

# GENESEO HIGH SCHOOL BAND

## MEMBER HANDBOOK

### 2017-2018

#### GENESEO HS/MS DISTRICT MUSIC DEPARTMENT

#### COURSE SYLLABUS

#### INTRODUCTION

The following information is provided as a guide for all Geneseo School District Middle School and High School music students. United district policies are provided first, followed by specific grade/class level information.

#### GRADING

#### Geneseo School District Performing Arts Grading Scale

Includes HS Marching Band, HS Symphonic Band, HS Honors Band, HS Concert Band, HS Jr/Sr Choir, HS Sophomore Concert Choir, HS Frosh Chorale, MS Symphonic Band, MS Concert Band, MS Symphonic Choir, MS Concert Choir, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir.

A+	99% - 100%	C+	83% - 84%
A	95% - 98%	C	79% - 82%
A-	93% - 94%	C-	77% - 78%
B+	91% - 92%	D+	75% - 76%
B	87% - 90%	D	71% - 74%
B-	85% - 86%	D-	69% - 70%
		F	Below 69%

#### 35% REHEARSAL

- A. Necessary materials present
- B. Rehearsal procedures followed
- C. Participation level

#### 25% PERFORMANCE

- A. Culmination activity
- B. Concert etiquette
- C. Performance experience
- D. Critical listening

NOTE: This is not an attendance grade.

Students must be punctual for performances.

#### 40% INDIVIDUAL ASSESSMENTS

- A. Weekly assessment includes: sight-reading, assigned performance music, and the musical elements of tone quality, rhythm, musicianship, intonation, technique, terminology, articulation, etc. Individual assessment will measure individual improvement and not be scored in a comparative nature.
- B. Written homework, papers, quizzes, tests, practice cards, where applicable.

# CO-CURRICULAR MUSIC ACTIVITY ATTENDANCE POLICY

**CO-CURRICULAR MUSIC ACTIVITIES:** This information applies to music courses as co-curricular performance courses. Co-curricular activities occur outside of the regular class period, and are considered a class project and an objective of the particular curricular offering. Therefore, co-curricular activities are vital to the successful completion of the curricular course. Since rehearsals and performances are an extension of and vital to the curricular program, participation in all scheduled rehearsals and performances is required.

**In the event that an unavoidable conflict occurs with a performance,** please use the following procedure: The Director must be notified in writing as soon as the student learns of the conflict. That notification must be the attached form (found on the next page) from a parent stating the nature of the conflict. The Director should receive this note no less than one week before the conflict. This gives the Director a chance to make changes and adjustments in the ensemble before the performance, if necessary.

**Valid reasons for an excused absence include** confining illness, death in the family, or a religious holiday. Extraordinary circumstances that could be excused would be described as the result of circumstances beyond the control of the student or his/her parents, such as a family wedding, mandatory college visitation, or other circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent for the safety or health of the student. Any absence that is not excused by the Director shall be considered unexcused.

The reason for this carefully thought out policy is that every performing student has an effect on the other performers in the ensemble. A successful performance for all of the members of an ensemble is much more likely when all of the members are present. There is no student in an ensemble that doesn't affect the other performers around them. Please think of performances as a final exam after a long unit of study in class. Also think of the performances in front of an audience as the reward for all of the hard work that takes place in the rehearsal room.

For excused and unexcused absences, a make-up opportunity is provided. The student must contact the teacher and complete the make-up work in the time frame described in the Middle School and High School handbooks. Make-up grades for excused absences can earn up to full credit. Make-up grades for unexcused absences can earn up to 90% of full credit. Make-up performances are graded using a performance rubric.

The above information and the accompanying form is available from your Director, on the Director's web site, or can be copied from the syllabus distributed on the first day of school.

Tony Hernandez, Geneseo High School/Geneseo Middle School – 309.945.0320

Stephen LaCroix, Geneseo High School – 309.945.0319

Steven Scherer, Geneseo High School – 309.945.0321

John Versluis, Geneseo Middle School – 309.945.0534

Megan Warren Geneseo Middle School – 309.945.0533

**Approved by Board Action 04/16/2009**

**REQUEST FOR AN EXCUSED ABSENCE FROM CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY**

Name of activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of conflict: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for absence: \_\_\_\_\_

Signatures: \_\_\_\_\_  
                                student                                parent/guardian                                date

If absence is due to a previously scheduled school activity requiring the student's participation, please complete the section below.

Name of conflicting school activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Date student was informed/advised of activity: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of activity sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

.....  
Received by co-curricular teacher: \_\_\_\_\_  
  Date  signature

Approved (excused absence) \_\_\_\_\_ Denied (un-excused absence) \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation if denied: \_\_\_\_\_

## GENESEO HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC EVENTS

A fine arts calendar with specific dates and information about each event will be distributed to all students at the beginning of the school year.

