

Newberry High  
School

# Band of Pride Handbook

Marching Band  
Symphonic Band  
Jazz Band  
Visual Ensemble

2006-2007

## PREFACE

Planning and effort are essential to making any organization successful. This handbook was written for the members of the Newberry High School Band and their parents. Knowledge and understanding of the contents of this manual will allow students to better contribute to the overall success of the program.

## PRIDE

There are five core values that must be paramount above all other things in order for any organization to be successful. These values are:

**PERSEVERANCE** – Perseverance is enduring all obstacles to meet a goal. No organization has been successful without working *hard* to achieve their goal. One of my favorite mentors once said, “Fun is when hard work pays off.”

**RESPECT** – Respect is the treatment of others, equipment, and facilities as you would want to be treated. If members of an organization cannot respect themselves and their legacy then how can they expect to be respected by others?

**INTEGRITY** – Integrity is vital to creating a group that is dedicated to achieving a common goal. If members of a group constantly undermine each other through deceitful means for the sake of personal gain they will never realize the group’s true potential.

**DISCIPLINE** – Discipline is doing what must be done even when you don’t want to do it. Discipline often means sacrificing your own immediate desires to work towards a more difficult goal.

**EXCELLENCE** – Excellence is the desire to be the best possible. Every organization should strive to be the best they can be given their available resources.

## HOW TO DEMONSTRATE PRIDE

- Early is on time! Always be first to report.
- Always have the needed equipment
- Always be appropriately attired, whether it is for rehearsal or performance.
- Show a desire for learning and working.
- Be in attendance – mentally.
- Master your part as quickly and as far in advance as possible.
- Refrain from making comments and/or carrying on a conversation in rehearsal.

- Be prepared for high intensity rehearsals: instructions delivered quickly and then carried out as quickly as possible.
- Stop immediately with the cut-off and be prepared for instruction.
- Be enthusiastic! Understand the need for rehearsal and repetition and carry out these tasks with sprit.
- DO NOT let failure stop you. If you experience failure analyze it, understand why you failed, and make a plan to improve and succeed the next time.
- Turn work into play. Enjoy rehearsing – *Try to learn something new every day.*
- When in doubt: *Do what's right!*

## ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

In order to participate in band activities, a student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher. Eligibility will be determined every semester by cumulative GPA.

## GRADING POLICY

The nine week grade will be determined according to the following grading scheme:

**50% Written and Playing tests (100 points)**  
**50% Performance Points (100 points)**

## ATTENDANCE AND PERFORMANCE POINTS

### Attendance

In order for a rehearsal absence to be considered excused an excuse must be submitted to the director in writing within five school days of the absence. **Absences to performances will only be considered excused if the director is notified in writing at least 14 days prior to the performance at which the student will be absent.**

### Excused Absences

The following are examples of excused absences:

1. Extreme Illness (Doctors excuse required)
2. Death in the family
3. Authorized school absence verified by official documentation
4. Court appearances or other city/state-mandated duty
5. Regular doctor or dentist appointment
6. Other events or situations deemed acceptable by the director

**Unexcused Absences**

The following are examples of unexcused absences, including but not limited to:

- 1. Work
- 2. Lack of transportation
- 3. Detention
- 4. Unexcused absence from school

**Performance Point System for Winds and Percussion**

**Each student will start the year with 100 performance points. Points deducted or added will be reassessed every nine week grading period.**

*Points will be deducted as follows:*

- 1. Failure to appear for a performance (possible suspension) .....50-
- 2. No equipment/instrument/uniform for performance.....50-
- 3. Missed performance (with prior notice, but not legitimate excuse).....50-
- 4. Missing a rehearsal.....15-
- 5. No equipment/instrument for rehearsal.....10-
- 6. Tardy to rehearsal or performance.....10-
- 7. Not dressed out.....10-
- 8. Use of profanity.....10-
- 9. Wrong shoes.....10-
- 10. Instrument poorly maintained.....10-
- 11. Poor attitude/lack of effort.....10-
- 12. Uniform worn improperly.....10-
- 13. Not knowing music/routine/drill.....5-
- 14. Not having music or pencil for rehearsal.....5-
- 15. Moving at attention.....5-
- 16. Handling equipment not assigned to you.....5-
- 17. Tardy for inspection.....5-
- 18. No gloves/dirty or stained gloves.....5-
- 19. Band of Pride Band shirt not tucked in (when applicable).....5-
- 20. Hair not up.....5-
- 21. Fingernail polish (must be removed).....5-
- 22. Drum Majors without paper and pencil.....5-
- 23. Drum Major without whistle.....5-
- 24. Not remaining in position during inspection.....3-
- 25. Jewelry (must be removed).....3-
- 26. Dirty shoes.....3-

