

CD Hylton High School
Band Handbook

2010 – 2011

14051 Spriggs Rd
Woodbridge, VA 22193
(703) 580-4000



Christopher S. Anderson

Director of Bands

Welcome:

I am so glad that you have chosen to be a part of the Hylton Band. You are now part of a long tradition of musical excellence here at Hylton, and I thank you for your dedication to continuing that tradition. In this handbook you will find information and expectations that one needs to know to be a productive and successful member of the Hylton Band. I encourage you and your parents to read this handbook completely, so that you are fully aware of all rules, procedures, concert dates, and grading policies. A strong command of our expectations will allow for a smooth and positive experience in the Hylton Band.

Parents, I strongly encourage you to attend our monthly Band Booster meetings (3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm) so that you can stay up to date on all of the ways that you can help to make this a successful band program.

Please feel free to contact me with your questions or concerns. The Hylton Band website, hyltonband.com is also a great source for information. Additional details from previous Hylton Band handbooks can be found on the website.

Email: anderscs@pwcs.edu
 hyltonband@hotmail.com

Phone: (703) 580-4209

Syllabus

Hylton Band Philosophy

Students will develop musically into outstanding young adults, capable of the highest levels of success in music and in life.

Hylton Band Mission

We dedicate ourselves to building upon the sturdy foundation of musical excellence at Hylton High School with cooperation, perseverance, character, pride and integrity. By consistently giving our personal and collective best, we will continually raise the standards of each performer, maximizing the total potential of the group. We are committed to working as a team to achieve a world class level of performance.

The instructional curriculum for all bands at Hylton includes methods for developing individual instrument skills, ensemble balance and blend, sight-reading and theory, and performance/rehearsal decorum.

Grades

All grades in band are based on a percentage of 100 points and weighted according to the following scale:

Rehearsal Skills	-	1x
Music/Materials	-	1x
Tests	-	2x
Rehearsals	-	2x
Levels	-	3x
Concerts/events	-	3x

Expectations

Rehearsal Skills – Students will show up to each class fully prepared to participate in a productive rehearsal. *You must be in your seat ready to play 5 minutes after the tardy bell rings.* You must have the notes and rhythms learned. You must have a good attitude about participating in the rehearsal.

Music/Materials – Students must have a working instrument, all of their music in a folder, a pencil, and any other necessary materials when rehearsal begins.

Tests – Playing tests will be administered on a regular basis to check up on the progress of each student on etudes, concert music, scales, etc. Students will be given 2 weeks notice of any test. Written examinations of theory will be given once each 9 weeks. All tests will be listed on SchoolFusion.

Rehearsals – After school rehearsals are necessary when preparing for concert performances. Students will receive 2 weeks advance notice of any after school rehearsal and are expected to be in attendance for the entire rehearsal. All rehearsals will be listed on SchoolFusion.

Levels – Students will progress through at least 1 level (concert band) or 2 levels (symphonic Band) every 9 weeks. The level system is intended as a self-paced system. Work as quickly or as slowly through them as you would like. At the end of each 9 weeks the grades for each level passed will be recorded. Students must achieve at least 90 points to achieve a level. Requirements for each category of levels are posted in the band room and will be covered in class. Reminders about level deadlines will be listed on SchoolFusion.

Concerts/Events – Because this is a performance based class, concerts are the culmination of all the work that we accomplish in class. At Hylton we adhere to the County school Board policy that states: *Members of performing musical organizations are to be present at all public performances except in the case of personal sickness, death in the family, acts of god, or extenuating circumstances approved by the director and/or the principal.*

If you know that you will miss a performance you must give as much advance notice as possible. It is out of respect for the rest of the musicians that have worked hard to prepare for a performance that this is required. Any students who have an excused absence from a rehearsal or performance must present a written note signed by their parents within two (2) school days. After that, the absence becomes unexcused and the student will have to make up the performance after school with Mr. Anderson for a grade not to exceed a 'C'.

Concert Dates

Winter Concert	Thursday, December 16 th @ 7:00pm
Pre-Festival Concert	Tuesday, February 15 th @ 7:00pm
District Band Assessment	Friday & Saturday, March 4 th & 5 th
Spring Concert	Thursday, May 19 th @ 7:00pm

Band Awards Banquet Thursday, June 2nd @ 7:00pm

Mandatory after school rehearsals for Concert Band students:

Tuesday, November 30th 7-9pm

Tuesday, December 7th 7-9pm

Tuesday, December 14th 7-9pm

Rehearsals for our pre-festival concert, district band assessment, and spring concert will be scheduled as needed.

Behavior Expectations

All Hylton band members are to adhere to the PWC code of behavior during performances, rehearsals, or in public so that we may represent Hylton with class. This means:

- Maintain a calm and professional attitude at all times.
- Give your full attention to the conductor
- Sit quietly and respond respectfully to other performing ensembles.
- Always remember that you are representing Hylton Band, Hylton High School, and the Hylton community.

Classroom Rules

- Students will show respect for the band room, their peers, and the equipment at Hylton.
- No gum, food, drink, or any other consumables are permitted in the band room at any time.
- Always be prepared to fully participate with a working instrument, all music, and pencil.
- Never handle any instrument that is not your own and do not allow anyone to handle your instrument.

Instrument rentals

Students who do not own an instrument may rent an instrument from Hylton High School for the year after filling out a music instrument rental agreement form and paying the yearly fee of \$60. Not all instruments are available for rent. Please see Mr. Anderson if you have questions about availability of an instrument.

Attire

Every band member must own and wear the appropriate concert uniform. You MAY NOT supplement this uniform with your own personal clothing.

Concert Band Gentlemen wear black tuxedo pants with a white tux shirt, black bow tie and black cummerbund. Black socks and shoes must be worn as well.

Symphonic Band Gentlemen wear the same as above with the addition of a black tuxedo jacket.

Concert and Symphonic Band Ladies wear a concert black dress with black shoes (heels not to exceed 1”).

All concert uniforms will be measured for and ordered within the first month of school. Materials will be sent home with more details on concert uniform and the order process before we begin fitting.

Student and Parent Band Contract

Student Agreement

I have read and understand behavior expectations and classroom rules and will adhere to them at all times.

I have read and understand how I will be graded. All questions about my grade should be addressed with Mr. Anderson

I have reviewed the concert and rehearsal dates and shared them with my parents. I understand the attendance policy and will share the concert calendar with my coaches/sponsors/employer.

I understand that it is my responsibility to regularly check SchoolFusion for dates and assignments.

I have shared concert dress expectations with my parents and will be on time and dressed appropriately for all performances.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Agreement

I have read and fully understand the expectations outlined in this handbook. I understand that if I have any questions or concerns, I will address them with Mr. Anderson first by email or phone call to determine if a personal conference is necessary. I will do as much as I can to support the success of the Hylton Band Program.

Parent(s) Signature: _____