

Desert Vista High School

Thunder Band

2013-2014



Symphonic Band

HANDBOOK

Mr. Josh Thye
Director of Bands
jthye@tempeunion.org

www.thunderband.org

Marching Students

- Sign and return this cover page**

NON-Marching Students

- Sign and return this cover page**
- Complete the Student Information page – online (Google Doc)**
- Print and sign - Travel and Medical Release form (*notarized or signed by Ms. Bethea!*)**

I have read all rules and regulations as laid out in the concert band and locker/instrument checkout sections of the band constitution and agree to them in their entirety. I agree to fulfill any and all student or parent/guardian obligations as described above.

I have printed the Calendar Dates and understand the importance of knowing these dates. I understand that attendance at these dates is a part of the grade in the Band Program.

Parent/Guardian Print Name

Student Print Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

____/____/____

Student Signature

D.V.H.S. BAND TRAVEL AND MEDICAL RELEASE
(Non-marching Students)

For the school year July 1 2013, through June 31, 2014

CONTACT INFORMATION

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	Student ID #
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Address	City	Zip	Home Phone
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Parent/Guardian E-Mail Address

Mother/Guardian Name	Home Phone	Cell Phone	Work Phone	Pager
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Father/Guardian Name	Home Phone	Cell Phone	Work Phone	Pager
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Emergency Contact (Person other than parents who can answer on your behalf in an emergency):

Name	Relationship	Home Phone	Work Phone	Other
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Family Physician	Address	Phone
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Dentist/Orthodontist	Address	Phone
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PLEASE INITIAL YOUR CHOICE BETWEEN THE FOLLOWING TWO INSURANCE OPTIONS:

OPTION 1 _____ (Initial Here)

I/We affirm that I am/we are the parent or legal guardian of the above-named student. I/We request that the above-named student be exempt from the school accident insurance requirements for the students participating in music activities. I/We represent that the above-named student is currently covered during the present school year by a medical insurance policy, which provides protection at least in the equivalent sums and coverage as the policy offered by the school. This includes coverage in the event of injury in a school supervised activity.

Insurance Company	Policy Number
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OPTION 2 _____ (Initial Here)

I/We desire insurance that will fulfill the school accident and insurance requirement. (This insurance application must be picked up at the school activities office or bookstore – it is your responsibility to ensure it is properly processed). I/We have read understand the information contained on this form.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR: I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I BREAK THE RULES, CAUSE ANY EMBARRASSMENT OR TROUBLE, THE FOLLOWING DISCIPLINARY ACTION WILL BE TAKEN.

1. I may be sent home, at my own expense, at the earliest possible opportunity. I will be chaperoned home, and will pay the chaperone's expenses home.
2. I may be dropped from class with a failing grade.
3. When I return to Desert Vista, I may be disciplined by school administration.
4. If a law is broken, I may be punished under the law.
5. No monetary rebate will be made for any unused portion of the trip.
6. I will call home at my expense, and arrange to be met upon my arrival.

Student Signature: _____	Date: _____
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Marching Instrument: _____	Concert Instrument: _____
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Group: CONCERT SYMPHONIC WIND ENSEMBLE PERCUSSION COLOR GUARD (circle one)

HEALTH HISTORY (To be completed by Parent/Guardian)

Student Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Male/Female _____

Circle any of the following conditions that your child may have or had in the past:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Allergy (medications) | Diabetes | Menstrual Cramps | Tuberculosis |
| Anemia | Emotional Problems | Migraine Headaches | Valley Fever |
| Arthritis | Fractures | Seizures | Other |
| Asthma | Hearing Problems | Sinus Problems | Dietary Restrictions |
| Back Pain | Heart Murmur | Skin Rashes | Vegetarian |
| Blackouts | Hernia | Sore Throat | Food Allergies |
| Concussion | Kidney Problems | Surgery | |

If you circled any of the above, please give dates and details _____

Date of last tetanus shot _____ (Month/Year)
If more than ten years ago, the student must have a current tetanus shot before the trip

Do you give permission to the first aid staff to dispense Tylenol to your child if requested and deemed appropriate? YES NO

Is your child taking any medicines (over-the-counter or prescription)? YES NO

If yes, what? _____ What for? _____

**List any over-the-counter or prescription medicines to be taken to camp/trip (must be updated before each trip if there are changes):

****All over-the-counter and prescription medicines – except Tylenol – must be in the original container and given to the chaperone prior to departure.**

PARENTAL PERMISSION FOR ACTIVITY

The above named student is given my permission, as a legal guardian, to participate in all band activities which depart Desert Vista High School during the school year from **July 1, 2013 – June 31, 2014.**

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE: If emergency service involving medical action or treatment is required and the parents(s) or guardian(s) cannot be contacted, I hereby consent for the student named above to be given medical treatment by the doctor or hospital selected by the director or chaperone. I hereby state responsibility for any medical expenses incurred for my student.

