

Hampton High School Marching Band Manual 2026-2027

*“Working together as a team to
accomplish greatness as people and performers”*

INTRODUCTION

First – welcome!! We are so glad that you are here! The marching band is one of the largest student activities in the entire school district with 162 members, or 19% of the HHS student body next year! The marching band also performs in front of more people than any other other activity in the school district! Not only does the marching band perform in front of a few thousand people at football games, competitions, and festivals, but the band also performs in prestigious parades around the country where the audience size has sometimes reached 200,000 spectators, as it did last year at the Chicago St. Patrick’s Day Parade. The students in the marching band are part of an excellent tradition and we are thrilled to have the opportunity to work with you!

This manual is intended to supply helpful information for the students and parents. In addition, this manual contains many rules and regulations for the students. We hope it will answer questions and concerns about the marching band, from rehearsal to performance and everything in between, including both expectations and responsibilities. We have attempted to address every possible situation that may arise over the course of the year. However, it is impossible to address every possible situation that may arise. Therefore, although this manual will “catch” most scenarios, it probably will not be a “catch-all” for everything. Therefore, when necessary, the band staff does reserve the right to handle some situations on an individual basis. **THE MEDICAL FORM and MEMBERSHIP CONTRACT MUST BE FILLED OUT AND RETURNED NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, MAY 27.**

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Hampton High School Marching Band is to give each member of the organization the opportunity to strive for excellence through his or her musical and marching performance, to create positive, exciting school memories through band participation and to reach for a common goal of excellence that can only be achieved through teamwork. We will provide entertainment and school spirit at all football games, concerts, and other community events.

Reaching for and maintaining a tradition of excellence takes the effort of every individual within our program. The respect of others will be earned through the image we present every time we appear in public, whether that be a football game, parade, or competition. We must present an image that shows teamwork, pride, quality, excellence. By making the decision to be a member of the marching band, you will find that the other marching band members will depend on you, and likewise, you will depend on them. You need to work hard to ensure that you will not let your fellow marching band members down.

Participation in the marching band will help foster the following qualities: self-discipline, teamwork, hard work, self-confidence, problem solving, concentration, self-expression, coordination, memory skills, poise, social skills, service, both short and long-term goal setting, and constructive-positive school memories.

As you can see, there are many benefits that come with participating in the Hampton High School Marching Band. Don't worry, we will also have plenty of fun, both performance and social. But we must also work hard enough to give ourselves the opportunity to experience that unique feeling of fun that only exists while we are in the midst of an amazing performance, and everyone knows it.

NOTE TO COLOR GUARD & DANCE TEAM

Dance Team and Color Guard members should always first consult the form of rules and regulations you signed before you auditioned in the spring. You will be held accountable to those policies. You will only be held accountable to the standards set forth in this manual when an item discussed here is not already discussed on the form you signed.

BAND CAMP ATTENDANCE

Full Band Camp is the week of August 3, the week of August 10, August 17, 18, and 21. Make sure to check the online calendar for a complete schedule. Mini-Camp is May 20, 21, 26, and 27. Mini-camp is for wind leaders, new wind students, and ALL percussion students. Attendance at summer rehearsals is also very important. We know families travel and completely expect students to have to miss some summer rehearsals. However, when a student is in-town and not already committed to a week-long event, students are expected to attend rehearsals. Please try to plan day trips around the summer rehearsals, if possible. Summer rehearsals provide the student an excellent chance to maintain or improve their skills instead of having those skills deteriorate between the end of the previous school year and the beginning of band camp.

Attendance and participation in band camp is mandatory for all members of the marching band. Band Camp is the most important time of the entire marching season as this is when we learn 75% of what we do for the remainder of the marching season. Members who successfully attend all of the 1st week of band camp without any unexcused absences will be able to travel with the band for a free day of fun at Kennywood on August 8. The only acceptable excuses for missing part of band camp are if a student has a conflicting WPIAL sanctioned Hampton High School sport practice or has already informed the band director (PRIOR TO CAMP) of a serious (impossible) conflict. The two-above mentioned reasons are the only two scenarios that constitute an excused absence from band camp. All other absences will be considered unexcused. Work, doctor's appointments, and last minute family plans (those not reported prior to camp) will be considered unexcused and will result in the student not being permitted to attend Kennywood on August 8. The Band Camp schedule is constructed to avoid the large majority of HTSD fall sport camp conflicts, since WPIAL tryout camps don't begin until August 17. Therefore, all students must be in attendance at all band camp rehearsals. Please just email Mr. Himmler (himmler@ht-sd.org) if an emergency arises.

