

2018 - 2019

**James Logan High School
Band and Color Guard
Union City, California**



Handbook

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Why Teach Music?

Music is a science. It is exact, specific, and it demands precise acoustics. A conductor's full score is a chart, a graph which indicates frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody, and harmony all at once and with exact control of time.

Music is mathematical. It is rhythmically based on the subdivisions of time into fractions which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.

Music is a foreign language. Most of the terms are Italian, German, or French, and the notation is certainly not English – but a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is the most complete and universal language.

Music is history. Music usually reflects the environment and times of its creation, often even the country and/or racial feeling.

Music is physical education. It requires coordination of fingers, hands, arms, legs, lip, cheek and facial muscles, in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragm, back, stomach and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.

Music is all of these things, but most of all, music is art. It allows a human being to take all these dry, technically boring (but difficult) techniques and use them to create an emotional response. That is one thing science cannot duplicate: humanism, feeling, emotion, call it what you will.

That is why we teach music!

2018 – 2019 Logan Boosters Executive Board

Director of Bands	Adam Wilke awilke@nhusd.k12.ca.us
President	Toni Victoria Zavala president@loganband.org
Vice-President	Jennifer Hom vp@loganband.org
Secretary	Portia Miranda secretary@loganband.org
Treasurer, General Accounts	Sandra Sharp general@loganband.org
Treasurer, Student Accounts	Lori Viswanathan treasurer@loganband.org
President-Elect, 2018-2019	TBD

2018 – 2019 Directors

Director of Bands	Adam Wilke awilke@nhusd.k12.ca.us
Associate Director of Bands	Patrick Refsnider prefsnider@nhusd.k12.ca.us
Percussion Director	Christopher Carrasco ccarrasco@nhusd.k12.ca.us
Color Guard Director	Mark Metzger mmetzger@nhusd.k12.ca.us

Four Year Schedule

Without careful planning, other courses can conflict with band or color guard. To help you plan your time, here is a suggested four-year schedule. Students will meet yearly with their counselor to insure that graduation requirements are being met. There is a sample schedule on the following page, but be sure to check current requirements with the counselor. This schedule is based on the 2018/2019 James Logan High School Course Catalog.

The students in the graduating classes of 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 must earn a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 in order to earn a James Logan High School diploma.

All students must have a minimum of 20 hours of Community Service.

The students in the Class of 2016 and subsequent classes must pass the High School Exit Exam.

FRESHMAN YEAR:

- Elective
- English 1 (or Honors English)
- Algebra 1/Algebra 2
- 1st year of Foreign Language
- Band
- PE – Band/Guard
- Life Science

SOPHOMORE YEAR:

- Physical Science
- English 2
- Mathematics
- 2nd year of Foreign Language
- Band
- PE – Band/Guard
- World Studies

JUNIOR YEAR:

- US History (or AP US History)
- American Literature
- Mathematics
- Chemistry or Physiology
- Band
- PE – Band/Guard

SENIOR YEAR:

- American Political Systems (1 Semester), Economics (1 semester)
- World Literature (or Honors World Literature)
- Elective
- Advanced Math (Calculus) if needed
- Band
- PE – Band/Guard

BAND GRADING POLICY

A student's six-week grade in instrumental music is an average of his marks in three equal areas: daily average, rehearsal/performance, and musicianship/performance skills.

- I. Daily Average: The grade is determined by a student's overall attitude and effort as evidence by such things as promptness to rehearsals and performances; having proper equipment at all times; equipment/uniform maintenance; and general cooperation. Infractions in school/band policies will be reflected in this grade.
- II. Rehearsal/Performance: Students receive an attendance of "A" for each rehearsal/performance at which they are present. A grade of "C" is marked for excused absences due to illness, family business, or emergency. A grade of "F" is recorded for each unexcused absence. No excused absences will be granted without prior notice from the parent. An unexcused absence from a required performance will result in a lowered six week grade, and the parents will be contacted. A second violation may result in suspension or dismissal from the band and a grade of Withdrawal/Failure (WF).
- III. Musicianship/Performance Skills: This grade is an average of the grades earned in testing situations. Areas to be tested quarterly may include reading musical selections, playing musical selections, written skills, and demonstration of marching execution.

COLOR GUARD GRADING POLICY

A color guard grade is based on an average of the equal areas: daily average, rehearsal/performance and skills/technique.

