

LAUREL HIGHLANDS HIGH SCHOOL
ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS
DIVISION OF MUSIC

LAUREL HIGHLANDS BANDS



2017 - 2018 HANDBOOK

NAME





WE UNDERSTAND THERE IS A LOT OF INFORMATION IN THE HAND BOOK TO READ AND COMPREHEND IN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME.

HOWEVER TO AVOID THE MOST COMMON ISSUES, IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT BOTH STUDENTS AND PARENTS PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS:

- **ATTENDANCE - PAGE 12-14**
- **FUNDRAISING - PAGE 20 - 22**
- **PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE - PAGE 23-24**
- **FORMS - PLEASE COMPLETE THE BAND AGREEMENT FORM & MEDICAL FORM - PAGE 26 & 27 BY MONDAY JULY 24th 2017**

www.lhbands.org

LAUREL HIGHLANDS BAND PROGRAM HANDBOOK

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A WELCOME LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the 2017 edition of bands here at Laurel Highlands! You are about to embark on one of the most rewarding experiences of your life. The Mustang Marching Band is an outstanding organization representing Laurel Highlands High School, the school district, and the entire Uniontown area. I am very glad you decided to join us this season!

The band program at Laurel Highlands is an important and dynamic part of the total high school experience. The band is the largest, most colorful, highly disciplined, and visible of all school groups. The Band serves two functions, the first of which is to educate students, both in the area of instrumental music and in the area of life skills.

Second and equally important function of the band is its performance obligation to Laurel Highlands School District and to the community. The band fulfills this obligation through performances such as concerts, parades, sporting events, and community functions throughout the school year.

By taking advantage of the opportunity to perform in one of music programs at Laurel Highlands, you can foster the self-discipline, work habits, and attention to detail that will undoubtedly benefit you throughout your life. It is no accident that students who participate in band are consistently among the top students academically, and once out of school often become the most successful members of society.



Mr. Santore
Director of Bands

The 2017 season is sure to be a success. We have exciting music, drill and events planned for the entire season. In addition, we will have several new faces on campus helping on staff. I hope you are getting pumped up for band camp because this is going to be a great year!

I encourage you all to consistently remember to keep the “Pride” and well being of the band before your own. Remember we want this to be a positive and exciting experience for everyone involved. Think of your actions before you act – “Is this what’s best for the band? How am I contributing to the greater good of the group?” With the right attitude and determination we will be able to make this year’s band **very** successful.

Again, welcome to the band! I truly hope this will be an exciting year for you and the band.

-Mr. Santore

LAUREL HIGHLANDS BAND PROGRAM HANDBOOK

2016-2017

MISSION STATEMENT, POLICY, PARENTS, OBJECTIVES, EXPECTATIONS

PHILOSOPHY OF MUSIC EDUCATION

Music is an aural phenomenon that satisfies the human need to respond to life experiences through singing, listening and/or playing an instrument. The goal of the music education program is to provide students the musical skills, appreciation and experiences to continue, support and succeed in music in our schools and beyond. In our music classrooms students will learn the life skills that will contribute to their personal growth as a human being by providing opportunities in music which develop critical thinking skills, communication skills, leadership skills, cultural and historical knowledge, and most importantly a means of creative expression through musical performance.

A STATEMENT OF POLICY

In order to assist band members and parents in understanding areas of responsibility, a statement of band policy is herein set forth. Becoming familiar with this policy will enable each individual to make the most of this great opportunity to be a member of the Laurel Highlands High School band program, becoming a better person and a better musician.

We firmly believe that the student should improve through regular practice. In the Laurel Highlands band program, we feel that when the student has lost the will to improve him / herself or make a better contribution to the band, he is wasting the time and efforts of his / her fellow members and the community by continuing in this program. The HAPPIEST student is the one who is improving through regular habits of practice and daily progress. He / she must not only know right from wrong, but must be able to stand for principles. He / she must develop a high sense of purpose toward which he / she is willing to work. RESPONSIBILITY is the focus behind any level of achievement within this program. We intend to conduct ourselves in a manner that will facilitate all students in learning and bettering themselves.

PARENT ASSISTANCE

What a wonderful opportunity you have as a parent to be involved in your child's music education by getting involved as a band parent. We realize that many parents are limited in the number of hours they can contribute, but nearly all successful parent organization share a common feature: *Many* parents contributing a *little* time or expertise to help the organization run smoothly. Every parent of a band member is automatically enrolled as a member of the Laurel Highlands Band Booster organization. The purpose of the Band Boosters is to support and reinforce the successful operation of the high school band program. The Band Boosters have many responsibilities during the course of the year to help the band succeed. There are a number of ways parents can help; from chaperoning, to helping with a particular fundraiser, and many other important jobs. Attached at the end of this hand book is a HOW YOU CAN HELP form which includes a section you can list the skills and/or activities you would be willing to help out with. We look forward to working with you and your child to make this year a success!

OBJECTIVES OF THE BAND PROGRAM

- To provide a musically engaging experience for all band members
- To develop and improve the performance skills of the various wind and percussion instruments
- To provide for the musical needs of the school and the community
- To foster life skills which will contribute to the students overall education in preparation for post secondary careers including leadership, critical thinking, communication skills, and cultural and historical knowledge
- To promote a means of creative expression through musical performance

1.0 - EXPECTATIONS

1.1 In order to ensure the safety and educational quality of the Laurel Highlands High School Band Program, there must be an established set of rules, regulations and policies that must be followed and adhered to by all members of the band at all times. The following expectations, rules, procedures, and guidelines are in effect at all times:

1.2 Band members welcome to one of the most significant experiences of your life! Fundamental to this experience and the success of the group are five key areas: *Respect, Integrity, Class, Self-Discipline, and Pride*. In addition to these areas, topics such as ATTITUDE, GENERAL CONDUCT, ATTENDANCE, REHEARSALS, PERFORMANCES, and BUS TRIPS expectations are listed. It is your responsibility to be familiar with all that is expected of you in order for the band to run efficiently and smoothly. One basic rule you can use to apply to all expectations is asking yourself a simple question. "What is best for the band?"

1.3 **FIVE KEY AREAS**

1.4 **RESPECT**— Respect for oneself and one's fellow members results in an attitude of cooperation and mutual support. Even if you think someone is disrespecting you always treat them with respect because your actions represent the band.

1.5 **INTEGRITY**— Acting with integrity leads one to accept responsibility of commitment for being part of this kind of an organization, where everyone depends upon all of the other members of the group for their individual success. It requires honesty and sincerity.

1.6 **CLASS**— Conducting one's self with class projects to others a quality and excellence of style, an elegance of manner and bearing.

1.7 **SELF-DISCIPLINE**— Self-discipline is the ability to get yourself to take action regardless of your emotional state. Self-discipline is one of many personal development tools available to you. Self-discipline is like a muscle. The more you train it, the stronger you become. The less you train it, the weaker you become. Self-discipline requires an understanding of oneself and an awareness of the ways in which one can cope with difficulties, frustrations, and disappointments. Self-discipline affords a person the inclination to concentrate on a task as long as is necessary to learn, perfect, or complete it.