Students are expected to be on time for each day of band camp. On time is defined as arriving 15 minutes early so you can take care of things (seeing friends, getting your instrument, walking to the practice field) BEFORE the rehearsal begins. **EARLY IS ON TIME AND ON TIME IS LATE!** *Students who arrive late will simply have to make up that time after everyone else has been dismissed at the end of practice.*

Please remember that the majority of field show learning takes place during band camp. Attendance at band camp is of the utmost importance and will make or break the entire marching season!

REHEARSAL INFORMATION

1. Be “on time” to every rehearsal by arriving early!!!!!!
2. Always wear tennis or athletic shoes. We will go outside for EVERY REHEARSAL!! We will stay inside ONLY if it is raining **hard** outside. Therefore, always be prepared for outside rehearsals. **Wearing sandals during marching band rehearsals is forbidden!!!!** Students wearing sandals or something other than tennis/athletic shoes will be given an old pair of marching shoes to wear.
3. Always wear sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and light clothing in the hot weather rehearsals. Strapless tops and sports bras are not acceptable outer wear at band camp. Everyone is strongly encouraged to wear a t-shirt.
4. **Make sure you bring plenty of water** to band camp and to after-school rehearsals. We will give you more water breaks if everyone has a water bottle/jug close by on the sideline. Staying hydrated during rehearsals is extremely important!!! Camelbacks are permitted to be worn during rehearsals. ***NEW THIS YEAR: the HBA will have Liquid I.V. packets available IF students request one during the 10 main days of band camp.***
5. Gum chewing is not permitted during rehearsals - it’s not safe and tough to play with.
6. Throwing objects to each other (playing catch) during rehearsals is not permitted! (save it for the breaks)
7. The use of cell phones during rehearsals is prohibited! **Cell phones should be used during breaks and need to stay with the student’s belongings OFF the field during rehearsals.**
8. Students involved with athletic conflicts MUST hurry back to band rehearsal as soon as the sport is over. Make arrangements to report directly to band after the sport. Please respect that other students have been rehearsing without you and hustle back quickly (don’t go home for a shower, just come straight to band)!
9. Students can leave the school for lunch during band camp. The Hampton Township School District is not responsible for anyone who leaves school during lunch! If students begin showing up late after lunch and/or abuse the traffic rules in the parking lot, the privilege of departing HHS during lunch will end.
10. **Make sure you bring a pencil to all rehearsals.**
11. **Your instrument should only ever be in one of THREE places: 1. In your hand – 2. In your case – 3. Lined up on the ground with all of the other instruments of your section.** It is very important to protect your instrument.

STAND INFORMATION

The marching band is the biggest and most noticeable supporter of the football team. In order for the marching band to function in this capacity, the following rules will apply in the stands:

1. All students will remain in their full uniform while in the stands (minus the hats). We will allow the uniform jackets to be taken off in the stands on hot nights. However, students will not be permitted to take off their jacket if they are not wearing their blue band t-shirt. **The blue band t-shirt is part of the uniform and should always be worn with the uniform.**
2. Students may wear baseball hats in the stands so long as the hat is a Hampton hat or consists of Hampton colors. Red, Green and non-Hampton colored hats will not be permitted.
3. New students will all receive a matching cold weather/winter hat for cold weather games. Returning students who lost their winter hat should purchase a new one.
4. All instrumentalists must have a flip-folder/lyre in the stands. Please consult the grading policy.

5. Students will sit in their instrument sections during the 1st, 2nd and 4th quarters of football games. Students will be free to sit with friends in other sections during the 3rd quarter.
6. At home games ONLY, students will be permitted to eat pizza during the 3rd quarter.
7. Students are not permitted to bring food or drink to the stands. We will make water available throughout the game and pizza will be available during the 3rd quarter (home games only). This policy applies to every member of the marching band, including the dance team and color guard.
8. Students will be dismissed with a chaperone to use the restroom in groups of 10 or less. Students must hustle back to the band immediately after using the restroom. There is a port-a-john close to the stands for emergencies.
9. Instrumentalists are only permitted to play their own instrument (or school assigned instrument) during football games. If your school issued instrument is damaged due to neglect or abuse, you will be billed for the repair.
10. Students must not litter. Please throw your trash away in one of the garbage cans. We will not depart the stands until the stands are clean!!!
11. Students are not permitted to throw objects at any time while in the stands. Flying objects have the potential of being very dangerous. A school administrator may discipline students caught throwing objects.

