

New Bremen High School Band Handbook



New Bremen High School Bands
2013-2014
Ryan M. Yahl, Director
Images Courtesy of
Greg Garman and Tom Pfening

2014-2015 Academic Year

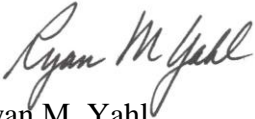
Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the New Bremen High School Band Program. I am very much looking forward to this year, as I am sure you are too. I am excited to continue working with the bands at New Bremen, and raising the bar in musical excellence.

In this handbook you will find information about the bands at New Bremen High School, as well as rules and guidelines, grading policies, classroom and performance expectations, and a calendar of events for the year. Please mark all of the dates in your calendars so that you can come and support your child in their musical endeavors. Parents, please read through this handbook with your child, and sign the last page acknowledging that both you and your child understand the expectations and responsibilities of the New Bremen High School Band Program.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me by telephone at (419) 629-8606 ext. 135, or by email at ryan.yahl@newbremenschools.org. With our parents' cooperation, and our students' hard work, I expect this to be another great year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ryan M. Yahl".

Ryan M. Yahl
Director of Bands
New Bremen Local School District

Statement of Purpose

The New Bremen community has made available substantial support in order that the children and young adults within their community can partake in and appreciate music and music performance.

To that end, the New Bremen Band Program seeks to educate students in music theory, technique, performance strategies and etiquette, knowledge and comprehension of the role of music in society, esprit de corps, and other areas of music education with the intention of providing each participant the skills and desire to enjoy music as an integral part of their life now and in the future.

Enrollment

Once a student is enrolled in band, he or she is a member for the duration of the school year. Band is a traditional class, not an extracurricular activity. Students will receive grades and are expected to adhere to all policies established by New Bremen Local Schools and this Band Handbook. Attendance in class and for performances is required.

Band Materials and Requirements

All students should bring with them to class:

- A complete, fully functioning instrument with a case.
- A folder with music.
- A pencil. (It is best to keep one in your folder.)

The following materials are specific to instrument:

Flute: Cleaning swab and rod.

Clarinet: Cleaning swab, cork grease, and a reed case.
At least 3 working reeds at all times.
Reeds should be at least #2 1/2 in strength. As a player matures, 3 or 3 1/2
strength reeds should be purchased.

Saxophone: Cleaning swab, cork grease, and a reed case.
At least 3 working reeds at all times.
Reeds should be at least #2 1/2 in strength. As a player matures, 3 or 3 1/2
strength reeds should be purchased.

Horns: Valve oil, mouthpiece brush, and cleaning snake.

Trumpets: Valve oil, mouthpiece brush, and cleaning snake. Straight mutes may be
required depending on the repertoire, but do not buy one unless advised by the
director. Advance notice for mutes will be given.

- Trombone: Slide lubricant, cleaning snake, and mouthpiece brush.
- Euphonium: Valve oil, mouthpiece brush, and cleaning snake.
- Tuba: Valve oil, mouthpiece brush, and cleaning snake.
- Percussion: Bell mallets and snare drum sticks are required. Additional sticks may be required depending on the repertoire. As percussionists mature, they should continue to collect various types of sticks and mallets. The following equipment may be of interest along the course of study:
- A stick bag
 - Vic Firth SD 1 Drum Sticks
 - 1 pair of plastic mallets for bells/xylophone
 - 1 pair of yarn-wrapped mallets for marimba/vibraphone/suspended cymbal
 - 1 pair of Black Swamp Medium (Green) timpani mallets
 - 1 pair of wire brushes for drum set or jazz/swing style music

Some accessories such as reeds, valve oil, and cleaning supplies may be purchased through the band office. If you are in need of supplies, please see the band treasurer before or after class, or feel free to visit one of the reputable music stores in the area.

