

**Mr. Sloniker
Band Handbook
2020-2021 School Year**

Mission Statement

- The mission of the Hagerstown band department is to provide outstanding opportunities for students to perform in public, as well as to provide an outlet for students to perform on a day to day basis. The information, skills, and life lessons that are taken away from our classrooms experiences will be useful today and in the future. Using these experiences students will become better learners and citizens for society.

Website

- Students are responsible for staying up to date on our latest endeavours. Each class (High School, 8th Grade, 7th Grade, Music 7, Musical Theater, Musical Theory) as well as ensembles (Marching Band, Pep Band) have their own pages on the website. Under the appropriate tab information can be found pertaining to their class. the website address is as follows:

<https://www.tigersounds.weebly.com/>

Behavior/Conduct

Students in band serve as representatives of the school and school district at many public extracurricular functions. Membership in these organizations is a privilege and it is within the right of any director to deny membership to a student if they believe that they would not positively represent the organization. Band members will observe all policies set forth by Hagerstown High School in addition to the following, as they pertain to the instrumental music setting:

- Any behavior, which is not representative of good citizenship, as perceived by the band staff, may result in the student's dismissal from the activity at hand as well as the band program. This also applies to the actions of student leaders in both public and private events.

- All students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the Ten Ethical Principles at all times. Display of profanity, temper, flagrant violation of rules, etc., will not be tolerated. Individual behavior during a band function is a reflection of the group.

- Students will follow directors' instructions.

- Students will be in their assigned rehearsal area ready to work at the set rehearsal time with all equipment, including music, pencil, instrument, and all supplies to rehearsals daily (see detailed supply list for each instrument).
- Students will keep hands, feet, and other objects to themselves.
- Students will not use or play on equipment they do not own without permission from a director.
- Students will not touch, handle, borrow, or use anyone else's instrument, uniform, or personal belongings.
- Students should request permission to speak by raising their hand and waiting to be acknowledged. All rehearsals are expected to be extremely quiet so that time will be utilized wisely and as efficiently as possible.
- When allowed in the band hall, either before or after school, students will not disturb any rehearsal in progress.
- Students will respect the property of others, and return their equipment to its proper storage place when not in use. Students should keep their equipment in the designated storage area, and keep said storage area clean and neat in appearance. Students who demonstrate great difficulty with this may lose the privilege of having a storage area in the band hall.
- Students will not deface or mark on music stands, chairs, walls, etc.
- Students will not write on dry-erase boards without permission from the director.
- Students will utilize their assigned storage slot/locker for instrument cases during rehearsals.

Care Of The Band Facilities

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices

- Electronic Devices /Phones are not permitted during class time by any means. Students will be instructed when cell phones/Electronic Devices are acceptable in the classroom. If a student is caught with his/her cell phone out during class period when cell phones are not permitted, the device may be taken by the instructor, and the student may be sent to office for further punishment.

Percussion Closet

- Non-Percussion students are not permitted into the percussion closet unless instructed to do so. Percussion students will have 5 minutes at the beginning of rehearsal and end of rehearsal each class period to help set up/tear down the rehearsal room. If students are caught in the closet without permission, it can count as insubordination, tardiness, truancy, etc. and further actions may be made. These will be decided on a case by case manner.

Downstairs Hall/Storage/Under Stage (The Dungeon)

- Only students with instruments too large to fit into the upstairs cabinet are permitted to enter the downstairs hallway. During this time students will have 5 minutes at the beginning and end of each class to tear down the rehearsal room. If students are caught in the hallway/Under stage without permission, it can count as insubordination, tardiness, truancy, etc. and further actions may be made. These will be decided on a case by case manner.

Storage Lockers

- Students will be assigned a storage locker at the beginning of each school year to place their instrument, instrument care products, additional music, etc. THESE LOCKERS ARE TO ONLY BE USED FOR MUSIC RELATED ITEMS ONLY. If items of personal belongings are seen in the lockers, they may be confiscated and cleaned out without the students permission. This will be decided on a case by case manner.

Concert Band Folders/Pep Band Folders

- At the beginning of each year, each student will be assigned a numbered folder in which they are responsible for. This is to help keep track of inventory, music, and student responsibility. Students are responsible for the upkeep of their folder and the content within. Students failing to upkeep materials can be charged with damage to school property. Please take care of these!

