



Handbook 2017-2018

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Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to the Foothill High School Band family! This document is designed to assist you in understanding our philosophy and procedures.

The Foothill High School Band is an organization comprised of the most talented students in the school who wish to enrich their lives through the education and enjoyment of music. Members of the Falcon Band program will have the opportunity to perform at athletic events, parades, contests, festivals, concerts, and other events in and around our community. The students will also travel to perform at clinics, competitions, and concert tours outside of our great state.

The Band program at Foothill consists of ten performing ensembles: The Falcon Marching Band, Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Concert Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Lab Band, Percussion Ensemble, JV Winter Guard and Varsity Winter Guard.

The Foothill Band program thrives on dedication and teamwork from all of its members. We are anxious to see what great things we can accomplish and the lives that we will surely touch with our talent and commitment to excellence.

I am proud to welcome you to the band that will set the standard.

Most Sincerely,

Travis Pardee
Arts Department Chair
Director of Bands
Foothill High School

MISSION STATEMENT

The Foothill High School Bands are dedicated to the mission of continuous improvement, culminating in a significant musical experience for ourselves and our audiences. With patience, courage, and devotion, we will develop in each of our members the ideas of leadership, personal responsibility, pride, respect, and honesty so that we may be a model for our school and community.

SHARED OBJECTIVES OF PERFORMANCE CLASSES

To provide each band member with a workable knowledge of music, so s/he may enjoy, understand, and participate in the aesthetic experience relayed through music making.

To help the student understand the nature of community through ensemble experience.

To provide a rewarding performance and learning experience for all interested and qualified students.

To provide the highest degree of music performance at school or community functions and special events.

To represent the school in events outside the community.

To continually broaden the musical tastes of the students and the community through the performance of fine wind and jazz band literature.

To promote school spirit.

BAND LAWS

- 1. Respect.*
- 2. Listen.*
- 3. Thou shall not chew gum.*
- 4. Thou shall not eat or drink in the Band Room.*
- 5. Thou shall not wear hats or sunglasses indoors.*
- 6. Thou shall not have public displays of affection.*
- 7. Thou shall not hack.*
- 8. To be early is to be on time. To be on time is to be late. To be late is UNACCEPTABLE.*

PERFORMING ENSEMBLES/COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Intermediate Band/Advanced Band (1st Period)

Students enrolled in band at Foothill High School have the opportunity to perform with one of our four concert ensembles: Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, or the Concert Ensemble. These ensembles meet during First Period (7:00am) daily. These groups are conducted by Travis Pardee, Phillip Haines, Adam Steff, and Dean Snively, and perform concerts in Foothill's Augspurger Theatre, the CCSD Concert Band Festivals, and other special events and concert tours. Freshman and Sophomore musicians are registered for Intermediate Band while Junior and Senior musicians are registered for Advanced Band. Students are placed after live performance auditions of the CCSD Honor Band Etudes. Etudes are released in October and auditions generally take place just before Thanksgiving Break. Male students are required to own a black tuxedo and female students are required to purchase an approved black concert dress. These items are purchased through the Foothill Band Office in October.

Jazz Ensembles (2nd Period)

Jazz Ensembles are open to any member of the Foothill Band, Orchestra, or Choir. These ensembles meet daily during Second Period (8:00am) and are instructed by Travis Pardee and Dean Snively. There is no formal audition, although students must be approved by Mr. Pardee or Mr. Snively. Foothill's Jazz Ensembles typically include The Falcon Jazz Ensemble (Advanced), the Falcon Lab Band (Intermediate), and various Rock, Funk, Fusion, and Jazz Combos (All Levels).

Color Guard (Rhythmic Precision 6th Period & Marching Band 7th Period)

This year long course is designed to promote dance training for an intermediate/advanced level student. The student will perform with the Band during football games and Marching Band competitions. After Marching Season, students are placed in one of two Winder Guards. Students must audition for this course and must be concurrently enrolled in Marching Band. This course fulfills the P.E. II requirement.

