

BAND

A student enrolled in band will be required to be present for all performances.

Every effort is made to notify the student of all performance dates as far in advance as possible to avoid any conflict with work or any other school related activity. Employment will not result in an excused absence from a performance.

Unavoidable absences from school are listed in the student handbook and will be used as a guide for grading in the event that a student is absent from a performance. If a conflict does occur, every possible effort must be made BY THE STUDENT to see that it is resolved in advance. An unexcused (avoidable) absence from a performance will result in the lowering of the student's grade.

Conflicts of performance dates and activities of other co-curricular activities will be resolved between the director, teacher, and EHS administrator. (Co-curricular is defined as any class where the student receives academic credit.) Every effort is also taken to avoid a scheduling conflict between a performance and any extra-curricular activity. (Extra-curricular is defined as any activity that a student is a part of and no grade is received.)

In the rare event that a conflict does occur, students should follow the following priority list in determining which event to attend: State events, district events, conference events, school events, and finally community events. For example, if a state cross country meet is on the same day as a community parade, the student should attend the cross-country meet and their grade will not be affected. It is the responsibility of the student to notify coaches and director when a conflict must be resolved using this priority list.

Students will also take a chair test once a year. The chair test is used in order to determine the student's placement in the section. Actual performance during the chair test will not lower the student's grade, however, failure to take the chair test *will* result in the lowering the grade.

A varsity football player will be excused from performing with the Marching Mustangs at home football game performances. No "letter" points are received for missing these performances or early morning band related practices. Any "support group" members such as cheerleaders, team managers, etc. will not be excused from these performances.

Members of the color guard that do not play an instrument will be required to enroll in band for first semester. They will be graded on attendance at performances. Color guard members that do play an instrument will be required to stay in band all year and play their instrument once the marching season is over.

LETTERING IN BAND

All activities in band earn students letter points. Each different activity is given a different amount of points based on what the activity is. At the end of the year, letter points are added up and approximately the top third point earners of the students will receive a letter in band. Therefore, in order to letter, a student needs to do more than just the required graded events. For instance, a student can audition for All-District Band, participate in Tri-County Honor Band, or take a solo and/or ensemble to contest. Only doing one of these items is not a guarantee of lettering however. Also, please note that if a student has an *excused absence* from a graded event (illness, homecoming queen candidate, etc), that while their grade will not be lowered, they will not receive any letter points for that event. Early in the school year, we will start filling out the letter point form. Students will be able to see how many points each event will earn.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE

The EHS Jazz Ensemble is also graded on a performance system, as written exams are generally not used. The same rules previously mentioned regarding absences apply to this group as well. “Support group” members of athletic activities should clear any conflicts in advance but in general will not be excused from a performance. As a portion of the Jazz Ensemble performances are at select home games of J.V. and Varsity basketball teams, an athlete could miss performances. If this is to occur on many occasions, then a conference between that player and the director must take place well in advance of the conflict to discuss the outcome of the grade and overall enrollment in the class.

Jazz Ensemble is a small group and each individual player is vital to the successful performance of the whole group.