School Owned Instruments

It is a privilege to be able to play a school owned instrument. Every student that rents a school owned instrument will be assessed a fee at the beginning of the school year. The fee shall be paid by check, cashier's check, or money order only to the New Bremen Local Schools. The fees collected are used for regular maintenance and care of the school owned instruments. Abuse of a school owned instrument will most likely result in revocation of the right to use school instruments, referral to school administration for disciplinary action and repayment of cost for repair of the instrument. This applies to percussion equipment as well.

At no point should you attempt to repair a school owned instrument on your own. If the instrument is not functioning, you should notify a director as soon as possible. If you own your own instrument, it is advised that you do NOT attempt to repair it yourself. Instruments can be sent into Rettig Music for repair.

Classroom Rules

Failure to comply with any of these guidelines may result in a warning, detention, call home, being sent to the principal for further discipline, or even removal from band. ***In addition to the following policies, all school policies are to be followed.***

1. Respect others. Keep hands, feet, and comments to yourself.
2. Throwing of any objects will not be tolerated.
3. **Be on time to class.**
4. Be prepared for class with all required materials.

5. Do not talk during class.
6. Raise your hand if you have a question.
7. Do not bring any food or drink to class, including gum.
8. Mistreatment of instruments will not be tolerated. If damages are caused due to mistreatment, the student who caused the damage must pay the cost of repair.
9. Do not allow other students to play your instrument.
10. No blasting of instruments. Careful warm-up before class begins is encouraged.
11. Help keep the band room clean. After rehearsals, help pick-up any trash that may have ended up on the floor or stands.

Performance Policies

Failure to comply with any of these guidelines may result in a warning, detention, call home, being sent to the principal for further discipline, or even removal from band. *All New Bremen High School policies and classroom policies apply to performances as well.*

1. To be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late. Be prepared BEFORE the meeting time. That includes having your instrument, all your music, and knowing when to meet.
2. Make sure to wear the proper concert attire.
3. Be respectful of other ensembles. This includes listening to them perform, not talking while they perform, clapping for them when they are finished, and treating them the way you would like to be treated.
4. Please listen to any director or chaperone's instructions.
5. When we are at performances, remember that you are part of a whole. Anything said or done by you reflects upon both the New Bremen Band Program and New Bremen Schools. Please have pride in your program and be a great representative of your school.

Travel Policies

Failure to comply with any of these guidelines may result in a warning, detention, call home, being sent to the principal for further discipline, or even removal from band. *All New Bremen bus riding policies and school handbook policies apply as well.*

1. All band members must travel to and from activities on transportation provided by the school.
2. Only band members, staff, and chaperones are permitted to ride school buses.
3. If a parent wishes to have their child ride home with them after a performance, then the parent must present a signed note to the director in advance and must personally meet with the director upon leaving with their child.
4. Be courteous to drivers and chaperones. They are in charge and you are to follow their directions.
5. Remain seated at all times. Keep heads, hands, and arms inside the bus.
6. Food, drink, gum, candy is not allowed on the bus except by permission of the bus driver. Students will dispose of any wrappers or containers from food appropriately.
7. No screaming, whistles, or other loud noises.
8. No playing of instruments is allowed on the bus.
9. Upon arrival, you are to remain seated until further directions are given.

10. You are responsible for your equipment, including loading it and unloading it, for the duration of any trip.
11. Arrange for transportation home from any scheduled pick so that your ride is waiting for you, when you return from a trip.

Bleacher Policies

1. Students will sit in like sections, or as specified by the director(s).
2. No eating or drinking except for booster provided water is allowed in the stands.
3. Absolutely no non-band members may sit within the band section.
4. Each member is responsible for their own equipment/instrument.
5. Students are released during third quarter, but be back in their assigned seat before there is 1:30 remaining on the game clock. Release time is a privilege and may be revoked at any time.
6. In any other quarter but the third quarter, students will only be allowed to leave in the event of an emergency, in partners, at the discretion of the director(s) or staff of the marching band.

Attendance Policy

Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory. Absences may be excused for the following reasons:

1. Religious holidays
2. Death in the immediate family
3. Weddings in which you are a member of the immediate family or wedding party
4. Illness (within guidelines set by the school)
5. Vacations during the summer, except for the week of band camp.