### **GRADED HS BAND EVENTS**

- \*Individual Weekly Assessments**
- \*Marching Band Rehearsal**
- \*Marching Band Performances**
- \*Symphonic Band Concert**
- \*Honors Band Concerts**
- \*Concert Band Concerts**
- \*Solo/Ensemble Recital**
- \*Solo/Ensemble Contest**

### **NON-GRADED HS BAND EVENTS**

- \*ILMEA District Festival Auditions**
- \*ILMEA District Festivals**
- \*ILMEA All-State**
- \*Madrigal Brass**
- \*Madrigal Recorders**
- \*Pep Band**
- \*Jazz Band**
- \*Gold Medal Honors Recital**
- \*Music Tour**
- \*Musical Pit Orchestra**
- \*Steel Drum Ensemble “Green Steel”**

## **ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES**

**HARVEST OF TALENT SHOW** – Individual/groups selected by audition only grades 4-12 to perform during the September Harvest Time Music Festival

**ILMEA DISTRICT AUDITIONS/FESTIVAL/ILLINOIS ALL-STATE BAND** - Being accepted for the All-State Band is the highest individual honor a high school band student can receive. Auditioning for one of these groups will greatly enhance the student’s musicianship. Auditions occur on the first Saturday in October in districts throughout Illinois. A predetermined number of musicians are chosen from within the district to perform in the ILMEA District Festival held in November. Top students from the festival are selected to participate in the All-State Band the last week of January. The students will have the opportunity to work with nationally recognized conductors and perform with the best musicians in the state.

**MADRIGAL BRASS AND RECORDER CONSORT** – These groups are formed in association with the Madrigal dinner. The groups perform in various appearances in addition to the Madrigal Dinner the weekend after Thanksgiving.

**JAZZ BAND** – selected by audition in November. Auditions open to band students in grades 9-12. Groups perform at Jazz Show and make various guest appearances.

**SOLO ENSEMBLE CONTEST** – Open to all Geneseo High School Band members in grades 9-12. Students participating for Division Rating must have performed at Recital.

**BAND TOUR** – Bands travel every other year. **THIS IS NOT A TRAVEL YEAR.** See additional handouts for information. Destinations announced in the spring.

**ALL SCHOOL MUSICAL PIT ORCHESTRA** –members selected by invitation only. All Geneseo students are eligible.

**PEP BAND** – pep band is open to all band members in grades 9 – 12. Pep band members sign up at the beginning of the school year. The pep band performs at home conference basketball boys and girls basketball games, and various other school and community events.

# PRIVATE LESSONS

\*The majority of our students take private lessons. Most of these students are placed with an instructor through the teachers on the staff.

\*The benefits of studying privately with a teacher are endless. These lessons are not required, but each of us on the instrumental staff recognizes the importance of one-on-one instruction on a musical instrument.

***\*Lessons are only 1 time per week for 30 minutes and happen after school.  
Private teachers work around your schedule!!!***

## ***\*Lesson Cost:***

***\$12 for in town teachers, \$15 for teachers who drive in from out of town, also some HS students teach at a lower rate***

\*To facilitate our placing your student appropriately, please fill out the information below and give it to your band director at your next rehearsal (If you are arranging your own private teacher or you are already studying with someone, please include that info on the "comments" line). Cost of the lessons and time/day the lessons would be scheduled depend on the instructor. Lessons are usually 1/2 hour in length, once a week.

*Please detach and return at your next rehearsal*

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***STUDENT'S NAME*** \_\_\_\_\_

***GRADE (circle one)***    6<sup>th</sup>    7<sup>th</sup>    8<sup>th</sup>    H.S.

***PARENTS' NAME*** \_\_\_\_\_

***EMAIL ADDRESS*** \_\_\_\_\_

***INSTRUMENT*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***PHONE*** \_\_\_\_\_

***PREFERRED PRIVATE TEACHER (optional)*** \_\_\_\_\_

***PREVIOUS PRIVATE INSTRUCTOR (if any)*** \_\_\_\_\_

***COMMENTS*** \_\_\_\_\_

**This form must be returned by Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

We have read the Handbook and have gone over the policies. We have received the band calendar, are aware of the required events and have placed them on our calendar.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Last Name, First Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Parent/Guardian's Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian's Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City/Town)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(State)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Zip Code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Home Phone #)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Work Phone #)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian's Email Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student's Email Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student's cell phone number)

Does the student have a study hall in their schedule during 1<sup>st</sup> quarter? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, what period is the study hall? \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

My current private lesson teacher is \_\_\_\_\_

What fall sport are you involved in, if any? Include cheerleading and Maplettes.

\_\_\_\_\_