

The Pride of North Olmsted

**NORTH OLMSTED
HIGH SCHOOL BANDS**



**2019-2020
BAND HANDBOOK**

Welcome to the 2019-2020 NOHS Bands!

We are very glad that you have chosen to be a part of the North Olmsted Bands for the 2019-2020 school year. This year brings with it many opportunities for musical growth and achievement. In addition, we hope that you find your time in band to be enjoyable, challenging, and rewarding as we *work hard to be our best!*

As we look ahead, it is necessary to provide basic information about how the band operates. This handbook has been prepared so that you and your parents will know the requirements, expectations, and procedures of our cooperative group. Read the enclosed information carefully, and refer to the handbook when questions arise. Please be aware that, because we are a group that depends on each of its members for success, it is absolutely necessary that each band member follows the procedures and expectations that this handbook discusses.

Instrumental Music Department Mission Statement

It is the goal of the North Olmsted Instrumental Music Department to build a highly successful instrumental music program which is rooted in long held traditions, and places well rounded student growth, musical excellence, and student enjoyment as the primary objectives.

Course Syllabus/Course Offerings

In the fall, every band member is expected to be a part of the NOHS Marching Band. During this time, band members focus their efforts on the development of marching and musical performance skills with the goals of uniformity, precision, and excellence.

In November, at the conclusion of football season, the band will be divided into two separate ensembles: Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble. Membership in these groups will be determined by audition. All students enrolled in band will be placed in one of these two ensembles. Regardless of ensemble, all NOHS band students should expect a first-rate musical experience that exposes them to a variety of high-quality music.

In addition to marching and concert bands, students may choose to participate in the following ensembles:

NOHS Jazz Ensemble is an extracurricular group which is open to all students based upon interest and instrumentation needs. Depending upon these factors, auditions may be held. Jazz ensemble rehearses after school from 3:30-5:30pm on Mondays and Thursdays starting in November. Please see Mr. Kalish for more information.

The NOHS Pep Band is an extracurricular group that performs at home NOHS Basketball games and other selected events. All currently enrolled NOHS band students are welcome!

The District 4 & 7 Honors Band is a group of highly qualified musicians from Cleveland that our top performing students have the opportunity to participate in. This takes place the weekend of November 8th and 9th, 2018 at CSU. Please see Mr. Kalish for more information.

Greater Cleveland Solo and Ensemble Contest is on February 8th, 2020 at Normandy High School. Students have the opportunity to participate in this yearly chamber music contest. All students who are participating in private lessons are highly encouraged to participate. Any students who may be interested in this event should see Mr. Kalish in October or November to choose music and begin preparation.

NOHS Band Staff & Contact Information

Mr. Erik Kalish
Director of Instrumental Music
Erik.Kalish@nocseagles.org

Mrs. Megan Kovach
Assistant Director
Megan.Kovach@nocseagles.org

Ms. Kim Ocepek
Eaglet Flag Advisor
kimberly.ocepek@nocseagles.org

Mrs. Gina Caroscio
Eaglet Kick Advisor
Gina.Caroscio@nocseagles.org

Directors are best reached by e-mail. If you need to call the directors they can be reached at (440)588-5800 x8101 in the Music Office.

Be sure to check our webpage (eaglemusic.org) for information and join our Reminds

Band Member Expectations

Each of the expectations below promote RESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY. Please adhere to them:

1. **BE THERE.** All band members are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances. The attendance policy for the NOHS Bands is detailed on the next page.
2. **BE ON TIME.** All band members must be in their assigned room when the bell rings. Two (2) minutes after the bell, all students must be in their assigned seats (or Parade Block). Failure to comply with either deadline will result in a consequence deemed appropriate by the directors and commensurate with the seriousness of the issue.
3. **BE PREPARED.** Each student is expected to come to band with all necessary materials and equipment each day.
 - Pencil...VERY important
 - Flip folder/lyre (Required of ALL instrumentalists during Marching Band)
 - All necessary sheet music
 - Brass Instruments: Valve oil, slide grease, soft cloth (Please get your own.)
 - Woodwind Instruments: Extra reeds, swab, cork grease
 - Percussion Instruments: Drum sticks, mallets, practice pad, stick bag
These will be available for purchase at school and will be required of each percussionist. Specific equipment needs (brands, etc.) will be detailed on a separate form.
 - Marching Band Leaders must have their squad binder at all rehearsals.
4. **BE RESPONSIBLE.** Students are expected to properly use, store, and care for instruments, music, uniforms, and other materials. Specific procedures for this will be discussed in class.
5. **BE A GOOD CITIZEN.** As with any other class, NOHS rules apply to us. In addition, a few "band-specific" regulations are listed below:
 - Gum, food, and drinks are not permitted in the band room (except plain water)
 - All instruments and music must be stored correctly after every rehearsal
 - Improper use, misuse, or abuse of equipment will not be tolerated
 - Follow expectations and guidelines for football games and other performances. These will be discussed separately.
 - Consequences for failure to follow rules will include:
 - Verbal warning/on field discipline action
 - After class discussion between student and teacher
 - Detention (Cleaning Duty)
 - Conference with parent
 - Office referral

