

# John T. Hoggard High School

## Band Handbook

### 2009-2010

#### Performance Standards

A student must be in good standing with the band program. "In good standing" means: the Director or the administration has not suspended a student from the performance group for any gross violation or any disciplinary action.

Students who fail to report for rehearsals and performances are not in good standing. Students who leave a rehearsal or performance without the permission of the Director are not in good standing. Students are required to attend fully and completely all rehearsals and performances scheduled. It is the student's responsibility to inform the Director *prior* to any rehearsal or performance they may miss. If this seems impossible, the Director should be notified as soon as possible. Under no circumstances will a student's employment be considered excused. All rehearsals and performances are absolutely required. If you have an unexcused rehearsal for marching band or you choose to "sit out" without a reason on the sidelines, you are not eligible to perform at that week's football game. Your absence from the field affects the formations. Your presence is needed to learn new material and to help those around you learn their new material. This is a team effort! Please see Mr. Reed when any problems arise, most issues can be resolved.

Students who do not follow class rules, football and event rules, and the expectations as a member of the JTH Band may be removed from the performing bands and given appropriate alternate work.

Students will not argue with the Drum Major(s), Captains, Section Leaders or Band Officers. Students are not permitted to argue with fellow band members in any capacity that hurts or damages the morale of others. Students are expected to *support each other*. Name calling, profanity, etc., **will not be tolerated**. Students are encouraged to inform the Director of any problem or what you feel is mistreatment or unjust.

**You are expected to adhere to all the rules and expectations for performance:**

- Follow all instructions.
- Be on time for all rehearsals and performances. (This means early!)
- Treat *everyone* and *everything* in a respectful manner (remember you are a representative of Hoggard High School).
- Play *only your* instrument.

#### Classroom Rules

1. Students will be seated within 2 minutes (or sooner) of the tardy bell with their instruments ready to begin class.
2. Conversation **is not permitted** during class and rehearsals.
3. Students *will remain seated* unless they are given permission to leave.
4. Students are expected to play their instruments *each day*.
5. **Students are not allowed to bring food and/or drinks into the band room or chew gum.** Water in a screw top bottle is acceptable (water only)
6. Students will keep the band room clean and store their instruments away properly in their cases after class/rehearsals.
7. **Under no circumstances are students permitted to use instruments other than their own.** School instruments are assigned. Use only those instruments assigned to you.
8. Personal electronic equipment will not be used in class (phones mp3 players etc).
9. All NHCS rules will be enforced while on school grounds and when we travel to offsite events.

### School Instruments

- The school has an inventory of instruments. Students enrolled in music classes may check these out. These instruments are for students without a personal instrument. You are expected to use your own instrument if you have one.
- Students must fill out a New Hanover County Schools Checkout Card and have it signed by student and parent.
- The care and maintenance of the instrument is the responsibility of the student to whom the instrument has been checked out. Normal wear will be allowed, but repairs of any damage resulting from carelessness or lack of proper upkeep will be charged to the student. Music & Arts must do repair of any school owned instrument.

### Officers - Concert and Marching

All members interested in a position with the band must first apply for the position desired. Applications are available in the band office; see a band officer or the director for a form.

### Drum Major(s)

The Director or designated judges chooses the Drum Major(s) during the spring, prior to the marching season. Candidates must have a year of performing experience to be eligible. The Drum Major(s) conduct(s) the marching shows on the field during performances and practices. The Drum Major is directly responsible to the Director and has authority over the Band Officers and band members. Their purpose is to increase communication between the band and the Director. Drum Major(s) are entitled to the **complete respect** of the band. Positions are Head Drum Major (senior) Junior Drum Major and Sophomore Drum Major. Positions may be altered by the director as needed.

### Captains/Section Leaders

All must complete an application and audition. Positions may be filled at the discretion of the director.

### Uniforms

1. Members of the Marching Band will be issued a uniform to care for throughout the entire year. The neatness of our band will be judged by how you care for this piece of equipment.
2. You must arrive early enough before roll call at each performance so that you can complete dressing and be ready for roll call. The Drum Major (s) and Captains will hold inspection before entering the field. All accessories are a part of your uniform and are mandatory to pass inspection. If you do not pass inspection, **you do not perform!**
3. You are solely responsible to keep your uniform in good condition. We expect normal wear and tear but major blemishes whether torn or stained will be the student's responsibility. You are also responsible for replacement of parts or the complete uniform if it or parts of it are lost or stolen. The current replacement cost of one uniform is approximately \$550. Be careful!
4. You may not alter the uniform in any fashion; it must be worn as directed by the director or other qualified personnel.

### Uniform Inspection Criteria

- Students must appear in a clean and pressed uniform for all appropriate events
- Students must wear the full uniform during inspection, including hats; hat strap must be worn underneath chin, not on the chin (hat plume will be issued according to weather and event)
- Jacket
- Black shoes with black socks\*
- Marching Band T Shirt issued by the band
- White gloves must be spotless\*
- Trousers will fall right above the shoe with no overlap
- **Under no circumstances are students permitted to exchange any uniform parts without the consent of the uniform manager, parent coordinator or director.**
- Jewelry **will not** be worn with the uniform. Girls will not wear excessive make-up. Stud earrings only.

