

**DESERT OASIS HIGH SCHOOL
BAND HANDBOOK
2018/2019**



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INTRODUCTION

The Desert Oasis High School Band Program has earned distinction as one of the finest in Las Vegas. As we begin this school year, we have the tremendous opportunity and obligation to build on this reputation and continue to establish and reinforce the standards and traditions that are the hallmark of the bands at Desert Oasis High School.

The information listed on these pages is intended to provide students and parents with the guidelines for success within our band program. The band classes are not "easy" but we think you will find that the expectations are both fair and clearly spelled out. Students and parents are required to have a clear understanding of what is expected so please read this handbook carefully.

This handbook cannot cover every possible scenario. Some situations may be handled on a case-by-case basis at the director's discretion. Applicable school policies will be followed at all times. If you have any questions regarding any of the information contained in this handbook please feel free to contact the DOHS band office.

BAND MOTTO

The Desert Oasis Band motto is "OUR BAND." It is not my band, it is not your band, it is our band! Each one of us (whether it is student, staff, or director) makes up a larger whole. We strive to hold to the values that make our band great. O is for Outstanding. We rise above and stand out with all of our achievements. U is for Universal. We accept all who walk through are door and work hard to be accepted by our school and community. Lastly, R is for Responsibility. All members of our band take pride in the level of responsibility that shine through each member.

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR

There are five general rules governing expected behavior for members:

- 1) Be prepared and on time with all necessary materials
- 2) Be respectful
- 3) Be quiet and attentive during all functions
- 4) Keep all rehearsal and performance areas clean and in good condition
- 5) Do not bring food or drinks into rehearsals

These rules will be strictly enforced.

The consequences for violating the above rules are as follows:

First offense - warning.

Second offense - loss of participation points/parent contacted.

Third offense - removal from rehearsal/detention in band room/parent contacted.

Fourth offense - removal from rehearsal/detention/parent conference required.

Fifth offense - immediate referral to the dean.

Subsequent offenses will result in referral and possibly removal from the band program.

Insubordination toward instructors, section leaders or the director will result in immediate referral to the dean. The student will not be allowed to participate again until a conference occurs with the parents and the band director. Any further violation can result in permanent removal from the band program.

GRADING POLICY

Summative	80%
Formative	20%

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Students will start with 100 points for each week. Points will be deducted as follows:

Violation of rules/non-participation/tardy to rehearsal	20 points
Tardy to performance/failed inspection	50 points
Unexcused absence from rehearsal/sectional/performance	100 points

Excused absences and tardies (including those involving conflicts with other clubs, activities, or sports on campus), except in the case of illness or family emergency, must be cleared with your band director **at least one week prior to the rehearsal or performance** and must be accompanied with a written explanation from the parent or guardian.

Here is the CCSD policy on make up work:

“Teachers shall provide an opportunity for a student to make up work due to any absence, and students shall be held accountable for the work. When a student is absent, however, the educational experiences lost during that absence might be irretrievable because the instruction and interaction in the instructional setting cannot be duplicable through makeup work.”

“After any absence, a secondary student is required to initiate contact with any teacher(s) to obtain appropriate makeup work within three (3) school days immediately following the absence. Once contact has been made with the teacher(s), specific makeup work must be completed and turned to the teacher(s) within a reasonable length of time, to be determined by the teacher and communicated to the student/parent or legal guardian. The makeup work must be returned to the teacher(s) by the specified due date if it is to be acknowledge. Students shall be allowed a minimum of three (3) days to complete makeup work.”

CONFLICTING WORK SCHEDULES ARE NOT ACCEPTED AS AN EXCUSED ABSENCE OR TARDY FOR ANY BAND FUNCTION.

Being on time to class is the single most important key to success in band. Students who show up to class on time very often receive the grade they desire while it is very difficult to receive an “A” or “B” in band with even a few tardies. Parents, please make sure your child is arriving to class on time so that they can earn the highest grade possible.

