Blue Valley East High School

Band Handbook

Mr. Jacob Wright

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**Program Description**

The Blue Valley East High School Band program consists of two concert ensembles, two jazz ensembles, and The Lion’s Pride Marching Band. All ensembles are open to students in grades 9-12. The Lion’s Pride Marching Band and Jazz Lab Ensemble are non-auditioned ensembles. Both concert ensembles and the Concert Jazz Ensemble are auditioned groups. These auditions will take place at the beginning of each academic year. Along with each ensemble presenting concerts both on and off campus, the Lion’s Pride Marching Band participates in each home football game, and marching festivals and contests around the state of Kansas.

**Program Goals**

*Students will…*

* Be musically literate
* Demonstrate proper technique on their instruments
* Consume music as a listener as well as present music as a performer.
* Perform as a member of ensembles in varying capacities and styles.
* Connect music in rehearsals and classes to their personal likes/dislikes and personal lives
* Develop professional skills that positively impact their lives and the lives of those around them.

**Classroom Expectations**

In the classroom each person is to be treated with respect and fairness. The greater goal of making music cannot be reached if this atmosphere is not established. The following rules are to be followed in the classroom by directors and students alike:

* Treat everyone respectfully
* Take proper care of your equipment
* Communicate with peers and directors
* Ask questions if you have them

Following these simple rules will ensure everyone has the most enjoyable and safe experience in the Blue Valley East High School Band Program.

**Attendance**

Attendance at all rehearsals for the ensemble(s) the student participates in is mandatory, unless otherwise communicated by the student and/or a parent or other faculty member. Excused absences include but are not limited to:

* School functions for other classes and/or organizations
* Illness and/or family matters
* Honor ensemble participation

*If a student or parent has a concern or question about absences, communication with the directors is key. Accommodations can be made to make sure a student’s grade or standing in the program is not punished due to extenuating circumstances.* **NOTE: All performances are required.**

**Grading**

* A 90-100%
* B 80-89%
* C 70-79%
* D 60-69%
* F 0-59%

Students are graded on attendance, meeting rehearsal/practice requirements (homework) and performances (exams). The weighting scale is as follows:

* Attendance 40%
* Rehearsals 30%
* Performances 30%

**Concert Dress Code**

For all ensembles concert black attire is required.

* Ladies: Black slacks or floor length skirt, black top (modest), *jackets are welcome but NOT required.*
* Gentlemen: Black slacks, black shirt (long sleeve) black shoes. *Ties and suit jackets are welcome but NOT required.*

**Marching Band Uniform/Rental**

Each student participating in the marching band will be issued a uniform, secondary requirements are the show shirt, (purchased by the student), athletic shorts, long black socks, and marching shoes (purchased by the student). Students will be issued one pair of gloves for free. If a student needs an extra pair for any reason, they must purchase them. Uniforms will be sized distributed during the week of band camp. If a student has a concern or issue with their uniform during the season, it is their responsibility to communicate that to the band directors. From there the necessary steps will be taken to make sure each student is setup for success. There is no additional fee to rent the marching band uniform. Each uniform will be checked out with and should be turned in with the following parts.

* Jacket
* Pants
* Shako and Box
* Plume
* Gauntlets
* Gloves (issued to students, do not need to be turned in at end of the season)

If any part(s) of the uniform is not turned in at the end of the year, the student will be charged the amount to replace that part(s).

**Instrument Rental Policy**

Students who play large or specialty instruments will have the option to rent an instrument from the band program; i.e. bass clarinet, bassoon, tuba, baritone, etc. A one-time rental fee of $30 is associated with this process, paid at the beginning of each academic year. Students participating in the Lion’s Pride Marching Band will NOT pay an additional fee for their instruments, (contras, drum line, saxes); the rental fee for these instruments is built into the Marching Band Travel fee. **NOTE: if a student plays tenor saxophone in the marching band and plays bass clarinet in a concert ensemble, they will still pay the rental fee for their concert instrument.**

**Instrument Equipment**

Each student must provide their own equipment for their instruments, reeds, valve oil, etc. If a student is renting an instrument from the band program, a mouthpiece will be provided with the instrument. A student is more than welcome to use their mouthpiece setup, but is not required to. The band program will have the essentials available to borrow or for purchase if necessary.

* Valve Oil
* Slide Grease
* Cork Grease
* Reeds (purchase only--$3/reed)

**Fundraising**

To help offset the cost of rentals, travel, and purchases. Students and families are invited to participate in different fundraising activities throughout the year. A percentage of each event goes into each student’s account according to how much they raise. This percentage does vary, but it is possible for a student to pay for all of their fees through fundraising. More details will come to each student and family at a later date as we plan our fundraising events for the 2019-2020 year.

**Calendar of Major Events**

Below is the calendar of major events for the 2019-2020 academic year.

* August 12-16: Band Camp
* August 21: First Day of School
* September 13: First Football Game—Overland Park, KS
* September 28: Golden Regiment Invitational—Blue Springs, MO
* October 9: Concert/Jazz Ensembles Concert—Overland Park, KS
* October 12: Central States Marching Festival—Manhattan, KS
* October 25-26: BOA Super Regional Competition—St. Louis, MO (over night)
* December 4: Concert/Jazz Ensembles Concert—Overland Park, KS
* February 16: State Concert Band Contest—Overland Park, KS
* February 22: KMEA Conference Performances—Wichita, KS
* March 4: Concert/Jazz Ensembles Concert—Overland Park, KS
* March 20: 18th and Vine Jazz Festival—Kansas City, MO
* May 6: Concert/Jazz Ensembles Concert—Overland Park, KS

**Band Fees**

* Annual band fees for Freshman Band, Fall Concert Band, and Jazz only students are $50.00, and band fees for Marching Band are $200.00. These fees pay for the upkeep of band uniforms, cleaning of uniforms, food and travel expenses, clinicians and many other band expenses. All fees are due by the date of the Band Picnic during band camp, and checks should be made payable to BVE Band.

