

GRAND HAVEN BANDS

**HANDBOOK
2019-2020**

WWW.GRANDHAVENBANDS.ORG

WELCOME

"A tradition of excellence." These are the words used to describe the Grand Haven Bands. The Grand Haven Bands have roots dating back to 1868 and have been an official part of Grand Haven Schools since 1927. The students and directors of the program have consistently held the highest standards of musicianship, conduct, and pride. As a member of the bands, you carry with you decades of traditions and will constantly be asked to go above and beyond in maintaining and improving upon these high standards. There are many opportunities for students within the program including: Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Buccaneer Big Band (Jazz), Symphony Orchestra Winds and Percussion, Buccaneer Marching Band, High Wind Advisory (Pep), and Grand Haven Percussion Ensemble. The purpose of this handbook is to outline the band program, illustrate the standards and expectations of all members, and to promote fairness, understanding, consistency, and cooperation among members, staff, and parents. As a living online document, the handbook will be periodically updated with all students and parents given a minimum 2-week notice before new changes are implemented. Please check www.grandhavenbands.org for your up-to-date online resource for everything band related.

WHY?

Why are you here? What is it about band that keeps you coming back? Is it the music? The people? The atmosphere? The teamwork? Music is many things to many people. One of the basic tenets of music education philosophy as described by Reimer lies in having *an* experience (from Dewey). *An* experience is an interaction that incorporates a balanced exchange between the person and the environment, is continuous and seamless, and exhibits follow-through resulting in a transformative event that changes a person. *An* experience forever shapes future experience. For many, having *an* experience in band deals heavily with the creation and feeling of emotion through music. With this in mind, what are your past musical experiences that have helped shape your experience in band?

"Over time, a continuing and steadfast focus on the positive in life, on our strengths, and on the strengths of others can help to restore in our students their personal energy, their feelings of importance, their sense of self-worth so they can see themselves as positive forces who can contribute to the task of building a better world."

This is one of the major themes, which serve as a basic component of every band rehearsal. It is important that each member feels positive of his/her participation, and they see themselves as an integral contributor to the overall success of the entire program. Everyone is important! Everyone has worth. Everyone makes a difference in our bands.

In many respects, band is a microcosm of our society. It demands high levels of responsibility, social skills, ongoing communication, analytical talents, and the important ability to work with others. Simply put, learning a musical instrument and continuing to explore the limitless possibilities of music provide an excellent preparation for many important aspects of life.

E pluribus unum

"Out of many, one"

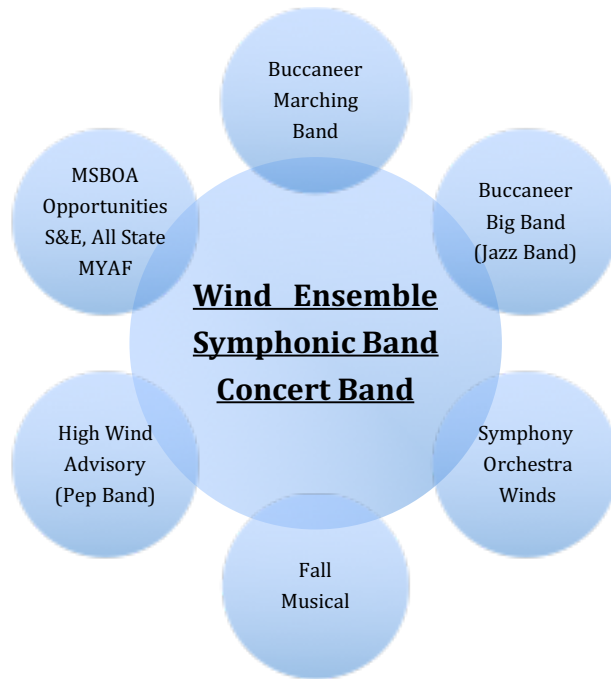
One band. One sound.

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www.grandhavenbands.org

This handbook is perpetually in effect. Any changes will be communicated in advance.



CONCERT ENSEMBLES

The Concert Ensembles of GH comprise the foundation of which our program is built upon. At the core are the three traditional concert groups including Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band.

Wind Ensemble

The premier concert performance ensemble of GHHS. Performs at several concerts, a recruiting concert, district and state MSBOA festival, graduation, and other special engagements. Members are also encouraged to perform in the fall musical pit orchestra as well as the full Symphony Orchestra. Membership by audition only. Private lessons highly recommended. Members of this group also hold joint membership in the Buccaneer Marching Band and High Wind Advisory.

Symphonic Band

The intermediate concert performance ensemble of GHHS. Performs at several concerts, district MSBOA festival, graduation, and other special engagements. Membership by audition only. Private lessons highly recommended. Members of this group also hold joint membership in the Buccaneer Marching Band and High Wind Advisory.

Concert Band

The non-auditioned concert performance ensemble of GHHS. Performs at four concerts and MSBOA district festival. Audition not required for membership. Private lessons highly recommended. Members of this group also hold joint membership in High Wind Advisory. Members of Concert Band are not members of the Buccaneer Marching Band.

Extending beyond the core concert groups, GHHS also proudly offers the additional concert groups.

Buccaneer Big Band (B³) (Jazz)

The Buccaneer Big Band is a 17-piece jazz band that meets during “0” hour at GHHS. Performs at numerous concerts, collegiate invitationals, swing nights, MSBOA State Jazz Festival and several other engagements. Membership by audition only. Private lessons highly recommended. Auditions in Spring.

- **Combos**

Students in B³ as well as other instrumentalists in the band program at GHHS may elect to participate in combos. Combos shall set a regular meeting time outside of B³ class time to meet with the director for feedback regarding set list, performance styles/standards, bookings, etc. It is strongly suggested that all combos begin with a rhythm section and expand outward to include front men. Tunes will be selected from any volume Real Book, library, or other resources.

- **Gigs**

Students in combos if gigging under the guises of GHHS using GHAPS equipment shall make advance arrangements with the directors for use of all needed equipment and are liable for full replacement cost in the event of mishandling/error/etc. Gigging students must adhere to standards set forth in this handbook and the GHHS student handbook when performing out in the community.