## Football Game Rules and Expectations

1. Students must report **on time**.
2. Students must stay for the complete duration of a game unless the Director has granted special permission.
3. Students are assigned a seat in the stadium that *will not be changed* without the permission of the Director. **Stay in your assigned seat during a game.**
4. Students are not permitted to take a break when the band is playing in the stadium. **Everyone plays!**
5. The JTH Band **will not show any signs of disapproval to other bands in any capacity**. If you say anything, make it positive. You are not permitted to react to harsh or rude comments made by other bands. **You are better than that.**
6. Discipline and good behavior is not only expected, **it is required** of all students who represent the John T. Hoggard Marching Band. Get along with each other or remain silent. All problems should be brought to the Director's attention.
7. No food will be allowed in the stands. Water will be provided and only water is permitted.

## Marching Band Rehearsals/Football Games Break Rules

1. Breaks will be given at the discretion of the Director. They are not promised every practice, but will be considered.
2. When a break is given, the student may not leave campus for any reason.
3. Band and Guard members are to be back in position and ready to go at the designated end of the break. The length of the break will be given when students are dismissed, and they are responsible to be ready to perform.
4. Band and Guard students are not allowed drinks or snacks, other than water, before third-quarter break.
5. During a football game, students must return from third-quarter break **prior to the start of the fourth quarter**.
6. Band and Guard students are not allowed in the spectator section during their third-quarter break. If a student is found in the spectator section by a chaperone or the Director, she/he will be escorted out and back to the seating area for the band. **This is for your protection.**

## Band Trip

The student must be in good standing, present for all rehearsals and performances and meet the musicianship requirements for adjudicated performances. Students must perform each day in class with no suspensions from school or the band program. Students will be expected to participate in all fund-raising activities that support the band program and make monthly installments toward final payment for the trip. *Note:* Academic progress is also evaluated. It is better for a student to remain at JTH if they are having academic problems. Refunds will be given to students unless the deadline for refunds has passed. There are no refunds after the deadline. **The deadline will be announced and/or printed on application form.**

## Graduation Commencement

All non-graduating students are required to perform at Graduation. Students may support their graduating friends, but are reminded to remain respectful.

## Grading/Absences

### Evaluation:

Students' grades are determined as follows:

- Performances - 40 % of your nine weeks grade
- Tests, Quizzes, Written work, and Scales - 20% (Includes memorization of music)
- Daily Grades - 20% (Includes after school rehearsals)
- Instrumental Technique - 20% (Posture, breathing, practice, etc.)

Since it is impossible to make up a missed performance or rehearsal time by performing, the student will be allowed to make up the time missed by putting in the equivalent of time doing a related assignment or coming to a rehearsal that is not required of them. A one-page report is the equivalent of one hour of time. So to make up a missed after school rehearsal, a student would have to do a two-page report on an assigned topic. The report will then be graded and that grade will be given for that rehearsal. Grading will be based on content, spelling, grammar, and resources used. Students must remember to foot/end note any quotes and give a bibliography of sources. Plagiarism will result in an F. To make up for a football game/parade, a student would have to do a five-page report. To make up a competition would require a ten-page report. To make up the semester final is a twenty-five-page report. There is no make up possible for a daily playing grade. You either play or you don't and don't could cause you to miss the upcoming performances. Any report not turned in within 3 days will result in a zero for that grade. Thursday marching practices may not be missed. Failure to complete a Thursday practice may result in removal from the Friday performance, which will result in a lost "performance" grade. When in doubt or if you have questions, speak with Mr. Reed ASAP.

## **Concert Attire**

All concert band members must wear matching clothing. Those in Concert Band will wear white top and black pants and black socks/shoes.

Symphonic Band members will wear black tuxedo pants, a white non-ruffled tuxedo shirt (pleated front), black bow tie, black cummerbund, black shoes and black socks.

Ladies will wear a black dress. We are ordering dresses to assure uniformity. This process will occur at the beginning of the Fall Term. Students are responsible for the cost of the dress.

## **Fundraising**

The John T. Hoggard Band and the Band Boosters conduct several fundraisers throughout the school year. These fundraisers help support the band by providing needs that the county cannot supply. New instruments are needed, music, travel expenses and other miscellaneous items. We expect each or our members to participate in the fundraising activities of the Band program.

## **Picking up students after practice**

We will try to dismiss the students on schedule as much as possible. Please note that dismissal means from the practice field and it may take some band members a few minutes to put their equipment away. We reserve the right to keep band members up to 10 minutes after the scheduled time for dismissal when it is necessary (We rarely hold past dismissal time). Parents please be prompt in picking your student up from rehearsal, as we will only stay for fifteen minutes after the band is dismissed.

## **Insurance**

While band members are not required to carry school insurance, we strongly recommend that you do unless you have another health/accident policy, which covers you.

## **Discipline**

All students must comply to the New Hanover County School Board policies and with rules of Hoggard High School and of the Band Director. All rules will be clearly displayed in the classroom and will be discussed during the first few days of class.

The following procedure will be followed for all discipline problems and is effect for each term.

1<sup>st</sup> time - warning, 2<sup>nd</sup> time - warning, 3<sup>rd</sup> time 1-hour detention

4<sup>th</sup> time - warning, 5<sup>th</sup> time - warning, 6<sup>th</sup> time - 1-hour detention and parent conference

7<sup>th</sup> time - warning, 8<sup>th</sup> time - warning, 9<sup>th</sup> time - disciplinary referral to appropriate grade level administrator

Each following infraction will result in another disciplinary referral.

**John T. Hoggard High School Band  
4305 Shipyard Boulevard  
Wilmington, NC 28403**

August 25, 2009

Please **return** this signature page by Thursday August 27th.

I have received and read the Hoggard High School Band Handbook and will adhere to all policies.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Rod Reed  
Director of Bands  
350-2072 ext.221