

Handbook

BACON ACADEMY BAND

2007-2008

THE BACON BAND PROGRAM

Enrolled students are members of band classes. They are:

WIND ENSEMBLE, SYMPHONIC BAND and the FRESHMAN CONCERT BAND.

ALL student Band members participate in Marching Band, Pep Band and in Concert.

In the Marching Band, students may be in the *Wind Band, Percussion Section or Color Guard.*

Color Guard members do not need to be enrolled in Band.

PEP BAND performances have required attendance and include Basketball and Football games.

JAZZ BANDS are semi-curricular and meet after school.

Jazz band members are required to be enrolled in a Band.

WIND ENSEMBLE students are required to prepare a CT Eastern Region audition.

WE Students should be studying privately. See Mr. Kessler for directions.

LEVEL 3 WIND ENSEMBLE students are required to attend all events.

SYMPHONIC BAND and FRESHMAN BAND students should consider private study if considering to be in Wind Ensemble in the future

FRESHMAN REQUIREMENT

Before Course selection begins, all Grade 9 band members are required to pass a technique test for placement and eligibility for the following year.

TRI-M : National Music Honor Society Chapter

Students will be selected on Service to Music Department, Musicianship and Scholarship.

Students in Grade 10, 11 and 12 may apply. Look for details in September.

See a Director.

Members will assist Band Program by keeping track of student participation in Band events and Crews for all Concerts

ENSEMBLE GRADING POLICY

Grading depends upon three criteria: rehearsal behavior(25%), performance attendance (50%) and technical skill (25%).

Rehearsal behavior means the following:

1. Be ready in your seat 2 minutes after the late bell except Period One
Period One members should be ready at the bell.

BEING READY:

Students: are seated; your instrument is put together; you can make a sound; you have your music.

2. You will work on the rehearsal music, do not read other books.
3. Stay focused on the rehearsal. Do not speak to others while rehearsing.
4. If asking a question, wait for a pause. Do not interrupt the class work.
5. Ask questions as needed, speak with a pleasant voice.
6. Keep your instrument in good shape. Treat it well.
7. Sit up and try.
8. Please Eat, Drink or Chew gum away from the rehearsal room.
9. Percussionists must play all the time, doubling parts as needed. Standing.

Should you comply with these requirements, 25 points of the quarter will be easy to earn. Students who talk, take 20 minutes to get settled, do not use a folder, are distracting others, do not play at all will be subject to point reductions. Should this code of conduct be impossible, please consider another class.

Performances are MAJOR events. They are like an exam, and cannot be made up. Attend all performances and you will receive appropriate credit for attending.

- ❖ All performances to be missed should be discussed, well **PRIOR** to a performance. Often conflicts can be solved easily.
- ❖ Should an emergency develop on the evening of an event, leave a message at 608-7014 and/or an email at tkess810@colchesterct.org
- ❖ The Memorial Day Parade is on Sunday, May 25th, 2008. Mark your calendar.
- ❖ All Juniors and Wind Ensemble members are needed to perform at Graduation.

Technical Skill can be up to Twenty-five (25) points, determined by a playing exam.

Do you play your part PRECISELY CORRECT? Are you working on your technique?

Do you contribute to the Band's performance? Is your horn in excellent playing condition?

MISSING A PERFORMANCE

- ❖ If you plan on missing two performances during the year, reconsider enrollment.
 - ❖ Graduation & Parade performances leave no opportunity for a make-up if missed.
- Therefore, an absence will result in a 40 point reduction of the quarterly grade.

THE SAME BIG RULE

- ❖ Should you be suspended, there will be a meeting of the director, parents and administration to discuss attendance at an outside-of-school event. This includes all festivals, Trips, Berklee, etc.

SCHOOL LESSONS

- ❖ Each Wind Ensemble member will attend two lessons each quarter. If you are studying privately, check in with a Director each Quarter. Be alert to lesson requirements.
 - ❖ In-School lessons can replace private study. Be alert to instructions.
 - ❖ **YOU** are responsible for work covered in class while at your lesson.
- If your work is current and you are in good standing in the class, your teachers should permit you to attend a scheduled lesson. Teachers have the right to keep you.