1.8 **PRIDE**—Pride, a sense of dignity and self respect, is really the fundamental precept of participation in the Mustang Band and a guide to responsibility. Those who have pride in themselves will do their honest best to give their maximum effort at all times and will not engage in any activity that will denigrate themselves or the organization.

1.9 **ATTITUDE** - Those who have pride in themselves will generally project a positive attitude. A positive attitude is characterized by a generally cheerful outlook toward rehearsals and performances, cooperation in the preparation and maintenance of facilities and an eagerness to do what is necessary to be successful. Regardless of your ability, if your attitude is not a positive one, where you will do your individual best to improve and to see the group be successful, you should not be part of this organization. Indeed those who do not project a positive, cooperative attitude will be asked to change their manner or leave the group. **Even the best performers, if they do not care about the good of the group, have no place here.**

2.0 - BAND / ENSEMBLE MEMBERSHIP POLICY

- 2.0 The membership in the Laurel Highlands' Band Program is divided into three groups: Musicians, Auxiliary (Majorettes, Color Guard, Honor Guard), and Managers. The policies regarding initial membership in the marching band are different for each of the three groups.
- 2.1 **Musicians:** All student musicians must be in grades 9-12 at Laurel Highlands High School. For musicians, marching band is a co-curricular activity. This means that these members are graded for their attendance and performance. This grade is counted into their music class grade. All musicians are required to take a symphonic band, percussion ensemble or its equivalent. Equivalent may be jazz or percussion ensemble, choir, music theory and technology or A.P. music theory. Equivalent classes only count if a student cannot fit band into their schedule. The band director will make the final decision on all membership requests. Exceptions may be made on a case by case basis depending on the reason.
- 2.2 All musicians must have training/instruction on their chosen instrument before being allowed into the marching band. This means completion of middle school band or recommendation of middle school band director or private instructor.
- 2.3 **Auxiliary:** All students in grades 9-12 at Laurel Highlands High School are eligible to audition for one of our auxiliary squads. For auxiliary squad members, marching band is an extra-curricular activity. Retention of membership is solely based on attitude, audition, attendance and performance. Once the audition is passed (minimum 75% score) students will be selected by audition rank until all spots are filled based on a predetermined number of spots. Students who pass the audition but not selected for the squad **may** be made an alternate. Alternates will be ranked and may be promoted to full membership to the squad if any member leaves the squad. Auditions may be held if necessary with decisions being made by the band staff. Alternates also perform in the case of absence of any full member and in parades and pre-game performances. Auxiliary members can be "docked" for their performance in a show and can have their spot reassigned to an alternate for a given number of performances for lack of attendance, poor performance or anything the director or auxiliary instructor deems negatively affecting the group. Auditions are final.
- 2.4 **Managers:** All students in grades 9-12 at Laurel Highlands High School are eligible to apply for the position of manager. Up to six managers will be selected for any given year for marching band. Applicants will be required to interview with the director. Upon passing the interview, students will be assigned the position of manager. Student manager are held accountable for attendance as well as performance of manager duties as assigned by the band director.
- 2.5 **For ALL Members:** All members are to have and keep acceptable attendance records both in school and marching band rehearsals and performances. All members are required to have and keep an acceptable discipline record in school. All members are expected to have and keep their grades up at an acceptable level with a minimum of a 2.5 GPA.
- 2.6 **MEMBERSHIP IN THE BAND PROGRAM IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT. Any conduct deemed inappropriate, in violation of any expectations or rules in this hand book or school rules, or not contributing to the overall good of the group by a band member is subject to termination from any and all bands at Laurel Highlands.**

3.0 - GENERAL CONDUCT

NOTE: All rules in the Student Handbook are in force at all rehearsals, performances and trips.

- 3.1 Members of a prestigious organization such as the Mustang Band are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a decorous manner and to exercise common sense! Among considerations are:
- 3.2 All members are expected to follow the instruction of any teacher, instructor, chaperone, or student leader without question unless said instruction violate civil or moral law. Should you be displeased with what is being requested, follow the request first, then, when the time is appropriate, bring your dissatisfaction to the attention of the band director.
- 3.3 Members should not play on or play with the instruments or equipment of others. Unfamiliarity leads to potential damage and a general lack of respect for the belongings of others. If you see someone picking up an instrument or equipment that is not theirs, remind them.
- 3.4 Members should not remove, play with, "hide" or take all or parts of the uniforms or instruments of others. The uniform is an obviously important part of our performance presentation. If you have a problem with your uniform, don't take someone else's. See your section leader or the director. Take care of your uniform! If you see someone doing something with their own or another's uniform that they should not, tell them and then report it to the band director.
- 3.5 Members should show respect for others by being judicious in displays of affection. A somewhat impassioned embrace is more properly given in privacy rather than when with a group. Your guideline should be: "Would my parents be embarrassed if they were here?" and, "Would anyone who is here be embarrassed?"
- 3.6 Anytime there is a critical incident or incidents involving police agencies or other authorities, the band director is to be notified immediately!
- 3.7 Members must take care to not get into any private vehicle from the time they arrive for a rehearsal, performance or trip until the time that they are released from the rehearsal, performance or trip. This is especially important when we are on site at a performance or on an overnight trip. Regardless of who it is, friend, relative or someone "friendly", do NOT get into a private vehicle!
- 3.8 Whenever we are on site at a performance or on an overnight trip, band members should move from place to place in groups. Do NOT go by yourself.
- 3.9 Whenever we are on site at a performance or on an overnight trip, band members are NOT to leave the site. Do not take it upon yourself to take off and explore.
- 3.10 Any injury that occurs from the time you arrive for any rehearsal, performance or trip until such time as you are released from that rehearsal, performance or trip must be reported to the band director immediately!
- 3.11 There will be no smoking by any band member at any band activity, function or trip.
- 3.12 Members who conduct themselves in a boisterous manner at rehearsals, performances or on trips will be asked to refrain from such or be removed from the group.
- 3.13 Band members in possession of, use of, or distribution of controlled substance(s) will be disciplined according to the Laurel Highlands School District Drug/Alcohol Policy. Possession of, use of, or distribution of controlled substance(s) will also result in dismissal from the organization.