- I. **Daily Average:** The grade is determined by a student's overall attitude and effort as evidence by such things as promptness to rehearsals and performances; having proper equipment (flags, sabers, and rifles) at all times; equipment/uniform maintenance; and general cooperation. Infractions in school/band & color guard policies will be reflected in this grade.
- II. **Rehearsal/Performance:** Students receive an attendance of "A" for each rehearsal/performance at which they are present. A grade of "C" is marked for excused absences due to illness, family business, or emergency. A grade of "F" is recorded for each unexcused absence. No excused absences will be granted without prior notice from the parent. An unexcused absence from a required performance will result in a lowered six week grade, and the parents will be contacted. A second violation may result in suspension or dismissal from the band and a grade of Withdrawal/Failure (WF).
- III. **Skills/Technique:** This grade is an average of the grades earned in testing situations. Various areas may be tested throughout each quarter and may include performing portions of the current show, movement, dance technique, as well as other skills which are learned and developed throughout the year.

Eligibility Requirements

Color Guard is considered an "Extra-Curricular Activity" and therefore the following academic eligibility requirements which have been set forth by the New Haven Unified School District apply to all Color Guard members.

A student must earn at least a 2.0 grade point average and receive no F's in all enrolled classes for the prior grading period in order to participate in the color guard program activity during the current grading period.

A student who fails to achieve a 2.0 GPA or receives an "F" will be placed on probation for the current grading period provided the student complies with the school tutorial assistance program.

During the probationary period the student may be excluded from participation in color guard activities during the subsequent grading period. A student who does not achieve at least a 2.0 GPA during the probationary period shall be excluded from participation in all color guard activities. A student that receives more than one "F" during any grading period will be excluded from participation in all color guard activities for the following grading period.

BAND & COLOR GUARD HIERARCHY

Student leaders are part of the chain-of-command. Because the director(s) cannot possibly deal with every detail, it is important that everyone understands the role of each leader.

Drum Major/Assistant Drum Major

These students are in charge of the marching band. They give marching commands, conduct at football games, and have the authority to assist in resolving problems when necessary for all members of the band and color guard. They have the full confidence of the directors behind them at all times and students will respect and cooperate with them accordingly. The drum majors will also act as liaisons between the students and the staff.

Color Guard Captain

This student is in charge of the color guard unit. The captain is responsible for all equipment and color guard esprit-de-corps. He/She must always foster camaraderie and unity within the members of this group. This student has the full confidence of the directors behind her/him at all times and students will respect and cooperate accordingly.

Section Leaders

The section leaders are in charge of each section of the band. They run sectional rehearsals, check attendance in their sections, help with questions, etc. They have the authority to assist in resolving problems within their sections as they see fit. They have the full confidence of the band directors behind them at all times and students will respect and cooperate accordingly. The section leaders are the liaisons between the students and the drum majors.

REHEARSALS

Rehearsals will start and end exactly at all times specified. This means you must be on the practice site and ready to play/perform at the rehearsal call time. Any detraction from the scheduled rehearsal time will diminish our performance excellence. When rehearsal starts, roll is taken. If you are tardy, be sure to check in with the Drum Major and one of the staff.

When someone is on the podium or you are brought to attention, there will be no talking, playing, or moving around. Complete attention is necessary in order to follow instructions properly. The Drum Major is encouraged to remedy performance problems he/she observes by rehearsing sections of the band.

Our rehearsal time is minimal for the type of program we have. Anything less than 100% output and cooperation will put us behind an already tight schedule. Band rehearsals are a class, and as such, people who interfere with the progress of a rehearsal will simply be asked to leave. If necessary, meetings with the learning Directors and parents may be scheduled.

For marching band practice, dress comfortably. You will be required to wear tennis shoes for marching rehearsals. During band camp and Saturday practices in the fall it is advisable to wear a hat, use plenty of sunscreen and drink lots of water.

BUS INFORMATION

We travel to and from all band events either on school busses, charter busses or airplanes. At the beginning of the season, students will sign up for a particular bus. Students will ride the same bus for the entire season.

The head chaperone will be assigned a specific bus for the entire season and he/she is in charge of all the chaperones assigned in each bus. The head chaperone is also the person to turn to for help with any matters regarding the trip.