INSTRUMENT CARE

Personally owned instruments are not insured for loss or damage by the school district or the HBA. Personally owned instruments are the responsibility of the individual student/family.

Students with school owned instruments are responsible for maintaining and caring for their issued instrument. Students and parents assume responsibility for school owned instruments while they are in your use. Therefore, students and parents will be required to pay the repair bill in the event that a school owned instrument is damaged due to neglect and / or abuse. Students, please remember this rule when you are in the stands!! Please see the instrument loan agreement in the back of the manual. ***Students who play a school instrument will pay a \$50 fee to HTSD that helps to provide necessary care and repair of the instrument.*** This breaks down to only \$4.17 per month.

Problems with any school owned instrument should be reported to the band director immediately to determine the appropriate action needed to solve the problem.

Instrument abuse and/or neglect will not be tolerated. These are valuable instruments, paid for with your tax dollars. Each instrument assigned to a student will be in working order, though cosmetic appearance may vary. Each student assigned a school owned instrument, and his/her parent/guardian, will be required to sign an "Instrument Loan Agreement" for that instrument. This will provide us with a history of the instrument, as well as ensuring you will not be charged for repairs which occurred prior to your ownership."

PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE

Make sure you read the Grading Policy Section of this band manual in order to understand how performances are linked to grades. In addition, please understand that all attendance policies exist to benefit the marching band as a whole. The more participation from you, the students, in performances, the better the marching band will sound and look. Please remember that every performance is an opportunity for the marching band to showcase our school district, the music department, and especially the talents of you, the students. Excellent performances require nothing less than sincere dedication and effort from each and every member of the band. We

are one team out on the field, not 162 individual bodies! Other students are depending on you as you will depend on them. Please do your best to contribute in a positive way to the marching band. Finally, if a student must miss a performance due to illness, please notify the band office on the morning of that performance. Again, please make sure you read the grading policy for the 1st nine-week grading period.

Additionally, any student caught skipping a football game performance, but still shows up to the game and sits in the regular or student section of the stands, will be suspended from the remaining part of the marching band schedule. This student will not be permitted to attend the band trip or band banquet and will earn a zero on all remaining marching band rehearsals & performances for the remainder of the marching season.

GAME ROUTINE PRIOR TO ARRIVING AT THE STADIUM

1. We will always practice before games, festivals and competitions.
2. For away games, students will immediately load their instrument on the trailer immediately following the practice. Flutes, Clarinets, Bass Clarinets, Trumpets, Alto & Tenor Sax, Trombones, Mellos & Baritone players will take their instrument cases on the bus. Only sousas, bari saxes, and percussion put instruments on the trailer.
3. Following the practice, students who choose will be able to eat dinner in the lobby / outside the band room before retrieving their uniform.
4. For away games, students will then take their uniform and dinner (optional) on the bus. Students must hang their uniform on the window. Uniforms are not to be on the floor or curled up and smashed on a seat. **Uniforms should NEVER touch the floor or the ground!**
5. Students will store their garment bag at home between performances.
6. For home games, students will march from the high school to the stadium with your lyre on your instrument. Most of the march will be done to a drum cadence. However, we will play if students' talking gets too loud and/or student posture gets very lazy. Students are not permitted to wear book bags or anything else on their body other than their uniform..

OTHER GAME/FESTIVAL/COMPETITION INFORMATION

1. Students will rarely be responsible for their plume. Students will be handed a plume as they depart the stands prior to their performance. Students will return their plume to the band boosters as they enter the stands after the performance. Students are to take a plume prior to departing the high school before home football games. Students are to return those plumes after the pre-game performance. Students must never let the plumes touch the ground.
2. The band will walk back to the high school following home football games. Do not run down the road or jump on other people's backs!
3. All students will ride the bus to and from performances. This is a Hampton Township School District policy. If a student must meet the band at a performance or depart a game early (due to a sports game or SAT's), the student/parent must email Mr. Himmler and communicate this travel adjustment in advance of the date of the conflict. Students must have a parent sign them out with their bus chaperone before they are permitted to depart. Friday sport games, or Saturday morning SAT's or sport games, are the most common reasons to arrive/depart separate from the band.
4. Students will take their uniforms home after each performance. Uniforms are to be hung neatly in the garment bag. If a uniform gets wet, it must be hung at home outside of the garment bag to dry.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

1. Staff and chaperones will be spread out on all band buses while we travel. Some adults will sit in the back, the middle, and the front of the bus. This is a directive from the high school administration.