4.0 - REHEARSALS

- 4.1 It is necessary for us to maximize our rehearsal time in order to achieve our performance goals.
- 4.2 The rehearsal schedule is normally set well in advance, allowing adequate time to plan other activities and obligations around the established schedule.
- 4.3 Our goal of true excellence in performance can only be reached if each band member looks at the rehearsal as the means to that end. A band member missing a rehearsal not only does not improve, but those on either side of him/her will have a largely fruitless rehearsal because of the absence. Everyone is important!
- 4.4 It is imperative that band members be at ALL rehearsals except when prevented by significant personal illness or true family emergency. Students are expected to plan personal and family activities around the rehearsal schedule. While homework is very important, band members must learn to budget their time in order to accomplish their homework and still make rehearsal obligations. This may require starting homework earlier than you are accustomed or working later some evenings, but it can be done without a great deal of difficulty by carefully planning your time. Homework is not an acceptable excuse for missing rehearsal; rehearsal is not an acceptable excuse for not doing homework!
- 4.5 Being on time for the start of rehearsals is a necessity. Plan your departure time from home and any carpooling to arrive at school well before the start of rehearsal. Getting out on time requires that we start on time!
- 4.6 Everyone shares in the responsibility of setting up for rehearsal and helping to clear the area afterwards. Setting up yard markers, ladder, podium, sound equipment and percussion equipment is considerably easier when everyone pitches in to help. We help ourselves by expediting setup and cleanup and have a feeling of contributing to the betterment of the whole.
- 4.7 It is important that we respect and appreciate the facility that has been made available to us for rehearsal and take care of it appropriately. Do not leave paper or other trash on the floor or walls. It takes only a little more effort to see that it gets into the proper receptacle. If we all help here, we won't have any problems and will all benefit from clean and pleasant surroundings.
- 4.8 It is important that no one engage in any destructive activity. Sometimes this can be an all but conscious act like playing on a wall, locker or door with drum sticks or bumping things with horns or equipment. Other times it is a more overt act such as throwing drum sticks at the ceiling, throwing food or gum at a wall, stopping up drains in a washroom sink or drinking fountain. A really classy organization with mature members will have none of this. It is everyone's responsibility to see that these things do not occur. If you see it, stop it. If they won't stop, inform the band director immediately.
- 4.9 It is important that everyone be sensitive to the security of the band room, individual belongings and the school building. Do not leave purses and other valuables in the band room or any other room unsecured. If you see anyone in the band room or anywhere in the building that is the least suspicious or out of place, inform the band director, another staff person or school official immediately. Security is everyone's business.
- 4.10 Underclassmen may have an upperclassman assigned to them as a tutor to help with music and/or marching skills. If you are having problems, don't pull away, ask for help. Everyone involved wants the group to be better, and that will only happen by everyone taking the responsibility for improvement.
- 4.11 Every band member is expected to have his/her instrument in working order and all other materials at all rehearsals. Pride and progress go hand in hand with preparation. Be ready for rehearsal!

- 4.12 The summer rehearsal schedule is published well in advance. Summer rehearsals serve three functions. First, they keep everyone playing their instrument. Second, we continue to develop musically while getting to know one another better and, third, they enable us to learn the music for the Fall so that when we get to band camp we can concentrate on the integration of the marching and music facets of our show. These rehearsals are very important! We need to have everyone who is not on vacation present for all of the rehearsals. This is where we can really make a difference in our preparation!
- 4.13 **BAND CAMP REHEARSALS ARE MANDATORY.** Students who cannot be present for band camp will not be written into the show. They will be on alternate status. The Band Camp time is absolutely critical! See the Band Camp section for further information.
- 4.14 The regular rehearsal schedule for the marching band after the start of the school year is Tuesday afternoon, 2:45p.m. - 3:45 p.m. (Sectionals as needed), Wednesday evenings 6:00pm - 8:00pm and Thursday afternoons, 2:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. There will be a Friday rehearsal before all home games for at least one hour. The process of cleaning the show, improving bit by bit, and learning new material requires careful work. Here is where we get that work done.
- 4.15 Because of our limited rehearsal time, it is necessary that the marching band rehearse regardless of the weather. Band members should dress accordingly. If there is drizzle or intermittent light rain, we will often march. Very hot weather will not keep us from rehearsing, but may cause us to take more frequent breaks. Cold weather is a seasonal hazard in our climate and will not prevent us from rehearsing. We must often perform under similar conditions! We will not normally rehearse outdoors in a heavy rain, but will rehearse indoors and go out at the first opportunity. Rehearsal is never cancelled because of the weather. Again, dress for the weather!
- 4.16 One or two after school rehearsals will be scheduled prior to each band concert to rehearse the combined selection(s). Ample advance notice will be provided. (Symphonic Band & Percussion Ensemble)

5.0 PERFORMANCES

- 5.1 Our numerous performance opportunities include: Football games, Parades, Marching Band Festivals or Contests, Band Concerts, and Small Ensemble Performances.

FOOTBALL GAMES

- 5.2 The Mustang Marching Band plays for all home and away football games. For home games the band marches into the stadium as a group, performs the National Anthem and Alma Mater at Pregame, plays the school song as the team comes on the field and then sits together in the stands to support the efforts of the team. At halftime we will perform our halftime show or other material prepared for the football halftime presentation and return to the stands to sit through the second half as a group. At the conclusion of the game, we reassemble and march back to the school before being dismissed. For away games the band travels to the game site together and sits together in the stands for both halves of the ball game.
- 5.3 When we are at football games, band members are expected to conduct themselves in a decorous manner. The uniform will stay complete and neat unless the band director instructs otherwise. Band members will check with the band director when it is necessary for them to go to the washroom or to leave the seating area for any reason. Only a few students will be dismissed at any one time and these students must be accompanied by a chaperone. Refer to 3.0.
- 5.4 During cold weather, bring heavy gloves, warm hats, heavy coats, warm blankets and such for protection against the weather. These need to match the schools colors.

PARADES

- 5.5 Parades are a necessary part of our activity as they serve a community function and give us exposure within our immediate area. We normally participate in parades only in our local area. We attempt to keep the number of parades and the amount of time involved to a minimum. Typically we participate in the Halloween, Veteran's Day, Christmas, Americanism Day, and Hopwood Pike Festival. When special one-time community parades come up, they are considered on an individual basis.

MARCHING BAND FESTIVALS OR CONTESTS

- 5.6 The contest is a very special part of the marching band experience at Laurel Highlands. We have a history of excellence and are highly regarded by our peers. The success of the Mustang Band is the result of much hard work by hundreds of Mustang band members through the years.
- 5.7 The contest experience carries with it a tremendous amount of emotion. Because of the amount of time, work and discipline necessary to produce a top level band we become very close to one another. We share hardship, discomfort, at times unending tedium, fatigue, oppressive heat, chilling cold, long bus rides, disappointment, tears, joy and success.
- 5.8 The contest time is one of considerable tension, where students often react in somewhat immature ways. Working together, we learn to avoid these normal reactions to stress and to channel our energy and attention toward the most careful preparation in the pursuit of excellence...the ultimate performance.
- 5.9 We learn to stand with pride when scores are announced and accept the results. We learn to respect those who have earned the right to score ahead of us and to gracefully accept our successes. We will often find other competitors who will not understand our being able to congratulate those who are ahead of us and our being able to appreciate their performances. These are the unfortunate, for they will never know the real meaning of competition and the reasons for participating. They will think that coming in first is the same as winning. Our turn in the winner's circle will come when we deserve through our performance to be there. When we do have our turn, we will have created many friends along the way to share the moment with us. Until then, we will know "winning" in the truest sense, every individual having done his/her best and taking the chance, enduring the hardships, in the pursuit of excellence.
- 5.10 Our image depends upon every individual. Our public manner, appearance and projection of pride (our posture) and organization are everyone's responsibility.

