



Clayton Valley Charter High School

Band • Jazz • Strings • Percussion • Guard

1101 Alberta Way, Concord, CA 94521 (925) 682-7474 x3125

www.claytonbands.org

STUDENT / PARENT INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC HANDBOOK

2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR

"Let us reveal to our children the beauty of music and music shall reveal to our children the beauty of life."

-Jose Antonio Abreu

MISSION STATEMENT

Music is the vessel in which we teach CVCHS students discipline, teamwork, and humility, while simultaneously giving them a place to feel safe, belong, and use their gifts to contribute to a large music ensemble.

Goals of the Clayton Valley High School Music Program

The Clayton Valley Charter High School Music Program aspires to reach the following goals:

- develop the various skills needed to become intelligent performers and consumers of music
- become more aware of the expressive nature of music
- develop an understanding of the structure of music
- promote an awareness of our multi-cultural heritage
- develop critical and creative thinkers
- represent Clayton Valley Charter High School and the surrounding communities in an exemplary manner

Expectations of Students

Due to the long and proud history of Clayton Valley, high expectations will be placed upon all students of the Clayton Valley Charter High School Music Program. Members are expected to uphold the reputation, personal integrity, and performance excellence established. Upholding this reputation requires hard work and dedication. The following is what is expected from the Clayton Valley Charter High School Music Program members.

All students will attend every rehearsal and performance.

Students are responsible not only for their own progress and musical development, but for that of the entire ensemble as well. All students must follow classroom and rehearsal procedures, all students must practice, and all students must be present at all performances.

All students will respect and be courteous to other students, student leadership, instructional staff, parent volunteers, and the Director.

Students will be expected to behave in a mature and professional manner at all times.

All students will arrive prepared for class each day.

This includes individual practice outside of class, which will prepare the student for daily rehearsals. All students will have the necessary equipment and/or supplies during rehearsals:

instrument (includes all accessories, i.e. reeds, oil, mutes, sticks, mallets, etc.), music, and a pencil. See Ms. Lim if necessary – the Instrumental Music Department has a number of these items available.

Due to the nature of the Music Department’s performance ensembles, students may be given the opportunity to attend rehearsals/performances which take place outside of the regular school day and/or rehearsals/performances at off-site locations.

Transportation will be announced for each event at the earliest possible time. School transportation will be provided when possible, but some events may require personal transportation arrangements. Carpools will also be available as arranged by Music Boosters.

Students are expected to adhere to the Clayton Valley Charter High School Code of Conduct at all times and events, including those which occur at off-site locations.

In the event that any student breaches the Clayton Valley Charter High School Code of Conduct, the appropriate disciplinary actions will be taken and school administrators will be notified.

Co-Curricular/Extra-Curricular Involvement

All music students are encouraged to participate in Co-Curricular or Extra-Curricular activities. Music students are some of the most involved and sought after students on campus. The staff and faculty at Clayton Valley Charter High School are supportive of students who show diversity in activities, volunteer opportunities, and after-school jobs, and students are encouraged to explore these options and broaden their educational experiences. It is anticipated that time conflicts may occasionally arise as a result.

Students who decide to participate in these activities must also accept the responsibility of communicating between the necessary coaches/coordinators and the Director of Instrumental Music regarding any activities which may be in conflict of one another; therefore absences are excused at the discretion of the Director.

Expectations of Parents

In order to ensure the continued success of the Clayton Valley Charter High School Music Program, parental support is necessary. This includes encouraging your musician to practice at home, providing private or group lessons whenever possible, supporting the Director by enforcing student behavioral and attendance expectations, attending monthly Clayton Valley Music Booster meetings (see web calendar for dates & times) to find out how you can help us reach our musical goals, volunteering in some capacity, and attending as many of the students' performances as possible. This is a team effort!

Clayton Valley Music Boosters

Clayton Valley Music Boosters is a parent and community volunteer group established to provide financial, organizational, and logistical support to the instrumental music programs of Clayton Valley Charter High School.

A federally recognized 501(c)(3) not-for-profit agency, it is led by a legally required Board of Directors, made-up of parents and family of current instrumental music students.

2017-18 Executive Board

President: Marty Potter

Vice-President: Diane Wakefield

Treasurer: Corina Bonelli

Secretary: Rizalyn Andrews

Parliamentarian: Cheryl O'Toole

Director: Lydia Lim

THE SUCCESS OF THE STUDENTS IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS PARENT ORGANIZATION. Your involvement is needed and greatly appreciated.

**All parent volunteers, chaperones, coaches, etc. interacting with Clayton Valley students must be fingerprinted and have current TB clearance on file with Clayton Valley Charter High School. Please contact Ms. Lim for the appropriate forms.

Course Descriptions

The functions of a performing musical ensemble are to provide the opportunity for every student to improve and expand upon their individual musical skills of an ensemble, and to apply these acquired skills in performance situations outside the rehearsal environment. All courses offered are UC A-G approved. **All performances are vital to the student's formal performance assessment and experience in class.** The following is a brief description of each ensemble course offered for the 2017-2018 academic year at Clayton Valley Charter High School.