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Attendance Policy

Because our group can function at full strength only when all members are present, all members of the NOHS Bands are expected to attend ALL scheduled events (performances and rehearsals). Please note that students' grade will be negatively affected if they receive an unexcused absence or tardy. Any student who has documented a legitimate excused absence in advance will be given the opportunity to make up the performance or rehearsal by completing an extra assignment. Below is the procedure for documenting all absences. **All absences must be documented through the correct "Pink Card" process prior to the absence in order to be "excused".**

Absence Procedure:

- Make every effort to avoid absences through pre-planning.
- In the event of a legitimate, unavoidable conflict, complete a "Pink Card" **at least two weeks prior to the absence.**
 - In the case of serious illness, a form must be completed upon return to school.
- Return the completed, signed by a parent, form to your director.
- If accepted as an "Excused Absence", you may be asked to complete a make-up assignment (will be assigned by a director)
- If the assignment is "Unexcused", you will be unable to recover lost points.
- This procedure is in effect for both performances and rehearsals (if the absence is an in-school rehearsal, please follow proper school procedures).
- An "Unexcused" absence from a Wednesday night rehearsal results in the student not being permitted to march the show on the upcoming Friday Football Game.
- **Summer Attendance Procedure:** If you are unexcused from summer practices (Fundamentals Week, Band Camp, Other summer rehearsals) you may be ineligible to participate in performances at the beginning of the season. This will be determined on a case by case basis and at the discretion of the directors.

******Please note that attendance at all summer marching band rehearsals is mandatory.***

******While we cannot anticipate all possible conflicts which may arise, the spirit of our attendance expectation is that all students attend all band events unless absolutely impossible. In the event of difficult choices/situations, please communicate with directors well in advance.***

Examples of Acceptable Reasons for Absence from Performances/Rehearsals:

- Severe illness
 - Students who are present in school on the day of an event are expected to attend band events that evening.
- Death in the family
- Other family emergency
- Conflicts with other NOHS activities...but must be approved in advance by director
- Unavoidable religious obligations (Please contact the director to discuss approval)
- Wedding Ceremony

Examples of Unacceptable Reasons for Absence from Performances/Rehearsals:

- Work
- Rock concert, Indians game, etc.
- Driving class or in-car hours
- Family Vacations
- All other wedding events that are not the ceremony (unless in the wedding party)

Attendance expectations for NOHS Athletic/Activity Conflicts:

****We value the participation of student-athletes in our band, but stress that these students have made a commitment to each organization.*

- Performances/games for one activity take priority over rehearsals/practices of the other.
- When both groups have practice/rehearsal at conflicting times, it is expected that students share time evenly between both groups, if possible. Otherwise, students should discuss with the coaches and directors and determine where they are needed most for practice based on their level of participation in those groups.
- In the event that both groups have performances/games at the same time, communication **between directors/coaches/advisors** shall determine the course of action.
- Student grades will not be affected by excused sports conflicts as long as the absence procedure is followed.

Grading

Becoming a proficient musician is a life-long journey. Therefore we do not grade based on “how good” a student is at music. Since each student is at a different point in musical skill acquirement, students will primarily be graded on their growth as a musician from the point they begin the grading period to the end of the period. Our goal is to develop ***Independent Musicians Creating Quality Performances***.

Band grades will be reported as A, B, C, D, or F, with + or – indicated as necessary. The general policies and procedures of evaluation of the North Olmsted City Schools shall be followed. The specific objectives and criteria on which the letter grades are based appear below.