BAND CONCERTS

- 5.11 Band concerts are given on three occasions each year; early/mid-December, end of March and Mid-May by the Symphonic Band, Jazz Band and all Choirs. The Symphonic Band may participate in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association sponsored Adjudication Festival in March. Additionally, any band may be called upon at any time to perform for the student body as a part of school assembly programs. Specific dates are published at the latest by the conclusion of the marching season.
- 5.12 The Symphonic Band may, at the discretion of the band director, perform on three occasions; Early/Mid-December, end of March and Mid-May. Students may be required to attend after school rehearsals and performances.
- 5.13 Preparation for band concerts and the subsequent performances provide excellent opportunities for students to learn about and perform a wide variety of historically significant and musically rewarding compositions. Student musicians are expected to continue the high level of commitment and cooperation required of them during the marching season.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCES

- 5.14 Students who elect to participate in the Jazz Ensemble can expect to perform at a local high school jazz festival sponsored by a neighboring school, band concerts, and other various community performances.
- 5.15 Students who elect to participate in the Jazz Ensemble will perform during area jazz festivals as the invitations are preferred. Advance notice of not less than three weeks will be given for such performances.
- 5.16 Students who travel with the Jazz Ensemble are reminded that their behavior is subject to the criteria outlined in the section concerning Conduct (3.0).

SMALL ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCES

- 5.17 All members of the Symphonic Band are encouraged to participate in a small ensemble; a trio, quartet, etc. Small ensemble experience is encouraged for all members of the Mustang Band.

6.0 - ATTENDANCE

- 6.1 Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is expected. The only excuses acceptable are significant personal illness or true family emergency. Band members are expected to adjust their schedules and do homework around the rehearsal and performance schedule [see Rehearsals (4.4)]. The only additional excuse for missing a performance is the wedding of an immediate family member. There are two types of absences: Excused & Unexcused. Unexcused absence may result in the loss of the band letter, grade reduction, suspension or termination of membership from the band. Should you have a transportation problem, have a backup available such as a band member who lives nearby who could pick you up.
IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE TO YOUR TRANSPORTATION.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

- 6.2 If a student must miss a scheduled rehearsal or performance, it is the student's responsibility to **fill out an excuse form (online) at least two weeks in advance**. Verbal communication will not be accepted as a valid form of communication. The director reserves the right to dispute the request of a member to be absent, to ensure the policy is not abused. (Please note: *Excuses must be more specific than claiming students will be "out of town"*.) Emergencies will be dealt with on an individual basis for the protection of the member's eligibility. **Students are permitted 2 excused absences. Performance do not count. All Drum Line and Auxiliary are granted an extra two excused absences for their summer rehearsals. These do not count once main band camp starts.**
- 6.3 Students who find they must be absent from a rehearsal or a performance due to a true family emergency or significant illness should phone the band director prior to the report time. Please fill out an excuse form upon returning to band if the emergency is unexpected. A student **will be excused** from a rehearsal or performance if they are ill or injured and the absence is accompanied **by a doctor's excuse verifying that the illness or injury prohibits the member from participating in the specific band activity.**
Telling a friend to tell Mr. Santore is not acceptable.
- 6.4 It is necessary that all members be prompt for all rehearsals and performances. "On time" is late. Early is on time! Being on time is a family responsibility! **Students who do arrive late or have to leave early must sign in on the "sign in/sign out sheet" at the drum major podium.**
- 6.5 If a student comes to rehearsal or a performance without proper equipment, uniform, or materials the individual will receive an "unexcused absence" for the event and the consequence (6.7 / 6.20) may be applied.
- 6.6 Attendance will be taken at the indicated starting time for all rehearsals or pre-performance meetings. Those not in attendance or not previously excused will be called to verify their whereabouts and reason for being absent. ***Absences from school are not an immediate excuse from band. Please notify Mr. Santore even if you were not in school. They will count against the allotted 2 excused absences.***
- 6.7 Jobs are not a reason for missing rehearsals. The band schedule is published months in advance to allow you to adjust your work schedule. If you get a last minute call to fill in at work on a rehearsal or performance date, simply tell them you are not available at that time due to a prior commitment. See Mr. Santore for a written excuse if needed.
- 6.8 The director, at his discretion, may suspend a student for one or more performances for failure to attend rehearsals, lower their grade, or revoke/suspend letter status.
- ### PERFORMANCE TRAVEL WITH PARENTS
- 6.9 Members who wish to travel from a performance site to home with their parents **MUST** complete the **NOT RETURNING FORM** on the band's website www.lhbands.org at least 24 hours in advance of the performance. Parents are expected to see the band director when they meet their child. This will insure two things: 1) that the chaperones are aware of the student's absence on the return trip, and 2) that the student has in fact been met and been properly cared for.

EARLY DISMISSAL/LATE ARRIVAL FROM REHEARSALS

- 6.10 All members of the band are required to attend all rehearsals and performances of the LH Band in their entirety. A student will be excused from a rehearsal or performance if they are ill or injured and the absence is accompanied by a doctor's excuse verifying that the illness or injury prohibits the member from participating in the specific band activity. Regular doctor's appointments (**well visits and dental appointments**) are **NOT excused**. Members may also be excused from a rehearsal or performance if there is a death in their family. All other absences should be considered unexcused unless prior consent is given by the band director.
- 6.10.1 Students who are members of school sponsored fall sports teams may be excused from a rehearsal if they have a game or meet that directly conflicts with a band rehearsal. Students are expected to attend as much of that band rehearsal as they can if the schedule allows. Students are expected to share their time between band and the school sport. **Students must attend one rehearsal with a full run through of the show in order to be eligible to march in a performance. Students who fail to meet this obligation will not perform but will still be required to play in the stands. This applies to sports and absences in general from marching band rehearsal.**
- 6.11 Usually, sports teams practice every day of the week, except when they have games or meets. The marching band only practices twice a week. Therefore, band members who are on sports teams are expected to meet with their coach and Mr. Santore to discuss the plan for working with both organizations. The director may let students come to band rehearsal 15 minutes late or leave 15 minutes early if cleared ahead of time.
- 6.12 Generally, band performances are scheduled around school sponsored sports schedules. In the event that there is a conflict between a band performance and athletic game or meet, the director and coach will work it out on an individual basis however, you must notify both the coach and Mr. Santore of the conflict as soon as it is made known. **If a sporting event is re-scheduled from its original date to the date of a band performance, the student is required to attend the band performance without exception.**
- 6.13 Students who choose to take advantage of the various tutoring programs available at the high school are expected to report to band practice at the end of the tutoring session or 3:10 pm at the latest.
- 6.14 Students who have to take the SAT exam on a Saturday morning following an away football game may be excused early from that game if we are a far distance from Uniontown. If we are playing a local team, we will more than likely return at a reasonable time that will allow students to get home in time to get a good night's rest.
- 6.15 Students with after school jobs are never, ever excused from any part of a band rehearsal or performance to go to work. It is the student's responsibility to provide their work schedule maker with our entire rehearsal and performance schedule well ahead of time to avoid conflicts.
- 6.16 Students who are involved in music groups outside of school are not excused from band performances to attend other performances or rehearsals.
- 6.17 Seniors will not be excused from band camp or other rehearsals to have their senior pictures taken. Our schedule is available well in advance. There is no need to miss band for your pictures.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE ABSENT FROM SCHOOL DURING A PERFORMANCE OR REHEARSAL DAY

