



***2022-2023 Allatoona High School Bands
Rehearsal Expectations and Grading Policies***

Cecilia Clark and Mark Gurnow, Directors

Welcome to the Allatoona High School Band Program! The band classes at Allatoona are performance-based ensembles taught by one or more of the band directors. Class activities emphasize building effective individual performance skills and understanding of musical concepts that will allow students to develop a love of music and desire to improve. First semester course offerings include: Woodwind Class, Brass Class, Percussion Class, Symphonic Band and Symphonic Winds. Second semester course offerings include: Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Symphonic Winds. Please take a moment to carefully review the following pages. **We ask that you keep this packet for reference.**

Allatoona High School Concert Band Program:

Students are provided with a balanced comprehensive study of music through the concert band, which develops skills in the psychomotor, cognitive, and affective domains. Instruction is designed to enable students to connect, examine, imagine, define, try, extend, refine and integrate music study into other subject areas. Ensemble and solo activities are designed to develop elements of musicianship including, but not limited to: (1) tone production, (2) technical skills, (3) intonation, (4) music reading skills, (5) listening skills, (6) analyzing music, and (7) studying historically significant styles of literature. Experiences include, but are not limited to, improvising, conducting, playing by ear, and sight-reading. Students are given opportunities to develop the ability to understand and convey the composer's intent to connect the performer with the audience.

Students also experience live performances by professionals during and outside of the school day. Time outside of the school day may be scheduled for dress rehearsal and performance. A limited number of public performances may serve as a culmination of daily rehearsal and musical goals. Students are required to participate in performance opportunities, outside of the school day, that support and extend learning in the classroom. An alternative assignment will be given if a student is unable to attend such performances for any reason.

Concert Band Fee: There is a \$240 activity fee for all students enrolled in a band class. The money is used for Symphonic Camp, Large Group Performance Evaluation entry fees, transportation, guest conductors and artists, sectional coaches, etc.

The Concert Band Fee should be paid to ABBA at
<http://www.allatoonabands.org/financial-center/>

If you would like to break that up into 2 payments, please submit the 1st installment of \$120 by November 11th. The balance of \$120 is then due by January 13th.

We appreciate your cooperation and timely payment. As always, we encourage families to participate in the many fundraisers that are being offered by the Allatoona Band Boosters this year! Nearly 100% of the profits from every fundraiser go directly into your child's account.

Here are some important dates to put on your family calendar:

August 13	Rock-a-thon @AHS
October 12	GMEA Jazz Auditions @ Walton
December 1	GMEA Honor Band Auditions @Kennesaw Mountain
December 6	Band Concert @AHS
December 7	Music Department Gala @AHS
January 13-14	Symphonic Camp @AHS
February 3-5	GMEA Honor Band @North Cobb
March 7	Pre-Festival Concert @AHS
March 16-18	Large Group Performance Evaluation (LGPE) @Lassiter
March 22-23	Southeastern Regional Concert Band Festival @GSU
March 31	Jazz Dinner & Silent Auction @Tanyard Creek
April 14-15	Southeastern Regional Percussion Symposium @Walton
April 20-22	GMEA Jazz Festival @AHS
May 4	Band Concert @AHS
May 6	Band Banquet @AHS
May 13	Solo & Ensemble Festival @AHS

Rehearsal Expectations

- 1) **All students are expected to have their instrument** (in good working condition), mouthpiece, proper reeds, appropriate sticks/mallets, and music at every rehearsal. Students must have their own **copy of the music and a pencil at every rehearsal** (so that they can mark their own intonation tendencies and musical instructions when given corrections).
- 2) **Students are expected to prepare in advance for rehearsals.** This means that practice at home (or in the band hall before or after school) is a requirement. Practicing is your homework for this class!
- 3) Your most important tools in this course are your ears. Training your ears to hear across the band, to be able to make immediate pitch and style corrections is something that you must practice every day within rehearsal. **You are expected to always be listening and sitting attentively** (even when your section is not the one being rehearsed). Talking during or disrupting the rehearsal environment will not be tolerated.
- 4) There will be **after school sectionals, full band rehearsals, and concerts** throughout the course of the school year. The dates and times for these rehearsals will be given to you in a calendar at the beginning of the school year and **attendance at these events is required.**
- 5) **Attendance at all scheduled performances is required.**
- 6) **All students are expected to arrive to every class, rehearsal, and performance on time.** Students need to be in their seats with their instrument, music, pencil, and any other required materials by the beginning of rehearsal. During the school day, rehearsal will begin two minutes after the final bell. Any student who either enters class after the final bell and/or is not seated with all of their equipment when rehearsal begins will be marked tardy.

