be the focus of all the units covered in Concert Band. The units are: Fundamentals and Fall Concert Preparation (8/20 – 11/19); All State Audition Preparation (9/1 – 1/9); Sight-reading (11/20 - 1/28); Concert Festival Preparation (1/29 – 4/1); Solo / Ensemble and Spring Concert Preparation (3/15 - 5/21); Senior Assembly Preparation (5/3 - 5/28). The dates in parentheses may be altered slightly throughout the year.

Materials Needed for This Class:

- * Instrument and equipment needed for a successful performance
- * Worksheets to be passed out by director
- * Band Literature to be passed out by director
- * Dress for Concerts is Formal Black: Men - tux, Ladies – Matching black, formal dresses which will be purchased through the band boosters

Grading Procedures:

We will use the Point System - which is calculated by the formula: Total Points Earned / Total Points Possible. Grades for each week will be updated by the beginning of the following week.

Students will receive grades in the following categories:

- Class Participation - Given every 3 weeks. Every student begins with 100%. Points are deducted for not having materials or poor effort.
- Individual Performance – Given every 3 weeks. Every student begins with 100%. Points are deducted from the categories of Tone Quality, Notes, Rhythm/Tempo, and Musicianship.
- Concert Attendance - 100% will be given for all concerts - Students with an unexcused absence from a concert will be given a 0%. Punctuality to call times is required and failure to be on time will result in appropriate point reductions. In the case of an extreme emergency, a detailed telephone message the night of or as soon as possible is required for an excuse to be considered. A doctor's excuse is required for missing a concert. Failure to obtain transportation to the concert or a job related conflict will be considered unexcused. Please make arrangements well in advance.
- Playing Tests - Each 9 weeks, students will have at least one major individual playing test. These individual performances will be recorded for each student's assessment portfolio.
- Terms Tests – Each 9 weeks, students will complete a written test taken from the Senior level state terms list.
- Self Assessments – Following certain concert performances, students will participate in a self assessment of their group performance.
- Concert Camp – Concert camp will be counted as a major performance grade.

Late Work and Make-Up Work Policy:

Students are responsible for scheduling time to make up missed tests. This will need to be done outside of class time. Students will be given opportunities to make up tests (except sight-reading tests) up to 1 week after the test is given. A make-up time must be arranged outside of class time. It is not possible to make up Concert Attendance since playing by ones self does not require the same performance components as performing with an entire ensemble.

Information Specific for This Course:

All parents are encouraged to participate in the Spring Valley Band Booster Club. Watch for the newsletter in the mail to find out more information. Further details of the overall program can be found in the Spring Valley High School Band Handbook.

Check this web site for the latest information pertaining to the Spring Valley Band.

www.springvalleybands.org

SV Concert Band Syllabus – 2009-2010

Teachers

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Work phone

803-699-3500 x 69810

Website

www.springvalleybands.org

Course Description:

Concert Band is the intermediate level performance-based ensemble at Spring Valley High School. It is intended for the mature, dedicated, and talented wind musician who is looking to advance to the next level. Emphasis is placed on individual tone production, technical development and sight-reading, as well as ensemble balance, blend, intonation, and aesthetic musical growth. This will be accomplished through the drilling of tone and technical exercises and the performance of literature. After school rehearsals and performances are to be expected and required. A weekend concert clinic will also be required during the first weekend of February.

Prerequisites:

By audition, including the following:

- 9 to 12 major scales (grade appropriate) plus chromatic played by memory.
- A clinic level region band solo required by the state curriculum.
- A sight reading example
- Incoming 9th graders must play their 7 major scales from memory and have the recommendation of their middle school director.
- Students must also be enrolled in Viking Band

Goals and Expectations:

Students will improve performance skills, demonstrate knowledge of some basic music theory, analyze and evaluate performances, and gain a deeper understanding of music's role in society and throughout various historical periods.

Students will attend all concerts and rehearsals involving Concert Band, unless an excuse is granted by the band director in advance. A list of dates can be found on the band website at www.springvalleybands.org. Concert Band will perform grade 3 and 4 band, chamber (small ensemble), and solo literature. Students will be held accountable for learning their music outside of class. Students are expected to improve through regular habits of effective practice outside of class. When a student has lost the will to improve himself or to make a contribution to the band, he has wasted the time and efforts of his school, his fellow students, and his community by continuing in the program.

Curricular Topic Sequence:

Tone Production, Technique, Articulations, Balance, Blend, and Music Reading will be the focus of all the units covered in Concert Band. The units are: Fundamentals and Fall Concert Preparation (8/20 – 11/19); All State Audition Preparation (9/1 – 1/9); Sight-reading (11/20 - 1/28); Concert Festival Preparation (1/29 – 4/1); Solo / Ensemble and Spring Concert Preparation (3/15 - 5/21); Senior Assembly Preparation (5/3 - 5/28). The dates in parentheses may be altered slightly throughout the year.

