

Forsyth Central High School Flash of Crimson Band Manual

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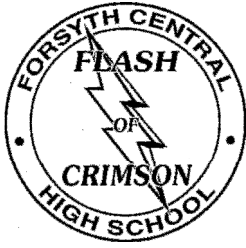
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Dear Band Member,

You are a member of the Forsyth Central High School *Flash of Crimson Band* - a musical organization which ranks among the finest in the nation. In becoming a member, you are joining a distinguished list of musicians who have established a proud and envied tradition. Just as the accomplishments of the present band are built upon the foundation laid by hundreds of past band members, the future success and reputation of the band depends on YOU. Be proud of your organization and its ideals, for you are now a part of what is truly a unique experience.

The motto of the Flash of Crimson is "PRIDE, HONOR AND DEDICATION." FOC members have pride in their organization; its performances and objectives. FOC members hold the honor of representing Cumming, Forsyth County, Georgia and even the Country with class, dignity and discipline. FOC members also have dedication to themselves, each other and to the organization.

It should be said that no one has ever quit the FOC, because in order to quit you have to be a member - a real member. A true member would never quit. School, family, work, church - all must be carefully balanced. It is not always easy to be the best, but it is easy to be a failure. Failure is the road with the least resistance; it takes no hard work or special skills. Sometimes "outsiders" may ridicule the band because they don't understand or because they are simply insecure or jealous of your abilities and successes. Success is often the hardest road to travel but it is a journey worth taking.

Commitment is what transforms a promise into reality. It is the words that speak boldly of your intentions and the actions that speak louder than words. It is making the time when there is none; coming through time after time. Commitment is the stuff that character is made of: the power to change the face of things. It is the daily triumph of integrity over skepticism.

We think that this manual will be almost as valuable to you as you are to the band.

John Mashburn

Behavior Guide

Students are expected to be ladies and gentlemen at all times. Band Members could be suspended from band and/or school for misconduct on buses, at rehearsals, during performances and at anytime during a band trip or function.

For any organization, particularly a large organization, to run smoothly and efficiently the overall discipline must be both strict and fair. The organization must come first! To insure fair treatment, and the Director's respect for the students, the following policy will apply to all members within the band.

Band and its activities, whether at home or on a trip, is an extension of school; therefore, ALL SCHOOL RULES APPLY 24 HOURS A DAY. The Director or his assignees may search instrument cases, luggage or motel rooms. See the Student Handbook and the Forsyth County Code of Discipline for more information and details.

1. Use of tobacco, drugs or alcohol will not be tolerated.
2. Use of "bad" or inappropriate language will not be tolerated.
3. Students should not be in the main school buildings after 3:45 PM during after school rehearsals.
4. Students not participating in a performance due to illness, excessive absences, etc. must still attend "in uniform" unless they are excused by a director.
5. Students must follow the Uniform Code.
6. Band members must honor the position and leadership of all band officers. The officers have earned their position through experience, training and testing. Unfair or unauthorized treatment should be brought to the director.
7. Band Officers found guilty of misconduct can lose their ranking.
8. Follow the directions of directors and chaperones at all times.
9. Headphones must be used with radios/players on the bus. Respect the rights of other.
10. Follow the itinerary at all times; any changes will be announced or posted by the director. Bring and wear a watch. "Someone said" is not a reason to change the rules or the itinerary.
11. No girls in boys' rooms or hallways, no boys in girls' rooms or hallways.

REMEMBER: YOU REPRESENT YOUR SCHOOL, YOUR DIRECTORS, YOUR PARENTS AND MOST IMPORTANTLY - YOURSELF! DO IT WITH

"PRIDE, HONOR AND DEDICATION".

Concert Etiquette

The following is a list of standard concert etiquette procedures for all concert functions. The Forsyth Central Music Department would like to thank our audiences for their continued cooperation and support in our endeavor to teach everyone, young and old, proper concert etiquette and to create a concert environment that acknowledges respect for the student's hard work.

- Parents should try to attend all performances. You are the student's most important audience.
- If you happen to arrive late, enter the performance room only between musical selections. It is distracting to the audience and the performers when someone enters during a performance.
- Please stay for the entire program. If you must leave, do so between musical selections. Remember: all performers must stay the duration of the concert. Part of the educational process is for the younger players to hear the more advanced players.
- Please do not talk, pop chewing gum, or allow watches, beepers or cell phones to go off during a performance.
- Please applaud at the end of each selection performed by concert groups. Hold applause until all movements are completed in a multi-movement selection as indicated in the concert program.
- Please applaud immediately after a soloist's performance in a Jazz Ensemble performance only.
- Please do not take flash pictures during a performance.
- Please wear appropriate concert attire. Remember that adults are the visual role models for young people.