Behavior Expectations

- 1) All band students are expected to follow all school rules. Insubordination will not be tolerated.
- 2) **NO** food, beverage, gum, or candies are allowed in the band facility (Water with lid is allowed).
- 3) Students are expected to keep their instrument lockers clean and locked. Students will put instruments, equipment, and music away after each rehearsal. Instruments, equipment, and music should not be left out in the band facility. No textbooks or materials unrelated to band are allowed in band lockers.
- 4) Cell phones are to be turned off and out of sight during all rehearsals unless teacher permission for use has been granted. Not doing so may result in the confiscation of the cell phone by the teacher.
- 6) Profanity is not a part of the Allatoona Band Program.
- 7) Students will always be respectful of each other and all adults, including chaperones and band guests. Not doing so may result in the students' removal from the band program.
- 8) Students shall follow all school and band rules, written and verbal, specified by band directors.

Consequences:

- 1st Offense- Warning from Teacher
2nd Offense- Student/Teacher Conference, Contact Parent
3rd Offense- Discipline Referral, Possible Parent/Teacher Conference

** The Band Directors reserve the right to remove a student from the band program and/or all band extra-curricular activities and events for behavior problems.**

Concert Attire

Formal black concert attire is required for all performances. **New students will be required to purchase and/or rent this attire in their 1st semester in the Band Program.** Here are the concert attire guidelines:

Gentlemen –

- Tuxedo
- Black dress shoes with black socks
- Neatly shaven
- Neatly groomed hair. *The length and bulk of the hair may not be excessive or present a ragged or unkept appearance.*

Ladies –

- Concert dress
- Closed-toe dress shoes with black tights/socks
- Modest make up

ALL students will be fitted for concert attire during the first month of school. New ladies will purchase a dress to be worn for all performances (\$75). New gentlemen will pay a one-time rental fee (\$145) good for the following items: pants, jacket, vest and tie. In addition, gentlemen must also purchase a shirt to be worn with the school-issued tuxedo. Dress shoes are expected; Athletic shoes and sandals are not acceptable for Concert Attire.

Grading Policies

Class Participation (60% of total grade) – formative category

Classroom preparedness will be a daily assessment of how each student meets all of the rehearsal and behavioral expectations outlined above.

Playing/Written Tests (30% of Grade) – summative category

There will be numerous playing and written tests given each semester. With playing tests, if a student receives a grade lower than expected, they may re-play the test for a higher grade at any time.

Final Playing and Written Exam (10% of Grade)

Cobb County requires that all classes give a final exam at the end of each semester. The band final exam will be comprised of a written portion and a playing portion.

Please note

Students may re-play any playing test for a higher grade within each six weeks. The higher grade will always take precedent. It is the student's responsibility to communicate with the teacher to schedule re-take of the playing assignment may take place.

Allatoona High School 2021-2022 Grading Expectations

Schoolwide Make Up Policy: Students may make up work when returning from an absence.

Students have the number of days absent plus 1 day to make up work

All late work (not due to an absence) will automatically receive a –20 percent/point deduction from the earned grade of the assignment.

Once the 6-week grading period has ended, students will not have the opportunity to go back and make up work from the previous 6-weeks.

Schoolwide Redo Policy: Students can redo/reassess any summative assessment (except for EOC/Final Exam) and receive the highest grade (not an average of the two or a 70, etc.).

Timeline: The “Do Over” timeframe is 5 school days from the date the assessment was posted in Synergy.

*The “Do Over” is a reassessment where re-teaching, practice, and help sessions must be completed to be able to re-assess.

Requirements: For the student to take advantage of the “Do Over” to improve a **major/summative assessment**, the following requirements must be met:

- Attempt the original assessment
- Prepare for and attend 1 help session with the teacher
- Complete the assignments that support the instruction prior to the initial assessment

For more information regarding the Allatoona Band Program and the Allatoona Band Booster Association (ABBA) please visit our website:

<http://www.allatoonabands.org>

For all other questions or concerns regarding your child and the band program, please contact the directors at: cecilia.clark@cobbk12.org and mark.gurnow@cobb12.org

You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Thank you for your continued support!

Cecilia Clark & Mark Gurnow

Band Directors

2021-2022 Allatoona High School Bands Rehearsal Expectations/Grading Policies and Calendar Receipt

We have received and carefully reviewed the Allatoona High School Band Rehearsal Expectation and Grading Policies, and the complete 2021-2022 Calendar of Events for the Allatoona Band.

Student name (Please Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature/Date

Student Signature/Date

Student email address

Parent 1 email address

Home Phone Number

Parent 2 email address

DUE: August 20, 2021