

# Elk Grove High School Band Handbook 2022-2023

## EGHS Band 2022-2023 Handbook Contract

Return this contract by **Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Parent/Guardian Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

I have reviewed the Elk Grove High School Band Handbook (on Schoology) and understand the expectations and policies. I will be held accountable to the guidelines set forth by these documents and understand the consequences of not following these during this school year.

I, the undersigned student, accept membership in the Elk Grove High School Band program and understand I am responsible for all policies set forth in the Band Handbook. I fully agree to carry out my responsibilities to the very best of my ability.

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**Student Signature**

**Date**

I, the undersigned parent or guardian, have read and understand the policies as set forth in the Elk Grove High School Band Handbook. I grant full permission for my child to be an active member of the Elk Grove High School Band program. In addition, my child has full permission to attend all concerts, events, field trips, and off-campus clinics/festivals. Furthermore, I understand that I must meet all financial obligations.

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**Parent/Guardian Signature**

**Date**

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#### Teacher: Ron Fiorito, Jr

- Phone: (847) 718-4498
- E-mail: [ron.fiorito@d214.org](mailto:ron.fiorito@d214.org)

#### Course Description

In the Elk Grove High School Band Program, students will focus on developing technical skills in tone production, articulation, and technique on their specific instrument as well as in music literacy and sight-reading. Emphasis is placed on the development of musicianship through progressive technical studies and intermediate to advanced modern and classical band literature. Musical skills as well as aesthetic critique are assessed each quarter. In band, students will grow in their performance abilities on their individual instruments as well as improve their aural skills, musical terminology, and music theory knowledge.

#### Materials Needed

- Charged iPad and access to Schoology, Notability, and other music apps
- Working instrument and necessary accessories (reeds, mouthpiece, ligature, oils, mutes, etc.)
- Pencil

#### Grading

- **30% Performances**
  - Includes:
    - Evening Rehearsal Attendance
    - Concert Attendance
    - Preparedness for Performance
    - Complete and Appropriate Uniform
  - Attendance at all band concerts and performances is required.
- **30% In-Class Work & Written Assignments**
  - Includes:
    - Attendance at Night Rehearsals
      - Attendance at all night rehearsals is required.
    - Written assignments
- **30% Projects and Playing Assessments**
  - Includes:
    - Playing Assessments
    - Group Playing Projects
    - Seating Auditions
- **10% Final Exam/Project**
  - Includes:
    - Playing assessment, written exam or project - varies by semester.

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#### Band Calendar

(Also available here:<http://www.eghsband.com/band-calendarall-events-listed-here.html>)

Attendance at concerts and rehearsals are required for EGHS band students, unless otherwise specified. Students should communicate these dates to all activity/club/sports sponsors and work supervisors immediately to provide plenty of advance notice.

#### Absence Policy for Rehearsals and band Concerts

- **Excused Absences:**
  - Illness, quarantine, family weddings, family funerals, religious ceremonies
- **Unexcused Absences:**
  - Work schedule, homework, outside-of-school activities, anything not listed under excused absences above
- **Schedule Conflict Resolution:**
  - In the case that an EGHS sponsored event (practice, rehearsal, game, etc.) conflicts with night rehearsals or concerts, it is the responsibility of the student to communicate this conflict by email as soon as it is known (and no less than 2 weeks before the rehearsal or concert).
  - It is the expectation that students make every possible effort to attend at least a portion of both conflicting activities (as arranged with Mr. Fiorito and the conflicting event sponsor).

#### Music Folder and Parts Policy

After seating is assigned for each concert, 1 band folder and set of parts will be assigned to every student. Students are responsible for these materials for all rehearsals and performances.

#### Marching Band Uniforms

Marching uniforms are provided by the school, and are kept in the Uniform Storage Room. Students must provide:

- 1) Black DrillMaster marching shoes (purchased through the Band)
- 2) Black socks (solid black-no patterns)

Guidelines for Marching Band Uniform Wear:

- 1) No jewelry is to be worn, including earrings
- 2) No makeup is to be worn, including fingernail polish (Color Guard may use matching makeup)
- 3) The entire uniform is to be worn at all times, unless otherwise instructed by Mr. Fiorito
- 4) Students will pay a uniform rental fee.

