

2017-2018

*Band/Orchestra
Handbook*



DMHS Performing Ensembles

Wind Ensemble:

This ensemble consists of students chosen by audition. Performances consist of three major school concerts, Area concert festival, State Concert Festival, and an out-of-state concert festival. Additional performances, sectionals, and/or full band rehearsals may be scheduled with sufficient advance notice.

Symphonic Band:

Performances consist of three major school concerts, Evening of Music, and an out of state concert festival. Additional performances, sectionals, and/or full band rehearsals may be scheduled with sufficient advanced notice.

Marching Band:

Performances include home football games, festivals throughout October and November (check calendar on www.dmhsband.org), and school assemblies throughout the year. Additional rehearsals and sectionals may be called with sufficient advanced notice. Rehearsal will take place during 0 period (6:30am-7:30am) every week day (except Wednesday) until the middle of November, at this point there will be no more marching band rehearsals. There is also a mandatory Tuesday night rehearsal from (6-9pm for all Wind players and 5-9pm for all drumline and colorguard members). The Final exam for this class is the State Marching Band Festival/Championships.

Jazz Band I and II:

Rehearsals will be after school in the fall semester, starting August 29th (Monday/Wednesday Jazz I and Thursday/Friday Jazz II). At the end of November Jazz I will move to before school and Jazz II will continue to be after school throughout the rest of the school year. Performances include three schools concerts, NAU Jazz Festival, Area Jazz Festival, Jazz on the Mountainside, Essential Ellington and State Jazz festival.

Symphonic Orchestra:

The Symphonic Orchestra consists of violins, violas, cellos, and string bass. Performances consist of three major concerts, Area Concert Festival, State Concert Festival, and an out of state concert festival. Auditions for chair placement will take place the 3rd week of school. The Symphonic Orchestra will combine with Wind Ensembles at school concert for Full Orchestra compositions.

DMHS BAND/ORCHESTRA AWARDS

John Philip Sousa Award: This band award is given to the senior band member who demonstrated superior musicianship, dependability, loyalty, and

cooperation - in short the qualities directors strive to develop in all students.

Patrick Gilmore Award: To a band member that has shown excellence in performance, preparation, leadership, and participation in the concert ensemble.

Louis Armstrong Award: This award is presented to the jazz band member who has demonstrated the most talent, leadership, and dedication in the area of jazz throughout the school year.

Director's Award: This award is given to the band/orchestra member that has shown outstanding leadership, responsibility, and dedication to the music program at Desert Mountain music program.

National Orchestra Award: This award is given to a member of the orchestra that has demonstrated outstanding musicianship, dependability, loyalty, and cooperation - in short the qualities directors strive to develop in all students.

Desert Mountain Band/Orchestra Letter: The band/orchestra letter and bar is given to the band/Orchestra members that have participated in the marching band and/or concert performance group throughout the entire 4 years at DMHS. Also this member must have received an A in these groups, showing that this member has shown excellent attendance, preparation, and responsibility to the Desert Mountain Band/Orchestra Program.

Marching Band Awards: Best Section, Best Marcher, Spark Plug, Most Improved Marcher, Most Outstanding Band Member (freshman, sophomore, junior, senior)

CONCERT AUDITIONS

All students are required to audition for chair placement in the ensembles. Students that fail to audition will be placed in last chair of their section and will have a limit of 1 week to audition. If student does not audition they will receive a zero for that grade

Audition Procedure:

1. Students will be asked 2 different major scales through 4 #’s and 4 b’s. Orchestra members will also need to play the arpeggio associated with that scale.
2. Band members will need to perform the chromatic Scale. One octave is required, but extra points will be given to additional octaves.
3. Students will be required to prepare 1 etude from the Regional/All-State etudes.

4. Students will perform the supplied sight-reading.

Challenge Procedure

When one desires to challenge for another chair, the following procedure must be followed. A sample ballot for challenges is included in this handbook.

