

NORTHLAND



INSTRUMENTAL

MUSIC

2009-2010 Handbook

CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Welcome to one of the finest band traditions in the City of Columbus and the state of Ohio! As a member of the Northland High School Instrumental Music Department, you are a part of something whose traditions and reputation reach far beyond this school. At Northland, dedication and perseverance aren't just words, they are a way of life. We welcome you to this fine tradition, as you begin your high school years. It is my sincere hope that through our complete instrumental program, you may learn diligence, musicality, discipline, and an appreciation for the power of music.

An exciting year lies ahead, and it begins now! Get involved, become a leader, and practice hard! You make a difference!

I am looking forward to making music with you!

C. Rick Eckler

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES

Northland High School
1919 Northcliff Rd.
Columbus, Ohio 43229

365-6675 – Instrumental Music
365-5342 – Main Office

crickeckler@netscape.net - email
www.nhsmusic.org

VIKING PRIDE & TRADITION

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NORTHLAND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Eighth

EDITION

PURPOSE

The purpose of this handbook is to provide the members of the Northland Instrumental Music program with the policies and procedures of our program. Without organization within our program, chaos would exist. Therefore, this handbook proposes to eliminate the possibility of student misunderstanding by providing a source of reference for all instrumental music policies. An effort has been made to be as thorough as possible, knowing that it is impossible to cover all situations. When new situations or questions arise, the decision with how to deal with them will be made by the director. Input from administration, parents, and students will be used to help such decisions. The handbook will be updated as needed. The policies included in this handbook are intended to promote fairness and cooperation among the members and staff. All students and parents should read the handbook thoroughly in order to understand what is expected and to avoid future conflicts or misunderstandings. Any suggestions for improvement of this handbook can be made to the director and will be considered for future editions of the handbook. We look forward to the many positive contributions you will make to Northland's rich tradition, and hope you will find your experience in this program as rewarding as past members.

GOAL STATEMENT

It is our goal that every student in the Northland Instrumental Music program develops a lifelong appreciation for the value of music in his or her life. We want each and every student to become the most proficient musician and performer that they are capable of. We realize that most of our students will enjoy music as listeners much more often than as performers after they leave our program. With that in mind, we will strive to help them develop the widest range of musical taste by exposing them to as many different music styles and ideas as possible. Through our rehearsal situations, we hope to instill a strong sense of self-discipline, self-motivation, and an inner drive for excellence in everything they do. From our performance opportunities, we want students to gain the self-confidence to know there is nothing they can't achieve; no obstacle they can't overcome, if they are willing to utilize all their talents and work hard enough and long enough. Through their social relationships within the band, we want them to develop lifelong memories and friendships, which are bonded by the challenges they will face and overcome together. Most of all, we want them to be able to view band as an experience that had a positive effect on their lives for years to come.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Congratulations! You are a valued member of the Northland High School Instrumental Music Department. Your effort, dedication, practice time, and love of music have made it possible for you to join a most valued institution of "Green and Gold." Your participation in our Marching Band, Orchestra, or one of the specialized groups will certainly enhance your high school career, develop your musical talents, introduce you to a family of life long friends, and offer you the experience and history of a nationally recognized instrumental program.

The opportunities afforded to you by your membership are many, which will be carried into adulthood. Your director will provide you with advanced music instruction and theory. Support and encouragement will come from the faculty, student body, administration, and an excellent parent organization.

Always remember that you are the recipient of the rich heritage and tradition that began in 1967 with the first members of the Instrumental Department. You must continue that tradition with a dedicated work and study ethic, enthusiasm, and commitment to excellence and Northland High School.

WE ARE VIKINGS !

Duane R. Bland
Principal

PERFORMING GROUPS

MARCHING BAND

The nationally acclaimed Northland Marching Band has proudly represented Columbus and the state of Ohio since 1967. Besides providing half-time entertainment for Viking fans at all home and away games, the Marching Band has also performed in a nationally viewed commercial for Grange Insurance, at Walt Disney World 's Magic Kingdom, the Peach Bowl in Atlanta, Georgia, the Outback Bowl in Tampa, Florida and the Gator Bowl in Jacksonville, Florida. In 2001, the Band marched in the Nokia Sugar Bowl in New Orleans and in 2003; they went again to Disney World. The Marching Band also performed for President Bush in November 1991 and in Spring of 2000 represented the State of Ohio in the Bicentennial of the White House in Washington D .C. and competed in a parade competition in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The Northland Marching Band is the most active of the performing groups during the fall. Marching Band requires extra rehearsals in the summer and during the school year. Performances include every football game during the season and some weekend parades. Marching Band requires extra effort and time. Members are selected through auditions held during band camp. *Our standard of perfection is only attainable through the individual efforts of our members.*

CONCERT & SYMPHONIC BAND

At Northland High School, we have the unique opportunity to offer an educational program consisting of two performing concert groups. These groups are referred to as the Symphonic Band and the Concert Band. The bands are open only to those students who are members of the Marching Band. The only exceptions are for varsity football players, varsity cheerleaders, and those students with valid medical excuses. The Symphonic Band is reserved for the truly talented student who has achieved a level of performing difficult literature. This band is open to all grades and acceptance will be determined through auditions. The Concert Band will perform a variety of musical literature suited to the ability of the people involved. These bands meet 1st period after the completion of the marching band season. Our purpose for having two groups is not to distinguish between good and bad, but only to serve the proper needs of those students who are interested in advancing their musical knowledge.