- 6.18 If a student is absent from school due to a doctor's visit, surgery, or funeral the student must present an official excuse (not a parent excuse) and can be permitted to attend a practice or performance. If the student does not meet the above mention criteria that student is not permitted to participate in any rehearsal or performance. In addition, that student is not permitted to attend any extra-curricular activity either as performer or spectator as is stated in the high school student handbook. **Failure to comply with these regulations will result in termination from the band. Absences from school are not an immediate excuse from band. Please notify Mr. Santore even if you were not in school. They will count against the allotted 2 excused absences.**

ATTENDANCE INCENTIVES

- 6.19 Any band member with 95% or higher attendance is eligible for the following possible incentives:
- letter jacket/letter/senior eligibility
 - first to sign up for busses
 - attendance patch and or pin for letter jacket
 - first selection of uniform
 - end of season party

ATTENDANCE GRADING POLICY

6.20a Grading policy for **UNEXCUSED PERFORMANCES**

First Offense - letter grade drops one letter and / or revoke letterman privileges (jacket, letter, senior year)

Second Offense - grade drops another letter grade and / or revoke trip eligibility / leadership eligibility or current position

Third Offense - grade drops another letter and / or revoke banquet eligibility

Fourth Offense - grade drops to an F and / or possible suspension from band or membership revoked

6.20b Grading policy for **UNEXCUSED ABSENCES AT REHEARSALS** as well as 6.22:

First Offense - letter grade drops one half letter and / or revoke letterman privileges (jacket, letter, senior year)

Second Offense - grade drops one letter and / or revoke trip eligibility / leadership eligibility or current position

Third Offense - grade drops another letter and / or revoke banquet eligibility

Fourth Offense - grade drops to an F and / or possible suspension from band or membership revoked

6.20c Grading policy for **TARDIES** as well as 6.22:

First Offense - an understood warning

Second Offense - 2 tardies or missing one entire rehearsal will constitute an unexcused absence.

Third Offense - grade drops one half letter / revoke banquet eligibility

Fourth Offense - grade drops another letter / possible suspension from band or membership revoked

Fifth Offense - automatic "F" and membership revoked

GENERAL ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

6.21 While the attendance policy is in place to discourage unexcused absences, it is our hope all students will understand the importance of faithful attendance at **every** L.H. Band event. In the end, the overall quality of the Mustang Band will be determined by the dedication of the students involved.

6.22 Violation on any Attendance rules/procedures could possibly result in suspension from performance, grade reduction, revoke letter status, and/or revoke membership in any/all bands at Laurel Highlands.

SYMPHONIC BAND, JAZZ & PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE ATTENDANCE POLICY & GRADING

6.23 The Symphonic Band & Percussion Ensembles perform a minimum of three (3) concerts per year. The director shall schedule any number of dress rehearsals prior to the concert for the purposes of running the concert selections with both groups. These dress rehearsals are mandatory and part of the student's grade. Dates for the dress rehearsals and concerts are given out at the beginning of each year so students have ample time to plan accordingly. Regular well visits for the doctor's will NOT be accept as an excuse for missing a dress rehearsal. Student work related activities are not accepted either. Student sport related activities are not excused unless WPIAL qualifiers. **Any unexcused absences for after-school rehearsals or performances will follow the guidelines of the grading policy in sections 6.20a 6.20b and 6.20c as well as 6.22. A make-up solo recital may be given on a case-by-case basis for any unexcused absence of extreme circumstances deemed by the band director.**

MARCHING BAND GRADING POLICY FOR AREAS OTHER THAN ATTENDANCE

6.24 The director at his discretion can create any "assignment" for marching band worth a set number of points. Examples could be flip folder checks, water bottle checks, marching proficiency, playing proficiency, etc. These assignments are worth points that effect your grade in marching band. Any questions see Mr. Santore.

SYMPHONIC BAND, JAZZ & PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE GRADING POLICY

6.25 Please see the course syllabus for each course's specific grading policies.

7.0 - BAND CAMP

- 7.1 Band Camp, Monday through noon on Friday, is VERY important. This is when the drill (marching) program is taught and all elements are integrated into a presentation of the whole. The band camp constitutes over half of the total rehearsal time for the entire marching season.
- 7.2 We hold our camp at the high school to keep costs low and to have access to complete facilities.
- 7.3 Because of the importance of the band camp rehearsals, attendance is mandatory. We simply must have everyone there for the teaching of the drill program. Those not in attendance will have difficulty performing in the fall. Any exception **MUST** be approved by the band director. Matters of true family emergency or significant illness will be considered on an individual basis.
- 7.4 Students are not permitted to leave the campus during rehearsal sessions, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and 6:00 - 8:30 p.m on scheduled rehearsals

MEALS

- 7.5 Students may not leave the campus for lunch each day. Lunch will be provided at the cost of \$1.00 per day. Students are asked to pay this amount in full at the start of band camp. Total for all of band camp = \$10.00
- 7.6 Band camp is **NOT** the time to go on a diet! The long strenuous hours in the heat can be very demanding on the body. This is a time to eat carefully and well! Drink plenty of clear liquids!!

WEATHER

- 7.7 As we must learn the drill at camp, we will continue to work regardless of the weather. Dress for extended sun exposure by bringing loose fitting clothes. Everyone must wear good shoes. No sandals, thongs or bare feet.
- 7.8 A hat is **HIGHLY** recommended! Keep your brain from frying.
- 7.8 Bring a good sun screen for your body and sun block for your lips. Trying to play with sunburned lips is very difficult.

BAND SUMMER PICNIC / PREVIEW SHOW

- 7.9 A sneak-preview performance of the band's summer efforts will be presented on the last day of band camp in August before the new school year begins. Notification of the exact date will be published on the band schedule.

8.0 - UNIFORMS

- 8.1 The uniform symbolizes the pride of the individual in the organization. We are fortunate to have a very good looking uniform that, when worn properly, projects dignity and authority. It is everyone's responsibility to see that all members respect and care for the uniform and that it is worn properly.
- 8.2 Uniforms are issued during the summer before band camp. Every attempt is made to make this process as expeditious as possible. From this point on through the end of the school year, you must be sure you always have the correct uniform parts.
- 8.3 Band members are to handle only their own uniform. Problems often develop from others "putting things away". Should, for whatever reason, part of your uniform be missing when you go to put it on, do not take someone else's! Report your problem to the band director. You are financially responsible for the uniform and will be charged the replacement cost of the missing part(s) or damaged parts. (Refer to 8.26)
- 8.4 The uniform is to be hung up carefully after each and every wearing.

