

**SOMERS HIGH SCHOOL BAND
SPARTAN BAND!
RULES – PROCEDURES – GRADING**

ATTENDANCE

Members of the band are expected to be in their assigned seat ready to play two minutes after the beginning class bell rings. Extra rehearsals are sometimes scheduled during the school year. These rehearsals and sectionals will follow the same time schedule. School policy will be enforced regarding lateness to class. If you walk in the room while attendance is being taken, you are late.

Band members are required to be present at August Band Camp, August uniform fitting, and all performances during the school year. Failure to attend any performance or session without an approved excused absence by the director will result in a 25 point grade reduction for that particular marking period. (See the “Charms” Website, SomersBand.com, or the handout at the back of this packet for rehearsals and concert obligations).

****Please keep in mind that being in a performing ensemble is a team based activity and is a commitment. We are all counting on each other and we need you to be there. As a member of the band it is of utmost importance that you make EVERY EFFORT to attend all performances and rehearsals.****

REHEARSAL PROCEDURES

- Promptness: Be on time.
- Self-Discipline: No talking when the director is on the podium.
- Rehearsal schedule: Arrange music in the same order you see listed on the board.
- Be neat: Pick up around you. Do not move equipment from section to section. Replace chairs and stands to their original locations. Failure to keep your area clean will result in sectional hours and/or demerits. ALL INSTRUMENTS ARE TO BE RETURNED TO LOCKERS AFTER REHEARSAL. Please do not leave instruments on the floor.
- Gum and Food: are not allowed in the band room.
- Damaged equipment: You are held responsible for any equipment intentionally damaged. This includes music stands and percussion equipment which are in your rehearsal area.
- Drummers are to stand during rehearsal. Chairs are not allowed in the percussion section. A five point deduction from the final grade will be factored in if this rule is broken.

NO BAND IS BETTER THAN ITS REHEARSAL. REHEARSE AS IF IT WERE A CONCERT!

INSTRUMENTS

- All instrument cases and drum sticks must clearly have names posted on them.
- Students are to write their instrument's serial number on the signature page of this document.
- Drummers: any personally lost stick is your responsibility to replace. All sticks without names are considered to be the property of the Somers High School Band.
- Percussionists will be required to supply a full set of mallets and specialty sticks if the school supply is lost or broken.
- School owned instruments must be signed out with the director. Damaged equipment will be repaired or replaced at your expense.

CELL PHONES AND TECHNOLOGY

Any student using a cell phone or other personal device during class (including all aspects of the phone: calls, texting and pictures) without explicit permission from the teacher, will receive a full grade deduction which will be figured in at the end of the marking period. Any student with a phone on their person during a performance onstage or at a performing venue will receive a failing grade for that marking period.

MUSIC

Each band member is responsible for their music folder and the condition of its contents, making sure it is in school daily for rehearsals.

Students will receive new music from Mrs. Wolf or the band secretary. If a second copy is needed, it is to be obtained through the band secretary. Please keep in mind that sheet music is expensive to replace, and treat your copies carefully.

INSTRUMENT STORAGE

Every member will receive a locker in the band room for daytime storage only. You are responsible for the condition of the locker and its contents. Locks can be used as long as the school has a key or the combination. The school reserves the right to enter the locker anytime.

Instruments and music are to go home every evening for practice.

GRADING

Every student begins each semester with the grade of "C" average (75 points)
Students are responsible for increases or decreases in their semester grade in relationship to the quality of their work and/or the merit/demerit system.

Students can increase their grades by:

- A. Active Listening: up to 15 points depending on the quality of work.
- B. Sectionals: 5 points will be given to students who attend sectionals as requested by their section leader.
- C. Challenges: see separate sheet regarding challenges for details (5 pts./person involved in each challenge.)
- D. Tutoring: working with younger students on a regular basis. Paperwork must be submitted to verify work. Points to be worked out before tutoring begins.
- E. Private study or tutoring sessions – must have proper documentation. (30 pts/quarter)
- F. Attendance at public concerts (5 pts/concert attended. A program, with a student and parent signature or an “Attended Concert” Google form must be submitted before the closing of grades each semester. The concert credit is given during the marking period that the concert date occurred in.)
- G. **There will be a 5 point deduction per day for late forms.** This includes uniform and music returns as well as fees collected. 5 points will be given when forms and fees meet deadlines.
- H. Personal public performances, ie. church, Lions Club, Rotary, recitals, etc. (10 pts. ea)
- I. Merits and demerits in 5 point increments will be given by director, section leaders, or drum majors.
- J. Concert/Parade Dress: 5 point deductions will be in effect for each missing part of your uniform at each performance. You are 100% responsible for knowing what articles of your uniform you need for each type of performance. (Marching Band vs. Concert Band)

Section leaders, drum majors and captains must fill out self evaluation forms each semester and prove their improvement goals were met to earn their grade.

Students will be requested to play portions of their music at any point and time throughout the school year, for a grade, without prior warning. This performance may take place with the director, section leader, assistant section leaders, or before the entire band.

Students may also be requested to record themselves and submit the recording to their section leader, drum major, drum captain or their director for a grade.

Section leaders will be selected through an interview process. Section leaders, drum majors and drum captains may be asked to attend additional leadership meetings throughout the year.

Students failing to adhere to any portion of the above listed regulations will be subject to disciplinary action and/or point deductions. Those students persisting in improper behavior will be removed from the band without hesitation.

Students are responsible for checking the band web page (www.somersband.com) for communications and downloads throughout the year for class obligations and updates.

See “Charmsmusic.com”, “SomersBand.com” or the handout in the back of this packet for your mandatory performance dates.

1. Go to www.charmsmusic.com
2. Enter “somersmusic” in parent/student login.
3. Enter your student ID number in student password.
4. Click on finances to check your fundraising account balances.
5. Click on school calendar to check all your concert/audition and other required dates.
6. Click personal info and enter your email address. Click “update”.
7. Correct your age and grade level information, if needed.

I am truly looking forward to working with all of you this year! Let’s make this year the very best!
Treat others with respect and work hard, and the rewards will be great!

Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, and Kindness

Our Shared Core Values, “The Spartan Code”

Mrs. Jessica L. Wolf
Band Director
Jessica.Wolf@somers.k12.ct.us
(860) 749-2270 x2114 or x4169

RETURN THIS FORM TO SCHOOL ON OR BEFORE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2017.

We have read and agree to adhere to all of the above listed rules and regulations necessary to be a member of the Somers High School Band. We are also aware that students begin each semester with a grade of "C" no matter what instrument is involved. It is also my responsibility as a student to *improve* my grade, as listed above, each semester.

We are also aware of the performances and camp I am required to attend and the fact that my grade is directly related to my attendance at these functions.

Student Signature: _____

Student Name (printed): _____

Parent Signature: _____

Email Address: _____

Instrument Played: _____ Serial Number: _____

Uniform Cleaning Fee: We will collect dry cleaning fees at this time as to avoid chasing down payments at the end of the year when it is hectic. Each student is responsible for checking the chart in the rehearsal room and writing a check payable to: The Somers Music Patron's, Inc. for the proper amount. Please see the attached sheet to find the cleaning fee price list for this year.

UNIFORM CLEANING FEES ARE DUE SEPTEMBER 12, 2017.