2. Students are expected to sit in their seats while the band travels to and from performances.
3. Students are not permitted to litter on the bus. All garbage must be thrown away! We will not unload the bus after arriving back at HHS until all garbage is thrown away.
4. Students are permitted to listen to music on the bus as long as headphones are worn.
5. Students are not permitted to play music that other students can hear.
6. Students are not permitted to jump over seats or crawl under seats.
7. Students are not permitted to yell and scream while on the bus. Yes, please have fun, but not to the point of being annoying to the people around you, especially the driver.
8. Uniforms must be hung on the windows
9. Upon arriving back at HHS, all students **MUST** get their instrument from the trailer.

UNIFORM CARE

Our uniforms must be treated with the utmost respect. Students store their uniform/raincoat at home in a garment bag. We must make these uniforms last many more years. ***You will be charged for damage due to neglect or misuse.*** Uniforms should NEVER touch the ground. Uniforms should never be rolled up in a ball and left on the floor or a trunk throughout the week. It is YOUR responsibility to make sure YOUR uniform's appearance is properly ready for performances.

Your uniform and appearance are symbolic of your pride in yourself and our organization. Treat your uniform with the greatest care at all times. Keep it clean. Hang it carefully. **NEVER STORE A WET UNIFORM IN A GARMENT BAG!!** You will be charged for damage to the uniform if it is caused by neglect and/or abuse. Remember, we are judged not only by how we sound, but also by how we look. Take good care of your uniform!

A high quality performing organization of any kind is made up of individuals who are completely prepared, which includes the wearing of clean and neat uniforms. Uniformity goes beyond the wearing of our uniforms and includes the following guidelines:

1. Make-up must be kept to a minimum. Instrumentalists who appear to be in stage makeup will be asked to remove it. Please be sensible.
2. Jewelry, including earrings, is not allowed to be worn with the uniform. However, if your ear piercing will close during the 4 hours you are in uniform, we will allow you to wear the smallest possible single stud earring that exists. **ONLY** tiny studs!! No hoops! Even in this situation, all earrings **MUST** be out during the performance (take them out and put them in a pocket)
3. **Instrumentalists with long hair must pull their hair up beneath their hat into a tight bun (NEATLY).**
4. Bandanas are not to be worn during a performance. Provided they are school colors, they will be allowed in the stands, but must be removed during performances.
5. All members must be in full uniform during performances. Full uniform is described as the following: black marching shoes, **BLACK** socks, uniform bibbers, marching band t-shirt, uniform jacket, hat, plume, gauntlets, and black marching gloves.
6. Sweatshirts are **NOT** permitted under the uniforms. Under-Armor type tops or long-sleeve t-shirts are okay under the uniforms. Students will wear insulated/warm raincoats when the weather is cold.
7. Dance Team & Color Guard: please consult the form you signed or your auxiliary instructor for uniform specifications.

Students will be issued one pair of black marching gloves. After gloves have been either lost or destroyed, the student must purchase a replacement set for \$5.00. Students will be given a set even if they can't pay and the \$5.00 would then be deducted from their trip account. Additionally, students will be given other uniform parts (as available like the blue band t-shirt and black marching shoes) if they don't bring the proper items. The student will have the cost of the replaced item added to their financial ledger in Charms.

Students must return the uniform to the booster distribution committee after performances. The boosters will send a student to the back of the line if they don't have the uniform hung neatly on the hanger!

BAND TRAVEL

The 2026-2027 band trip destination is to Virginia Beach, VA for a parade performance in the Virginia Arts Festival Norfolk NATO Parade of Nations. The band trip dates are April 22 - 25, 2027. **The band trip is not a requirement of the marching band activity or the band class.** There are no consequences if a student decides not to attend the trip. The trip is a reward for all of the students' hard work, extra-curricular time, and service to the football team throughout the fall season.

Students who decide to go on the trip must meet all payment deadlines and attend all pre-trip rehearsals. Students are not permitted to sign up for rooms until their trip payments are current. Students who miss pre-band trip rehearsals will need to make up the time during identified "band trip make up rehearsals." Further trip policies will be distributed at the pre-trip meeting near the time of the trip. A preliminary itinerary and Financial Contract/Commitment Forms will be presented Tuesday night, August 4 at 7:00 PM in the HHS Auditorium.

The Bands Of America (BOA) Mid-Atlantic Regional competition at the University of Delaware on October 17 is a regularly scheduled competition and will be treated no differently than local PIMBA competitions. This BOA performance/competition is a required event for all marching band members and will be reflected in the gradebook as such.

