

*New Bern High School*

*Band Handbook*



*2020-21 Edition*

*“Excellence Through Music”*

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### *Mission Statement*

*The students of the New Bern High School band program will learn valuable life skills enabling them to develop as comprehensive musicians and responsible citizens through the medium of the performing arts.*

### *Vision Statement*

*The New Bern High School Band Program will be a model of excellence at the regional, state, and national levels.*

### *Welcome*

*Thank you for making the commitment to one of the most preeminent organizations on the campus of New Bern High School. Being a part of this program will bring about many enjoyable experiences and friendships. Although a major commitment, students from years past can attest to the enduring joys of experiencing band.*

*In order for you to get the most of this experience, we have put together a handbook that outlines general information and expectations for all parents and students involved in the New Bern High School band program. The rules established here are supplemented by those established by the school administration.*

*It is my hope that you find this to be positive experience that you will carry with you for many years to come. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.*

*Christopher Elbing  
Director of Bands  
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252.514.6045*

*Kristen Graham  
Associate Director  
Kristen.graham@cravenk12.org*

# Program Information

## 1. Recent Accomplishments

- 2013 National Adjudicator's Invitational Performing Ensemble
- 2018 Festival of Bands Washington D.C. Revelli Award
- A 2019 NC Music Educators Association Conference Featured Band
- Numerous marching band championships across Eastern North Carolina

## 2. Program Offerings

### *Fall Semester*

*Marching Band*

*Pep Band*

*Concert Band*

### *Year Round*

*Various chamber groups and Tri-M*

### *Spring Semester*

*Symphonic Band*

*Wind Ensemble*

*Jazz Band*

*Winter Guard*

*Indoor Percussion*

## 3. Official Band Website and Social Media

The band has an official website at [www.newbernbands.org](http://www.newbernbands.org). Please visit this site to check out announcements and keep track of events. You may also make payments online and access important documents.

The band also has a Facebook page that is used for news updates. Visit and join the **New Bern High School Band** page to stay posted. The Instagram for the NBHS band is *newbernhsband*

## 4. CHARMS Office Assistant

The band uses a special server called CHARMS that keeps track of all money owed and money collected. This site is available for access to all New Bern High Band students. CHARMS also makes it easy to keep track of various forms that are due to the band and even features a calendar displaying all activities and events. [See here for more information.](#)

## 5. Costs/Assessments

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The band program does not receive a lot of funds from the school system. Most of it is self-funded. Therefore, there are some personal assessments that are needed to provide students with a well-rounded musical experience. These vary depending on ensemble. There are many fundraiser opportunities available to offset and pay down the costs of assessments and major trips. It is possible to not pay anything out of pocket.

It is the philosophy of the program that no student will be denied an opportunity to participate due to financial reasons. Please communicate with Mr. Elbing or Ms. Graham regarding concerns.

### A. Marching Band: \$425.00

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This is broken down into several small payments: 5 payments of \$70 and 1 payment of \$75 due on the last weekday of each month from July to December. This assessment helps to pay for drill, music, instruction, the show shirt, travel, and uniform maintenance. **This does not include other items** such as shoes, lyres, reeds, folders, etc. In addition, overnight trips are not included and will be added on as needed. Shoes (approx. \$35) must be paid at the beginning of band camp in order to be ordered in timely manner.

All fees are non-refundable. Students that are removed from or quit marching band will still be held responsible for all fees.

### B. Spring Ensembles: *Varies*

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There is a purchase of concert attire that for most families is a one-time cost. If students outgrow their uniforms, they must replace them. This is usually about \$80.00-89.00.

### C. Spring Trip: *Varies*

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Every once in a while, the band will travel to another city or state for a festival. This cost varies depending on the location.

## 6. Fundraising and Student Accounts

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Fundraisers will be available throughout the year to help pay off certain band related expenses. These are credits and not monetary funds. The credits will vary depending on the fundraiser.

Not all fundraisers will provide any credits and will go strictly into the general fund. Some go towards helping the band function. All members are part of the band and it is their duty to make sure that it is well funded to continue to enjoy the same benefits year after year. All fundraisers are mandatory.

All profits that are credited to a student through fundraising will be put into an account under that student's name in CHARMS. This account will be used to pay off any band related expenses on the student's behalf. Credits can be raised up to the amount owed. At the end of the year, all credits are wiped out and put into the general fund to comply with IRS tax laws. **Current year credits cannot be used towards payments for the next school year.** Families may wish to transfer extra credits towards financial aid scholarships for students who have difficulty meeting the financial requirement of the New Bern High School Band program.

## 7. Volunteering

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**Volunteers are vital to the success of the band program!** There is a great need for parents in all different roles, such as chaperoning, sewing, moving and/or building props, trailer pulling, photography and media, etc. This is a great way to get involved and play a crucial role for your child and the band program. Even if you don't feel like you have anything to contribute, we can find something for you! Volunteers will need to go through a Craven County Schools background check.