Symphony Orchestra Winds & Percussion

The premier wind and percussion students performing with our premier orchestra. Several times throughout the year, outstanding wind and percussion students will be invited to perform with the GHHS orchestras. There are generally 2-3 after-school combined rehearsals and a Sunday evening rehearsal prior to a performance. Performance dates will be posted shortly after the start of school with individual rehearsals determined at the start of every rehearsal cycle. Members of this group are expected to be completely prepared for all rehearsals receiving parts for study several weeks in advance.

ATHLETIC ENSEMBLES

Another major component of the GHHS Bands are the Athletic Ensembles, which encompass the award-winning Buccaneer Marching Band and High Wind Advisory (Pep Band).

Buccaneer Marching Band

One of the outstanding marching bands in the state of Michigan. The BMB has an extensive performance schedule that encompasses all home football games, three competitions, MSBOA marching band festival, Coast Guard Festival, Memorial Day Parade, and other engagements ranging from pep assemblies to appearances at Disney World. In the last 13 years, the BMB has visited Disney World five times and has had the honor of being the lead band in Disney’s Spectromagic and Main Street Electric nighttime parades in the Magic Kingdom. Membership by audition only. Private lessons highly recommended. Members of this group also hold joint membership in Wind Ensemble or Symphonic Band as well as High Wind Advisory. While the season schedule for the BMB is demanding, we consistently have numerous fall athletes perform in this group. Good time management coupled with a supportive family of over 100 student musicians will help you find success in this high-caliber group. Units included in the BMB include Drum Majors, Color Guard, Winds, Buccaneer Percussion Corps., and Front Ensemble Percussion. **The band attends camp the week following Coast Guard Festival. Additionally, there is a week of rehearsal prior to camp during the week before Coast Guard Week. Additional information comes out in April.**

Color Guard

The color guard is the epitome of visual representation of music. Through spinning silk and various dance techniques, the color guard adds visual flare and depth to the field shows performed by the BMB. Membership by audition only. Candidates for color guard can include any members in the upper woodwinds as well as students outside of band. Auditions will be held in March with several workshops scheduled for interested students.

High Wind Advisory (Pep)

The sound of Buccaneer Basketball and winter athletics. Members of all concert ensembles perform at 3 of six home boys and girls basketball games. Junior and Senior members also have the privilege of traveling with the team in the post season. High Wind Advisory has made appearances at the Breslin Center in East Lansing on numerous occasions. HWA has also performed at varsity hockey and volleyball games. Sign-in procedures and expectations will be explained prior to the first bball game.

LEADERSHIP

IT'S YOUR BAND!

Students—you are the ultimate executor of excellence—the one who gets the job done. Take it upon yourself to be the best possible band member and to contribute your very best efforts at all times in musical performance, attitude, work ethic and relationships with your colleagues. It is particularly important that you understand that this class is not just a personal experience for you—your participation directly affects the musical experience and education of the other students in the ensemble. Lead by example. Be a good role model for all band members.

Drum Major

The position of Drum Major is held in the highest esteem within the Band and Marching Program. Drum Majors exhibit character and poise, as well as demonstrate confidence in a leadership role. They must be able to think clearly on the spot, and have the ability to gain the respect of their peers. Drum Majors must be advanced musically, and possess basic conducting skills. They inherit a legacy of excellence that has been handed down and entrusted to them by a long line of outstanding BMB Drum Majors over the years.

Senior Class

You are responsible for maintaining and carrying on the tradition of excellence that has been established by previous senior classes who have participated in the GHHS Bands. The seniors are the models and leaders of high standards, a great work ethic, high expectations, performance models, etc.

Section Leaders

Section Leaders are in charge of "setting the standards of excellence" in musical and marching execution as they "lead by example." Section leaders are responsible for modeling excellence, and in motivating and encouraging their section to perform at a high level of excellence. They lead sectional rehearsals. They are responsible for disseminating information and announcements to all members in their section. They are responsible for helping to organize and maintain band equipment. They respect every member of their section as a valued band member. They strive to serve each section member by providing help and encouragement.

The success of the GHHS Bands is directly related to the effectiveness and commitment of the student leaders and their ability to inspire hard work and lead their peers to excellence. Even more important than their ability to perform is the ability of our leaders to set a good example as human beings and to encourage others to follow their lead. Please understand your important role within the band organization and strive to fulfill it to the best of your ability.

ATTITUDE

ATTITUDE IS AS IMPORTANT AS ABILITY

TALENT IS THE ABILITY TO PRACTICE

BY FAILING TO PREPARE, YOU ARE PREPARING TO FAIL

A positive attitude toward music and an awareness of the team concept are necessary for the success of a musical ensemble's function. While attitude is not everything, it is a major portion or reason for your success and involvement. *An individual receives in return only what they are willing to put in.* Band is a voluntary organization. Once a student accepts membership in our instrumental music program, dedication to all of its guidelines and goals become mandatory. Band is an elective, graded class in our school's curriculum. Approach band as a yearlong continuing class. A student in good standing will participate in all scheduled activities/performances for the duration of the school year. You are responsible for your own actions. Common sense and respect for everyone (including yourself) are traits associated with members of the GHHS Bands. Remember that what is popular is not always right, and what is right is not always popular.

GRADING POLICY

WHAT YOU PUT IN IS WHAT YOU GET OUT

Performances and rehearsals outside of class are a normal function of each performance ensemble class. Every student is expected to participate in all scheduled functions. It is for this reason that unexcused absence from a performance will result in an automatic one full letter grade reduction.

The final marking period grade (2nd, 3rd, & 4th MP) will be determined based upon the following:

- Daily Class Participation 35%
- Playing Tests/ Written Assignments 35%
- Performances 30%

*Modifications may be made to individual class syllabi as determined by the directors.

Marching Band (1st MP) will be determined based upon the following:

- Daily Class Participation 35%
- Playing Tests/ Written Assignments 25%
- Performances 30%
- BMB Evening Rehearsals 10% (unexcused absence from an evening rehearsal will result in an automatic 1/3 letter grade reduction per each occurrence. For example, an A for the marking period grade would become a A-.

Regarding assessments and homework:

- It is the student's responsibility to make up any missed playing tests or assessments within a reasonable timeframe (< 1 week)
- All music must be prepared for rehearsals on or before assigned dates
- Rehearsal time is not necessarily for learning notes and rhythms; it is for the preparation of musical sensitivity, style, phrasing, blending, etc.
- **A suggested practice time of 2.5 hours per week is recommended although thorough preparation of parts is totally dependent on the individual. The goal is to be prepared.**
- All marching music must be memorized by given deadlines.