MARCHING BAND LEADERSHIP

THE BAND DIRECTOR is the teacher who is responsible to the Principal, Superintendent, School Board, your parents and you. All of his decisions are made in the best interests of the band as a whole. The band director's door is always open.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTORS are the individuals directly responsible to the band director. In the absence of the band director, assistant directors shall assume his responsibilities. Assistant directors are not to be challenged or questioned. Their instruction should be followed.

DRUM MAJORS, DANCE/GUARD CAPTAINS, SECTION LEADERS AND OFFICERS are student leaders who must be treated with respect, since they have the most demanding job of any performing member. They are not staff members. However, they have been chosen with the belief that they will lead you competently and with the respect the position warrants. If a problem arises, the adults should be able to look to these student leaders to work them out. Then, the student leaders will look to you. If you are involved, you will want to have earned their respect if they need to defend you. Likewise, in order to lead effectively, these student leaders will be expected to earn your respect through their actions and leadership.

LOADING CREW & PROP CREW MEMBERS have a thankless job and perform this responsibility in addition to meeting all the performance demands. Please follow their directions and trust them to get you where you need to be, when you need to be there and with all your equipment. Do not abuse their services! They are not your slaves. Please express to them your appreciation for the job they do.

YOU are an incredibly important member of the band. Treat your fellow members as team members, with great dignity and the same respect you expect to receive from them. Remember, you may be a leader to someone without even

knowing so. Please hold yourself to high leadership and character standards. You never know who may be modeling their behavior after you. We rehearse, perform and travel as one team. Everything we do on an individual basis impacts the team as a whole. Be the kind of member who will be greatly missed when you graduate.

CHAPERONES are caring parents and supporters who handle general needs and problems on trips and at performances. The band director supports chaperones because he trusts them to act in the best interests of the band. Chaperones sacrifice many, many, many hours of their time to allow you to have wonderful experiences. You must treat the chaperones with total respect at all times.

REHEARSAL – PERFORMANCE CHAIN OF COMMAND: When problems arise in rehearsals, begin by going to your section leader. If a solution is not found, then bring it to a Drum Major (if applicable). If a solution still isn't resolved, please take the problem to one of the assistant directors. The assistant directors will handle the problem or bring it to the attention of the band director.

OTHER SITUATIONS – Please don't be afraid to bring situations, questions, or concerns to the band director's attention. The band director will always welcome communication from parents and students.

CONDUCT

ALL OFFICIAL SCHOOL POLICIES APPLY DURING ALL MARCHING BAND ACTIVITIES!
Inappropriate behavior and/or profanity will not be tolerated at any time. The use of tobacco, electronic cigarettes, vapes, edibles, drugs and alcohol is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Students are to refrain from taking part in any inappropriate physical affection. Insubordination towards staff and chaperones is also prohibited. Initiations are not permitted at any time. Any initiation and / or hazing incident will be reported to the high school office as harassment. Students caught taking part in any of the above mentioned activities will be disciplined by a school administrator and may lose the privilege of participating in activities associated with the Marching Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble and Percussion Ensemble. Students caught taking part in any of the above mentioned activities will be considered in poor standing with the band department and will lose Allegheny Valley and PMEA Festival opportunities.

BUS SIGN-UPS

Students will sign up for buses sometime during the first week of camp. We will have 5 sign-up lists, each representing a different bus. Seniors will sign up first, followed by juniors, then sophomores, and finally freshmen. Students cannot sign up anyone except for themselves. We will leave the bus lists as is unless student discipline becomes a problem on some of the buses. At that point, the band staff will make any necessary changes to rectify the situation.

BASS DRUM ASSIGNMENTS

The bass drum section is incredibly unique and not really like any other section of the marching band. The 5 bass drum players perform one musical line split between all 5 players. As a result, it is very detrimental to the other 4 students when 1 student is missing. It is impossible to productively rehearse the bass drum parts if people are missing. Therefore, bass drum players, when not sick, must be in attendance at every event. This means that we can not have fall athletes on the bass drum line or assign someone to bass drum who has to miss a festival/adjudication performance. If an emergency conflict develops with a competition or festival, you must inform your instructor ASAP.