ORCHESTRA

The Northland Orchestra is an orchestra of full instrumentation performing the classics from both the past and present. The Northland Orchestra has performed at Walt Disney's EPCOT Center and won the championship trophy at the national Outback Bowl competition in Tampa, Florida. The Orchestra is open to string players in any grade and select wind players who have completed an audition in the fall.

JAZZ BAND

The Northland Jazz Band is a group of select instrumentation, which performs jazz repertoire from the early years of jazz music to the present. Membership in the Jazz Band is based on audition. In 2003, the Jazz Band was able to play at Walt Disney World.

OTHER MUSIC COURSES

BASIC INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

This class is open to any student enrolled at Northland for the purpose of beginning a musical instrument, changing instruments or for becoming more proficient on their primary instrument. Students who do not attend Marching Band Camp may be placed in this class.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT MUSIC THEORY

This class is open to students who have completed Basic Music Theory *and* have received

permission of the director. Students may receive college credit for this class through the College Board Advanced Placement Exam.

OTHER PROGRAMS

NIMPA

NIMPA -Northland Instrumental Music Parents Association is the primary support group for the instrumental music program. NIMPA is the largest organized support group in the Columbus City Schools and is essential to the success of our program. **NIMPA is YOU!** If you are a parent of a student in the program, then you are an important part of NIMPA. It is expected that all parents of students in the Northland program participate in the booster organization. It is impossible to provide the best opportunities for our students when only a few parents try to do all of the work. **IT IS VITAL THAT ALL PARENTS DO THEIR PART.** NIMPA is a service organization whose beneficiaries are the students in the program. Volunteers are often needed to help with various projects. Get involved with this fantastic group. Membership is open to anyone interested in advancing instrumental music at Northland High School. Membership is \$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per family per year. NIMPA meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30 at the school.

The *NIMPA News* is the main form of communication for the many and varied activities, dates and information between the parents and the program. You should receive the *NIMPA News* every month. Please notify the director if you are not getting your copy. Both parents and students should read each copy of the *NIMPA News*.

SUMMER MUSIC

Summer Music runs from mid-June to mid-July. During this program, students learn how to march, learn another instrument, or continue to hone their skills on their primary instrument. Students who attend this optional program are advanced in their marching band skills and well adjusted socially when school resumes in the fall. Active participation in our many summer activities helps with an often-difficult transition and is essential in developing students' skills. The Marching Band performs in the 4th of July Parade as well as at the concert by the entire summer music program.

BAND CAMP

The Marching Band begins intense training two weeks before school opens at Northland. Band camp lasts 4 hours Monday through Friday from approximately 8:00 AM until 12:00, with two additional evening rehearsals. **ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY** for any student who wishes to be a part of the Marching Band and the Concert or Symphonic Bands. Please schedule vacations before band camp begins. Band camp takes part during the hottest time of the year. The work is intense and challenging. See the section on marching band for more information about band camp.

DESCRIPTIONS OF STUDENT ROLES

The Northland community is a proud community. The Northland Instrumental Music program has been a significant representative helping to nourish the proud reputation of the community and the school. The real importance of the program has been the elevation of people's lives through musically artistic experiences, interpersonal relationship skills, and cultivating leadership potential. None of these, proud traditions or lofty goals could ever be a reality without some of the finest young people serving as musical representatives. It is self evident that the quality of the program available to the students would be greatly diminished if the band membership would be reduced to young people involved in breaking school rules, or worse, federal, state or civil laws. For these reasons it is extremely important that each and every Northland Instrumental Music student understand the responsibility for only the best behavior that they automatically assume when they accept membership into the organization. We carry ourselves with pride, class and dignity 100% of the time. We demonstrate "The Northland Way"!

ATTITUDE -One of the keys to a successful instrumental music program is that the proper attitude be present among its members. It is vital that all members cooperate with instructors and student leaders in order to insure the best possible experience for all. Those students that exhibit an unwillingness or inability to do this will be suspended or removed from the program.

STUDENT HANDBOOK -All the policies found in the student handbook as well as other school or Board of Education rules and policies, apply to all band functions. This includes after school rehearsals, activities and performances. Students and parents should remember, though, that band students will be held to higher standards than those for the general student body and the policies and consequences in the student handbook will be considered the minimum for band students.

BAND OR ORCHESTRA MEMBER

A Northland band or orchestra member is a student who has, by choice, committed and dedicated him or herself to the goals and philosophy of the music department. The objective of each member should always be to become a successful part of the total unit and to strive to help others achieve the same goal

DRUM MAJOR

The drum major, because of his or her position, should serve as a model leader to all members within the band. In many instances, the drum major's standards must be set higher to be able to achieve the respect needed for the goal of leadership. Once leadership and respect is achieved, the drum major should not hesitate to assume authority in the absence of the director. The drum major will be responsible for helping to run the rehearsals during marching band season. Drum majors may be asked to teach drill, conduct part of a rehearsal or do the warm-up for a performance. For this reason, not only do they need to be good musicians and teachers, but should have the necessary self-confidence and leadership qualities to function in these situations. If for any reason the director were detained from a rehearsal or performance, this individual or individuals would be expected to take over the situation. With the help of the other officers, they would be expected to run the rehearsal or performance in such a way, that no one outside the band would know that the director is not there. The drum major will be selected each spring from the list of candidates that have successfully completed the tryout process. To be considered for drum major, the candidate is usually a rising junior or senior and has previously marched in our program. Criteria for selection will include: Grade point average, teacher evaluation, an interview with the selection committee, drill, and twirling.