Student Performance Skills (SPS)(50% of Overall Grade)

North Olmsted Band Members strive to improve their own individual music performance skills through structured, meaningful individual practice, as well as through superior work in full band rehearsals. Evaluation will be made by live and recorded playing assessments, throughout the grading period, demonstrating the student’s musical growth in the playing of an instrument.

Students will be responsible for showing growth in the following areas of instrumental performance:

Tone Quality, Intonation, Musicianship, Technique, Rhythm, Articulation, and Performance Factors

Growth will be measured based on a 5 point grading rubric. Students will be evaluated through individual playing assessments. The SPS grade will be calculated observing a student’s overall improvement, meeting the goal of improvement in at least one area, and meeting the quarterly goal the student sets. The weight of each performance area will be based on the average difficulty of growth in each area.

A detailed account of the rubric and definitions of terms are available upon request.

Professionalism (50% of Overall Grade)

Because Band is a performance-oriented class, all members are expected to participate fully and in a professional manner. This includes being on-time, prepared, handing assignments in on time, and contributing as an active and meaningful participant. Evaluation will be determined by in-class record keeping and teacher assessment.

Evaluation of professionalism will be based on the following rubric:

- A - **Superior:** Student consistently demonstrates outstanding effort and a positive attitude, always brings required materials, hands in assignments on time, and participates fully and appropriately at all times.
- B - **Excellent:** Student generally, with few exceptions, demonstrates excellent effort and a positive attitude, brings required materials, hands in assignments on time and engages in appropriate rehearsal behaviors.
- C - **Developing:** Student's effort, preparedness, and/or rehearsal behaviors are inconsistent.
- D - **Poor:** Student demonstrates a general lack of effort, frequently comes to activities unprepared for success, and engages in inappropriate rehearsal behaviors.
- F - **Failing:** Student does not participate in class.

Honors Option

For many years we have been able to offer an *Honors Option* for band. This is a weighted grade and any student enrolled in band has the option to take the *Honors Option*.

Honors Students are enrolled concurrently with non-honors students and the Honors delineation is in no reflection of student musicianship ability or bears any effect on placement in wind ensemble or symphonic band. To receive the weighted grade, students will be responsible for all the 'normal' coursework for band as well as earning a total of (4) Honors Band Credits per quarter.

Honors Band Credits

Honors Band Credits are earned by the completion of weighted assignments chosen by the student and teacher. The purpose of these credits is to deeper immerse the student into the music curriculum and to offer opportunities for student exploration into areas of interest in the field of music. The weight of each assignment (.5 - 4) will be decided by the directors based on the time necessary to complete the assignment and the difficulty of the assignment.

Weekly Meetings

All Honors Music Students are required to meet with the director weekly to update their progress on their assignments. The designated weekly meeting time is Wednesday's during the Afternoon SOAR period (3:15-3:45pm) Each student needs to reserve this time each week for these meetings. This time will also be used for common interest area instruction, instrument master classes, presentation of research, and honor student collaboration. If a student needs to miss a SOAR meeting, they must coordinate a time to meet with the director outside of class time to make up missed work. If a student is unable to come to the SOAR meetings due to an unavoidable weekly conflict, students will schedule a weekly meeting time with Mr. Kalish during office hours.

Declaration of "Interest"

Similar to "declaring a major" in college, each student will select an area of "interest" in music that will focus their Honors Band Credit acquisition.

Honors Interest Areas

Musicology
Theory
Performance
Education
General
Sound Recording Technologies (SRT)

There are standard assignments that each area requires as well as some assignments that all areas require. Students need to complete 2 of the assignments from our list of quarterly assignments to

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fulfill half their credit requirement *and* they need to create their own independent studies that will be approved by the directors to fulfill their last 2 credits. Students must have their “interest” declared by Friday, September 13th. Students need their quarterly assignments chosen by the end of the first week of each quarter.

Grading

Students will be graded on these assignments based on completion and quality of work. A student must receive a passing grade (D or higher) on the assignment to receive the credits associated with the assignment. Each assignment will be weighted based on the number of credits it is valued at to create the full (4) credits required per quarter.

If a student fails to complete all (4) credits in the quarter, a score of ‘0’ will be assessed to the uncompleted credits and will be averaged into the overall grade.