To Study Hall/Privilege Students

1. *You are permitted to be in Band Room IF there is no class there.*
2. *Your non-Music student friends **are not permitted** in the Wing.*
3. *You **should** use that time to practice, or take a lesson with a teacher who wants you to learn, improve and contribute to the Band.*

PRIVATE LESSONS

Improve your technique. Study with a teacher on your instrument.

See a Director for assistance.

TRIPS:

Should you be interested in attending a trip with the Band Program:

- You must be in **perfect** behavior for all Band rehearsals
- You must not have a suspension in the school year before the trip
- No refunds will not be paid should the student be removed from the trip.

IN REHEARSAL:

- ❖ Read the Board at the beginning.
- ❖ **Be quiet in the Band Room during rehearsal.**
- ❖ Stop playing when asked to.
- ❖ Listen to instructions, try to adjust. Keep trying.
- ❖ Follow directions
- ❖ Watch the conductor.
- ❖ Write things down.
- ❖ Use more air!
- ❖ NEVER ASK, "How does it go?"
- ❖ Bring Instrument problems to Mr. Kessler before rehearsal.
- ❖ Be selective in your questions to Mr. Kessler/Mrs.Zirbel *during* rehearsal.
- ❖ Talk to a director *after rehearsal* about issues.
- ❖ See a Section Leader for Reeds.
- ❖ Start a new reed no later than 5 rehearsals before the Concert.
- ❖ Section Leaders tell Director to order reeds
- ❖ **No Gum, No Hats**
- ❖ **Use your music – not someone else's.**

IMPORTANT RULE:

All issues should be directed to Mr. Kessler.

Talk to him, only.

537-2378 tkess810@colchesterct.org

AT CONCERTS/Pep Band:

- ❖ Come to all performances
- ❖ Wear the APPROPRIATE concert dress/uniform.
- ❖ No Gum, No Hats
- ❖ **Watch all other performances at that event.**
- ❖ **Be part of Two (2) Set-up or Breakdown Crews**
- ❖ Never start a new reed on concert night.

CONCERT DRESS

For Concert Band:

MEN

Black shirt/ Dark tie

Black pants

Black socks/shoes

Boys with Black tuxedo suit is acceptable

WOMEN

Black Long sleeve blouse, with buttoned collar

Long solid Black skirt or Long Black Pants

Black shoes – No open toe

NO socks

For Marching Band:

Black pants, socks, shoes

The shirt will be provided for you.

For Pep Band:

Blue, Gold, BA Clothing Dress for the weather

SOLO COMPETITIONS & FESTIVALS

Prepared and competent students may audition for festivals.
Participation is based on audition results.

Bacon Academy's Band Program participates in these festivals:

- Charter Oak Music Festival Band – November 1,5,7
- Eastern Region Band, Orchestra, Jazz Band – Jan 4,5
- All-State Band, Orchestra, Jazz Band – March 29-31
- ASBDA Honors Band - November 13
- New England Music Festival Band, Orchestra – Mar 13-15

If interested in any of these, see Director before Sept. 18th

- Thames Valley Wind Symphony – January Mondays, a Fri-Sat

If interested, see Director before Dec 10th

IN THE MUSIC WING/BAND ROOM

- ❖ Smile and greet Mr. Kessler warmly before rehearsal.
- ❖ Spend time in the Band Room.
- ❖ Do not argue with a Director
- ❖ If you are bothered by anything, tell someone, make a suggestion.
Do not need to complain.
- ❖ Ask to help the Director with **anything, anytime.**
- ❖ When you see a director moving equipment, ask, "How can I help?"
- ❖ Solve your schedule conflicts with the director's help.
- ❖ Take responsibility for you, never speak for your friend(s).
- ❖ Be nice to others in the Band Room.
- ❖ Care about the room, your music, yourself.
- ❖ Keep your instrument on a shelf or in a locker.
- ❖ Put your instrument away neatly
- ❖ Keep a music folder, know where it is.
- ❖ Hand your music in when asked. Be alert to Collection Dates.
- ❖ When you have a problem with a performance or rehearsal,
See a Director immediately.
- ❖ **No Gum, hats, computer Games, cards, No earphones**
- ❖ "Who's in the Band?"