OFFICERS

Four officers are elected in the spring for the following year by a vote of all instrumental students in grades 9-11. All officers share an equal rank and should maintain the same standards as that of the drum major. The responsibilities of the officers are to maintain and promote the philosophy of the instrumental program. In addition, they should also serve as a communication link between the director and the student musicians. All officers should be concerned with the discipline and leadership within the program, not so much the day-to-day teaching responsibilities of the drum major. Not only should these students be strong musicians and leaders, but must be ready at any time to represent the program in all public situations. Among the many duties are to insure that the group carries out its assigned duties in the absence of the director or other staff. An officer should be prepared to help maintain the proper discipline within the group through the use of corrective measures prescribed by the director. Officers may also be involved with the collection of funds for charitable causes, maintaining equipment, coordinating the Senior Show, and assisting and promoting fundraisers. They may also be responsible for insuring that proper public relations are maintained for the instrumental program. They will be responsible for writing articles and securing pictures (when proper) to place in the paper to help publicize activities or honors for the band, orchestra or jazz band. They will work with the NIMPA publicity chairperson to coordinate efforts and present the performing groups and our activities in the most positive light to our community.

SQUAD LEADER

A band is only as good as its squad leaders. Due to the nature of a marching band, communication between the director and each member is not always possible. Therefore, to improve communication, the squad leader is chosen by the director on the basis of their ability to provide leadership. Every squad leader is responsible for making their squad fit into the framework of the entire unit. A squad leader must remember that he or she will earn leadership and respect from the squad only when he or she maintains a standard of work and conduct that he or she expects from the squad. Squad leaders are the band members' main liaison during marching band season. They will be responsible for helping teach music sectionals, teach drill, and passing out music to their section. Squad leaders are the prime boosters of enthusiasm for the band. Through the use of row dinners, buttons, T-shirts, sectionals, extra rehearsals, cheers, signs, etc., the squad leader sets the tone for the organization.

VALKYRIE

A Northland Valkyrie performs a major role in the success and quality of our shows. They should always feel a part of the band and in the same respect maintain the same rules and standards. Valkyries are selected by audition in the spring of the preceding year.

LIBRARIAN

The librarian will be responsible for maintaining the music library at Northland. They will keep the music library and records in order and will prepare folders for various performances and events. It will also be their responsibility to report any carelessness or misuse of music to the director. During marching band season, many pieces of music will be distributed. It is the student's responsibility to maintain their folder. Failure to pay for lost music or to turn in the music will result in grade card holds. All music must be replaced at cost to the band program. Depending on the type of music it is, this could be very expensive. Much of our music is out of print and no longer available. Students should keep track of their folders and keep them safe.

GRADING PROCEDURE

The Standard A - F letter grading system will be used in instrumental music performance groups. Grades will be given quarterly.

GRADING PERCENTAGES

60% - Classroom Performance Assessment

This encompasses preparedness in daily classroom performance, e.g., promptness, assigned music prepared through outside practice, instrument in good working condition and having needed accessories such as reeds, rosin, drum sticks, pencil, etc. Attendance and promptness in a performance class are vital. Students earn points for being on time and ready and at rehearsal. More detailed information regarding the grading procedure is distributed at the beginning of the school year.

40 % - Outside School Performances Assessment

This includes events such as: football games, parades, indoor concerts, competitions, and commencement. Each quarter will differ depending on the amount of outside performance opportunities.

Extra Credit Performance Assessment

Instrumental music students may earn extra credit through active participation in private instruction, solo and ensemble competition, local community performing groups such as the Columbus Youth and Cadet Symphonies, youth Wind Ensemble, Brass Bands, Franklin County Jazz Ensemble, and other out-of-school activities approved by the director.

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURE

PERFORMANCE ABSENCE --- PERFORMANCES ARE OUR EXAMS!

Part of being in a music class and on a music *team* involves performances at times other than school time. It is very important that all team members be present for these events, as an absence of even one performer can make a big difference in the success experienced by the whole group. Because performances are very important parts of the music class (similar to final exams in other classes), missing a performance without following the established excuse procedures may hurt the team and result in a lower grade and/or removal from the music class. There are three reasons for being excused from a performance: a) unavoidable conflict, b) student illness, and c) emergency. Students are expected to notify the director well before an absence. A note from a parent or doctor is required.

REHEARSAL ABSENCE

Rehearsals, by their very nature, cannot be made up. Prompt, regular attendance at rehearsals is vital to the success of the performance groups and the student. Being absent from a rehearsal for any reason is reflected in the total points the student earns during the grading period. Proper paperwork must be filled out for an excused absence.

MARCHING BAND

This section deals with many details of the marching band season. As a new member, the transition from middle school music to high school music can be a difficult one. You will probably perform more in the first month than in an entire school year in middle school. Dates, arrival times, dress, extra rehearsals, and all the other facets of being a member are posted in the *NIMPA News* and on the bulletin board as soon as possible. It is vital that each and every band member be aware of all dates and times and makes the necessary arrangements to attend. If this section doesn't answer your questions, your best source of information is your squad leader. He or she has the experience and the answer. Parents: your best source of information is a "veteran" parent. They have the insight and have gone through exactly what you will become a vital part of.

There are several different styles of marching bands. The main styles are traditional or military, corps, and dance. The Northland tradition was established in 1966 and continues to carry us proudly. Northland marches the traditional style, identified by the high leg lift, sharp turns, and military precision. You will have many opportunities to see other styles as we watch other bands perform. Be appreciative of the difference and proud of the style you will become a part of.