Passes

- If a student wishes to leave Room 110 during their designated class time, they must have his/her passbook with them or a note from another teacher. Students will not be allowed to leave unless one of the above items is provided. Restroom and Locker visits are expected to be used prior to class time. If a student wishes to use their pass book they must wait until a break in the lesson to do so. Please do not stand next to the director until you are acknowledged. This is unfair to your classmates and your class time. If Mr. Sloniker feels you are abusing this he may take away your privileges to leave the room. Use them wisely.

Computer

- Students are not allowed to be on classroom computers unless they are given proper allowance by the instructor. Students caught doing so can be charged with insubordination.

Grades

Grades will be based on a point system.

100 -90.	A
89 - 80.	B
79 - 70.	C
69 - 60.	D
59 and below.	F

At the end of both quarters, points will be averaged together to create your final semester grade. Total points will be added together.

Grades will entail several different items including:

- Performances/Concerts
- Participation
- Homework
- In Class Work
- Playing Tests
- Extra Credit

Homework

There will be points throughout the semester students will be given assignments to take home and complete. Further instruction will follow with each assignment.

Final Exams

At the end of each semester, each band class will be asked to complete a final exam. There will be two components to this; written and playing. Each student will be asked to complete the assignment. Look for more information in the future for these exams.

Behavior

As a member of the Golden Tiger Band program you are expected to always perform to your

highest potential. Having good attitudes, respect for one another and equipment and a strong work ethic are REQUIRED to be a part of this program. Failure to do so may result in removal of the program. School handbook rules apply in all situations.

Attendance Policy

Students are required to attend all assigned events for the school year. Each performance and event breaks down in the following manner;:

Concerts/Public Performances: 100 - 200 pts

Pep band games: 50 pts

Lessons 10 pts

SRT Rehearsals 10 pts

Outside Rehearsals 10 pts

Other Events TBD

If a student is unable to make a concert, he/she must make up the performance in some way to still receive the points. For the Fall Concert and Christmas concert, students will be asked to perform a solo for Indiana's Solo and Ensemble competition held annually at Muncie Southside High School. Director will need time to select an appropriate solo for the student so that they may be successful. For the Spring concert students may be asked to perform a solo for the concert, or another assignment as it is found suitable. This will be decided on a case by case basis. Graduation will be the last concert for the year. Students will be required to attend this event. If students are unable to attend due to EXTREME MEDICAL or FAMILY EMERGENCIES, Mr. Sloniker will decide for an alternative assignment to be given. Situations will be decided on a case by case manner.

Band Boosters

The Hagerstown Music Department is proud to say that we are supported by the Nettle Creek Music Boosters throughout our entire school year. All parents of students of the Golden Tiger Band are members of the band booster program. For each of our activities our boosters support us financially as well as spiritually. If parents are interested in becoming Nettle Creek Music Boosters they meet every third Tuesday starting at 6:00 in the band room See Mr. Sloniker for more details.

Website/Remind 101

- Students are responsible for staying up to date on our latest endeavours. Each class (High School, 8th Grade, 7th Grade, Music 7) as well as ensembles (Marching Band, Pep Band) have their own pages on the website. Under the appropriate tab information can be found pertaining to their class. The website address is as follows:

<https://www.tigersounds.weebly.com/>

Students will be asked to sign up for the Remind 101 texting service. Students will be instructed to follow the directions on the above website to sign up if they have not already. This will be the primary communication device used this year.

Text "@goldenti" to 765-273-4187 and follow instructions from there. Mr. Sloniker will check to make sure all students are on this list.

Behavior/Conduct

Students in band serve as representatives of the school and school district at many public extracurricular functions. Membership in these organizations is a privilege and it is within the right of any director to deny membership to a student if they believe that they would not positively represent the organization. Band members will observe all policies set forth by Hagerstown High School in addition to the following, as they pertain to the instrumental music setting:

Any behavior, which is not representative of good citizenship, as perceived by the band staff, may result in the student's dismissal from the activity at hand as well as the band program. This also applies to the actions of student leaders in both public and private events.

All students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the Ten Ethical Principles at all times. Display of profanity, temper, flagrant violation of rules, etc., will not be tolerated. Individual behavior during a band function is a reflection of the group.