Respect for the Podium

This is a courtesy among musicians. Whoever is on the podium - Director, Band Officer or Band Parent - must be given the undivided attention of everyone in the room. All talking and playing must stop.

Course Descriptions

Intermediate Band I	for Freshmen
Intermediate Band II	for Sophomores
Intermediate Band III	for Juniors
Intermediate Band IV	for Seniors

The Intermediate Band (also known as Concert Band) is a regularly scheduled year-long class that receives 1 unit of Fine Arts credit towards graduation. It is also used to satisfy three of the four required elective units that count towards graduation. Please see the student handbook for more information on graduation requirements.

The Intermediate Band is an outcome-based course with performance, homework and classroom requirements. The Intermediate Band performs music in the difficulty range as specified in the Georgia Music Educators Association handbook as level III (three) and IV (four). The purpose of the Intermediate Band is to develop individual and ensemble performance skills. Further purposes shall be to increase musical knowledge and appreciation through participation in public performances and Georgia Music Educators Association approved festivals and competitions. Admission is by teacher approval for previously enrolled band students. Enrollment is based on ability level and, just as important, balanced instrumentation of the ensemble. Transfer students may be required to audition. Students should make satisfactory progress and grades to achieve continued placement in the Intermediate Band. Refer to the section of Expectations, Evaluations and Grading for more information.

Advanced Band I	for Freshmen
Advanced Band II	for Sophomores
Advanced Band III	for Juniors
Advanced Band IV	for Seniors

The Advanced Band (also known as the Symphonic Band) carries the same course description as the Intermediate Band with the exception of the difficulty of the music. The Advanced Band performs music in the difficulty range as specified in the Georgia Music Educators Association handbook as level V (five) and VI (six).

Advanced Instrumental Ensemble I	for Freshmen
Advanced Instrumental Ensemble II	for Sophomores
Advanced Instrumental Ensemble III	for Juniors
Advanced Instrumental Ensemble IV	for Seniors

The Advanced Instrumental Ensemble (also known as “the World Line” Class) is a regularly scheduled year-long class that receives 1 unit of Fine Arts credit towards graduation. It is also used to satisfy three of the four required elective units that count towards graduation. Please see the student handbook for more information on graduation requirements.

The “World Line” Class is an outcome-based course with percussion performance, homework and classroom requirements. The Drumline performs music in the difficulty range as specified in the Georgia Music Educators Association handbook as level III (three) to VI (six). The purpose

of the World Line is to develop individual and ensemble performance skills. Further purposes shall be to increase musical knowledge and appreciation through participation in public performances and GMEA Association approved festivals and competitions. Admission is by audition. Percussion student enrolled in Advanced Instrumental Ensemble must participate in the Marching Band and the WGI Indoor Drum Circuit. Percussion students may also perform with the Concert and Advanced Bands. Refer to the section of Expectations, Evaluations and Grading for more information.

Intermediate Instrumental Ensemble I	for Freshmen
Intermediate Instrumental Ensemble II	for Sophomores
Intermediate Instrumental Ensemble III	for Juniors
Intermediate Instrumental Ensemble IV	for Seniors

The Intermediate Instrumental Ensemble (also known as “the A Line” Class) is a regularly scheduled year-long class that receives 1 unit of Fine Arts credit towards graduation. It is also used to satisfy three of the four required elective units that count towards graduation. Please see the student handbook for more information on graduation requirements.

The “A” Class is an outcome-based course with percussion performance, homework and classroom requirements. The A Line performs music in the difficulty range as specified in the Georgia Music Educators Association handbook as level II(two) to IV (four). The purpose of the A line is to develop individual and ensemble performance skills. Further purposes shall be to increase musical knowledge and appreciation through participation in public performances and GMEA Association approved festivals and competitions. Admission is by audition. Percussion students may also perform with the Concert and Advanced Bands. Refer to the section of Expectations, Evaluations and Grading for more information.