Wind Ensemble

Wind Ensemble is an advanced instrumental music class open to any students in grades 9-12, though the teacher will first hear an audition to ensure an appropriate understanding of instrumental technique. Students will learn proper instrumental techniques and rehearse and perform music of an advanced degree of difficulty and of different styles, cultures, and periods.

Performances for school, the community, and music festivals are an important part of the program. Attendance at all performances is vital to the growth and assessment of every individual. If a performance must be missed, please give the director advanced notice so a make up assignment may be given.

Symphonic Band

Symphonic Band is beginning/intermediate instrumental music class. This band will give a number of performances for the general public and at music festivals. Attendance at all performances is vital to the growth and assessment of every individual. If a performance must be missed, please give the director advanced notice so a make up assignment may be given.

Orchestra

Orchestra is a course in orchestral music of different styles and periods. Students must possess some ability to perform on their instrument, which includes Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass, and Piano. At times, the group will perform as a full orchestra with the addition of wind and percussion players. A number of concerts will be performed each year for the general public and at music festivals. Attendance at all performances is vital to the growth and assessment of every individual. If a performance must be missed, please give the director advanced notice so a make up assignment may be given. This class is open to students who already play a string instrument, but with teacher permission a student who wishes to learn to play an instrument could be accepted.

Marching Band

The Marching Band performs at all home football games and several competitions throughout the season. Rehearsals are held after school and some Saturdays with competitions on weekends throughout the fall. Attendance at all performances is vital to the growth and assessment of every individual. If a performance must be missed, please give the director advanced notice so a make up assignment may be given. In addition, attendance is highly recommended at a two week band camp prior to the beginning of school. See website for a schedule of events and more details.

Marching Band rehearses Mondays from 3:30pm to 6:00pm, Wednesdays from 3:00pm to 5:30pm, and non-gameday Fridays from 3:30pm to 6:00pm. Drumline will have an additional sectional on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-9:00pm. See website for game day schedules.

Please check the Calendar tab at www.claytonbands.org for football game dates and competition information.

Members of Marching Band are highly recommended to participate in a daytime CV musical ensemble (i.e. Symphonic Band, Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, or Jazz Band).

Jazz Band

Jazz Band is an advanced course in jazz. Students must be able to play their instrument with a high degree of skill. The music will consist of professional level commercial and jazz music. Students will be expected to improvise with some skill and to know and understand the harmonic structure of the music that is played. Students will be encouraged to write for this ensemble. The jazz band will perform on many occasions for the general public and at music festivals. Attendance at all performances is vital to the growth and assessment of every individual. If a performance must be missed, please give the director advanced notice so a make up assignment may be given. Membership in the group is by teacher recommendation to ensure that the students have a high level of musical skill and to maintain a balanced instrumentation.

*****Students must be seated with instrument, (*includes all accessories, i.e. reeds, oil, mutes, sticks, mallets, etc.*), music, and a pencil at the sound of the bell. If the student is not seated and ready to begin instruction the student will be considered tardy.**

*****Due to photocopy budget restrictions, many original music parts will be used in all ensembles. Students are responsible for maintaining the originals in *like-new condition* and returning them at the end of each semester. Students who fail to do so will be responsible for replacing their parts. It is understood that normal wear-and-tear will occur.**

Grading Policy

1) Rehearsal Etiquette 30%

Includes coming to rehearsals and performances on time with all needed materials: instrument (includes all accessories, i.e. reeds, oil, mutes, sticks, mallets, etc.), music, and a pencil. Attendance at all performances is vital to the growth and assessment of every individual. If a performance must be missed, please give the director advanced notice so a make up assignment may be given. Ample notification will be given before each event. Students are expected to stay for the entire performance. Written notification, family emergencies, or illness will be considered as excused absences from performances.

2) Tests/Quizzes/Assignments 30%

Performance and/or written assignments will be announced with due dates in class. Students are expected to record any pertinent information in their daily planners. These assignments may include:

- Writing Assignments (to be assigned throughout the year)
- Part Test
- Scale Test (major, minor, chromatic)
- Composition or Transcription Assignments
- Theory/Music History exams
- Various forms, permission slips, medical forms, etc. (turned in on time)

3) **Final/Concerts/Performances** **40%**

Attendance and performance in Winter and Spring Concert Performance and/or CMEA events, in addition to any in-class final assignments.

PLEASE REVIEW THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS.

GRADING SCALE: Percentage of total points

A = (90 – 100%)

B = (80 – 89%)

C = (70 – 79%)

D = (60 – 69%)

F = (59% and below)

Trip Eligibility

Field trips, festivals, competitions, and any travel are privileges afforded to students, not absolute rights. Students can be denied participation if they fail to meet academic or disciplinary requirements. Participation in our spring trip is not required.

Chair Placement and Challenge Procedure

Chair Placement

First semester chair placement will take place the first or second week of school. Music will be chosen from the music that the students are rehearsing in class. Each student will play for the director and/or coach to establish part assignments and seating order.