**Students must submit director request for points added on.**

*Points will be added as follows:*

1. Making an All-State Band/Orchestra.....	50+
2. Attending a summer band camp.....	25+
3. Making All-County Band.....	25+
4. Superior rating at State Solo and Ensemble Festival.....	25+
5. Private Lessons (per nine weeks).....	20+
6. Attending Tri-State, Festival of Winds, other honor bands.....	20+
7. Making Alachua County Youth Orchestra.....	20+
8. State Solo and Ensemble participation.....	20+
9. Superior Rating at District S&E MPA.....	15+
10. Audition for All-State Band.....	10+
11. Audition for All-County Band.....	10+
12. Audition for Alachua County Youth Orchestra.....	10+
13. Parent chaperones an overnight trip.....	10+
14. Attending a musical performance or concert.....	10+
15. Parent representation at a Band Booster meeting.....	5+
16. Parent chaperones a day-long event or game.....	5+
17. Assist in maintenance of band room.....	2+
18. Exceptional fund raising effort.....	varies
19. Outstanding effort noted by director.....	varies
20. Outstanding improvement noted by director.....	varies
21. Miscellaneous (as approved by a director).....	varies

**Performance Points for Visual Ensemble**

1. Failure to appear for a performance (possible suspension).....	50-
2. Missed performance (prior notice, but no excuse).....	50-
3. Missing practice.....	15-
4. Inappropriate attire at practice.....	10-
5. Food, drink, and gum in band room.....	10-
6. Leaving hair down at practice.....	10-
7. Use of profanity.....	10-
8. Tardy to performance or rehearsal.....	10-
9. Missing uniform parts.....	10-
10. Unsportsmanlike conduct.....	10-
11. Poor attitude/lack of effort.....	10-
12. Not knowing routines.....	10-
13. Moving at attention.....	5-
14. Not using correct facials (smiling, etc.).....	5-
15. Poor posture.....	5-
16. Misplaced articles.....	5-

17. Inspection	
• Missing tights.....	10-
• Hair not ready.....	5-
• Officer without paper/pencil.....	5-
• Hair falling.....	5-
• Colored or metallic barrettes.....	5-
• Wrong make-up.....	3-
18. Lack of respect to officer, director or any adult.....	varies
19. Not following any stated rule.....	varies

*Points may be added for the following:*

1. Attending summer dance/band camp.....	25+
2. Attending a one day guard/dance camp.....	15+
3. Parents chaperone overnight trip.....	10+
4. Parents chaperone day-long trip or game.....	5+
5. Maintaining the band room.....	2+
6. Exceptional fund-raising effort.....	varies
7. Outstanding effort noted by director.....	varies
8. Outstanding improvement noted by director.....	varies
9. Miscellaneous (as approved by a director).....	varies

## OVERVIEW OF EXPECTATIONS

*The following is expected of every band student:*

- Attend rehearsals and performances.
- *Be prepared* for rehearsals and performances.
- Be on time for all classes, rehearsals, and performances. (*Early is on time, on time is late!*)
- Keep instruments and equipment in working, performance condition.
- Understand the duties of the leadership so that he/she may work with them in a positive manner and not against them.
- **Practice regularly at home. Study privately if at all possible.**
- Keep the band facility and surrounding areas neat, clean and free of garbage.
- Be responsible and accountable for all music and equipment issued to him/her.
- Fulfill Fair Share Obligation. **Fundraising activities/opportunities will be provided.**
- Embody **PRIDE!**

## BASIC RULES

- Students must abide by the Alachua County Schools Code of Student Conduct, the Newberry High School Student Rules, and the NHS student handbook.
- A Level III or higher disciplinary infraction may result in subsequent suspension from Band activities or removal from the program.
- Any equipment that is not owned by or specifically assigned to you is strictly off limits.
- During the regular school day the band facility is to be used for regular classes, rehearsals, sectionals, and pre-arranged help sessions only.
- No gum, food, or drink is permitted within the band facility. The only exception is water in screw-top containers.
- No gum is allowed at performance or rehearsal, or while in uniform.

## TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION ETIQUETTE

- Students *must* ride the bus when the band travels.
- Remain seated and avoid unnecessary movement while the bus is in motion.
- Remain silent during roll call and when the Bus Captain is giving directions.
- Keep noise to a minimum.
- Be courteous to all adults, drivers, and chaperones.
- **BUDDY SYSTEM:** Do not go anywhere in a group of less than three Newberry personnel.
- No “boom-boxes” allowed on bus trips. If you wish to listen to music you must be wearing headphones.
- If the band is not traveling in uniform, appropriate dress is required.
- When leaving the bus during a stop, ensure your appearance is appropriate.
- Keep the bus clean.
- Remain on your assigned bus for the duration of the trip.

## HOTEL AND TRIP ETIQUETTE

- ***Female and Male inter-room visitation is not allowed at any time. Violators of this rule will be returned home at their parents' expense as well as face possible dismissal.***
- Once we arrive at the hotel remain on the bus for instructions.
- A pre-assigned room captain will get the key from the director or band parent responsible for distributing keys.
- No loud noise or horseplay at any time, remember you're representing the band, NHS and your families whenever you're in public.

- Be courteous to other hotel guests by not loitering in halls or lobbies.
- Leave your room as you found it. Report any previous damage immediately to your assigned chaperone.
- **BUDDY SYSTEM! Go nowhere alone (groups of three).**
- **Observe curfews!** Anyone outside their room after curfew is subject to disciplinary action.
- Do not open your room door for anyone not with the NHS Band.
- Persons not associated with the band are not allowed into rooms.
- Keep a copy of the trip itinerary in your room to help you be on time!
- *Use of alcohol or other controlled substance will result in the student being sent home at the expense of the student's parents. The student will face dismissal from the band, and be referred to the administration as well as to the appropriate authorities.*

## BAND ORGANIZATIONS

### Marching Band – The Newberry Band of Pride

<b>Personnel</b>	Any NHS student with at least 2 years of playing experience and the ability to complete the required audition.
<b>Projected Activities (2006-2007)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Band Camp – pre-season marching band preparation</li> <li>• Football game performances and pep rallies</li> <li>• UF Homecoming Parade</li> <li>• FBA District IV Marching Band MPA</li> </ul>
<b>Units of Membership</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Winds – Brass and Woodwinds</li> <li>• Percussion – Battery</li> <li>• Visual Ensemble</li> <li>• Drum Majors</li> </ul>
<b>Regular Rehearsals</b>	<p>Regular class meetings            After school rehearsals - (Fall: T, W, Th, 3-5pm)            Other rehearsals during the spring as needed</p>

**Membership in this ensemble is required for all band students.  
 Exception will be by medical excuse only.**

## Newberry Visual Ensemble

<b>Personnel</b>	This ensemble is open to any NHS student by audition. Members are selected by the Auxiliary Coordinator.
<b>Projected Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All activities with the Newberry HS Band of Pride</li> <li>• Indoor competitions and festivals during the spring.</li> </ul>
<b>Regular Rehearsals</b>	Regular class meetings After school rehearsals with the marching band Other rehearsals as needed

## Concert Ensembles

### *Symphonic Band*

<b>Personnel</b>	Any NHS student with at least two years of playing experience and the approval of the director.
<b>Projected Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerts as Scheduled</li> <li>• FBA District Concert Music Performance Assessment</li> <li>• FBA State M.P.A. (when qualified)</li> <li>• Graduation Performance</li> <li>• Special events and trips as scheduled</li> </ul>
<b>Regular Rehearsals</b>	Regular class meetings After school rehearsals - <b>Fall:</b> T, Th 3-5pm after November 4 <b>Spring:</b> T, Th 3-5pm Other rehearsals as needed

### *Jazz Ensemble*

<b>Personnel</b>	Students enrolled in the regular Jazz Band class
<b>Projected Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerts as scheduled</li> <li>• Winter Concert</li> <li>• FBA District Jazz Music Performance Assessment</li> <li>• FBA State Jazz M.P.A. (when qualified)</li> </ul>
<b>Regular Rehearsals</b>	<b>Fall:</b> M, W 3-5pm after November 4 <b>Spring:</b> M, W 3-5pm

## INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES (INSTRUMENTAL)

- Private lessons are *strongly* encouraged.
- **All-State Bands** – Auditions are held in early September of each year. Students who qualify for this band will travel to Tampa in early January for the All-State clinic. These students will rehearse with top student performers from around the state and present a concert at the end of the clinic.
- **All-County Band** – Auditions are held on the first Wednesday in December. This band is selected by the results of this audition. Students in this ensemble will rehearse with other top student performers from Alachua county and present a concert in the spring.
- **Solo and Ensemble Music Performance Assessment** – Held in February, this event allows students to perform in small ensembles or as soloists. Students who rate superiorly in this MPA (playing grade V music and higher) will qualify for the State Solo and Ensemble MPA in April.

## LEADERSHIP

### Selection Criteria

Student officers are selected on the basis of the following criteria: Leadership, Setting a Positive Example, Dependability, Punctuality, Musical Achievement (All-County, All-State, Solo & Ensemble Festival, etc.), Conduct Record, Points, and adherence to PRIDE.

Students must have been a member of the band program for one year minimum and maintain at least a 2.5 GPA. Applications will be made available during the spring for positions for the upcoming year. Terms for officerships are one year and must be selected every year. Incumbent officers must re-apply for their position. An interview and leadership seminar is required as part of the officer application process.

### Officers

Offices include: Colonel, Drum Major(s), Quartermaster, Woodwind Captain, Brass Captain, Percussion Captain, and Guard Captain. Officers make sure the year round activities of the band are planned and operated smoothly.

### Duties of Officers

The Officers assist the Director in the duty areas designated below. **NOTE: All Officers must set the example!**

- Embody **PRIDE!**
- Maintain a positive, responsible attitude
- Arrive at least 15 minutes early to all performances
- Attend Officer meetings
- Be dismissed last from activities
- Maintain academic eligibility
- Be consistently punctual
- Avoid school disciplinary action
- Study privately if possible

## **Drum Majors**

Drum Majors are the student leadership of the band both on and off the field. Auditions are held every spring to determine drum majors for the coming school year.

### **Duties of Drum Major**

- Supervise and assist other Officers
- Assist Director with rehearsals as needed
- Monitor Band Room
- Assume all Officer Duties
- Assist Directors with record keeping: absences, tardies, inspections & points
- Conduct rehearsals when needed
- Conduct all marching performances
- Assist Directors in teaching drill
- Warm up Band at practices
- Attend Drum Major Camp

## **Section Leaders**

Section leaders are one or two people charged with the responsibility of supervising and maintaining the section in every aspect. Section leaders report to their captain, drum majors or the director directly. Section leaders are responsible for ensuring their sections are prepared for rehearsal and performances.

### **Duties of Section Leaders**

- Embody **PRIDE!**
- Maintain a positive, responsible attitude
- Arrive at least 15 minutes early to all performances
- Be dismissed last from activities
- Maintain academic eligibility
- Be consistently punctual
- Avoid school disciplinary action
- Study privately if possible

## **Removal from a Leadership Position**

A student leader may be removed from their position if it is deemed by the director that they are not fulfilling the duties of their post. Student leaders who must be removed from performance for any reason, including points, absences, or lack of the correct equipment will have their position as a leader reconsidered.

## **THE UNIFORM AND SCHOOL OWNED EQUIPMENT**

### **Classes of Uniform**

Class A Uniform – “Class A” is the term used for the traditional band uniform. Wearing this uniform connects you to the hundreds of people who have been a member of this organization before you and identifies you as a part of the current organization. This uniform will typically be used for performances at major events.

Class B Uniform – The “Class C” uniform consists of the band student T-shirt, jeans or khakis as determined by the director and light colored athletic shoes. This uniform will typically be used for hot weather or casual performances.

Concert Uniform – (To be determined for the 2006-2007 year)

### ***Guidelines for wearing the uniform***

***“All or None”*** – You are either in uniform or not in uniform. No member will ever appear in public in anything less than full Class A uniform. Failure to adhere to this policy could result in a points being deducted from the offending member. No jewelry or fingernail polish is to be worn while in uniform. All hair that is below the collar should be worn up under your shako.

