



Life Lessons

Students learn many things by participating in a high school music program – most of which are NOT musically related!

It is our goal to help our students learn about the commitment and responsibility necessary to produce a first class product in ANY walk of life!

A. Schedule Distribution

Students are required to attend all after school rehearsals and performances. Detailed calendars that outline rehearsal and performance requirements are distributed prior to the first meeting of every curricular and extra curricular group.

B. Commitment Contracts

Students must review the schedule, rules and regulations, and financial agreement with their parents. Students and parents will be required to sign a commitment contract prior to their participation in any ensemble.

C. Extra Rehearsals

Students will be notified in advance if extra rehearsals or performances are scheduled. **Every effort will be made by the directors to avoid adding to the published schedule!**

D. Conflicts

The music department works closely with the athletic department and other extra-curricular activities in the school to avoid scheduling conflicts in advance. Seldom will a music event be scheduled at a time when a student is required to be somewhere else by another school activity. When these conflicts do occur, the music faculty, coaches or advisors concerned, and the administration will work out a compromise so that the student is not caught in the middle.

NOTE: There will not be an attempt to accommodate scheduling conflicts with non-school activities! Members must help us by alerting us to scheduling conflicts as far in advance as possible.

E. Published Times

- **Report** times are when rehearsal is going to begin, therefore students should plan to arrive early in order to prepare materials for the start of rehearsal. Likewise, rehearsals will conclude no later than the stated time, however time should be budgeted for student travel and equipment care.
- **Return** times are approximate. Students should be ready to communicate with their parents when leaving a competition in order to ensure timely pick-up.
- **Times listed as TBD** will be communicated as soon as the exact schedules become available. Typically, schedules are completed two weeks in advance.

Absences

While attendance is a requirement, we understand that there are events that will require a member to be absent. Members of the Hempfield Bands must adhere to the following absence policies.

Absence Forms

Please submit an Online Absence Form at least two weeks in advance of the event. **Links to the Online Absence Form are available on Charms, Schoology, and bands.hempfieldsd.org**

Any absence without an accompanying Absence Form will be considered unexcused.

Excused Absences

The following are valid reasons for missing a rehearsal or performance:

**Illness
Medical Emergency
Major Life Events
Religious Observations
Acts of God**

If you are unable to attend a dress rehearsal or performance due to illness, and the event occurs on a day on which there is no school, you must email Mr. Gumble at adam_gumble@hempfieldsd.org. Then, **submit an Absence Form to the director within five days of the absence.**

Unexcused Absences

The following are NOT valid reasons for missing an after school rehearsal or performance:

**Non-School Activities
After-school Jobs
Homework
Forgetting
Vacations
Personal Activities
Lack of Transportation***

** The Booster Club also works to connect families interested in carpooling. Chances are that there are several other families living in your area that would love to give you a lift!*

1. A student whose absence is unexcused the week prior to a scheduled performance is still required to attend the performance. That member will not be permitted to perform with the group.
2. Multiple unexcused absences may result in loss of 3rd Quarter privileges. More than two unexcused absences may result in suspension/removal from the ensemble.