

# Horizon HS Instrumental Music



**Band Handbook**

2011-2012

# Contact

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*Instrumental Music*

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## **2011 Marching Band Staff**

**Music Writer: Seth Woodard**

**Percussion: Battery Technician: Nathan Gonzalez**  
**Front Ensemble Technician: Jon Mleynek**

**Colorguard: Caption Head: Blaine Beatty**  
**Technician: Jana Foley**

**Visual: Drill: Don Gallaher**  
**Caption Head: Tanner Woodard**

*Please visit the band parent website for updated information:*

**<http://www.horizonband.org/>**

## Introduction

Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to the Horizon High School Band Program! We offer a variety of programs for all students, some are highly selective, and others more introductory. The band's history is rich with awards and recognition, but none compare to the family of students, parents and staff that make up our program. Each year we must say goodbye to another wonderful senior class, but are equally as excited to see the new freshmen. We are proud of our alumni, many who continue to share their passion with the fine arts, and others who have become leaders in their community. If you are new to the program, you are about to embark on an amazing four-year journey, and if you are returning, buckle up! It's going to be a great year.

## Commitment and Expectations

1. *"The more you give the more you get, and the more you get the more you have to give back."* How much are you willing to give?
2. *"Band teaches students HOW to be good."* Please look up the following links:  
<http://www.menc.org/information/advocate/sat.html>  
<http://www.menc.org/information/advocate/facts.html>
3. *"Band is Win/Win."* A Band will never sound great or look great until every member gives the same effort.
4. *"Don't quit until it is perfect"*. Do not accept mediocrity. Only accept your absolute best effort, each and every time. Make every performance at home, in class, and on stage better than your last. Do not forget: Rome was not built in a day!
5. *"You can't get something you've never had, until you do something you've never done."* What are you willing to do?

## Goals

As a member of the Horizon High School Band you will develop:

- Self-discipline for life-long achievement
- Expressive social skills and positive self-esteem
- Standards of musical excellence to the highest degree
- Effective individual and collaborative working skills for future careers
- Active and positive involvement in school and community

# Course Descriptions

## Marching Band (1<sup>st</sup> semester)

The "Horizon Pride Regiment" is an award-winning marching band that has performed across the entire state. The HPR is active during the summer and fall. All members are REQUIRED to attend all summer camps in their respective performance areas.

The weekly rehearsal schedule follows this general pattern:

Night Rehearsals	6 PM - 8:30 PM
Friday Games	Call Time TBA (Check calendar for dates)
Saturday Rehearsals / Competitions	Call Time TBA (Check calendar for dates)

It may be necessary to rent instruments, to purchase cleaning materials or maintenance materials, and to buy method books. For reasons of balance, the director may require a student to change instruments. Students are EXPECTED to be in a concert ensemble.

## **Symphonic Band / Percussion Ensemble (year round)**

The Symphonic Band and Percussion Ensemble are performing ensembles. The courses consist of 9-12 grade students. Solo and ensemble groups may participate in district or state contest festivals. Out-of-school practices, performances and festivals are required. It may be necessary to rent instruments, purchase mouthpieces and other accessories. Students are responsible for the care and maintenance of their instrument. For reasons of ensemble balance, the director may request/require students to change instruments.

## **Extra-Curricular Activities**

### **Winter Guard**

The Winter Guard is a spring performance group that meets outside the regular class day. Members will perform at competitions and other campus events and community functions. This ensemble provides Color Guard members an off-season training program for the Marching Band as well as an opportunity to recruit at the feeder middle schools.

### **Chamber Ensembles**

Recruiting is a must each year to gather our next freshman class. Small chamber ensembles that can travel and perform at the elementary schools are an important and fun task! Some groups in the past have also performed elsewhere and earned money. Ask Mr. Harrison for help.

### **Private Lessons**

Private music lessons are VITAL towards developing individual and ensemble success. All outstanding musical organizations have a strong private lesson program. Students who privately study with a professional tend to show rapid improvement in individual musicianship, and in return they become leaders in and out of the classroom. The Directors will assist you, if needed, in selecting a private instructor. Private lessons are the key to excellence on your instrument, so start as soon as possible.

### **AMEA All-State Jazz Band:**

Active members of the band program who are advanced jazz musicians have the opportunity to audition for the AMEA All-State Jazz Band. The clinics/performance are lead by international jazz artists and is the highest honor for high school jazz musicians in the state.