Music Theory I and Music Theory II

Music Theory is an outcome-based course with performance, homework and classroom requirements. The purpose of the Music Theory Class is to develop the understanding of the fundamentals of music theory and the elements of arranging, scoring and composition. Further purposes shall be to provide potential music majors with an opportunity to prepare for college level theory courses. Music Theory can be taken one or two years. Ninth grade students are not eligible for Music Theory Class.

Beginning Keyboarding I	for Freshmen
Beginning Keyboarding II	for Sophomores
Beginning Keyboarding III	for Juniors
Beginning Keyboarding IV	for Seniors

Beginning Keyboarding (also known as Class Piano) is an outcome-based course with performance, homework and classroom requirements. The purpose of the Piano Class is to develop the understanding of the fundamentals of piano performance. Prior experience in music is recommended but not required. Students may take piano from one to four years. Students will use electronic keyboard synthesizers.

Class Expectations

- You are expected to be at all rehearsals and performances.
- You are expected to prepare for rehearsals and performances on time.
- You are expected to correctly perform all performance materials
- You are expected to be responsible for all equipment and materials needed for rehearsals and performances. (Instrument, music, pencil, reeds, valve oil, sticks, etc.)
- You are expected to refrain from casual conversations during rehearsals and performances.
- You are expected to have an alert rehearsal behavior - listen, count, play on time, and do the very best that you can.
- You are expected to display a good attitude through cooperation, discipline and intensity of achievement.
- You are expected to follow the behavior guide at all times.
- You are expected to complete all homework assignments on time.

Class Evaluation

Students will not receive full daily and final grade credit if expectations are not met.

Not Being Prepared: Students not having rehearsal or performance materials (instrument, music, pencil, etc.) will receive a lower daily grade. Students could also be assigned to detention hall.

Homework: Homework is a very important part of any class, particularly one which is performance based. Class homework can take various forms: after school rehearsals, performance, written research reports, reports on musical events, projects, individual practice records, and festival music Pass-offs, to name a few. Assignments will be made on a regular basis and must be completed on time. If a homework assignment is missed, the student will receive a grade of "0" for that assignment. Alternative homework assignments (such as attending after school marching band rehearsals) are often given to students who are involved with certain school sponsored extra-curricular activities such as marching band, cheerleading, football.

Behavior: Students who cause disturbances in rehearsal due to incorrect rehearsal behavior or attitude will receive a lower daily grade because of the disruption of their individual performance and the performance and learning of others in the class. Please refer to the sections on Expectations, Respect for the Podium and the Behavior Guide.

Progress and Ability: Student's progress and ability will be evaluated through daily rehearsals and homework. Students will be tested individually on basic skills as well as performance materials. Students are strongly urged to practice at home.

Musical Evaluation Criteria is as follows:

- use of correct rhythms (Rhythm Sheet #1 and #2)
- note accuracy and pitch (All-State Scales, Technique Builders, etc.)
- dynamics (Blend, Balance and Quality of Sound)
- correct use of style and expression (articulations, emotional appeal, etc)
- memorization (when appropriate)

Class Grading

Each nine-week period is averaged with 60% for Major Tests (Summative Assessments: Performances and Projects) and 40% for Daily Grades (Formative Assessments: Expectations and Evaluations). The two nine weeks Grading Periods will count as 85% of the Final Grade; the Semester Final Exam will count as 15% of the Final Semester Grade. Please refer to the F.C.H.S. Student Handbook for more information about grading procedures.

Attendance Requirements for Curriculum Related After School Rehearsals

Attendance at every rehearsal and performance is vitally important. The BAND often functions together as a unit and sometimes separately. Any time you are absent, it diminishes the results obtained by all other members. Just as each link of a chain is important to the strength of the whole chain, you too are important to your section and the whole band. Please use the yearly planning calendar that is published and distributed each Spring for the NEXT school year. Plan in advance! Check the monthly calendars for details and updates.

Students NOT attending after-school rehearsals which are applicable to curriculum course work will receive a zero for that assignment until a make-up assignment is completed. Intermediate (Concert) Band, Advanced (Symphonic) Band and Instrumental Ensemble (Percussion) are regular curriculum courses. Occasional after-school rehearsals may be scheduled. These are considered to be an extension of the course which receives credit towards graduation (considered “homework”). Students having conflicts with other school sanctioned events or activities can be granted an “Excused” absence ONLY if the director is notified **in writing** at least one week in advance. A list of conflicting dates along with the name of the appropriate coach or sponsor must be submitted. Students may be expected to “split” the time between conflicting activities. Students who are absent from school on the day of assignment may be “Excused” as per FCHS attendance policies. Make-up assignments are required regardless of the reason for the missed assignment. Student’s work and Homework must be made up by the second class period or as directed by the teacher. Absences (Excused or Unexcused) from rehearsals could result in suspension from a performance. Suspension could also affect participation in the Annual Band Trip, participation certificates and senior recognition at the Annual Awards Program.