Musical expectations:

To improve on Fundamentals:

- Scales, Rhythms, Intonation, Tone Quality, Sight Reading, Technique, Phrasing, Vibrato

To improve on Rehearsal Skills:

- Punctuality, Tuning, Awareness, Listening, Preparedness (pencils, music, instrument in good repair, extra reeds)

To Continually raise the Performance Standards:

- Musicality, Balance, Blend, Dynamics, Difficulty

Classroom Management:

- Storage Room and Areas, Cases, Chairs & Stands, Cleanliness, Security

SENIOR END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS: Seniors are required to attend a modest amount of rehearsals after their last day to prepare for as well as perform at both graduation & Memorial Day. For each unexcused performance absence, the final grade will be lowered by one letter grade.

PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE

GRAND HAVEN AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS POLICY OF PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE (As adopted by the GHAPS Board of Education)

"In a performing group (choir, orchestra, and band) the culminating result and satisfaction of the efforts involved in the daily classroom are realized in the performance. Each individual plays an important role in the total success of the entire organization. The administration and music faculty believe that it is very important that each member of a choir, orchestra, and band attend all performances during the school year.

Students will receive a grade credit for each performance that occurs, and that grade credit will then be averaged in with their other work to determine the final grade for the nine weeks marking period. Student illness and family emergencies will be considered an excused absence, and the teacher must receive a written excuse from the parent or legal guardian. Other reasons for a missed performance will be considered unexcused and the student will receive a failing grade for that particular performance.

Parental cooperation and encouragement are extremely important to the success of each student in the music program. The past traditions of the Grand Haven Area Public Schools are well known throughout the state and the students and parents have played a major role in this accomplishment. Through all of our efforts, we can look forward to continued success in the future."

ABSENCES & MAKE UP POLICY

RELIABILITY AND PUNCTUALITY: TOP EMPLOYMENT TRAITS

All concerts, festivals, and marching band performances are required. These performances are equivalent to major tests in band. An absence from a performance requires an email from the parent(s). A calendar of all known events for the school year has been made available to students and parents, and is ALWAYS available on our website, www.grandhavenbands.org. Any changes to the schedule will always be announced in class, posted in the band room, and published on the website. It is the responsibility of both the student and parents not to schedule other events that conflict with band performances or rehearsals. Any conflicts with these performances or rehearsals **require an email be sent** at least two weeks before the event, but preferably as soon as a conflict is found. Any emergency situation also requires an email.

In the email body, please include: Name, performing group, date of absence, absence reason, and a good phone number to call.

Excused absences will not receive a penalty; the student will receive full credit. Excused absences can include a death in the immediate family, student illness, or other reasons handled on an individual basis. The band directors will decide if any conflict will be excused or unexcused. In most instances, make up work will be assigned and will need to be completed within the marking period for a grade. Make up work can consist of playing any part of or all music required for missed performance. Make up work can also consist of attending an approved concert and writing an evaluation of the concert. Other arrangements can be made with your director. Unexcused absences will be counted as a "0" in the performance category of a student's grade. Unexcused absences from performances include work conflicts, special events such as parties, dinners for birthdays, visiting relatives, etc.

SPORTS CONFLICTS

ATHLETICS AND FINE ARTS AGREEMENT FOR SCHEDULE CONFLICTS

The Purpose of this policy is to help a student make a decision when there is a conflict between athletic and fine arts events. In this policy, "event" refers to; a game, a competition, a practice, a performance or a rehearsal.

1. At no time will the student be adversely penalized because of the choice made.
2. When the choice is made, the time needs to be made up and a reasonable make up assignment will be given. (The student will contact the coach or fine arts teacher for the makeup time or assignment).
3. Items of precedence:
 - A. Game or competition over practice/rehearsal
 - B. Performance over practice
 - C. State sponsored events would have priority
4. When two events are unavoidably scheduled in conflict with one another, the fine arts teacher(s) and affected coach(es) will meet with one another prior to discussing any resolution of the situation with the involved students. If the fine arts teacher and the coach come to agreeable terms as to which students are most needed at which event, they will both communicate their desires to the affected student. If the student accepts the decision made, there is no problem. If the student does not accept the decision and has a strong preference that runs contrary to the decision made by the adults, the student's decision will be honored. The student needs to communicate their decision to the coach and fine arts teacher. The student also needs to contact the coach and/or fine arts teacher for the makeup time and/or assignment.
5. If the fine arts department schedules events beyond their published calendar, all efforts will be made to choose a date that does not conflict with regularly scheduled events. These events must have the approval of the building principal. If a conflict occurs, the student is exempted from either obligation.
6. At times when athletic events must be rescheduled because of bad weather, all efforts will be taken to avoid a conflict with regularly scheduled fine arts department dates. If a conflict occurs the student is exempted from either obligation.
7. Athletes or fine arts students shall not be adversely penalized or made to feel guilty for choosing one school event over another. Fine arts teachers and coaches will not use pressure tactics in attempting to sway a student to choose one event over another.
8. If a student consistently chooses events over a sport event, the student may jeopardize their ability to earn an award for that season. Conversely, if the student consistently chooses a sports event over the fine arts event and does not makeup the assignment, the student's performance grade for the performances missed will not be earned.

EXPECTATIONS

HOW YOU PRACTICE IS HOW YOU REHEARSE HOW YOU REHEARSE IS HOW YOU PERFORM

Rehearsals

The success of the band depends on how it rehearses. How it rehearses depends on the conduct and the cooperation of the students. Rehearsals are the place to correct mistakes, not make them due to lack of preparation. Please adhere to the following rehearsal expectations:

CONCERT ENSEMBLE Rehearsal Expectations

1. Be in your assigned rehearsal area before the tardy bell. Be at your seat with instrument, music, pencil, and materials within 2 minutes of the tardy bell; within 5 minutes for groups on stage/ensemble room. Percussion/traps should be set before group warm-up begins.
2. Student warm ups should be of musical value and done with a high level of musicianship.
3. No gum/food/beverages other than water allowed in rehearsal areas—the music wing is your home; it is up to you to maintain it.
4. **Respect the facility, the equipment, the directors, and each other. When a cutoff occurs, please do not talk.**
5. Observe all rehearsal norms including those specific to you and your instrument.
6. Mise en place=everything has a place. Store equipment where it belongs. Always.
7. Take the necessary time to prepare your parts prior to rehearsals.
8. Students should always have a ride to and from all scheduled events. Securing a ride is the student's responsibility.
9. If you were assigned it (music/part/instrument/locker/equipment/uniform/etc.) you are responsible for it and will be held accountable for it.
10. Remember always, no band performs better than its rehearsal. No rehearsal is better than its rehearsal room environment. No rehearsal is better than the time allotted to personal practice.

