

Bunceton Music Handbook



2018-2019

Rebecca Ray, Director

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Ensembles and Explanations

Band:

- High School Band – The high school band consists of students from 9th-12th grade. They will participate in competitions, clinics, and concerts each semester developing their musical skills and knowledge.
- Middle School Band – The middle school band consists of students from 6th-8th grade and is a year-long course. They will participate in concerts each semester further honing their musical skills and knowledge in preparation for high school band. Based on interest and ability a couple of 6th graders may participate in marching competitions by volunteering to carry the banner.
- **Beginner Band – The beginner band consists of students in 5th grade in the early stages of learning a band instrument. The 5th grade students will select instruments early in the fall semester. (Is this still accurate?)**

Choir:

- High School Concert Choir – High School Concert Choir includes all 9th through 12th grade students interested in singing in an ensemble. They will participate in competitions, clinics, and concerts each semester.

Extra-Curricular Groups:

- Dragon Singers – Dragon Singers consists of any students from 6th to 12th grade that wish to participate. The choir will meet once a week before or after school with extra practices as necessary. They will perform at least once a semester at the concert.
- Flag Corps – Depending on interest there may be 2 flag corps group (parade marching and floor routine). We will schedule practices before or after school. The groups will consist of grades 7th-12th. Students do not have to be in band to be involved with this group. However, depending on instrumentation, band members may not be able to be in the parade flag corps.
- Drumline – This group will consist of 7th-12th graders and may compete at band events as well as perform at Homecoming. Students do not have to be in band to be involved with this group.

Attendance

Our classroom is unique in that we share what we have learned and experienced in the form of performances. All music classes are considered co-curricular, not extra-curricular, so any time outside the classroom for a performance is required and will be given a grade. Extra practices will be for lettering points. I expect all students to arrive at the designated time. Points will be deducted for tardy arrivals, and frequent problems with this will result in a parent phone call. If a student has one F, they are not eligible to attend MSHSAA events, so please see to it that your grades remain up. Students are usually excused only for deaths in the family, marriages, or personal illness accompanied with a doctor's note. Notification of absence should always be IN ADVANCE when possible. Your absence affects your team, so early notification allows us to adjust as best we can. If you are absent from school, you are not allowed to perform, but remember, a doctor's note must accompany the absence. If another school sponsored activity falls on the same date as the performance, that sponsor and I will work out arrangements for attendance at both events. If a student receives an excused absence, 100% of the points may be made up by receiving and completing a makeup assignment from the director. **The student is responsible for communicating with the director to set up the appropriate work to make up the points.**

Grading

Points will be accumulating every single day of class. The following is a list of possible grade options and their point value. The list includes, but is not limited to:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Participation/attitude | 5 points/day |
| Performances | 100 points/performance |
| Playing/Singing Assessments | Band 15-50 points/ Choir 15-20 points |
| Music Check | 10 points |
| Pencil Check | 5 points |
| Music Journal | 10 points/entry |
| Practice Logs | 25 points |

Participation/Attitude: Daily participation will be closely monitored as well as overall attitude in the music classroom. Communication with parents will occur should the director feel there is a problem with any particular student. Continued problems with these items could result in removal from the music classroom. Please do not assume that you will receive an A just for sitting in my classroom. You will earn your grade, so please keep that in mind every day you are here.

Performances: As mentioned earlier in the handbook, with effective communication for approved reasons, a student will be given a makeup assignment. Performance points are also based on having appropriate attire (addressed later in the handbook) and required materials for the

performance. Failure to have required attire and/or materials will result in deduction of points or in serious cases a total loss of points.

Assessments: Playing/singing assessments will be given at least once a semester and may be given up to three times. The material/test date will be announced in advance. A written final exam will also be given each semester. Material will be discussed and a study guide will be given to students.

Music Check: Music will be checked based upon markings students may be asked to put in their music. Writing on music in PEN is not allowed and will result in 0 points for a music check. The music will be confiscated and the student will be asked to mark a new copy of the music in pencil by next class period after it is given for zero points.

Pencil Check: Students are required to bring a pencil to class every day to mark music when necessary. There will be periodic pencil checks. Be warned, if students are not bringing pencils, chances are there will be a pencil check. There will be pencils in the classroom that students may use in the classroom and put them back before they leave, but when a pencil check is called, no students may leave their seat.

Music Journal: Students are required to have a notebook specifically for music. If the student is involved in band and choir, they will need a journal for each class. Journal entries may include writing prompts, composer information, music theory, or other relevant information. There may also be individual or group projects partnered with the journal or outside the journal depending on the nature of the project.

Practice Logs: In place of practice logs, we will be doing more playing quizzes. Students are still expected to practice to be prepared for the playing quiz.