Materials Needed for This Class:

- * Instrument and equipment needed for a successful performance
- * Worksheets to be passed out by director
- * Band Literature to be passed out by director
- * Dress for Concerts is Formal Black: Men - tux, Ladies – Matching black, formal dresses which will be purchased through the band boosters

Grading Procedures:

We will use the Point System - which is calculated by the formula: Total Points Earned / Total Points Possible. Grades for each week will be updated by the beginning of the following week.

Students will receive grades in the following categories:

- Class Participation - Given every 3 weeks. Every student begins with 100%. Points are deducted for not having materials or poor effort.
- Individual Performance – Given every 3 weeks. Every student begins with 100%. Points are deducted from the categories of Tone Quality, Notes, Rhythm/Tempo, and Musicianship.
- Concert Attendance - 100% will be given for all concerts - Students with an unexcused absence from a concert will be given a 0%. Punctuality to call times is required and failure to be on time will result in appropriate point reductions. In the case of an extreme emergency, a detailed telephone message the night of or as soon as possible is required for an excuse to be considered. A doctor's excuse is required for missing a concert. Failure to obtain transportation to the concert or a job related conflict will be considered unexcused. Please make arrangements well in advance.
- Playing Tests - Each 9 weeks, students will have at least one major individual playing test. These individual performances will be recorded for each student's assessment portfolio.
- Terms Tests – Each 9 weeks, students will complete a written test taken from the Senior level state terms list.
- Self Assessments – Following certain concert performances, students will participate in a self assessment of their group performance.
- Concert Camp – Concert camp will be counted as a major performance grade.

Late Work and Make-Up Work Policy:

Students are responsible for scheduling time to make up missed tests. This will need to be done outside of class time. Students will be given opportunities to make up tests (except sight-reading tests) up to 1 week after the test is given. A make-up time must be arranged outside of class time. It is not possible to make up Concert Attendance since playing by ones self does not require the same performance components as performing with an entire ensemble.

Information Specific for This Course:

All parents are encouraged to participate in the Spring Valley Band Booster Club. Watch for the newsletter in the mail to find out more information. Further details of the overall program can be found in the Spring Valley High School Band Handbook.

Check this web site for the latest information pertaining to the Spring Valley Band.

www.springvalleybands.org

SV Viking Band Syllabus 2009-2010

Teachers David Allison Daniel Humber Maria Lee	dallison@richland2.org dhumber@richland2.org mlee@richland2.org	Work phone 803-699-3500 x 69810 Website www.springvalleybands.org
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Course Description:

Viking Band is a late-bird marching band class. Attendance at summer band rehearsals, camps, football games, and band contests are all required. Concepts to be covered are tone production, music literacy, critical listening, expression, communication, auditory perception, body control and awareness, and self-discipline. Students will have the opportunity to perform high quality band literature while performing a visual marching drill.

Pre-requisites:

Viking Band is designed to be a continuation of the middle school and high school band programs. Membership in the Viking Band class requires completion of a middle school band program with the recommendation of the middle school director. Students must also be enrolled in either Symphonic or Concert Band through audition.

Goals:

1. To increase individual performance ability
2. To further develop music reading skills
3. To further develop ensemble skills
4. To develop individual musicianship skills
5. To develop endurance and physical coordination
6. To perform musical phrases through a complete visual presentation
7. To perform at marching band festivals for the purpose of assessment

The above goals are to be accomplished through the performance of quality grade 4-6 band literature.

Grading Policy:

We will use the Point System - which is calculated by the formula: Total Points Earned / Total Points Possible. Grades for each week will be updated by the beginning of the following week.

The 1st Quarter will be 90% and the 2nd Quarter will be 10% of the student's grade before the exam. This percentage system will be used since 90% of what we do in rehearsal and performance occurs before the end of the 1st Quarter on the Richland School District Two calendar.

- Daily Participation / Preparation – 10 Points per rehearsal
- Summer Band Camp – 100 Points
- Friday Night Football Games – 25 points each
- Music Pass-Off – 150 Points
- Saturday Competitions – 100 points each
- State Marching Prelims/Finals – Final Exam Grade (20% of the Semester Grade)

Required Materials:

- Quality instrument in good playing condition
- Marching Band Flip Folder
- Music and other materials given out by director(s)
- Pencil
- Loose, comfortable clothing and athletic shoes for rehearsals
- Khaki (tan) shorts, green band polo, white socks, and mostly white athletic shoes for warm weather performances (Summer Uniform)
- Black marching shoes, black socks, and black gloves for formal uniform performances

Student Expectations:

- Be present and early for all rehearsals and performances
- Come to all rehearsals with required materials
- Respect others and facilities
- Accept nothing less than excellence in rehearsals and performances

Conduct:

Inappropriate conduct will not be tolerated. If a student interrupts the learning environment he will not be allowed to participate for the remainder of the rehearsal and lose 10 points from the participation grade. On the second day he has to pack up for behavior, a parent conference will be requested. A third instance will result in an administrative referral.