Tardiness and Leaving Early

CLASS: Students must be in the band room when the tardy bell rings. Students must be in their place and ready to start two minutes after the tardy bell rings. Students not ready to play on time will be considered tardy and can be assigned detention. Excessive tardiness will be referred to the appropriate school officials.

AFTER SCHOOL: Tardiness or leaving early will diminish the student's grade proportionally as indicated in the attendance policy as stated above.

STUDENT WORK IS NEVER ACCEPTED AS A REASON FOR ABSENCE, LEAVING EARLY OR ARRIVING LATE!

Rehearsals and Performance are often scheduled a year in advance. Please plan accordingly.

THE FLASH OF CRIMSON MARCHING PROGRAM

The FCHS Flash of Crimson Band is made up of members of the Intermediate (Concert) Bands, Advanced (Symphonic) Band, Advanced Instrumental Ensemble (World Line) Class, and the Color Guard. The FOC is one of the most celebrated organizations in the Forsyth County Schools System, having won hundreds of Superior Ratings as well as numerous Championships for marching performances. The Flash of Crimson is well known as one of the most outstanding Band programs throughout the world. We have performed in St. Louis, London, Toronto, New York, Washington D.C., Orlando, St. Petersburg, Gatlinburg, New Orleans, the Bahamas aboard the RCCL “Sovereign of the Seas”, and at Bands of America Regional and Super Regional Competitions throughout the United States. In 2008, 2009 and 2010 the FOC was the Class II Champions and Finalist at the BOA Regional in Atlanta. In 2009 the FOC was a Grand Nationals Semi-Finalist.

In addition to performing as part of the Flash of Crimson Marching Band, the Drumline and the Color Guard also participate in Winter Circuits such as Winter Guard Internationals and the Southern Association of Performance Arts.

Refer to the following pages for specific information regarding auditions, requirements, rehearsals and attendance:

Woodwind and Brass Members	Page 9
Drumline Members	Page 10
Color Guard Members	Page 11
Rehearsal Policies	Page 12

WOODWIND AND BRASS

Woodwind and Brass students are auditioned on a continuing basis throughout the year. Individual assessments are made based on progress and individual performance skills. These “basic” skills include such items such as All-State Scales as published by the Georgia Music Educators, Rhythm Sheets and Technical exercises.

All evaluations, grades and attendance records provide the necessary data for ranking students within each section. Membership is based on student’s musicianship, physical ability and instrumentation needs of the marching band.

Financial Obligations: Please refer to the current Band Fees and Purchases Form

Required Paper work:

2011-2012 Membership Contract

2011-2012 Band Fees Agreement

2011-2012 Medical Consent, Travel and Participation Form

2011-2012 Parent Volunteer Form

Alternates may be selected for most sections. Alternates will have full membership rights and responsibilities. Alternates may replace members who, for whatever reason, are not able to fulfill their member obligations.

Band Camp Week 1 Tue. July 26 thru Fri. July 29 from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

Band Camp Week 2 Mon. Aug 1 thru Thurs. Aug 4 from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

Full Band “post” camp: Aug 9 and 11 from 4pm – 6:30pm

Check the online calendar regularly for updates and details. www.flashofcrimson.com

Weekly “Marching Season” Schedule (see calendar):

Tuesday 4:00 – 6:30 Full Band (everyone)

Thursday 4:00 – 6:30 Full Band (everyone)

Friday Football Games as Scheduled

Saturday Days Camps and Competitions as scheduled (see calendar)

REFER TO THE ATTENDANCE POLICY SECTION ON PAGE 13.

Always refer to the most current Monthly Band Calendar for complete rehearsal and performance information.

DRUMLINE

Drumline students are auditioned on a continuing basis throughout the year. Individual assessments are made based on progress and individual performance skills. All evaluations, grades and attendance records provide the necessary data for selecting members of the Drumline. Drumline workshops and auditions also will be scheduled in the Spring. Membership is based on student's musicianship, physical ability and instrumentation needs of the Drumline.