The standard marching band step is 22.5 inches. Eight 22.5-inch steps will cover five yards. Band members must comprehend the basic marching techniques and practice them until they can be performed automatically without thought. The key element in this process is the 22.5-inch step or the 8 x 5!

The marching unit that performs the half-time and pregame show must be divisible by eight. For this reason, the band is always decreased to an appropriate number. The students who do not march in the half-time or pregame show are referred to as alternates. An important part of being in the Northland Marching Band is accepting the responsibility of being an alternate. It should be noted that an alternate should receive just as much recognition for a performance as that of a regular. The mere fact that a regular had to work hard to beat out an alternate means that the alternate has played an important part toward the success of your show. Band members included in our performances will be determined by attendance at rehearsals, music memorization, marching skills, and general attitude. Students will be assigned a row and a squad leader during marching band camp. The row will be determined by need and instrumentation. Each row will march 8 members during pregame and half-time. All rows will have more than 8 members assigned and the extra marchers will be alternates. Alternates will have the option to challenge into each and every pregame and half-time providing their music is memorized. Regulars who have not memorized their music will not march.

Challenges will take place just prior to the performance being prepared. Squad leaders, using guidelines established by the director, will be instrumental in picking the regular marcher. Alternates will be expected to work with the band director in helping to improve the quality of our performances. The director will make changes in squads only in the best interest of the band and the student involved.

BAND CAMP

Band camp begins two weeks before school starts and runs from approximately 8 am to 12 noon, with approximately two evening rehearsals. Times will be announced based on need. Participation in band camp is mandatory for all participants in the marching band. Since you must be in marching band to participate in the Concert or Symphonic Band, you must complete band camp to play in either of these groups. The only exceptions are for varsity cheerleaders and varsity football players and students with proper medical excuses.

Band camp is grueling and hard. It often takes place during the hottest time of the year. Comfortable shorts, T-shirts and well-fitting athletic shoes are recommended for band camp. It is also recommended that students bring water. Marching fundamentals are *taught* during Summer Band. Band camp will *review* the fundamentals of marching band. Again, Summer Band is highly recommended - especially for rookies. During Band Camp students will learn pregame, and the first football half-time show. Members will be placed in rows and alternates will be chosen. Music will be passed out on the first day. All music performed by the Northland Marching Band is memorized. Students will be busy during their free time during band camp working on memorization and marching fundamentals. *As with any task you undertake, practice makes perfect.*

MEMORIZATION

Music memorization is often a stumbling block - especially for first year members. It takes patience and time. Music must be repeated over and over again to gain the solid knowledge needed to march at the same time. It helps to memorize in 8 bar sections. For some, it helps to start at the end and work backwards. Parents can help by providing support and encouragement. Once again, if you find yourself frustrated and discouraged, ask your squad leader. Music memorization is a pre-requisite for membership in the band.

SUMMER BAND

Summer Band runs from mid-June through mid-July and is held at Northland High School. Summer band includes: orchestra, band, marching band, beginning band, jazz band, and some individual instruction. Students participating in the marching band section of summer band work on fundamentals before they ever get to band camp. The price for this course is approximately \$30 regardless of the number of groups the student performs in. Participating students find themselves well adjusted both socially and musically when they arrive at Northland in the fall. I strongly recommend summer band for all members of the instrumental program - especially first year members.

TRYOUTS

Membership in the Marching and Symphonic/Concert bands is by audition. Auditions are held during band camp. Audition criteria include music memorization, fundamental knowledge, marching precision, drive, determination, attitude, etc. Those students that do not make the Marching/Symphonic/Concert Band are encouraged to continue their instrumental music instruction in Basic Instrumental Music. In Basic Instrumental Music, these students can work on pregame music and furthering their skills to re-audition the following year.

ONCE SCHOOL STARTS...

Marching band meets first period everyday. Most days, practice is outdoors. Students should arrive early enough to prepare their instrument and dress appropriately to be *outside* the minute class starts. Lateness is noted for grades, attendance purposes, marching status, and Row of the Year ratings. Many students keep an extra set of shoes at school to wear outside on the practice field. We rehearse rain or shine; in the snow, mud or whatever we happen to come across. Students should be prepared and dressed appropriately for any weather. The major enemy of marching band is rehearsal time. We cannot always schedule around the weather. Early rehearsals are called that begin at 7:00 a.m. Students are required to attend these rehearsals.

GAME DAYS

We play at all home and away football games. There are usually 10 scheduled games. Depending on the football team's success, we may play at any post-season games as well. The students' arrival time will vary depending on the game. If we have a long distance away game, arrival time is very early. Home game arrival times are later. Students are expected to arrive in time to dress in their uniform or come fully dressed. The first time a student puts on the full uniform takes a bit longer - so plan for extra time the first game. Uniform supplies are available at the band room on all performance dates about an hour before performance or departure. The students report time is the time he or she is required to be ready for uniform inspection. Squad leaders at the school do inspection. Rows are inspected together. The row average is then added into the Row of the Year ratings (see Row of the Year section). Promptness is very important. Every minute of late arrival will decrease the row average and could keep a row from winning the Row of the Year competition. If promptness is a continual problem, the student may face other disciplinary action.

