

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY THE FIRST FRIDAY IN SEPTEMBER VIA EMAIL OR PRINT A COPY.**

**STUDENT WILL:**

- A. FOLLOW THE RULES AND EXPECTATIONS OUTLINED IN THIS HANDBOOK.
- B. ATTEND ALL SCHEDULED EVENTS.
- C. DEMONSTRATE LEADERSHIP AT ALL TIMES IN AND OUT OF CLASS.
- D. BE A MODEL OF RESPECT TO THE TEACHER AND FELLOW STUDENTS.

**PARENT WILL:**

- A. BECOME INVOLVED TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY.
- B. CHECK-IN PERIODICALLY WITH THE TEACHER.
- C. PRINT THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE BAND FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

I HAVE READ THE HOUGHTON BAND HANDBOOK. I MAY NOT AGREE WITH ALL THE TERMS IN THE HANDBOOK, BUT I WILL DO MY BEST TO HELP MY CHILD FOLLOW THESE RULES AND GUIDELINES. I WILL DO MY BEST TO BECOME INVOLVED WITH MY CHILD'S MUSICAL OBLIGATIONS BY ATTENDING CONCERTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS. I WILL ENCOURAGE MY CHILD TO BECOME INVOLVED WITH OTHER MUSICAL ENDEAVORS SUCH AS SOLO AND ENSEMBLE, HONORS BAND, AND BAND FESTIVAL.

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Student signature/date

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Parent signature/date

# The Houghton High School Band

## Mission Statement

Developed by Kelly Fontaine

The Houghton High School Band has a mission to grow musically throughout the year. Learning and understanding daily ideas and concepts will ensure our goal. We are a team. Everyone needs to participate within this team by practicing an instrument on a daily basis, being prepared for class daily and producing enthusiasm. Everyone will treat each other with respect and therefore will be treated with respect. We do not discriminate to any person. Everyone has the opportunity to learn. Everyone will accept this opportunity. We have a commitment to our school and community. We will fulfill this commitment by performing on a regular basis in a public setting. Through these ideas, we hope to develop an appreciation for the ensemble and for ourselves.

## Goals

1. We will remember our pencils, instruments, and music daily.
2. We will show pride and ownership in belonging to the band.
3. We will perform for our community and school.
4. We hope to create a stronger self-confidence within each of us.
5. We will treat each other with respect.
6. We will increase our musical ability throughout the year.
7. We will increase our musical knowledge through frequent performances.
8. We will demonstrate maturity at all times, representing our school/director.

## Classroom Rules

1. Respect the PODIUM and the director, and respect will be returned.
2. Food and drink are **NOT** permitted in the band room at any time.
3. No gum chewing!!! Persistent use = detention with teacher.
4. Students are ready at 8:10. Students, music, instruments, and materials in their assigned seat.
5. All supplies will be purchased before band or after school, not during class.
6. Not having materials will result in a loss of daily points therefore affecting grade.
7. Students will be assigned an area for instruments during the school day.
8. Remain in assigned seats until dismissed by the teacher.
9. The same rules apply for a substitute teacher.

## Grade Requirements

### 1. Performance Exams/ (40% of final grade)

These tests will be taken on an instrument during class time. These performance tests can be from the music we are presently working on, individual scales, or sight-reading. The student will have at least three school days to practice the approximate material for that exam. The exact exam will not be given to the student in advance.

### 2. Written Work/Concerts (25% of final grade)

We will be adding music theory, rhythm, and history assignments throughout the year. All can be accessed through Google Classroom.

### 3. Daily class performance (15% of final grade)

Everyone must be in his or her assigned seat at the final bell.

Everyone must have all materials and will not be excused to get supplies.

Everyone will have their instrument together and be warming up at the bell.

Everyone will bring his or her own music and pencil to each class period.

### 4. Practice Time (20% of final grade)

Each student is expected to practice to maintain and exceed his/her own level of ability on a daily basis. ALL STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRACTICE IN THE BAND ROOM FOR 30 MIN. BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL TWICE DURING EACH MARKING PERIOD. THIS TIME WILL BE GRADED. ONE PRACTICE SESSION IS DUE PER MONTH. IF in person practice is not available, we will use an app called flipgrid. A third session will be considered extra credit.

### 5. Pep Band

**Each student who attends all scheduled pep band events will be eligible for exemption from the semester band exam. Attitude/Effort are a consideration at time of exemption.** Football cannot be missed due to the team effort on the field.

If a student is absent during the school day, they are not permitted to participate with the pep band/marching band that evening.

## **Performances**

### **Concerts**

All concerts must be attended by students for full credit.

## **Football**

1. All students will need to have black shoes for performances. Used shoes are available.
2. Hair will not touch the collar of the band uniform. For any performance in uniform, hair must be pulled up/back.
3. Students will be dismissed after the football game. Time is dependent on the flow of the game.

### **Pep band**

1. Students will be dismissed after the basketball game, which is usually between 8:30 and 9:00.
2. A detailed schedule of all performances is printed in the band room and can be found online as well.
3. Pep band shirts/jackets/pants/hoodies may be ordered as a group if interested.

### **Parades**

1. We will participate in two parades per year. The addition of parades may be discussed.
2. Each student must march to be eligible for any band trip.

### **Honors Band**

Students will be nominated by the director and accepted by a committee. Fees for this event are covered by the school. The dates can be viewed on the band calendar of events. Please check schedules before auditioning.

## **Solo and Ensembles**

Each student is encouraged to participate in an event at this festival. A solo, duet, trio, quartet, or small ensembles are acceptable events for you to choose. The student, who chooses to participate and cancels, will reimburse the school the amount of money for each event including accompaniment fees if applicable.

### **Related Topics**

#### **Instrument Rental**

Rental payments for school-owned instruments such as percussion, tuba, bassoon, oboe, string bass, baritone, marching baritone, marching horn and French horn will be \$100 per school year.

Rental payments for personally owned instruments (flute, clarinet, alto sax, trumpet, trombone, percussion) purchased through Houghton-Portage Township schools are \$100 in September, January, and May until the purchase price is reimbursed to the school. After one year, any owed rent will have a one-time 20% fee attached. The instrument is yours to keep when payment is made in full.

#### **Concert Attire**

The concert attire is at the discretion of the band director.

Uniforms will be signed out at the beginning of the year and kept in the band room throughout the year. Each individual student is responsible for his/her own uniform that they are assigned. Uniforms must be cleaned once per year by the local dry cleaner. A \$10 fee for cleaning will be charged to each student.

#### **Travel**

Band members are responsible for participating in all fundraising activities each year. It is reasonable to expect each member to participate equally in these projects or to donate an amount of money or effort equal to the profit that would have been generated had that band member participated. Please remember, if the student does not march that student is not eligible for the trip. If a student demonstrates a negative attitude throughout the school year, eligibility will be questionable.

Contact Kelly Fontaine with any questions regarding this handbook. [kfontaine@hpts.us](mailto:kfontaine@hpts.us)