Financial Obligations: Please refer to the current Band Fees and Purchases Form

Required Paper work:

2011-2012 Membership Contract

2011-2012 Band Fees Agreement

2011-2012 Medical Consent, Travel and Participation Form

2011-2012 Parent Volunteer Form

Alternates may be selected for most sections. Alternates will have full membership rights and responsibilities. Alternates may replace members who, for whatever reason, are not able to fulfill their member obligations.

Band Camp Week 1 Tue. July 26 thru Fri. July 29 from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

Band Camp Week 2 Mon. Aug 1 thru Thurs. Aug 4 from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

Full Band "post" camp: Aug 9 and 11 from 4pm – 6:30pm

Check the online calendar regularly for pre-camp summer rehearsals, updates and details.
www.flashofcrimson.com

Weekly "Marching Season" Schedule (see calendar):

Monday	4:00 – 6:30 Drumline Sectional
Tuesday	4:00 – 6:30 Full Band (everyone)
Thursday	4:00 – 6:30 Full Band (everyone)
Friday	Football Games as Scheduled
Saturday	Days Camps and Competitions as scheduled (see calendar)

Weekly "Winter Season" Schedule: To be scheduled in November

REFER TO THE ATTENDANCE POLICY SECTION ON PAGE 13.

Always refer to the most current Monthly Band Calendar for complete rehearsal and performance information.

COLOR GUARD

The Guard adds visual excitement to the Flash of Crimson Marching Band. The Guard performs at football games, scheduled marching competitions and other scheduled events throughout the Fall. In addition to performing as part of the Flash of Crimson Marching Band, the Color Guard also participates in Winter Circuits such as Winter Guard Internationals and the Southern Association of Performance Arts. It is our philosophy that Winter Guard is the continuation of the Fall Guard. Skills developed in one activity provide foundations for the other. Members must participate in both Fall and Winter in order to receive yearly participation and Senior recognition. Only active Guard members are eligible for band travel during the current season.

Guard members are enrolled in a year long dance class. Guard members have the same obligations and privileges of all FOC Members (please read the rest of the Band Manual). Physicals are not required but members must be in good physical condition.

Financial Obligations: Please refer to the current Band Fees and Purchases Form

Required Paper work:

2011-2012 Membership Contract

2011-2012 Band Fees Agreement

2011-2012 Medical Consent, Travel and Participation Form

2011-2012 Parent Volunteer Form

Alternates may be selected for most sections. Alternates will have full membership rights and responsibilities. Alternates may replace members who, for whatever reason, are not able to fulfill their member obligations.

Band Camp Week 1 Tue. July 26 thru Fri. July 29 from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

Band Camp Week 2 Mon. Aug 1 thru Thurs. Aug 4 from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

Full Band “post” camp: Aug 9 and 11 from 4pm – 6:30pm

Check the online calendar regularly for pre-camp summer rehearsals, updates and details.

www.flashofcrimson.com

Weekly “Marching Season” Schedule:

Monday	4:00 – 6:30 Color Guard Sectionals (Times could change based on availability of instructors.)
Tuesday	4:00 – 6:30 Full Band (everyone)
Thursday	4:00 – 6:30 Full Band (everyone)
Friday	Football Games as Scheduled
Saturday	Days Camps and Competitions as scheduled (see calendar)

Weekly “Winter Season” Schedule: To be scheduled in November

REFER TO THE ATTENDANCE POLICY SECTION ON PAGE 13.

Always refer to the most current Monthly Band Calendar for complete rehearsal and performance information.

Attendance Policy for Marching Band, Drumline, and Guard

Attendance at every rehearsal and performance is vitally important. The BAND often functions together as a unit and sometimes separately. Any time you are absent, it diminishes the results obtained by all other members. Just as each link of a chain is important to the strength of the whole chain, you too are important to your section and the whole band. Family vacations are excused only if the directors are notified in advance via the member's contract.

STUDENT WORK IS NEVER ACCEPTED AS A REASON FOR ABSENCE, LEAVING EARLY OR ARRIVING LATE TO A REHEARSAL OR PERFORMANCE!

Most rehearsals and performance are scheduled a year in advance. Please plan accordingly. If the sponsor or coach of another activity schedules a "surprise" conflict with your "contracted" schedule, you should inform that person that you have a previous obligation! Extenuating circumstances may be brought to the attention of a director.