MARCHING BAND Rehearsal Expectations

Students must be outside behind GHHS, with instrument, music, coordinates, and equipment at the tardy bell. The band will move to the field at the tardy bell. Pit percussion should already be assisting a director in moving pit percussion at the field after checking in with the DM taking attendance.

1. Always have all materials needed to be successful in rehearsal—instrument, music, coordinates, flags, etc.
2. Always wear closed-toe, rehearsal appropriate athletic shoes. Be sure to bring a coat if needed, dress in layers, and bring a water bottles/inhalers if needed.
3. Know rehearsal conventions specifically including:
 - a. Minus one, Plus one
 - b. Check, and Adjust
 - c. Horns to box if on or outside of the 35 yd lines
4. Any additional applicable Concert Ensemble Rehearsal Expectations from above.

MUSIC: It is expected that all students will respect and maintain the condition of sheet music they receive for band. Folders are provided and must be used. Music stuffed in instrument cases can damage instruments and ruin sheet music. Music should be returned in the same condition in which it was issued. Students will be charged \$2.00 per part for lost originals. Mark music with pencil only.

Setup/Teardown

Every member of the ensemble is expected to help with the setup and teardown before and after rehearsals and concerts. A major part of being a musician is the work done before and after a performance. All students are responsible for setting up their own instruments and equipment for each performance. (Percussionists should allow extra time for set up.)

Theft

Consistent with the GHHS Student Handbook, theft in the music wing or from the bands can result in suspension and possible removal from program. Do not leave valuables including wallets and/or electronic devices unattended/unsecured. GHAPS is not responsible for electronic device theft.

EQUIPMENT

**YOUR INSTRUMENT AND EQUIPMENT IS AN EXTENSION OF YOU.
KNOW YOUR OWN EXPECTATIONS AS WELL AS OTHERS' EXPECTATIONS OF YOU.
YOUR INSTRUMENT'S CONDITION SHOULD NOT DEFINE YOUR PLAYING ABILITY.**

All instruments are to be in good working order at all times. If an instrument is not functioning correctly, it is your responsibility to have it repaired and keep it maintained.

With over 1000 pieces of equipment to monitor, inventory, and keep track of, it is impossible for the directors and staff to know every malady that may occur without notification. Everything that you come into contact daily (ranging from your locker, instrument case, instrument, accessories, harnesses, stands, suspension cables, heads, wheels, mechanisms, rods, etc.) needs to be in proper working condition. Should anything not be functioning properly or missing, please bring it to a director or staff member to review.

Equipment Expectations

1. All instruments in good working order at all times. To achieve this, you must also have all needed accessories, lubricants, three+ additional reeds, etc. For school owned instruments, unassigned accessories, lubricants, cloths, etc. are the responsibility of the student. We provide you with the instrument, you take care of it. Lost GHAPS instruments will be charged to students at full replacement cost. You will not graduate until all loaned equipment is turned in and balances paid.
2. Stickers/decorations on school owned instruments/cases or on personal performance instruments is not tolerated.
3. Instrument repairs can generally be done within a week. If the repair is to take longer than a week, it is the student's responsibility to secure a loaner instrument.
4. Non-traditional colored (red, blue, green, etc.) instruments are not permitted in any performance group with the exception of High Wind Advisory (pep band). For HWA, instrument colors must be in school colors or neutral tones (clear/black/white). Mouthpieces and accessories must also be in school colors or neutral tones. Do not abuse the flexibility of this expectation, as the directors and staff reserve the right to veto any student choices deemed inappropriate. Generally, the subtler, the better, as our focus in performance ensembles is on "group" performance.
5. Have your case labeled with your name and contact number and keep record of your instrument type, brand, and serial number.
6. **Accidents happen. If any act is deemed malicious or due to misuse, the student will be assessed for the full cost of the repair.**

Storage Areas

Most students will be assigned locker. Please do not keep valuables in your locker besides your instrument, music, and any band-related accessories (backpacks and phones acceptable). When space permits, color guard and percussionists will have shared lockers assigned to them. Additionally, percussionists, color guard members, and tubists will have storage rooms that are to be maintained and kept in good order at all times.

EQUIPMENT TURN IN: All school owned instruments/accessories will be inventoried within the last two weeks of school. Designated students will be responsible for turning in Senior insts. from graduation.

CONCERT BEHAVIOR

YOUR ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN YOUR WORDS

1. No talking or laughing EVER on stage during any performance. This applies to both when you are performing and while others are performing.
2. Be receptive. When a group finishes a piece, show them your appreciation with your applause.
3. Performance practice dictates that you should hold applause between movements.
4. NEVER get up or leave while a piece of music is being performed. If you must leave, do so QUIETLY between selections.
5. Students are expected to behave with pride and class. Students are also expected to show respect for fellow musicians, their personal property, school property, and adults. Students are encouraged to work with their peers in a positive manner.
6. Please display maturity, courtesy, and when in doubt, use common sense.

UNIFORM

UNIFORM (adj): not changing in form or character; remaining the same in all cases at all times.
UNIFORM (n): the distinctive clothing worn by members of the same organization.