Marching Band (7th Period)

The Marching Band performs at all home football games, special events, and numerous competitions and parades throughout the year. This ensemble meets daily during First Period (6:55am) and also rehearses most Tuesday evenings from 5:30pm-8:30pm throughout marching/football season. Percussionists and Color Guard members generally rehearse on Wednesday evenings in addition to the Tuesday rehearsals. Additionally, the marching band rehearses for several weeks prior to the start of school in August. Marching Band auditions take place in August prior to the start of school. Brass, woodwind, and color guard students receive a credit for Marching Band while percussionists receive a credit for Percussion Ensemble. Both Marching Band and Percussion Ensemble are substitutes for Physical Education II.

Percussion Ensemble (I/II)

This one-year course is designed for students who play percussion instruments in the marching band and the Indoor Drum line. This course will fulfill one humanities elective credit toward high school graduation and will receive a waiver for Physical Education II credit. Percussion Ensemble II students must be concurrently enrolled in either Intermediate Band or Advanced Band. Percussion Ensemble meets with the Marching Band on Tuesday evenings from 5:30-8:30pm and Wednesday afternoons from 2:00pm-5:30pm in the Fall Semester. (Spring rehearsal schedules will be announced in October.) Percussion students will be expected to arrive to rehearsal 15 min before call time (not earlier). Rehearsals are expected to start on time. Rehearsals end at the stated time. It should take approx. 10-15 min for students to put away percussion instruments. If all students work together we can accomplish this. Parents please expect to pick up your student 10-15 min after rehearsal ends. It is unfair for students to leave others to put away instruments for them. We encourage everyone to work together as a team to set up and tear down equipment. Please be supportive as we try to use this as an opportunity to teach responsibility skills.

REHEARSAL/PERFORMANCE POLICIES

All Marching Band members will rehearse at 6:55AM, Monday-Friday during marching season as well as 5:30PM to 8:30PM on Tuesday evenings. Percussionists and Color Guard members have an additional rehearsal on Wednesday evenings and Woodwinds and Brass have a Thursday afternoon rehearsal. See www.fhsbands.com for specific dates and times.

Our rehearsal time is limited. Performances without all members present fall short of their full potential. Therefore, all band students have an obligation to their fellow students to attend and to be on time, to be prepared, and to bring all necessary equipment to each rehearsal or performance. Absences to the band class period will be deemed excused or unexcused based on the school attendance officer's determination. The following guidelines will be used to govern absences to out-of-school rehearsals and all performances:

All band students must know and abide by the school attendance policies. Attendance is required at all rehearsals, director-scheduled sectionals, and performances. Absences and tardiness will be excused, assuming proper notification, in the following cases:

- Medical emergency, personal injury, personal severe illness (follow up with doctor's note when applicable)
- Death in the family
- Unavoidable doctor appointment conflicts (follow up with doctor's note)
- Family weddings (see notification policies)

Examples of unexcused absences and tardiness include but are not limited to:

- Work
- Over-sleeping
- Transportation not arranged
- Scheduling conflicts with other activities or events
- Anything deemed unexcused by school policy
- Absences that are unreported according to band guidelines

Notification of Absence

For known absences (weddings, doctor appointments, etc.), parents must email Lisa Austin (ljaustin@interact.ccsd.net), Director of Operations, at least one week prior to a rehearsal/event absence or two weeks prior to an absence to a scheduled performance for it to be considered excused. A follow-up doctor's note is required within three school days of the absence when applicable.

For unplanned, emergency absences (personal illness, death in the family, etc), parents will need to email Mrs. Austin within 3 days after the student's return. Unexcused absences and tardiness may result in, but are not limited to:

- Grade deduction
- Loss of performance status
- Expulsion from the band program – no fee refund will be given

REHEARSAL/PERFORMANCE POLICIES CONTINUED

Late Arrival/Early Departure

Any unexcused late arrival or early departure will result in loss of Rehearsal Progress Points. Multiple tardies or early departures can result in loss of performance status. A late arrival/early departure of 30 minutes or more will count as an absence.