A usual game day schedule for a home game and an away game is:

HOME GAME
SQUAD LEADERS – 6:00
INSPECTION – 6:15
OUTSIDE – 6:30
RAMP LINES – 7:00

AWAY GAME
SQUAD LEADERS – 5:45
INSPECTION – 6:00
IN SEATS – 6:15
LEAVE – 6:30

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE! EXACT REPORT
TIMES WILL BE POSTED FROM WEEK TO WEEK!**

Buses transport the band to all away football games (see section on bus expectations). At away football games, we generally perform a pregame and half-time show. We are required by CCS to leave during the 4th quarter. We generally arrive back at Northland between 9:30 and 10:00. At home football games, the band performs a pregame, half-time, and sometimes a post-game show. The band is usually dismissed at about 10:00 from the band room. **The Band Director is required to remain with the students until a ride arrives, so it is very important that your student be picked up immediately after the game. We will change out of the uniform in the band room and will generally be ready for pickup by 10:00. If an away game requires more travel time, we may ask the students to call for rides from the bus when we are approaching the school.**

HOMECOMING

The Homecoming game involves a parade around the Northland neighborhood that begins about 5:00. Arrival times on Homecoming Day are very early -usually around 4:15. Many students bring their uniform in the morning and stay for the duration. NIMPA provides a pizza dinner after the parade for the students.

OTHER IMPORTANT STUFF FOR MARCHING BAND

Except for watches, no jewelry is worn while in the uniform. Starter earrings, necklaces, etc. must be removed prior to inspection. **DO NOT get your ear pierced if the starter earring will still be in for a performance. No one will march with an earring or jewelry.** No nail polish is allowed to be worn with the uniform. Please do not get your nails done prior to games or you will be required to remove your nail polish for inspections. Clear polish, or natural-looking French manicures are permitted.

Raincoats are assigned at the beginning of the year. If needed, raincoats will be issued at a performance. After the performance, the raincoats are to go home with the student and spread out to dry thoroughly. Raincoats must be rolled and stored a certain way. The squad leader will teach the student how to properly roll a raincoat. The dry, rolled raincoat is to be returned to the squad leader on Monday morning. Raincoats not returned on time will result in loss of points in the Row of the Year competition. If a raincoat is still not returned performance, **the student will not perform or travel with the group.**

If a student does not pass inspection prior to a performance, the student will not perform or travel with the group.

BUS EXPECTATIONS

Only our music students, school personnel, and chaperones are allowed to ride the bus.

Students will be assigned buses and will return on the same bus they go on.

We arrive and leave as a unit. Parents are requested not to remove their student from a performance or the trip back to the school. It is our responsibility to see that each student returns to the school safely. Please help by notifying the director in advance with a signed note if you must take the student from a performance.

Students should stay in their seat while the bus is in motion.

Absolutely no smoking, drugs, profanity, or alcohol is permitted.

Do not yell out the window.

Clean your area of the bus when we arrive at the destination.

Use moderation in singing and talking.

Maintain silence at railroad crossings.

By law, the bus driver is in control of the bus.

By *my* law, the chaperones are also in control of the bus.

Stay on the bus until you are requested to unload.

It is *your* responsibility to be on the bus at the designated time, both leaving and returning to school. When returning to the school, if a member is left behind, parents will be notified as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made to pick up the student. Violation of this matter may result in suspension from future trips.

Don't forget to thank the bus driver and chaperones for their assistance in making our trip safe and enjoyable.

Use common sense. Don't yell out the windows. Respect the other school.

STAND BEHAVIOR

Good bands look organized at all times. Conduct in the bandstands at football games is a vital portion of the impression and reputation we earn and leave with the public.

You must sit with your row where assigned by the drum major.

Be alert: watch the game and the drum major - things often happen quickly at football games. Be prepared to play the fight song after each touchdown and other stand cheers at other appropriate times.

We only play as a group - NEVER, EVER play your instrument in the stands when the WHOLE group isn't playing.

All play and stand when the band plays.

Parents and friends are not permitted to sit with the band in the stands. No one outside of the band is permitted to cut through the band section to enter or exit the stands. Instruments may be damaged due to extra traffic in this area.

Watch your instrument constantly to avoid damage.

Stay in full uniform at all times. You will be notified when to change into berets or hats.

Food and drink are not permitted in the bandstands with the exception of water.

Smoking, profanity, drugs, & alcohol are forbidden.

Do not throw things in the stands.

Never leave the bandstand without the director's permission. You are not to visit the concessions or restroom without a chaperone. This is especially important at away games.

REMEMBER -YOU ARE ON DISPLAY YOU REPRESENT NORTHLAND HIGH SCHOOL

3RD QUARTER

During third quarter, you are dismissed to get refreshments or visit.

Make sure your instrument is safe when leaving. You are responsible for your instrument at all times.

Do not leave the stadium, and stay in full uniform.

Most places we visit are very receptive to our band. You will hear many more compliments than "cuts". If taunted, walk away -remember, you are wearing the uniform.

Public display of affection is not allowed.

You are expected to be in your seat, ready to play, at the end of the third quarter - when the clock reaches 0:00!

Violation of any of the above will result in loss of third quarter privileges.

REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS

Concert, Symphonic, Orchestra & Jazz Bands

Be on Time! When you are running on "Northland Band Time" you arrive early to prepare for rehearsals. The minimum expectation is to be seated with your music, instrument and any other equipment by the 7:25 bell, or the appointed time for early rehearsals. Passes are required for tardiness. Chronic tardiness for rehearsal may result in temporary suspension from future band activities.

Do not chew gum in any rehearsal.

Use correct posture when playing your instrument. It is impossible to produce your very best *tone* or to play in *tune* without correct playing posture. Make every effort when you are playing to use only the first few inches of your chair. Adjust your stand so that you can see your music and the director.

Proper rehearsal technique is of great importance. Be it a student "director", a student teacher, one of your own teachers, or a guest clinician, always show respect by stopping all conversation when the individual *gets on the podium*.