If students are asked to practice a certain passage of music outside of class, it will be expected of them to prepare it. If the student needs help with the passage, it is their responsibility to ask for help.

No food, candy, gum, or beverage in the classroom and/or rehearsals with the exception of water. The director reserves the right to allow an exception to this due to parties or rewards. Students will lose points if caught with contraband.

Lettering (Grades 9-12)

Students are given points based on their participation in our music activities throughout the school year. Lettering is a privilege not a right. Each member of the band and/or choir has the opportunity to earn a letter in their respective group and/or groups. **Any student who has an unexcused absence or receives a grade lower than a B in the respective class will not letter.** Lettering will be based on a points system, but points will not carry over between years. There will be a sheet attached to this handbook outlining possible lettering points, but please note that it is a guideline only; lettering requirements are subject to minor changes. Students are encouraged to keep track of points for comparison at the end of the year. Each student will have ample opportunity to letter. If the student is enrolled for only one semester, they will not letter. **There will be various opportunities for solos, ensembles, honor choir and band auditions. Students taking advantage of these opportunities will receive extra lettering points.**

Attire

Marching Band – Students will be issued uniforms that will be kept at the school with their name on it. Students will be required to wear **long black socks**, black marching shoes, and marching gloves (depends on section). Students will wear their music t-shirt or a Bunceton school spirit shirt under their uniform. Since the goal of a uniform is “uniformity”, all hair must be worn under the hat, makeup must be light or not at all, and there must not be any jewelry or fingernail polish worn. When the weather is hot at competitions, students will be allowed to take off their jackets only if all students have a Bunceton shirt on.

Concert Band – Students will wear long-sleeved white button up shirt, black slacks OR black skirt with black tights, and black closed toe dress shoes (the shoes may be open-toed if worn with black tights).

Choirs – The choirs will be provided robes and will wear black pants or long black skirt with black tights and black closed toe shoes (the shoes may be open-toed if worn with black tights).

Solos/Ensembles – Students in ensembles will wear concert attire or robes. Students performing solos may wear dressy clothes. If a student is participating in a solo and ensemble with enough time to change, they may change for their solo.

Storage

Music, instruments, and uniforms are to be kept in their appropriate place. There is more than one group and class using the music room. Please be respectful of other student’s equipment and music. **Please keep your personal items in your locker to reduce clutter.**

Music

Each student will be given original music, at which time each student should put their name on the piece of music in pencil. Should a student leave their music out, points will be deducted from student's participation. If you lose an original, replacement cost is approximately \$5.00 per part/song, plus the minimum \$8.00 shipping cost. You must have music every day. It is just like bringing your book to a core class. Failure to have your music means that you will not be able to participate fully in class and will lose points. Additionally, if you are given an original and you turn it back into me in poor condition, you will replace that piece of music. So, please don't lose your music and take good care of it!

Instruments

Students are required to have an instrument to play, if in band. I believe in the full inclusion of all students regardless of financial hardship. If a student wishes to be in band but does not have an instrument, or the funds to rent/buy an instrument the director will work with the parent and student to either match them with a school instrument with a contract or find a more affordable option. We work with Palen Music in Columbia which provides programs to rent/own an instrument.

Classroom Rules

Make good choices and do the right thing
Use good manners and be nice
Speak when the teacher allows it
Involve yourself in activities
Care for the music room equipment

Student Leadership

Section Leaders – During the first couple of weeks of class, section leaders will be chosen for band and choir. Their responsibilities will be to help lead sectionals during select classes, check music throughout the year for markings, inspect students in their respective section before performances, and communicate with the music director regularly.

Drum Major – A drum major has been selected for marching band (The audition/selection process for the next school year is done at the end of the spring semester).

Parent Involvement

If you would like to be a part of the Bunceton Music Boosters, please let Mr. Critchlow know. We will have meetings as necessary to discuss upcoming events and fundraisers. Regardless of whether you are a part of the Boosters, your help and support is greatly appreciated. When the need arises for helpers, notes will be sent home and/or emails will be sent out.

Bunceton Dragon's Fine Arts Performances

September – District Choir Auditions at ???

September – CMU Color Guard/Drumline Day

September – Carrollton Band Day 9 (Color Guard, Winds, Drumline)

October– CMU Band Day at Fayette (Band)

October – District Choirs at ???

October– Southern Boone Marching Classic (Band)

October – Choral Clinic at Prairie Home

October – Band Clinic at Bunceton

November– District Jr. High Choir at ???

November– District Band and Jazz Band auditions at ???

November– Veteran's Day Assembly

December– Bunceton Christmas Parade

December– Elementary Christmas Concert

December– MS/HS Christmas Concert

December– Pep Band

January– District Band at ???

January – District Jr. High Band at ???

February – Homecoming

February – Pep Band

March – Conference Contest at ???

