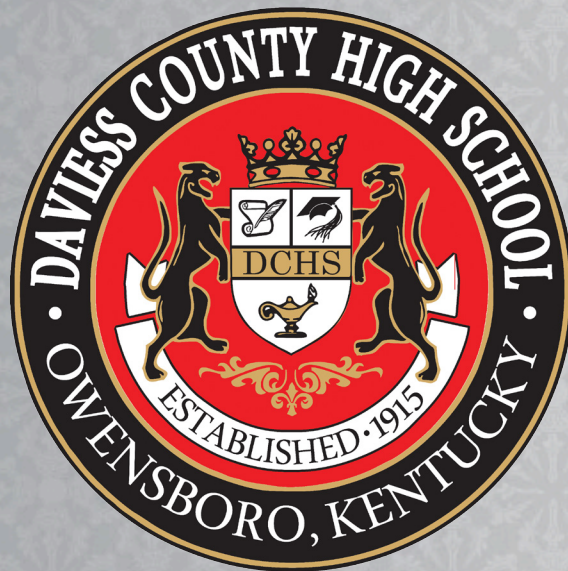


Daviess County Band of Pride



Parent/Student Handbook 2016-2017

DuWayne C. Dale, Director of Bands

duwayne.dale@daviess.kyschools.us

www.educatorportfolio.weebly.com

Karen Alward, Assistant Director of Bands

karen.alward@daviess.kyschools.us

Daviess County High School Band

4255 New Hartford Rd.

Owensboro, KY 42303

(270) 852-7300 x 105

www.bandofpride.com

Director's Welcome

To all band families,

WELCOME BACK to another exciting and fun-filled school year with the Band of Pride. I look forward to working with each and every student and to the many experiences we will have in our pursuit of outstanding musical learning, listening, and performing!

Your understanding of the information contained in the pages of this handbook IS VITAL to the continued success of your band program and, most importantly, to each student's successful participation in their band. You will find out the expectations placed on every member, how students are graded, how students can excel, and a wealth of other important info.

Please take the time to read this handbook in its entirety. Knowing that time is a precious commodity, this handbook contains only the most essential information. If questions remain after reading, please do not hesitate to contact me directly for further explanation. All students are required to understand these expectations and will be held to them throughout the school year. You will find the handbook contract form with this document. Please fill it out and return ONLY that page to me - this will be your student's first important band grade.

Looking forward to another outstanding year,



DuWayne Dale, Director of Bands,
Daviess County High School



Who's Who in the Band Program?

Directors:

DuWayne Dale - the head director, lead teacher, and chief administrator of all aspects of the band program. Mr. Dale has been at DCHS since 2009. To learn more about Mr. Dale, you may read his bio at www.bandofpride.com or visit his online professional portfolio - www.educatorportfolio.weebly.com.

Karen Alward - Mrs. Alward is in her second year as Assistant Director of Bands at DCHS. In addition to assisting with all aspects of BOP operations, she works closely with the CVMS and DCMS band programs and the DCHS orchestra. To learn more about Mrs. Alward, you may read her bio at www.bandofpride.com

Primary Support Staff:

Josh Stone - Mr. Stone is a graduate of DCHS and was a member of the Band of Pride throughout high school. He serves as our lead percussion instructor and has been teaching with the program since 2012. This year, we are excited to have Mr. Stone in our classroom every day.

Ben Quesinberry - Mr. Quesinberry is the lead guard instructor for the Band of Pride and has been with the program since last spring. In addition to the fall color guard, Mr. Quesinberry leads our competitive Winter Guard program and teaches Dance Studio courses at DCHS in the spring semester.

Private Lesson Staff:

We are fortunate to have talented professionals available to teach our students privately. Over the past three years, an average of nearly 50% of our wind and percussion students have taken private lessons. One current goal is to increase this number to 60% - 75%. Private lessons are AN INVESTMENT IN YOUR CHILD. They are for everyone no matter what their current playing ability level may be. Check them out on the private lessons page of www.bandofpride.com

DCHS Band Boosters: The band boosters are all parents and supporters of our program. The boosters work tirelessly to efficiently execute all of the logistics of band operations and fundraising. Each year, their fundraising efforts account for nearly 40% of the total funding of the DCHS Band Program. WE NEED HELP TO ACCOMPLISH THIS! Many parents elect to step up and fulfill leadership roles on our Band Booster Executive Board:

Brent Crawford - Booster President

Krystal Lucas - Booster Treasurer

Suzanne Smith - Booster Secretary

Christina Hill - Booster Fundraising Coordinator

Rena Hamilton - Booster Food Coordinator

Amy Gray - Booster Uniform Coordinator

Brende Lott - Booster Public Relations Officer

Chris and Cathy Holt - Booster Chaperone Coordinator

Chad Clayton - Booster Equipment Coordinator

Nikki Hatfield - Guard Coordinator

To contact any of these boosters, go to www.bandofpride.com and visit the "Contact Us" page or visit the "Boosters" page for direct email address links

Class Format

The Band of Pride operates within Daviess County High School as a co-curricular class. What this means is that band students will have requirements both during and after normal school hours. In other words, students can and will be graded for after school performances and rehearsals. No rehearsal or performance is to ever be considered “optional” unless otherwise noted.