Please do not have to be asked to stop talking.

Keep a pencil in your folder. To reach the high level of excellence we have come to expect of ourselves, it is absolutely necessary to mark every detail on your music. Keep a pencil on your music stand ready for action! Use It! *The weakest pencil mark is better than the strongest memory.*

Don't waste rehearsal time. If another section's problems are dominating the rehearsal, use the time to fake through difficult sections of the music. In the early stages of a composition's rehearsal, writing in rhythmic syllables, highlighting dynamics, routing endings, D.C. & D.S. marks and searching out key signature and accidental traps will benefit not only you but all the other band members as well. Do all you can to learn *your* part in each piece.

Exert control over yourself. Demand alertness, vitality, musical expression and a positive attitude from yourself.

Bottom Line! Do nothing to take your attention or anyone else's away from the music. With everyone pushing hard for the whole period every day, we can achieve our goals!! You are a member of a good high school band; always try to make a positive contribution toward the future success of our program.

Because students perform vital roles in the success of a marching band, it is necessary for students to show respect for, and to follow the instructions of their Drum Major, Officers, Squad Leaders, seniors, etc.

CHALLENGE PROCEDURE

Marching Band

Only those students who have successfully passed their music memorization check are eligible to challenge.

Alternates will shadow and learn a spot of who they choose to challenge while the band is learning a show.

Challenges will occur prior to a performance - usually on Thursday.

Challenges will occur separately for pre-game and half-time performances.

Squad leaders, using guidelines established by the director, will be instrumental in picking the regular marcher. Alternates will be expected to work with the band director in helping to improve the quality of our performances.

The director will make changes in squads, only in the best interest of the band and the student involved.

Symphonic Band, Orchestra and Jazz Band

No one may challenge within two weeks prior to a performance.

Unless open challenges are announced, you must challenge the person sitting in front of you.

Challenges will cover all music in the folder.

Challenges will cover a three-day period:

1. Day challenge is announced.
You must notify the person you are challenging, and the director.
2. Day of practice.
3. Day of challenge.

You may challenge from Concert Band to Symphonic Band. Example, 1st chair Concert Band challenges last chair Symphonic Band.

All decisions are final.

AWARDS

ROW OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

The Row of the Year competition began in 1966 and continues as one of the many fine traditions at Northland. Scores are tabulated through out the marching band season on a weekly basis and a Row of the Week is awarded each Monday for the previous week's high scoring row. At the end of the season, all scores for each week are added up to produce the Row of the Year. Scoring is done in three different areas:

1 – Inspection - The inspection score is tabulated immediately prior to any marching band performance. Each member in the row automatically receives 100 points. Points are then deducted for failing inspection, missing items, un-pressed coats or pants, un-brushed hats, missing gloves, poor reeds, dirty instruments, lateness, etc. Squad leaders rate different rows each week based on a rotating schedule announced early in the week.

2 Weekly Score - The weekly score is based on rehearsal behavior, marching, and music. The drum major may deduct points for lateness, talking, or any other poor rehearsal practice that he or she observes. The maximum points for a weekly score are 100.

3 Performance Score - The performance score is based on the row's performance during a football game, parade, or other marching band performance. The scoring includes: leg lift, drive, sharpness, music, stand behavior, and attitude. Many times guest adjudicators are asked to critique our performance. The total performance is rated -from arrival to departure, not just time on the field.

AWARDS & LETTERING

Because the Northland Instrumental Program is a significant representative of the school and community and because of the academic, creative and performance excellence displayed by its members, students may earn a school letter, bar, or Senior Blanket. The proper paperwork must be filled out during March to receive the award at the awards ceremony.

The names of certain student award winners are engraved on plaques in the band room. This proud tradition continues in the spring of each year. Awards are based on overall commitment to the ideals of the Northland Instrumental Music program.

**FERMATA AWARD
JOHN PHILIP SOUSA AWARD
ORCHESTRA AWARD
LOUIS ARMSTRONG AWARD
CAROLYN TRINTER AWARD**

**OUTSTANDING FRESHMAN
OUTSTANDING BAND MUSICIAN
OUTSTANDING ORCHESTRA MUSICIAN
OUTSTANDING JAZZ MUSICIAN**

Letters, bars, or Senior Blanket will be awarded to students who have successfully completed the following requirements of points based on their musical activities and contribution to the program:

Instrumental Music Letter Requirements

School Activities

- _____1. 300pts for summer instrumental music participation (marching fundamentals, etc.)
- _____2. 100pts for Winter Concert
- _____3. 100pts for Spring Concert
- _____4. 150pts for passing Basic Music Theory
- _____5. 250pts for passing Advanced Placement Music Theory
- _____6. 50pts for auditioning and making Jazz Band

Other Musical Activities

- _____1. 100pts per quarter of private lesson instruction (400pts max. per school year)
- _____2. 100pts for membership in Youth or Cadet Orchestra or other approved groups
- _____3. 50pts for membership in regional groups (ex. South Central Orchestra)
- _____4. 250pts for membership in All-Ohio State Band or Orchestra (not Fair Band)
- _____5. 100pts for attendance at approved master classes
- _____6. 100pts for All-City Orchestra or Band
- _____7. 50pts for All-City Jazz Band
- _____8. 50pts per quarter of documented practice time (approved by director)