### **AMEA High Solo and Ensemble:**

All members of the band program are encouraged to participate. Wind Ensemble members will be REQUIRED to either participate in the S/E festival and/or the All-Regional auditions held the same day.

### **AMEA All-Regional Band/Orchestra:**

All members of the band program are encouraged to participate. Wind Ensemble will be required to either participate in the S/E festival or the All-Regional auditions held the same day. Members who qualify and participate in the regional festival are eligible to progress to the All-State auditions.

### **AMEA All-State Band/Orchestra:**

All-Regional members who make the All-State Band/Orchestra can say they are among the best in the state! It is the highest honor a member can receive.

### **NAU Summer Music Camp**

Make yourself a more experienced musician! Help make our band even stronger! Mr. Harrison went to this camp and loved his experience. Check it out:

### **Aspen, Blue Lake, Brevard, Interlochen, Idyllwild, Tanglewood, etc.**

For the most advanced students, there are a wide variety of camps to explore for continued summer learning. I have friends and colleagues who attended all of these, and are very important for anyone wanting to continue their performance experience beyond the high school level.

# Classroom Procedures

## What Am I Expected To Do?

Come to class prepared. Have your music, flip folder/lyre (for marching band), a pencil, instrument or drum sticks/mallets, reeds or valve/rotor/slide oil, and a ready to work attitude for the entire class period.

## What Happens If I Don't Follow Expectations?

You will be given ONE WARNING. If the warning is not enough, appropriate consequences will follow. This may include student/parent conferences, extra in-class work due at the end that class period or the use of referrals. **Your membership in this program is a privilege. Failure to adhere to the school and band rules may result in your removal from the class.** Below is a discussion about problems that occur from time to time. Many rules/procedures not discussed here are still in effect. Check your Horizon Student Handbook for details.

*Remember: Band will be fun and rewarding when you follow instructions!*

## May I ...

1. **Talk or be off-task?** SILENCE!!! More lost points and disciplinary actions follow from this problem than any other. Listen to instructions and all other problems disappear. Band is never the place for a jungle gym.
2. **Be tardy?** Hand pass to a Director. Get your instrument and music folder and catch up with class quickly and QUIETLY. Being late to class for any rehearsals will NOT be tolerated. Excessive tardiness may result in detention.
3. **Chew gum?** Gum is NOT allowed on campus. FYI- chewing gum restricts your ability to play correctly and WILL corrode an instrument. By chewing gum while playing your instrument, you are choosing failure over success. You will lose daily participation points.
4. **Play that percussion instrument over there?** Do NOT play on any instrument but your own and ONLY during rehearsal. You will lose daily participation points and may have to complete a worksheet due at the end of class.

## Oops! I...

You are not allowed to leave your seat without permission. You will get a warning, and the second offense will follow with consequences.

1. **Forgot my Pencil?** Lose daily participation points, borrow a pencil from a Director.
2. **Forgot my Music Folder?** Lose daily participation points, politely ask your neighbor to share. If this becomes a habit, you will be assigned detention.
3. **Forgot my Flip Folder/Lyre/Drill?** PLEASE don't do this. It hurts the entire band. You will lose daily participation points. If this problem continues, you will be assigned detention.
4. **Forgot my Instrument?** Any student without an instrument will lose daily participation points.
5. **Forgot to put my class materials away after class?** Lose daily participation points.
6. **Broke a school instrument?** Your parents are responsible for monetary reimbursement to the school; disciplinary actions will follow ONLY for non-accidents. If your instrument (personal or school owned) stops working and needs repair, take it in and get it fixed! A note from the repair shop will excuse your lost daily points.

## I Feel...

1. **Thirsty?** Bring a water bottle or get a drink BETWEEN classes. (Marching Band provides water breaks)
2. **Too ill to play?** Let a staff member know, then follow along in class quietly.
3. **Want to see the nurse?** Sure, just not during class. (Emergency exceptions)
4. **Need to go to the bathroom?** BETWEEN classes only. (Emergency exceptions)

# Grading Policy

## **Daily Class Participation: (50%)**

Students' grades will reflect their ability to properly follow classroom procedures and expectations. Being on time and dressed appropriately for rehearsal does go under participation. Marching band is adopting a minute for minute expectation. You will be required to make up every minute of rehearsal you miss, for whatever reason.

