



Classroom Supplies

Each band member should have the following supplies in class each day:

1. Instrument (percussion players must supply their own practice sticks and mallets)
2. Warm-Up Book
 - **blue** Habits of a Successful Musician method book for Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Wind Symphony
3. Concert Music, Warm-ups, Scale sheets, etc. (provided during class)
4. Pencil (never a pen - we can always change our mind with markings)
5. Students are encouraged to get a small three-ring binder and sheet protectors for their music. However, this is not required, and a folder will be available for students who do not wish to use the binder.

Grade Evaluation

In every academic class, a passing grade is 60 on a 100-point scale. However, if a musician playing a solo performed only six of every ten notes correctly, an audience would not judge the performance, or the performer, favorably. Now imagine that each member of a large ensemble such as ours missed these notes during a performance. There would be thousands of wrong notes during the concert, and we would never want to perform again in public (or private!) if this were to happen. Therefore, students are expected to rise above the "it sounded okay to me," or "I got most of the notes right" mentality.

Each student should strive to make perfection the goal at all times, and work daily to come as close to this goal as possible. Remember, we are an ensemble, and we should all feel the responsibility of doing our very best and contributing as much as possible to the overall group success.

The following areas will be used when making grade and conduct evaluations for progress reports and report cards:

- Consistent improvement on your instrument through appropriate classroom instruction and at-home practice (measured through playing tests and/or in-person playing assessments)
- Proper behavior during classroom rehearsals and concerts (performance preparation)
- Cooperation, conduct, being on time, and appearance in uniform
- Written exams, aural skills, and classroom theory work
- Attendance at all after-school rehearsals and performances
- Having all materials at each rehearsal

The standard Cabarrus County Schools grading scale will be used to assign all letter grades. Grades for all ensembles will be awarded based on mastery of the following:

- Practice Assignments/Homework
- Playing Tests
- Active Performance Preparation (daily participation and progress)
- Concert Performance
- Written Assignments



Cabarrus County Schools Grading Scale:

- A = 90-100
- B = 80-89
- C = 70-79
- D = 60-69
- F = 59 and below

Students will have frequent performance checks in the form of practice videos and/or playing test videos. These will most frequently be done by submitting a video into a Canvas assignment. Some playing assessments will happen in person during class. Students will most frequently take these assessments at home, but students with larger instruments will also have the option to take them at school during the class time.

We understand that playing an instrument and mastering a skill takes time and effort in order to develop and refine. Therefore, all students have the opportunity to retake any playing assessment as many times as needed to achieve the grade they desire. We hope this alleviates some of the stress of playing tests, and shows our commitment to rewarding consistent practice and work toward goals. All assignments must be completed or resubmitted prior to ONE WEEK before the end of the quarter/semester in order for us to have time to grade the assignment.

PLEASE NOTE: If a student's personal instrument is in poor playing condition, he or she is expected to take it to a repair shop immediately. **If a student must take an instrument in to be repaired, get a signed note or voucher from the music dealer.** This will serve as your "pass" for your instrument and you will not lose any points while your instrument is being repaired or serviced.

Awards

Each year, members of the band have the opportunity to earn a variety of awards within the Hickory Ridge Band program. Awards are given based upon the number of merit points that students earn throughout the year. The form can be found on the band website. Awards for both semesters are presented each year at the Band Banquet at the end of the year. The event is open to all band members and their families. To be eligible for an award, you must participate in an ensemble during the year, have good attendance, a good work record, and not have received any formal disciplinary actions during the year. Please see the awards merit system for an explanation on receiving awards and letters.



How We Communicate With Band Families

Hickory Ridge Bands Website

The band website (www.hickoryridgebands.org) is a great source of information for our band families and the surrounding community. Information can be found about our directors and teaching staff, our many ensembles, and more! Parents can even make payments for booster-related events and activities. One of the most important features is the BAND CALENDAR, to which you can subscribe and add to your personal calendar. Check it now for concert dates, audition dates, etc.

Booster Hub

Each student will have an online account at BoosterHub. From this site, parents and students will be placed on the email information list, and be able to monitor financial accounts for extra-curricular activities and class trips, update contact information, view merit point totals, view school-owned instruments that are assigned to a student, download and print important forms and schedules, and do many other things. This is the most important site we use. BoosterHub is password protected so you have a level of security and confidentiality with your directory and financial information on a “non-public” website. Users can install an app and access Booster Hub on your mobile devices.

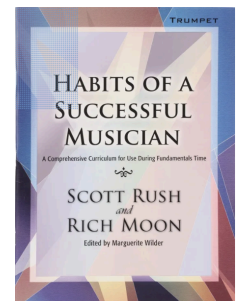
Parent Square

Most classroom communication will be done through Parent Square and/or email (via Booster Hub). All students and parents should make sure you have access to Parent Square and that you are able to receive notifications when messages are sent. Turning off notifications means you miss important information when it is sent.

**ALL FEES ARE PAID ONLINE USING THE K-12 PAYMENT CENTER.
NO MONEY IS ACCEPTED IN THE BAND OFFICE.**

There are several fees associated with the band program, below you will find these fees highlighted.