Unexcused Absences

Students will receive "0" points in the Rehearsal Progress category. Three (3) unexcused absences from rehearsals will result in the student being placed on "probationary" status. Students that are on probation will not be allowed to perform but are still required to attend rehearsals, performances, etc.

Performance Assessments and Evaluations

Band members will be responsible for weekly performance assessments. These may include marching, movement, or playing evaluations. If students fail to pass these assessments, they may be placed on "probationary" status until they are able to achieve the required repertoire.

Probation

Students placed on probation are still required to attend class, attend all functions, and are graded in the same manner as everyone else. However, a probationary student does not have a permanently assigned spot in the competition show. Students on probation will have specific functions in the class and are required to participate in all practices and performances. Probationary students can be reinstated based on a review from the Foothill Band Staff.

Special Considerations

Parents and students must be aware and acknowledge the importance of attendance to the performance and morale of the band. As such, any absence (excused or unexcused) may affect a student's performance standing in the ensemble and eligibility to perform at a given performance or competition.

FOOTHILL PERFORMING ARTS GRADING POLICIES

Performances: (40%)

FHS Music Performance classes are performance based. 50% of the course grade is based on participating in competition, festival, and concert performances. If a student cannot attend a scheduled performance, a parent must contact the director and indicate the reason. Students may be excused pending director approval.

Progress: (30%)

Rehearsal Progress: 5 Points per hour

Each student will receive points based on their preparation and participation in daily ensemble rehearsals. A single point will be given for their attendance in rehearsal. Following that, the instructor may deduct point(s) for any situation that lowers the ensemble member's ability to participate fully in the rehearsal. Situations may include, but are not limited to: Forgetting an instrument, pencil, music or tuner. Students will also lose points for disrespectful rehearsal behavior, distracting other students from appropriately participating in rehearsal, and/or inappropriate comments or behaviors that disrupt the rehearsal environment. Students will receive zero participation points for absences, including excused absences.

Assessments: (20%)

Tests and quizzes are tools to assess progress toward the end goal of performance. These marks are benchmark indicators of where a student is at that particular moment in developing a particular skill.

Homework: (10%)

Homework in Performing Arts classes may come in the form of written assignments, playing assignments, or even listening assignments.

Late Work Policy:

Here at Foothill High School, we hold all students to the same high standards. We believe student success will be maximized by consistent daily practice and meeting required deadlines. Therefore, it is the expectation that all students will turn in all assignments on or before the due date. No late work will be accepted for credit. Understanding that emergencies arise, students will be allowed one late class work or homework assignment per semester, per class to be turned in one day late for full credit. All tests, projects, and essays are excluded from the one day grace period and must be turned in on or before the due date.

Grading Scale

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = 59% & below

Quarter Grades are determined as follows:

Performance = 40%

Progress = 40%

Assessments = 20%

Semester Grades will be determined as followed:

Quarter 1/2 = 40%

Quarter 3/4 = 40%

Semester Exam = 20%

Foothill Citizenship Grade Criteria:

Students will receive a citizenship grade at the end of every quarter. The teacher will determine this grade after having referred to the Foothill High School Citizenship Rubric below.

O: OUTSTANDING

Always demonstrates respect for self and others

Always on time

Always brings required materials to school

Always engages in learning

Always follows classroom expectations and routines

S: SATISFACTORY

Usually demonstrates respect for self and others

Usually on time

Usually brings required materials to school

Usually engages in learning

Usually follows classroom expectations and routines

N: NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

Occasionally demonstrates respect for self and others

Occasionally on time

Occasionally brings required materials to school

Occasionally engages in learning

Occasionally follows classroom expectations and routines

U: UNSATISFACTORY

Rarely demonstrates respect for self and others

Rarely on time

Rarely brings required materials to school

Rarely engages in learning

Rarely follows classroom expectations and routines

FEES AND PURCHASES

UNIFORMS AND CONCERT APPAREL

Falcon Band Members will be responsible for several uniforms throughout the year. One uniform will be worn during warmer weather and more casual performances such as pep rallies and basketball games. The formal Marching Band Uniform will be worn during most football games and all competitions. These uniforms are explained below.