A re-weighting of the overall grades will be as follows to allow for the Honors Credits:

Student Performance Skills (40% of Overall Grade)

Professionalism (35% of Overall Grade)

Honors Credits (25% of Overall Grade)

Performance Expectations

Football Games:

1. At the scheduled reporting time, students will go through a uniform inspection (detailed later in the Handbook)
2. The NOHS Marching Band uniform must always be worn properly and entirely unless otherwise directed by Mr. Kalish.
3. Play your instrument only as part of the group while in the stands or on the field.
4. Please ask your guests to sit outside of the band section and thank them for watching and supporting us.
5. Follow directions the first time.
6. The 3rd Quarter is your chance to get refreshments and use the restroom. Please be back in the stands with no less than 1:00 remaining in the 3rd Quarter so that we can play between the 3rd & 4th Quarters. Remember: Uniforms stay on during this break!
7. Visiting alumni may not be in the stands with students and must remain either with the directors or in the general admission stands (Alumni Game excluded).
8. EYES WITH PRIDE! Have pride in yourselves, and also in the football team that represents our school. Your cheers and support are expected.

Band Bus Expectations:

1. All students are expected to ride school transportation both to and from all outside performances. (If you need alternative transportation from a performance, please fill out the Transportation Release Form (Yellow Card) available outside the band office).
2. Please keep full uniforms on at all times. (Including Hats, gloves and spats) This prevents them from ending up on the ground, and thus getting dirty.
3. Please do not have drinks or food on the bus.
4. Students are expected to ride the same bus to and from all games.
5. Use common sense and follow directions. Riding a school bus is easy.

Concert/Public Appearance Expectations:

1. Out of respect for the efforts of all musicians in the various bands and orchestra, we expect that all students attend the entirety of all concerts. The schedule for each individual performance will be communicated through bulletin board notifications, Charms, Remind, and will also be posted online at <http://www.eaglemusic.org>
2. Be prepared. As always, arrive at performances with all necessary gear.
3. Follow school rules. All school rules will apply at all band events.

Marching Band Uniform Inspection

Inspection:

Prior to all marching band performances, students will be subject to a uniform inspection. The inspection will occur at the reporting time on the band schedule. At this time, students will meet in parade block, in full uniform, and be called to attention. Band staff will inspect the student's uniform, making sure that all pieces are being worn correctly and that students are not breaking the uniform dress code. (This includes cleanliness of the uniform) If a student's uniform is found unacceptable for performance and it is not possible to remedy the infraction prior to performance, the student will not be permitted to perform on the marching band field with the band and their performance grade will be lowered.

If a student does not pass inspection, students will be permitted to march in with the band to the stadium, perform in the stands during the game, participate in all other band related activities during the game. The alternative assignment for the student to maintain partial credit for their performance grade will be to stand at attention on the sidelines between the 35 and 30 yard lines, towards the north end of the field, facing the band during the field performance. The students will rejoin the band as they march off the field and continue to participate in the remaining band activities for the performance.

It is the personal responsibility of each member of the band to maintain the uniform assigned to them for the entirety of the season.

Damaged or Soiled Uniform:

If a uniform is found to be damaged due to normal wear or soiled by an accident with food or drink, please inform a NOBOB uniform specialist or staff member to seek repair, replacement, or professional cleaning of the uniform part prior to that week's performance (preferably at uniform check-in before leaving from a performance). DO NOT expect your uniform to be repaired or cleaned on the day of a performance, plan ahead and give us the week to help you be ready for inspection.

Lost items:

If you have lost or damaged (beyond repair) one of the uniform pieces you purchased through NOBOB, parents will have these items available for purchase prior to performances. You will not be able to "loan" uniform pieces. Replacement pieces are on a first come/first serve basis, if you know of a need of a new item, it would be a good idea to let staff or NOBOB know ahead of time to order a new part so it is available for the performance. Don't forget, being out of full uniform will result in not passing inspection.

Playing Tests and Memorization of Marching Band Music

When?

Music Tests will occur during rehearsal time at least two days prior to a performance of the music being tested.

Section Leaders

Section Leaders will be tested by a Director: If a section leader doesn't pass their music, then a director will test their section. The section leader then will have to be tested individually by a director.

Testing Process

Section Leaders will initially test sections (1st and 2nd parts separately) Students who do not pass the section leader's assessment will have to see a director or their section leader and test off with them prior to the week's show.

Memorization

Memorization on All Music is required to perform at games and band shows.

First run through of a test will be done without music.

If there are students who have not passed the music memorized, then the students who didn't pass will be re-tested with music with an emphasis on memorization of the missed parts.