## 8. Honors Band Credit

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Students have the opportunity to receive honors credit for any band class. In order to be eligible, students must take a 100-question music theory test and perform their appropriate All-District Scales and Solo. Fall students should use the previous year's material. Students who are put into an honors section will be eligible to receive this status for all of their band courses and keep it unless they take a break in between semesters or do not meet expectations, such as maintaining the necessary theory grade or meeting performance requirements. Honors students will have extra requirements to fulfil in order to justify placement (such as additional scales, performances, listening assignments, projects, etc.). Participation in All-District Auditions and Solo/Ensemble MPA is expected. **Students must maintain an "A" average each semester** of band in order to maintain Honors credit or they will need to redo the audition process.

## ***DIRECTOR INFORMATION***

**Mr. Christopher Elbing, Director of Bands. [Chris.elbing@cravenk12.org](mailto:Chris.elbing@cravenk12.org) 252.514.6045**



Mr. Elbing received his B.M. in Music Education with honors from East Carolina University in 2009. Since 2010, he has served as Director of Bands at New Bern High School. Prior to his current position at New Bern High School, Mr. Elbing was the Associate Director of Bands at Havelock High School. Since arriving at New Bern High School, the band program has more than doubled and now includes multiple concert bands, a competitive marching band, and an active winter guard. Ensembles have consistently earned Superiors at district events, as well as in regional festivals and competitions throughout the Southeast and New Bern HS students have consistently participated in All-District and All-State Bands, All-Region Orchestra, and the All-American Marching Band. In 2018, New Bern High School Wind Ensemble performed at the NC Music Educators Professional Development Conference, a first in school history.

In 2019, Mr. Elbing was named a Sun Journal "20 under 40" Award Recipient, given to those in Craven, Jones, and Pamlico county that display a commitment to serving the community in both professional and personal capacities.

Mr. Elbing's professional affiliations include the National Association for Music Education, the North Carolina Music Educators Association, and the North Carolina Bandmasters Association, and Kappa Kappa Psi, National Honorary Band Fraternity. Mr. Elbing served as the Eastern NCBA Marching Band Committee Representative for five years and the district commissioning chair for four years. Mr. Elbing currently serves as the Eastern District Solo and Small Ensemble Chair.

**Ms. Kristen Graham, Associate Director [Kristen.graham@cravenk12.org](mailto:Kristen.graham@cravenk12.org)**



Ms. Graham received her B.M in Music Education with Honors at East Carolina University. While in college she performed with the Flute Choir, Concert, Marching and Symphonic Band. While in the Flute Choir and assorted band programs she played both the flute and the piccolo. During her junior year she was elected Corresponding Secretary for the collegiate chapter of NCMEA.

Ms. Graham has worked with multiple band programs over the past few years including South Johnston, North Johnston, and Clayton High School. There she worked as a choreographer, marching, woodwind, and colorguard technician. In addition to her work with her high school alma mater, she has helped coordinate the Johnston County All-County high school auditions for two years.

As well as assisting with all ensembles, Ms. Graham also leads the Basketball Pep Band and facilitates indoor percussion and winter guard activities. Ms. Graham serves as the Eastern NCBA 9/10 All-District Auditions Chair.



# ***NBHS BAND RULES, POLICIES, AND GUIDELINES***

The expectations for the band can be summed up with the acronym **C.A.R.E**

*Communicate*

*Attend all rehearsals and performance*

*Respect property and each other*

*Execute rehearsal procedures.*

## **1. Communication**

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The band office has an open-door policy. Parents and students may contact Mr. Elbing about issues and questions. The band also has many methods of communicating with members: band page, Facebook, email, and sometimes even texts. If there is still some confusion, contact Mr. Elbing or another experienced band parent.

Major itineraries are sent out via email and handed out to students no later than the Tuesday prior to the event. If you do not receive anything, please ask!

## **2. Rehearsal Expectations**

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In order to get the most out of the experience of participating in a successful band program, students must hold a high level of pride in what they are doing. In order to ensure success, all students must know and commit to practicing proper rehearsal etiquette.

1. Each student is expected to arrive before schedule. Communicate about athletic and club conflicts in advance. Please be aware that these will not be excused without prior notice.
2. Music, instruments, and materials should be at all rehearsals and performances.
3. Respect all instructors, whether on the podium or not.
4. School owned instruments should be treated like gold.
5. Look at whoever is speaking and raise your hand if you have any questions.
6. Come prepared with the appropriate attire and equipment.

There will be physical conditioning in marching band to prepare students for the rigors of marching and playing. Students with physical issues should communicate about any possible issues beforehand so that alternate exercises can be given.

### 3. Facilities and Equipment

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It is important to keep the facilities clean and free of trash and safety hazards. No food or drinks are allowed in the band room. The only exception is bottled water. **Any offense will lead to 30 minutes after school detention.**

Please respect all equipment. Put everything back where you received it. Please note that percussion instruments are not tables.

### 4. Instrument and Equipment Usage

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All students are expected to have their own instruments. The band does provide larger instruments and specific marching equipment such as French Horns, Bass Clarinets, Bassoons, Tenor and Baritone Saxophones, Euphoniums, Tubas, and marching percussion. Flags and guard equipment are usually provided as well.