Casual Uniform:

- Shirt – Ash Foothill Band T-Shirt (\$10)
- Pants – Navy Blue Micro-Fiber Warm Up Pants (\$30)
- Shoes – Drill Master Marching Shoes (\$30)
- Socks – Long , black socks

***Formal Marching Uniform:**

Students are issued a marching uniform that is to be worn at select football games, competitions, and other specific events. The formal Marching Uniform includes the following.

- **Jacket, bib pants, shako, gauntlets, uniform bag , hanger**
- Shoes (Black “Drill Master” - \$30 – purchased in the band office in August)
- Navy Blue T-Shirt - \$5
- Gloves (\$5)
- Plain black socks (Length must be at least mid-calf. Purchase on your own.)

**Above items in bold print must be returned to the school at the end of the year. Any student who loses, damages, or fails to return any part of the uniform will be billed for the item.*

Concert Uniform

Men: We will have a tuxedo company come to Foothill to size our men for their tuxedos for concerts and festival appearances. This should be a one-time expense for our men and the look will enhance our professionalism. Cost is typically around \$160. Shoes must be black tuxedo shoes. Absolutely no other shoes will be allowed.

Women: The women are required to own a formal black long dress. These will be purchased through the band office. We will have a variety of styles to choose from and the cost is typically \$85. Shoes must be black dress shoes and be purchased on your own.

FUNDRAISING

Successful bands require a budget far beyond what is provided by the school district. We strive to provide the very best instruments, music, staff, and instructional equipment possible for our students. Therefore, we ask for your cooperation in our fundraisers. During the summer we sell fireworks and at the beginning of the school year we typically have a variety of fundraising options. Individual student accounts are set up in the Band Office. Often students are able to pay all of their course fees and travel expenses entirely through fundraising efforts.

LOCKERS

Lockers in the Band room are for instrument storage only. You will want to store everything else in your school locker. Lockers are the property of Foothill High School and may be searched at any time without prior consent of the students. Locks other than the issued lock will be removed without notice. It is recommended that families insure all privately owned instruments on homeowner policies. This is an inexpensive, yet worthwhile investment as Foothill High School cannot be responsible for theft or damage to your property.

INSTRUMENTS and ACCESSORIES

Students who intend to use a school instrument will bring home a rental contract during Pre-Season Marching Orientation. There is no rental fee for school instruments. **However, students are required to pay for the annual cleaning of the instrument (\$50). Students are also responsible to pay for any damage incurred while in the student's possession including loss or theft.** A limited number of instruments are available. Signing the instrument rental contract and this handbook contract doubly verifies that you understand these policies.

Flutes – Yamaha, Gemeinhardt, Emerson, and Powell are preferred brands. Accessories should include a cleaning rag, tuning rod, metronome, and a digital tuner.

Oboe and Bassoon – Yamaha, Selmer, and Fox are preferred brands. Accessories should include cane reeds, cleaning rag, key oil, metronome, and a digital tuner.

Clarinets – Buffet, Leblanc, Selmer, and Yamaha are preferred brands. Accessories should include a Vandoren 5RV mouthpiece, a minimum of 4 good reeds (Vandoren) at all times (rotated daily they will last longer and save money), metal or plastic reed clip that holds 4 reeds, cleaning swab (used after each playing period), mouthpiece cover, cork grease, metronome, and a digital tuner.

Saxophones – Yamaha, Selmer, and Yanagisawa are preferred brands. Accessories should include a Selmer C* or Larry Teal mouthpiece, a minimum of 4 good reeds (Vandoren) at all times (rotated daily they will last longer and save money), metal or plastic reed clip that holds 4 reeds, cleaning swab (used after each playing period), mouthpiece cover, cork grease, neck straps, metronome, and a tuner.