1. Inform the director and student that you are challenging.
2. The director will choose the audition material and allow one week for preparation.
3. The challenge will be held at the conclusion of the class period.
4. If the person receiving challenge refuses the challenge, the challenger automatically receives the chair.
5. If three people in chair order in a single section wish to challenge, the director will hear the challenge declared first. If the challenges are declared at the same time, the director will hear the challenge of the two highest chairs first and will reschedule other challenges to conform within the one-week rule.
6. Challenges may take place throughout the concert season although position changes within the band/orchestra may be postponed if the change would be too near a concert, festival, or other public performance.
7. A person may challenge up to 3 people in front of them at any one challenge.
8. A period of two weeks must pass before re-challenging.

BAND/ORCHESTRA OFFICERS:

The following band/orchestra officers are elected by the band/orchestra/director:

President

Student representative of the band/Orchestra
Conducts all Band/Orchestra Council Meetings
Appoints committees for social events
Coordinates all students officers of the band
Reports any problems or suggestions for improvement of the band program to the director

Vice President

Represents the band/orchestra at mandatory Student council meetings
Assumes all duties of the president when necessary
Assist the president whenever possible
Takes and publishes notes (for the band students) from the student council meetings

Secretary

Keeps meeting notes

Publishes Band/orchestra council notes for band students

Attends the Band Booster Board Meetings when necessary and updates the council on meeting minutes

Treasurer

Maintains accurate ledgers of band students accounts

Distributes all fundraiser materials and accounts for student turning in turning in the money or product

Senior Representative

Represents seniors and their needs to the band/orchestra council at meetings

Junior Representative

Represents juniors and their needs to the band/orchestra council at meetings

Sophomore Representative

Represents sophomores and their needs to the band/orchestra council at meetings

Freshman Representative

Represents freshman and their needs to the band/orchestra council at meetings

Historian

Keeps and maintains a scrapbook of all of the band/orchestra events and activities throughout the school year

Post pictures on the Bulletin board monthly

Monitors the organization of the bulletin board monthly

Practice Room Policy

Practice rooms will be available for student use before and after school when the director is present in the music area. Students may take their instruments to a practice room to play. Only one student to a room is allowed without permission from a director. The facilities should be treated with respect and any abuse will result in the loss of the use of practice rooms for the semester.

Locker Policy

Locker access will be opened during the school day for instrumental needs only. Students should not keep money or other valuables in their instrument lockers at any time. Padlocks can be checked out from Mrs. Irvin. Doors to your locker should be closed and lock attached throughout the rehearsal and school day.

Instrument Use

Only students who have signed out a school instrument may use that instrument. No student will play an instrument that does not belong to him or her. Only percussionists will be allowed to use the percussion equipment. Instruments will be given in working order, repair because of student's negligence will be at the student's expense.

Uniforms

Marching Band uniforms are stored in the uniform room. Boosters are responsible for issuing and collecting uniforms before and after each performance. Students are expected to follow Booster directives in a polite, appreciative manner. Students will be charged for uniform parts that are damaged or lost. Concert, Jazz, and Marching uniforms will be sized on August 19th for all ensembles, watch your e-mail from boosters for the time you are expected to come. The first performance with marching uniforms will be the September 15th. All games prior to homecoming the students will wear black athletic shorts and their band shirt. Concert and Jazz uniforms will be checked out and sent home with the student on Uniform Fitting Day. All uniforms have been cleaned prior to distribution and will be cleaned at the conclusion of the year. Concert and Jazz uniform cleaning during the school year will be at the student's expense. Students will be responsible for purchasing the appropriate shoes to wear with their uniforms. Marching Band members will have to purchase marching shoes, marching socks, marching gloves, and wristbands. Concert and Jazz members will need to purchase black dress shoes to complement their black dress/Black Tux.

Wind Ensemble, Symphonic, and Concert Band Uniforms:

Students will be charged for uniform parts that are damaged or lost. Concert uniforms will be checked out on August 19th, watch your e-mail for e-mails. The first performance with uniforms will be the October Pops Concert. Uniforms consist of everything needed for performance other than shoes, please wear appropriate shoes with the concert uniforms. Dress black shoes and socks for the gentlemen and dress black shoes for the ladies. (Tennis shoes and flip flops are not appropriate for performance)

Complete Marching Band Uniform:

The main uniform for the marching season will be provided by the school. Students will need to purchase a band shirt (will get one at band camp), Black Marching shoes, Long Black socks, Black Wristbands, black athletic shorts and Black gloves . These items can be purchased by check at uniform fitting Day. All checks are made out to the DMBB (Desert Mountain Band Boosters). If you were in marching band last year you will probably only need the gloves.