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#### Concert Uniforms

Students can choose between the following school-owned uniforms to wear for formal band performances:

- Long black formal dress
- Tuxedo jacket and pants, tuxedo shirt, bow tie, cummerbund

If a student has a concern about wearing either of the school-owned uniforms, they are invited to talk with Mr. Fiorito about wearing an alternative concert outfit. Students should provide their own black dress shoes and socks/tights for all outfits.

#### Informal Concert Attire

For all performances that do not require formal concert attire (dress/tuxedo), you will wear concert black. This means black shirt, black pants and black shoes.

#### Private Lessons

It is well known that private study with a qualified professional musician on a given instrument is the best way for a student to achieve their highest potential. Although not required, private lessons are strongly encouraged for all students. The music director maintains a list of recommended private teachers. Many private instructors provide lessons at school during and/or after school hours. The lesson teacher determines private lesson fees. See your director for scholarship information.

#### Section Leaders and Seating

Section leaders will be selected by Mr. Fiorito at the beginning of the year and may be rotated at each concert cycle.

On a daily basis, all section leaders should be prepared to:

- Provide fingerings for difficult passages to their sections
- Keep an ongoing list of problem areas from the repertoire to rehearse in sectionals
- Efficiently lead sectionals and keep section members focused on the task at hand
- Conference with Mr. Fiorito following sectional rehearsals
- Perform difficult parts of the repertoire as a model for the class when appropriate

Seating throughout the band will be rotated frequently. Students will be placed in seating that will best benefit the needs of all members of the band.

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#### Classroom Procedures

**Passes:** Restroom and hall passes are reserved for emergencies. Please take care of everything before or after you come to class.

**Tardies:** Students must arrive in the band room by the time the bell rings and must be in their seats, ready to play, by 3 minutes following the bell.

#### Expectations of Band Students

**Be respectful:** Treat each other and the music directors with respect at all times. Treat others how you would like to be treated and we will make our music making together more meaningful and rewarding as a group.

**Be organized:** Show a sense of responsibility by frequently reviewing the calendar and informing your family of performance dates. Inform the director of potential scheduling conflicts well in advance. Growth and achievement in music can only be accomplished with each group member performing their role in rehearsal and at a performance!

**Be on time:** Arrive at the band room and get necessary equipment ready when the bell rings.

**Be prepared:** Band members must be prepared with a pencil and appropriate music materials for every rehearsal. Each member must prepare his or her concert music outside of rehearsal, so that we can focus on musical and ensemble issues during rehearsal.

**Be responsible:** Band members are responsible for all music and folders they receive. Missing or damaged original music must be replaced. If the part is still published, the music will cost \$2.00-\$5.00 to replace. All instruments are to be in excellent playing condition, and students should have reeds, mutes, oils, all necessary components to keep the instrument in proper playing condition, a wire music stand with carrying case, and a metronome for home practice.

**Have fun and get involved!** We are all in the band to work toward a common goal of making meaningful and memorable music performances together. I encourage students to think independently and expressively about your music, if you have an idea—share it with the group! The goal of us coming together is to create something bigger than ourselves.

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#### Music Trips

A highlight of a music student's high school experience is the opportunity to travel. The purpose of music trips is to provide additional educational opportunities that are not available at the school. Students represent the school and community by participating in once-in-a-lifetime performance opportunities in exciting destinations, such as Florida, California, Texas, and Europe. An important component of group travel is the bonding that takes place among ensemble members. The recreational and social aspects of a trip are just as important as the educational benefits. Students may earn their trip costs through participation in the various fundraising projects offered during the year(s) leading up to the trip.

NEXT TRIP: November 2022 **Disney Thanksgiving Day Parade of Bands**

#### Expectations of Percussion Students

1. Upon entering the room, check the board for rehearsal order
2. All percussionists will be assigned organizational duties before and/or after rehearsal
3. If you do not have a part to play, sit quietly away from those who are playing (read, study, etc.)
4. Store all percussion equipment properly when not in use / smaller items are to be put away daily and covered!
5. All percussionists are expected to own their own set of sticks mallets as described by the instructor

Percussionists will meet twice a week with percussion director Tom Leddy. Together they will work on performance techniques on all of the percussion instruments. These will be tested and observed throughout the school year for part of their band grade.

The students will also get a chance to perform in either the Symphonic or Concert band percussion ensembles. These ensembles will perform at a few times during the school year.