Except for in the event of a non-planned event such as illness or a funeral, all absences must be cleared with the director(s) in writing in advance, with the exception of excused school absences. A note on file is required for regular schedule conflicts, such as with sport practices.

No credit will be given for any unexcused absence from a rehearsal or performance outside the school day. Two or more unexcused absences will most likely result in referral to school administration for disciplinary action, and may result in dismissal from the band program.

The New Bremen Bands will accommodate any conflicts with sports or other school activities when it is possible to do so, however students are expected to meet or exceed all expectations for both organizations or teams for which they are a member. Any conflicts must be addressed with both groups well in advance of the conflict.

Students will not be given credit for excused absences for events outside of the school day, but the missed performance or rehearsal will not be calculated in the student's grade.

Participation in all regularly scheduled after school rehearsals is mandatory.

It is the band member's responsibility to schedule any and all part time work around band rehearsals and performances. Any conflicts that arise may only be excused at the discretion of the director(s).

Grading Policy

Daily Points – Ten points can be earned every day. Three (3) points are earned by being prepared for class, and seven (7) can be earned for effort, participation, positive attitude, improvement, and good behavior in class.

Performance Points – Performances are worth 100 points. Students will be graded on performance attendance and behavior. Attendance is MANDATORY; therefore an unexcused absence from a performance may result in the dropping of a letter grade or more. If a student is unable to attend a performance, a written note (signed by a parent/guardian) must be submitted to the band director as soon as the conflict is known. Last minute excuses that are non-emergency in nature may be considered unexcused. Excused absences include the following: sickness and/or injury, family approved vacation, death in the family, and any other reasons deemed acceptable by the director. Behavior at performances will also be a portion of this grade. Proper performance behavior includes being on time, prepared, listening to other performing ensembles, and following directions.

Tests – Playing tests are given during the transition from marching band to concert band, or at the discretion of the director(s). Playing tests will be given to ensure good practice habits and to give students short-term playing goals in between performances.

Written tests will be given at the end of each semester or at the discretion of the director(s). Written tests are given to reinforce musical terms and ideas that have been emphasized in class.

Miscellaneous

Summer Activities - Band camp is required for all high school band members. See the included calendar for dates. The individual schedule and routines of band camp will be handed out separately. Marching band camp fees pay for the additional staff required to provide the best experience for all students.

Percussionists and color guard members must attend guard/percussion camp.

Summer rehearsals are mandatory, except for specific mitigating circumstances. If you are unable to attend any rehearsal, you must discuss this well in advance with the director(s). Post band camp rehearsals are also mandatory, and can be found on the included schedule.

Performance Attire - There are four different uniforms for the New Bremen band member.

1. Regular Marching Band Uniform

Consists of a white/black coat, black pants, hat, plume, black socks, black shoes, white gloves, white cuffs, imprinted New Bremen Band shirt worn under uniform

(Field Commanders require white pants, white socks, white shoes) **Jewelry is not permitted while in uniform.**

2. Summer Uniform

Provided by student, consisting of black shorts, band t-shirt, white ankle socks, white tennis shoes. **Jewelry is not permitted while in uniform.**

3. Rain Uniform

In the event of rain at a marching band performance, the decision may come to wear the rain uniform. This consists of a red marching band jacket, black hat, jeans, and marching band shoes. The red jacket and black hat are available for purchase from Ernst Sporting Goods. **Jewelry is not permitted while in uniform.**

4. Formal Concert Uniform

Men – Tuxedo (Black jacket and pants), white shirt, cummerbund, black socks, black dress shoes, black studs and cuff links, and black bow tie.

Women – Black dress and black dress shoes, and provided necklace and earrings.

5. Casual Concert Uniform

Men – Button-up dress shirt with a collar, dress pants, dress shoes, tie.

Women – Dress, or blouse with skirt or dress pants. Blouses must cover shoulders, and dresses, skirts, or pants **must be at or below knee length.**

NO TENNIS SHOES, FLIP-FLOPS, SANDALS, or OPEN TOE SHOES.