LOADING & PROP CREW

Members of the loading crew provide an amazing and essential service to the marching band. These students volunteer to move equipment to and from the rehearsal field and load & unload the trailer before and after performances and stadium rehearsals. This is an incredibly important job and one that all other members need to respect and appreciate. The mobility of the band comes to a halt when loading & prop crew students miss rehearsals or performances. Therefore, loading & prop crew students must have awesome attendance.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE BAND STAFF

- We will be fair
- We will give you our very best effort at all times
- We will treat you with the respect and dignity you deserve.
- We will listen to your concerns and/or suggestions.
- We will never put you in a position in which you cannot be successful.
- We will be on time to all scheduled events.
- We will communicate dates and times of all pertinent activities to you in as timely a manner as possible, allowing you plenty of time to make the necessary arrangements to be in attendance.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE STUDENT LEADERS

- They will help the band when asked.
- They will provide a positive model of behavior and effort for all students to follow.
- They will encourage their peers.
- They will respect the other members of the band.
- They will work hard, oftentimes going far above what is required of them.
- They will act as a liaison between the band staff and the band members.
- They will help students learn drill, choreography and, at times, help with music teaching.

EXPECTATIONS OF ALL OTHER MEMBERS

- Treat others with respect and dignity (treat others as you would want them to treat you).
- Do nothing to demean others in the program.
- Never criticize another musical or marching organization. Watch and listen respectfully to other groups.
- Give your very best every time
- Listen, with an open mind, to our concerns and/or suggestions.
- Please discipline yourself to refrain from inappropriate behavior.
- Show pride in yourself, your parents, your school and your band.
- Be “on time” to all scheduled events (remember “on time is late and early is on time.”)
- Be prepared for all rehearsals and performances.
- Take constructive criticism in the manner in which it is intended. It is intended to help you and the organization improve. It is NOT a personal attack. Your contribution is important to the group.
- Respect and take care of the facilities and equipment.
- Never play an instrument that is not yours or assigned to you.
- Respect the property of your peers.
- Ensure your instrument is in good working condition at all times. This means tuning slides and valves are fully operable, spit corks are in place and functional, pads and corks are in good working order, an adequate supply of valve oil, slide oil, cork grease, slide grease, reeds, etc. are in your possession. Reed players: you must have more than one reed in your case. You should have at least three playable reeds at all times!

Marching Band Grading Policy 1st Nine-Week Grading Quarter 2026-2027 School Year

The Marching Band activity is a component of the band class. Instrumental students in the marching band will be held to this grading policy. This grading policy is not intended for the Color Guard and Dance Team units of the marching band. Students of these units must follow the attendance requirements of their own squad, previously signed and understood at the time of auditions.

All performances and rehearsals will be assigned a grade for the duration of the marching season. Marching Band performances, just like concert band concerts, are part of the core component of the public performance strand in the band curriculum. Marching Band rehearsals are the only tool that enables the marching band to prepare for performances. Assigning grades to these areas of the class during the 1st grading quarter is intended to make this portion of the class consistent with the grading for the 2nd through 4th grading quarters. Obviously, it is also designed to foster a proper level of commitment and responsibility from the students in the band that lead to successful performances.

Attendance at these performances/rehearsals will be the criteria for grades during the 1st grading quarter. Students who have Hampton athletic conflicts that overlap scheduled band times will be excused from the band activity (although it is okay, fair, and encouraged to **compromise** and attend part of the band rehearsal). Missing an activity for this reason will not hurt or help the student's grade. We will simply change the total point divider for that individual student. All listed percentages are percentages of the Grand Total points possible (732). In addition to a Hampton athletic conflict, the only other acceptable excuses for missing the following band activities are:

1. **Hampton athletic conflict (already stated)**
2. **Family wedding or religious holiday**
3. **Illness / Medical Emergency / Funeral**
4. **Absent from school the day of the band activity**

GRADED PERFORMANCES (53.00%):

August 28	Home vs. Deer Lakes	24 points
September 4	Home vs. Armstrong	24 points (3.27%)
<i>September 11</i>	<i>Pep Band Away @ Ringgold (leaders/volunteers)</i>	<i>0 points</i>
September 18	Home vs. Mars (MS Band Night)	24 points (3.27%)
September 19	PIMBA Competition @ Mr. Lebanon	40 points (5.46%)
September 23	AV Band Festival @ Shaler	40 points (5.46%)
<i>September 25</i>	<i>Pep Band Away @ Central Valley</i>	<i>0 points</i>
October 2	Home vs. Indiana (Homecoming)	24 points (3.27%)
October 9	Home vs. Kiski	24 points (3.27%)
October 10	PIMBA Competition @ Deer Lakes	40 points (5.46%)
October 17	BOA Mid-Atlantic Regional - Delaware	50 points (6.83%)
October 23	Away @ Shaler	24 points (3.27%)
October 24	PIMBA Championships @ Gateway	50 points (6.83%)
October 30	Home vs. Franklin Regional (Senior Night)	24 points (3.27%)