UNIFORM WEAR AND CARE

- 8.5 The jacket is to be worn with the collar fastened and the zipper fully closed whenever in the public eye.
- 8.6 When hung on a hanger, care must be taken that the jacket is straight on the hanger and that the collar is fastened and the zipper closed.
- 8.7 The trousers are to be worn with the attached suspenders at all times. The trouser cuff must be adjusted to touch the shoe laces.
- 8.8 Trousers must be hung carefully so as to preserve their appearance and maintain the crease. If the knee becomes dirty they need to be cleaned before the next wearing. If you put them away dirty, they will still be dirty when you take them out again
- 8.9 The aussie hat is to be worn on the front of the head, not on the back. The clear chin strap is to be buckled under the chin to hold the hat in place.
- 8.10 The hat will remain on until you receive instructions to remove it.
- 8.11 Take care not to slide the hat along the bleachers or other surface as this will wear through the covering.
- 8.12 When putting the hat away, be careful to get the correct box!
- 8.13 Plumes will be issued just before wearing and collected after each performance. The plume is to be inserted in the hat carefully so as not to damage the feathers.
- 8.15 The plume must be protected from the rain! They can be permanently damaged if allowed to get wet.
- 8.16 Each woodwind and brass player must purchase at least one pair of long-wristed white gloves. It is recommended to own two or three pairs and rotate them.
- 8.17 Gloves must be kept clean or be replaced.
- 8.18 Each band member will be required to purchase a pair of black Dinkles marching shoes, black guard shoes for the Color Guard or white boots and tan shoes for the Majorette squad.
- 8.19 Shoes are to be highly polished for all performances.
- 8.20 Wind, Percussion, Color Guard and Honor Guard members must have black socks.
- 8.21 The majorettes and color guard may be issued a group of uniforms to select from for each pre-game performance and parade.

- 8.22 No visible jewelry, including earrings, is to be worn during marching performances unless it is part of the performance costume.
- 8.23 No colored nail polish is to be worn where visible (woodwinds, percussion and auxiliary members).
- 8.24 All auxiliary members hair is to be braided/styled for performances. We must look sharp!
- 8.25 **STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING THEIR UNIFORM CLEANED AND NEAT.**
- 8.26 Uniform replacement costs: Jacket = \$350.00, Trousers = \$80.00, Helmet = \$30.00, Plume = \$19.00
Auxiliary Uniform Prices vary year to year. See Mrs. Brown.
- 8.27 The uniform is to be transported at all times in a garment bag.

CONCERT ENSEMBLES DRESS CODE

- 8.28 Symphonic Band, Percussion Ensemble & Jazz Ensemble wear concert black for all performances. This dress is mandatory for participation in these ensembles. **Ladies:** Concert black dress or top and pants, black hosiery and black dress shoes. **Gentlemen:** Black Tuxedo jacket or Black Sport Coat, pants, cummerbund and bow-tie. You must purchase a white tuxedo shirt (wing collar, pleats down front or white dress shirt) found at local men's shops, Value City, Burlington etc... Black shiny shoes may be purchased separately or you may use black marching shoes with black socks.

9.0 - BUS TRIPS

- 9.1 Our travel as a group will normally be by charter school bus or, for long trips, by motor-coach.
- 9.2 On coach trips sign-up for bus seats will be done before the trip. Each band member is to sign-up only him/herself. Do not sign up for others.
- 9.3 Bus chaperones will have bus lists and will call the roll before each departure. Students will cooperate by remaining quiet and answering only to their name.
- 9.4 Students will not change busses for any reason.
- 9.5 All riders on the bus must be sensitive to the captive audience on the vehicle. The noise level must be kept moderate to quiet to allow others to rest and concentrate on their pending performance. Ipods/CD players or radios must be used with earphones. Activity on the bus must be thought through so that you do not endanger yourself or others or cause disturbance to others.
- 9.6 All band members are required to follow the instructions of their bus chaperones. If they request that you should be less noisy or that you should refrain from a specific activity, you are to obey them immediately.
- 9.7 When we arrive at any destination all band members will remain seated until instructions have been given. Be patient. Time will be saved and mistakes avoided by waiting just a few minutes more.
- 9.8 When it is necessary to travel in the uniform, care must be taken so that they will be performance ready upon arrival.
- 9.9 It is necessary that we keep the busses clean. Pick up all trash. Don't wait for someone else to do it.
- 9.10 Parental permission is required for all band members in order for them to take any trips. The permission will be for the entire season with details of the specific trips published in individual trip sheets, normally distributed at the last rehearsal the week of the trip.

10.0 - TRAVELING WITH THE BAND

- 10.1 All of the bands at Laurel Highlands High School travel during the school year. The marching band travels to all away football games, parades and band competitions in the fall and the jazz band is invited to play and many different events during the school year. Also, the band usually takes a spring trip outside of the area for anywhere from three to six days depending on where we're going! Because of this, we need to make sure we follow school rules and general rules of politeness and respect wherever we go. Here are some things to remember:
- 10.2 Follow the instructions of the director and/or chaperones at all times. If you don't understand, ask.
- 10.3 No boys in girls' rooms and no girls in boys' rooms – EVER.
- 10.4 No unnecessary moving around on the bus. No standing in seats or sitting on your knees on the bus. When on a bus, always do what the driver asks.
- 10.5 Be quiet during roll call on the bus. Only answer for yourself. If someone is missing, their silence will let the chaperone know that they aren't there.
- 10.6 When on a coach bus, limit the use of the bathroom. We will make regular stops to use rest facilities.
- 10.7 When staying in a hotel/motel, you are responsible for any damage in your room.
- 10.8 Know the chaperone to which you are assigned. Know which room they are staying in. Only call them in the case of an emergency.
- 10.9 Make no charges to your room (movies, phone etc.) Use pay phones or cell phones.
- 10.10 Take no "souvenirs" from your rooms, restaurants or any other places of business. Remember, shoplifting and stealing are crimes.
- 10.11 Make no calls between rooms after lights out, unless you are calling a chaperone or director to report a problem.
- 10.12 Do not leave your room unlocked.
- 10.13 Possession and/or use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, cigarettes, and illegal narcotics will not be tolerated. If you are caught, you will be sent home and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and will face disciplinary action upon our return to school.
- 10.14 If you need to take a prescription medication, the director needs to be notified in writing by a parent/guardian prior to leaving for the trip.
- 10.15 There will be no changing of buses or rooms!
- 10.16 Leave non-essential valuables at home.
- 10.17 Profanity while with the band will not be tolerated. Make sure your language is never offensive. Think before you speak.
- 10.18 Curfews will be announced and strongly enforced. When we are staying in a hotel/motel, there will be at least one security guard on duty. If you are too loud or try to come out of your room, the director will be notified and you may face disciplinary action.
- 10.19 Personal radios, cassette players, CD players, mp3 players and iPods with headphones only are allowed on the bus. The volume should not be loud enough to be heard outside your head.
- 10.20 Student behavior will be exemplary at all times. There is no excuse for rude, obnoxious behavior.

- 10.21 All school rules are in effect while we are on a trip.
- 10.22 Kindness and courtesy work miracles in almost every situation. Remember that “PLEASE” and “THANK YOU” cost you nothing and yet are highly valued, especially when received from a teenager
- 10.23 There shall be no action for which an explanation is necessary. If you think someone might ask you “Why did you do that?” then don’t do it.
- 10.24 Violations of these rules will result in disciplinary action that could include removal from the organization, confinement to your room for the duration of the trip, being sent home, detention or suspension

11.0 - BAND PARENT ASSOCIATION

- 11.1 The Laurel Highlands High School Band Parent Association are a wonderful group of parents who work very hard to assist and promote the band program at Laurel Highlands. All parents/guardians of band members (Marching Band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, Majorettes, Color Guard) will automatically become members of this organization once their child becomes a member of the band.
- 11.2 The Band Parent Association organizes all of the fundraisers which are held throughout the year. They also supply the band with chaperones for football games, parades, festivals, competitions and band trips. Their main objective is to help and promote the band’s activities.
- 11.3 The Band Parent Association works very hard to plan for each year. Every fall, they host the “Laurel Highlands Band Festival.” This requires a lot of work by a lot of people. The money made on the festival is spent on things like awards, band equipment, the annual band banquet and many other things.
- 11.4 The Band Parents are vital to the success of the Laurel Highlands Band Program. Without them, we would not be able to do many of the things we do! Here are some things that parents can do to help the band:

Attend Band Parent Association meetings. The general meeting is held on the second Thursday of every month from August to May in the Laurel Highlands High School.

