

BAND GRADING RUBRICS

By Dr. Gary T. Sullivan

A A letter grade of “A” indicates an EXCELLENT band student who:

- ◆ attends all rehearsals, section classes & performances on time and prepared (proper attention to music, instrument, uniform, pencil, etc.)
- ◆ learns all parts at an excellent performance level
- ◆ practices outside of band in excess of 30 minutes per day (at least 3 -4 hours weekly)
- ◆ exhibits marked improvement & continually improves individual performance skills
- ◆ hands in all practice reports, tuning charts, and other assignments on time
- ◆ maintains correct focus and expected discipline during rehearsals
- ◆ exhibits correct tone, tuning awareness, rhythmic proficiency, technical facility, and interpretation appropriate to age level
- ◆ participates in some or all course extension activities (solo & ensemble, lessons, jazz or pep band, etc.)

B A letter grade of “B” indicates a GOOD band student who exhibits most of the attributes described above, however one or a few of the following applies:

- ◆ with a slight exception, attends all rehearsals, section classes & performances on time and prepared
- ◆ learns all parts at an acceptable level with a few minor performance issues
- ◆ generally practices outside of band, however, does not practice every day or does not meet a 30 minute per day minimum (at least 3 - 4 hours weekly)
- ◆ exhibits general instrumental competence, however advancement is static
- ◆ fails to turn in a few practice reports (lack of practice) or some required assignments
- ◆ rehearsal focus or rehearsal discipline is sometimes lacking
- ◆ though the mechanics and participation factors are in place, grade level musical deficiencies exist in the areas of tone, tuning, rhythm, technique, and/or interpretation
- ◆ little participation in the extension aspects of the total band experience

C A letter grade of “C” indicates a BELOW AVERAGE band student because of some of the following:

- ◆ a few missed rehearsals or section classes (including day schedule if not excused by director) or excessive tardiness, unprepared rehearsals, etc.
- ◆ learns most of the parts, however is unable to perform all of the music due to lack of application
- ◆ little practice outside of band
- ◆ little or no improvement of instrumental skills due to lack of application
- ◆ few or no practice reports or missing assignments
- ◆ rehearsal focus or discipline is lacking
- ◆ though the mechanics and participation factors are in place, several grade level musical deficiencies exist in the areas of tone, tuning, rhythm, technique, and/or interpretation
- ◆ avoids the extension aspects of the total band experience
- ◆ instrumental performance and band is not a high priority and is reflected through attitude, lack of application, or performance

D A letter grade of “D” indicates a POOR band student because of several of the following:

- ◆ several missed rehearsals or section classes and/or absence from a performance
- ◆ has not learned all of the music due to lack of application
- ◆ excessive tardiness, unprepared rehearsals, and general lack of concern for band
- ◆ little or no practice outside of band
- ◆ no improvement of instrumental skills due to lack of application
- ◆ no practice reports and missing assignments
- ◆ poor rehearsal focus and little discipline
- ◆ musical deficiencies exist related to lack of application and effort
- ◆ no participation in extension activities of the band
- ◆ instrumental performance is a low priority and is reflected through poor attitude, lack of proper attitude, and poor performance

E A letter grade of “E” indicates a FAILURE in band because of disregard for the band, trip, camp, and/or school rules and/or several of the following:

- ◆ blatant disregard for the attendance policy of the school and/or band including skipping class, not attending rehearsals and sectionals and/or skipping performances
- ◆ no musical application in or out of class and/or extreme musical deficiencies
- ◆ disregard for personal performance level and performance quality of the band
- ◆ no practice reports and missing assignments and/or blatant dishonesty concerning these items
- ◆ poor rehearsal focus and poor rehearsal discipline and/or serious discipline issues in band
- ◆ discipline issues impacting other students and/or band performance