

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY THE FIRST FRIDAY IN SEPTEMBER VIA EMAIL OR PRINTED COPY.

The complete handbook can be found at hpts.us under the high or middle school tab, click on Handbooks.

STUDENT WILL:

- A. FOLLOW THE RULES AND EXPECTATIONS OUTLINED IN THIS HANDBOOK.
- B. ATTEND ALL SCHEDULED EVENTS.
- C. DEMONSTRATE LEADERSHIP AT ALL TIMES IN AND OUT OF CLASS.
- D. BE A MODEL OF RESPECT TO THE TEACHER AND FELLOW STUDENTS.

PARENT WILL:

- A. BECOME INVOLVED TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY.
- B. CHECK IN PERIODICALLY WITH THE TEACHER.
- C. PRINT THE EVENTS CALENDAR FOR THE BAND TO AVOID CONFLICTS.

I HAVE READ THE HOUGHTON BAND HANDBOOK. I MAY NOT AGREE WITH ALL THE TERMS IN THE HANDBOOK, BUT I WILL DO MY BEST TO HELP MY CHILD FOLLOW THESE RULES AND GUIDELINES. I WILL DO MY BEST TO BECOME INVOLVED WITH MY CHILD'S MUSICAL OBLIGATIONS BY ATTENDING CONCERTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS. I WILL ENCOURAGE MY CHILD TO BECOME INVOLVED WITH OTHER MUSICAL ENDEAVORS SUCH AS SOLO AND ENSEMBLE, HONORS BAND, AND BAND FESTIVAL.

Printed Student Name

Student signature/date

Parent signature/date

The Houghton High School Band

Mission Statement

Developed by Kelly Fontaine

The Houghton High School Band has a mission to grow musically throughout the year. Learning and understanding daily ideas and concepts will ensure our goal. We are a team. Everyone needs to participate in this team by practicing an instrument on a daily basis, being prepared for class daily, and producing enthusiasm. Everyone will treat each other with respect and therefore will be treated with respect. We do not discriminate against any person. Everyone has the opportunity to learn. Everyone will accept this opportunity. We have a commitment to our school and community. We will fulfill this commitment by performing on a regular basis in a public setting. Through these ideas, we hope to develop an appreciation for the ensemble and for ourselves.

Goals

1. We will remember our pencils, instruments, and music daily.
2. We will show pride and ownership in belonging to the band.
3. We will perform for our community and school.
4. We hope to create a stronger self-confidence within each of us.
5. We will treat each other with respect.
6. We will increase our musical ability throughout the year.
7. We will increase our musical knowledge through frequent performances.
8. We will demonstrate maturity at all times, representing our school/director.

Classroom Rules

1. Respect the PODIUM and the director, and respect will be returned.
2. Gum, food, and drink are **NOT** permitted in the band room at any time. Persistent use = detention with the teacher.
3. Students are ready at 8:10. Students, music, instruments, and materials in their assigned seats.
4. All supplies will be purchased before class or after school, not during class.
5. Not having materials will result in a loss of daily points, therefore, affecting grades.
6. Students will be assigned a cubby for instrument storage during the school day. Keep clean.
7. Remain in assigned seats until dismissed by the teacher.
8. Cell phone usage is prohibited and the phone will not be visible during class.
9. The same rules apply to a substitute teacher.

Grade Requirements

1. Performance Exams/ (40% of final grade)

These tests will be taken on the student instrument during class time. These performance tests can be from the music we are presently working on, individual scales, or sight-reading. The student will have at least three school days to practice the approximate material for that exam. The exact exam will not be given to the student in advance.

2. Written Work/Concerts (25% of final grade)

All concerts must be attended and classwork completed for full credit.

3. Daily class performance (15% of final grade)

Everyone must be present and participating to earn credit. If unable to attend class, points can be made up at an alternate time.

Everyone must be in his or her assigned seat at the final bell.

Everyone must have all materials and will not be excused to get supplies.

Everyone will have their instrument together and be warming up at the bell.

Everyone will bring his or her own music and pencil to each class period.

4. Practice Time (20% of final grade)

Each student is expected to practice maintaining and exceeding his/her own level of ability on a daily basis. ALL STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRACTICE IN THE BAND ROOM FOR 30 MIN. BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL ONCE PER MONTH. THIS TIME WILL BE GRADED. A THIRD PRACTICE SESSION CAN BE EXTRA CREDIT TO RAISE GRADES.

5. Pep Band

Each student who attends all scheduled pep band and football events will be eligible for exemption from the semester band exam. Attitude/Effort are a consideration at the time of exemption (seniors included). Football cannot be missed due to the team effort on the field and performing the drill. If a student is absent during the school day, they are not permitted to participate with the pep band/marching band that evening.

Performances

Concerts

Students must attend all concerts for full credit.

Football

1. All students will need to have black shoes for performances. Shoes are available.
2. Hair should not touch the collar of the band uniform. For any performance in uniform, hair must be pulled up/back. Mrs. Fontaine has much experience helping put hair up 😊
3. The third quarter of the game will allow students to take a break, hang out with friends, and get a snack.
3. Students will be dismissed after the football game. Time is dependent on the flow of the game, usually between 9:00 pm and 9:30pm.

Pep band

1. Students will be dismissed after the basketball game, which is usually about 8:30 or 9:00.
2. A detailed schedule of all performances is printed in the band room, copies are passed out to each student, and can be found online as well. We will divide the band in half (Band 1 and Band 2). Students are only responsible for attending their scheduled band events. (4 total)
3. Pep band shirts/jackets/pants/hoodies may be ordered as a group if interested.
4. Hats can be purchased and worn as a group.

Parades

1. We could participate in multiple parades per year. The addition of parades may be discussed.
2. Each student must march to be eligible for any band trip.

Honors Band

Students will be nominated by the director and accepted by a committee. Fees for this event are covered by the school. The dates can be viewed on the band calendar of events. Please check schedules before auditioning.

Solo and Ensembles

Each student is encouraged to participate in an event at this festival. A solo, duet, trio, quartet, or small ensembles are acceptable events for you to choose from. The student, who chooses to participate and cancels, will reimburse the school the amount of money for each event including accompaniment fees if applicable.

Related Topics

Instrument Rental

Rental/using payments for school-owned instruments such as baritone saxophone, bass clarinet, tenor saxophone, percussion, tuba, sousaphone, bassoon, oboe, string bass, baritone, marching baritone, marching horn and French horn will be \$100 per school year.

Rental payments for personally owned instruments (flute, clarinet, alto sax, trumpet, trombone, percussion) purchased through Houghton-Portage Township schools are \$100 in September, January, and May until the purchase price is reimbursed to the school. After one year, any owed rent will have a one-time 20% fee attached. The instrument is yours to keep when payment is made in full.

Concert Attire

The concert attire is at the discretion of the band director.

Uniforms will be signed out at the beginning of the year and kept in the band room throughout the year. Each individual student is responsible for the own uniform that they are assigned. Uniforms must be cleaned once per year by the local dry cleaner.

Travel

Band members are responsible for participating in all fundraising activities each year. It is reasonable to expect each member to participate equally in these projects or to donate an amount of money or effort equal to the profit that would have been generated had that band member participated. Please remember, if the student does not march that student is not eligible for the trip. If a student demonstrates a negative attitude throughout the school year, eligibility will be questionable.

Contact Kelly Fontaine with any questions regarding this handbook. kfontaine@hpts.us