



Marching Band Handbook

Tri-Valley High School

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Table of Contents	Page
Philosophy	3
Director - Musician Relationship	3
Parent - Director Relationship	4
OHSAA Eligibility Information & Rules	5
Attendance Requirements	6
Musician Discipline Policy	6
Musician Policy-Rules and Regulations	7
Care of Uniforms	10
Letter Requirements	10
Transportation	10
Band Competitions	11
Practice Time & Schedule	11
Pre-Camp & Band Camp	11
Live Calendar	11

Philosophy

The general philosophy underlying Tri-Valley Local Schools Band program emphasizes the development of self-discipline, dedication, cooperation, and growth on the part of the student performers, the faculty, and the residents of the Tri-Valley Local School District.

A primary duty of the Tri-Valley Local School is to provide experiences, to assist all students to realize their full potential in life, to recognize their duties as a citizen of the school and community, and to understand the rights of others. Toward this end, opportunity for every student to participate in a structured, wholesome, amateur music program is offered as an integral part of the Tri-Valley Local Schools educational program.

Director-Musician Relationship

The Director should demand a great deal from the student musicians. Only by doing so will Tri-Valley music ensembles truly develop. Musicians must be prepared to sacrifice in order to benefit from music.

Directors also need to give a great deal to the musicians. A relationship where each party is called on to give of oneself must be founded on trust and respect. The following statements are most important.

1. Director(s) will notify students well ahead of time of all rules, regulations, competition and practice schedules, procedures for leadership and/or performance possibilities, and other information that will help avoid possible conflict during the season.
2. Students will follow all such rules and procedures established by the director, or face denial of participation.
3. When concerned or confused about such rules and procedures, the student is encouraged to approach the director first for interpretations.
4. The director will respond to questions from students concerning such rules and procedures and explain when necessary the purpose and reasons behind the rules.
5. Student-musicians are expected to follow the Chain of Command when addressing concerns or issues related to the band program. The Chain of command is as follows:
 - a. The student-musicians should first discuss the problem with the director involved.
 - b. If the issue remains unresolved, the student-musician and/or parent should seek assistance from the Band Director.
 - c. If the concern still exists, a meeting may be requested with the building Principal.The Chain of Command concludes with the building Principal.

Director-Parent Relationship

Director(s) and parents must have an open and honest relationship because each is directly involved in the musicians who are the center of the band program. This relationship should be characterized by the following standards:

1. Director(s) will notify parents well ahead of time of all rules, procedures, competition and practice schedules, and other information the parents will need in order to help their child meet his/her obligations to the ensemble.
2. Director(s) will explain such rules and other information to parents when they need clarification. However, directors will not meet with parents during a practice, a performance, or other times when the director has a duty of care for other students or musicians.
3. Directors should seek to be as cooperative as possible with parents when the parents have questions concerning the type of information referred to above. However, no directors should be subjected to questions and criticisms from parents concerning audition placements, music selection, pedagogical practice, and other items that by their very nature can only be determined by the objective and/or subjective judgement of the head director.
4. Parents/guardians are expected to follow the established Chain of Command when addressing concerns or issues related to the band program. The Chain of Command is as follows:
 - a. The student-musician and/or parent/guardian should first discuss the concern with the director involved.
 - b. If the issue remains unresolved, the student-musician and/or parent/guardian should seek assistance from the Music Director.
 - c. If the concern still exists, a meeting may be requested with the building Principal.The Chain of Command concludes with the building Principal.

Use of the above strategies for open, honest communication will create the mutual trust and respect necessary for the coach and musician to work together for success.

Ohio High School Athletic Association

Eligibility Information for High School Athletes/Musicians

1. Scholarship

Do not change your course schedule without first consulting with your school Principal, Band Director, or School Counselor to determine whether it will affect your eligibility.

Eligibility for each grading period is determined by grades received the preceding grading period. Semester average and yearly average have no effect on eligibility.

Grades 9-12: You must be currently enrolled in a school and have received passing grades in a minimum of five (5) one credit courses or the equivalent, in the immediately preceding grading period. You must also follow the district requirement of maintaining a 1.0 minimum grade point average and receive no more than one failing grade in the preceding grading period.

Grades 7-8: You must be currently enrolled in school and have received passing grades in the immediately preceding grading period in four (4) courses in which enrolled (this also applies to beginning ninth grade students). You must also follow the district requirement of maintaining a 1.0 minimum grade point average and receive no more than one failing grade in the preceding grading period.

Summer school grades, CCP and other educational options may not be used to substitute for failing grades received in the final grading period of the regular school year or for lack of enough subjects taken the preceding grading period.

****In addition to the OHSAA Eligibility requirements, the district eligibility requirements must be met as well. The district policy for extracurricular activities requires a minimum GPA of 1.0 and receive no more than one failing grade in the previous grading period.**

Attendance Requirements for Extracurricular Participation

Band members/musicians must attend school regularly to demonstrate the responsibility and dedication that are rewarded by the privilege of interscholastic competition. Regular attendance is also important in maintaining scholastic eligibility. Students must always remember that school work comes before extra-curriculurs.