Brass – Yamaha, Bach, Holton, and Conn Selmer Brands are preferred. Accessories should include a Bach mouthpiece, valve oil, slide grease, mouthpiece brush, cleaning snake, soft cleaning rag, mutes, metronome, and a digital tuner.

Percussion Student Requirements

Foothill Percussionists should have the following items:

- Practice Pad
- 3 Ring Binder & Sheet Protectors for music

Sticks and mallets are supplied by the school for use in the ensembles. These items are offset by the \$50 instrument maintenance/instrument cleaning fee for using school owned instruments, **HOWEVER**, it is Highly recommended that a serious percussionist have their own:

- Stick/Mallet Bag
- Concert Sticks
- Marimba Mallets

All students should have a **music stand** and an open place to practice at home. Propping music on a case or chair promotes poor posture and will impede progress. Other highly recommended equipment includes a **metronome** and a small **digital tuner**. These devices are inexpensive and can be purchased at most of our local music stores.

LETTERING IN BAND

Membership in the Falcon Band requires self-discipline, hard work, sacrifice, loyalty, dedication, responsibility, and above all, interest and desire. Foothill High School Bands have a fine tradition of quality performance combined with a comprehensive musical education. This demands interest and involvement on your part. Be proud of your band, and make the band proud of you as a member.

Students participating in the band program at Foothill will have the opportunity during the year to earn points toward a Foothill High School Varsity Letter. Points will be awarded to students for band activities including private lessons, solo/ensemble participation and other activities as designated by the band director.

The required point total for a member to earn a Varsity Letter in Band is 50 points.

<u>Activity/Event</u>	<u>Points possible</u>
Pre-Season Marching Attendance	1 (per day)
Student Leader	15
Fund Raising	5 (each)
Pep Band Participation	3 (per game)
Jazz Ensemble Member	20 (per semester)
Percussion Ensemble Member	20 (per semester)
Color Guard Member	20 (per semester)
District Honor Band Audition	5
District Honor Band Participant	10
District Jazz Ensemble Audition	5
District Jazz Ensemble Participant	10
All-State Audition	5
All-State Participant	25
District Solo/Ensemble Participant	5
State Solo/Ensemble Participant	10
Orchestra Member (FHS/LVYO/LVYWO)	10
Choir Member	10
Private Lessons	1 (each lesson)
Approved Concert Attendance	1 (each)
Summer Music Programs/Camps	1 (per day)

FOOTBALL GAME PROCEDURES

1. Home games are at Foothill Falcon stadium.
2. Games will begin at 6:00 or 7:00pm with the Band assembly at 4:00 or 5:00pm.
3. Section Leaders will report to the Band Room at 4:45pm and stay shortly after the game to assist in the handling of equipment.
4. Percussion and brass students should arrive by 4:45pm for instrument cleaning.
5. Students should arrive in bib pants and Navy blue t-shirt, black marching shoes and black socks. The jacket should be brought on the hanger in the garment bag.
6. No Band member is permitted to leave the organization in advance of group dismissal at any time, unless excused by the director.
7. While seated in the stands, only current Band members are allowed in the ranks.
8. While seated in the stands, students will sit in their respective sections.
9. Solo performance or “hacking” is strictly prohibited
10. No food is allowed in the stands.
11. Attention must always be given to Squad Leaders, Drum Majors, and Staff. You are encouraged to have fun and cheer at games but always be aware of the chain of command and discipline associated with the FHS Band. Never find yourself in a position that would cause you to miss a command or instruction.

Uniform/Instrument Inspections

All band members must conform to the following guidelines:

1. Your instrument is clean inside and out and in good working order.
2. You have long black socks.
3. Your hair is off the collar. Students with hair longer than shoulder length should put their hair up in a bun, ponytail, or braided.
4. No jewelry is permitted while in uniform.
5. Natural tone makeup is acceptable for the ladies, but colors not natural to the color of the face will not be accepted.
6. Only natural hair colors are accepted.
7. Do not take off any part of the uniform unless instructed to do so.