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices

Electronic Devices /Phones are not permitted during rehearsal time by any means. Students will be instructed when cell phones/Electronic Devices are acceptable on the field. If a student is caught with his/her cell phone out during a rehearsal period when cell phones are not permitted, the device may be taken by the instructor, and parents may be contacted.

Downstairs Hall/Storage/Under Stage (The Dungeon)

Only students with instruments too large to fit into the upstairs cabinet are permitted to enter the downstairs hallway. This is also where students will be fitted for uniforms for the season. If students are caught in the hallway/Under stage without permission, it can count as insubordination, tardiness, truancy, etc. and further actions may be made. These will be decided on a case by case manner.

Lost and Found - "Pizza King"

Materials that are found throughout the room will be placed into the Lost and Found cabinet. Students have until the end of the school year to claim their items. Failure to do so may result in loss of property. Hagerstown band department is not responsible for lost or stolen property.

Fundraising

Students participating in the Golden Tiger Band are expected to fundraise. We are a self sustaining organization. Through the use of boosters and student fees we are able to fund the activities for the Golden Tiger Band. One means of doing this is through fundraising. Either local or further away (i.e. Lucas Oil) we ask students and volunteers to put their best foot forward for bettering our program. For more information please contact the Nettle Creek Music Boosters.

Band Hallway

Students are not to be in the band hallway unless given proper authorization. Reasons to be in the band hallway are, but not limited to, practicing, Muncie Music purposes, sorting of music, etc. You must have permission from Mr. Sloniker to be in the hallway. Students are expected to use the south entrance door of the band room to enter/exit every day.

Pep Band Games

Golden tiger marching band members automatically are required to participate at all football and basketball games. This is a co-curricular activity. Students serving on Academic Probation are still permitted to perform with the ensemble high school band members are also required to attend these games. Eighth grade students are encouraged to attend games for experience.

Rehearsals

Students are asked to be in the assigned practice facility (i.e. North Parking Lot, Band Room, Auditorium) with needed equipment by the start of rehearsal time. If a student is going to be late, parents and/or students must communicate with Mr. Sloniker BEFORE the beginning of rehearsal. Emergencies will be dealt with on a case by case manner.

Items needed for rehearsal are as followed:

- Binder
- 50 plastic sheet protectors

- Pencil(s)
- TENNIS SHOES
- Appropriate Clothing
- Water/Water Jug

These items will help insure students are successful during the summer days in which we are rehearsing. An Agenda for each rehearsal will be present so students are aware of the day's activities. Students will also be released by the end time of rehearsal to ensure parents and guardians are not out too late.

Rehearsal Etiquette

One of the things that makes our activity so unique is how short of time we have to put a well designed show onto the field. The Golden Tiger Band uses several different rehearsal strategies to help ensure we utilize the minimal rehearsal time we have. The following things are expected of students during rehearsal.

- No talking during the rehearsal unless instructed to or given time to.
- Listen to the critiques of the section leaders and staff. They are here to help!
- Executing the proper foot technique, and marching style (i.e. Minus One)
- Working together as an ensemble. Positive attitudes, and working together. This is much easier when you go into rehearsal with a positive attitude.
- Bathroom breaks/water breaks are given periodically throughout the rehearsal. Utilize these times!

Contest Days/Performances

On most contest days, students will be asked to report around Midday for a pre-contest rehearsal. On these days students are asked to bring the following items:

Items needed for pre-contest rehearsal:

- Solid Black Shirt
- Black Shorts
- Long Black Socks
- Show Shirt
- Tennis Shoes
- Money for Concessions

After rehearsals, students will load busses and travel to the contest site. We ask students to come to rehearsal already eaten lunch and ready to go for rehearsal. The point of these days is to stay focused and put on the best performance possible.

While at contest sites students are asked to remember that they are representing HHS and Nettle Creek Schools at all times. This means behaviors before performance, after performance

and at an award ceremony will be a reflection of the ideals of our band program. Students are to show the utmost respect at all times to Staff, Parents, other schools and contest officials. Failure to do so may result in removal from rehearsal and the contacting of parents. Situations will be dealt with on a case by case manner.

Schedule/Vacations

A tentative schedule has been provided to students several months before the beginning of the summer marching season. Because this is done we ask that any prior commitments and/or conflicts be communicated with Mr. Sloniker ASAP so that lesson plans and music can be made to accommodate this request. STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE AT EVERY REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE. THESE ARE MANDATORY.