Contests

- _____1. 100pts for large group contest - districts and state/per contest
- _____2. 300pts for taking a solo and receiving a I rating
- _____3. 250pts for taking a solo and receiving a II rating
- _____4. 200pts for taking a solo and receiving a III rating
- _____5. 300pts for participating in an ensemble and receiving a I rating
- _____6. 250pts for participating in an ensemble and receiving a II rating
- _____7. 200pts for participating in an ensemble and receiving a III rating

Special Responsibilities

- _____1. 100pts per year for band librarian
- _____2. 100pts per year for drum major
- _____3. 100pts per year for squad leader
- _____4. 100pts per year for officer
- _____5. 100pts per year for percussion section leader
- _____6. 50pts possible with the director's approval
- _____7. 50pts for any extra performances approved by director

Point requirements

1st year letter --800; 2nd year bar --1400; 3rd year bar --2000; 4th year Senior --2500

INSTRUMENT AND ROOM CARE

It is everyone's responsibility to maintain the music rooms in an orderly manner. It is not a big locker.

Instruments and music are permitted in the storage room lockers - no books, coats, etc. Equipment other than Instruments and music will be removed.

Music students are allowed to leave their coat or books on the shelves only while they are in the room. There is no eating or drinking in the band room during the school day.

Do not lean or push on the music stands.

If a non-instrumental person is in the room, notify the band director immediately. Students not in the instrumental program are not permitted in the instrumental room.

Non-percussion students are to stay out of the percussion area.

Do not play any of the stringed instruments stored in the main room.

Instruments in the instrument storage room must be in a locker or on the shelf with the exception of the largest instruments, which do not fit in a locker. Students are assigned a locker and are encouraged to use a lock.

Do not mess with anyone else's instrument. Each instrument is sensitive and expensive to fix or replace. Keep your hands on your instrument.

Students need to take care not to leave instruments unattended in precarious positions (on music stands, which can be easily bumped, on chairs sticking out into aisles, and standing or lying on the floor where someone could knock them over, step on them, or kick them.)

Instrument cases are not to be used as chairs, foot rests, or bowling balls, as these uses can impair their ability to protect the instrument inside from damage, dirt, or moisture.

Do not leave anything in the room. Any item left after a rehearsal or performance will be removed. Any uniform left will be cleaned. Hundreds of dollars in shoes, coats, etc. are donated each year to charitable organizations. Be accountable for your stuff – it isn't anyone else's job to clean up after you. I fine students to help them remember to take care of their stuff. Any item left can be retrieved after paying a fine. Fines range from 25¢ to \$5 for leaving a uniform. These fines are donated to a charitable organization.

Northland High School, NIMPA, and/or the Board of Education is not responsible for stolen or damaged instruments that are owned, rented or borrowed by students. Although Northland has an instrument storage area, it is provided for convenience during the school day. The school is not responsible for instruments left in the storage room during the school day or overnight. Instrumental students are expected to take their instrument home every night to practice.

Parents may wish to review their homeowner's or renter's policy to verify that the instrument is covered in the event of loss. Students must take proper care of instruments, including not leaving them in practice rooms, classrooms, buses, hallways, etc., during the school day, evenings, weekends, or vacations.

Rental Instruments

The school has some instruments available for a nominal yearly rental fee. Students are to see the director for an instrument if one is needed. These instruments are checked periodically for normal wear and tear. All additional repairs needed throughout the year are the responsibility of the student. The student is also responsible for the loss or destruction of the instrument. Students are responsible for any reeds, cleaning swabs, oil, etc. needed for the proper care and upkeep of the instrument.

UNIFORMS

Uniforms are the property of Northland High School and the Columbus Board of Education. At Northland, uniforms are maintained and issued by the Northland Instrumental Music Parents Association. Once a uniform is issued, the care and upkeep of that uniform becomes the responsibility of the student to whom it was issued, and of his/her parents or guardians. It is extremely important to take excellent care of the uniform, because students and parents are responsible for any damage to the uniform in their care, beyond normal "wear and tear."

Replacement costs for individual uniform items vary according to size, availability, and prevailing prices in the market, but the value of the full Marching Band Uniform, as issued, is approximately \$600! Listed below are the components of the uniform required for each performing group. Items purchased by the student remain his or her property, and may be reused from year to year, provided that they are kept in excellent condition.

MARCHING BAND:

Issued by the school

Hat with cover, rain cover & bag
Overlay
Jacket
Trousers
Shoulder Cords (2)
Raincoat

Purchased by the Student

Beret
Suspenders
Gloves
Spats
Drill Masters Black shoes
Solid Black socks
Garment Bag

Summer Uniform

Green "N" shirt (NIMPA)
Gold Shorts (NIMPA)
"N" socks (NIMPA)
Solid white shoes

CONCERT BAND / SYMPHONIC BAND / ORCHESTRA:

Issued by the School

Jacket
Trousers

Purchased by Student

White tuxedo shirt or blouse (NIMPA)
Black dress shoes
Black socks
Hose or black trouser socks for female
(Bow ties will be given out to use during Contest, then returned)

WEAR AND CARE OF THE MARCHING BAND UNIFORM

Uniforms are issued in first-class condition. Following the guidelines below will help you to keep them in good condition. Uniforms are NEVER to be worn by anyone (including other band members) other than the person to whom it is issued. As previously stated, you and your parents are responsible for any damage to any part of the uniform beyond that reasonably expected from normal "wear and tear".

***** Also, please remember that earrings or nail polish MAY NOT be worn along with the marching uniform. Students also will not be allowed to march and will fail inspection. Students are advised not to get their ear pierced before or during the marching season, as the removal of a new earring for each game may be painful. Band-Aids WILL NOT BE HANDED OUT******

HAT

WEAR

Hat includes braid, which should drape under the center star, and a chinstrap, both of which are removable. The hat must be worn so that the brim comes to the top of the eyebrow. All hair, including bangs, must be under the hat. A French braid is suggested to keep the hair up.