Your band fulfills a role as a service organization to both Daviess County High School and the community of Owensboro, while also providing its members enrichment through performing quality literature in a variety of venues. Performances and activities include, but are not limited to:

- Daviess County High School football games, basketball games, and pep rallies
- Daviess County High School and DCPS special events
- Parades and other community events
- Concerts
- KMEA and BOA Competitions
- KMEA Concert Band and Solo/Ensemble Festivals
- All-State /All-District Audition/Performances
- College Honor Band Clinics

Ensembles

DCHS Wind Ensemble /Symphonic Band / Concert Band

These ensembles perform at multiple times throughout the year and participate in KMEA regional and state events. Students enrolled in the Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Bands are members of these ensembles. Ensemble assignments and chair placement are determined by the results of mandatory All-District / All-State auditions in November. All of these ensembles meet during 4th block.

DCHS Marching Band

This competitive ensemble performs at all home football games; at multiple local, regional and state venues; at local parades; and at BOA Grand Nationals. Members have performance expectations to be met at various deadlines - music memorized, flag routines, marching skills, drill formation positions, etc.

DCHS Pep Band

All high school band members are required to perform at 6 regular-season basketball games with this ensemble. Select members will get to travel to tournament games. There is a required t-shirt that students will purchase during the school year. (\$10)

DCHS Color Guard / Winter Guard

Members of the guard receive instruction in multiple forms of dance and are taught to use a variety of equipment. The Winter Guard competes and performs November-April each school year and has a separate fee schedule. Auditions are announced near the end of the marching band season.

DCHS Jazz Band

This is a voluntary extracurricular ensemble. Interested students will meet once weekly after school beginning in November and continuing through the spring semester. Participating students will be exposed to a varied repertoire of blues, swing, big band, funk, and fusion (to name a few) and perfect attendance to rehearsals is required. Multiple performances for this ensemble will be sought and scheduled as they become available.

The Point System

Our band program uses a point system. Primarily, this system helps to ensure all of our students are aware of the many opportunities that are available to them through our program and music/dance instruction in general. Secondly, we have an awards banquet at the end of each year and many of the awards and recognition received by students are based on the number of points they attain over the course of a given school year. The following is a list of activities that can earn points:

- Earn a spot in the All-State Band – 12pts
- Take weekly private instrument or dance lessons during the school year (at least 7 months) – 10pts
- Indoor Winds/Percussion or Winter Guard - 8pts (must have acceptable attendance and no missed competitions)
- No missed rehearsals or performances in marching band – 8 pts (includes all weekend, summer, and fall break practices)
- No more than two excused marching band rehearsal absences, no unexcused absences and no missed marching band performances – 5 pts (you may not count this one if you have already counted the 8pts for MB attendance above)
- Earn a spot in the All-District Band – 5pts
- Distinguished District Solo or Ensemble – 3 pts (you may count once for each distinguished event)
- Distinguished State Solo or Ensemble – 5 pts (you may count once for each distinguished event)
- Meeting the minimum sales goal for a sales-based fundraiser – 2pts per fundraiser (Fruit, Butterbraids, etc.)
- Volunteer at an event-based fundraiser – 2pts per completed shift (Romp, Friday after 5, BOP TOSS, etc.)
- No unexcused absences, no more than one excused rehearsal absence, and no missed performances in Jazz Band, KWC Wind Ensemble, and/or OSYO– 2 pts (you may count once for each ensemble in which you met the criteria)
- Attendance at all regular season basketball games - 2 pts
- Participation in a summer music camp (summer of 2015) - 2pts (includes drum major and leadership camps)
- Auditioned for All-District – 1 pt
- Other special point opportunities sometimes arise

Students who earn 18 points in a single school year earn a bar (a patch that can be sewn onto a band jacket).

Students who earn 28 points in a single school year earn Honor Bandsman Status and are recognized at the spring awards banquet.

Points will accumulate from year to year until a student earns 50 points and is awarded their band letter.