**Lettering In Band**

Students in band have the opportunity to earn the school’s letter (to be worn on a letter jacket). Letters are awarded at the annual Band Banquet in May. To read the requirements for earning the school’s letter in band, go to the band website: BVNWBand.com or see the last page in this handbook.

**BVE Band Lettering Requirements**

To earn the school's letter or numerals in band, students must complete the following, and return it by **Friday, April 20, 2018 at 3:00 pm.** Please write in points in blanks and total at the bottom. **Students are responsible for keeping track of all categories throughout the year and submitting a complete form.  
LETTER = 180 POINTS**

\_\_\_\_\_Sousa Band Audition (20 pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_Selected for Sousa Band (20 additional pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_District Band Audition (20 pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_Selected for Honor Ensemble at District Level (40 pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_Selected for Honor Ensemble at State Level (40 pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_Lion’s Pride Pep Band (50 pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_Participated at Regional Solo/Small Ensemble (20 pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_I Rating at Regional Solo (40 additional pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_II Rating at Regional Solo (20 additional pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_I Rating at Regional Small Ensemble (30 additional pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_II Rating at Regional Small Ensemble (10 additional pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_I Rating at State Solo (50 additional pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_II Rating at State Solo (30 additional pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_I Rating at State Small Ensemble (40 additional pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_II Rating At State Small Ensemble (20 additional pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_Musical Pit Orchestra (30 pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_Private lessons for full school year. (30 pts.) Write the name of your teacher\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_Performing Groups Outside of BVE – i.e. Prairie Winds, Olathe Youth Symphony, etc. Attach separate sheet with title of organization, number of rehearsals, number of performances and method of selection into the group. 10 points each.  
\_\_\_\_\_Summer Band Camp – previous summer - not BVE Marching Camp (20 pts.)

Please state which camp you attended and the date of the camp \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_Fourth Year Member of the Band (90 pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_Third Year Member of the Band (40 pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_Second Year Member of the Band (30 pts.)

\_\_\_\_\_Freshman Member of the Marching Band (20 pts.) \_\_\_\_\_Marching Band Section Leader (30 pts.) \_\_\_\_\_Marching Band Drum Major (50 pts.) \_\_\_\_\_Drumline Participation (30 pts.)

\_\_\_\_\_Pit Percussion Participation (10 pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_Big Dog Jazz Band (30 pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_7:00 Jazz Band (30 pts.)  
\_\_\_\_\_Teacher’s Aide for Band (20 pts. Per semester)  
\_\_\_\_\_Outside band concert attendance – must be college or professional level (10 pts each, 30 pts max)

(must turn in program from the concert with your name on it)  
\_\_\_\_\_Other service points offered at director's discretion (setting up for concerts, working at band

functions that are not fundraisers, etc.)  
*Please list each event and date:* 1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ PRINTED NAME**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE** verifies the above is true.

**Off-Campus Activity Policy**

As a participating member of the Blue Valley East HS Band Program, each student is required to follow any and all guidelines set by the school district, school, and band program. The following list will result in ejection from the band program and travel home at the student/parent(s)’ expense.

* Consumption of alcohol, drugs, or any other illegal substances
* Purchase of any illegal substances
* ANY illegal activity
* Engagement in any behavior that puts yourself or any other students at risk

*This list is not comprehensive. The biggest rule is to use common sense and communicate any questions.*

**Rules for Overnight Trips**

* During lights-out the only students to be in each hotel room are the ones on that list.
* Students are not to leave the room after lights-out
* Any couples are not to be in a hotel room alone.

\*\*For any trip of any duration; DO NOT go anywhere alone. Always go in groups of 3 or more.

**Forms**

* Handbook Agreement Form
* Student Questionnaire
* Travel Permission Form
* Medical Release Form
* Instrument Rental Form
* Uniform Rental Form
* Band Booster Information\*\*
  + Information and Sign-Up Forms will be distributed at our first informational meeting. Thursday August 15 at 7:00-8:00pm.

**Handbook Agreement Form**

I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ certify that I, as the student, have read and agree to all the above rules and regulations for my participation in the Blue Valley East HS Band Program.

I\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ certify that I, as the guardian, have read and agree to all the above rules and regulations for my student’s participation in the Blue Valley East HS Band Program.

**Instrument Rental Form**

I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ certify that I, as the student, have read and agree to all the above rules and regulations for my rental of instrument \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the Blue Valley East HS Band Program.

I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ certify that I, as the student, have read and agree to all the above rules and regulations for my student’s rental of instrument \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the Blue Valley East HS Band Program.

FEE: $30/academic year. (Cash or check)

Checks must be made payable to BVE Bands.

**Travel Permission and Medical Release Forms**

These forms are attached in a separate document to the drop box. (Blue Valley School District Forms) They would be adjusted accordingly for the band program rather than overarching athletics. They would follow this template though.

**REFERENCES:**

* Blue Valley West Bands
* Blue Valley Northwest Bands
* Blue Valley School District Activity Participation Requirements
* Olathe East Bands
* Kansas State University Bands