Section Leaders will keep track of Students who didn't pass.

Re-testing

A student who has not passed is responsible for scheduling a time with a director to re-test. "not having time" is not an excuse to not test. It is your responsibility to be ready for the initial test, Directors will commit to being here when you are able to test (this can occur during class, lunch, study-hall, and before and after school SOAR with prior notice.

No re-tests will occur within a half-hour prior to inspection times.

Not Passing

If a student doesn't pass a playing test and is therefore unable to march with the band on the field, the alternate assignment will be to stand at attention on the sidelines during the show in which the song they didn't pass occurs. Participation in a show requires all songs to be passed in that show. Not passing a playing test will negatively effect the *Professionalism* portion of your grade.

If you are (due to difficulty of the music) unable to play the music based on your current level of musical growth, you need to discuss this with a director prior to the music tests and a separate plan of accommodation will be created for you.

Leaders: Make it your responsibility to ensure your squad passes their music tests.

Charms "Office Assistant" and Remind

We again are using the effective communication, organization, grading, and finance system named Charms. Charms is an online based "office assistant" that was developed specifically with music programs in mind. Each student/parent will receive a unique login that will allow parents and students to login to their student's page where they will have access to a vast array of tools that will allow you to stay up to date with the program. You will be able to see current student

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balances for their NOBOB account, monies due, upcoming events, volunteer options, assignments, uniforms and instruments checked out, etc.

NOBOB parents will be contacting parents and students to communicate how to log-in, update their personal contact information, and put in at least one parent's personal contact information. Charms allows us to send out instant e-mails, texts, phone call reminders, etc.

You can contact the NOBOB Vice President, Debbie Zielinski if you have any problems with logging in or the use of Charms.

www.eaglemusic.org Click on the "Charms" Link

This year we are also using the communication app "Remind" for quick text communication with the band. All students should sign up for Remind to receive the latest up to date information about performances, rehearsals, and class expectations. Text 81010 to @nohsemb to join. This year Remind has created a limit to the number of people in groups to 150. Students should be in first, and then parents can join until we hit that 150 number.

NOHS Band Uniforms

Marching Band:

The Summer Uniform:

- NOHS Band Shirt (tucked in)
- Black NOHS Band Shorts
- NOBOB Issued Black socks
- Black marching shoes
- Eagle Marching Band Sunglasses (when weather appropriate)

The Full Uniform:

- The NOHS Band provides all members with a jacket, bibs (pants), shako (hat), and plume.
- Students are responsible for purchasing the following items, which are available through the Band and Orchestra Boosters:
 - o White gloves
 - o White spats
 - o Black marching shoes
 - o Black socks
 - o Black Tee-shirt

Wearing the Uniform:

- All students must wear a black shirt underneath the uniform.
- Trousers should be adjusted by turning under the necessary amount of material and then sewing it in place. Never remove any cloth from the uniform. Adjust the length of the trouser legs so that they are **three (3) inches from the floor at the heel of the shoe.**
- Jewelry shall be worn at a minimum while in uniform. A watch and ring may be worn if desired. All students with pierced ears should remove their earrings or wear studs. No visible jewelry/hair ties/bows may be in colors outside of Orange, Black, or White (gold/silver are acceptable for jewelry)
- Exposed hair may only be natural hair colors or school colors. No non-school color-dyed hair is permitted if visible in uniform.
- Bandanas and ski caps are not to be worn underneath the band shako. Ski caps may be allowed due to cold weather at the discretion of the director.
- Permitted Sunglasses are only worn at the discretion of the director.
- Fingernail polish should only be in neutral or school colors.

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Caring for the Uniform:

- The marching band uniform will be put on, taken off, and stored at NOHS. The uniform must always be hung and stored correctly.
- Student-supplied items (shoes, spats, gloves, socks) should NOT be kept at school. These items *must* be washed by the student prior to each performance.
- The uniforms will be dry-cleaned as necessary by the Band and Orchestra Boosters. The cleaning fees paid at the beginning of the marching band season cover these cleanings.