We have read, understand and agree to the information contained on this form.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

*****REQUIRED SIGNATURE BELOW*****

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____.

My commission expires: _____
NOTARY PUBLIC/SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

Symphonic Band

1. Participation
 - a. For all sophomore through senior students interested in band.
 - i. Exception must be approved by the band director.
 - b. Meets 2nd Period.
 - i. (“Junior Varsity Band” - FA76)
 - ii. (“Honors Music Exploration and Performance” – FA)
 - c. Admission to the group is open.
 - d. At least 2 years of instrumental training is expected.
 - i. Exceptions must be approved by the band director.
 - e. Both a course fee and an activity fee are assessed by the school district for participation in the class.
 - i. Payments are made in the school bookstore made payable to “DVHS”.
 - f. Instruments and lockers are available for rental from the band (see Band Lockers and Instrument Checkout).
 - g. Instruments and lockers are available for rental from the band (see Band Lockers and Instrument Checkout).
 - i. Payments are made directly to Mr. Thye – payable to “DV Band Boosters”
2. Expectations of Members
 - a. Members are required to either audition for Regional Band & Orchestra or perform in the Solo & Ensemble Festival. Both of these events happen on the same day, on the DVHS campus.
 - b. Auditioning for Regional Band & Orchestra.
 - i. A \$20 fee is charged by ABODA for participation.
 - ii. Auditions take place in January and entail all (12) major scales, three etudes, and sight reading exercises.
 - iii. Members who make the North Central Regional Band or Orchestra are strongly encouraged to audition for All State Band & Orchestra.
 1. Failure to audition for All-State will not result in a change in grade.
 - c. Solo & Ensemble Festival
 - i. A fee is charged by ABODA for participation.
 1. \$15 – Solo, and/or \$7 – Ensemble (per member)
 - d. Students are expected to practice an average of 30 minutes per day.
 - e. Students are strongly encouraged to take private lessons.
 - i. A list of private instructors can be obtained from the director. Costs will vary depending on the duration of the lesson and the instructor.
 - f. Members must attend all concerts and festivals.
 - i. Concerts and Festivals comprise the main portion of the student’s grade in the class.
 - ii. Concerts and Festivals will be posted on the calendar and the students will be notified in advance. However, the dates and times of these events are subject to change due to extenuating circumstances.
 - iii. Students are expected to arrive at the designated time in the proper concert attire (see *uniforms*).
 - iv. Failure to attend concerts or festivals will result in a change in grade.
 - v. Students are required to attend the concert in its entirety. This entails watching the performance from the earliest possible until the conclusion of the final piece. Students who fail to comply with this policy will be marked absent for the concert.

1. Individual exceptions or change in this policy will be at the discretion of the director.
- vi. No student may participate in a performance if he/she is failing a class.
- vii. Students may not be permitted to participate in a performance if the director feels that he/she is not prepared, based on poor attendance or lack of practice.
- g. Members must attend all sectionals and rehearsals
 - i. Sectionals and rehearsals will be a portion of the student's grade.
 1. Sectionals will be required by the director throughout the year.
 2. Additional rehearsals will be held as necessary at the discretion of the director.
 - ii. Attendance is required at all sectionals and all additional rehearsals, as well as class period rehearsals.
 1. Notice for sectionals or additional rehearsals will be given at least 3 days in advance.
 - iii. Failure to attend a section or an additional rehearsal will result in a change of grade, the amount of which is at the director's discretion. Failure may also result in the loss of the band letter.
- h. "Honors Music Exploration and Performance" or "Honors" track
 - i. A student that enrolls in the 'Honors' option must complete: all 12 major scales at once, Regional Honor Band audition or prepared Solo, and two outside performances.
 - ii. 'Honors' students and non-Honors students will be co-enrolled in the same class period. The 'Honors' distinction does not factor in to chair placements, or solo selections. It is merely for the attainment of rank points.
 - iii. Checklist: See Exhibit A (attached at end).
- i. Testing
 - i. There will be periodic playing checks and tests throughout the year.
 - ii. Playing tests will comprise a portion of the student's grade.
 - iii. Testing will be used to determine chair placement within the ensemble.
 1. Seating will be adjusted accordingly following every test.
 - iv. Criteria will be established prior to test day.
 - v. Make-ups and re-tests may be permitted depending on the situation with the director's approval.
 - vi. Challenges
 1. If unsatisfied with chair placement then a student may challenge the person directly above them in chair order.
 2. Both students must agree to the date and time at which the director is available to judge the challenge.
 3. The director will select the material for the challenge from class materials.
 4. Chair seating will be adjusted to reflect the results of the challenge.
- j. Uniforms
 - i. Students in Symphonic Band will be provided with concert attire.
 - ii. Concert attire for gentlemen:
 1. Provided: Black tuxedo, white tux shirt, bow tie
 - a. To be purchased: **all black dress shoes** (marching shoes are acceptable) and **black socks**.
 - iii. Concert attire for ladies:
 1. Provided: Black concert dress
 - a. To be purchased: **all black dress shoes** (no flip-flops are permissible).