Marching Band Uniform

Marching uniforms will be issued at the beginning of the year to students participating in Marching Band. Students are responsible for maintaining their uniform; keeping it clean and looking professional. Due to the limited amount of inventory, it is the responsibility of the student to replace any damaged or lost uniform parts or carrying cases.

Students are responsible for having all uniform parts at every home football game and festival/competition. Failure to bring all or part of the uniform may result in removing the privilege to perform.

Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Orchestra Dress Code

When performing as a concert ensemble, members are encouraged to meet the following guidelines concerning concert attire.

Gentlemen: Black Tuxedo/Black Suit
 White Dress Shirt with Black Bow Tie
 Black oxford or dress shoe and **black socks**

– NO BLACK ATHLETIC SHOES

Ladies: Long, Black Performance Dress. See website for ordering information.
 OR
 Long Black Dress Pants and Black dress shirt with sleeves
 Black shoes

The Music Boosters also has a Concert Closet with extra concert attire that can be used if one is in need of the above apparel.

Student Leadership at CVCHS

It is difficult to establish and organize any program as active as the Clayton Valley Charter High School Music Program without the assistance of several qualified people. As the Director, it is my responsibility to develop and direct all educational and programmatic activities. Student leadership and instructional staff are essential for the facilitation of daily rehearsals and performance activities.

Student Leadership

As this organization is comprised of students, so should the students have an impact on the implementation of activities. Thus, student leadership is necessary. Each leader serves in his/her capacity at the discretion of the band director. Students will receive instructions in appropriate methods and practices with regards to their specific area of authority. Students may, at the determination of the Band Director, be removed from their appointed office and replaced.

Drum Major

The responsibilities of the Drum Major(s) are as follows: lead the organization in rehearsal and performance as instructed by the band director, perform support and organizational duties as determined by the band director, monitor, supervise, and assist other student leaders as determined by the director.

Assistant Drum Major (if applicable)

The functions of this position are to: assist the drum major in his/her duties, to help the drum major by making sure the other students in their sections perform their duties and are quiet and attentive during rehearsal.

Section Leaders (Marching Band/Concert Ensembles)

These students represent their instrument section as follows: pass out and collect music during rehearsals, direct sectional rehearsals, perform support and organizational activities as determined by the director. In addition, these individuals are responsible for helping members learn difficult marching drill maneuvers/difficult musical excerpts. It is their responsibility to make sure that all students in their section are quiet and attentive during rehearsal and that they model appropriate behavior and rehearsal etiquette at all times.

Band Leadership

The purpose of the band leadership is to provide assistance to the music director in the preparation of performances and events for the students involved in the following ensembles: Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, Orchestra, and Marching Band. Appointment will take place at the end of each academic year.

Personal Instrument Liability

It is important to understand that the CVCHS Music Department is an active and vibrant part of the community both on and off campus. As such, ensembles will travel a great deal to performances. Unfortunately, Clayton Valley Charter High School is unable to guarantee or insure that personal instruments will not be lost, stolen, or damaged during an on-campus rehearsal or concert or an off-campus event. I highly recommend that parents contact an

insurance agent and investigate the feasibility of insurance for your student's musical instrument. Many times these instruments are covered under individual homeowners or renters' insurance. Please double check with your agent and/or purchase insurance as necessary. This will ease the minds of students, parents, and the Director.

Equipment Use and Conditions

All students are expected to demonstrate reasonable care when using personal or school owned instruments or equipment. Students are expected to demonstrate care when around instruments or equipment in order to alleviate any possible conditions that could cause damage to any instrument and/or piece of equipment. All students will be given instruction on how to provide a safe atmosphere for students working around any musical instrument or equipment. Students, who fail to demonstrate appropriate behavior around instruments and equipment may be responsible for the repairs and/or replacement as determined by the director. Reimbursement must be made to CVCHS for any lost, stolen, or damaged school instruments. Normal wear is expected.

Instrument Loan Agreement

Students using a school instrument must complete and return the Instrument Loan Agreement.

Use of Image

Due to the public nature of our program and the community outreach that we do, it is possible that images of your child performing in an ensemble may be taken. Clayton Valley Music Boosters and/or Clayton Valley Charter High School may use your son or daughter's image in promotional material and/or through other media outlets. Please notify Ms. Lim immediately if you do not wish to allow your son or daughter's image to be used.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

2017-2018

I, _____, understand as a student of the following:
(Student)

- Wind Ensemble
- Symphonic Band
- Jazz Band
- Orchestra
- Marching Band

(Circle the class(es) you are in)

all policies, procedures, and requirements as they are outlined in the Handbook. I further understand a major portion of my grade is based on participation. Therefore, I understand that all performances are vital to my performance assessment and are used as a way to measure my growth as a musician. If I am unable to make a performance, I must notify the Director immediately so a make up assignment can be given. I understand that the teacher has discretion regarding whether my absence is excused or unexcused. Failure to clear absences through this procedure will result in my absence being unexcused and my grade being affected accordingly. I also understand that I may contact the Director to clarify any questions I may have.

Student signature

Date

Parent signature

Date