

The Lane Tech Varsity Band 2013-2014

Please read all information below regarding class rules, guidelines, expectations, fees, fundraisers, rentals and other band related issues. Once you have read all information and your questions have been answered, please sign and return it with your child. Instruments cannot be given out until form is signed and returned. Year round information can be found on the bands website at: www.turnthebeataround.wordpress.com

Welcome!: This is the second year in quite some time where we are centralizing the marching band into one group. We are reinstating the lettering program as well as restructuring some of the events throughout the year. I am very excited and cannot wait to share the joy of making music again with you all.

Fees for Varsity Band:

quick start: you will pay a \$50.00 music fee. All ensemble members pay this fee (chorus, orchestra, percussion and band). This fee goes into the music department account and is spread around various ensembles to use on things such as music, repairs, supplies, new instruments etc.

instrument rental fee: While many schools charge a monthly rental fee, we do not. Lane Tech charges a one time yearly fee of \$50.00 for instrument rental. If you own your own instrument there is no fee at all. If you decide to rent from an outside company expect to pay a minimum of \$25.00-\$65.00 per month. In the event that an instrument needs to be shared, the fee drops down to \$25.00 per person. In this case, the student would need to purchase their own mouthpiece which we can order for them. Costs vary for mouthpieces but would not exceed \$45.00. Percussionists pay a \$25.00 yearly maintenance fee which counts as the rental fee.

marching essentials: In order to perform as a Marching Warrior one will need the following:

****Flip Book, Marching Shoes and Black Socks, Pep Band T-Shirt**

***all of this is online and subject to change. please stay posted.**

Fundraisers: To be discussed. We are doing one immediately.

Instrument Care:

Before a student receives their instrument, a contract is sent home for both parents and student to read and sign. While we will pay for general upkeep and cleaning, any costs due to damage or theft by the student or anyone while in the care of the student falls on the responsibility of the student. This includes paying the repair costs or replacing the instrument if stolen. All band students will be issued a band locker to keep their Instrument in during the day because Instruments are not to be left in the students' regular school locker.

Homework is Practicing:

All band classes are "performance based" classes. The student's grade is based mostly on how well they are playing. They will receive 1 written exam on terms and musical symbols as well as write a paper at the end of each semester, but mostly they will be graded on performing. Practicing the instrument is imperative to the success of the musician as well as their grade. Instruments can go home anytime and is highly encouraged. Students also have the option of practicing after school in one of our 6 practice studios at Lane. The average practicing schedule should be 4 days per week, 30-40 minutes per practice

General Class Rules and Guidelines

Leaving Any Ensemble:

In order for band, choir and orchestra to grow in terms of quality and musicianship, there must be consistency within the program in regards to membership. Simply put, no ensemble member is allowed to quit one ensemble to join another (ex: quit band to join choir, or quit orchestra to join band etc). An ensemble member CAN be in more than one ensemble at a time if it fits within their schedule. We have students who are in symphonic band, orchestra and jazz band in their junior or senior year, but they are not allowed to quit their primary ensemble to join another. The only exception would be if a student is placed in the wrong class by accident and needs to be switched. ****READ THIS AGAIN****

School ID:

School ID's are to be worn at all times. They are in place for your safety and a rule that will be upheld in band.

Punctuality:

You must be to class on time. 5 unexcused tardies and you will be pulled from a major performance at the discretion of Mr. Flygt. Major Performances include: Homecoming, December Holiday Concert, T.A.S.T.E performance, any special guest concerts and the Spring Semi-Annual Concert. Consistent tardiness will absolutely result in grades being lowered. Once in the band room students have 2 minutes to get their instruments/book and get seated. If you are late to class, you must have a pass or tardy slip. Consistent tardiness will be dealt with on a case to case basis. The first action will be a phone call home, the second action a meeting with the parents, and lastly I will personally orchestrate a meeting with the parents, student, and the principal.

Behavior:

Any behavior not becoming of a Lane Tech Student or Band Student will in no way be tolerated. Any negative comments about race, religion, ethnicity, sex, vulgarity or any other behavior deemed negative will be dealt with immediately and brought to an abrupt end.

Band Instruments:

No one is to play or touch any other instruments in the band room except their own. While it is tempting to go hit percussion Instruments, only Percussionists are allowed to. If you break it, you will pay for it. Do not play on any piano unless a director has given you permission. No student should for any reason touch any of the director's musical scores at the podium.

Band Sheet Music:

Students are responsible for their Binders and Sheet Music. If you lose something contact the librarian or Mr. Flygt.

Band Lockers and Instrument Storage:

All students will pick a band locker for themselves where ONLY their instrument and music should be kept. Absolutely no food, beverages, clothes etc will be kept in band lockers. Band instruments will be placed in their case before going into lockers. If it is found that a student is mistreating an instrument, **which includes keeping the**

instrument out of its own case, the instrument will be taken from them and they will need to rent one from an outside company. In the above instance, NO refunds are given on rental fees.

Performances:

The Varsity Band will perform many times throughout the year. All performances ARE MANDATORY and if missed will result in the grade of a zero. Exceptions include **verifiable** medical excuses or emergencies turned in the day of or the immediate day after. After that, nothing is accepted.

Concert Attire:

We will wear uniforms for Pep Rally, Homecoming, and the December Concert. Pep Band T-Shirt with black slacks for all other athletic events. **BLACK SOCKS AND MARCHING SHOES FOR EVERYONE EXCEPT DRUM MAJORS.** No jeans, gym shoes or prints are acceptable. If you are not prepared for the event you will not perform. My suggestion is to buy as much as you can at a thrift store, wash it and you are set. Buy clothes in advance and do not wait until last minute. **SPRING CONCERT:** Boys- black dress pants, dress shoes, socks, and tie with white long sleeve button down shirt. Girls - ankle length black skirt (no prints), shoes, with white button up blouse short or long sleeve.

SIGN AND RETURN

By signing this form, you are stating that you have read it and the Band Handbook with your child, that both parents and child understand it, that you agree with the contents and that you have had the opportunity to ask questions about it.

Should anything come up, please contact Mr. O'Brien at **bjobrien@cps.edu** or Mr. Flygt at **aflygt@cps.edu**

Please sign this form below and bring it back by tomorrow. Additionally, we will be able to issue them an instrument.

Date: _____
Parent Signature _____ cell phone _____

printed e-mail address

Period: _____ Date: _____
Printed Student Signature

In the space below please share one thing you are excited about as well as one thing you are not excited about.