Members who have two unexcused absences during a season (Fall or Winter) will be suspended from the Annual Band Trip. Members who have more than two absences (excused or unexcused) could be suspended from all performances and activities at the discretion of the directors.

Suspensions will affect earning Service Bars, Band Letters and Senior recognition at the Band Banquet.

Unexcused tardiness or leaving early will constitute a percentage of an unexcused absence based on the time missed. (Example: leaving a 2 hour rehearsal 30 minutes early to get your nails done would be counted as 1/4 of an unexcused absence.)

Only previously approved SCHOOL functions, illness from school, medical appointments (advance notification and doctor's office note required) or family emergencies (parent contact required) are considered "Excused." Directors have the authority to suspend a member from a performance due to attendance or other problems.

Members who are "suspended" from performances are still required to attend in uniform unless instructed by a director to do otherwise. Failure to do so will constitute an unexcused absence.

Fees for Marching Band, Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Drumline, Guard

Every effort will be made to keep the costs to each member as low as possible. The FCHS Band Boosters provide a lot of the funding for the many components of the band. However, fees are necessary for transportation, uniforms, instruction, equipment, supplies and competition entry fees. At the beginning of each season, a budget is formulated and fees must be assessed for each member of their particular activity (or activities). These fees are often subject to the number of members who are participating. (Expenses divided by the number of participants.) These fees are assessed as part of the total Band budget and are crucial to the financial stability of the Forsyth Central Band Boosters and the success of the entire program. Any member who breaks the membership contract during the season will be responsible for paying all fees for that season.

Fees are to be paid as scheduled. Contact the FCHS Band Booster Treasurer **in advance** if a late payment is necessary. Members with delinquent fees may be subject to suspension from performances.

Please see the annual Band Fees and Purchases Form for more details.

Addendums for the Winter Season will be available in November (along with Member Contracts for Winter) for Winter Guard and Indoor Drumline.

More information on fees and fund raising opportunities will be available at Band Booster Meetings throughout the year.

Duties of the Band Officers

It is the responsibility of all officers to provide positive leadership and guidance to all band members through experience, knowledge and by example. It is the duty of all band members to honor the positions attained by the band officers! Students with two years of marching band experience are eligible to participate in the officer-training program.

Drum Major

- Maintains discipline within the band
- Must be a playing member of the band
- First student assistant to the director
- Presides over all other officers
- Performs any other necessary duties as required of a drum major
- Conducts the band in rehearsals and performances
- Supervises uniform inspection before each performance
- Oversees instruction of marching fundamentals for new band members
- Assigns service work (with director's approval) for behavior or procedure violations

Band Captain

- Maintains discipline within the band
- Must be a playing member of the band
- Second student assistant to the director
- Assists drum major
- Teaches drill and oversees drill instruction by Lieutenants
- Assists in uniform inspection before each performance
- Assigns service work (with director's approval) for behavior or procedure violations

Guard Captain

- Maintains discipline within the color guard
- First student assistant to the director in charge of the color guard
- Oversees the other color guard officers
- Assures that all equipment is cared for and stored properly
- Teaches drill and oversees drill instruction by Guard Lieutenants
- Supervises uniform inspection of the guard before each performance
- Assigns service work (with director's approval) for behavior or procedure violations

Lieutenants

- Maintain discipline within their sections
- Responsible for drill instruction in their sections
- Responsible for music memorization or equipment work checks
- Responsible for attendance reports
- Work with individual students or sections when needed

Sergeants

- Maintain discipline within their sections
- Assist other officers as needed
- Provide positive role models for younger band members

Awards

Successful participation in the band offers several outstanding awards. Most of these are presented each year at the Annual Band Awards Banquet. This Banquet is open to all band members, their parents, school and community officials and other people interested in the Flash of Crimson Band.

Band Jacket - Membership in the band grants you the opportunity to purchase a Band Jacket. This will be done early in the school year. The Band Jacket commands respect and should be worn in that manner. Order Forms will be available in September. Jackets usually arrive by Nov.

Participation Awards: For underclassmen and Seniors. To receive recognition for participation, a Band Member must be active BOTH SEMESTERS. This includes participation in the Fall Marching Band. Woodwind, brass and percussionist must be enrolled in a band class for the entire year. Color Guard members must be active during the entire year (Fall Guard AND Winter Guard.) (Please refer to page 12 for more information on the Guard)

Service Bars will be provided for the Band Jacket for each successful year in the band program as described in the Participation Awards section above.

