

Joliet West Band Grading & Class Procedures 2011-2012

Hello Students and Parents! Allow me to introduce myself. For those of you who do not know me, my name is Kevin Carroll. I am the director of bands at Joliet West High School. My post secondary education is as follows: I received my Bachelors in Music Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1992. I earned my Masters in Music Education from the VanderCook College of Music in Chicago in 1997. I have had the honor of teaching at Joliet West High School since the spring semester of 1993. Outside of my duties as band director at Joliet West High School, I have been a guest conductor and clinician for band programs and honor bands throughout the State of Illinois. During my tenure as band director, the Joliet West Band Program has attained honors and outstanding recognitions throughout the nation in all aspects of our program.

I am very excited to be working with all of you this year.
Sincerely,

Kevin T. Carroll,
Director of Bands,
Joliet West High School
815-727-6905
kcarroll@jths.org
www.jtwestbands.org

Grading Scale

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

Semester Grade Categories and Basis

20 % of your grade is attendance at rehearsals and performances. For freshmen, this includes all marching band rehearsals and performances.

20 % of your grade is class participation and general attitude during class and performances.

20 % of your grade is based on your performance on seating auditions.

20 % of your grade is based on quizzes and playing tests and one non-Joliet West Band concert attendance synopsis per semester.

20 % final exam (written and/or performance)

Quick Information Reference:

www.jtwestbands.org contains:

- The band's entire schedule for the school year.
- Updates and changes to scheduled events.
- Pictures present and past of our rehearsals and performances.
- Fundraiser and Booster information.
- Button for Band Blog Spot & Band facebook page

Rehearsal / Performance Attendance:

All rehearsals and performances are **mandatory**. Work is not an excuse because the band schedule is given out in advance. *Performances include; concerts, contests, recitals, festivals, etc.*

If fall athletes have an over-lap between sports practice and marching band practice, the student is responsible for working out an acceptable schedule with Mr. Carroll.

Valid Excuses are as follows:

- Death of a family member.
- Extreme illness on your part.
- Any *Special Circumstances* must be cleared with Mr. Carroll.

Consequences for missing a rehearsal: A loss of 5 percentage points per **unexcused rehearsal**.

Consequences for missing a performance: A loss of an entire letter grade per **unexcused absence** from a performance. We will also discuss your continuation in the band program after one unexcused performance absence.

I must receive a note or email from a parent or legal guardian prior to missing a practice or performance (preferably 24 hours or more prior to the absence). This can also be given or emailed to Mr. Carroll in an emergency situation the next school day in order to be considered for a valid excuse.

You may email Mr. Carroll at: kcarroll@jths.org or call the band office at: 815-727-6905

Audition Requirements:

- A musical selection appropriate to the given instrument and a scale sheet will be given to you to prepare a minimum of three weeks prior to your audition date.
- The audition may also have a sight reading component.
- The audition will be conducted and results determined by an impartial judge or you may be asked to produce a recording for the audition requirement.

- For best results, prepare to the best of your ability. Remember, **YOUR** performance will determine your seating in the various ensembles as well as a portion of your grade. Students are placed in the various ensembles by performance ability and instrumentation needs.
- Skipping the audition is automatically two letter grades lower, and your placement will be automatically the last chair in your section.

Classroom Procedures

- Always have materials in class (instrument, reeds, **pencil**, mouthpiece, music folder, etc.)
- Be in the band room by the time the tardy bell rings with your instrument, music and a pencil.
- Absolutely no gum chewing during rehearsals or performances.
- Absolutely no food or drink during rehearsal (a bottle of water is the only exception).
- Talking is prohibited while a conductor is on the podium.
- Do not play another student's instrument.
- Do not play the classroom piano without permission from Mr. Carroll.

-----Detach and return-----

Date _____, 20 ____ **BAND CLASSES**

I, _____ understand the above grading policy and classroom
(student signature)
rules and procedures and agree to abide by them.

(Printed Student Name): _____

I, _____ understand the above grading policy and classroom
(parent/guardian signature)
rules and procedures and agree to help my student to abide by them.

(Printed Parent/Guardian Name): _____

Returning this form signed by Monday, August 22, 2011 is an automatic "A" for the first quiz grade.