TOTAL: 388 POINTS POSSIBLE

PARTICIPATION/WORKMANSHIP GRADE:

A. SCHOOL NIGHT REHEARSALS (32.00%):

August 24	evening rehearsal	12 points (1.63%)
August 27	evening rehearsal	12 points (1.63%)
August 31	evening rehearsal	12 points (1.63%)

September 3	evening rehearsal	12 points (1.63%)
September 8	evening rehearsal	12 points (1.63%)
September 9	evening rehearsal	12 points (1.63%)
September 14	evening rehearsal	14 points (1.91%)
September 17	evening rehearsal	14 points (1.91%)
September 21	evening rehearsal	12 points (1.63%)
September 28	evening rehearsal	12 points (1.63%)
October 1	evening rehearsal	12 points (1.63%)
October 7	evening rehearsal	14 points (1.91%)
October 8	evening rehearsal	14 points (1.91%)
October 14	evening rehearsal	14 points (1.91%)
October 15	evening rehearsal	14 points (1.91%)
October 16	afternoon rehearsal	14 points (1.91%)
October 21	evening rehearsal	14 points (1.91%)
October 22	evening rehearsal	14 points (1.91%)
TOTAL:		234 POINTS POSSIBLE

B. CLASSROOM PARTICIPATION (12.30%) - Students will be graded on their rehearsal performance everyday in class (rehearsal etiquette, having the proper equipment and instrument, and musical/marching performance). There will be 2 points available each day for a total of 10 points per week. We will begin the year without checking for flip folders at games. However, if the students do not bring their flip folders and the sound of the band (in the stands) is poor, we will begin checking for flip folders using the following policy: Students will be asked to produce a flip folder (containing stand music) at each football game. Failure to show a flip folder (with the student's name and containing stand music) will result in a 3-point reduction of their classroom participation grade for the week. Also, arriving late to a performance dress rehearsal will result in a 3-point reduction from their classroom participation grade for the week if the excuse isn't approved ahead of time (HHS athletic tardies are excused). Skipping a game/competition dress rehearsal will result in a 0 for that week's classroom participation if the excuse isn't approved ahead of time.

Week 1:	10 points (1.36%)	
Week 2:	10 points (1.36%)	
Week 3:	10 points (1.36%)	
Week 4:	10 points (1.36%)	
Week 5:	10 points (1.36%)	
Week 6:	10 points (1.36%)	
Week 7:	10 points (1.36%)	
Week 8:	10 points (1.36%)	
Week 9:	10 points (1.36%)	
TOTAL:		90 POINTS POSSIBLE

C. ASSESSMENTS (2.70%) – Students will have two performance assessments:

Week 6: Marching Technique Quiz	10 points (1.36%)	
Week 3: Memorization Quiz	10 points (1.36%)	
TOTAL:		20 POINTS POSSIBLE
GRAND TOTAL		732 POINTS POSSIBLE

Excusable absences are listed above. All other absences are considered unexcused. Every marching band activity from the beginning of the school year has been assigned a percentage of the first grading quarter. You have the information to make a well-informed decision on whether or not it is in your best interest to miss a marching band rehearsal or performance for an unexcused conflict. **Whether the absence is excused or unexcused, please submit absences to himmler@ht-sd.org as soon as you know of them.** Finally, please communicate illness reasons as well so we aren't waiting on an ill student that isn't coming and so we can properly enter illness as an excused absence.

CONCLUSION

Dance Team and Color Guard members are reminded to first consult the sheet you signed when you tried out in the spring. This manual only applies to you when an item here is addressed that is not already addressed within your own squad's policies. We hope this manual will help manifest a safe, successful and rewarding marching band year for everyone involved in the organization. Although we certainly attempted to predict every possible situation, surely we have failed to address everything. Therefore, this manual is not a total "catch all" for every situation. The entire band staff will discuss situations that arise which are not addressed in the manual. Then, the band director will make a fair and well-informed decision in the best interests of the entire organization. Please come and see us if you have any questions.

– THE BAND STAFF

Parent / Guardian PRINTED Name: _____ (please print neatly)

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

HAMPTON HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

Student Printed Name: _____
(please print neatly)

MEMBERSHIP CONTRACT

2026-2027

We, the Hampton High School Marching Band member and the Parent/Guardian, understand the philosophies, rules, and grading policies of the marching band class as set forth in the band manual. We agree to abide by them for the duration of membership in the marching band.