Parents and students must sign an instrumental usage contract. While the band will take care of normal maintenance, families are responsible for any damage incurred that is not due to normal wear and tear of the instrument.

### 5. Grading Policy

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The band will be graded in the areas of Attendance, Participation, Playing Assessments, and Written Quizzes/Assessments.

#### A. Attendance

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For concert band: All scheduled afternoon sectionals and rehearsals are mandatory.

For marching band: Please see the section regarding attendance in the Marching Band Section. Unexcused absences will result in a lowering of the final grade by one letter grade. Three tardies equal an unexcused absence.

#### B. Participation/Preparation-30%

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Students will be graded on the quality of effort put into preparation and behavior. Students must learn to take orders and to respect authority (real-life skills). Having a negative attitude and being disrespectful will lead to a lower grade. It is important to always maintain high standards and a positive attitude.

All students begin the day with 20 points. Talking, tardiness, and not participating in general will result in a deduction of points. **Not having classroom materials will also result in a reduction of the daily grade.**

## Materials Needed

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### Everyone

1. Pencil
2. Music

### Instrument Specific

- Flutes: Cleaning rod
- Clarinets and Saxophones: A minimum of 3 Vandoren reeds in a reed holder, free of chipping or cracks/Cork grease/Cleaning swab. **The band director reserves the right to dispose of any chipped or damaged reed any time. This hurts not only the student, but the entire ensemble.**
- All valve brass Valve oil and tuning slide grease
- Trombones: Spray bottle and trombone slide cream, as well as tuning slide grease.
- Percussion: Practice Pad and drumsticks such as Vic Firth SD1, Medium Marimba Mallets, Medium Xylophone Mallets, and Medium Timpani Mallets.

## C. Playing Assessments-40%

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Periodically it is necessary for students to show their mastery of musical material. Students will know in advance what they have to prepare.

## D. Written Quizzes/Assessments-30%

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Members of the band will learn various concepts related to performance skills, as well as music theory and historical information. Students will be tested on this information regularly.

All ensembles are performance-based ensembles. Concerts are the cumulating project of a band's work. All students are expected to attend scheduled concerts. Concerts are 25% of a student's overall grade. Students who miss a concert will be required to perform all of their music in class and will be assessed on accuracy, tone quality, articulation, and musicianship.

## F. Listening Assignments/Concerts

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Students must expand their concept of sound. Students will be expected to attend at least (1) live instrumental performance. Students may also be required to watch specific videos or listen to required recordings each semester.

## 7. Internet Etiquette

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All personal websites chat rooms and messenger programs are public. Members of the New Bern High School Marching Band and Guard should represent themselves in a positive manner.

Any student who represents himself or herself as a member of the New Bern High School Marching Band or Guard online is **not allowed** to:

- Use profanity or obscene language
- Defame or slander anyone
- Send or display offensive messages or pictures
- Harass, insult, or attack others
- Post pictures or video of anyone in the Band or Colorguard without the individual's consent. Any group pictures of New Bern Marching Bears will not be posted on personal websites.
- Indecent pictures (stored even on cell phones) are illegal and can lead to felony charges.

Violation of any of these rules will result in parent contact and possible suspension from the band program. Further discipline will be taken if necessary. **Leaders** who break the Internet usage rules will be removed from their position. Please note that "cyber bullying" is a Felony Offense in the State of North Carolina.

NBHS Band students who use social media in a way that negatively reflects on the band program will be dealt with immediately and may be dismissed from the band.

# Marching Band (Marching Bears)

## 1. Summer Band CAMP

Camp is split between two weeks. The first week starts July 20-24 and will be “mini-camps.” This is a refresher on marching techniques and basics. The next week is “Full Camp” and runs from 8 AM – 6 PM. Camp is taught by the school directors, camp staff, and student leadership. Camp is required of all students in the marching band.

Approximately “seven weeks” of normal rehearsal time is crammed into the week so attendance is a must. Parent volunteers will be in attendance to help out with whatever needs may arise. Camp will end at the conclusion of the exhibition on that Friday.

## 2. Rehearsals

Rehearsals will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3pm-6pm. Sectionals may also be scheduled once a week.

The band room will be locked five minutes prior to the start of rehearsal. There should be no playing to and from the field or on the field unless given directions to do so. Drum majors will have authority until the director(s) and/or staff arrive to the field. Students who are not in their spot in attention at the very start of rehearsal will be considered tardy. Disciplinary actions for tardiness include, but are not limited to: extra laps, loss of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter privilege, and/or suspension from performances.

While every effort will be made to respect the students and parents’ time, it should be understood that rehearsals may go up until the last minute (6pm). Every minute counts. In addition, students will have duties to attend to immediately after practice. Parents should expect for their students to be ready at 6:15pm. 6:00pm will likely not be a reasonable expectation on most days. We ask that parents continue to show patience after rehearsal. **Please allow for an additional 15 minutes for students to finish responsibilities and put away their equipment.**

### 3. Attendance Policy and Tardiness

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Unlike most other courses, EVERY INDIVIDUAL STUDENT IS IMPORTANT TO THE SUCCESS OF THE GROUP. This is a team-oriented activity. The band calendar is prepared months in advance and outlines the entire semester and/or the year. Plan accordingly. Work, trips, and appointments on rehearsal and concert days will not be excused.