Using the above definitions, maintaining uniform in a disciplined, performing group is important to maintaining the positive image that our groups strive to project. Image and reputation can be compromised when the uniform is worn incompletely or in a disrespectful manner. Everything done in uniform represents you, your ensemble, your school, and your city. While there may be individual exceptions that have to be granted due to medical reasons, the Grand Haven Bands uniform code includes:

Concert Uniform Code:

All students will wear:

1. Assigned GHHS Tuxedo Coat or GHHS Dress
2. Assigned GHHS hemmed Tuxedo Pants or GHHS Dress
3. Assigned GHHS white plain-front tuxedo shirt w/ bow tie or GHHS Dress
4. Student purchased black socks/nylons
5. Student purchased polished, dress-appropriate black shoes
6. Proper undergarments that do not show through concert shirts/dress (undershirt/camisole)

Concert Uniform Grooming

1. Hair should be of a natural color for performances and worn with black/white/gold/silver/neutral colored jewelry if needed. Think ahead before dying hair.
2. Jewelry should be conservative and limited to small studs: either gold or silver. Refrain from wearing dangly earrings, gauges, etc. You may be asked to cover up jewelry with a band-aid or to substitute a skin-tone plug/stud.
3. Makeup should be minimal.

Marching Uniform Code:

All students will wear:

1. Assigned GHHS BMB Shako with plume or beret; shako worn squarely on head, visor at eye level
2. Assigned GHHS BMB Coat/CG tunic; coat worn zipped up with baldric or shield
3. Assigned GHHS BMB hemmed white bib overalls/CG unitard
4. Assigned GHHS BMB hemmed blue bib overalls
5. Assigned GHHS BMB 2-sided shield
6. Assigned GHHS BMB Baldric (sash)
7. GHBBA supplied white marching gloves (winds only; new pair \$3); gloves must be kept clean
8. Student purchased Show Shirt (included with band camp cost)
9. Student purchased WHITE "DINKLES" marching shoes, or CG BLACK "BALANCE" shoes (\$30)
10. Student purchased WHITE CREW SOCKS with no grey, red, black patterns/designs anywhere
11. Proper undergarments that do not show through white bib pants

Marching Uniform Grooming

1. Hair, consistent with concert uniform grooming above, should also be worn high on the head, off the collar. Bobby pins and gel should be utilized to ensure hair stays up.
2. Facial hair should be neat and trimmed for performances.
3. No jewelry should be worn while in uniform.
4. Makeup for winds/perc. should be minimal.

Uniform Care

"Assigned" uniform pieces are the responsibility of the student and if lost, will be paid for at current replacement cost by the student. Uniforms are to be kept clean and pressed at all times and hung on appropriate hangers. Uniforms are never to be stuffed into cubbies or left lying about. All uniform pieces are dry-cleaned with the exception of our white bib pants that can be washed and dry-cleaned. Volunteer parent boosters are needed for washing 8-10 pairs of pants after every BMB performance during the fall. Instructions provided. A uniform dry-cleaning fee may be assessed dependent on GHBBA finances.

Hems

Concert Tuxedo Pants: Pants should be tailored so that there is a half break in the pant leg. The break of the fabric should drape over the top of the shoe finishing on the laces. Break length should be 1-1.5" above the heel of the shoe.

Concert Dresses: Concert Dresses are to be worn 2" from the floor while flat shoes are worn.

Marching Bib Overalls: Bibs should be tailored so that there is no break in the pant as it finishes on the shoe. Bib length should be 1.5-2" above the heel of the shoe.

ALL HEMS are strictly two layers. Do not create "rolled hems" of three or four thicknesses. No uniform articles may be cut anywhere. No machine or adhesive hems. Hand stitched only.

No food while in uniform unless the group is eating.

ALTERNATIVE UNIFORMS

Summer Marching Uniform: If weather is determined to be too hot for full uniform, students will wear their current show shirt tucked into knee-length khaki shorts with a fabric or leather belt with similar coloring. Students are to wear Dinkles/Balance shoes with cut-off socks.

High Wind Advisory: When finances allow, students will receive (Athletics supplied) a shirt for use while performing in HWA. Students should wear jeans and this t-shirt for all basketball games. Students are encouraged to further augment this uniform with items related to the spirit theme at each game.

UNIFORM TURN IN: Students must bring a change of clothes.

Concert Band Students: Uniform turn in immediately following the Spring Concert

Non-Symphony Orch. Wind/Perc Seniors: Uniform turn in immediately following the Spring Concert

Symphony Orch. Wind/Perc Seniors: Uniform turn in immediately following your last Spring Concert

All Other Students: Uniform turn in immediately following graduation

All BMB Students: Uniform turn in immediately following the Memorial Day Parade

PRIVATE LESSONS

SELF IMPROVEMENT=SECTION IMPROVEMENT=ENSEMBLE IMPROVEMENT

Private lessons are perhaps the most fulfilling way to improve individually on your instrument. Private instruction at any level can lead to improved musicianship and further your technical ability. Due to the importance of private lessons, GHBBA Private Lesson Rebates are available semi-annually as funds are available. Consult the GHBBA section of this document to learn more.

MSBOA

MSBOA: ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association has been serving the instrumental music teachers and students of our state for nearly eight decades. MSBOA represents over 1,200 public, parochial and private schools and over 1,600 instrumental music teachers in Michigan.

Solo and Ensemble

Solo & Ensemble Festival is an opportunity for students from member schools to perform a selection of their choice for adjudication. Students may perform an accompanied solo, an ensemble (duet, trio, etc.), or jazz combo (including a minimum of two contrasting pieces and emphasis on improvisation). District-level festivals are held in January (HS). Each student or group of students is evaluated by one judge and rated on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being the highest rating possible. High School students or groups that earn a rating of 1 (or "Superior") qualify for State Solo & Ensemble Festival, which is held in March. The basic structure of State Solo & Ensemble Festival is the same as District, but the students are held to a higher standard. Soloists in grades 10 through 12 must perform Proficiency Exams, which include scales and sight-reading. Students and ensembles that are chosen for the Michigan Youth Arts Festival come from the highest rated events at the State Festival. Participating students that earn a rating of 1 or 2 at District or State Festivals are eligible to purchase medals.

Solo and Ensemble Registration Information

Other than private lessons, this activity promotes individual growth more than any other opportunity provided. Participation is voluntary, however once a student registers to participate, he/she is expected to follow through on the commitment. Music is loaned to or purchased by the student with the help of the director. There is a small entry fee. Registration must be completed by the first of November with the application deadline prior to Thanksgiving. MSBOA requires that a student must be registered and participate in a performance class daily in order to sign up or perform in Solo and Ensemble Festival. Solo and Ensemble Festival is the month of January or February, determined by the State MSBOA.