Modest jewelry is permitted.

All uniforms shall be worn properly at all times during a performance or rehearsal or as instructed by the director(s). At no point should any band member appear in public with uniform partially on or in disarray. Shoes should be polished for each performance. Hats should either be safely in the provided hat carrier, or on your head.

Students will be issued uniform parts, which have identifying numbers attached to them. Should the number returned by the student on any uniform part not match the number that was issued to the student at the beginning of the season, the student will pay the entire fee of replacing misplaced or damaged uniform parts.

Marching Band Uniform Care

1. Students should take extreme care to ensure that the uniform(s) are neat and clean.
2. Brush uniform regularly to remove surface dirt
3. Uniforms must be aired out until completely dry after each performance.
4. If uniforms are wet, they must be kept away from heat or direct sunlight while drying
5. When not in use, hang coat and trousers on the plastic hangers provided. Trousers should be folded properly and neatly on the hanger.
6. Food and drink should be kept to a minimum while in uniform to avoid stains. Students may drink water as needed.
7. Any issues with the fit, care or repair of the uniform should be addressed with the uniform committee promptly.
8. The student is responsible to have your uniform cleaned If any stains, mud or other soiling occurs between regularly scheduled cleanings.
9. Uniforms are not machine washable – they must be dry cleaned. Contact the uniform committee with concerns or questions.

10. Excessive perspiration or perspiration stains are not removed by dry cleaning. Problem areas should be noted to the dry cleaner or uniform committee member before each cleaning.
11. Hats should be cared for properly

Color guard members should follow all guidelines for care listed above.

Part assignments - Part assignments are at the discretion of the director, in all cases, for all instruments and all ensembles.

Leadership and chairing - Section leaders will be appointed by the director(s). Students may be asked to participate in an interview process in order to provide directors with the knowledge to make an informed decision. Section leaders and field commanders are at will positions, and may be replaced at any time, with just cause.

The positions of field commander and section leader are considered leadership positions. The appointment of these positions may or may not reflect musical ability. Many characteristics are taken into consideration, including but not limited to charisma, dedication, attendance and cooperation.

Concert Band seating will be by audition after the last marching band performance. These auditions are based on musical ability primarily and will be used to determine seating and part assignments. All auditions will consist of a sight reading excerpt, scales and short prepared musical selection.

Fees – The following fees are assessed by the New Bremen Band Program. Fees may be paid at the high school office.

Participation fees:

Full Year Band:	\$30.00
Partial Year Band Fall	\$20.00
Partial Year Band Spring	\$20.00

Instrument Rental:

Marching and Concert	\$40.00
Marching Band Only	\$25.00
Concert Band Only	\$25.00

Instrument fees are used to pay for any repairs due to normal wear and tear.

The following fees are assessed by the New Bremen Music Boosters.

Marching Band Camp Fee	\$45.00
Summer Uniform	Exact cost of uniform
Marching Shoes	Exact cost of shoes
Marching Gloves	Exact cost of gloves

Fundraisers – The high school band and the New Bremen Cardinal Music Boosters hold fundraisers to raise money for the band and choir programs. The money raised from these fundraisers is used to buy new instruments and supplies for the program, buy awards for students, bring professional musicians to work with our students, and other needs of the program. Students are expected to participate in these fundraisers for the good of the program. More information regarding fundraisers will be given prior to the event.

Ohio Music Education Association High School Solo and Ensemble Adjudicated Event – All band students are required to either participate in the high school Solo and Ensemble Adjudicated Event, or complete a written research report. The purpose of this state sanctioned event is to promote and encourage students to improve musicianship through solo or ensemble performance. Students may choose to play a solo, play in an ensemble, or perform both a solo and participate in an ensemble. If a student is unable to make the scheduled date of the event based on an excused absence, then they will perform their solo/ensemble in another venue chosen by the director. Those students choosing to complete a report will be given a list of requirements as the solo and ensemble event nears. More information about Solo and Ensemble will be given as the event approaches.

