

# LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL BAND GRADING POLICY

**1. Class Participation** - Students are expected to show up on time for class, with the right equipment and with all materials (music, handouts, drill sheets, etc.). While participating in class students are expected to be silent in rehearsal, respectful of others, and prepared to play the music assigned to them in class. By doing all these things, the rehearsals are more productive.

The Class Participation grade is figured on a daily basis. Students receive a +1 for following the above expectations. Students receive a -.5 for infractions. Infractions would consist of any deviation from the expectations listed above. Students receive a 0 if equipment or music is not in class with the student. The marking of a +1.5 will be earned if the student has gone above and beyond the director's expectations for that day.

*Class Participation makes up 40 Percent of the student's overall grade.*

**2. Performance** - Students are expected to be at all performances at the specified times.

Performance Grade Break Down:

100% if the student shows up on time with the right equipment, all music, complete concert attire, performs, participates in the entire event, and helps with set up and break down.

Subtract 10 percent for every requirement not met.

A zero is received for any unexcused absence.

***Examples of excused absences:***

*Family Emergency, Sick or injured (in the hospital or doctor visit)*

***Examples of unexcused absences:***

*Family Vacation, Seattle Mariners Season Opener, Birthdays, Job, Transportation unavailable*

Performance makes up 40 percent of the student's overall grade.

**3. Auditions and Playing Tests** - Students audition to demonstrate facility on their instrument and musicianship. These are done individually with the director or a designated private instructor. Most playing tests are done live, but occasionally they will be done on Cassette Tape, CD, or some other recording device.

Auditions and Playing tests make up 20 percent of the student's overall grade.

## **QUARTER GRADE EXAMPLES:**

Below are examples of three students' grades. Each student has a grade for Participation, Performance, and Audition.

STUDENT	(40%) PARTICIPATION	(40%) PERFORMANCE	(20%) AUDITION	QTR GRADE
JOHN	96	50	84	75%
CINDY	84	90	95	89%
RALPH	100	100	65	93%

Just because you are the best musician in the band does not mean you will get the highest grade in the class. At the same time, it is possible to get a 93 if you are still developing as a musician.

## **SCHOOL RELATED CONFLICTS:**

In the case of Marching Band and Pep Band events there are some exceptions to the rules.

The Band has two major functions at Liberty High School. One function is to support the Community through participation at football games, pep rallies, and parades. The other function is to perform at scheduled band concerts and adjudications (contests or festivals).

If the band is performing at a co-curricular activity such as a football game, students are expected to be there unless they are in another school related co-curricular activity. For example, Mike plays on the Varsity Football team, so he is unable to make it to any football performances since he is on the team. The same sort of exception would be made for a student on the Math Team that had a tournament at the same time as a football game.

In the case of a Marching or Wind Ensemble/Symphonic Band Concert or Contest, the performance takes precedence over any co-curricular activity (sporting events, academic teams, clubs, etc.). An attempt is made to try and cut down on conflicts, but many activities do not create their calendars until the year has already begun. The Band Calendar is sent out to families several months before the school year starts.

Keep an eye on the Liberty High School Band Web Site for updates:

<http://www.liberty.issaquah.wednet.edu/Teachers/DonleyP/home.htm>

If there is a question or concern about the grading policy, please contact Mr. Donley via e-mail: [donleyp@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:donleyp@issaquah.wednet.edu) or call Mr. Donley's office (425) 837-4885. If you need to come in please schedule an appointment.