Volunteer for Committees. There are many different tasks that need to be done and we could use your help. Some of these tasks include chaperones/travel, telephone/publicity, uniform/awards, ways and means, band banquet, and the band festival.

Be supportive of the band program and your child’s participation by: Assisting your child to be prepared and punctual for every rehearsal and performance.

Notifying the director if your child is going to be absent or late for a rehearsal or performance. This should be done in advance unless in an absolute emergency. See Attendance (6.2)

Encouraging your child to practice at home and helping them find a quiet place to do so.

Showing your interest and support in your child’s music study by enthusiastically attending every performance possible.

Arranging for private lessons for your child if at all possible.

- 11.5 Read the Band Parent Association Constitution and By-Laws to make sure you understand the way things are run.
- 11.6 The Band Parent Association Executive Committee is made up of five elected officers and the Band Director. The Executive Committee is responsible for the overall organization and planning of band booster activities. It is our great hope that all of the band member’s parents and/or guardians will volunteer to help the Executive Committee with the many activities that go on throughout the year. If every parent/guardian would volunteer to help with one

activity, no one would have to do too much! Besides, what a great opportunity to meet new people and make new friends. Each parent should receive a letter from the director asking where their interests and abilities lie in terms of helping the band. You might be asked to help load equipment or build props. You might even be asked to bake some cookies! (Homemade are always better than store bought!) Maybe you could help organize a fundraiser or sell concessions at the band festival. This is just the tip of the iceberg. Come out and support the band! If you have any questions please ask.

12.0 - FUNDRAISING

- 12.1 Each member of the band will have many opportunities to raise money for different band activities during the school year. Because every member of the band benefits from the things the band boosters purchase, it is only fair that each band member contribute to the Band Booster General Fund. For the last few years, the band boosters have held mandatory fundraisers through the course of the year to build the General Fund. We are currently considering doing away with mandatory fundraisers and incorporating an annual assessment for students in the marching band. The assessment, if approved, will require students to deposit money into the General Fund each month until the assessment fee is reached. These deposits will be automatically deducted from a student's credit account at the end of each month unless there is not enough money in it. If a student is dealing with a financial hardship, arrangements can be made with the Band Boosters to assist that student meet his/her financial obligation to the band. Students choosing not to participate in fundraisers will be responsible for paying the assessment directly into the general fund out of pocket. Students and parents may deposit money directly into the student's credit account for the purpose of meeting obligations, purchasing band related items or making band trip payments.
- 12.2 All members of the marching band are required to participate in mandatory fundraisers and /or pay an assessment fee of up to \$50 to the Laurel Highlands Band Boosters. This money goes toward the purchase of supplies, activities or other items that all members benefit from. All band members are encouraged to participate in every fundraiser offered by the band boosters. Money earned can go toward the purchase of band related items and payments for band trips and activities.
- 12.3 Each band member will automatically have a credit account. This is where we keep the records of your individual fundraising efforts. Most commonly this account is used for paying for the annual band trip and band jackets. This money may be used for other band related activities with director and booster approval. These records are reported on monthly at the Band Boosters meeting.
- 12.4 Fundraising profits can only be deposited into a student's credit account after all payments have been made to the company or dealer. For a more detailed description of student credits, please see the Band Booster Constitution and By-Laws.

Fundraisers

General Fund:

WVU Concessions: The LH Marching Band shares operates a concession booth at all home WVU Football games. This fundraiser is shared between the general fund & student credits. This is our largest fundraiser.

Festival: The festival is one of the largest fundraisers that we have. It takes a great deal of planning and preparation to pull it off. In the end, its success depends on the much needed help from our band parents. This year's festival is scheduled for Saturday, September 17th.

- Business Ads (general fund)
- Personal Ads (general fund)
- Patron Pages (student credits)

Student Credits:

The amount of money student's earn from the following fundraisers varies depending on the activity and student participation. The Band Boosters provide as many opportunities as possible for members to build up their student credits. These credits can be used for various things throughout the year including the big trip in the spring.

Cash Bash	Avon
Joe Corbi's	Hoagies
Market Day Pies	Greenery

**Please keep in mind that all money raised by the band, whether in the general fund or individual student credits, is used for the band. The band participates in numerous events/activities throughout the school year that requires special items or materials. The Boosters use the money in the general fund to provide these items. Below are just a few of the major expenses covered by the money in the general fund.

Band Banquet – food, hall, DJ, and senior gifts

Senior Night – flowers and cookies

Band Picnic – meat and all paper products

Food for Special Events – Middle School visits, Concerts, Football game after parties, sandwiches for some away performances

Concession Stand – any materials or food needed to run the stand

13.0 - WHEN YOU HAVE A QUESTION

- 13.1 When a “band question” arises, it is important that you get factual information before discussing it with others. We do more harm to ourselves, the band family, when we talk about things that contain one or more “falsehoods” but consider them facts. If questions arise, it is important to remember this axiom: If it is a performance issue or anything dealing with the band or it's members, contact Mr. Santore. If it is a fundraising question or anything dealing with parent issues, talk with the booster president.
- 13.2 All up-to-date information is now available on the band's website. Please visit pride.lhabnds.org. This website has the band calendar, upcoming events, news releases from the band as well as all documents in this hand book and all forms needed for membership.

14.0 - ONLINE COMMUNICATION

- 14.1 All band members are required to register for band online via the band's website. <http://www.lhabnds.org> Please make sure to include an active email address you check frequently. We will add your email to our mailing list for band updates throughout the year.
- 14.2 In addition to the group email we also have a band facebook page. You can find the link on the band's website. Please join the Facebook page as well. This site will also have additional information and updates throughout the season.
- 14.3 To help with communications, Mr. Santore is implementing a text messaging feature for 2017-2018 Marching Band. Students and parents please do ONE of the following:

Send a text message to (858) 215-3912 with the message @mrsanto

Send and email to mrsanto@remind101.com (leave the subject and body blank)

For text, you will receive a message in return asking you to provide your name. Please make sure to follow through with the request. For email, remind 101 will use the name you have associated with your email address.

14.0 HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

- 14.1 Show an interest in the music study of your child.
- 14.2 Arrange a regular time for your child to practice.
- 14.3 Find a quiet place where he/she can practice without interruption.
- 14.4 Stay current on your "fair share."
- 14.5 Help the student keep a DAILY RECORD of practicing.
- 14.6 Come up with a reward system for DAILY practice.
- 14.7 Keep the instrument in good repair and keep at least three reeds (for clarinet/saxophone players) in the case;
- 14.8 Be extra-careful with school-owned instruments. Repair costs are high!
- 14.9 Teach your child to be prepared and on time to each rehearsal or lesson.
- 14.10 Provide private instruction
- 14.11 Make faithful attendance at all band activities important.
- 14.12 Buy your child a personal planner for marking important dates.
- 14.13 Keep the Handbook in a safe place and refer to it often.
- 14.14 Notify the teacher if the student is to be absent for rehearsals or lessons.
- 14.15 If student is absent, make sure that their folder gets to school, if they share it with someone.
- 14.16 Visit rehearsals occasionally.
- 14.17 Attend booster meetings, concerts, games, and contests.
- 14.18 Turn in fundraising money on time.