Marching band rehearsals are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 to 6:00pm from August to November, plus occasional sectionals on Mondays. In November, the rehearsal schedule is changed to fewer rehearsals with a focus on parades.

**\*Open dates on the calendar are the dates to schedule appointments.**

All known absences should be put on the NBHS Absence Request form at least one week in advance. Forms are located on-line on [www.newbernbands.org](http://www.newbernbands.org). Turning in a form does not ensure an excused status. Emergencies are the exception. **The band absence policy is directly related to the school policy-if the school if excuse it, the band will excuse it. WORK IS NEVER AN EXCUSE.**

Two unexcused absences from rehearsal will result in the lowering of the final grade by one letter grade. Three tardies equal an unexcused absence. Consistent absences will result in a removal from band.

Students with at least one unexcused absence in a week of a performance will not participate in that performance. Those with at least 1 unexcused tardy will sit during 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter in the football stands.

One unexcused absence or two consecutive excused absences may be grounds for removal from Marching Band performing line-up. Students who miss 2 rehearsals on a week of performance for any reason will not be allowed to perform on the field (but must still attend and perform in the stands).

Students participating in New Bern High School sporting events may be excused from rehearsals if there is a competition/game conflict. Game conflicts vs. concert performances will be handled on a case by case basis. Since there are only a limited number of concerts, these must be extenuating circumstances.

## 4. Marching Uniforms

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A simple expectation regarding uniforms: *Wear it right or don't wear it all.*

### A. Official Uniform

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The band uniform consists of: Black gloves (provided), long black socks, marching shoes, the band show shirt (provided), marching jacket and bibbers (provided), as well as the helmet, plumes, and gauntlets (provided).

Extras gloves are \$5.00/pair and extra show shirts are \$10.00.

### B. Summer Uniform

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During the first couple of games and trips to competitions, students wear a "Summer Uniform." This consists of khaki shorts, the marching shoes, short black socks, and the season's band shirt.

### C. Uniform Policy

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1. All uniforms are kept in the band room.
2. Compression shorts and compression shirt must be worn underneath the uniform.
3. No eating of food while in uniform
4. All females: Hair should be wrapped in tight bun (sock or dance)
5. All hair must be able to fit completely into the shako properly.
6. There will be no dye colored hair during marching season.
7. No jewelry underneath the uniform.
8. Long black socks and the marching band shoes should be worn. No sneakers.
9. Uniforms are not removed unless you are told to do so by a director.
10. Bibber straps stay on the shoulders at all times.
11. No caps or sunglasses while in uniform. School policy in regard to clothing is still in place. This includes band jackets.
12. No PDA in uniform.
13. After performance, students should place uniforms correctly into the storage bags. Those who have failed to do so will not be allowed to leave until this has been addressed.
14. Students are responsible for and will be charged for any damage or unexpected cleaning. Students are reminded not to eat or drink in uniform and be aware of their surroundings.
15. Band shirts or NBHS regalia must be worn when not in uniform.

## **D. Pre-performance Inspection**

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Prior to performances of the band, all band members will stand in the line-up for inspection. Any member that does not pass the inspection will not participate in the given performance and/or lose 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter privileges.

Band members will be checked for the following:

- Proper uniform (as described above)
- Cleaned, polished shoes
- Hair correctly worn. Ladies must have hair in a tight bun (sock or dance)
- Jewelry – none

The band director serves the right to remove 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter privilege and/or remove student from performance any student who does not meet uniform policy expectations.

## **5. Football Games and Stands Behavior**

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All members are expected to attend all home football games, marching band competitions, parades and scheduled events.

Percussion, Baritone, Mellophone, and Tuba students and color guard members are to come in at least 1 hour prior to call time to get ready for performance. For the brass students, this means cleaning and shining the instrument prior to performance. All other wind students are to come in at 5:30pm. Everyone should be out on the practice field in uniform at 5:45 to warm up and do any necessary run-throughs. Changes to the schedule will be announced before game day.

In the stands, it is important to remember that we represent the band program, New Bern High School, and the City of New Bern anytime that we are in the public eye. Our job is to provide morale and school spirit to our athletic program, both musically and vocally.

### **A. Rules regarding stand behavior (Home or Away):**

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1. Band members and designated chaperones only will sit in this area
2. All staff, chaperones, students, and attendees will be treated with respect at all times.
3. No cell phone usage in the stands. Cell phones will be confiscated.
4. Students are to remain in the designated areas and be aware of what is going on down front.
5. Stand cheers will not be played unless rehearsed and approved by the director.
6. No gum chewing or inappropriate language.
7. There will be no food or drinks allowed in the area.
8. Students must stand/sit with their designated sections only.
9. Use 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter break and begin returning to the designated area 2 minutes before the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter begins.
10. All band members are expected to remain for the entire football game. Following the game, students will be released after clean-up and final remarks and instructions are given by the director.
11. Students may not leave the game early without Director prior approval.
12. No non-uniformed guests will be allowed to sit in the band section due to space limitations.
13. Be as supportive as possible, but be appropriate
14. Disrespectful behavior is grounds to be dismissed from the game and/or behavior and awarded an unexcused absence. Other disciplinary actions may follow.