Late Work and Make-Up Work Policy:

It is not possible to make up Performance/Rehearsal Attendance since playing by ones self does not require the same performance components as performing with an entire ensemble.

Policy for Continuation in the Band Program:

All members of the Spring Valley Band must be enrolled in two semesters of a concert band ensemble, unless the director has approved exemption of the first semester. When exceptions are made, students will be required to take the second semester class. The first semester class can only be exempted with the permission of the director when severe scheduling conflicts arise. If a student does not enroll in band the first semester, he must be enrolled in marching band and/or take weekly private lessons from an approved instructor. A student not enrolled in band during the second semester cannot participate in band activities that semester and must apply for re-admission into the band program for the next year. No one will be considered for re-admission into the program without having taken private lessons from an approved instructor.

Information Specific for This Course:

All parents are encouraged to participate in the Spring Valley Band Booster Club. Watch for the newsletter in the mail to find out more information. Further details of the overall program can be found in the Spring Valley High School Band Handbook.

Check this web site for the latest information pertaining to the Spring Valley Band.

www.springvalleybands.org

Why Music?

- **Music Is A Science.** It is exact, 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 exact control of time.
- **Music Is Mathematics.** It is rhythmically based on the subdivision of time into fractions which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.
- **Music Is 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.
- **Music Is History.** Music usually reflects the environment and times of its creation, often even the country and / or racial feeling.
- **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.
- **Music Develops Insight and Demands Research.**
- **Music is all these things** , but most of all, **Music Is Art.** It allows the 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 we teach music! Not because we expect you to major in music ...

But ... so you will be human

... so you will recognize beauty

... so you will have something to cling to

... so you will have more love, more compassion, more gentleness, more good;

In short, More Life!!

Did You Know...

- A 2000 Georgia Tech study indicates that a student who participates in at least one college elective music course is 4.5 times more likely to stay in college than the general student population.
(Dr. Denise C. Gardner, Affects of Music Courses on Retention, Georgia Tech, 2000)
- 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, Sept. 2000)
- Students who participate in All-State ensembles consistently score over 200 points higher on the SAT than non-music students. This figure indicates that students can pursue excellence in music while also excelling academically.
(Texas Music Educators Association, 1988-1996)
- 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)
- Students in arts programs are more likely to try new things, and they can better express their own ideas to friends, teachers, and parents.
(Champions of Change, The President’s Council on the Arts and Humanities, 1999)
- Music students demonstrate less test anxiety and performance anxiety than students who do not study music.
(“College Age Musicians Emotionally Healthier Than Non-Musician Counterparts,” Houston Chronicle, 1998)
- The Average Scores Achieved by music students on the 1999 SAT increased for every year of musical study. This trend was found in SAT scores of previous years.
(Steven M. Demorest and Steven J. Morrison, “Does Music Make You Smarter?” , Music Educators Journal, Sept. 2000)
- A majority of the technical designers in Silicon Valley are also practicing musicians.
(The Case for Sequential Music Education in the Core Curriculum of the Public Schools, Center for the Arts in the Basic Curriculum, 1997)

Band Policy Agreement and Permission Form

2009-2010

Please sign and return this sheet by the first day of band camp 2009.

I give my permission for (student name, please print) _____ to attend Spring Valley High School Band activities for the dates listed in the *2009-2010 Spring Valley Band Calendar*. I have read and agree to the policies set forth by the *Spring Valley High School Band Policy Handbook 2009-2010* regarding attendance, awards, award letters, band camps, booster club, Code of Conduct, enrollment, fees and fair share through fund-raising or payment, grading system, officers, rules and regulations, student accounts, travel, uniforms, and individual class syllabus. All RSD2 and Spring Valley High School Policies and Procedures will also be followed. I understand that this is a performance-based class and that any unexcused absence from a performance may result in dismissal. Because this is a performance based class, I understand that there will be some instances where photos or videos will be taken of my child. By signing this agreement, I am agreeing to the consent of my child's image being displayed in any form of media. I have a copy of the calendar of band events and know that any calendar changes can and will be made and posted on the band's website: <http://www.springvalleybands.org>.

Parent Signature

Date

I have read and agree to the policies set forth by the *Spring Valley High School Band Policy Handbook 2009-2010* regarding attendance, awards, award letters, band camps, booster club, Code of Conduct, enrollment, fees and fair share through fund-raising or payment, grading system, officers, rules and regulations, student accounts, travel, uniforms and individual class syllabus. All RSD2 and Spring Valley High School Policies and Procedures will also be followed. I understand that this is a performance-based class and that any unexcused absence from a performance may result in dismissal. I also have a copy of the calendar of band events.

Student Signature

Date

Richland School District Two Code of Honor

On my honor, I will neither give nor receive unauthorized assistance on any assignment. I understand that any violation of the RSD2 Honor Code will result in academic and disciplinary action.

Student Signature

Date