Ohio Music Education Association District III Honors Band – The District III High School Honors Band allows advanced students to participate with other high caliber musicians outside the New Bremen Local School District. Students are nominated by their director, and then chosen based on live audition. More information about Honors Band will be given as the event approaches.

Ohio Music Education Association Marching Band Adjudicated Event – The high school marching band will participate at various marching band adjudicated events throughout the season. The purpose of these state sanctioned events is to provide ensembles with constructive comments to lead toward improvement. More information regarding these events will be given as they draw near.

Ohio Music Education Association Large Group Adjudicated Event – The high school concert band will participate at the OMEA District III Large Group Adjudicated Event, and potentially qualify for the State event. The purpose of this state sanctioned event is to provide our program with a constructive critique with which to continue improvement.

Pep-Band – The high school pep-band will play at all home high school Varsity Boys' basketball games. The band will play between the Junior Varsity and Varsity games, during appropriate time-outs, and half-time of the Varsity game. Students will be given a break during the third quarter of the Varsity game, but must return to their seats by 1:30 remaining on the clock. Students must play at a minimum 9 games. If for any reason you must miss a game, please submit a note to Mr. Yahl as soon as possible.

Awards – The following honors are awarded to New Bremen Band Members:

1. Outstanding Freshman Band Member
2. Outstanding Sophomore Band Member

3. Outstanding Junior Band Member
4. Outstanding Senior Band Member
5. Cardinal Marching Band Outstanding Marching Section
6. Cardinal Marching Band Outstanding Playing Section
7. Senior Recognition Plaque(s)
8. Quincy Jones Award
9. Patrick S. Gilmore Award
10. John Philip Sousa Award

New Bremen Local Schools Band Calendar 2014-2015

July	14	Leadership Retreat	9:00 – 12:00	
	15	Leadership Retreat	9:00 – 12:00	
	15	Rehearsal and Parent Meeting	6:00 – 9:00	
	16	Rehearsal	6:00 – 9:00	
	17	Rehearsal	6:00 – 9:00	
	21	Percussion Camp	9:00 – 12:00	
	21	Color Guard Camp		
	22	Percussion Camp	9:00 – 12:00	
	22	Color Guard Camp		
	22	Rehearsal	6:00 – 9:00	
	23	Percussion Camp	9:00 – 12:00	
	23	Color Guard Camp		
	23	Rehearsal	6:00 – 9:00	
	24	Percussion Camp	9:00 – 12:00	
	24	Color Guard Camp		
	24	Rehearsal	6:00 – 9:00	
	27	Auglaize County Fair Performance	12:00	
	29	Rehearsal	6:00 – 9:00	
	30	Rehearsal	6:00 – 9:00	
	31	Rehearsal	6:00 – 9:00	
	August	4	Band Camp	8:00 – 12:00, 5:00 – 9:00
5		Band Camp	8:00 – 12:00, 5:00 – 9:00	
6		Band Camp	8:00 – 12:00, 5:00 – 9:00	
7		Band Camp	8:00 – 12:00, 5:00 – 9:00	
8		Band Camp	8:00 – 12:00	
		Band BBQ to follow		
12		Rehearsal	6:00 – 9:00	
13		Rehearsal	6:00 – 9:00	
14		Rehearsal	6:00 – 9:00	
17		Bremenfest Parade	TBA	
18		Rehearsal	6:00 – 9:00	
19		Rehearsal and Preview Night	5:00	
20		First Day of School		
<p>With the beginning of the school year, band rehearses eighth period every day, and then after school Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday until 4:00.</p>				
	25	Cardinal Music Boosters Meeting	7:00	
	29	Football at Allen East	5:00 Report	
September	5	Football vs. Ft. Loramie (Homecoming)	5:00 Report	
	12	Football vs. Marion Local	5:00 Report	
	13	BGSU Stroh Show	TBA	