For insurance and safety purposes, students are to remain seated while the bus is in motion. For longer trips, it is permissible to bring personal MP3 players only if it is used with headphones.

If a student will be riding home with a parent after an event, prior arrangements must be made with the head-chaperone at least 24 hours in advance. The parent must personally check out their student with the head-chaperone prior to leaving the school. **Students are required to ride the bus at all times unless previously arranged with the band director.** Students are not allowed to ride with other students except in special circumstances and then only with the written permission of both parents involved.

MEDICATION POLICY

Medications include all doctor ordered prescriptions, over-the-counter remedies, as well as simple aspirin and antacids. The band and color guard first aid kit carries common remedies such as aspirin, Tylenol, cough drops, etc., however chaperones cannot give any medications to a student unless the **BAND & GUARD MEDICATION RELEASE AUTHORIZATION FORM** has been signed by the parent and turned in. (Medication release forms were turned in at Band Camp registration).

In the event of an emergency, it is extremely important that the Head Chaperone be aware of the medications being taken by the students. Further, the hectic pace of a band trip can cause even the most responsible student to forget to take required medication. It will be the responsibility of the Head Chaperone to see that medications are taken at the prescribed time. Therefore, it is very important that everyone adhere to the following procedures regarding medications:

1. Place all prescription medications in their original containers in a plastic zip-lock bag which has been labeled with the student's name.
2. Include a written note authorizing the student to take these medications and provide instructions for administering the medication.
3. Give the medication to the Head Chaperone.
4. Students who use inhalers need to carry one with them and give the other one to the Head Chaperone. Please make sure that there is a signed doctor's note allowing them to carry their own inhaler. This can be noted on the Medication Release Authorization Form.

When requested by the student, the Head Chaperone will dispense the medication and the student will be allowed to take the medicine as authorized by the **BAND & GUARD MEDICATION RELEASE AUTHORIZATION FORM**.

UNIFORMS

At all competitions the James Logan Band & Color Guard is judged not only on musical and visual performance, but also on appearance. Before the band enters a parade competition zone, there is a formal inspection. Band and Guard members must stand at complete attention while judges walk around looking for untidiness in uniforms. Each time a judge finds fault, the group's over-all score is lowered to some degree. When a competition is tight, the difference between first and second place could be a dirty shoe or a crooked hat!!

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

1. Shoes must be shiny and clean at all time! No dirt or scuff marks on shoes or laces. Shine black shoes/clean guard shoes after each band activity.
2. Socks must be **BLACK**. They should be clean for each performance.
3. Uniforms must be clean with no wrinkles and no loose threads.
4. Band gloves must be **BLACK** with no dirt or stains. (Percussion does not wear gloves)
5. Hair cannot be past the collar of the band uniform.
6. Shakos (hats) are not to be put into uniform bags. Keep your shako in its proper box.
7. Jewelry is not permitted. NO jewelry (including earrings) will be worn by band members. Boys are to be clean shaven. Guard wears uniform make-up.

There will be inspections prior to competitions. If you do not pass inspection, you may not be able to perform in the event. If this occurs often, you may be dropped from the program and given an "F" for the semester.

UNIFORM DEPOSIT AND CARE

BAND

Due to the growth of the band, instead of our traditional red band uniforms, we will be featuring a one-of-a-kind uniform that matches the theme of this year's show. In lieu of the usual \$25 uniform fee, students will be purchasing their own uniform for \$125 and can keep the uniform once the contribution has been met. For any item needing major repair due to student negligence, the cost of the repair will be charged to the student. It is the student's responsibility to inform the Uniform Coordinator regarding damage done to his/her uniform. The student will be charged for the repair of any damaged item or replacement of any lost item. Black marching shoes, black gloves, and black (not navy blue) socks are to be furnished by the student.

WINTER SEASON

Color Guard: Winter Season for Color Guard Students begins in December and runs into mid/late April. Color Guard is divided into 2 divisions: Open and World Guard. Both groups rehearse and compete throughout the Winter Season. World Guard may travel to Dayton, Ohio in April for WGI World Color Guard Championships.

Percussion: Winter Percussion is open to any student wishing to participate. Rehearsals begin in December. The group rehearses and competes through mid/late April. Winter Percussion may also travel to Dayton, Ohio to compete in the WGI World Percussion Championships.

Concert Bands: Winter Season for the general band student consists of Winter and Spring concerts and festivals.