Always conduct yourself in a manner becoming of the Foothill High School Band. Remember-When you are in uniform, you represent your band, school, parents, community and yourself. No inappropriate behavior or public displays of affection while in uniform.

BAND TRAVELING PROCEDURES

1. Alcohol consumption and or use of non-prescription drugs will not be tolerated and will result in immediate dismissal from band and potential expulsion from school.
2. Any form of tobacco use is strictly prohibited.
3. Band members are not allowed in any room other than their own after hours. No unauthorized persons will be permitted to visit.
4. No members of the opposite sex are allowed in hotel rooms.
5. Students are expected to behave at all times in the hotel. You are representing Foothill High School and Henderson, Nevada. Anyone deemed guilty of misbehavior will be dealt with by the director.
6. All students are expected to participate in all activities.
7. **ABSOLUTELY NO HAZING OR INITIATION IN ANY FORM WILL BE TOLERATED.**
8. Parents and students will be held responsible for paying any property damages including lost key charges.
9. Shirts and shoes are to be worn at all times unless swimming, bathing, or sleeping.
10. Rooms are to be locked at all times.
11. There will be no breaking in line in restaurants and cafeterias.
12. Swimsuits are only to be worn at appropriate times, such as going to the pool. There is no wearing of hair rollers or sunglasses in any building.
13. No food, glasses, or dishes are to be taken from any dining facility.
14. No one shall play instruments in the hotel rooms.
15. All school rules will be strictly enforced. .
16. All students should realize that for the duration of the trip, any personal desires, uniqueness of character, or other individualities must be considered secondary to the traits that facilitate large group control and management.
17. Under no circumstances will any student be permitted to leave the motel, performance area, park, etc. except with the entire group or with an assigned chaperone.
18. Profanity is not a part of the Falcon Band Program. Make sure that your language is never offensive while with the band.

REMEMBER: Young adults do not roughhouse or damage property. As FHS Band members, you reflect not only the values you learn at FHS, but those of your community.

BAND MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO BE AT THE RIGHT PLACE, AT THE RIGHT TIME, WITH THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT, READY TO GO!

The band director reserves the right to dismiss and send home at the parents' expense, any student who disobeys the rules and whose general conduct and attitude towards the trip and its participants is determined to be detrimental to the rest of the group.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

Any student found to be in violation of the school substance possession/use policy will be referred to the dean and subject to strict disciplinary action. Students will be removed from the program for no less than the semester in which the infraction occurred, and after a thorough investigation, could be subject to permanent removal from the program and/or subject to legal action. "Substances" include, but are not limited to alcohol, drugs, and tobacco.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

All students are expected to do their own work.

Relying on unauthorized sources for answers on exams, quizzes, or other class projects is cheating. You will receive a -0- grade for that exam, quiz, or project. You may also be subject to further disciplinary action.

Copying the work of others and attempting to pass it off as your own is plagiarism. You will receive a -0- grade for that assignment. You may also be subject to further disciplinary action.

Students and parents must complete the "Academic Dishonesty" policy notification at the beginning of the school year.

If you aren't sure, ask your teacher before you do it.

GENERAL RULES

All rules and policies in the Foothill High School Student Handbook apply to every activity of every Foothill Band, whether during, before or after the school day and on or off campus. Personal responsibility and accountability for one's actions is a life skill that is paramount to the success of our program. We have a great deal of respect for every member of this organization and for the value of music. We will not tolerate any one person attempting to diminish this respect by behaving in an unprofessional manner, which would be inconsistent with the goals of this organization.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Many of us use Social Media outlets such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.

Your citizenship and behavior extends into these areas as well. The following will not be tolerated and can result in removal from the Band program:

- Inappropriate photos (PDA, red solo cups, alcohol, tobacco or drug use, perception that you or others are intoxicated, provocative attire)
- Inappropriate language—this includes the use of acronyms (wtf, lmao, gtfo...)
- Trash talking—of others, of the school, or of any other program
- Reposting and/or Liking any of the above items

You are what you Tweet!