Concert Bands:

The Concert Uniform:

- Gentlemen:
 - o Black Tuxedo – Provided by NOBOB
 - o White tuxedo shirt – Purchased by Student
 - o Black bow tie & cummerbund – Purchased by Student
 - o Black Socks and Dress Shoes – Purchased by Student (Marching shoes may be worn)
- Ladies:
 - o Black Concert Dress – Purchased by student through NOBOB
Note: Because dress is machine washable, no cleaning fees will be charged
 - o Natural colored hose
 - o Black dress shoes (No tennis shoes, flip-flops, or shoes with colors other than black)

Wearing & Caring for the Uniform:

- The uniform is intended to be worn with no street clothes underneath.
- Uniforms are to be hung up neatly after each performance.
- Tuxedo's are not to be worn home or taken home unless approved by a director.

Physical Conditioning in Marching Band

Marching Band is without a doubt a very physically demanding and strenuous activity. As such, a significant amount of time and energy will be devoted to increasing the physical fitness and stamina of marching band members. This will include such activities as running/jogging, jumping jacks, marching drills, and other calisthenics. In order to prepare yourself for these demands, we HIGHLY RECOMMEND the following:

- **Exercise:** Begin prior to the start of marching band season.
- **Hydration:** Drink water the night before and regularly throughout the activity.
- **Diet:** Be sure to eat a good breakfast each morning. Good food choices are a plus, also!
- **Clothing:** Choose clothing, footwear, and hats that are appropriate for the activity.
- **Sunscreen**

In addition, students sustaining injuries or illness during rehearsals or performances, which require them to stop the activity, will receive basic treatment and rest up to an hour. If at that time they are not in a condition to return to band, a parent will be contacted and an individual plan for that student will be developed.

Use of School-Owned Instruments

Students using school-owned instruments for marching and/or concert seasons are expected to treat them with the utmost care and respect. Students shall be responsible for any damage - beyond normal wear & tear - that occurs to these instruments. In the event an instrument sustains such damage, repairs will be made to the instrument by the school-contracted repairman, and a bill will be sent to the child's parents. **It is the expectation that students who play Flute, Trumpet, Clarinet, Alto Sax, and Trombone supply their own instrument as we have a very limited number in our inventory.**

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In order to help limit possible damages, here are expectations for those using school-owned instruments:

- Instrument shall be put away properly after each use, with case latched
- No extra materials (music, shoes, water bottles, etc.) shall be kept in the case
- Instrument should be kept clean and well-maintained (oiled, greased, etc.)
- Student will refrain from horseplay, especially around instruments
- School instruments may only be used if they are properly checked out by a director.
- Instruments will be checked back into the inventory at the end of the year and damages will be assessed at check-in.

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We have the opportunity to use the new North Olmsted Performing Arts Center as a classroom and performance space. The same rules that apply to the band/orchestra room apply to the PAC/Stage. There will be no gum, food or drink (except plain water) allowed on stage or in the seats. Also please do not jump off the front of the stage or try to climb up the front of the stage, use the stairs. Thirdly, all adjoining rooms (Dressing rooms, scene shop, ticket booths, etc.) are prohibited to students to use unless part of a production. Lastly, the curtains, fly system, production scenery should never be touched by anyone, to avoid damage and/or personal harm. If you see anyone mistreating our space, please help take ownership and ask them to stop and report it to a faculty member.

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There is a dedicated high school instrument storage area located in the back of the band room. This area has individual lockers that can store your instrument. These lockers can be individually locked, however you need to use a school lock purchased from the High School front office. Any lock found on a locker that is not a school lock may be cut off. Only instruments and class related items can be stored in you music locker. They are not large enough to store anything else. No food or drinks are to be stored in these lockers.

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We are very lucky to have a suite of rooms that students can use for practicing and rehearsal of small ensembles. Students are welcome to use these rooms before, after school, during study hall periods, and lunch times. To be allowed to use a room you need permission from a director. Like the instrumental room no food or drink allowed and no changing of clothing allowed. These rooms are dedicated to practicing instruments, they are not quiet study nooks, they are not social hangouts. If found in violation of these rules, you will have your practice room privileges revoked.

Private Lessons & Outside Ensembles

Private lessons are a cornerstone upon which successful music groups are built. We strongly recommend that all students take private lessons with a qualified music teacher. We have found that students taking such lessons are among our most successful young musicians and enjoy the experience of being in band more for having added this additional experience. Individual instruction with a qualified instructor on a student's instrument is beneficial for players of all ability

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levels, because these lessons focus on a player's own strengths and weaknesses. Lessons are available at many local music stores, as well as with local independent teachers. Please see a director for more information.

