



MARCHING BAND ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance at all band functions is very important for the overall growth of the program. Students absent during rehearsal pose problems for the band during drill and ensemble rehearsal. Students absent from football and contest performances hurt the group immensely, as they make large, gaping holes in the drill and the part that they play is musically decreased. **Attendance at band camp is required for every student.** The schedule is created so that every minute of rehearsal is utilized to the fullest extent. Any student missing a camp rehearsal will be behind in the marching band preparation and cause the pace of rehearsal to slow down.

All vacations, well doctor visits, and any other conflicts should be scheduled around the dates for band camp. All wind students are required to attend rehearsals July 15-17, 2020 (8:00 AM – 4:00 PM), as well as the week of band camp from July 20 – 24. All percussion (9:00 AM – 6:00 PM) and colorguard (12:00 PM – 7:00 PM) students are required to attend rehearsals July 13-17, and marching band rehearsals on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning August 6th. Students moving into the area will be allowed to join the band after the beginning of the school year at the directors' discretion.

All members of the marching band will attend each after-school rehearsal to be considered eligible for performances. An unexcused absence from an after-school rehearsal will jeopardize the student's status in that week's marching show. Absence will also jeopardize a student's qualification for a varsity letter in band. Should a student be involved in another school activity that conflicts with rehearsal/performance times, an arrangement will be made between the director and the advisors/coaches. An unexcused absence from a halftime performance, contest or festival performance, or any other required performance would jeopardize the student's membership in the ensemble.

Students will not be dismissed after halftime without prior permission from the director. In the event that a member belongs to another organization (non-school affiliated) that has scheduled another event at the same time as a Norcross High School Band function, the school band shall always take precedence.

Communication between the director and the students will usually resolve any conflicts. The professional staff will review notification (in written form, by parent or guardian, using the provided absence request form found online) of conflicting events and will accept or reject the absence request. This is standard procedure for most all bands, amateur and professional.

Excused Absences

Personal Illness
Religious Holidays
Close family wedding/funeral

Unexcused absences

Doctor/dentist well check-ups
Work scheduling conflict
School club meetings – without prior approval from the director
Driving tests
Any other absence

Students are expected to be on time to every rehearsal. If there are extenuating circumstances and a student knows that he/she is going to be late, the band directors must have written notification beforehand and they will determine if it will be excused or not. Traffic does NOT count as an excused tardy.

3 unexcused tardies = 1 unexcused absence

Any unexcused absence from a performance may result in dismissal from the marching band at the discretion of the directors.

Three or more unexcused absences from rehearsals and/or performances may result in dismissal from the marching band at the discretion of the directors.

If a student is absent for a rehearsal preceding a performance, he or she may not be allowed to participate in the following performance at the discretion of the directors.

We understand that our students are very busy and conflicts occasionally arise. It is imperative that students and parents communicate properly and in a timely manner so that as many issues as possible can be avoided. While we will do our best to understand, it is ultimately the directors' decision as to whether an absence will be considered excused or unexcused.

****all rules are at the discretion of the directions****