To demonstrate the importance of school work relative to competition, the following attendance rules apply to all Tri-Valley musicians.

1. A student who is absent from school for the entire day will not participate in a contest or practice on that day without prior administrative approval.
2. A student arriving late to school or not attending school the day following a contest without permission from the school authority, MAY not be permitted to participate in the next scheduled contest.
3. A student musician must be in attendance for at least half of their scheduled academic classes (excluding study hall and lunch) in order to participate in any game, practice, or school-related extracurricular activity, including pep rallies, parades, and similar events.
4. A student leaving school for personal illness prior to the end of the school day will not be permitted to participate in a contest or practice that day.
5. All situations will be reviewed by the school administration for proper dispensation.

Musician Discipline Policy

The music department at Tri-Valley believes that one of the major objectives of interscholastic music performance is to aid the character formation of the student musiciansss so they become healthy and productive citizens in later life. All student-musicians have a serious responsibility to themselves, their teammates, and the school community to be physically prepared for competition and to serve as a positive representative of the Tri-Valley Local Schools.

Participation in music based competition is not guaranteed by the laws of the State of Ohio and the policies of the Tri-Valley Board of Education. It is a privilege given to students which may be revoked if the student does not abide by the rules established to meet the responsibility defined above.

1. All student-musicians are granted the right to due process of law.
2. Violation of rules and regulations must be verified by a member of the directorial staff or school administration.
3. Any student-musician who is the subject of an active law enforcement investigation shall not be permitted to participate in any music related practice, performance, or ensemble activity until the investigation has been completed.

TRI-VALLEY MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Policy/Rules and Regulations

I. Student-Musicians shall not exhibit conduct that has a negative reflection on the band or school. Any student violating this conduct policy may be subject to the following disciplinary consequences.

First offense	Second offense
Denial of participation for 20% of the next scheduled contests in which the student is a participant. (The student may practice with the team but may not dress, travel, or participate in performances.)	Removal as a participating member of the team. The musician may be denied the privilege of participating in any ensemble for a period of one calendar year and will forfeit all awards.

II. Student-Musicians shall not use or possess alcohol, illegal drugs, steroids, and/or any other performance enhancing drugs.

First offense	Second offense	Third offense
Suspension from participation for 40% of the ensemble's total scheduled contests, regardless of when the violation occurs during the season.	The student-musician shall be suspended from participation in interscholastic programs for a period of 18 weeks and shall forfeit all music awards and honors earned during that time.	Removal as a participating member of the ensemble. The musician may be denied the privilege of participating in music ensembles for a period of one calendar year and will forfeit all awards.
If the student-musician agrees to complete a counseling program, the penalty may be reduced to 20% of the team's total scheduled performances, regardless of when the violation occurs during the season.	In order for the student-musician to regain eligibility following an 18-week suspension from participation, he or she MUST successfully complete a drug counseling program approved by the school administration.	In order for the musician to become eligible after serving a one year denial of participation he/she is required to complete a drug counseling program as approved by the school administration.
During the suspension period, the student-musician shall not be permitted to travel with the ensemble, dress in uniform, or sit with the ensemble during performances. The student-musician may continue to practice and participate in scrimmages if permitted by the Band Director.	During the suspension period, the student-musician shall not be permitted to travel with the ensemble. The Director may require the student-musician to attend ensemble practices during the suspension period.	During the suspension period, the student-musician shall not be permitted to travel with the ensemble. The Director may require the student- musician to attend ensemble practices during the suspension period.

III. Musicians shall not use or possess tobacco products or electronic cigarettes or similar devices. Tobacco products include, but are not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff or any other substance that contains tobacco or nicotine. Smoking of electronic, “vapor”, other forms of cigarettes, or clove cigarettes is also prohibited.

First offense	Second offense	Third offense
Suspension from participation for 20% of the ensemble’s total scheduled performances, regardless of when the violation occurs during the season.	Denial of participation for 40% of the ensembles' total scheduled performances, regardless of when the violation occurs during the season. (The student may practice with the ensemble but may not dress, travel, or participate in performances.)	Removal as a participating member of the ensemble. The student may be denied the privilege of participating in music ensembles for a period of one calendar year and will forfeit all awards.
If the student-musician agrees to complete a Tobacco Education Program, the penalty may be reduced to 10% of the ensembles’ total scheduled performances, regardless of when the violation occurs during the season.	In order for the student to become eligible he/she will be required to complete a Tobacco Education Program as approved by the school administration.	In order for the student to become eligible after serving a one year denial of participation he/she is required to complete a Tobacco Education Program as approved by the school administration.
During the suspension period, the student shall not be permitted to travel with the ensemble, dress in uniform, or sit with during performances. The student may continue to practice with the ensemble if permitted by the Band Director.	During the suspension period, the student shall not be permitted to travel with the team, dress in uniform, or with ensemble during performances. The student may continue to practice with the ensemble if permitted by the Band Director	During the denial of participation, the student is not permitted to travel with the team. The Director may require the band members to attend practices.

