



Southwest Guilford Band

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Handbook and Syllabus 2021-22, 4th Block Concert Band

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For Parents/Guardians

Thank you for encouraging your child to take part in Southwest Guilford High School's band program! Being involved in a musical ensemble enables your child to learn leadership, teamwork, and artistic skills and allows them to connect with the local community. I plan on being in touch regularly via email and message through the [Band app](#) (at least once a week) throughout the year. All important dates and events will be specified in these communications and posted on the calendar through the Band app (also embedded on my staff webpage). All important information regarding the band program (including copies of weekly informational emails) will be posted on my staff webpage and on the Band app. If you cannot find the information you are looking for, please feel free to contact me directly with any questions or comments you may have concerning the music program.

SWGHS Band Philosophy

The study of music and music performance allows people of all ages an opportunity to develop critical and abstract thinking skills, creativity, self-confidence, self-discipline, aesthetic appreciation, and the ability to perform under pressure. The study of music requires the integration of skills learned in all other disciplines and provides an important channel for self-expression and personal fulfillment.

Required Student Materials

-Instrument

- Students are required to have their instrument (in working order) in class every day. The school has an inventory of instruments which students may use upon approval of the director, with the understanding that school instruments must be treated with great respect and care. The use of school owned instruments will require a completed "Instrument Check-out Form" on file with Mr. Cox. Parents/guardians may be asked to pay for repairs if school instruments are damaged in any way beyond "normal wear and tear." Rental instruments are available at Moore Music in Greensboro and Music and Arts in Greensboro (as well as other local music stores), and purchasing is also an option. Many stores offer "rent-to own" plans, and good deals can be found on used instruments. Used instruments by trusted manufacturers may not be as nice-looking as those being made today, but as long as they're in good working order, they often play just as well if not better.

-Instrument-Specific Materials

- Ex. **extra** reed, reed cases, cork grease, and cleaning swabs for woodwinds; cleaning snakes, valve oil, and slide grease for trumpets and euphonium/tubas; cleaning snakes, slide cream/mix, and water spray bottle for trombones; drum sticks and mallets for percussionists. I will have additional greases and oils available in class, but students should be come prepared, with their own supplies (keep them in your case).
 - **Missing/Broken Reed Policy:** If woodwind players come to rehearsal without a functional reed, they will receive a "0" for the daily participation grade since they do not have a usable instrument. To avoid this, please insure that your child has 2 usable reeds in their case at all times. Some additional supplies are made available for purchase through the "Band Store," but I make no guarantees.



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-Folders, Sheet Music, Class Handouts

- Students will be given music folders, sheet music, and handouts for use in class and at home (practice). **Students are expected to practice at home daily and keep track of all of their music.** They must come to class with their music every day. Failing to do so will result in points being deducted from their participation grade.

-Pencils!

- Students are required to have pencils out on their music stands for every rehearsal.

Suggested Student Materials*

-Metronome (or equivalent smart phone app)

-Tuner (or equivalent smart phone app)

-Music Stand (for home use)

- Students will need something to use for practicing at home and possibly for performances outside of school. I highly suggest purchasing a quality music stand.

*Please note that these materials are suggested for use in practice at home. Cell phone use is not permitted during the school day as per the SWGHS Student Handbook.

Forgotten/Missing/Damaged Instrument Policy

Students coming to class without a functioning instrument will receive a "0" for their daily participation grade but will still be required to participate in class through "miming" their part. Students coming to class for two days in a row without an instrument will be calling their parents directly to notify them of the situation. Students with instruments that need repairs as well as students that are not feeling well will not be graded down, but parent/guardians will receive an email from me regarding the required repair (or please make sure I receive communication from a parent/guardian if you know a repair is needed). Please ensure that repairs are made as quickly as possible, as students cannot participate fully without an instrument in working order.

Concert Dress

For school concerts, concert dress for all SWGHS bands will be white tops and black bottoms or solid black for dresses with black socks and shoes. Students not in concert dress for school concerts will receive a "0" for their concert attendance grade and will not be allowed to perform. Please contact me well in advance of performances if you have any questions.

Other Events, Performances

Students: Off-campus performances will be added to the calendar as information becomes available. I will give as much notice as possible for off-campus performances, including email notification and adding them to the SWGHS Band calendar on my staff webpage and through the Band app. Parents/Guardians: Please be sure to read all emails I send completely, as I will include all relevant information on concerts and events as it becomes available. Performing is a great way to connect with the local community and gain their support!

Repairs

If you are renting an instrument, repairs should be done at the store from which you are renting. If you own your instruments, repairs can generally be done at any of the local music stores listed on page 4. If you are using a school instrument, please let me know of any necessary repairs as soon as possible as the school district is responsible for those repairs.

Practicing

All band members are required to take their instrument home at the end of each school day to practice. Suggested individual, **focused** practice is **at least** 15 minutes every day, but more is always better. Improving on a musical instrument is simple; the more you practice (the right things), the better you get.

Students: prepare for classroom rehearsals and playing tests during your practice time.



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Private Lessons

I fully encourage students to take private lessons outside of school. A roster of private lesson teachers who have expressed interest in teaching SWGHS students if available on my staff webpage. Please understand that there is a cost associated with taking private lessons, and this cost varies depending on the teacher and lesson times.