## **Attendance at Concerts and Dress Rehearsals: (30%)**

This is mandatory! An unexcused absence from a dress rehearsal will be an automatic loss of those points. An unexcused absence from a concert will be an automatic loss of those points. Missed dress rehearsals may result in not being allowed to perform. Required make-up work will be due two weeks after the concert. A tardy will result in a loss of points. Students who do not meet the Performance Inspection will lose points (see below).

Concert Attendance Policy:

1. A concert absence may only be excused two weeks prior. Please submit an excuse request form directly to the directors. Excused absences include following: sick from school, death in family, weddings, and religious holidays. (These might also have to be cleared through the attendance office).
2. Emergencies (illness, accidents) must be reported to the Director office or cell phone and **MUST** be followed up by a note the following day.
3. In case of an excused absence, a written project or practice time (decided by the director) must be completed as a make-up grade and will be due two weeks after the missed concert.
4. Failure to follow this procedure will result in loss in points (as explained earlier) and or removal from the class.

## **Performance Tests, Assignments, and Quizzes: (20%)**

Students will be assigned music for performance. Failure to learn this music will result in a lower grade. All Marching Band students will be required to memorize the competition show. You will memorize the show by the separate movements. These dates are always posted on the website calendar.

## **Practice Logs: (N/A), THIS WILL NOT APPLY TO ALL STUDENTS**

At Horizon High School level, we understand the academic demands on each student. We also understand and SUPPORT all of our members who are actively involved in other extra-curricular programs. Therefore, we do not collect individual practice records. Students should now be old enough to understand how much time they need to spend preparing their music. However, if any students are not maintaining proper pace in learning their music, they will be required to complete weekly practice logs signed by their parent that will be turned in to Mr. Harrison each Monday until they are caught back up. **All practice logs collected will be calculated in the participation grade category.**

Students are encouraged to make time in their schedule to practice **each day** outside of class (except for performance days) as best they can. Learning to play a musical instrument is a physically demanding activity and daily practice is the only way to improve consistently and reach the highest peak of success. *The more you play, the more you have fun!* That being said, productive practice is a difficult task to develop and maintain. Unfortunately, we are not all created equal. Some learn faster than others especially as students become more experienced.

## **After-school Sectionals: (part of participation)**

1. All ensembles will have 8 hours of sectionals each quarter. All members must be in attendance for it to count as a sectional.

## **Marching Band: Music and Marching Expectations**

## **Music/Choreography**

1. Each student will need to memorize the competition show. Ask the director for deadlines. Music checks are to be completed by Drum Majors and Section Leaders. The Director may require a re-check at any time for any reason.
2. Students will be required to use their flip folder during performances until their check-off is complete.
3. If a student does not ATTEMPT to pass-off their music by the date listed on the calendar, they will not be allowed to perform until they have done so.
4. Students will be expected to maintain a high level of musical proficiency at all times. The directors may require a student to pass-off their music again if they feel the students' performance has deteriorated or not progressed.
5. If a student fails to complete their music check offs by the first competition, they will not march at said competition or any following until they do.
6. If a student fails to complete their music check offs by the last non-state competition, they will be removed from the field show for the remainder of the season.

## **Marching**

1. Students will be expected to develop and maintain a high level of marching proficiency at all times.
2. Students must have the drill books with the most recent drill recorded at all times. Please keep your Drill Coordinate Sheets available for reference.
3. Your music and drill books will be collected and reviewed throughout the semester for accurate marking.

# **Lettering Policy**

The HHS Band feels that lettering should be a reward for hard work and perseverance. Not everyone will letter every year, but it is possible to earn your letter in a variety of ways. To letter, a student must accumulate 400 points over the period of their enrollment in the band program. Any senior member who has not earned a letter in their four years will be awarded one as long as they have maintained active membership and carried a positive attitude at all times. Students who earn 200 or more points in a single year, past their letter, will receive a gold bar. The maximum a student may earn after four years is one letter and three gold bars.