In addition, many of our students participate in advanced youth bands and orchestras in the area. Organizations such as Cleveland Youth Wind Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra, Contemporary Youth Orchestra, Baldwin-Wallace Youth Orchestra, and Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra can give advanced students a chance to perform with other top musicians from around the region. Auditions for these groups are generally in the spring. See a director for more information

Student Leadership

Leadership in band is for students who want to go above and beyond the normal responsibilities of the Marching Band. It is the expectation that students who are chosen to be leaders will make band their top priority over all other conflicts. (School clubs, sports, and activities) To put it simply, when a conflict comes up, the leaders will always choose band.

Senior Polaris students and Varsity soccer players, due to major time conflicts, are not eligible for positions of leadership in the marching band

Band Officers:

The Band Officers (President, VP/Treasurer, and Secretary) are responsible for representing the band and providing input when certain decisions concerning the group are made. This group is also responsible for assisting with numerous tasks that arise over the course of the year. In addition, specific duties have been assigned to each of the individual officers. An officer's primary responsibility is to make sure that the *student leaders* are fulfilling all of their responsibilities. Band officers are elected at the end of each year.

President: The Band President is the top student leader for the year. They are the student representative to all NOBOB Meetings. They are responsible for coordination of specific full band events and pre-performance speeches. The President is the direct liaison between the band and the Directors.

Vice President/Treasurer: The Band Vice President fulfills the President's responsibilities when they are unavailable or unable to do so. They coordinate the "adopt-a-family" charity during the holiday season. The VP coordinates and sells the Band Pops during Band Camp. As Treasurer they coordinate band sweatshirts or tees and collect money for any student run fundraisers/collections.

Secretary: The Band Secretary is responsible for taking, entering, and auditing attendance records for all marching band performances and rehearsals. They also maintain the student roster (keep addresses, phone numbers, and other personal information updated in Charms)

Drum Major:

The drum major serves as the most visible student leader during the marching season and is the top student leader on the field. The drum major works in numerous capacities, and specific job descriptions will vary from year to year depending on the strengths and other qualifications of the individual student. Duties include coordination of practice field setups, bus loading, and conducting the band in the stands. A Drum Major's primary responsibility is to make sure that the *student leaders* are fulfilling all of their responsibilities on the field. Drum majors are selected through an extensive audition/interview process at the end of each school year.

Section Leaders:

During marching band season, these individuals serve as squad leaders with the additional duty of being responsible for helping develop musical growth within their sections. Section leaders will periodically rehearse their sections, and they have the authority to schedule sectional rehearsals outside of band time when necessary. Section leaders are expected to attend the Leadership Workshop and all rehearsals. Section leaders are selected through an interview/audition process at the end of each year. A section leader's primary responsibility is to make sure that their *squad leaders* are fulfilling all of their responsibilities.

Squad Leaders:

During marching band season, these band members are each responsible for an individual squad of band members. The squad leader is charged with the responsibility of helping those in his/her squad with all aspects of marching. Squad leaders will instruct members of their section in marching fundamentals during Fundamentals Rehearsals. Therefore, squad leaders are expected to attend the Leadership Workshop and all rehearsals. Squad leaders are selected through an interview/audition process at the end of each year. A squad leader's primary responsibility is to make sure that their *squadlings* are fulfilling all of their responsibilities.

Music Librarians:

The librarians shall be responsible for filing, maintaining, and distributing all music for the various bands. Any music needs (lost music, etc.) should be addressed to the librarians. The librarians are appointed by the directors; all interested students should contact the directors at any point during the year.

Committee Chairs:

These individuals chair a unique committee in the band that focuses on certain aspects of the band's overall smooth operation.

Happiness Chair: The *Happiness Chair's* main responsibility is to positively affect the band's morale throughout the season. Responsible for coordinating "WF" creation. Keeps track of student's happiness cards (student information (birthdays, favorites, etc.)) Coordinating outreach efforts to students going through difficult situations (deaths in family, illnesses, and other hardships).

Discipline Chair: The *Discipline Chair's* main responsibility is to coordinate with the directors and secretary to enforce the expectations in the band handbook. Their duties include development of a committee that will determine appropriate consequences for *minor infractions* (ie. late to band, swearing on the field, littering, etc.) This committee acts as a "peer council" to help ensure the band is held accountable for their actions that negatively effect the performance of the group. All consequences are approved by the directors prior to enforcement. All infractions that are considered severe or in direct violation of school rules will be handled by the directors.