A student is considered on-time based on the following:

1. In room early enough to know where to be and what materials are needed. Students must be in the band room prior to the tardy bell.
2. Set up with all equipment ready to use.
3. Quiet and attentive when class is called to order.

Extra credit points may be earned as follows:

- o **PRIVATE LESSONS!!!!!!!!!!**
- o Attendance at professional concerts
- o Approved projects and supervised practice

HALLWAY / PRACTICE ROOMS

Use of the practice rooms is a privilege. Only students enrolled in a performing art at Desert Oasis High School may use a practice room. All rooms in the performing arts hallway are to be locked when not in use. It is your responsibility to not eat or drink anything other than water in the performing arts hallway and practice rooms. Disregarding the rules will result in everyone's loss of use of practice rooms for two weeks or longer. Please respect other classes in the hallway by choosing to not use disruptive behaviors. Do not loiter in the performing arts hallway.

REHEARSAL

Rehearsal is, in many ways, the most important time for the members of an ensemble. Very simply, it is the time when the greatest amount of teaching and learning takes place. An atmosphere which is "conducive to learning" must be maintained at all times. Anything which serves to disrupt an atmosphere conducive to learning shall not be tolerated. Gross disregard for maintaining a learning atmosphere shall result in removal from the rehearsal setting. Each student is expected to be attentive and make an honest attempt to improve during each rehearsal. Preparation is essential to maximize learning; therefore, each student is also responsible for the maintenance of his or her individual part prior to rehearsals. In each such a fashion, rehearsals can be an enjoyable time of realizing musical potential.

PERFORMANCES

Performances are major criteria for group and individual evaluation. They are an intricate facet in the Desert Oasis High School Band Program, in that each member's contribution is vital. Each student is expected to be in attendance at all performances. Performances are the only opportunities the band has to display its final product, which has taken weeks or months of hard work to accomplish. The audience, in turn, is provided with an entertaining showcase of dedication, drive, enthusiasm, and talent.

Please note: Once in a lifetime events, severe illness, and Desert Oasis sports/activity conflicts are the only absences that will be grounds for being excused from a performance. Vacations, birthday parties, dinner engagements, and non-DOHS sporting events or activities will not be excused. See the grading policy section of the handbook for excused absence eligibility and make up assignment guidelines.

PERFORMANCE/WRITTEN EVALUATIONS

Performance and written evaluations on material covered in class will be given from time to time. For marching and concert band members, the most common evaluations will be memorized marching band music and scales. Students may have "pop" quizzes assigned if lack of preparation is evident.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

The marching band will rehearse from **5:00pm – 8:00pm** on **Monday nights** starting the second week of school. These rehearsals will continue until the 2nd Monday of November. Refer to our website calendar for more detailed schedule.

PARTICIPATION DUES

At the beginning of the band camp students will be assessed a band participation due of **\$200.00** for band and **\$300** for color guard students, to help cover the costs of entry fees for contests, transportation, equipment, food, uniform items: shoes and gloves, and additional instruction provided for this group. After each season ends any unpaid dues will be submitted as fine cards. The dates for the end of each season are **November 13th, 2018** and **April 8th, 2019**

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The following list is an approximate list of the financial commitments anticipated for this school year. Items in list may not apply to you and your student:

\$120	Color guard uniform
\$60	Color guard warm-ups
\$50-100	School instrument rental/cleaning due (for students renting school instruments only) Students renting multiple instruments will only pay once.
\$40	Replacement Marching Shoes for damaged, lost, or outgrown shoes. First pair is provided.
\$30	Tuxedo shirt, black bow tie and cummerbund (males only)
\$300-400	Winter Season or Drumline/Color guard dues. Winter season is optional, but available to all students.

FUNDRAISING

All of our fundraising projects are specifically designed so that our students make the maximum amount of money on each project. These fundraisers are instituted to allow students to earn money for the trips that are offered this year. Students have the option of earning all the money by fundraising; earning some and paying the rest; or paying in full.