1. **Course Fee - \$20 per class, per semester** – this is a fee that Cabarrus County Schools assesses each student in band to help offset the cost of music and supplies used during the semester. These funds may NOT be paid from the student’s band booster account as this is a SCHOOL fee. Students in multiple band classes per semester must pay the fee for each class in which they are enrolled.
2. **School-Owned Instrument Fee - \$25 per instrument, per semester** – if you are using a school-owned instrument (*piccolo, oboe, English horn, bassoon, clarinet, bass clarinet, contra clarinet, soprano sax, alto sax, tenor sax, baritone sax, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba, or percussion*) you will be required to pay this fee before receiving an instrument. The fee is assessed by Cabarrus County Schools and helps offset the cost of the general maintenance, cleaning and repair. Please remember that all brass players using school-owned instruments should also purchase his or her own mouthpiece, and all woodwind players should provide their own ligature and reeds.
3. **Method Book - “Habits of a Successful Musician”** – if you were in a band last year you should already own this book so you will NOT need to purchase another copy. If you are new, you will need to purchase this book (we will order them an hand them out in class once we have received your online payment.) We will begin using these books right away, so please purchase ASAP.
4. **Concert Black Formal Wear** – students in Wind Symphony only will be fitted for formal concert wear. Ladies will wear a formal black concert dress and men will wear full tuxedos (both will also need to provide black dress shoes). If you currently own a formal from last year (and it still fits), you do not have to purchase again. Fundraisers will be available to help offset these costs. More information will follow.



2025-2026 Fall Semester Important Dates

*All dates can be found on the band calendar on the HR Band website
(www.hickoryridgebands.org)*

Concert Band / Symphonic Band / Wind Symphony:

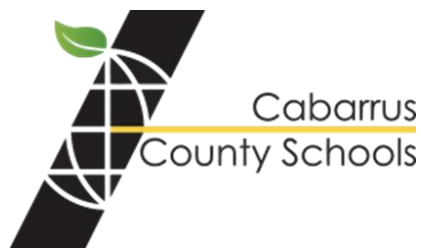
October 20	6:30pm	Concert and Symphonic Band Fall Concert
October 21	6:30pm	Wind Symphony Fall Concert
November 24	TBD	CCS Night of Percussion (percussion only)
December 1	6:30pm	Concert Band and Symphonic Band Winter Concert
December 9	6:30pm	Wind Symphony / HiRMS 8th Grade Winter Concert
December 10	6:30pm	Jazz Band and Percussion Ensemble Winter Concert
December 11	6:30pm	HiRMS 6th and 7th Grade Winter Concert (at HRHS)

All:

August 25	6:00pm - London Trip Parent / Student Information Meeting
January 5	Western Region Jazz Auditions (virtual auditions)
January 17	All-District Band Auditions (Porter Ridge HS - Indian Trail, NC)
January 23-24	All-County Band (West Cabarrus, HS)
January 30-31	All-District Band Clinic (Stuart Cramer HS - Belmont, NC)
January 31	Wind Ensemble Auditions Due for 2026-2027 School Year
February 1	HRHS Mattress Sale (yes, it's a Sunday this year)
February 13-14	Western Region Jazz Clinic (Asheville, NC)
February 19-22	HRHS Spring Musical
March 3-6	Middle School MPA (Host at HRHS)
March 7	All-State Auditions (Adkins HS, Winston-Salem, NC)
March 9-13	Spring Break
March 23-24	HS MPA at Mooresville (specific performance day TBA)
March 25-29	National Concert Band Festival (Indianapolis, IN -Wind Symphony)
April 27	6:30pm - Concert Band / Symphonic Band Spring Concert
April 28	6:30pm Wind Symphony / HiRMS 8th Grade Band Spring Concert
April 29	6:30pm Jazz Band and Percussion Ensemble Spring Concert
May 1-3	All-State Clinic (UNC-Greensboro)
May 9	Jazz Band MPA (Hickory, NC)
May 22	Graduation

Marching Band:

March 16-20, 2026	Drum Major/ Leadership Auditions
June 30-July 3, 2026	Mini Camp
July 4, 2026	Harrisburg Parade
July 20-24, 2026	Band Camp (Required of all marching band members)
July 27-July 31, 2026	Band Camp (Required of all marching band members)



Hickory Ridge High School

Electronic Devices:

High School: Students will not use cell phones or electronic/media devices during instructional time except pursuant to an authorized purpose or as an instructional tool under the guidance and direction of a staff member during a school activity. **Cell phones must be turned off or silenced and out of sight (in backpack, pocket, or purse) at all times.** Use of a cell phone is defined to include, but is not limited to phone ringing, talking on phone, taking pictures, browsing, gaming and text messaging. **Students may use cell phones or electronic/media devices during non-instructional times, including class change and lunch, so long as the use is not disruptive to the school environment and the cell phone or electronic/media device is used in a safe and responsible manner.**

*Sounds from earbuds may not interfere with the safe operation of the school; therefore, only ONE earbud may be worn through the halls and common areas.

*Students may use their phones during class change and at lunch in accordance with HRHS's rules, policies, and procedures.

*Students are not permitted to photograph, record, or share information about events that are detrimental to the wellbeing of people on school grounds including fights, bullying, or harassing behaviors.

The district is not responsible for theft, loss or damage to any cell phone or other electronic/media devices brought onto school property.

The consequences for violation of these rules, policies, and procedures may lead to the following: Opportunity to self-correct, administrative conference, Parent notification/conference, Control Room/ISS, After School Detention, Confiscation of Device and Returned at End of The Day, Confiscation and Return Only to Parent

Failure to obey the request of a school staff member shall be considered insubordination and result in a written referral to administration.

BELL SCHEDULE: 8/11-8/14

<i>Homeroom</i>	7:15-8:00
<i>1st Period</i>	8:05-9:15
<i>2nd Period</i>	9:20-10:30
<i>3rd Period</i>	10:35-12:50
<i>A lunch</i>	10:32-10:55
<i>B lunch</i>	11:00-11:23
<i>C lunch</i>	11:31-11:54
<i>D lunch</i>	11:59-12:22
<i>E lunch</i>	12:27-12:50
<i>4th Period</i>	12:55-2:05