F.C.H.S. Band Letter will be provided on the jacket for successful completion of one of the following criteria:

- Seniors will automatically receive a Band Letter
- Juniors will receive a Band Letter by making All-State Band or All-District Band twice.
- Juniors who attain the rank of lieutenant or higher will receive a letter.
- Sophomores will receive a Band Letter by making All-State Band or All-District Band twice (9th and 10th)
- Freshmen may receive a Band Letter by making All-State Band.

John Philip Sousa Award – Chosen by the directors and presented to the Senior Band Member for outstanding musicianship, leadership and commitment to the Band.

P.H.D. Award - Presented to the Senior Band Member as chosen by the fellow seniors for "Pride, Honor and Dedication" to the Flash of Crimson.

Most Outstanding Performer Award – Chosen by the directors and presented to members in each section of the band (Brass, Percussion, Woodwind, Color Guard.)

Medals - the Georgia Music Educators Association awards Medals for Superior Ratings in Concert Festival, Solo and Ensemble Festival, District Honor Band and All-State Band.

Other Musical Opportunities

All-District Band - The Georgia Music Educators Association's All-District Honor Band selects its members from the best players in District 9. Auditions information: Scales, Etudes and dates can be obtained from www.gmea.org. Auditioning for All-District Band is one of the requirements for membership in the TRI-M Music Honor Society.

All-State Band - The All-District Band Audition serves as the preliminary All-State Band audition. All students who pass the preliminary audition will be members of the All-District Honor Band and can be eligible to compete in the final All-State Audition. This final audition will consist of prepared etudes and sight-reading selections. Students selected to the All-State Band or Orchestra are considered to be the best in the State.

Private Lesson – Private music lessons are always a good idea. All music students are strongly urged to take private lessons from a qualified private instructor. Many music stores in the area offer lessons on weekday evenings and Saturdays and throughout the summer. There are also several good local instructors.

TRI-M NATIONAL MUSIC HONOR SOCIETY – Students with outstanding academic and musical talents may be invited to join the Tri-M National Music Honor Society.

- They must meet **at least two** of the following **Performance Related Objectives** during each school year:
 1. Audition for the District Honor Band with a **MINIMUM SCORE OF 50** from the judging panel. (Your director will have this info.)
 2. Audition at the All-State Band Final Audition. (Requires passing the preliminary audition - which is the District Honor Band audition.)
 3. Receive Superior Ratings as designated by the Georgia Music Educators Association for performance in Concert Band, Symphonic Band, OR Marching Band during the applicable school year. (Any or all of these counts as only ONE Objective.)
 4. Current participation on a competitive level as a member of the Indoor Drumline.
 5. Attending a band workshop/clinic sponsored by a college or university during the applicable school year. (Previous Summer is eligible; however, the FCHS Band Camp does NOT count.)
 6. Seasonal participation in an interscholastic instrumental performance group; such as Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra, Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony, a DCI Corps, etc. Check with the Tri-M Advisor if you have questions about this one.
 7. Take regular (at least once a week) private instrumental lessons from an approved teacher AND perform an approved SOLO in a public setting (such as recitals, concerts, PASIC, church, etc.) Check with the Tri-M Advisor if you have questions about this one.
- NEW members must have a cumulative Grade Point Average of at least 3.37 (OR a 3.5 GPA on the previous Semester) to be accepted into membership. Continuing members must maintain a GPA of at least 3.2.

Band Travel and Trips

- Students must have on file a current Medical Consent, Travel and Participation Form.
- Students sign-up for the bus they wish to ride. Seniors sign up first and may sign up one other band member
- All students must ride the bus to all band functions unless special permission and arrangements have been made in advance between the director and the student's parents.
- Students may ride home with a parent or other responsible and authorized individual provided that the student turns in a permission note from the parents to the adult chaperones on his or her bus.
- Each student is responsible for assuring that their instrument, uniform, etc., is loaded and unloaded from the bus or the equipment truck.
- Always adhere to the policies under "Expectations" and "Evaluations."
- Always adhere to the policies in the "Behavior Guide."
- The bus driver and chaperones are in charge while on the buses. Listen for roll call and other instructions.
- Nothing should ever be thrown from the bus windows. Keep heads, arms and legs out of the windows.
- When needed, an itinerary is provided to each band member with specifics about the trip.