***Best Behavior*** – Being in public in uniform identifies the member as a part of our organization. A student in uniform is on display and must act as a model citizen at all times and represent our organization well. A member failing to conduct themselves appropriately in public could have points deducted.

### **School Owned Equipment**

Students needing the use of school owned equipment will have the equipment signed out to them at the beginning of the year. The student is responsible for all damage and wear done to the instrument throughout the year, and is also responsible for the maintenance and repair of the instrument while it’s in their care. Should the instrument be returned at the end of the year not in performance condition it will be repaired and invoiced to the parents of the student using the instrument. **Willful destruction of school-owned property could result in dismissal.**

## FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

### **Band Camp Fee:** *Non-refundable \$60.00*

**Band Camp Fee covers:** Instructor fees, one gallon water cooler, T-shirt, admission to the DCI quarterfinals multicast at Regal Cinemas.

### **Fair Share**

*Required for All Members – Does not carry from year to year; Non-Refundable: \$250.00*

Fundraising opportunities are provided to raise the money needed to meet the annual budget for the program. Each band member is expected to do his/her "Fair Share" of the fundraising - minimum of \$250. In lieu of, or in addition to, fundraising participation, tax deductible donations are always welcome. Check should be made payable to "Newberry High School Band Boosters".

The "Fair Share" will cover the Band's planned operating expenses for the entire year. Budgeted items include instruments, music, repairs, travel, Music Performance Assessment (M.P.A.) entry fees, uniform purchases, auxiliary equipment, marching equipment, student awards, etc. The student's Fair Share requirement will cover all regular expenses. Events such as trips, however, could cost an additional amount.

Ample fundraising opportunities are provided for students and their families to earn the Fair Share. Virtually all fundraising profits will be applied to the student's individual account. Once a student has raised or paid his/her required Fair Share, he/she may choose to work for another student or for the general fund. Students may not accrue more than one and a half times their fair share for their own personal use per year. Those who prefer to pay the Fair Share instead of fundraising may do so; but will follow the scheduled deadlines.

Fees and Fair Share Payments are Non-Refundable. The Annual Budget is based upon the needs of the Band Program divided equally among the Program enrollment. Failure to participate in the Band Program will not relieve the student of his/her responsibility. Failure to maintain academic eligibility will not relieve the student of his/her responsibility. Appeal of this policy may be submitted in writing to the Band Director.

### **Payment procedure:**

- Make checks payable to Newberry High School Band Boosters
- Put student name and purpose of the payment in the memo section
- When paying with cash, put the money in a sealed envelope. On the outside of the envelope write the amount, student name, and purpose of payment.

# AWARDS

## **Section of the Year**

Awarded to one section from each performing ensemble. This is based on the overall performance and participation of the section as a whole and its members' contribution to the excellence of the band program.

## **“Pride Award”**

This award goes to one person in each grade level who consistently displays a high level of pride, spirit and dedication to the band throughout the entire year and embodies the core values of the NHS band. This award is voted upon by the band student body.

## **Band Boosters Service Award**

This award is for the student that participates in the largest number of Booster events. This student must have met their fundraising obligation for the year.

## **Varsity Letters and Bars**

All students that successfully complete a full year earn a Letter “N”. A Service Bar is awarded each successful year after the student has received their letter.

## **Most Improved Musicianship Award**

This award recognizes individuals or sections that have made great strides in their musicianship throughout the year.

## **Outstanding Auxiliary Member**

This award is for the member of the Newberry Visual Ensemble that demonstrates an all around great attitude as well as embodying the band's core values.

## **Patrick S. Gilmore Memorial Band Award**

This award is for the outstanding junior or senior in the band that has consistently demonstrated the ideals of scholarship, leadership, and musicianship.

## **Director's Award for Leadership**

The recipient of this award is selected by the director and is awarded to a junior or senior that has consistently demonstrated strong leadership and has set an example for their peers.

## **The John Philip Sousa International Band Award**

This internationally recognized award recognizes one senior student who embodies outstanding musicianship, loyalty, dependability, and cooperation.

---

*(please sign and detach)*

---

I have read and understood the policies outlined in this handbook and agree to abide by them as a member/parent of the Newberry High School Band.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Director Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_