2016 MUSTANG MARCHING BAND SCHEDULE

-SUBJECT TO CHANGE-

SEE BAND WEBSITE - www.lhbands.org

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES AND COURSES FROM THE DIVISION OF MUSIC

MUS 821 SYMPHONIC BAND (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors) (1 CREDIT)
821A SYMPHONIC BAND (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors) (3 days / week) (0.5 CREDIT)
Student will be considered for Symphonic Band with instructor and principal approval, based upon participation and attendance in middle school band, marching band and other performing groups at Laurel Highlands. This course is for wind instruments only. Percussion students need to schedule **PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE**. Students will be required to auditions for chair placements once the school year begins and after winter break. Students enrolled in Symphonic Band will perform high school level wind band music. Students will be exposed to a variety of genres and styles, where the musical difficulty will range from medium to difficult. The Symphonic Band will usually have at least one dress rehearsal before each concert and at least two evening concerts during the school year. ALL rehearsals and performances count as graded assignments. **This class can be repeated for credit with instructor and principal approval.**

MUS 824 HONORS JAZZ ENSEMBLE (Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors) **Pre-requisite: Audition** (1 CREDIT)
This class is open to students in Grades 10-12 who are interested in a more focused approach to the study of jazz, rock, blues and fusion. Students should have advanced abilities on their instrument and will be asked to audition to gain entrance into the class. Only students who play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, guitar, piano, bass or drum set will be admitted into this class. Students playing other band instruments are to take Symphonic Band. The band will study scales and chords for improvisation, in addition to the performance repertoire. The Jazz Ensemble performs at many school and community functions throughout the year. All rehearsals and performances are both mandatory and are graded. This course will also incorporate the use of technology through MacBooks using software titles such as Wikis, GarageBand, Sibelius, Musition, Auralia, and iMovie. **This class can be repeated for credit with instructor and principal approval.

MUS 823 PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors) (1 CREDIT)
823A PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors) (3 days / week) (0.5 CREDIT)
This course is for percussionists 9-12 only. All wind instruments need to schedule SYMPHONIC BAND. Students will learn the wind band concert music the Symphonic Band is studying, percussion rudiments and techniques. In addition, students will learn a variety of percussion ensemble music that will be performed during the winter and spring concerts. ALL rehearsals and performances count as graded assignments. **This class can be repeated for credit with instructor and principal approval.**

MUS 811 MUSIC THEORY & TECHNOLOGY (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors) (1 CREDIT)
This course studies the elements of music and how music is composed. Students will learn pitch, rhythm, chord and interval structure, major/minor keys, modes and meters. Students will learn how to read music notation in treble and bass clef, key signatures and how to build and analyze chords in root position and inversions. This course will also incorporate the use of technology through MacBooks using software titles such as Wikis, GarageBand, Sibelius, Musition, Auralia, MS Word, iWeb, and iMovie. The class concludes with a written final and arranging/composition project that is completed using music notation software as well as other forms of music technology.

MUS 827 AP MUSIC THEORY (Juniors and Seniors) (1 CREDIT)
Pre-requisite: MUS 811 MUSIC THEORY & TECHNOLOGY and/or INSTRUCTOR APPROVAL
This course focuses on more advanced concepts in music theory carried over from Music Theory & Technology. Students will learn more advanced concepts about pitch, rhythm, chord and interval structure, major/minor keys, modes and meters. In addition students will learn about cadences, secondary dominants, augmented and diminished chords, roman numeral analysis and form. Students will also learn sigh-singing techniques through the use of solfege and will learn to dictate simple rhythms and melodies. The class concludes with a written final and arranging/composition project that is completed using music notation software as well as other forms of music technology.

MUS 825 INTRO TO GUITAR & MUSIC TECHNOLOGY (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors) (0.5 CREDIT)
This course is designed for the student who has no prior guitar training and is interested in technology. **Students must provide their own acoustic guitar.** Students will learn the parts of the guitar, basic tuning, chords, plucking melodies, music notation and picking techniques. This course will also incorporate the use of technology through MacBooks using software titles such as Wikis, GarageBand, Sibelius, Musition, Auralia, MS Word, iWeb, and iMovie. All rehearsals/classes and performances are graded using a proficiency rubric system.

MUS 826 APPLIED MUSIC (Juniors & Seniors) (1 CREDIT)
Pre-requisite: Audition / Interview with High School Music Faculty & Approved Private Lesson Instruction
This course is designed for students seeking personal and professional growth on their principal instrument and wishing to pursue music as a career in college. Applied Music offers students private study, research, and practice on their principal instrument. The student will be assigned one (1) 45 minute practice period each day, take sixteen (16) thirty-minute private music lessons during each semester from an approved instructor, prepare two solo works appropriate to the student's instrument and level of contrasting style, prepare a written paper on the selected solos, their style, or composer and perform both a jury of the high school music faculty and two (2) public recitals. **This class can be repeated for credit with instructor and principal approval.**

MUS 829 MARCHING BAND (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors) (0 CREDIT)
Marching Band is the largest performing ensemble at the high school. The Marching Band consists of wind instruments, marching percussion, majorettes, color guard and band managers. Marching Band rehearsals are every Tuesday & Thursday during the fall from 2:45PM – 5:00PM. Marching Band also has rehearsals during the summer with the major camp at the end of July and the beginning of August. Band Camp is required for all members to join. This ensemble performs at all home and away football games, parades, festivals, Kennywood and a variety of other places. The Marching Band has a major trip every year in the spring.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO MARCHING BAND MEMBERS

Students who are instrumentalists in the marching band are **required** to take at least one band ensemble for the entire school year. You may choose from the symphonic band, percussion ensemble or jazz ensemble. Students not able to schedule band 5 days/week may be scheduled for 3 days only if schedule does not permit the full week class. Schedules will be reviewed before partial credit classes are assigned. Any questions please see Mr. Santore

2017 - 2018 Band Agreement

After you have read the handbook, please return this agreement form to the band office. Keep the handbook for future reference.

Student and Parent/Guardian:

Please read the following statement, print the student's name, and place both student and parent/guardian signature on the appropriate line at the bottom of the page. Also fill out the permission/medical information form on the next page. Return both the band agreement and the medical form to the director no later than Monday, July 24, 2017.

We (band student and parent/guardian) have read the Laurel Highlands High School Band Handbook online and understand the rules, regulations, policies and procedures contained within it. We realize that failure to observe these rules as well as school district rules while with the band may result in disciplinary action. Furthermore, we understand that if these rules are continually disregarded or ignored that the student may be dismissed from the band program. We also understand that the student will not be allowed to participate in any band function after band camp until this agreement and permission/medical form have been filled out, signed and turned into the director.

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____