

The RULES

To: ALL BAND MEMBERS
From: MR. CLAGUE

IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ! Parents, please read through with your student.

REGARDING YOUR CONDUCT IN REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE.

Beginning with the very first rehearsal and throughout the rest of the year, the following will be expected of you (you will be asked to sign a contract agreeing to meet these expectations, and you will be held to your agreements!):

ACTIVITIES: PLEASE READ THIS SECTION VERY CAREFULLY...

All students must be at every rehearsal and performance or competition on the calendar. Please plan accordingly. To view the dates to reserve, please go to the *calendar* section of the website at www.monarchband.net.

Regarding Sports: Students concurrently enrolled in sports may have time conflicts and will be excused from band practice for sport competitions (NOT sport practice). Band students that have conflicting sports practices are required to be at all evening rehearsals by 6:15 p.m. (as practices are scheduled to end at 5:30 p.m.).

STUDENTS ARE TO TREAT THEIR UNIFORMS WITH RESPECT. NEVER WEAR A MONARCH BAND UNIFORM UNZIPPED OR OTHERWISE OPEN. Uniforms are to be DRY CLEANED ONLY! DO NOT WASH THEM! Only WATER may be consumed while you are wearing your uniform. HAVE PRIDE!!

PARENTS: All students will ride TO AND FROM ALL PERFORMANCES ON THE BUS OR OTHER SCHOOL-MANDATED TRANSPORTATION. A PARENT may take a student home after a performance, only if: 1) The student has picked up a release form from the Director, 2) The student has taken that form to the Director, 3) The parent personally appears to pick up the student, and 4) only if I, the Director, have personal knowledge of the transaction and witness it. Students will not be dismissed to meet a parent in some remote place. This is for the SAFETY of the student. After all rehearsal and performances, band students will be dismissed from the Band Room ONLY.

BOTH BAND AND GUARD STUDENTS MUST STAY FOR THE ENTIRE GAME, IN UNIFORM! NO PERSONS OTHER THAN BAND MEMBERS SIT WITH THE BAND.

It goes without saying that behavior on trips, at rehearsals, and at all performances is expected to be honorable. Inappropriate clothing, display of affection with others (PDA), or disrespect will result in immediate, firm disciplinary action. You will find that I have ZERO TOLERANCE for those who would break the District's rules regarding Sexual Harassment, Drug, Alcohol and/or Tobacco use. You MUST NEVER USE. Student violation of the rules regarding use of these items at any band-related function, or otherwise compromising the high standards we will live up to in this group, may result in removal from the band. School Administration will be brought into such cases.

GENERAL RULES FOR BAND MEMBERS:

1. The **UTMOST**, of **RESPECT** and **HONOR** is demanded of you. You have been given a gift in your musicianship, and you must behave in an appropriate fashion towards me, each other, all adults you contact, and all student leaders. Your personal attitude and deportment whenever the band works must be of the highest caliber; nothing less will be acceptable.
2. There will be **NO TALKING** during a rehearsal. Once rehearsal starts, no talking until the period is over or you are given a talking break. *This rule will be strictly enforced.*
3. Once rehearsal starts, have all materials and do not move around.
4. You are to be in class by the time the late bell rings. Rehearsal starts four minutes after this bell. A "step" will result in being late for start of rehearsal.
5. **YOU ARE COMPLETELY RESPONSIBLE** for all school property given to you (includes music, uniforms, instruments, etc.), and if lost, it must be replaced by you at the cost of a current replacement, plus tax and shipping. Take care of all items the school issues to you.
6. **YOU ARE (OF COURSE) EXPECTED TO PRACTICE AT HOME!!** There is no substitute for hard, consistent work. To earn a "good" grade, you must know the music and the marching drill "by heart!" No one can do this but you, but the good of the band depends on each of you doing this work!
7. Outside social concerns of any kind may not be brought into this room. I realize you are under considerable social pressures, but music will be a place of safety and refuge where all are treated with dignity. You are expected to behave in a dignified manner, contain your anger, and keep your comments to me and each other appropriate at all times. **KEEP YOUR COOL!**
8. **NO FOOD, CANDY, GUM, SEED, OR DRINKS ALLOWED IN THE BAND ROOM AT ANY TIME**, unless you have my permission. Trash of any kind, both inside and outside the rooms (especially on the front steps) is to be thrown away. Leave all areas cleaner than you found them!
9. The Band Office is for the use of the Director and Staff **ONLY**. You will know if you are invited to join me in the office or in using office supplies; otherwise, all are off-limits. Knock politely at the door before entering. If in doubt, **ASK!**

Students: I am open and available to talk to you regarding your concerns. I will not respond to rumors or anonymous complaining; instead I find direct discussion of problems to be the most effective way to keep lines of communication open. If you have a legitimate concern and you are able to treat me with the respect I deserve, there is no reason we can't talk over anything that comes up. **COME TO YOUR SECTION LEADER FIRST, THEN ME** before any resentment builds up within the band.

ENSEMBLE ACTIVITIES: Coaches for Color Guard and Percussion may have additional rules which they need to have in place for those ensembles. Students participating in these special groups must understand that at no time are they exempt from the rules stated herein.

Rules exist because excellence is hard to achieve! The band will excel when the weakest member feels that his or her accomplishment is heard and appreciated! Follow the rules and make the band a source of pride for one and all. You will be so proud of the response you get from me, your family, your peers and your community.

"Passion Takes Courage...Cannibals prefer those with no spine"