**\*\*\*NOTE, THIS LETTERING was edited in 2009 to account for the change in schedule\*\*\***

100% Attendance Post-Camp_____	10	Attending a summer music camp_____	25 or 50
100% Attendance Band Camp_____	15	Take Private Lessons All-Year_____	30
Marching Band_____	50	Teach Private Lessons All-Year _____	15
Wind Ensemble_____	20	Equipment/Truck Crew_____	10
Symphonic Band _____	15	Section Leader_____	30
Solo/Ensemble		Band Council Officer_____	25
<i>Perform</i> _____	10	Drum Major_____	50
<i>Receive Excellent</i> _____	15	HHS Jazz Band_____	20
<i>Receive Superior</i> _____	25	HHS Pep Band_____	10
All-State Jazz Band		Winter Guard_____	20
<i>Try-out</i> _____	20	Winter Percussion_____	20
<i>Participate</i> _____	40	Attending an outside concert (approved)_____	5
All-Region Band/Orchestra			
<i>Tryout</i> _____	15		
<i>Participate</i> _____	35		
All-State Band/Orchestra			
<i>Tryout</i> _____	30		
<i>Participate</i> _____	50		

## **School Instruments**

1. The school owns instruments that may be checked out for student use. Priority is given by seniority. All other remaining instruments are available on a first-come first-serve basis. An instrument use/responsibility form must be signed by the student and a parent/guardian and turned in BEFORE any instrument can be issued.
2. Instruments will be in good repair when issued. Students who use school instruments will be responsible for taking care of the instrument and paying for any repairs needed if the student was responsible for the damage. All percussionists will be using school percussion equipment and are required to take care of the equipment. Failure to put instruments away and treat them properly during class will make the student liable to pay for any damage that may occur.

## **Band Room Lockers**

1. Band lockers are issued as a privilege to students who are members of the band. Students who play an instrument that will fit into a locker will be assigned a locker and lock on the locker.
2. You may not change or share lockers with anyone at anytime. The locker is for storing your band instrument NOT your personal belongings. Failure to use your assigned locker appropriately may result in loss of this privilege. You may not TOUCH a lock or locker other than your own.
3. All lockers are property of the Paradise Valley Unified School District and are subject to search by any school or law enforcement official at the discretion of an administrator or Mr. Harrison. Failure to comply with these rules will result in losing your locker or other consequences deemed necessary.

\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\*\*

The Paradise Valley Unified School District and your Director will not be held responsible for any damage, theft, or

loss of privately owned equipment. If an incident does occur, Horizon High School, Mr. Harrison, and the appropriate authorities will be cooperate together to address the situation.

## Suggested Classroom Supplies

All band members are expected to have a pencil and music folder with all music at all rehearsals. In addition, certain types of instruments require certain accessories. For Marching Band, this should also include tennis shoes, school appropriate gym clothing (for outside rehearsals ONLY), a water bottle, and your marching flip folder and lyre. See below:

### **Woodwinds**

1. The correct swab/cleaning rod for your instrument to keep it free of mold.
2. Mouthpiece brush to clean out the mouthpiece and keep it free from mold.
3. Tube of cork grease to keep the corks moist.
4. A minimum of 3 playable reeds on hand at all times. The Vandoren brand is strongly recommended. Clarinet and Saxophone reeds should be 2 ½ to 3; Oboe and Bassoon reeds should be of medium thickness.
5. An appropriate reed guard that prevents warping; LaVoz Reed guard recommended for single reeds
6. A good mouthpiece: Clarinets, Vandoren B45; Saxophones, Selmer C\* S-80
7. A good quality neck strap for saxophones; also available for clarinet

### **Brass**

1. A bottle of good quality valve oil (piston or rotary as your instrument demands)
2. A container of tuning slide grease; Vaseline is not acceptable; Trombones have a good quality slide cream and a water sprayer
3. A flexible cleaning snake for your instrument
4. A mouthpiece brush to clean the mouthpiece and keep it free from germs
5. A good quality mouthpiece in good condition void of dents. Below is a standard recommendation:  
Trumpets: Bach 3C  
Horns: Giardinelli 8C  
Trombone/Baritone: Bach 6 ½ AL  
Tuba: Schilke 67
6. Mutes: a straight mute and cup mute are needed. Dennis Wick, Tom Crown, and Jo-Ral are the recommended brands.

### **Percussion**

1. Most playing implements are provided, however, you must provide a good pair of concert snare sticks, or any other playing implements, whenever needed for playing.
2. Seeing as most playing implements are provided, you must treat them with the utmost care. You break it, you bought it!!!

## Practicing Your Instrument

Rehearsal does NOT count as practicing. Rehearsal serves as an opportunity to demonstrate what you have been working on during your own time. Below are suggestions on what to do to get better individually which then improves the ensemble you are in. The band is only as good as its least inexperienced player.