UNIFORMS

Wind and percussion students will be provided with much of the uniform for marching band and concert season, but are required to provide the following:

1. Black uniform dress shoes. For men, the required marching band shoes will suffice for both marching and concert season. If a different shoe is desired, it must be black and receive approval from the band director.
2. Black socks (for concert season).

3. White tuxedo shirt, black bow tie and cummerbund (gentlemen only)
4. Floor length black dress, or concert appropriate black slacks and blouse and black shoes (ladies only)

YOUR UNIFORM MUST BE MAINTAINED IN GOOD CONDITION AND BE RETURNED WHEN REQUESTED. ANY DAMAGE OR LOSS OF UNIFORM PARTS WILL HAVE TO BE PAID FOR IN FULL TO DESERT OASIS HIGH SCHOOL.

INSPECTIONS

Due to the extremely public nature of the band program, students will be inspected prior to every performance. Students are responsible for the following:

1. Equipment/instruments clean and in good working order
2. Clean and unwrinkled uniform WITH ALL APPROPRIATE ITEMS
3. Professional appearance with natural hair color and discreet jewelry
4. Appropriate music and supplies for each instrument (i.e. extra reeds, lyre)
5. Concert attire that adheres to school dress code

Students who fail inspection will lose 50 points from their participation grade and may not be allowed to participate in the performance.

LOCKERS

Lockers are available on a limited basis in the band room for instrument storage. Students will be assigned a locker during band camp and, if still available, at the start of the school year. STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THEIR LOCKER. IF LOCKERS ARE NOT KEPT IN CLEAN AND GOOD CONDITION, THE STUDENT OR STUDENTS RESPONSIBLE MAY LOSE USE OF THE BAND LOCKERS FOR THE REST OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

SCHOOL INSTRUMENTS

If needed and if the instrument is available, students may check out a school owned instrument. STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING THEIR INSTRUMENT SECURE. FAILURE TO KEEP INSTRUMENTS IN A SAFE PLACE (IE. IN A LOCKED LOCKER) CAN RESULT IN IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OF THAT INSTRUMENT FROM THE STUDENT. THE STUDENT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO CHECK OUT ANOTHER SCHOOL INSTRUMENT FOR THE REST OF THAT YEAR AND WILL NOT RECEIVE A REFUND FOR THE RENTAL.

In order to maintain the instrument in the best condition possible, students with a school owned instrument will be required to pay for routine maintenance and cleaning. In order to ensure this cleaning is paid for, students must provide a \$50.00 deposit prior to checking out a school instrument. This payment will pay for professional cleaning and maintenance of the instrument by an approved repair shop in Las Vegas. Should the instrument require additional repair costs, students will be required to pay this additional expense before the end of the school year.

WEBSITE

Please visit www.dohsband.com to access our website, calendar, and stay in touch with our Band Booster Organization. Our website is aimed towards increasing communication between directors, parents, and students.

LETTERING IN BAND

Membership in the Desert Oasis Band requires self-discipline, hard work, sacrifice, loyalty, dedication, responsibility, and above all, interest and desire. Desert Oasis High School Bands have a fine tradition of quality performance combined with a comprehensive musical education. This demands interest and involvement on your part. Be proud of your band, and make the band proud of you as a member.

Students participating in the band program at Desert Oasis will have the opportunity during the year to earn points toward a Desert Oasis High School Varsity Letter. Points will be awarded to students for band activities including private lessons, solo/ensemble participation and other activities as designated by the band director.

The required point total for a member to earn a Varsity Letter in Band is 20 points.

<u>Activity/Event</u>	<u>Points possible</u>
Section / Rank Leader	5
Drum Major, Captain, Officer	10
Jazz Ensemble Member	5
Winter Drum Line Member	5
Winter Color Guard Member	5
District Honor Band Audition	3
District Honor Band Participant	7
District Honor Jazz Audition	3
District Honor Jazz Participant	7
All-State Audition	3
All-State Participant	7
District Solo/Ensemble Participant	3
Regional Solo/Ensemble Participant	7
Private Lessons	.5 (each lesson)
Approved Concert Attendance	.5 (each)
Music/Guard Camps	1 (per day)