Michigan Youth Arts Festival (High School)

The Michigan Youth Arts Festival (MYAF) honors the most talented high school musicians in the state and is the culmination of a nine-month search for the finest artistic talent in Michigan high schools. More than 250,000 students across the state are involved in the audition process via solo and ensemble festivals that results in nearly 1,000 being invited to participate in the annual three-day event held in May on the campus of Western Michigan University.

MSBOA All-State Band

The MSBOA All-State program was established in the 2005 - 06 school year. Five ensembles are selected from recorded auditions: a Middle School String Orchestra, a Middle School Band, a High School Full Orchestra, a High School Band, and a High School Jazz Orchestra. Students must prepare an announced etude, a series of scales and sight-read during each 10 minute recorded audition. Each audition is submitted using only an identification number with no reference to the student or school. The auditions are evaluated by an adjudicator and placed in order. The required number of instruments is selected to fill each section. An average of over 2,000 students audition each year for the 400 seats in the four ensembles. In January, the students assemble for two and a half days of rehearsal with nationally recognized conductors. A concert is held on the Saturday of the Michigan Music Conference.

Band and Orchestra Festival

Band Festival is an opportunity for ensembles from member schools to perform a program of three pieces for adjudication, one of which must be from MSBOA's required list. District-level festivals are held at the end of February through the beginning of March. Three performance judges and one sight-reading judge evaluate each group. The State-Level Festivals are held at the end of April-May.

District 7 Marching Band Festival

MSBOA Marching Band Festivals are held at the District level only. There is not a State Marching Band Festival. At the Festival, three judges—one in each of the following captions, adjudicate Marching Bands: Music, Marching and General Effect Showmanship. A group may enter any classification the director chooses. A final rating is determined by a predominance of ratings. Each band has a 15-minute block of time to enter the field, perform their show and exit the field.

State Jazz Band Festival

The MSBOA State Jazz Festivals provide adjudication for traditional "Big Band" ensembles. The festival is unclassified. A panel of three judges adjudicates the "Big Bands" and a fourth judge works with the group for a 25-minute clinic session following the group's performance. The groups have free choice of music although it is recommended that one selection come from the Basic Music List.

FALL MUSICAL

GESAMTKUNSTWERK (GR.): TOTAL ARTWORK

Every spring, the Drama and Music Departments decide on a musical for the upcoming fall. Instrumentation is determined for the pit orchestra, and students are invited to participate as needed to complete instrumentation. Rehearsals generally start in mid-October while students are still in marching season. Pit orchestra students must manage their time very well as many hours are spent at school in rehearsal. Additionally, they must commit to one or two weekends of performances. Many students look forward to this unique and rewarding opportunity every year.

AUDITIONS

LIFE IS MADE UP OF A SERIES OF FIRST IMPRESSIONS. KNOW HOW TO MAKE ONE.

Each year in late February or early March, auditions will be held. Material will be provided and usually consists of an etude, technical exercises, major/chromatic scales, and a rhythm etude. All students currently grades 9 through 11 signed up for band must audition. This audition determines the student's band placement and chair. Students must audition on their respective instrument. In regard to BMB instrumentation, brass players will not be allowed to audition for positions that may exist in the Percussion, Cymbal, or Color Guard sections. Any exceptions must get director approval.

AWARDS

LET YOUR LEGACY MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

In May 2003, the GHBSA established an awards system to recognize each student involved in the band program:

1. Chenille Letters: Awarded to each student in the program for 3 years or current Juniors.
2. Senior Plaque: Awarded to each graduating senior in the GHHS Bands.

Specialty Awards:

Seven specialty awards will be given in recognition to seniors in Band. These awards are in recognition of the individual student's willingness, eagerness and involvement above and beyond average responsibilities. Recipients of the **Louis Armstrong Jazz Award, the Semper Fidelis Award, the Director's Award, the MSBOA Scholar Instrumentalist Award, the Gilmore Award, the Arion Award, and the John Philip Sousa Award** will receive an award of either a pin or a plaque as a small token of appreciation of their accomplishments. Names will be added to a classroom plaque of applicable awards. The Gilmore Award, Arion Award, and John Philip Sousa Award are **NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED**; student names will be added to a national database.

Nominees for these awards should demonstrate the following qualities:

1. Show active participation in band as well as other musical activities.
2. Must be an outstanding musician.
3. Private Lessons – either:
 - a. Receiving Private lesson instruction personally
 - b. Providing lessons and working with younger Musicians in the program.
4. Commitment
5. Enthusiasm towards Music, Music Education, and the Instrumental Music Program
6. Dedication – giving of themselves for the program.
7. Unselfish desire to continue to learn and grow musically
8. Involvement – their involvement in:
 - a. District and State level Solo and Ensemble festivals
 - b. Outside musical organizations, Honors organizations, etc
9. Show Exceptional Leadership and Responsibility
10. Must be an exemplary student in all aspects of school life.
11. Strong Citizenship Characteristics
12. Dependability
13. Musical Ability and Accomplishments within the GH Instrumental Music program.

Sousa Award: (Highest Band Award)

“In recognition of outstanding achievement, and interest in instrumental music, for singular merit in loyalty and cooperation, and for displaying those high qualities of conduct that school instrumental music requires.”

MSBOA Scholar Instrumentalist Award

Initiated in spring 2014, the MSBOA Scholar Instrumentalist Award is awarded to a deserving Junior or Senior who has participated in at least one MSBOA event during the year, is enrolled as a full time student in a performing ensemble, and has a 3.5 GPA or higher.

PARENTS

STUDENTS NEED AND WANT YOUR SUPPORT AND INVOLVEMENT

Parents are one of the most important factors in a student's growth since you have the most direct influence and contact with them! Below are some suggestions that may help you, as parents, to provide a helping hand for your musicians.

AT HOME:

1. Show an interest in your child's music study. Encourage them even when the going gets tough.
2. Encourage him/her to practice.
3. Provide a comfortable place to practice without distractions.
4. Make sure your student's instrument is in proper playing condition. Consider upgrading their instrument from the one they started on in beginning class.
5. Encourage your son/daughter to participate in the private lesson program. Private lessons are not only for student musicians who think they may be struggling, but also for the very successful and talented musicians to continue to challenge themselves.
6. Teach him/her to be prompt for rehearsals, performances and lessons.