Failure to do all of the above will result in the band losing their break during the next game.



## **B. Third Quarter Privileges**

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The Marching Band receives 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter off as a reward for hard work and meeting expectations. It is a privilege, not a right. This policy will continue only if the privilege is handled with maturity and band members can manage to be back in their assigned seats and ready to play on time. The Director may remove 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter off for poor behavior, tardiness, excessive absences or other reasons as seen fit. Sometimes 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter is removed due to specific scheduling needs.

Students who lose Third Quarter Privileges may not receive items from parents or other students. They must go to the restroom with a designated chaperone. The band director reserves the right to dismiss any student who does not follow the policy.

## **C. Make-Up Games**

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There may be occasions that football games are moved due to inclement weather. Students are expected to attend all make-up games.

## **6. Travel Policies**

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Traveling is the best way to become exposed to bands from other areas, whether locally, regionally, or nationally. This is a learning experience of great value. That being said, it is imperative that students represent themselves and our school to the highest degree.

### **A. Itineraries and Times**

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Itineraries are emailed and handed out by the Monday prior the trip. Please understand that that trip itinerary times may fluctuate due to unexpected conditions and are at best just estimates.

## **B. Trip Expectations and Policies**

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1. Drinking alcoholic beverages and/or abusing non-prescription/illegal drugs will not be tolerated and lead to immediate dismissal and school disciplinary actions.
2. Smoking, chewing, and dipping tobacco will not be tolerated.
3. Radio/tape/disc players are only permitted on the buses if headphones are used. Please remember that many times the buses are not secured and you are taking a risk that someone may steal your equipment.
4. Food or drinks will only be allowed as long as everyone uses the trash bags that will be located on each bus. This privilege will be taken away if people throw trash on the floor.
5. No hanging out of or talking out of bus windows.
6. All trash must be thrown away.
7. Only use the front, side door of the bus. Emergency exits are for emergencies!
8. School dress codes always apply.
9. Be respectful to drivers and chaperones.
10. All band members are required to ride the bus to the band performances and competitions. Parents may sign waivers to take their students back home.
11. Female and male students may not share the same seat.
12. Buses should be cleaned prior to exiting the bus when arriving back at school.
13. Students are expected to clean-up after themselves at any restaurant stop.
14. No public displays of affection.
  - a. Student's head and hands must be visible at all times.
  - b. Blankets may only cover one person at a time.
  - c. All school rules apply to showing affection, i.e. no kissing, no petting.
  - d. Students may not put their arms around each other in the bus seat.
    - A. Students in violation of the PDA policy will be moved to the first five seats of the bus for the remainder of that trip. All other trips they must sit in the first five seats of the bus.
    - B. After the second violation the students will no longer be allowed to sit together for the remainder of the year. Both sets of parents will be notified and a school discipline referral will be filled out.
15. All CCS and NBHS rules and policies will be in place during any trips.

## **C. Overnight Trips**

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In addition to the above policies:

1. Students may not visit rooms after hours. Opposite sexes may not be in each other's rooms.
2. No instruments should be played indoors.
3. Parents and students will be responsible for paying for any incurred charges, including lost room keys.
4. Rooms are to be locked at all times.
5. Under no circumstance will students be permitted to leave hotel buildings, except with the entire group. Failure to follow this will lead to severe band and school disciplinary actions.

## **D. Violations**

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Regarding trips, Be at the Right Place, at the Right Time, with the Right Equipment. All CCS, NBHS, and Band policies apply 24 hours of each day that you are traveling. Students whose behavior and/or dismissal of the policies at hand will be subject to dismissal from the band and if necessary, sent home immediately. Administration will be made aware of any major infractions immediately and parents risk transporting students from the destination to home.

## **7. Competitions**

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Competitions are special events where we get to perform for a sophisticated audience and very competent judges. WE ARE THERE TO DO OUR BEST – NOT TO WIN!! If we do our best, then everything will take care of itself. Specific information is given prior to competitions as to directions, departure and anticipated return time. All parents are encouraged to attend competitions and support the band.

## **8. After Performance/Trip Pick-Up**

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Students are encouraged to call home at least 30 minutes prior to the end of a game or arriving home. Students may use the band phone to call following a trip if needed. We ask that in order to be respectful to the band staff, parents, come immediately when called. Numerous incidences of excessively late pick-ups may be grounds from trip participation.

# Concert Bands

The term concert band program includes the following ensembles: Fall Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble). Marching Band becomes a de facto concert band in the late fall. Therefore, all rules will apply to this ensemble as well.

## 1. Concert attire

### A. Fall Concert Band

- **Ladies:** Black blouse or black dress pants. Black flat dress shoes.
- **Gentlemen:** White dress shirt, black tie, and black dress pants. Black socks and dress pants.

### B Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Band

In the concert seasons, formal wear will be purchased. Students are responsible for the cost and it is theirs to keep. The average cost is \$80.00-89.00, but this price changes depending on the year.

- **Ladies:** Black dress. You will need to provide your own black flat dress shoes.
- **Gentlemen:** Black tuxedo, black bow tie, black cummerbund, white tuxedo shirt. You will need to provide your own black socks and black dress shoes.

## 2. Daily Procedures

- 1) Come in before the bell and immediately get your instrument and go to your seat. There is no playing at this time.
- 2) Class starts promptly 2 minutes after the bell. This is not the time that you set the instrument.
- 3) At the end of class, make sure to clean up around your section

## 3. Rehearsal Etiquette

- 1) Come in with a positive attitude.
- 2) Come in prepared, knowing the music.
- 3) Mark the music with a pencil after the director makes a comment about a specific section-the first time.
- 4) Raise your hand to speak or ask to go to the restroom.
- 5) Do not talk or pack up unless asked to do so.

## 4. Chair Placement Tests

Students will audition for chair and/or ensembles placements by playing the NCBA all-District scales for their grade level. This includes the chromatic scale on that sheet. In addition, students will be given an etude to demonstrate musicianship.

## 5. Practice Expectations

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Many students struggle with how to efficiently practice. The following is a sample of a solid practice routine (from Lassiter HS, GA)

### **I. Prepare to Practice: 5 min**

Practice in a room where you won't be disturbed (no TV, computer, radio, little brothers or sisters, etc.) Have the following out and ready to use: straight backed chair, music stand, metronome, music, mirror & pencil on stand, instrument and accessories (reeds, spray bottle, oil, etc.)

### **II. Long tones, register slurs, natural slurs: 5 min**

Slow scales (in whole notes) for sound production, intonation, breathing, embouchure and scale knowledge.

### **III. Finger Work: 5 min**

Hands should be relaxed and fingers should be curved whether up or down. Check contact points of thumbs and sides of fingers. Finger motion should be small and precise.

### **IV. Tonguing exercises: 5 min**

Tongue should be relaxed and allowed freedom of movement. Avoid moving the jaw while tonguing. Tongue only with the very tip of the tongue and do not allow the tongue to move far from the tonguing position.

### **V. Scale and arpeggios, range building: 10 min**

Scales must be played in very even rhythm with a metronome. Work on scales slowly and gradually increase speed every two days. Scales should extend into extreme registers.

### **VI. Etudes or Solo: 15 min**

Work on two contrasting etudes at a time or alternate working on slow and fast. Stress correct rhythm and articulation.

### **VIII. Band Music:**

Always stress the difficult passages that seem to be a problem.

Students are responsible for their continued growth! Have a plan and strive for improvement in one area each day.

## 6 Equipment and Recordings Recommendations

Many times, it is the instrument or equipment that hinders the growth of a student. Although a great investment, the benefits are wondrous. This includes using intermediate to professional instruments and mouthpieces that will last you from high school to beyond.

### Mouthpieces and Ligatures

- ❖ Clarinet: Vandoren 5RV and DEG barrel and Rovner Ligature or Fobes Debut.
- ❖ Saxophone: Selmer C\* and Rovner Ligature
- ❖ Trumpet: Bach 3C
- ❖ Horn: Holton MC or Schilke 29
- ❖ Trombone/Euphonium: Bach 6.5 AL
- ❖ Tuba: Helleberg 120S

### Instruments

- ❖ **Flute:** Yamaha 500, Gemeinhardt KGM
- ❖ **Clarinet:** Buffet R-13, Buffet E-11, Yamaha YCL-650
- ❖ **Saxophone:** Yanagisawa A-992, Yamaha Custom
- ❖ **Trumpet:** Bach Stradivarius, Yamaha Xeno
- ❖ **Horn:** Holton H179, Conn 8D, Yamaha 671
- ❖ **Trombone:** Conn 88HO, Bach 42B, Yamaha YSL-882O
- ❖ **Euphonium:** Yamaha 321-S or 642
- ❖ **Tuba:** Miraphone 191 or 187 or Cervený CBB 681

### Professional/Collegiate Ensembles:

- Dallas Wind Symphony
- North Texas Wind Symphony
- Eastman Wind Ensemble
- “President’s Own” U.S. Marine Band (free recordings online)
- Chicago Symphony Orchestra
- Berlin Philharmonic
- Cleveland Symphony Orchestra
- New York Philharmonic
- London Symphony Orchestra

## 7. Private Lessons

Private lessons provide your student with the quality 1-on-1 tutoring that can increase their skills and enjoyment ten-fold. The NBHS band has contacts with some exceptional teachers. Lessons may be set up at convenient times for all parties involved. See Mr. Elbing for a list of recommended local instructors.

## **8. Band Trip Policy**

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The trip policy from [Marching Band](#) will apply to overnight trips. All CCS rules and policies will apply to trips.