Students who are the highest point earner for their grade level in a given school year earn Honor Bandsman with Distinction Status and will have their name added to a plaque that hangs in the band room

Grading

Grades in band are based on accumulated points from two areas: PERFORMANCE and PARTICIPATION

Performance (Demonstrated Knowledge and Skills):

- Playing tests
- Attendance and preparedness for required public performances
- Marching band memory checks
- Occasional written tests

Points in this area will be deducted for:

- (1) Unexcused absence to a performance
- (2) Failure to complete makeup work for an excused absence
- (3) Tardy to or early departure from a performance
- (4) Attending but not participating at a performance
- (5) Failure to be in proper uniform at a performance.

Participation (Demonstrated Work Ethic and Policy Adherence Component):

- Attendance and punctuality at required rehearsals and in class
- Engagement in rehearsal or class (best effort at all times)
- Behavior in rehearsals or class
- Preparedness for rehearsal or class (all required materials, instrument and areas clean and maintained)

Points in this area will be deducted for:

- (1) not rehearsing with the rest of the class
- (2) absence from rehearsal
- (3) not having materials when class begins
- (4) disrupting rehearsal
- (5) failure to consistently put forth best effort to improve

Aside from the daily class rehearsals, required after school rehearsals, and required performances for which students are responsible, there are three additional obligations of which all members must be aware:

All Band Members (Brass/Woodwind/Percussion) are required to audition for All-District/All-State unless special permission is received from Mr. Dale

Unless a Director gives a student special exclusion, all Band Members (Brass/Woodwind/Percussion) are required to prepare a solo for the spring KMEA Solo and Ensemble Festival and to be in attendance at the event to perform. Juniors and seniors must select a solo that is listed on the UIL Grade I or II list. Ambitious freshmen and sophomores are also encouraged to choose this level of literature

All Band Members (Brass/Woodwind/Percussion) are required to perform at six (6) regular-season basketball games. Members will be assigned to one of two pep bands (Red and White) and each pep band will have specific performance dates (Dec-Feb). Those band members who are participants in DCPS Indoor Percussion, DCPS Winds, or one of our Winter Guards only need to attend if there are no conflicts with those rehearsals (drumset players may be occasional exceptions to this rule).

Attendance

More than any other class, sport, club, or activity, band relies on perfect attendance from its membership to be truly successful. As such, student grades and our end-of-the-year awards and recognition factor in attendance very heavily.

HOW DO I REPORT AN ABSENCE? Go to www.bandofpride.com and click on the “ABSENCES” button on the home page. Fill out the online form and submit. PLEASE NOTE: Just because an absence is reported, does NOT mean it is automatically considered excused. YOU ONLY NEED TO REPORT AN ABSENCE TO AN AFTER SCHOOL/WEEKEND EVENT. ANY OTHER ABSENCE IS DOCUMENTED BY DCHS. ALL NON-EMERGENCY ABSENCES MUST BE REPORTED WITH AT LEAST ONE WEEK NOTICE PRIOR TO THE ABSENCE DATE OR IT WILL BE CONSIDERED UNEXCUSED.

Mr. Dale tries to assess each absence on a case-by-case basis, because there are always so many human variables to consider, but here are some general guidelines:

Before you consider missing a required event, take the time to ask the following questions:

- Is this absence necessary and unavoidable (will everyone in the band see it that way)?
- What will be the impact to others in my section and the rest of the band?
- Is there any way that I can manage to reschedule so that I don't miss band?
- Have I already done all I can to avoid this absence?
- What is my plan to make up the time and learn what I missed?

General unexcused absence scenarios:

- Scheduled to work (provide employers with calendar with sufficient notice to avoid)
- Got tickets to a (insert various activities here - e.g., rock concert, circus, amusement park)
- Sore/Tired (unless severe and accompanied by doctor's excuse)
- Scheduling trips, appointments or other events over an existing band rehearsal
- Babysitting
- Couldn't get a ride
- Over slept

Most absences that end up being excused fall into one of the following categories:

- Death of family member
- Student is severely ill (doctor's note may be requested)
- Close relative's wedding

Any absences and tardiness may result in, but are not limited to:

- Grade deduction (unless excused)
- Loss of performance status (sidelined or not allowed to perform)
- Expulsion from the band program – no fee refund will be given (severe cases)

Special Considerations

Parents and students must be aware and acknowledge the importance of attendance to the performance and morale of the band. As such, any absence (excused or unexcused) may affect a student's performance standing in the ensemble and eligibility to perform at a given concert or competition. Our policies for attendance are strict, but are essential for the success of the band and the positive experience of all members.

EVERYONE MATTERS! WE NEED YOU HERE!