7. Encourage your son/daughter to play for other people or groups.
8. Listen to him/her play.

AT SCHOOL:

1. Know all of your child's musical activities and make it a point to attend as many as possible.
2. Be active in the GHBBA meetings so that you can ask questions and be informed.
3. When you have questions, concerns, or lack of information, email or call a director.

GHBBA

SUPPORT THE BAND! BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE GRAND HAVEN BAND BOOSTER ASSOC.

The purpose of this organization shall be to:

Cooperate with those in charge of the Bands to the end that this department be brought to and kept at the highest possible degree of excellence. To arouse and maintain an enthusiastic interest in the various phases of the Bands of the Grand Haven Area Public Schools. To provide support through funding and volunteerism for those music projects which are related to the operation and enhancement of the Grand Haven Bands. As parents of students involved in the Band program, you are all members of the GHBBA. To assist in your involvement, meeting dates are posted at www.grandhavenbands.org.

Private Lesson Rebate Program:

GHBBA sponsored. Private Lessons are valuable to all musicians of all playing ability levels and are highly recommended. Because of its importance to the students and the Bands, the GHBBA has a program available to assist with offsetting private lesson cost. For details and forms, visit the booster page at www.grandhavenbands.org. If you need help in securing a private lesson instructor, see a director for names and/or assistance. Payout refund dates will generally be in January and June.

Scrip Program Policy:

Orchestra sponsored. The Orchestra Boosters of Grand Haven (OBGH) manages a scrip program. This is an opportunity for you as a member of the Grand Haven Bands to help defray marching band camp expenses, potential future trip expenses, etc. Accounts will be set up from this program for each student and family participating. Funds will be reimbursed after submitting the appropriate Scrip Funds Request Form. A copy of this form can be obtained by contacting the OBGH.

GHBBA OFFICERS

President

The president presides over the monthly meetings, delegates responsibility to the committee chairpersons, and works closely with the band directors.

Vice-President

The vice-president assists the president in all areas and presides over meetings in the absence of the president.

Secretary

The secretary keeps accurate minutes of each meeting. These minutes are copied by the secretary and brought to the following meeting. The secretary also handles any correspondence required by the booster group.

Treasurer

The treasurer keeps all the financial records and reports the financial status of the organization at each meeting. The treasurer also oversees all bank accounts, verifies month-end finances, handles audits and taxes, and regularly meets with the directors.

GHBBA COMMITTEES

Equipment (Pit Crew)

The equipment chairperson is responsible for the band trailers for the instruments, props, and uniforms. Many hands are needed to move the equipment quickly to and from the field. This person is in charge of forming a group of volunteers to move the percussion instruments into the pit area for any marching performance. During the concert season, the committee moves concert band equipment for our concerts and also for District and State Band and Orchestra Festivals.

Chaperones

The head chaperone arranges for enough parents to chaperone every event which requires the band to travel, and organizes the duties of the other chaperones. The head chaperone will be in charge of the first aid kit and medical release forms. This is a great way to interact with students and get close to the action. Most chaperones come home very impressed with the way our students act and represent our school and community.

Trips

Being part of a musical group can mean traveling to various festivals and events in other parts of the country. Our bands have had the opportunity to take a major trip every three years. These trips take an enormous amount of planning and foresight. The marching band also travels to various competitions and festivals throughout the year. For all trips, the trip committee works with the directors on planning for transportation, lodging, meals, and making the trip itinerary.

Fundraisers

The boosters organize and run several fundraising projects throughout the year. Each project has its own chairperson who is in charge of running that project, collecting the money, and reporting results to the board.

Uniforms

The uniform committee helps with fitting the marching and concert uniforms, collecting dry cleaning fees, and collecting the uniforms at the end of the seasons. Many volunteers are needed to help assist the uniform chairperson(s). Occasionally, some sewing is needed for repair or alterations. If you can volunteer in this area, it would be appreciated.

Concession Stands

The Band and Sports Boosters operate the concession stand, which is located near the main entrance of the stadium for all varsity football home games. This is a good source of revenue for our boosters. 25 to 30 volunteers are needed for each game.

Hospitality-Bucs Last Blast and Spring Banquet

This committee is responsible for planning and executing our end-of-year banquet and assisting with any concert-related refreshments deemed necessary.

Publicity

This is an important committee because of the need to communicate to parents and the community. The Publicity Committee will be responsible for advertising, including photos and press releases for upcoming concerts. The band directors will issue any press releases on competition achievements.

Sewing

This committee makes/repairs flags for the Color Guard every year. They may also make the Color Guard uniforms or repair various uniform pieces, equipment covers, etc.

Parent support

When the marching band travels, it has become a tradition for the parents to sit together and support all participating bands. This is also a good time to meet other band parents.

GRAND HAVEN MARCHING BAND INVITATIONAL

The Grand Haven Band Booster Association has been hosting our annual Marching Band Invitational since 2008. The competition generally draws 10-12 area bands and has been quite successful. The event starts in the late afternoon and ends with our band performing in the evening. This is a wonderful opportunity to see a competition featuring some outstanding bands. Business sponsors can purchase advertising and parents can become donors with their names printed in the program. This event takes an enormous amount of planning and preparation, and requires many parent volunteers. Parents are needed for tickets, programs, concessions, greeters, parking, guides, trophies, etc. When it is "Invitational time," get involved and be sure to attend. You will be impressed by the quality of this event and the fine bands that participate.

COMMUNICATION & ACCOUNTS

STAY CONNECTED

The Bands have a multitude of ways to manage finances, stay informed, and communicate with students and parents. Every student and parent should be connected with and have a subscription or account to:

RESOURCE	WHAT IT DOES
Charmsoffice.com	Manages band camp student account activity including payments, transfers, charges, etc. Log in/create an account using your child's name and school ID #. School code: GrandHavenHSBand. Primarily Marching Band related.
Sendmoneytoschool.com	Online payment resource used in conjunction with GHAPS Food Service. All payments can be made through this site. Log in/create an account using your child's name and school ID #. Sales from SMTS entered into Charms weekly.
Grandhavenbands.org	Your primary resource for communication and official documents/information regarding the Bands of GHHS. Use this site to explore the band program, send email, sign up for various activities, and stay informed. Subscribe to RSS feeds and sign up for email blasts to keep connected.