	19	Football at Versailles	5:00 Report
	26	Football vs. St. John's	5:00 Report
	29	Cardinal Music Boosters Meeting	7:00
October	3	Football at Ft. Recovery	5:00 Report
	4	31 st Annual Cardinal Marching Band Invitational – All Day	
	5	Minster Oktoberfest Parade	TBA
	10	Football vs. St. Henry	5:00 Report
	11	Versailles Marching Band Contest	TBA
	17	Football at Anna	5:00 Report
	18	Marion Local Marching Band Contest	TBA
	24	Football vs. Parkway (Senior Night)	5:00 Report
	25	Tecumseh Marching Band Contest	TBA
	27	Cardinal Music Boosters Meeting	7:00
	31	Football at Coldwater	5:00 Report
November	1	State Marching Band Finals	
	2	State Marching Band Finals	
	7	State Marching Band Finals	
	8	State Marching Band Finals	
	9	State Marching Band Finals	
	15	OMEA District III Honors Festival Auditions at Van Wert High School	TBA
	24	Cardinal Music Boosters Meeting	7:00
December	5	Basketball vs. Allen East	6:30 Report
	7	Basketball vs. Troy Christian	6:30 Report
	13	OMEA District III Honors Festival Rehearsal at Van Wert High School	1:30 – 4:30
	13	Basketball vs. St. Marys	6:30 Report
	14	High School Christmas Concert	3:00
	15	Middle School Christmas Concert	2:00, 7:30
	19	Basketball vs. Parkway	6:30 Report
January	2	Basketball vs. Fort Loramie	6:30 Report
	3	OMEA District III Honors Festival Rehearsal at Van Wert High School	9:00 – 3:00
	10	OMEA District III Honors Festival Rehearsal at Van Wert High School	9:00 – 3:00
	10	Basketball vs. Celina	6:30 Report
	11	OMEA District III Honors Festival Performance at Van Wert High School	3:00
	16	Basketball vs. Coldwater	6:30 Report
	17	OMEA District III High School Solo and Ensemble	
	24	Basketball vs. Wapakoneta	6:30 Report
	26	Cardinal Music Boosters Meeting	7:00

	30	Basketball vs. New Knoxville	6:30 Report
	31	Basketball vs. Jackson Center	6:30 Report
February	7	Basketball vs. Botkins	6:30 Report
	13	Basketball vs. Marion Local	6:30 Report
	17	High School Band Conservatory Night	6:00 – 8:00
	20/21	Tentative ASBDA Honors Band – Cleveland Area	
	22	High School Winter Concert	3:00
	23	Cardinal Music Boosters Meeting	7:00
	26	Middle School Winter Concert	7:30
	27	OMEA District III Junior High Honors Festival Rehearsal at Wapakoneta High School	6:00 – 9:00
	28	OMEA District III Junior High Honors Festival Rehearsal at Wapakoneta High School	10:00 – 1:30
	28	OMEA District III Junior High Honors Festival Performance at Wapakoneta High School	3:00
March	6	OMEA District III Large Group Adjudicated Event	
	7	OMEA District III Large Group Adjudicated Event	
	28	OMEA District III Junior High Solo and Ensemble	
	30	Cardinal Music Boosters Meeting	7:00
April	24	OMEA State Large Group Adjudicated Event	
	25	OMEA State Large Group Adjudicated Event	
	27	Cardinal Music Boosters Meeting	7:00
May	7	High School Music Banquet	6:30
	11	High School Spring Concert	7:30
	12	Middle School Spring Concert	2:00, 7:30
	18	Cardinal Music Boosters Meeting	7:00
	24	Graduation	TBA
	25	Memorial Day	TBA

Contract

Please make sure that you have taken the time to *thoroughly* and *completely* read this band handbook. Once you have signed this form, please return it by **Tuesday, July 22.**

I have thoroughly read this band handbook and understand the requirements. I will try my best to follow the guidelines, and will accept the consequences should I falter.

Student _____ Date _____

I have thoroughly read this band handbook and understand the requirements. I will encourage my student to practice regularly, and will try my best to help my student follow the guidelines. I will accept the consequences should he/she falter.

Parent _____ Date _____