- IV.** Violations may be detected by any director, administrator, teacher, school personnel, law enforcement person, during drug testing, or by a parent/guardian of the
- V.** The rules and regulations of the discipline policy apply for a full calendar year (365 days).
- VI.** Removal from an ensemble or performance will carry over to the next ensemble if the season ends before the assigned time is served. Musicians not finishing a season will not be considered members of that ensemble unless failure to complete the season is due to an injury or acceptable circumstances.
- VII.** Directors may assign additional consequences on top of the TV Music department’s policy.

VIII. Violations are accumulative in nature. Consequences for a second and third offense are not based on whether the violations are the same as the first. First offense, regardless of action, is a first offense. Second offense, regardless of action, is a second offense, and so on.

Absence from Performances or Practices

Student musicians have a responsibility to their ensemble to be at all practices and performances. This is consistent with the goals of responsibility, selflessness, and teamwork that are such an important part of the music program. Musicians must remember that participation in music is a privilege and that the head director will make the decision on who performs according to what is best for the ensemble and the music program.

Student musicians who miss practices or performances for no justifiable reason may expect to be denied the ability to perform. Whether absences are justifiable will be at the directors' discretion.

General Rules and Regulations

1. A student musician serving an in-school or out-of-school suspension for violation of the Student Code of Conduct is automatically denied participation in all school activities during the time of the suspension. They can attend contests, but must do so as a spectator only.
2. A student musician shall not cause or attempt to take into possession the public property or equipment of the school district or another school district, or personal property of another student, teacher, visitor, or employee of Tri-Valley Local Schools.
 - a. **First Offense:** The student may be denied participation in up to the next two scheduled performance. The student may practice with the ensemble, but may not dress during the contests.
 - b. **Second Offense:** Removal as a participating member of the ensemble. The musician may be denied the privilege of participating in music ensembles for a period of one calendar year and may forfeit all awards.
3. Any equipment issued to a musician must be turned in at the conclusion of the season. This equipment is due within 5 school days. Students not returning equipment will not be permitted to participate in another ensemble until all outstanding equipment is returned or paid for at a new replacement cost. No awards will be given until all equipment is returned. There will be no equipment issued for another ensemble until everything is either paid for or returned.

Care of Uniforms

Tri-Valley musicians are issued several uniforms for several different performance venues. Students are expected to maintain the uniforms as they are handed to them, and ensure to make decisions that do not risk the integrity of uniforms meant to last multiple years. If a student musician is found to be negligent in the care of a uniform, at the director's discretion, the student may be financially responsible to replace the damaged uniform at its new cost. Uniforms purchased by students are expected to be maintained and cared for by the student, and may be asked to replace uniform if mistreated.

Jacket Patch & Emblem Requirements

TV Band Shield - 1 Full Year Performance in TVHS Marching Band

TV Band Letter - 2 Full Year Performance in TVHS Marching Band

OMEA I Pin - Performance at State Finals with an Ensemble (I) Superior Rating

OMEA II Pin - Performance at State Finals with an Ensemble (II) Excellent Rating

Pep Patch - Attendance to 80% of TVHS Marching Band Pep Games

Jazz Patch - 2 Years of Participation in the HS Jazz Ensemble

Transportation

All performers, student managers, student trainers, statisticians, and other student participants are required to travel to and from all musical contests and events using school-authorized transportation. Requests for parent/guardian transportation may be considered on a case-by-case basis and must receive prior approval from school administration. If approved, the parent/guardian must complete and submit a Parent Transport Release Form prior to the student being released from school-authorized transportation. School administration reserves the right to deny any transportation request based on team, safety, or supervisory considerations.

Musicians, student managers, student trainers, statisticians, and other student participants may be signed out by a parent/guardian following the conclusion of a contest or event. Students may also be released to another adult if the student provides a signed note from a parent/guardian granting permission for that adult to transport the student home. Under no circumstances will a current student from Tri-Valley or any other high school be permitted to transport a student participant home from an away contest or event, regardless of the student's age.

Band Competitions

All adjudicated performances will be in compliance with the rules of the OMEA. They will be scheduled, including judges, and arranged by the director. Transportation to performances will be by school transportation only and will be scheduled through the director.

Practice Time and Schedule

Student musicians are required to remain with the ensemble for the duration of football games and must stay in their designated seating area within the stands. Performers are granted the third quarter as a break for concessions. Failure to return to the ensemble at the specified time will result in the denial of this privilege during the subsequent week's game. During competitions, students are expected to remain with the group at all times. Following a performance, the director will notify musicians when they are permitted to visit concessions or watch from the stands. All Saturday events begin with a morning rehearsal, the schedule for which will be provided once the host site releases the official competition times.

Pre-Camp & Band Camp

To ensure the ensemble is prepared for the upcoming season, the Tri-Valley Band holds extended rehearsals throughout July. Attendance at these camps is a **MANDATORY** prerequisite for anyone seeking to participate with the ensemble during the year. Requests for excusal from these rehearsals are rarely granted and must be discussed with the director directly.

Live Calendar

The performance times, report times and locations are all available on a published google document. This document is a live calendar that will show moment to moment updates in our schedule. It is advised to check this calendar at least once a week for any changes in schedule or additions that you may have missed. The qr code below will link you to this calendar.