Facebook.com	fb page: "Grand Haven Bands". Join this page to keep updated and post comments.
Remind.com	Texting/email service for up-to-the-minute changes/reminders of upcoming events. Used to remind students of performances, call times, equipment, tests, homework, etc: Buccaneer Marching Band STUDENTS: text @ghbmb to 81010, PARENTS: text @bmbparents to 81010 Other classes announced in class/on syllabi
Google Classroom	Online resource for all course documents. Students create account by using GHAPS email. Class codes will be announced in class/on syllabi
Ghaps.org	Grand Haven Area Public Schools site. Use this for district announcements and links to various other sites.

TRAVEL

MAINTAIN A POSITIVE REPUTATION WHILE ON THE ROAD

All Band students will be held to the expectations and disciplinary actions consistent with GHHS Transportation policy outlined in the GHHS Student Handbook in addition to the Student Code of Conduct at all times. Additionally, on extended trips or evening transport, no boys or girls will sit together when it begins to get dark.

Hotels/Camp

Upon arrival at the hotel, a chaperone or trip chairperson will hand out keys to the room captains only. The room captain will be the first person's name listed when signing up for rooms. It is the room captain's responsibility to distribute and return the keys to his/her chaperone after room checks have been completed.

Courtesy for hotel staff and other guests is a must at all times. Loud, obnoxious or otherwise offensive behavior will be reported for disciplinary action. If the behavior is not corrected, you may be sent home.

Curfew times are clearly noted on the itinerary. Do not leave your room for any reason after this time. Contact your chaperone if you have an emergency. Your chaperones are there to help you.

Lights out will be enforced. Students need their rest. Be considerate.

Absolutely no boys will be allowed in the girls' rooms, nor will girls be allowed in the boys' rooms. (This includes boys and girls not from our band!) Students will be sent home if they break this rule.

Room checks will be made to insure that students are where they belong. Each person must be identified. If chaperones knock on your door and identify themselves, open the door at once.

Making random acquaintances is not recommended.

A meeting area will be designated at each hotel. Certain areas of the hotel may be off limits.

CALENDAR

TO BE EARLY IS TO BE ON TIME

The published marching and concert calendars, including all rehearsals and performances, are printed independently of this document. The actual calendar can be found at www.grandhavenbands.org and is distributed at the start of each season via posters and wallet cards. All start and end times are listed. Students are expected to be ready at the start time, not arriving the facility. All expectations and grading policies outlined in this handbook and in syllabi apply to all calendar dates.

Additionally, BMB commitments include at minimum: **Preseason rehearsal the week before Coast Guard Week** (generally 5-9pm rehearsals daily) as well as attendance at Band Camp (week following Coast Guard Week). All students must attend camp. Following camp, rehearsals will be held on MTWT from 6:30-9:30 with possible football games prior to the start of school. Once school begins, we adhere to daily rehearsals, Tuesday night rehearsals, Friday football games, and Saturday competitions.

QUESTIONS

If there are any questions regarding anything in this handbook or anything regarding the band program, please do not hesitate to contact the directors. Additionally, GHBA Board Members and emails are listed at www.grandhavenbands.org.

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CHALLENGE FORM

Students are encouraged to challenge to continually improve their performance as well as their section's performance.

1. _____ challenges 2. _____
on the following music.

(Challenger Picks)

Title: _____ Part: _____ Measures: _____ to _____

(Individual Being Challenged Picks)

Title: _____ Part: _____ Measures: _____ to _____

We understand that the challenge will be held one (1) week (5 school days) from the date indicated below.
We further understand that the challenge could also include sight-reading to be selected by the Band director.
We have chosen a prepared selection to perform as indicated in the above blanks.

1. Student initiating challenge: _____ Date: _____
(Signature)

2. Student Being challenged: _____ Date: _____
(Signature)

Director's Signature: _____ Date: _____
(Signature)

Date of Challenge: _____ Time: _____

Rules:

1. Above form must be completed by both individuals and signed by the director to make it binding.
2. If the individual being challenged refuses, then they automatically forfeit.
3. Challenge can only progress one position (or chair) to a time.
4. Any individual may challenge as many times as they wish. However, if they lose a challenge, they may only do one more challenge for the marking period.
5. Challenges will take place at the discretion of the Director. They could be during class, at the end of class, or even later in the day. Any challenge not done during class, will require an appointment agreeable to both students and the director. If the student being challenged is unwilling to work out any of the time arrangements, then he/she forfeits their position.
6. Challenge Material, including and in addition to the list above, must be music in the folder and will include a selection or two by the director. This will be disclosed at the challenge. Sight Reading is a possibility, as well as any and all scales that have been a part of the daily rehearsal, including the chromatic scale.
7. Challenges may be held in the classroom or behind closed doors.
8. Results from the challenge take effect immediately.
9. Any challenge involving a change in music will not be allowed 2 weeks prior to a concert or 3 weeks prior to a festival.
10. All challenges that involve a potential move up in music parts, sections, etc., must be done on the music that is being challenged. (i.e.-challenger is on part 3, individual being challenged is on part 2, challenge must be on part 2). It is the challenger's responsibility to make sure they have the correct music for the challenge.
11. The above form must be turned in when complete. The challenger is responsible to remind the director the day of the challenge.
12. In the event that either party is absent from school the day of the challenge, they must have an excused absence or automatically forfeit the challenge. The challenge, in the event of an excused absence, will automatically take place the next day.
13. The director always reserves the right to alter the rules. All final decisions rest with the director.

RELEASE FORM



Grand Haven
Area Public Schools

Grand Haven Bands
17001 Ferris • Grand Haven, MI 49417
T: 616.850.6145 • F: 616.850.6147
Iain Novoselich, Director of Bands • novoselichi@ghaps.org
Dustin Stoner, Associate Director of Bands • stonerd@ghaps.org

I hereby release: _____ at _____
Student Name Date/Time

Let it be known that upon the above time, that all members and/or agents of Grand Haven Area Public Schools are absolved from the care of the aforementioned student. Upon being released from the school's care, the aforementioned student will be under the care of:

Name

By signing, you agree to the terms above.

Parent Signature

Date

Parent Name Printed

PRINT, SIGN, AND RETURN THIS FORM ONLY IF ONLINE FORM/AGREEMENT NOT COMPLETED.



Rev. 9/2/19