- iv. The above-described attire will be considered proper concert attire for all concerts and festivals.
- k. Rehearsal Conduct
 - i. Students are expected to arrive to class on time. Upon arrival students are to warm up and prepare for the rehearsal.
 - ii. The daily agenda will be posted on the board to ensure that students are prepared and the rehearsal is efficient.
 - iii. Rehearsals will begin once the director steps onto the podium.
 - iv. Rehearsals will begin 5 minutes following the bell ring.
 - 1. Any student not inside the band room door when the bell rings will be marked tardy.
 - 2. Any student not in his/her seat and ready to play when the rehearsal begins will be marked tardy.
 - 3. Attendance will be entered into the band office computer each day.
 - v. Throughout the rehearsal, students are expected to remain quiet and attentive. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the loss of daily points and/or alternative consequences.
 - vi. Rehearsal ends at the director's discretion. With the director's consent, students may begin to put away their instruments.
 - 1. The director will ensure that students have adequate time to reach their next class. If the director holds the rehearsal late he will excuse band members from tardies.
 - vii. If the director decides to allow students to use class time for individual or group practice, students are expected to do as instructed.
 - 1. Students who do not use class time as directed will face consequences.
 - viii. Students must behave in accordance with all rules and regulations laid out in the Desert Vista High School Student Handbook.
 - ix. Students must always have their instrument, music, and necessary instrument accessories, and a pencil at rehearsals.
- l. Band Room Expectations
 - i. No food or drink allowed
 - 1. Water is the only exception
 - ii. No running or horseplay is permitted
 - iii. No balls, Frisbees, etc. or any kind of athletic ball or flying projectile is permitted.
 - iv. Percussionists in a percussion class, concert ensemble, and/or marching band are the only band members permitted to play on percussion instruments.
 - v. Do not write on either White Board unless given permission.
 - vi. It's your band room, keep it nice."

3. Grading

- a. Students' grades will be comprised of the following weighted categories:
 - i. Test/Quiz (Theory & Rhythm quizzes) – 50 points ea – 10% of grade
 - ii. Performance Tests (Music checks) – 100 points ea – 20% of grade
 - iii. Attendance/Participation – 70% of grade
 - 1. Daily Rehearsals per month – 100 points ea
 - 2. Morning Rehearsals – 50 points ea
 - 3. Sectionals – 25 points ea
 - 4. Concerts – 250 points ea
 - iv. Participation in the Regional/Solo & Ensemble Festival
- b. Deductions in grades will be made for the following reasons:
 - i. Tardy – -5 points
 - ii. Unexcused Absence (Daily Rehearsals) – -10 points

- iii. Unexcused Absence (Morning Rehearsal, Sectionals, Concerts) – -All points
 - c. Extra credit will be given for the following reasons:
 - i. Attendance of a band or “classical” concert (including any DV choir or orchestra concert) +10 points
 - ii. Write a 350 word thesis on the history of your instrument (maximum of 1 per semester) +25 points
 - iii. Prepare and intermediate to advanced level solo (points awarded based on performance) +75 points
- 4. Competitions
 - a. Symphonic Band will participate in the Area Concert Festival and State Concert Festival in the spring.
 - b. Students must have on file a notarized medical and travel form.
 - i. Without said form, no student may travel on a bus for a school event.
 - ii. Forms must be notarized and/or signed by a Desert Vista administrator.
- 5. Financial Guidelines
 - a. Individual Fundraising
 - i. Money earned by the individual students through Band Booster Club sponsored fundraisers will remain in the student’s account for the duration of the student’s participation in band.
 - 1. Monies in the account will be carried forward from each year to next.
 - 2. At the end of the student’s last year in band, \any remaining balance will be absorbed into the band general fund.
 - 3. If the student drops band the monies will not be refunded.
 - 4. If the student is a senior, the remaining balance at graduation will be absorbed into the band general fund.
 - ii. All-band Fundraising
 - 1. Money earned by the band as a whole through Band Booster Club sponsored fundraisers will be absorbed into the band general fund.
- 6. Band Letters
 - a. To letter in band a student not also involved in marching band must:
 - i. Earn a 90% or better in their performing class for each of six semesters.
 - ii. Attend every performance and concert band festival.
 - iii. Consistently and timely attend each band function.
 - b. Awards Banquet
 - i. Students completing a year in concert band may attend the band banquet at the end of the school year.
 - 1. Concert band musicians will be given a concert band patch.
 - 2. Band letters earned by students will be distributed.
 - a. This includes the DV patch for those not lettering in academics and/or the treble clef pin for a band letter.
 - 3. Solo and Ensemble medals will be distributed.
 - 4. Director’s awards will be given to deserving students.