Emergency situations will be dealt with on a case by case manner. If a student has fallen ill earlier in the day, parents/students are expected to communicate this in a timely manner to Mr. Sloniker so that accommodations can be made. Failure to complete this process or failure to appear during rehearsal (skipping, unannounced absence, vacation, etc.) can result in a loss of spot in the show, or loss of opportunities to march during the contest. We can not get better when people decide to not show up. Students taking vacations and trips, and who do not communicate before the summer season starts, may be subject to the removal of the ensemble.

MR. SLONIKER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO WITHHOLD A STUDENT FROM COMPETING WHO DOES NOT COMMUNICATE THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. IT IS NOT FAIR TO THE STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMMUNICATED AND WHO HAVE SHOWN UP TO REHEARSAL.

Section Leaders

The Golden Tiger Marching Band Section Leaders are the most dedicated and passionate members of the ensemble. The section leaders hold a leadership position within the Golden Tiger Marching Band and are responsible for much of the work that helps make the band one of the best in the East Central Indiana area. Please see the Section Leader Handout for more information.

Uniform

At the beginning of every summer season a uniform will be assigned to each student marching. The uniform will include the following: Jacket, Bibbers, Shako, and Plume. While in uniform there are specific requirements that must be followed:

- No Cursing/Foul Language While In Uniform
- No Running In Uniform
- No Jewelry or Accessories

- Hair must be worn up into the hat if it is longer than the neckline. Color guard members will wear hair as designated by the director.

While at contests, or at local performances we may designate to wear show shirts instead of uniforms. This includes the season's show shirt, and appropriate footwear. It is important the show shirt goes with us everywhere. In emergency situations of extreme heat, we may opt out of full uniform and go for a lighter uniform.

Grades

Mr. Sloniker will check grades to make sure students are adhering to the HHS grading policy. Students not making grades for a quarter MAY BE UNABLE TO PERFORM. This is a decision that will be thought about carefully for the welfare of the ensemble. Mr. Sloniker has the right to remove a student due to grades at any given point and time.

The following items listed on this page are here to inform parents of policy teaching practices used within the program. We ask that parents help enforce these policies to help insure the best success for your students and the welfare of the program. If you have any questions please contact Mr. Sloniker at asloniker@nettlecreek.k12.in.us or 765-489-4511 (Ext. 324)

ALL SITUATIONS WILL BE DETERMINED ON A CASE BY CASE MANNER. MR. SLONIKER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE A DECISION(S) TO BETTER THE QUALITY OF THE ENSEMBLE AND THE HAGERSTOWN BAND DEPARTMENT.

Google Classroom Codes:

High School Band (Grades 9-12): 4n3tnlv

8th Grade Band (Grade 8): 66tlcqi

7th Grade Band (Grade 7): ggofa6u

Musical Theater: zxs5eyy

Music Theory: 26flyqt

COVID-19 Addendum 2020 - 2021(Please Read Carefully)

Due to the 2020-2021 pandemic, special circumstances have been made for the safety of students and instructors. The following guidelines as pertaining to the Golden Tiger Band Program and Room 110 MUST be followed in order to maintain a safe environment for all.

- Students are responsible for their own equipment ONLY. Students found interacting with items not assigned will be written up in accordance to the school handbook.
- Students must supply their own disposable materials (I.e. Reeds, oil, grease, etc.). This is to ensure as little student to student contact as possible.
- Students are not to be permitted in the band room/auditorium without Mr. Sloniker present and outside of their designated class period.
- Equipment, stands, chairs will all be sanitized in between each class.
- Each day may present a different set of circumstances. You must be able to be flexible.
- Get into the habit of taking your instruments home every day. This is in case we have extended amounts of time for virtual learning.
- Percussionists MUST provide a set of snare sticks and yarn mallets. They will be responsible for the care and maintaining these sticks. Students who do not provide their own materials will lose points on a daily basis.
- Students must bring iPads and pencils to each class. Social distancing will be practiced at all times.

I received, reviewed, and understand the policies and guidelines in the Hagerstown High School Band Handbook. I agree to abide by the procedures set forth.

Student Name: _____(print)

Student Signature _____Date_____

Grade _____

Class Period _____

I received and reviewed the 2020 - 2021 Hagerstown Band Handbook.

Parent Name _____(print)

Parent Signature _____Date_____