AT HOME

- ❖ Talk to your parents and employers about the schedule ahead!
- ❖ When ALL of you practice:
Work on the hard parts **Isolate** your problem(s), fix them.
Figure the rhythm, the fingerings - BY YOURSELF.
ASK if you do not know something. **ASK** for help, do not fake it!
- ❖ Practice at home over the weekend.
- ❖ Take Your Instrument Home!
- ❖ Brass players should "buzz" every day.
- ❖ Clean your horn, ask for help. Give it a bath. Use lukewarm water.
- ❖ If thinking about getting a new instrument, let a director help!
- ❖ Attend One Cans and Bottles Redemption during the Year.

BAND COUNCIL

BAND PRESIDENT

Works closely with Director. Plans activities. Runs Band Council.

Organizes Pep Band.

Hears student suggestions. Brings concerns to Director.

Brings solutions to students. Hears Director's gossip and concerns.

PRESIDENT-ELECT –

In charge of Cans & Bottles and uniform shirt distribution, collection.

TREASURERS - Appointed students

In charge of Band Fund.

SECTION LEADERS - Anyone

They will lead section rehearsals and distribute and collect music.

In charge of distribution, collection of music to/from Section.

FRESHMAN BAND REPRESENTATIVES -

Freshman Band Council members.

COLLECTION OF MUSIC

1. ALL STUDENTS should have one copy of all necessary music.
2. All students need their music, not someone else's at their Lessons
3. Section Leaders will assist with collection of music and give them, **in score order.**
4. Students not handing in music ON TIME will be subject to **\$1 a part.**
The payment will be through Graduation Obligations.

CALENDAR

Dates can change. Please Check with the Monthly Newsletter.

September	22	Pep Band – 10:30 game, be in seat at 10:20am Over at 12:45.
See Handbook for Audition/Festival deadlines		
October	20	Pep Band – 2pm , be in seat at 1:50pm
	23	ALL Bands CONCERT - 7pm
	25	Mon and Wed Night Jazz Bands CONCERT - 7pm
	27	Pep Band - 1:30pm
November	1, 5, 7	Charter Oak Music Festival, RHAM
	13	ASBDA Honors Band Festival - Canton
	17	Pep Band – 10:30am, be in seat at 10:20am
December	1	Region Auditions -Ledyard HS
	18,19,20	PERFORMANCES TBA
January	TBA	Pep Band
	4,5	Eastern Region Festival, UConn
	?	Thames Valley Wind Symphony
February	2	All State Auditions
	9	Berklee Jazz Festival/ New England Festival
March	6	Concert
	26	Bacon Jazz Night
April	3-5	All-State Festival
May	15-18	Trip
	?	Colchester Jazz Night
	25	Memorial Day Parade
June	12	Concert
	19	GRADUATION

The Graduation Band will be current juniors, and selected others.

If you plan on missing a Major performance, inform Director immediately.
If you plan on missing two Major performances, please reconsider your enrollment.

Should you desire to have all band memos sent to you by email, including the Band Handbook, please email me at Tkess810@colchesterct.org

Please include your student's name and YOG as the subject heading, i.e.;
"Kessler – senior"
Also, please include your last name should it be different than your student's.

Please help your son or daughter follow the suggestions, rules and schedule outlined in the Bacon Band Handbook.

WIND ENSEMBLE REQUIREMENTS

This year WE members are asked to study privately and take an Eastern Region audition.

If you study with a Private Teacher:

- ❖ You should be taking at least three lessons a quarter with that teacher.
- ❖ Provide the Directors with an email or phone to discuss your progress.
- ❖ Play for a director each quarter for a check-up,

If you are studying with a Bacon Director:

- ❖ Play for the director 2-3 times a quarter.
- ❖ Plan lessons on your schedule, study halls, etc.
Lessons should be 25 minutes.

THE AUDITION December 1, 2007

- ❖ See all requirements on the Wing Wall.
- ❖ You will all play a portion of your requirements before September 21st.
- ❖ If auditioning, you will pay for your audition fee
- ❖ If not approved to audition, after trying. You may be required to be with a Private Teacher.
- ❖ Should you be accepted to the Festival and/or move forward in the process, BA will pay your fees.