

2011-2012

CAMP HILL SENIOR HIGH BAND

(The following outline was used by the Sr. High Band members in a presentation to the current 8th Graders in Middle School Band. Hopefully this overview will answer some of the questions you may have about the Senior Band program.)

OVERVIEW

The Philosophy of the Camp Hill Senior High Band program is to continue to enrich the students in music with a variety of enjoyable and educational activities.

Today's presentation by several of the Senior High students will hopefully answer any questions you may have about the program. We are certain that your participation in the Senior High Band will be a rewarding and exciting experience. Most of all, you will have a fun time!!!

Band is a curricular course which involves participation in both concert and marching activities. A list of extra-curricular band activities is also included in this packet. Since your first exposure to Senior Band will be through the Marching Band program, much of today's presentation will be focused in that area.

Marching Band Rehearsals—Band Camp will be held August 1-5 and is mandatory (unless cleared with director). In addition, there are 5 rehearsals in July, and 10 evening rehearsals in August after Camp Week (prior to school starting). These rehearsals will be excused if you are out of town on vacation. Once school starts, rehearsals are held 2 nights per week (guard on Mon. and Wed. and winds/percussion on Tues. and Wed.) until the beginning of November.

Marching Band Fall Performances-- In addition to performing at football games, the Marching Band performs at 5 Tournament of Bands adjudications on Saturday evenings. The Marching Band concludes its season with an invitation to the Atlantic Coast Championships in early -November.

Band Class—Band meets twice a week during school. Concert music is worked on beginning in mid October. In addition, the first –marking period grade for sectionals/music (50% of grade) is based on your marching band field show music. The other 50% of the assessment is based on participation. Sectionals are scheduled through study halls (one per week) where possible. December and May concerts are presented. We have visited Toronto, Boston, Va. Beach, Ocean City, Williamsburg, and Disney World in the past. The band also performs at Commencement. ***Band is 3/5 of a credit and carries a weight of 5.***

EXTRA-CURRICULAR BAND ACTIVITIES

Guard-- open to any students. A brief “Spring” camp is held in May, no experience necessary. Ensemble performs with dance, sabers, rifles, and flags with the Marching Band. See page one for rehearsal/performance information.

(spread the news to your friends)

Band managers—open to any students. Managers assist with organizational and logistic duties of equipment and props for marching band. Managers attend all weekend activities in the fall.

Sr. Jazz Band— open to any students. Chair Placements are held in December. Rehearsals are then held on Monday evenings from 6:30-8:30 from January through May. 6-8 performances are scheduled.

Pit Orchestra-- open to any students. Appx. 18-20 rehearsals scheduled over a 3 month period (January-March). 3-4 performances of annual musical. No auditions required.

Indoor Guard- open to any students (grades 8-12). Rehearsals are held 2 times a week and most Saturdays (show dates) from January-April. Ensemble performs with dance, rifles, and flags. Appx. 6 performances are scheduled. No auditions required. Students participating in Indoor Guard must participate in Marching Band in the next fall (either in winds, battery, pit, or guard) in order to be eligible for Indoor Guard during the following winter.

Indoor Percussion- open to any students (grades 8-12). Rehearsals are held in mid-Spring. Performance schedule and rehearsal schedule will be announced at a later time. No auditions required.

Holiday Cheer-- open to any students. Appx. 2 rehearsals and 3 performances. Ensemble meets in December and performs traditional carols. No auditions required.

District, Regional, State Band-- auditions required, private lessons are highly recommended.

COMMON QUESTIONS

What are the benefits of being in Sr. High Band? You will find that the Sr. High Band is a first class organization in which **EVERYONE** plays a vital role in the success of the entire band. You will continue to develop your personal music skills which will increase your enjoyment of music. In addition, you will develop many friendships and a sense of pride and commitment in an organization.

Is it possible to do a fall sport and band in the fall? Yes. Last year 20 of our 84 members were involved in a Fall Varsity sport. Policy is: take one hour from the end of your sport to go home and have supper before coming to band practice. For example: if you get back to Camp Hill at 6:15 from a cross country meet, we expect you to be at practice no later than 7:15. Remember, marching band rehearsals are scheduled for only 2 school nights per week (6:25-8:40). If you miss an entire rehearsal because of a game, you would work/see your section leader to make up the work done during the band rehearsal.

How long does it take to memorize the music for the field show? Our show is usually only seven to eight minutes long. Since most of the music is handed out in July, most members have the music memorized before school even starts. September is when we start "crafting" the show into a work of beauty!

Are there any other after school band obligations? Just one dress rehearsal per concert (same as Middle School) and 1 to 2 parade rehearsals before the annual Memorial Day Parade.

What if I plan on eventually playing Sr. High Football or cheering for Sr. High Football? You would be expected to participate in the Marching portion of the band, as other band members who do fall sports do. You would attend rehearsals and Tournament of Bands shows. However, during a football game, you would participate only in your cheering/football activity. This past fall, 4 cheerleaders, who were also band members, marched the half time show (in their cheerleading uniform) every game. The band member who played Varsity Football performed in the Tournament of Bands performances.

I play an instrument and I am also interested in doing guard. Is that possible? Yes. This past fall, 1/3 of the guard was also instrumentalists. Basically you would attend Guard rehearsals as well as full band. During band class, you would play your instrument. During a football game, you would have the option of playing the stand music or not (usually the guard girls who play instruments do the pep tunes).

If you feel that you are not quite sure about Senior Band, my suggestion would be to try it for your freshman year, and then make a decision. Most freshmen find the entire Sr. Band experience exciting once they spend a year in the program. You will never truly know if an activity is right for you unless you try it!!!