CARE

Each hat comes with a rain hat, and a green hat bag. When the hat is not being worn, it should be stored in the green bag. Do not store wet hats in the hat bag. Do not store heavy items inside the hat. The leather framework inside can be torn. Hats should be brushed before each inspection. Brushes are available in the band room.

The green hat bag may be washed with other colored items.

JACKET

WEAR

Jacket should have two buttons in front, and three on each sleeve. See uniform committee if you need buttons. Hem sleeves to the wrist. Remember that you may not cut off any material while hemming.

CARE

Uniforms are 100% wool and are, therefore, very susceptible to mildew. Be certain that the jackets, and all parts of the uniform, are completely dry before you place them in your garment bag, or in any poorly ventilated space. Remember that you are as responsible for mildew damage as you are for any other kind of damage. **Never** wash any part of the uniform, except the hat cover, in the washer. Jacket and trousers should be pressed before each performance.

PANTS

WEAR

Pants are worn with suspenders, which are attached to six buttons inside the waistband. Pants should be hemmed by hand to mid-ankle. Again, remember that no material may be cut off of the pants while hemming. The 6" expandable zipper allows for extra clothing during the cold season.

CARE

See Jacket care.

OVERLAY

WEAR

The overlay should be worn over the jacket **ONLY** during marching season. Gloves are placed under the overlay's left shoulder strap, the beret under the right shoulder strap. The overlay collar must be hooked. Braids are worn under the arm, passing around the shoulder, through the shoulder straps. **Squad Leaders only:** Shoulder nests are attached to the overlay shoulder straps. Gold braid is worn on the right shoulder.

CARE

The uniform committee will address overlay concerns. Overlays should **not** be pressed. If they become wrinkled, they should be steamed. We have a steamer in the band room and this should be used to take out wrinkles. They should **never** be dry cleaned without the band director or the uniform chairman's knowledge.

RAINCOATS

Each marching band member is assigned a raincoat during the August fitting nights. The raincoats are stored in the band room, and are taken out only when needed. In the event of rain, the squad leaders will issue the raincoats before the game, or will have them transported to the field to be used if necessary.

When the raincoats are issued, the return policy is as follows:

- ALL WET RAINCOATS MUST BE TAKEN HOME TO DRY, BOTH INSIDE AND OUT.
- Each band member is to refold and rubber band the raincoat and returns it to his/her squad leader on the Monday following the game. The squad leader will return the coats to the raincoat bags.
- A list of the names and numbers of each row will be posted on the door of the practice room and the names will be marked off as the squad leader receives each coat.
- A second list of the rows themselves will be posted in the lobby and the squad leaders will mark off their rows as they are completed.
- It is the responsibility of the squad leaders to see that all raincoats are returned as soon as possible. ALL raincoats must be returned before the next game, or the band member WILL NOT pass inspection. Band members who do not pass inspection, do not march the game.
- It is the responsibility of the Drum Major and /or Band Officers to see that all rows are accounted for before the following game.

Plan Now for August Band Fees

On Uniform Nights in August, several fees will be due. Below is an explanation for the various fees.

NHS-CPS Fee - \$40

This fee is similar to a lab fee that you might pay for special equipment or books in a science class. Although the funds are banked and audited through a CPS account downtown, they are only used for Northland HS instrumental music program. The funds are split and 50% is kept in our school's account for future replacement of permanent parts of the band uniforms. The other 50% is used for the current year's sheet music for various instrumental groups at Northland and for instrument repair.

NIMPA Fundraising Fee—\$50

NIMPA funds are used for sheet music purchases to “cover the gap” from CPS fees. NIMPA funds are also used to supplement uniform purchases. For example, proceeds from the sub sale two years ago, along with a generous donation from Randy Looker, were used to purchase 25 pair of uniform pants. Also, when the ‘Q-tip’ hats were purchased a few years ago, 50% of the funds were from the CPS fund and 50% were from NIMPA. NIMPA funds are used for band awards, instrumental purchases, trips, and hospitality for the students at various events and performances and to assist with instrument repairs.

Individual Uniform Fund—\$40

At the beginning of each Marching Band season, your individual uniform account must carry a balance of \$40. This fund will cover the replacement cost of uniform accessories such as gloves, berets, suspenders, or spats if they are lost or damaged during the season. Unused funds are returned at the end of the senior year. The funds can also be used to purchase summer uniform parts or tuxedo shirts for symphonic contest.

Uniform Accessory Purchases

New band members will need to purchase a set of accessories for the marching season. Returning band members will need to replace any accessories that were lost or damaged from the previous season.

Accessory prices:

Gloves	\$3.00
Beret	\$6.00
Spats	\$6.00
Suspenders	\$4.00
Garment Bag	\$3.00
Total	\$22.00

CLOSING

At times, being a member of the band can place a temporary financial burden on families. When or if this situation should occur, members and parents should feel free to discuss it with the director. Short-term loans may be possible.

It is one of the goals of the Northland Instrumental Music Program that everyone involved – staff, students, and parents have a positive experience. If we all keep in mind that by pulling together and working toward the overall good of the program, positive experiences will happen. We want everyone to feel they are a part of this “family” and to build and maintain these close relationships long after their performing days in the program are done. Only through our mutual efforts can we attain both our goals for this program. With YOUR help, we can do it. WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY!