

MYRTLE BEACH HIGH SCHOOL

BAND HANDBOOK

Revised Fall 2017

Myrtle Beach High School Concert Band
Myrtle Beach High School Seahawk Sound
Myrtle Beach High School Jazz Ensemble
Myrtle Beach High School Basketball Pep Band

Band Faculty and Staff

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Martin Callender	Assistant Director of Bands
TBD	Colorguard Caption Head
TJ Anderson	Percussion Caption Head

Myrtle Beach High School Administration and Faculty

Mr. John Washburn	Principal
Ms. Tashena Brown	Assistant Principal
Mr. Michael Rutenberg	Assistant Principal
Mr. Zach McQuigg	Assistant Principal
Mr. John Cahill	Athletic Director
Mr. Bob Dye	Theater Arts
Ms. Jennifer Pierce	Visual Arts
Ms. Jennifer Moreno	Visual Arts
Ms. Leandra Walcott	Visual Arts
Ms. Elizabeth Sullivan	Orchestra Director
Ms. Kelly Campman	Choral Director

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The purpose of this handbook is to provide the band members with information, rules, guidelines, and procedures concerning the organization and function of the Myrtle Beach High School Band Program. The rules and guidelines herein DO NOT and WILL NOT serve as supplemental policies for Horry County Schools and Myrtle Beach High School, but will serve as supplemental policies to those set forth by the administration of Myrtle Beach High School.

It is the responsibility of every band member to become familiar with the information contained in this handbook, and to use this handbook as a reference throughout the school year. At the end of this handbook are forms that must be completed and signed by the band member, their parent/legal guardian, and the Band Director. Copies of these forms will be filed for future reference.

Greetings from the Director of Bands

Welcome to the instrumental music program at Myrtle Beach High School and to the Seahawk Band! The band program at MBHS is a vital part of the Myrtle Beach Community and strives to embody the concepts of **Pride, Discipline, and Attitude**. The Band Program welcomes students from all walks of life and encourages anyone with a desire and a passion to perform music to come and be a part of our growing instrumental music program. As one of the largest student organizations on the campus of MBHS, the Band Program affords the members an opportunity to interact with a diverse group of people and cultures for a truly unique and memorable educational experience.

The members of the MBHS Seahawk Bands have worked diligently to produce a quality musical product that the entire community can look upon with pride and respect. Participation in the MBHS Bands means a commitment to upholding that level of excellence and continuing the positive traditions of our program through hard work, a positive attitude, and a desire to maintain and advance the highest standards for yourself and the band program.

Punctuality, preparation, positive attitude, and attendance at every rehearsal and performance are expected. Please pay close attention to the schedules and arrange to attend all the activities and performances scheduled. Changes in the schedule are quite rare, and it is your responsibility to make the necessary arrangements far enough in advance to avoid conflicts.

For those of you willing to make a commitment, the MBHS Bands can be a source of pride and enjoyment long after your high school years have passed. The music, games, competitions, trips, and memories you make with your fellow band members will be with you for a lifetime. We encourage you to get involved and develop close relationships with your band colleagues. The band staff is experienced and ready to help you. If pride, excellence, hard work, friendship, and teamwork interest you, the MBHS Bands are for you.

Welcome, and enjoy.

Myrtle Beach High School Seahawk Bands

The Myrtle Beach High School Band Program offers students several performance venues that include Concert Band, Marching Band, Jazz Ensemble, and Basketball Pep Band. All of these ensembles are open to all Myrtle Beach High School students. All bands meet and rehearse in the Band Room or on stage in the Auditorium.

The Seahawk Sound - The primary purpose of this organization is threefold: to perform at all home football games at Myrtle Beach High School (and any and all playoff games), to positively represent the community, and to prepare and perform at marching competitions both in and around the Myrtle Beach area and any other predetermined competition. As one of the most visible performing groups on the MBHS campus, maintaining a high level of performance is of paramount importance. Our practice schedule is Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 3:45pm to 6:15pm throughout the football season. Members of the Seahawk Sound will enroll in either Band I, II, III, or IV. The band's goal is to perform a "state-of-the-art" show, which utilizes complex music and high-velocity drill, which is on the cutting edge of the marching band medium.

The Myrtle Beach High School Concert Band - The Concert Band will perform both traditional and contemporary band literature that will both entertain our audiences as well as challenge the performers. As with all the MBHS Bands, the Concert Band is open to all students. We will present one concert in the fall and two concerts in the spring semester in school auditorium and participate in Commencement activities in both Fall and Spring Semesters. All members are required to enroll in Band I, II, III, or IV in the fall semester and Band I, II, III, or IV in the spring semester in order to receive one academic credit each semester.

The Myrtle Beach High School Jazz Ensemble - The Jazz Ensemble is the big band of Myrtle Beach High School that performs music in the jazz idiom. Featuring music in every jazz style from funk to bossa, performance opportunities are many for this ensemble. Membership in the Jazz Ensemble is open to all students, and is available to instrumentalists as well as vocalists who are seeking to enrich their experience in jazz music. While primarily designed for saxophone,

trombone, trumpet, and rhythm (piano, bass, guitar, and percussion), any students wishing to perform in this ensemble should contact the Director of Bands for part availability. The Jazz Ensemble will perform several times throughout the fall and spring semesters, both on campus and off. Rehearsals will be held weekly on Wednesday from 3:45 to 6:15. Positions are available by audition.

Goals and Objectives of the Myrtle Beach Band Program

The Band Program at Myrtle Beach High School strives to create both an environment of success and an esprit de corps where students can enrich themselves and grow as musicians and as individuals, while also striving to attain the highest level of musicianship possible.

Goals and Objectives of the MBHS Band Program are:

- Through active involvement in the various instrumental ensembles, students will explore a variety of musical styles, forms and genres. Wind band literature that is characteristic to each instrumental ensemble will be rehearsed and performed at the highest level of accomplishment and will serve to enhance the student's aesthetic awareness and perception.
- The rehearsal process will augment the self-discipline of the student and will contribute to the sense of individual commitment to the ensemble. The common goal of a superior musical product shall influence preparation on both an individual and ensemble level.
- Ensemble performances at Myrtle Beach High School home concerts, off-campus performances, civic appearances and MBHS athletic events shall raise the student's awareness of music and its potential as a powerful cultural force.
- To encourage and actively promote all forms of instrumental music on the campus of Myrtle Beach High School, in the greater Myrtle Beach and Horry County area, and abroad.

Membership in the Myrtle Beach Bands – Student Expectations

- Chewing gum in the Band Room IS NOT ALLOWED
- Food, Drink, or snacks of any kind in the Band Room IS NOT ALLOWED
- Smoking in the Band Room (or in Uniform) is not permitted
- Loud talking, shouting, or horseplay will not be tolerated
- Public Display of Affection among band members will not be tolerated at any time.
- Broken reeds, supply wrappers, etc. will be discarded in the waste cans at the end of each rehearsal
- Books, coats, etc will not be left in the storage bins in the band room. Personal belongings that are left in the band room will be placed in the hall for the custodial staff to collect.
- Playing of percussion instruments is limited to percussionists only
- It is highly discouraged to allow other band members or students to perform on your instrument. Those students who use school owned instruments WILL NOT allow other to use their instrument.
- All music is to be returned to the music folio cabinet after each rehearsal
- All instruments are to be returned to their respective storage lockers for others to use.
- Band members will not be allowed to leave their personal instruments overnight.
- It is EVERY band member's responsibility to ensure that their band room is kept clean and secure. For reason of security, band members are not allowed in the Director's office area unless the director is present or if the band student has been instructed to do so.
- The music library and storage room are not to be used as a private lounge.
- The telephone in the director's office is for business purposes only. Band members will be allowed to use the phone at the Director's discretion.

THE MYRTLE BEACH HIGH SCHOOL

CONCERT BAND

Designed as a performance ensemble, the Concert Band will perform both traditional and contemporary band literature that will entertain our audiences as well as challenge the performers. As with all the MBHS Bands, the Concert Band is open to all students. We will present one concert in the fall and two concerts in the spring semester in the Auditorium and participate in Commencement activities in both Fall and Spring Semesters.

GOALS OF THE ENSEMBLE

The MBHS Concert Band has multiple goals which entail performing wind band literature in a variety of venues both on the campus of MBHS and off-campus. Performing annual concerts in the Auditorium as well as performing at the MBHS Commencement exercises in the fall and spring semester are the primary goals of the ensemble. Our secondary goal is to serve as a “lab band” for the band students to personally develop their performance abilities to their highest potential.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is of utmost importance to the development of a fine musical ensemble. When a person misses a rehearsal, two things happen: he/she misses the experience associated with the learning process of the music; and, more importantly, his/her instrument is missing causing the ensemble to be incomplete. Notes can be learned on one's own time; however, an individual cannot make up the development of important intricate nuances of the art of instrumental music. Concert Band is a group experience and requires everyone to be present at all times.

Performance in the Concert Band has many responsibilities, one of which is your continued attendance to both rehearsals and performances. Performance absences will be addressed separately. To maintain a high level of musical performance it is necessary to have the full ensemble present for every rehearsal.

PERFORMANCE ABSENCE POLICY

It will be the standing policy of the Myrtle Beach Band Program that any student who willfully fails to attend either a dress rehearsal or a performance of any ensemble (of which they are a member) will receive a failing grade in that class for that semester. While circumstances may well arise that would force a student to be absent, failure to provide proper notification to the Director of Bands before the absence will not excuse a student.

REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE

In order to have an effective rehearsal it is necessary to maintain order and have structure. To help with consistency and meet expectations, the following guidelines and rules will be in place for ALL rehearsals.

- Rehearsals/Practices will begin promptly at the bell. Please note that certain groups (percussion) will require extra warm-up or set - up time. This is to be accomplished at the BEGINNING of every rehearsal/practice and should be completed in a timely manner.
- Unnecessary talking during rehearsals is not permitted. If you have a question, either raise your hand to be recognized or direct your question to your section leader if applicable.
- Please be prepared for rehearsal. Being prepared means having your instrument(s), music, pencil, tuner (wind players), sticks/mallets, etc.

- Please take the time to clean up your rehearsal/practice space. We are judged by the space we occupy and the conditions of our facilities. Always look and act professional, which means leaving an area that same way.

EQUIPMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

You are financially responsible for the equipment that you are using that belongs to Myrtle Beach High School. If lost, stolen, or broken it is your responsibility to repair or replace up to equal value. It is VITAL that you report any lost, stolen, or damaged equipment IMMEDIATELY to the Director of Bands.

CONCERT BAND PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

Concert attire for the Myrtle Beach High School Concert Band will be a black tuxedo (black suit) with white vest and bow tie for the men. Concert attire for the women will consist of black concert dresses to be chosen at the beginning of the school year for use during that concert season.

THE SEAHAWK SOUND

Congratulations on your choice to become a member of the Seahawk Sound and welcome to the Myrtle Beach High School Band Program. I would like to personally thank you for making the commitment to be a part of the Marching Seahawks and helping us to make this organization the flagship instrumental performing group for MBHS. Please take the time to read through this handbook, as it will answer many of the questions you may have and will make this a positive marching band experience. As a member of the Marching Band it will be YOUR responsibility to be aware of what is included in this handbook and be prepared for all practices and performances. This is an amazing time to be involved in music at Myrtle Beach High School, and the steps we take this year will set traditions for many years to follow.

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

Charles A. Dumas, Director of Bands
910-273-8835 Cell

TBD, Colorguard Instructor/Caption Head

TJ Anderson, Percussion Instructor/Caption Head

GOALS OF THE ENSEMBLE

The primary purpose of this organization is threefold: to perform at all home football games at Myrtle Beach High School (and any and all playoff games), to positively represent the community, and to prepare and perform at marching competitions both in and around the Myrtle Beach area and any predetermined competition. As one of the most visible performing groups on the MBHS campus, maintaining a high level of performance is of paramount importance. Our practice schedule is Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 4:00pm to 6:15pm throughout the football season. Members of the Marching Seahawks will enroll in Band I, II, III, or IV. The band's goal is to perform a "state-of-the-art" show, which utilizes complex music and high-velocity drill, which is on the cutting edge of the marching band medium.

PRIDE, DISCIPLINE, and ATTITUDE!

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

It is mandatory that all members of the Seahawk Sound be able to fulfill the physical requirements placed upon them as a member of the band. A typical field show will require members to be able to march for up to 8 minutes at a tempo up to 160 beats per minute. Parade requirements are to march up to 2 miles at a tempo up to 132 beats per minute. ALL members will be expected to participate in warm-up exercises, stretching, movement exercises, and physical condition through band camp and into the regular season.

BAND CAMP

Band Camp is required for ALL members of the Marching Seahawks, non negotiable.

Reporting dates for ALL members will be 8:00am, August 1, 2014.

Morning rehearsals (outside) will be from 8:00am until 11:30am with lunch from 11:30am to 12:30pm. Afternoon rehearsals (inside or outside depending on weather) will be from 12:30pm until 6:00pm. Full camp schedules will be available on the Marching Band Web Site and also the first day of Band Camp. No business or appointments can interfere with the Band Camp schedule.

Requirements for Band Camp:

- Good Attitude
- Willingness to Work
- Patience and Tolerance
- Your Instrument
- A WHITE 1" three ring binder
- Instrument supplies (Reeds, oils/lubricants, sticks, etc.)
- A Water Bottle with YOUR NAME CLEARLY MARKED!
- Pencils
- Sunscreen and bug spray
- Gym Shoes or Band Shoes (outside)
- Lunch is on your own, please plan accordingly

“THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE”

Courtesy of the The Ohio State University Marching Band, Dr. Jon Woods

- Negativity Spreads; those who don't know may believe what they hear instead of what they see.
- The band doesn't change as much as you do. The most impressionable year is the first one.
- The band is an emotional group; expect some ups and downs.
- Everybody has feelings, even the Section Leaders and Band Staff; when the band is criticized, everyone feels it.
- There is always room for improvement; constructive suggestions should be welcomed, even if they hurt a bit.
- Anybody can be a critic - this takes no skill or background, and bears no responsibility.
- More drive and spirit in rehearsals means a better performance with fewer mistakes.
- For the benefits received, expect some sacrifice. All for One, and One for All - or, know what is best for the band and DO IT.
- When in doubt, DON'T. When problems exist, ask yourself whether you're part of that problem or part of the solution.
- Poor rehearsal discipline negatively affects the performance level of the entire band.
- No Pain, No Gain.
- Adjust to the situation. Be flexible and agreeable to change.

MARCHING BAND OFFICERS

All student positions are chosen by the Directing Staff and will be notified before the beginning of Band Camp in August. The chain-of-command is listed in the Band Handbook and will be strictly adhered. Any disciplinary issues with a student leader will be dealt with swiftly and decisively by the Director of Bands. You are the “role models” that all members of the ensemble should follow and as such your actions, attitudes, and discipline must be beyond question. Requirements and audition material for the student leader positions will be found in Appendix 1 and 2 of the handbook.

The following is a list of the official positions within the Seahawk Sound and the method of choice for each position:

- Drum Major - The leader of the Seahawk Sound in all rehearsals and performances unless superseded by a director. The motivation and discipline of the band is a direct reflection of the Drum Major. All instructions to the band will be given to the Drum Major and then in turn to the band/ensemble. This position is open to any member, but the following requirements will be recommended: 1. At LEAST one year of marching band experience prior to joining the Marching Seahawks, 2. Basic conducting technique in a 4 pattern, 3 pattern, and 2 pattern, 3. Basic marching fundamentals as outlined in this handbook.
 - Auditions for the Drum Major position will be held in the spring semester on the first Saturday of April. Interested candidates should contact the Director of Bands to obtain the requirements.

- Captain (Guard, Horn Line, Drum Line)
 - Drum Line Captain - To ensure the musical preparation of the percussion section of the Seahawk Sound to include memorization of all music. It is the responsibility of the Drum Line Captain to establish all tempos with the Drum

Major and to work with that position to ensure the proper tempos of ALL music that is to be performed.

- Guard Captain - To ensure the necessary preparation of ALL members of the guard to include equipment work, body movement, and routine. The attitude and performance expectations of the squad are a direct reflection of the Guard Captain and as such they must be prepared at all times. The Captain may also be responsible for some teaching of routine or choreography.
- Horn Line Captain - To ensure the musical preparation of the wind section of the Seahawk Sound to include memorization of all music. Oversee the Section Leaders and ensure that those positions are being maintained in the highest traditions of the MBHS Band.
- Section Leader - It is the responsibility of the Section Leaders to maintain order in their section, to ensure that their section is prepared for EVERY performance, and to keep an orderly and productive environment in their section. It will be the responsibility of the section leader to ensure that music is prepared and memorized by the members of the section.
- Band President - responsible for the administrative and social aspect of the Seahawk Sound. Open to any member regardless of section. Voted by secret ballot during Band Camp.
- Band Vice President - Assistant to the Band President and responsible for the administrative and social aspect of the Seahawk Sound and any duties designated by the Band President. Open to any member regardless of section. Voted by secret ballot during Band Camp.
- Band Secretary - Responsible for all of the paperwork regarding the Seahawk Sound. The Band Secretary should be notified of all absences in writing before the missed rehearsal. Open to any member regardless of section. Voted by secret ballot during Band Camp.

CHAIN OF COMMAND

- Director of Bands
- Caption Heads/Directors (Guard, Drum Line, Winds, Marching)
- Hired Staff Members
- Drum Major(s)
- Guard Captain, Drum Line Captain, Horn Line Captain
- Woodwind, Brass, Front Ensemble, and Battery Section Leaders
- Assistant Section Leaders (if necessary)

Please remember that at all times you are representing Horry county Schools, Myrtle Beach, and all of the faculty, staff, and students of Myrtle Beach High School. Treat others BETTER than how you would like to be treated and remember that there is always someone waiting to find fault with what we do and who we represent. The uniform is always to be treated with respect and as such there is to be no using profanity in uniform, no smoking in uniform, no use or abuse of illegal/illicit substances in uniform, and no fighting in uniform. When in doubt, ASK THE DIRECTOR!

MARCHING BAND COMMITTEES

It is of VITAL importance to have members on the following committees who will embrace their responsibilities for the effective performance and rehearsals of the Seahawk Sound. All committee leaders will report to the Drum Major and/or Band President daily during band camp and weekly once classes have started.

All members of the Seahawk Sound are EXPECTED to sign up for at least one committee listed below by the end of the first day of Band Camp.

- Water/Ice Committee - Maintains the water facilities of the Seahawk Sound to include rehearsals, games, and social events. All water coolers are to be kept clean and sanitary.

- Social Committee - Organizes the social activities of the Seahawk Sound to include all and any special events that might occur throughout the season.
- Library/Copy Committee - Responsible for all of the “paperwork” aspects of the Seahawk Sound to include music, drill, binders, posters, and advertising.
- Equipment Committee - Loading, Unloading of equipment, uniforms and supplies. Maintaining the condition of the equipment is also this committee’s responsibility.
- Uniform Committee - Sizing and fitting the uniforms and any necessary “garment” alterations for the horn line, drum line, and guard.
- Field Maintenance Committee - Maintain the practice/performance areas that are the responsibility of the Seahawk Sound. This may include striping the field if necessary.
- Historian Committee - It will be the responsibility of the Historian Committee to keep a visual and audio recording of EACH Season of the Seahawk Sound. Some things that might be considered are videos, photographs, news clippings, programs, scrapbooks, and other memorabilia.

MARCHING BAND ATTENDANCE

Rehearsals for the Seahawk Sound will be held on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 4:00pm to 6:15pm during the Fall Semester. There will also be a pre-performance rehearsal on every competition Saturday.

ABSENCE PROCEDURE: IMPORTANT! READ CAREFULLY

Attendance is of utmost importance to the development of a fine musical ensemble. When a person misses a rehearsal, two things happen: he/she misses the experience associated with the learning process of the music;

and, more importantly, his/her instrument is missing causing the ensemble to be incomplete. Notes can be learned on one's own time; however, an individual cannot make up the development of important intricate nuances of the art of instrumental music. Marching Band is a group experience and requires everyone to be present at all times.

Performance in the Seahawk Sound has many responsibilities, one of which is your continued attendance to both rehearsals and performances. Performance absences will be addressed separately. To maintain a high level of musical performance it is necessary to have the full ensemble present for every rehearsal.

PRIDE, DISCIPLINE, and ATTITUDE!

Only three situations will be considered as possible excused absences:

- Occurrence of a birth or death in the immediate family will be excused ("Immediate family" is defined as spouse, grandparents, parents, brothers, sisters, guardians, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, or cousins).
- A severe illness in which a student is under the care of a doctor and physically unable to attend class will be excused; however, a note from the doctor stating that the student was unable to attend class will be required when the student returns to class. Students are not excused for a doctor's appointments that conflict with rehearsals. Notes from a Health Center/Doctor will be accepted only if they clearly state that the student was unable to attend class. A note stating that the student merely visited the doctor will not constitute an excused absence.
- A MBHS trip or event (e.g., concert, game, field trip, etc.) will be excused if a student presents a proper written request from an instructor when the students return to class.

A student who anticipates having three or more weeks of excused absences should discuss this matter with the director of the ensemble at the beginning of the semester.

Permission to leave rehearsal early on a regular basis will not be granted. Anyone arriving more than twenty minutes late or leaving early will be counted absent.

Being tardy will be unexcused with the following two exceptions:

- If a student was detained by a MBHS instructor and arrives not more than ten minutes late, he/she will be excused. A note from that instructor will be required.
- If a student has a class immediately before the rehearsal off campus and, due to distance from band room, is unable to arrive on time, he/she will be given extra time to arrive. Permission to arrive late will be given only if a student presents a photocopy of his/her class schedule within the first two weeks of the semester.

Attendance will be taken at all rehearsals and performances.

- As a student enters the rehearsal/performance hall, it is his/her responsibility to check in with their respective Section Leader. The member will then be checked on the attendance sheet as present or tardy depending on the student's arrival time.
- Any discrepancies a student may have regarding their attendance must be made in writing on the Absence-Tardy Form in advance of the date of the tardy or absence in question. If the absence is due to illness and excused by a doctor's note, the student must:
 - Contact the instructor IMMEDIATELY
 - Provide the documentation attached to an Absence-Tardy Form.
 - Any attendance irregularities are the responsibility of the ensemble member and must be resolved prior to the last rehearsal of the week or the student may be deemed ineligible to perform in that weeks activities, which will adversely affect their membership and scholarship.

Sickness: From time to time, instrumentalists will develop colds that will cause damage to themselves if they try to perform. In this case only, students will be allowed to sit in rehearsal and follow along with the music. This is considered a courtesy of which no advantage should be

taken. Excessive illness excuses will result in reconsideration of participation in the ensemble. No work, other than attending the rehearsal, will be allowed during this time

PERFORMANCE ABSENCE POLICY

It will be the standing policy of the Myrtle Beach High School Band Program that any student who willfully fails to attend either a dress rehearsal or a performance of any ensemble (of which they are a member) will receive a failing grade in that class for that semester. While circumstances may well arise that would force a student to be absent, failure to provide proper notification to the Director of Bands before the absence will not excuse a student.

A performance includes football appearances, pep rallies, parades, homecoming activities, band contests, and any pre-notified (at least two weeks) event during the season. It is the EXPECTATION of the directors that you are PRESENT at ALL scheduled events.

MARCHING BAND REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE

In order to have an effective rehearsal it is necessary to maintain order and have structure. To help with consistency and meet expectations, the following guidelines and rules will be in place for ALL rehearsals (guard, horn line, drum line, etc).

- Rehearsals/Practices will begin promptly at 3:45pm. Failure to be in the proper place at the proper time WILL result in a disciplinary action (sitting for a game, removal from the group). Please note that certain groups will require extra warm-up or set -up time, this is BEFORE rehearsal/practice and should be completed by the scheduled time.
- Unnecessary talking during rehearsals is not permitted. If you have a question, either raise your hand to be recognized or follow your chain-of-command to the next higher authority.

- Do NOT wander during outside rehearsal time. If we are in the process of running drill do not leave your spot unless told to do so or you are given an “at-ease.”
- Please be prepared for rehearsal/practice. Being prepared means having your instrument(s), equipment (flags, rifles, sabres included), drill sheets, music, pencil, tuner (wind players), sticks/mallets, etc.
- Unless given an “at ease” please be at “set” ready to work. The less time we have to spend getting ready to work, the more time we will have TO work.
- Wind performers should have all music at every rehearsal but should plan to have the pre-game and halftime music MEMORIZED. This is non-negotiable.
- Always plan to be prepared with correct clothing and foot wear for the type of rehearsal/practice. Flops and Slides are NOT acceptable for outside practice. Gym shoes or marching shoes are acceptable for outside rehearsals.
- Water breaks are not “social events” and should be treated accordingly. If given ten minutes to get water the rehearsal will begin again promptly in ten minutes.
- Please take the time to clean up your rehearsal/practice space. We are judged by the space we occupy and the conditions of our equipment/fields. Always look and act professional, which means leaving an area that same way. Always treat the football field and the intramural field with respect and leave it in better shape than when you arrived.
- If a musical arranger wants a change in the music they will tell you. DO NOT re-arrange any music because you think it sounds better “your way” or how you “think it should be.” If you have a question about this, direct it to your caption head.

MUSIC CHECKS

All playing members of the band are required to memorize the music that has been designated for memorization by the Director of Bands. Music checks will be held the day before any performance, unless otherwise announced. Student leaders will be checked by the Band Staff at 4:00pm, and then student leaders will check their sections. The student leaders will make the initial determination of who does or does not “pass off” their music check. Student leaders must report the results of the “pass off” to the Drum Major who will make a report to the Director. Band members who fail their music checks will lose their opportunity to perform, therefore placing their position within the band at jeopardy, as well as their performance scholarship. Students who have failed their music check may appeal their failure directly to the Drum Major, but should be prepared at that time to perform their “pass off.”

EQUIPMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

You are financially responsible for the equipment that you are using that belongs to Myrtle Beach High School. If lost, stolen, or broken it is your responsibility to repair or replace up to equal value. It is VITAL that you report any lost, stolen, or damaged equipment IMMEDIATELY to the Director of Bands.

FOOTBALL GAME POLICY

- As with any performance, ALL football games are required of every band member. Only in the event of an emergency will the band member be excused.
- The call time for each game will be announced. Everyone should report at call time, dressed in the appropriate uniform, and ready to perform.
- Once in the stadium, students are to remain as a group. No one is to leave the bleachers under any circumstances during the first, second, and fourth quarters unless given specific instructions by the director or staff.

- We are there to support the MBHS Football Team and to entertain the crowd. The band will participate in all spirit activities that occurring during the course of the game, to include cheers, scores, and time outs.
- After halftime, the band will be given the third quarter as a break. This is when you should attend to bathroom needs, food, and or concessions. You WILL NOT travel alone, always be with a group of not less that three members at any time.
- At the conclusion of the game the band will give a brief performance and then proceed to the band room. You are not dismissed until after the post game meeting and clean-up has occurred. Anyone leaving early will be given extra clean-up responsibilities to be performed at the next band function.

BAND TRAVEL POLICY

- All the rules of the Horry County Schools and Myrtle Beach High School will be followed in addition to what is covered in the band handbook.
- Permission forms and medical release forms must be signed and on file prior to any trip.
- Bus lists will be posted prior to each trip taken. Band members are to sign THEIR NAME ONLY to the list. Those band members who fail to sign up for a designated bus will be assigned one by the director.
- Hotel room lists for overnight trips will be by groups of four people of the same gender. Sign up procedures will be the same as for buses.
- At NO TIME will members of the opposite sex be allowed to visit in hotel rooms.
- Hotel property will be left neatly and in as good a condition or better than upon our arrival.
- PDA will not be tolerated at any time.
- Any band member under the suspicion of, caught in the possession of, or under the influence of alcohol, narcotics, or in possession of lethal weapons will be sent home immediately at their own personal expense. Subsequently, those individuals will face all charges brought by MBHS and HCS, as well as immediate dismissal from the band.
- Follow all trip itineraries.....be on time!
- Any type of external A/V device that intrudes on the rights of others will not be tolerated.

CLOTHING RESPONSIBILITIES

You are expected to maintain a “professional” décor and demeanor and be dressed appropriately for the weather conditions.

Shoes have already been addressed but to restate the situation, no Flops or Slides. Gym shoes and marching shoes only for practices outside (when in question it is always best to plan on being outside).

“Uniform for Informal/Hot Weather Performances” will include khaki shorts/pants, official t-shirt of the ensemble, NO hats, and appropriate socks and shoes.

“Official Uniform” events you should plan to wear appropriate garments based on the weather conditions under your bibbers. The official uniform will be worn at ALL football games, Parades and Marching Band Exhibitions/Competitions unless otherwise notified. All games are scheduled for 7:30pm on Fridays, so it will be VERY warm until late October or early November so plan accordingly.

- All hair must be worn “above the collar” when wearing your uniform
- No jewelry other than earrings may be visible around the head and shoulders area. (I am referring to gauges and studs in and around the mouth area for wind players). Stud earrings are only type worn while in uniform, no hoops or anything that dangles from the ear.
- If you are “in uniform” then you will wear the entire uniform unless given other instructions. If given instructions to remove your hat, jackets, or gauntlets, then it is your responsibility to keep up with YOUR uniform’s parts.
- You MUST provide black socks to wear with the uniform. If this is a problem, please see the director or your caption head.
- You MUST wear your black band shoes with your uniform. Not negotiable.
- After every performance it is your responsibility to hang up your uniform in the correct bag and on the uniform rack. No one will

do this for you and failure to do this will result in disciplinary action (see equipment above).

- One pair of white gloves will be provided to you at the beginning of the season. If lost or stolen you will be charged \$5.00(US) to replace the lost gloves.

COLORGUARD UNIFORM RESPONSIBILITIES

- Hair and make-up will be worn as determined by the Guard Caption Head.
- If you are “in uniform” then you will wear the entire uniform unless given other instructions.
- The color guard will change into official “MBHS” spirit uniforms only when instructed to do so by the Caption Head.
- Jewelry that is allowable will be left to the Caption Head.
- Some necessary garments such as body suits (flesh toned) may be the responsibility of the guard member depending on the cut and design of the uniform.

BAND LETTERS

Band letters are a visible symbol of the pride, discipline, and accomplishment that you have displayed as a member of the Myrtle Beach High School Band Program. Band letters are a privilege and not a right and must be earned by every member. These, along with the other awards, will be presented at the Awards Banquet that will be held in the spring semester of every school year.

- 100% participation in all Marching Band and Concert Band activities for the school year.
- No grade in band lower than a “B” in each grading period
- Excellent attendance record in the band program
- Minimum of 12 service hours to the band program/band boosters
- Unblemished school discipline record
- Evidence of individual growth and progress in their musicianship

SEAHAWK SOUND VISUAL GUIDE

MARCHING GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- Lateral- side to side or end zone to end zone
- Vertical- sideline to sideline
- Interval- the space between individuals who are facing the same or similar directions in a lateral line or curve
- Distance- that space between individuals in a file or curved form (follow-the-leader style)
- Company Front- 90% or more of an element in a lateral line
- Flank- a change to a new direction executed in one count
- Turn- a change of direction executed in two or more counts
- Slide- body movement in one direction as the instrument or equipment remains facing in another
- Asymmetrical- cannot be divided into similar halves on a longitudinal basis
- Symmetry- one side of a form is mirrored by the other
- Dress- alignment from side to side (interval) or front to back (distance)
- Coordinates- exact positions on the grid (field or drill sheet) determined by utilizing yard lines, sidelines, and hash marks
- Oblique (Diagonals)- 45 degree angle lines
- Elements- the different units that make up a form (ex: guard, percussion, winds, etc.)
- Segment- a portion of the overall form
- Arc- a part of any curvilinear shape
- Uniformity- the “sameness” of dress, style, or movement
- Coordination- the organization or creative thought to produce a similar message or effect
- Integration- the placement of elements in a mixed fashion
- Staging- placement of elements within a form
- Complexity- the interrelated involvement and intricacy of elements and components within a production
- Transition- a description of movement from one form to another form

- Continuity- the logical and orderly sequence of maneuvers and the compatibility of all details necessary to ensure a smooth, entertaining program. The weaving of all ideas, visual and audio, to achieve the maximum effective entertainment
- Readability- the clarity of a design
- Platform- ball or flat part of the foot used for balance on backward march maneuvers
- Carriage - the position(s) that your body maintains while at attention and/or during performance

CARRIAGE

The most fundamental aspect of a good marching band is correct carriage. It should be the goal of every member to position their body to enhance the appearance and overall presence of the individual and the ensemble. Each member should carry themselves as if their feet were anchored to the ground and an invisible string was pulling their shoulders and head upwards.

- Lower Body
 - Feet
 - Heels Together
 - Toes are pointed out at a 45° angle
 - Body weight should be equally distributed between both legs
 - Legs
 - Slightly bent at the knees
 - Avoid locking the knees
 - Butt
 - Tucked firmly to give support to the upper body and provide a smooth marching style
- Upper Body
 - Feel a lifting sensation from the center mass of your body
 - Shoulders back
 - Chest Out
 - Head
 - Chin slightly raised
 - Positive Attitude

- **Eyes with Pride**

- “Stand By”
 - This is the command called prior to any and all commands given.
 - It is not called in rhythm.
 - The purpose of this command is to alert you to the fact that more commands are forthcoming.
 - All Talking is to cease immediately upon this command
 - Be prepared to listen to the next command or to instructions as necessary.

 - Parade Rest
 - Head remains up but not lifted as if at attention
 - Feet are to be shoulder width apart
 - Hands are together in front of the body, right hand over left if applicable (each instrument group must establish their own hand positions and then maintain throughout the season)

 - Attention (“Band - Ten - Hut” - move)
 - One snappy, aggressive move to correct posture (No rest between “hut” and the move)
 - When not carrying an instrument, the hands should be cupped and relaxed at the side in a fixed position with the middle finger along the seams of the pants with thumbs pointing toward the ground over the index finger.
 - Refrain from talking or moving while in attention position.

 - Set
 - Used in rehearsals instead of going through process of calling band to attention
 - Fall in at attention with your horn or equipment in the proper position.
 - Refrain from talking or moving while in Set position.

 - Horns Up/Down (“Band - Horns - Up/Down”- move)
 - One count move from carrying position to playing position as quickly as possible(no rest between “up/down” and the move)
-

- Horns or chins at a 10° angle (different instruments may vary)
- If not holding a horn, fists should be cupped and locked in front of the face, right over left (fingers towards the sky, thumbs towards the face)

MARCHING

Unless given specific instruction to the contrary the Seahawk Sound will always step off with the LEFT foot. All marching will be done from the attention position. All commands not given from a halt will be called on the left foot.

- Mark Time (“Mark- Time- Four”- rest - 1 -2 - Ready - Move)
 - There is a rest between “Four” and the move.
 - Alternate lifting each heel to 2” above the ground while leaving the toes in place
 - Upper body should remain stable (do not rock to side or bounce up and down)
 - Remember, the left heel always hits the ground on counts 1 and 3
 - The right heel always hits the ground on counts 2 and 4
- Halt (“Band”- rest- “Halt”- place- close)
 - On count 4 (place) of the command, place the right foot to form the right half of the 45 angle for the attention position
 - On the last count (close), bring the left heel to the right and form the other half of the 45 angle for the attention position
 - Avoid rolling into halt.
 - This movement is the same whether coming from a standstill command (such as right-face) or from marching.
- Forward March (“Forward”- rest- “March”- rest- move)
 - Push off with the platform of the right foot to propel your weight forward.
 - Push the left foot’s heel straight out with the toes flexed back as high as possible.

- Roll down through the center of the foot and through the toes.
 - Feet should remain parallel when marching (as though on skis).
 - Refrain from aligning the feet in front of each other or allowing the toes to point outwards.
- Backward March (“Backward”- rest- “March”- rest- move)
- Backwards marching is always done on the platforms of your feet. Avoid letting your heels touch the ground.
 - Push off with the right foot to propel your weight backward.
 - Pull with the back of the leading (left) leg as you pass through the count to prepare for the next step.
 - Toes should stay as close to the ground as possible without dragging.
 - Keep the upper body perpendicular with the ground and stiff.
 - Legs should remain straight.
- To The Rear (“To the Rear”- rest- “March”- rest- move)
- This is an 180° turn to the left.
 - On beat 4 (rest), place the right foot out comfortably to prepare for the turn.
 - On beat 1 after the rest (move), pivot to the left on the balls of both feet.
 - On beat 2 after the rest, step with the right foot and resume marching.
- Touch and Go
- Refers to immediate directional change of slides and forward to backward (or vice versa) moves. There is no vocal command for this particular maneuver, but it is used after a command to change directions. For instance, if you are marching forwards, and there is a command for backward marching, you will use the “Touch and Go” maneuver. Also, be wise in your drill—if you need to change directions, use this procedure.
- Dress Center/Left/Right (“Dress- Center/Left/Right- Dress”- move)

- Command is always called at attention position
 - From this position, snap your head to the direction called.
 - Adjust alignment both vertically and horizontally
- Ready Front (“Ready”- rest- “Front”- move)
- This is the only command that may be given while at a dress.
 - Snap your head to straight forward.
 - There should be no need to adjust further at this point.

APPENDIX 1

Student Leader Responsibilities On and Off the Field - 2013

ON THE FIELD

- Teach marching fundamentals and drill; help rookies improve
- Teach music and musicianship
- Provide individual help
- Have a positive attitude
- Support other student leaders' decisions
- Work with the MBHS Directors and staff
- Problem solving within the band - Communication!
- Be a role model: In marching, playing, and anything involved with the activity - lead by example!
- Rehearsal discipline: Help, listen, and stay on task

OFF THE FIELD

- Know, understand and support policies and procedures
- No peer pressure, no hazing, be sensitive to rookies
- Time management: Be on time for EVERYTHING!
- Support the Directing staff and their decisions
- Speak up when you hear inappropriate behavior or an activity that can be harmful to the band.
- When in doubt, DON'T

APPENDIX 2

Student Leader Interview Questions - 2013/14

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SECTION</u>	<u>YEARS IN BAND</u>
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- Why do you want to be a student leader?
- What do you feel you can contribute to your band to make them better marchers and performers?
- How would you approach having a more unified section?
- What do you consider the strengths and weaknesses of your section?
- How do you perceive your role in supporting and improving rehearsal discipline in both inside and outside rehearsals?
- What are your thoughts on improving student leadership?
- What are your thoughts on improving recruiting?
- Preparation for interview
- Communication skills
- Specific answers

Comments:

Each question MUST receive a score between one (1) and ten (10) with ten being the high score.

NOTES

THE MYRTLE BEACH HIGH SCHOOL

JAZZ ENSEMBLE

The Jazz Ensemble is the “big band” of Myrtle Beach High School that performs music in the jazz idiom. Featuring music in every jazz style from funk to bossa, performance opportunities are many for this ensemble. Membership in the Jazz Ensemble is open to all students and is available to instrumentalists as well as vocalists who are seeking to enrich their experience in jazz music. While primarily designed for saxophone, trombone, trumpet, and rhythm (piano, bass, guitar, and percussion), any students wishing to perform in this ensemble should contact the Director of Bands for part availability. The Jazz Ensemble performs several times throughout the fall and spring semesters, both on campus and off.

GOALS OF THE ENSEMBLE

The MBHS Jazz Ensemble has multiple goals which include entertainment at concerts both on and off the MBHS campus. Performing annual concerts in the Auditorium during both the fall and spring semester are but a few of the many performance opportunities that are afforded members of this elite ensemble. Lastly, the Jazz Ensemble will serve as both a recruiting tool and a positive model for MBHS and will seek to reach out to the Myrtle Beach area community through performances in appropriate facilities in schools, churches, and other venues.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is of utmost importance to the development of a fine musical ensemble. When a person misses a rehearsal, two things happen: he/she misses the experience associated with the learning process of the music; and, more importantly, his/her instrument is missing causing the ensemble to be incomplete. Notes can be learned on one's own time; however, an individual cannot make up the development of important intricate nuances of the art of instrumental music. Jazz Ensemble is a group experience and requires everyone to be present at all times.

Performance in the Jazz Ensemble has many responsibilities, one of which is your continued attendance to both rehearsals and performances. Performance absences will be addressed separately. To maintain a high level of musical performance it is necessary to have the full ensemble present for every rehearsal.

PERFORMANCE ABSENCE POLICY

It will be the standing policy of the Myrtle Beach High School Band Program that any student who willfully fails to attend either a dress rehearsal or a performance of any ensemble (of which they are a member) will receive a failing grade in that class for that semester and will further forfeit any potential scholarships for the same ensemble. While circumstances may well arise that would force a student to be absent, failure to provide proper notification to the Director of Bands before the absence will not excuse a student.

REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE

In order to have an effective rehearsal it is necessary to maintain order and have structure. To help with consistency and meet expectations, the following guidelines and rules will be in place for ALL rehearsals.

- Rehearsals/Practices will begin promptly at the bell. Please note that certain groups (rhythm section) will require extra warm-up or

set -up time. This is to be accomplished at the BEGINNING of every rehearsal/practice and should be completed in a timely manner.

- Unnecessary talking during rehearsals is not permitted. If you have a question, either raise your hand to be recognized or direct your question to your section leader if applicable.
- Please be prepared for rehearsal. Being prepared means having your instrument(s), music, pencil, tuner (wind players), sticks/mallets, electronic componenets, etc.
- Please take the time to clean up your rehearsal/practice space. We are judged by the space we occupy and the conditions of our facilities. Always look and act professional, which means leaving an area that same way.

EQUIPMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

You are financially responsible for the equipment that you are using that belongs to Myrtle Beach High School. If lost, stolen, or broken it is your responsibility to repair or replace up to equal value. It is VITAL that you report any lost, stolen, or damaged equipment IMMEDIATELY to the Director of Bands.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

Concert attire for the MBHS Jazz Ensemble will be black pants, black shoes and socks, and the uniform shirt of the ensemble.