March - 6th Grade Choir at UCM

March – District Music Festival (Instrumental and Vocal Solo/Small Ensemble) at ???

April – Drama Class Play Performance

April – Drama Class Play Performance

April– MSHSAA State Music Festival (Solo/Small Ensemble) at Columbia

May – Elementary Spring Concert

May – MS/HS Spring Concert

May 19th – Graduation 2 p.m.

*All performances and events are subject to change.

Name: _____ Grade: _____ # of Times Lettered: _____

Bunceton Music Lettering Guide

You must have no unexcused absences and must maintain a B or better throughout the school year to be eligible to letter. Please ask Ms. Henke for a second copy if you are in both Band and Choir.

- _____ Extra rehearsals, early morning, etc. (1 point per rehearsal)
- _____ Set-up/tear down before and after our concerts (1 point per concert, 2 pts. possible)
- _____ Auditioned for All-District Band/Choir (4 points)
- _____ Auditioned for All-State Band/Choir (6 points)
- _____ Performed with the All-District Honor Band/Choir (6 points)
- _____ Performed with the All-District Honorable Mention Band/Choir (4 points)
- _____ Performed in an Honors Band/Choir (4 points)
- _____ Performed in an All-State Ensemble (6 points)
- _____ Received a I rating at District Solo/Ensemble (4 points)
- _____ Received a II rating at District Solo/Ensemble (2 points)
- _____ Received a I rating at State Solo/Ensemble (6 points)
- _____ Received a II rating at State Solo/Ensemble (4 points)
- _____ Section Leader (1 point)
- _____ Attended a concert as an audience member at Bunceton (1 point per concert, signup sheet will be available)
- _____ Attended a concert as an audience member outside Bunceton (2 points per concert with program)
- _____ Consistently took private lessons (4 points)
- _____ Made public performances (church, community event, etc., must have program to verify)
- _____ Assisted the Music Boosters (1 point per assistance)
- _____ Drum Major (1 point)
- _____ Other (Points may vary, if there is something not on this list, please put it at the bottom of this form for consideration)

_____ **TOTAL**

If I letter I need a(n): _____ "B" _____ Pi

Other:

Student/Parent/Guardian Information Form

Student:

Grade: _____
Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ M.I. ____
Preferred Name/Nickname: _____
Home Phone: _____ Emergency Phone: _____
Birthday: _____
Home Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Instrument(s) (Please indicate whether you own your own or use a school instrument): _____

Vocal Part (circle): Soprano Alto Tenor Bass
Do you have access to Internet at home? _____
What extra-curricular activities do you participate in?

Parent/Guardian:

Parent or Guardian: _____ Relationship: _____
Home Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Interested in Music Boosters (X): _____ Previous Music Booster Experience (Y or N): _____
Parent/Guardian Phone: _____
Parent or Guardian Email: _____

Parent or Guardian: _____ Relationship: _____
Home Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Interested in Music Boosters (X): _____ Previous Music Booster Experience (Y or N): _____
Parent/Guardian Phone: _____
Parent or Guardian Email: _____

Class Schedule:

| Hour | Class |
|-----------------|-------|
| 1 st | |
| 2 nd | |
| 3 rd | |
| 4 th | |
| 5 th | |
| 6 th | |
| 7 th | |

If you have a medical issue that I should be aware of, or if you have any other questions or concerns, please include them here:

Bunceton Music Contract

We dedicate and commit ourselves to being members and parents/guardians of the Bunceton Music Program for the period of August 2018 – May 2019.

We have read the syllabus provided and have looked online at the Handbook (or requested a copy of the handbook) and understand that each member will be held to these rules, regulations, and policies.

We acknowledge that every member of the Bunceton Music Program is responsible for the success of the program as a whole and must participate fully in all activities and performances of the ensemble or ensembles to assure a successful and rewarding experience for the entire group. We understand that we represent the Bunceton Music Program and Cooper County R-IV School District.

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| | |
| Student | Date |
| | |
| Parent/Guardian | Date |
| | |
| Parent/Guardian | Date |

*This contract (and student/parent/guardian information form) is to be signed and returned to Music Director no later than August 26th. The contract will be for 20 points. If the student is in band and choir they will only need to turn in one copy and they will be awarded points in both classes.

Signatures of all parents or guardians must be included for the student to receive full point value. If extra lines are needed please sign and date the empty space below.

Excused Absence Form

This form must be completed and turned in one week in advance of any anticipated absence by a music ensemble student to the music director (excluding extreme emergencies, will need to be filled out at earliest convenience for record).

Student Name _____ Today's Date _____

Date of anticipated absence _____

Reason for absence:

Please be specific! If the school will excuse you then I will excuse you. If the school will not, then I will not excuse you. Provide any important evidence of the absence, such as a doctor's note, etc.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Director's Signature

Date