Local Music Resources

Local Music Rental Stores (purchases, private lessons, repairs):

- Moore Music – Greensboro, NC
 - www.mooremusiccompany.com/
 - (336) 274-4636
- Music and Arts – Greensboro, NC
 - stores.musicarts.com/greensboro
 - (336) 282-1256
- Separk Music – Lewisville, NC
 - www.separkmusic.com/
 - (336) 760-9635
- The Band Company – Kernersville, NC
 - No website that I'm aware of
 - (336) 993-7436
- Love That Music – Kernersville, NC
 - www.lovethatmusicstore.net/
 - (336) 993-0935
- Big Note Music & Mobile Instrument Repair – Raleigh, NC
 - www.bignotemusic.com/
 - (919) 616-7100

Online Music Resources

- Discount Reed Company
 - www.discountreed.com
- Woodwind and Brasswind
 - www.wwbw.com

Honors Festival Information

All-County and All-District Band audition requirements and procedures will be reviewed with students in class. All necessary information and materials will be made available to parents/guardians and students through the Band app and on Canvas.

Music Classroom Rules and Expectations

- Students will abide by the rules provided in the SWGHS Student-Parent Handbook at all times. Parents/guardians, please review these rules with your children, as *all of them* are expected to be followed in band class. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken as a consequence of any rule infractions.
- Students are expected to be on time (5-10 minutes early) to all rehearsals, concerts, and events.
- Students will treat the teacher and each other with respect at all times.
- Students will actively participate in all class activities and follow directions at all times.
- Students will be prepared for class. This includes practicing outside of class and remembering to bring your instrument, sheet music, notebooks, and pencils for every class meeting.
- Students will attend required concerts and make every effort to attend additional events.
- Students are responsible for transporting their instruments to and from school on class days. If a student forgets their instrument, they will receive a "0" for their daily classroom participation grade.



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Consequences for Not Meeting Classroom Expectations

1. Verbal warning and points off of daily participation grade (teacher discretion)
2. Student will be excused from playing during the remainder of rehearsal, given an alternative assignment, and parent(s)/guardian(s) will be contacted.
3. Administrative action

Grading

-Quarterly Grades:

- Daily Participation and Homework (rare): 30%
- Playing and Written Tests: 30%
- Concert and Event Attendance: 40%

-Final Grades:

- Quarterly Grades: 70%
- Final Exam: 30% (will involve both a written and a playing component)

-Daily Participation and Homework: Students receive a participation grade each day (out of 20 points). Homework will consist of returning any necessary signed forms/permission slips on time, as well as occasional miscellaneous assignments. Participation and homework grades will be posted weekly in PowerSchool.

-Playing and Written Tests: Students will be tested weekly on scales and content from their performance literature. These tests will be administered both in class (in front of the other students) and submitted online through Canvas. Part of being a performer is learning to cope with the pressure of playing in front of others, and the band room should be a safe and supportive environment in which to do so. Students are expected to practice at home and be prepared for their playing tests. Written tests will also be given throughout the semester based on information discussed regarding their music; most of the time, these written tests will be open music so writing in your parts is essential.

-Concert Attendance: If a student will be missing a school band concert, I music receive notification from a parent no less than 2 weeks (14 days) in advance, except in the case of an emergency or illness. In the case of an emergency or illness, I ask that the parents/guardians please contact me as soon as possible. Students missing a performance with the required prior notification will be allowed to make up their concert attendance grade for full credit. **Students missing a concert or scheduled band event without prior notification will receive a "0" for a concert grade.** Emergency situations will be handled fairly on a case-by-case basis. Attendance at additional band performance opportunities and events throughout the year is not required but is expected.



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Important Dates for Your Calendar

All of these dates can be found on the band's [Google Calendar](#) and on the [Band app](#)

Mon. 8/23 – First Day of School

Mon. 9/13 – Band Booster Meeting, Band Room, 6:30pm

Tues. 10/12 – Band Booster Meeting, Auditorium, 7:00pm

Tues. 10/12 – Fall Band Concert (Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, and Concert Band), Auditorium, 7:00pm
(student call time is 6:30pm)

Mon. 11/1 – Band Booster Meeting, Band Room, 6:30pm

Tues. 12/14 – Band Booster Meeting, Auditorium, 7:00pm

Tues. 12/14 – Winter Band Concert (Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, and Concert Band), Auditorium, 7:00pm
(student call time is 6:30pm)

Sat. 1/8 – CDBA All-District Auditions, Ragsdale HS

Mon. 1/10 – Band Booster Meeting, Band Room, 6:30pm

Mon. 2/14 – Band Booster Meeting, Band Room, 6:30pm

Tues. 2/15 – GCS All-County Band Auditions, Western Guilford HS, audition times assigned to students
individually

Mon. 3/14 – Band Booster Meeting, Band Room, 6:30pm

Tues. 3/15 – Pre-MPA Orchestra and Band Concert (Orchestra and Concert Band), 7:00pm (student call time is
6:30pm)

Tues.-Thurs. 3/22-24 – Concert Band MPA (exact date and time TBA)

Wed.-Thurs. 3/30-31 – All-County Band Clinic

Thurs.-Fri. 4/7-8 – All-County Jazz Band Clinic

Mon. 4/11 – Band Booster Meeting, Band Room, 6:30pm

Tues. 4/26 – CDBA Solo and Ensemble MPA, Auditorium and Band Room, 8:00am-8:00pm

Thurs. 5/19 – Band Booster Meeting, Auditorium, 7:00pm

Thurs. 5/19 – Spring Band Concert (Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, and Concert Band), Auditorium, 7:00pm
(student call time is 6:30pm)

Fri.-Fri. 6/3-10 – GCS Graduations, Greensboro Coliseum, 8:00am-8:00pm (Concert Band and some Percussion
students are required to perform, exact date and time is TBA)

Mon. 6/13 – Band Booster Meeting (Budget Meeting), Band Room, 6:30pm