## **9. Additional Performance Opportunities**

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The Band program offers various other musical outlets. Students may participate in small chamber ensembles, such as solos, duets, and other groupings. Rehearsals are set up by students and held after-school.

### **A. All District Band**

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Students are encouraged to audition for the All-District Band. This is a very prestigious auditioned group with participants from all over eastern North Carolina. Students who place high enough may be eligible to audition for the All-State Honors Band. Auditions for this ensemble are held on the second Saturday of January. Anyone signed up for and honors level band is expected to audition. Requirements are:

- 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Grade: Concert G, C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, Db scales (memorized), a chromatic scale (memorized) a prepared solo, and sight-reading.
- 11/12<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Grade: Concert D, G, C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, Db scales (memorized), a chromatic scale (memorized), a prepared solo, and sight-reading.

The most up to date requirements can be found [here](#).

### **B. All State Honors Band**

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Some students may be eligible for All-State auditions based on their all-district score. These students will be notified. Auditions will be held in March. . The requirements will be the same as district, except they must play all scales and the full solo cut.

### **C. All Region Orchestra**

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Wind and percussion students may submit recordings in January for the All-Region Orchestra. All students must use the 11/12 All-District scales and solo requirements, regardless of grade level.

#### **D. All-County Band**

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Students who make all-district band and enrolled in spring semester will automatically receive invites to be part of the Craven All-County Band. Directors will choose other students to represent the school. Each school has a limited number of spots available based on instrumentation. Selection requirements include instrument spot availability and musicianship.

#### **E. Community Band**

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The Craven County Community Concert Band is a volunteer music ensemble that rehearse in the NBHS band room on Mondays from 6:45-8:45 P.M. They perform 3-4 concerts per year. There is no requirement to be part of this ensemble. Anyone interested may do so.

#### **F. Winter Guard**

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The Winter Guard program serves as an extension of the color guard program, providing additional skill development in equipment use and dance movements, as well as providing performance opportunities.

The season runs from November to later March/April. There are typically 4-5 Saturday competitions. Audition information is provided in October. There is no experience necessary, although spots are not guaranteed. There is a separate fee for this group and fundraising is expected.

The NBHS Winter Guard is a past Gold and Bronze medalist at Atlantic Indoor Association Circuit Championships.

#### **G. Indoor Percussion**

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Indoor Percussion serves as an extension of the percussion program, providing additional skill development in equipment use and dance movements, as well as providing performance opportunities. The season runs from November to later March/April. There are typically 4-5 Saturday competitions. Information is provided in October. There is a separate fee for this group and fundraising is expected.



# Awards

The band recognizes outstanding achievements and extraordinary efforts of its students at the annual Spring Band Banquet. The factors that go into awards include participation in extracurricular musical activities (small ensembles, Craven Community Band, youth orchestras, etc.), honor band participation (All- County, All-District, and All-State), participation in the total band program, student achievement and character.

**Students must be enrolled in two semesters of band or color guard and winter guard in order to be eligible for any awards.**

## Annual Band Awards Banquet

Each year the New Bern Band Club sponsors an awards banquet. This is a time for reflecting on the past year, honoring seniors, presenting awards, presenting next year's marching band show. It is a wonderful way to end the year. Tickets are on sale in May and due to capacity limits are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

## Special notes about banquet:

- **Only Seniors who are enrolled in a Spring Band will be listed on the program as Seniors.**
- **Only Spring Semester students are eligible to attend the Annual Awards Banquet.** Guard students must be involved in either band or winter guard in the spring. Fall members may be invited as guests.
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Some of the major awards are listed below. Some awards may not be available depending on the year.

## A. NC Bandmasters Medallions

Each member of an ensemble that receives an overall grade of "Superior" at Concert Music Performance Adjudication and/or Solo and Ensemble MPA will receive a medallion.

## B. Major Awards

- Outstanding Improvement Awards (Concert Bands, Marching Band, Guard Programs)
- Outstanding Marching Band Performance Awards
- Winter Guard Awards
- Merit Awards
- Directors Award

## C. Senior Awards

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- ***Semper Fidelis Award***. Presented by the U.S. Marine Corps to outstanding senior band members.
- ***Louie Armstrong Award***. Given to the most outstanding senior jazz member
- ***Director's Award***. Given. Given to a senior that has displayed outstanding commitment and contribution to the band program.
- ***National Color Guard Award***. Given to the most outstanding Senior guard member
- ***National Marching Award***. Given to the most outstanding Senior marching member
- ***Quincy Jones Award***. Given to a senior that has displayed outstanding creativity and musicianship.
- ***Leonard Bernstein Award***. Given to a senior that has displayed exceptional musicianship
- ***Patrick Gilmore Award***. Given to a senior who has displayed outstanding commitment to the band program and exceptional musicianship
- ***The John Philip Sousa Award***. Given to the most outstanding senior musician in the band program.