Stadium Responsibilities

- Report on time as indicated on the most current Band Calendar.
- Band members must sit in assigned areas by sections.
- Uniforms must be properly worn at all times unless instructed otherwise by the director. Band Members must wear the Band T-shirt in order to be allowed to remove their uniform coats.
- The third quarter can be designated "break time" at the discretion of the director.
- Drinks and Food are allowed only during third quarter break.
- Following third quarter break, band members must be seated and ready to play the fight song at the end of third quarter when the clock reads "00:00" before the beginning of the fourth quarter. Tardiness could result in the band losing the 3rd quarter break.
- No individual or sectional playing unless approved by the director.

Inspection

Inspection is conducted before each public performance. Infractions could result in the student not being allowed to perform. Infractions could result in students not receiving full credit for the performance and possibly losing their third quarter break. The following items will be checked:

- Promptness (don't be late!)
- Neatness and cleanliness of the uniform
- Uniform properly worn, including T-shirt
- Glossy black (Dinkle) shoes and black socks
- Instrument in proper working order (reeds, tuning slides, etc.)
- No large visible jewelry
- No long hair over the collar while wearing a band hat
- Identification numbers for uniforms must be memorized

Uniforms

The Band Uniform should be worn at such times and places as designated by the director. It must be worn properly and with the respect that it commands. Remember, the uniform represents you and the Flash of Crimson! The uniform coat, pants, gloves, hat and plume are provided to the student. Part of the membership fees pay for the uniform usage fee (a yearly uniform usage and maintenance fee that goes into a special account for the purchase of new uniforms, and replacement and repair of the current uniforms). In the event that the uniform or any accessory is damaged or lost, the student will be required to pay for the replacement of that item. Also included in the members' fees is the Band "Theme" T-shirt and cleaning fee. Band members are responsible for the purchase of their "Bibbers" (band pants) and "Dinkles" (band shoes). Details will be presented on the FCHS Band Fee and Purchases Form.

New Guard Members will be required to purchase a warm-up jacket to wear over their uniforms.

Instruments and Accessories

*Students and Parents are reminded that a craftsman is only as good as his tools. Musicians must have quality instruments that play well in order for them to perform to the best of their abilities. Unfortunately, many beginners start out on "beginner" instruments that do not play as well as "intermediate" or "professional" type instruments. Serious High School Musicians should consider stepping up to one of these type instruments. **Symphonic Clarinet players are expected to have quality wood (not plastic) clarinets. Symphonic Alto Sax players are expected to have a Larry Teal Mouthpiece.** Please talk to a director before purchasing a new instrument.*

Reeds - Clarinet and Saxophone players must have at least 4 reeds in good playing order at all times. Reeds are available from many area music stores. (Rico Reserve, LaVoz, Vandoren, Mitchell Lurie are some of the recommended brands.)

Mutes - Brass players are required to have their own straight mutes when called for in the music.

Sticks and Mallets - Some drum sticks and keyboard mallets will be provided for the students. Certain mallets and sticks must be purchased as designated by Mr. Tucker.

Printed Music - Each band member is provided with a music folder and individual copies of all music. The student must bring their own folder and a pencil to each rehearsal. Make sure that the music is not left on the stand, on the floor, in a chair, etc. Do not store your folder inside your case, unless there is a compartment designed for that purpose, because damage to the instrument could occur. Students will be charged 25 cents for each replacement copy.

School Owned Instruments

Certain instruments are available, free of charge, for student use. These are generally the larger instruments such as Tuba, Baritone, Bass Clarinets, French Horns and the Percussion Instruments. All students are reminded that they have a responsibility to school owned equipment and instruments. Unnecessary damage or loss of these instruments is the responsibility of, and must be paid for, by the student. Failure to comply will result in forfeiture of the use of the instrument. The student's name will also be placed on the school's obligation list, which could result in the holding of grades and class schedule.

Care of the Band Room

1. You may enter the Band Room at the following times:
 - In the morning before first period
 - During your scheduled class time
 - Before and after rehearsals and performances
2. The music library is "off-limits" to everyone except music librarians and designated officers.
3. Keep trash, litter and drink containers cleaned up at all times. Use the trash cans! Do not put trash in instrument cubbies.
4. Students are not to be in the director's office without his permission.
5. Students are not to use the director's phone without his permission.
6. Practice rooms are used with director's permission only.
7. Instruments should be stored in the storage shelves or other designated areas. Please don't leave folders or cases on the floor or on chairs.
8. Non-band members are not permitted in the band room except for those who have a music class in the band room.