Uniform Fitting Day

All students are expected to attend the uniform fitting day (August 19th). The boosters are parents and have their own weekly jobs so it is difficult to get the students in uniform during the school day. When arriving you will need to get all uniforms needed (i.e. concert uniform for Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Symphonic Orchestra; Jazz uniform for Jazz Bands; and Marching uniform for Marching Band). At the conclusion of your fittings, you will check out with the booster at the tables located in the band/orchestra room.

DESERT MOUNTAIN BAND ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend all classes, rehearsals, and performances. When conflicts occur, please send a written note to Mrs. Irvin as early in advance as possible (to be **excused** they must be **at Least two weeks in advance**). The director will excuse a student from a band/orchestra function for the following reasons: illness, medical or dental problems, religious holidays, death in the family/funerals, family weddings, appearance in court, release by school nurse due to illness or accident, and participation in school sponsored field trips and activities. Work is **NOT** considered an excuse for missing a rehearsal or performance. When a student's absence is not approved by the director, a student will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

Unexcused tardy to class

Student's presence in rehearsal and performance is fundamental, considering that it is a performance based class. Participation is fundamental for the outcome of the performance; students will be given 20 points a day for participation in the class. If a student is tardy they will lose 5 points for being tardy, if the student arrives half way through the class period they will receive no participation credit for the class. They will be considered absent as in all other classes at Desert Mountain.

Unexcused absence from rehearsal

Please refer to the school code of conduct for school rules. In band they will receive no participation credit and will not be allowed to perform in the next performance.

Unexcused absence from a performance

Will result in a grade of F for that performance and possible loss of ability in performing in future festivals.

****Band/Orchestra is a team, everyone's participation is essential in putting on the best performance. It is unfair to the other students of the program if their group grade is lowered because of the absence of a member. There should be no reason for an unexcused absence from rehearsal and/or performances. ****

****Please support the ensemble and follow the appropriate procedure for absences. If you will be missing a rehearsal or performance because of illness,**

please call the music office at 484-7054 or email mirvin@susd.org. Please help complete the communication lines. The school does not inform me when someone is absent. **

*****If you will miss a performance, you must give a minimum of 2 weeks notice in a written note to Mrs. Irvin. (There is a form on the class webpage and google classroom to submit excuse, please do not send emails unless it is notice of an emergency) If notice is received less than 2 weeks prior to the absence it WILL NOT BE EXCUSED! Please take the time now to look at the calendar on the band/orchestra website. The website: www.dmhsband.org**

MISCELLANEOUS POINTS OF INFORMATION

When the school district provides transportation, it is mandatory that every student rides on a school bus to the performance. No student will be allowed to provide their own transportation unless the conflict is due to another school sponsored activity. In this event the Desert Mountain High School administration will need to approve the request. If a student would like to return from a field trip by means other than school transportation, an alternate transportation form from a parent is necessary. Students may NOT ride with other students. A parent must be in the vehicle. Forms for alternate transportation are available on the class website and google classroom.

ROOM RULES:

- Be prompt to all functions with all needed equipment.
- Students are not to play or talk when the conductor or drum major needs their attention.
- Always give your best effort.
- Treat others and their property with respect.
- Anytime a member misses another class to participate in a band function, they are required to speak WELL IN ADVANCE to all teachers of the classes they will be missing.
- Band members are expected to complete and turn in required work due for the classes they are missing in advance of the pre-planned absence

PROCEDURE FOR INSTRUMENT CHECK-OUT

It is assumed that each instrument checked-out is in good condition. If any part of the instrument is not in satisfactory condition, notify the director immediately to get the problem rectified. Following satisfactory check-out the student is responsible for any damage caused by the student.

TRIPS AND TOURS RULES FOR BUS RIDES and HOTEL/DORM

1. Ice chest are not allowed on the bus.
2. Musical devices are permitted on the bus, provided they have

headphones.