Social Chair: The *Social Chair's* main responsibility is to plan and offer social outlets for the entire band. These activities will be approved in advance by the directors and are to include all members of the band. They will also be in charge of soliciting NOBOB for any funds needed.

Memory Chair: This individual, and their committee, will compile photographs, video, audio, newspaper clippings, etc. in order to create video presentations and scrapbooks of the year's occurrences. In addition, they will catalog concert programs and recordings at the conclusion of each concert. The Band Historians are appointed by the directors; all interested students should contact the directors at any point during the year. They are also in charge of Eagle Marching Band Social Media Outlets.

Earned Awards in Band

Band Letter:

The “lyre” monogram is awarded to band members who satisfy the following requirements based on year in high school. Each ensemble a student participates in is equal to 1 credit. There is also a miscellaneous credit possible for students who earn points outside of ensemble participation.

The following is a breakdown of credits needed to earn a Band Letter based on year enrolled in band:

1st Year Band Students:	7 credits
2nd Year Band Students:	6 credits
3rd Year Band Students:	4 credits
4th Year Band Students:	1 credits

Credits can be earned by completing/participating in the following:

<u>No. Credits:</u>	<u>Activity</u>
1	Marching Band
1	Concert Band
1	Jazz Band
1	NOHS Pit Orchestra
1	Pep Band (8/11 performances)
1	Outside of school auditioned ensemble (CYWS, CYO, etc) (check with director for approval)
1	Solo at Solo and Ensemble Contest (limit 1 per band instrument)
1	Ensemble at Solo and Ensemble Contest (limit 2 per band instrument)
1	Wind/Percussion in Symphony Orchestra (Must perform on all combined concerts)
1	Mentoring/sectionals of Middle School Students (See Mr. Kalish for details)
1	Miscellaneous (must achieve 50 points from the points list)

Points List

15	“Superior” rating by band at OMEA State Contest
15	Band Officer
15	Private lessons (1/2 hour - 1 hour lessons weekly for the year) (min. 13 lessons with approved teacher on band instrument or piano)
10	Band Leadership (section leader, squad leader, section principal)
10	“Excellent” rating by band at OMEA State Contest
10	Participation in Summer Music or Drum Major Camp
10	Participation in Honors Ensembles (each)
20	Participation in other local ensembles (NASA Band, community band, church ensemble, etc.) on band instrument. (20 pts. per ensemble)
5	Changing instrument for Marching Band/Jazz Band
1	Unpaid performances (solo or small ensemble) of substance (max 10/year)
50	Maximum points transferred from another school (from current school year)
1-10	Extra points awarded by directors

Silver Pin:

The Silver Pin shall be awarded to those students who earn a 2nd year letter.

Gold Pin:

The Gold Pin shall be awarded to those students who earn a 3rd year letter.

4 Year Varsity Letter:

The highest award a student can earn is the 4 year Varsity Letter in Band. This is awarded to students who letter all four years in band.

NOBOB

The North Olmsted Band & Orchestra Booster Organization encourages the instrumental music students and faculty of the North Olmsted City Schools by promoting student welfare, supporting student musical performance, providing financial assistance and scholarships, and motivating student musicians to achieve their fullest potential.

We encourage all parents of music students, as well as all friends of the music department, to consider joining this worthwhile organization. In addition to providing necessary financial support to our students, NOBOB boasts a strong history of volunteerism. NOBOB members give of their time and talents to help with many aspects of the music department, including:

- Serving as chaperones
- Mending and managing our uniforms
- Coordinating fundraising efforts
- Serving refreshments to our students
- Operating the football concession stand
- Planning our recognition banquets
- Offering scholarships to graduating seniors

Visit our website: www.eaglemusic.org for more information and how to join this wonderful organization!

We meet the 2nd Monday of every month at the High School, hope to see you there!

This handbook is not intended to be all-encompassing. As the year progresses, there may be a need for additional assignments or modifications to expectations.

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READ AND SIGN FORM

I _____ (student name) have read the 2019-2020 NOHS Band Handbook and understand all information dealing with what is expected of each member of our ensembles. I accept full responsibility for my actions at all times, specifically that an unexcused absence from a performances and rehearsals can negatively affect my grade. Furthermore, it is my intention to receive a superior grade in this class and I will do my best to put my best effort forward to achieve this grade.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date