The highlights of the year will be at our Percussion Madness show and our Percussion Festival. Information will be sent out regarding these events. These are mandatory for all percussionists. Information on stick and mallet requirements will be sent home the first week of school. Each percussionist will need to bring these to band everyday along with his/her band folder and a pencil. Weekly practice will be expected and progress necessary to receive a good letter grade for the percussion class portion of the band letter grade.

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#### IMEA District 7 and All-State Band

The IMEA (Illinois Music Educators Association) holds auditions each October for selection to its District-level Band, Orchestra, Choir and Jazz Bands. Auditions are competitive and a limited number of students will be allowed to represent EGHS.

Audition materials will consist of the following:

Band/Orchestra woodwinds and brass: IMEA Senior Scale Sheet(winds only) and two IMEA etudes.

Percussionists: etudes on snare drum, timpani, mallet keyboard, and multiple percussion. All students must sight-read as part of the audition.

Jazz Band: a required jazz chart, jazz etude, improvisation on F Blues, and sight-reading.

The District VII Senior Music and Jazz Festivals are held each year in November. The top players from each of Illinois' nine IMEA districts are selected to participate in the All-State Music Festival, held in late January in Peoria. Only junior and senior wind and percussion players are eligible to participate in All-State.

#### Required Materials

Concert/Symphonic-All- Tuner, metronome, cleaning kits for instrument, PENCIL

**Brass-** All necessary oil, slide grease, cleaning equipment, and mutes (cup & straight)

Trombones- All should have water spray bottle for slide

All Valve-Instruments- Should be oiled on a daily basis!!!

Trumpets- Should all be at least on a Bach 3c mouthpiece

**Woodwinds-** All reed instruments should be rotating between at least 4 reeds. You will need to supply your own reeds, unless there are special circumstances, and all should be on at least a #3.

**Percussion:** Snare sticks, timpani mallets, keyboard mallets, stick bag (brands and types to be specified at the start of the school year)

Tuners & Metronomes- Can be an app on your phone or iPad. Most are free!

#### AREA MUSIC STORES

Quinlan & Fabish Music Company 621 N Main, Mount Prospect, IL 60056

847-253-5592

Music & Arts 907 W. Irving Park Rd, Itasca, IL

(800) 323-1001

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#### Electronic Device Policy

The absence of unnecessary distractions and interruptions is essential for an effective learning environment, Mr. Fiorito requires that each and every student adheres to the following rules regarding the use of electronic devices in the classroom. These guidelines constitute department policy and the student's receipt, and acceptance of a course syllabus containing the teacher's rules on the use of electronic devices shall constitute acceptance of this policy.

A student may not use an electronic device during class time without the express permission of the teacher. Use of iPad is allowed only when it is required for assignments, projects and classroom activities. While the use of your iPad in-class research will be encouraged, typing while teacher and peers are speaking is not courteous. Unless you are instructed to use your iPad to do research, you should be attending to those speaking and presenting. If you plan to take notes electronically, you should alert your teacher that you are doing so before each class begins.

Students who fail to comply with the policy and procedures regarding the possession and use of cell phones and other electronic devices shall be subject to consequences:

A student violating a teacher's classroom policy or individual instructions on the use electronic devices in the classroom shall be subject to a progressive intervention plan:

**•Tier One (1st Occurrence): Student has a private conversation with the teacher regarding the misuse of their device**

**•Tier Two (2nd Occurrence): Parent has a conversation with the teacher via phone and teacher explains that the next occurrence will involve Dean intervention**

**•Tier Three (3rd Occurrence+): Teacher refers student to Dean and the *teacher* decides which of following actions is most appropriate:**

- Detention
- Parent Picks Up Phone
- Parent Meeting with Dean/Teacher/Counselor/Student
- Restorative Conference with Dean/Teacher/Student
- Loss of Phone Privilege for class period
- Loss of Phone Privilege for a whole school day

A few words of caution on using social media sites: You are leaving your digital signature on the Internet right now. Consider how your comments would be perceived before you post them and think about logic above emotion at all times. Most importantly, think about maintaining a certain level of professionalism, since people can use whatever you make "permanent" on these sites against you. As a rule of thumb, before you hit "post," realize that this will be a permanent reflection of your identity and that it may never be erased even if you remove it. It may even be used against you in job applications or interviews.