Lockers/Instrument Checkout

- 1. Lockers
 - a. Lockers may be rented from the band program without charge during the summer or school year.
 - i. Materials left in the band area without being stored in a locker may be confiscated by the band director.
 - b. Each locker will be assigned an individual lock.
 - i. Students may not provide their own lock.

- ii. Locks must be returned at the end of the school year with their correct combination attached.
 - 1. Failure to return a lock will result in the assessment of a \$10 replacement charge.
 - c. Lockers may be used only for the storage of music instruments, music, instrument accessories, and other miscellaneous items necessary for rehearsal in a concert ensemble and/or marching band.
 - i. Items necessary for marching band should be stored together in a bag and not left loose.
 - ii. Lockers may not be used to store books, class work, loose clothing, or food.
 - 1. Clothes from a marching rehearsal should be stored in a bag and kept in either a locker or in the practice room provided by the director.
 - iii. Any of the above-mentioned prohibited materials may be removed from the lockers without prior notice.
 - d. Lockers must be kept locked at all times.
 - i. Failure to lock a locker may result in the confiscation of items within the locker or revocation of locker privileges.
 - e. Students are responsible for any and all property stored in their lockers.
 - i. Lockers may be searched without notice.
 - f. Materials or instruments left in a locker or the band area following the end of the school year will become the property of the Desert Vista Band.
- 2. Instruments
 - a. Instruments for concert ensembles or marching band may be rented from the band.
 - i. Instruments may be rented by students involved in school ensembles only.
 - 1. Exceptions must be approved by the director.
 - b. Rentals are subject to a fee determined by the band director based on the instrument rented and the number of rentals.
 - i. The rental fee for the school year is \$55
 - ii. The rental fee is made payable to "DV Band Boosters" and given to the director.
 - c. Rentals are subject to the completion of a rental contract requiring the signature of the student and a parent/guardian.
 - d. Instruments must be returned at the end of the school year.
 - i. Instruments returned in poor condition will be subject to repair or replacement fees as agreed upon in the rental contract.
 - ii. Failure to return an instrument will result in the assessment of a replacement charge and may result in an incomplete grade in the student's performing ensemble class.
 - e. Instruments must be stored in the correct locker at all times while in the band room.
 - i. Instruments left out or stored in the incorrect locker will be subject to confiscation by the band director.
 - f. Rental contracts may be revoked at the discretion of the band director, based on treatment of the instrument, its case, and/or other band property.

Desert Vista Thunder Band

“Honors” Credit Option

This is an option available to band (wind and percussion) students that are not currently in the 1st hour advanced ensembles. If you are interested in the additional requirements, you will receive ‘Honors’ credit for your band elective course. Your transcript would read: “Honors Music Exploration and Performance.” If you sign-up, you must complete the checklist.

Required Checklist:

1. “All-12” Major Scales

- Performed in one sitting. Unlimited re-tries.

€ _____ *

2. Individual Performance

A. Regional Etudes 1-3

- Prepared and performed for Mr. Thye and/or the North Central Regional Honor Band Audition.

€ _____ *

(- OR -)

B. Prepared Classical Solo

- Minimum duration: 5 minutes
- Must be pre-approved for difficulty and merit.
 - o Not eligible: soundtracks, Disney, jazz

€ _____ *

3. Two ‘Outside’ Performances

- Participating in two performing ensembles* in addition to (and outside of) daily music class and band/percussion concerts.

(*Note: Marching Band, Symphony Orchestra, Jazz Band, Steel Drum Band, Honor Band, Winter Guard, Guitar, Choir, Regionals, local ensembles, etc. may each count as one.)

1. _____

€ _____ *

2. _____

€ _____ *

* - Mr. Thye’s Signature Required