Further, we understand that commitment and dedication are extremely important to the personal growth of the Member and the success of the entire organization. We therefore agree to remain an enthusiastic part of the organization - or support the Member – for the **duration** of his/her membership in the marching band for the 2026-2027 school year.

Additionally, we understand that many performance decisions have and continue to be made with the understanding that I (student) will be performing with the band. I will do everything I can to fulfill this commitment for both intrinsic and extrinsic reasons. I know that when I am not present, I am not replaceable, and my absence negatively impacts the other 162 students.

We have received and read the policies/grading procedures of the Hampton High School Marching Band. We understand that a coordinate position (or dot) will be assigned to me that only I (or my child) can perform.

I promise to fulfill my commitment to the Hampton HS Marching Band for the fall 2026 season by remaining a member for the entire performance season and 26-27 school year.

We understand that we will be held accountable to the policies/grading procedures stated in the manual.

We also understand that we may appear in group photos on the HBA website
(photos are NEVER identified by student name).

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

The Medical Form and Membership Contract are due NO LATER than Wednesday, May 27 and should be handed directly to Mr. Himmler. Or, they must arrive in the mail by Wednesday, May 27. (Hampton High School Band, c/o Chad Himmler, 2929 McCully Rd., Allison Park, PA 15101)

HAMPTON HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

2026 MEDICAL FORM 2027

Name: _____ Instrument: _____

Street: _____ Grade: _____

City: _____ Birth Date: _____

Parent / Guardian's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Parent / Guardian's Name: _____ Phone : _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

STUDENT CELL PHONE NUMBER: _____

Allergy and reaction: _____

Allergy and reaction: _____

Allergy and reaction: _____

Illness and Current Medications to be aware of, etc.: _____

Tylenol, Ibuprofen, and Antacids (Tums) will be available for self-administration by students with parent permission. My child may self-administer as needed according to bottle directions. Please circle "Yes" or "No" for each medication listed:

Tylenol	YES	NO
Ibuprofen	YES	NO
Antacid (Tums)	YES	NO

Family Doctor: _____ Phone #: _____

Medical Insurance Company Name: _____

Group #: _____ Agreement #: _____ Plan Code: _____

I understand this activity involves strenuous physical exertion and feel that my son/daughter is physically fit for such activities. In any situation where superficial first aid is not sufficient, trained medical personnel will be summoned. When possible, contact will always be made with the parent/guardian before treatment. Transport will be made to the nearest hospital. These decisions will be made at the discretion of the staff who will not take any risks with the welfare of your child.

I hereby grant permission for my son/daughter to participate in the Hampton High School Marching Band in all of its activities. I further grant permission for my son/daughter to receive emergency medical treatment, as required, during any organized music activity, if I cannot be contacted in advance.

Parent / Guardian Printed Name: _____ (please print neatly)

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Hampton High School Band - Instrument Loan Agreement for school instruments

Student Name		Mobile (student)	
Parent Name		Mobile (Parent)	
Student email		Parent email	
Address		City	
Zip		Home Phone	

Instrument		Replacement Cost	
Make / Model		Condition	
ID #		Serial #	

Case			
ID #		Condition	

Accessories		Replacement Cost	
Mouthpiece		Ligature	
Cleaning equip		Neck Strap	
Other			

Loan Period			
Start		End	

By signing this Instrument Loan Agreement I acknowledge and agree that I am personally responsible for any damage to the instrument, case and accessories or loss while the instrument is in my care. I agree to perform regular maintenance and cleaning of the instrument and to return it, the case and accessories by the end of the loan period in the same condition as they were issued.

Student Signature		Date	
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By signing this Instrument Loan Agreement I acknowledge that I will see to it that the instrument loaned to my child is properly cared for and returned at the end of the loan period in the same as or better condition than issued. In case of loss or damage to the instrument due to neglect while in the possession of my child, I further agree to pay for the proper repair, cleaning or replacement of the instrument within 30 days of the date when notice is given of the cost of such repairs, cleaning or replacement.

Parent Signature		Date	
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Acknowledgement of receipt of payment for the \$45.00 instrument loan fee.

Payment Method	Check #		
Director Signature		Date	

Acknowledgement of instrument, case and accessories return date, condition and any fees due.

Return Date		Missing Items	
Instrument Condition			
Case Condition			
Accessories Condition			
Fees Due		Check #	
Student Signature		Date	
Parent Signature		Date	
Director Signature		Date	

\$50.00 PAYMENT IS DUE BY July 17 & made payable to "HTSD" and sent to Chad Himmler, Hampton High School, 2929 McCully Rd., Allison Park, PA 15101.