## Daily Warm-up Tips

The four “don’ts” to warming up are:

1. Don’t play in the upper register at first
2. Don’t play too low at first
3. Don’t play too loud
4. Don’t play too soft

This part of your daily playing is the most important part. Therefore, use it with great care. Play in your middle register, mezzo forte (mf), and gradually extend the register and dynamics as your lips and embouchure begin to respond with agility and flexibility.

## Technique Development

Strive to master all phases of your instrument not just the part that you already do well. Work for progress and results.

The four big “do’s” for focus during a practice session (practice in this order):

1. Do work to increase breathing capacity and support
2. Do work to develop embouchure strength and flexibility
3. Do work to increase strength and speed of fingers
4. Do work to increase tonguing abilities

Here is a list of techniques to practice each week. Remember the more often you practice each of these each week, the quicker you improve your playing.

1. Playing range
2. Chords, scales and Arpeggios: major, minor, augmented, and diminished, etc.
3. Interval studies: 2nds, 3rds, Octaves, 9ths, etc.
4. Lip Slurs (brass)
5. Single, Double, Triple tonguing
6. Flexibility exercises
7. Long Tones (crescendo and decrescendo)
8. Sight reading skills

# Uniforms

Uniforms will be fitted and assigned to you. Band members are required to wear the **2011-2012** show t-shirt and gym shorts under their marching uniforms, and wear black socks for ALL performances. DO NOT add any “flair” to the show t-shirt. You will be required to purchase another one if it is damaged or altered.

## Rehearsal Clothing For Marching Band

Students should wear comfortable clothing to all rehearsals. White shirts (required for all rehearsals) - shorts – sweats – loose fitting pants – socks – and good tennis/running type shoes are acceptable attire. Please listen to weather reports for the evening and plan your attire accordingly. Students in the Color Guard should check with their Caption Head for the appropriate dress style.

# HORIZON BAND FANS

## BAND FANS PARENT ORGANIZATION

COST: \$30 annually – family membership

Payable to PAWS/Horizon Booster Club at registration/walk through  
(\$2 can be designated to the band program)

The Band Fans Parent Organization works to promote and encourage community support of the Horizon High School Band Program. If you have a student in band or color guard, you are a Band Fan. Band Fans supplement the school support of the band and provide financial support for band activities, such as salaries for sectional instructors, new instruments, music supplies, etc.

PAWS/Horizon Booster Club provides the insurance for the Band Fans Organization. In order to volunteer or chaperone a band event, each volunteer **must be** a member of the PAWS/Horizon Booster Club. Membership applications are available in the band room or on the [HorizonBand.org](http://HorizonBand.org) website.

Band Fan meetings for the 2011/2012 school year are held once a month in the band room. (Please check the calendar for meeting dates, times, and planned topics).

“General” Band Fan funds are raised from “General” fundraisers. These funds are used for expenses such as: instructors for marching band, new instruments, uniform maintenance and replacement, truck rental, and any other expenses not paid for by the school district.

Band Fans also provides individual student accounts. Parents can earn money for their student’s individual accounts by participating in “individual” fundraisers organized by Band Fans. The funds earned for these student accounts can be used to pay for: band camp, band trips, band banquet, music lessons, band shoes/gloves, uniform repair, etc. You can check on your student’s account balance by visiting our website at [HorizonBand.org](http://HorizonBand.org). You can identify your student’s account by using their Horizon High School ID number.

There are many Band Fan committees that need volunteers. Come out and join us – there’s a place for everyone!

Fundraising	Chaperones	Band Camp
Percussion Support	Uniform Committee	Phone Tree Committee
Equipment	Publicity	Email Newsletter
Website	Booster Club Liaison	Competition Meals
Color Guard Support	Lunch Cart	

# HHS Band Student Contract

**2011-2012**

I have read the Horizon HS Band Handbook and agree to adhere to the rules and regulations within. If I do not sign this, I will not be permitted to participate in class, therefore losing my participation points. Parents/Guardians: one signature is required. If more than one Parent/Guardian will be signing any additional paperwork, please also sign the contract below. Thank you!

*Contract is due no later than Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

and

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mother/Guardian Name (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

or

\_\_\_\_\_  
Father/Guardian Name (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date