Symphonic Band

# Introduction

The Wilson Symphonic Band is a two-semester course dedicated to the performance of quality band literature. The Symphonic Band will perform at a number of concerts and community events throughout the school year. Emphasis of the course is on the love of life and the uplifting of the human spirit that comes from positive human and musical interaction.

## Class Policies

1. Be in your seat ready to play by 8:38 . If you need to go to the bathroom, please see me by 8:34 for me to sign your book. We will stop promptly at 9:24. When entering the band room after rehearsal has started, please use the door coming from the Choral Hallway. The consequence of this violation is group humiliation.

2. While rehearsing, keep superfluous chatter to a minimum. Don’t ask Rooney what that means.(any of the three)

3. If you wish, you will be assigned a locker to keep your instrument and other personal effects. You must place your name on the nameplate. Do not occupy multiple lockers , pretending to be some sort of real estate baron - putting your left shoe in one locker, your right shoe in another, and a half of a Mars bar in yet another. Your locker must be free of debris, such as: old Lit tests, dirty socks, inside out t-shirts, half full soda bottles, empty energy drink cans, Twix wrappers, and “Get Goofy” labels.( I still see them)

4. ***The Band Room is a sacred place. It is to be kept orderly and free of debris. Destruction of property, personal or school owned, will not be tolerated. Misuse of the band room or any of its contents will result in disciplinary action. Pick up your trash!!!!!!!!!!!!***

5. All music must be stored in your slot or locker; it should **never** be left on your stand or on the floor, despite what the trombone section does. You must have a pencil in your folder. Not a crayon Garber!!!!

6. Band is a place for nourishment of your soul. Mistreatment of others will not be tolerated, except if I am the one doing the mistreating, or unless it’s really funny. (just kidding)

7. If you have a study hall, you are expected to attend a sectional rehearsal one period per cycle if my schedule allows. If you desire it, I will move your study hall(s) to the band room. I will do this at my discretion and it will take at least a week. Don’t pester me about this. Seriously - don’t. (I said don’t)

8. Please don’t barrage me with mundane, irrelevant, or self evident requests. Use your powers of observation and common sense first, then if those fail you - ask your smart friend. This means you Andy.

9. If you are missing a particular piece of music in your folder, always first check the “mother ship” folders on the front table. If you still come up wanting, then write the song and part on a slip of paper and put it on my stand. Don’t stop rehearsal dead in its tracks by telling me you don’t have it, because I can tell. Trust me.

10. Instruments are to always be in cases, and in your locker. Trumpets - your locker is not considered a “case.”

11.”Villages” created in the corners of the band room will be destroyed by the director. Return chairs from your “Squatters Quarters” after your adolescent bonding is over.

12. There is to be no playing of percussion instruments before or after rehearsal starts. This especially means the tom- tom sequences at the beginning of rehearsal trying to communicate another school’s drum section.

13. Wind warm up is to consist of exercises and tones appropriate for the concert idiom. No stand tunes or wild animal mating calls or generally anything that Soisson is playing.

14. Don’t be critical of the Director at any time, about anything – especially his ties, his baldness, his deteriorating vision , or his newish knee.

15. You may have your phone on your stand to use as a tuner. Percussionists, you are permitted to use them if you do not have an assignment on a particular song. However, once you are at battle stations, phones are away - not casually being held in one hand while you swing away with the other.

## Grading Policies

1. There will be one a live playing test each marking period that will be worth 100 points each.

2. You will complete a tuning exercise that is worth 100 points.

3. You will be expected to complete on-line concert analysis and other such information gathering activities. These activities will be worth between 50 and 100 points.

4. You will receive points for participation in concerts and dress rehearsals.

5. Alternative Percussion assessment will be ongoing.

6. All first year students will take the Watkin’s-Farnum Sight Reading test in September, followed by everyone taking it in May.

## Performances

We are continuing with the three concert format with the first concert on October 26th and the second on February 8th. We will have our traditional Spring concert on April 26th with a dress rehearsal on April 25th. There are no dress rehearsals for the October and February Concerts. We will once again participate in the PMEA adjudication held at Central York High School on April third during the school day.