3. Anyone found with alcohol, illegal drugs, weapons, and/or cigarettes will be immediately sent home at their own expense.
4. All rules of hotels/dorms must be followed without exceptions
5. Every member is required to perform at all activities while traveling.
6. Please discourage negligent behavior. Any damage, negligence, or deliberate vandalism will be paid out of the room member's own pocket. If the person cannot be identified the payment will be divided equally among everyone in the room.
7. Each member is responsible for his/her own equipment, baggage, instrument, uniform, and personal belongings at all times.
8. Everyone will sign up for a bus and remain on that same bus at all times.
9. For security, please leave valuables at home.
10. Anytime you travel, unacceptable behavior reflects on the entire group and Desert Mountain High School. Please use common sense.
11. No one may ride in a vehicle other than district approved transportation for the trip.
12. Each night, everyone must be in their own room by 10:30 pm. Do not make noise that will disturb other guest.

*******PLEASE REMEMBER*******

The Band/Orchestra is the one of the most visible and active organizations on the Desert Mountain High School Campus. Our behavior, both individually and collectively, has a direct impact on the High School, Parents, and the Band Program. We must take pride in the fact that we can perform effectively and professionally.

BALLOT FOR CHALLENGES

Name of student making challenge: _____

Name of Student being challenged: _____

Date challenge made: _____

Challenge date: _____

Challenge Material:

Challenger initials

challenged initials

Director's initials

*This form is also available on class Synergy class page and google classroom

August 7, 2017

Hello Everyone,

Please read all of the information in the above handbook and the syllabus associated with your child's class(es). Please check that you have seen all of the information below. I am asking that you read all of the information and sign and return this page.

Please return by August 11, 2017.

Thank You!!

Mrs. Michelle Irvin
Director of Instrumental Music

Name of Student: _____

Received: Calendar (Available on the Website www.dmhsband.org)

Handbook: _____

Syllabus for class (es): _____

Calendar of performances: _____

Registered for weekly email(s): _____ (sent every Sunday)

Students need to register for Remind 101 and Google Classroom
(codes available in the
Band/Orchestra room on the bulletin board outside Irvin's
office)

If you have not received any e-mails this summer, please visit the band/orchestra website at www.dmhsband.org. We deliver a great deal of information over the e-mail and website, so please get registered to keep up to date on what is happening in the DMHS instrumental music department.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date Received: _____



**Hello Band and Orchestra Students/Parents:
Please make sure that you are on the DMHS Band Booster Weekly
Email in order to receive all the information regarding our
band/orchestra programs throughout the year! It's easy!!!**

- Go to www.dmhsband.org
- Go to Quick Links
- Click on "Subscribe Here For Weekly Newsletter"

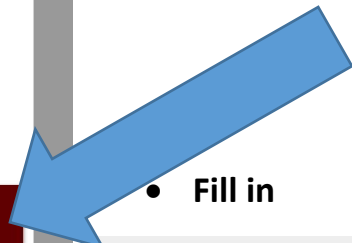


Donations:
Support DMBS through an easy and secured Paypal donation! Donations are welcome from parents, DMHS alumni, and long-distance supporters. DMBS is a registered 501(c)(3), non-profit organization. Donations will be used for DMBS **general use** and not to be made for

Upcoming Events

DMBS Event Calendar	
Today	Tuesday, March 25
Wednesday, March 26	
7:00am	Orchestra Council Meeting
Saturday, March 29	
AzPAS Spring Perc. Fest - (DL-3/7)	
Wednesday, April 2	

- Quick Links**
- EDMODO LOG-IN
 - SMART MUSIC LOG-IN
 - SUBSCRIBE HERE FOR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



- Fill in

**Email/Name & Graduating Class and
Band/Orchestra Group. Then hit Subscribe to
List.**

DMBS WEEKLY EMAIL

Email Address * Indicates required

First Name

Last Name

Name

Graduating Class
 Class of 2014
 Class of 2015
 Class of 2016
 Class of 2017
 Alumni - Class of 2013
 Alumni - Class of 2012 and earlier

Band or Orchestra Group
 Marching Band
 Wind Ensemble
 Jazz Band
 Orchestra
 Symphonic Band