

# Welcome to the Kearsarge Regional High School Band!

This year's experience should prove to be exciting and memorable. We hope that you would take a moment to familiarize yourself with these brief guidelines so that you will be aware of the many details involved with being in band. The guidelines were not designed to be a set of rules, but rather a guide to help all students and parents keep track of everything that is necessary to make our program a success. We are excited to have you as a part of the Kearsarge Instrumental Program and are looking forward to working with you!

As a member of the Kearsarge band you will be asked to-

- \* **Think critically:** As a musician the development of this skill is a critical path to improvement and development
- \* **Be effective communicators:** Not just as verbal communicators but also in another dimension: sound.
- \* **Explore the arts:** We will explore different genres and eras in music.
- \* **Work independently and collaboratively:** Individual practice and rehearsing with your section and as a band.
- \* **Be socially responsible citizens, demonstrating tolerance, respect, honesty, and fairness:** While we may not choose to be friends with everyone in the ensemble, we must demonstrate these skills to enable the band to function as a team, striving for common goals.

## GRADING

- \* Daily Attendance, Participation and Effort (25%)
- \* Concerts, Dress Rehearsals, and Required Performances (25%)
- \* Required Scales and Other Exercises (10%)
- \* Performance Tests (20%)
- \* Classroom Behavior (10%)
- \* Other criteria at the discretion of the instructor (10%)
- \* Midterm (attendance mandatory) (10% of semester 1 grade)
- \* Final (attendance at Memorial Day Parade and Spring Concert)(10% of semester 2 grade)

## REQUIRED PERFORMANCES

- Fall Foliage Parade (Sunday of Columbus Day Weekend)
- \*Winter Concert (first Tuesday and Wednesday after Thanksgiving)
- District Band Festival March TBA
- Memorial Day Parade (Monday of Memorial Day Weekend)
- \*Spring Concert (first Tuesday and Wednesday after Memorial Day Weekend)
- \*(Band students will be informed which night they need to attend)*

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

We expect every child to be at every rehearsal and every performance. A grade deduction will be given for each of the following: 2 points for each unexcused tardy (late arrival or leaving early), 4 points for each unexcused missed rehearsal, 6 points for each unexcused missed dress rehearsal (dress rehearsal is the last scheduled rehearsal before a concert), and 10 points for each unexcused missed performance. Please understand that it is expected that you will be prepared with proper dress and equipment for each performance. If you feel that there is a need to miss a dress rehearsal or performance you must submit a written request (e-mail works best): 2 weeks in advance of a performance. This will give us adequate time to approve or disapprove the request. Please note that simply submitting a request does not mean that it will be approved. Emergencies (documented sickness, medical, death in the immediate family), will be approved on an individual basis. When a student is excused from a performance we may ask the student to make up the missed performance by completing an \*alternate assignment. Failure to complete the assignment within a designated time period will result in the loss of one letter grade. No opportunity for make-up work will be provided in the event of an unexcused absence.

**Thank You,**

**Mr. Knapp**

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**&**

**Mr. Mills**

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\*Examples or alternative assignments:

1. Written paper on a musical topic.
2. Musical composition for an individual instrument or group of instruments.
3. Performance at a community/church event.