## *Tri-M Honor Society*

Tri-M is a national music honor society. There are numerous reasons to join including: improving leadership skills, giving back to the community, providing more performance opportunities, and scholarship eligibility and opportunities. Students are required to be enrolled in band and chorus, maintain an appropriate grade-point average, and be an active participant in the organization. To be a member a student must go through an application process. This is done once a year, in the spring.

## *The New Bern Band Club, Inc*

The role of the band boosters is to raise money and to provide materials and services necessary for a highly competitive band program. Their services include chaperoning trips, organizing and fitting the uniforms, sewing flags, building props, driving buses and equipment vehicles, solving logistical problems, providing financial support through fund raising activities, and numerous other major and minor tasks.

This organization is not one that makes policy, disciplines students, or decides expenditures. That is the role of the band director, school principal and the school system's administration. Much of what we do would not be possible without your support and the tremendous work by the band boosters! All parents are invited to become members of the Band Club. Meetings are held on the **1st Tuesday** of each school month beginning in August. Everyone in attendance will be asked to volunteer for committees.

### **Booster Jobs**

#### **A. Chaperones**

The Chaperones are responsible for the safety of the band students. Several committee chairpersons coordinate the many individuals who volunteer to chaperone for numerous events. Any time the band is together outside of school hours, the Chaperone Committee is active. This includes practices and performances. Chaperones ensure that every student is accounted for when traveling, that water is available when needed, that first-aid is administered, if necessary, and to help band members with a variety of needs should they be required to do so.

#### **B. Equipment**

The Equipment Crew ensures that all band equipment is at the right place at the right time. In addition to moving equipment, the pit crew build and repair much of the props and equipment used by the band.

#### **C. Guard Activities**

Serves as liaison between the Guard Director and Band Booster Association. Assists directors in seeing that the needs of the Guard are met. This includes helping with costumes, flags, and prop development.

#### **D. Publicity & Public Relations**

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The Publicity and Public Relations Committee maintains, and controls contact, with various mass media professionals to keep the New Bern community informed of the band's activities and accomplishments.

#### **E. Uniform**

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The Uniform Committee has the responsibility of ensuring that each band member has the correct uniform and for the general maintenance of the uniforms throughout the seasons. This committee facilitates the cleaning of the uniforms and the ordering of uniform parts and accessories. During the marching season, the Uniform Committee is on hand for last-minute emergencies.

#### **F. Ways & Means**

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The Ways & Means Committee plays a critical role in the financial well-being of the NBBC. They are responsible for coordinating the fund-raising activities required to meet the annual budget. Even if you are not a member of this committee, your assistance is crucial for the various activities throughout the year.

**Additional positions will be created as needed.**

# CHARMS OFFICE

## HOW TO ACCESS PARENT INFORMATION

1. Log on to [www.charmsoffice.com](http://www.charmsoffice.com)
2. Locate the “PARENT/STUDENT LOGIN” section of the web page.
3. Login to your child’s program account using the following school code:  

-----newbernhsband-----
4. This will bring up the main parent page. This will allow you to look at your child’s program’s public calendar, event list, handouts and other files.
5. Clicking on an event on the calendar brings up the details for that event, such as times, attendance requirements and equipment/uniform necessities. Clicking on “event list” puts all of the calendar information in a list form for easy printing.
6. When you enter your child’s ID NUMBER (either school ID or home phone number) another more detailed screen appears with even more options to view your student’s uniform assignments, music assignments, financial records, forms and inventory.
7. Enter your child’s ID FIRST – then you may create your own, unique password by clicking on the “**keys** icon”
8. Two areas in which you can help the director maintain his/her records:
  - a. **Student information form** – if the director has allowed it, you may help make changes to your child’s **student information page** (such as updating phone numbers and email addresses if they change) to help the teacher communicate with you more effectively.
  - b. **Credit card payments for fees, trips and deposits to your student’s account.** You may pay for your child’s fees or trips easily with a credit card. There is a fee associated with this to offset PayPal charges.
9. Most importantly, the parent page assists both you and the teacher to communicate with each other.

# *New Bern HS Concert Events 2020-21*

Exact dates TBD. Marching Band will receive additional dates.

July 20-24, 27-31, 2020 .....	Summer MB Camp (@NBHS)
December 8, 2020 .....	Winter Concert (@ NBHS or GCF)
January 9, 2021 .....	All-District Auditions (Greenville)
Januar 9, 2021 .....	All-Region Orchestra Auditions
Januar 29-20, 2021 .....	All-District Clinic at ECU
March 6 (13 make-up), 2021 .....	All-State Auditions
March (Mid-Month), 2021 .....	Concert MPA (@ HHS)
April 20-May 2, 2021 .....	All-State Band Clinic (@UNC-Greensboro)
May 7 or 14, 2021 .....	Solo and Ensemble (NBHS)
May 11, 2021 .....	Spring Band Concert (@GCF or NBHS)
May 18, 2021 .....	Band Banquet (Location TBD)
June 4, 2021 .....	Graduation-Mandatory (NBHS)

\*All-County Band information TBD

\*A Marching Band specific calendar is provided separately in the MB 2020 packet.

\*Additional rehearsals and events may be added with sufficient notice in advance.