

Foothill High School Instrumental Music Department

2017-2018 Syllabus



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ABOUT THE SYLLABUS

This handbook contains *plenty* of information...more than many of you want, I'm sure! ☺ Please note there are forms to sign in the back that need to be returned in one week (by Wed, August 23rd). Boosters and I would actually prefer that you come to our BBQ on Saturday the 19th, meet us, and turn in your forms then (flyer on back page on Syllabus). Thank you in advance for taking the time to go through this syllabus (don't forget to reference it online from time to time); it can answer many questions you may have as you go through the school year!

Cougar Band Students, Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to a new year...I hope everyone had a wonderful summer! For those of you new to the program, here is a bit about me and my family: I was born in San Jose and raised in Cottonwood. A year after graduating from Anderson High School in 1991 I met my future wife, Carmen. I soon followed her down to SoCal to attend Biola University in La Mirada. We were married in June of 1995.

After teaching music in Whittier, we made some big changes. In 2002 I began my first year at FHS, our daughter Isabelle was born, and I completed a Master's Degree in Music Ed from Southern Oregon University. Two years later, we had a son, Isaac. Isabelle loves tennis and music, while Isaac enjoys drumming, gaming and athletics.

If you want to know more about your director, you can look under the tab "About" on our band website (www.fhscougarband.com)! Now, to transition, I want to explain a few foundational pillars of our program that should make this a smooth year for all of us.

Participation: Cougar Band members are **active** in: Individual practice, sectionals, rehearsals and performances. In order for a musician to experience success, they need to be in an environment where full participation in band is supported and promoted. Cougar musicians must be doing their part by carving time into their schedules to do their *homework*: Practice.

Leadership: While every FHS Cougar Band member is expected to lead through their musicianship, several will be placed in leadership positions. These are intended to be **service-based roles**; not jobs assumed through feelings of entitlement or superiority. All student leadership roles are determined by the director and are subject to change at the discretion of the director. This includes distribution of parts and soloists within an ensemble.

Respect: Students are to bring an attitude of respect when they enter the band room. The band does not exist thanks to one student's individual talents or because one member chooses to grace the band with their presence! The concept of respect is huge in band; even in the respecting of a student when they make a wrong choice.

Communication: The primary ways that students and parents/guardians can stay "in the know" are to: Read this syllabus, frequently log onto our website www.fhscougarband.com, get on the E-Mail list for messages from our booster president or director, and to attend booster meetings. In addition, I use the Remind App both for parents and students. You can sign up for this on the forms in the back of this syllabus.

Music: Ultimately, everything begins and ends with music. But, music itself is not magic! One does not get better at music by simply wanting to...it takes hard work. As with any discipline that delays gratification, a student must enjoy the journey and the process. When a musician authentically begins to hold themselves accountable to the discipline that the art form requires, they grow...in musicianship, confidence, stature, maturity. I hope that all musicians take this journey and that our program reflects this pursuit of musicianship in all we do.

Thank you,

Mr. Bahr

Welcome Foothill High School Band Boosters

Every band parent/guardian is a member of FHS Band Boosters. We are an organization of parents and volunteers with a two-fold purpose:

- To support and promote the FHS band program, its students and the director within the school and throughout the community.
- To conduct fund-raising activities which help supplement the band program's operating budget.

FHS Band Boosters does not govern or make decisions regarding the operations or musical selections of the band program. That is the responsibility of the band director.

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in the welfare and success of our band. All Band Booster meetings are included in the Performance Calendar. Attending Booster meetings is the best way to keep informed regarding the band program, give your input in booster activities and to receive any updates or changes to the Performance Calendar.

Here is your Band Booster Board for 2017-2018:

Board:

Phone:

E-Mail:

President, Holly Flagg

Vice President, Denise Humphrey

Secretary, Denise Murray

Co-Treasurer, Susan Lessinger

Co-Treasurer, Kristen Gibson

Public Relations, Sally Cloud

Volunteer Coordinator, Wendy Wendt

Uniform Chair, Carrie Corless

Social Chair, Lorraine Paoli

For security purposes, board member contact information is now unavailable online. Please contact Mr. Bahr via E-Mail OR (for best contact) come to our monthly booster meetings to obtain contact information directly! Thank you

There are many wonderful ways for you to get involved with our boosters. Our Boosters organization runs top-quality events, works together well, and you will see that many hands make light work!

Join us in building new friendships while we support our outstanding program and these amazing musicians. Please join us for our BBQ on the 19th from 12:30-1:30pm (flyer included in the back), and get to know us.

Thank you,

Holly Flagg

Band Booster President
Foothill High School

Course Descriptions

Freshman/Concert Band (Band I)

Course #7000 is an entry level course in the band program. While we function as a high school band, the performance demands in this course in comparison to the other classes are relatively light. While Freshman Band eases a student into our program, there are (of course) still expectations.

This course is open to wind players and percussionists. Rehearsals are designed to develop elements of musicianship: Tone production, technical skills, intonation, music reading, listening and vocabulary. Students study a varied repertoire of appropriate concert band literature, technical studies, and develop the ability and artistry to convey a composer's/director's intent in the performance of music. There are periodic quizzes/tests. A number of performances at football games, formal concerts and band festivals serve as culmination of classroom instruction and musical goals. These performances are a large portion of the semester grade – as this is a performing arts course. Private lessons are encouraged, but not required. Practicing at home is expected.

- Parents - Please provide your student with all necessary supplies to operate and maintain their instrument. Students must have a designated time and place to practice. In high school, band is a course; a course that *requires* homework. Practice sheets represent 25% of the semester grade. Similar to a math class, students need consistent reinforcement of concepts taught. For more information, please review the "Practice Sheet" and "Supplies" pages in the Syllabus.
- Students - For many of you, leaving behind junior high behavior will be your biggest challenge this year; learning to approach music as less of a hobby and more of a discipline. FHS Band members desire to develop musicianship. This happens through consistent practice time and focus in rehearsals.

Symphonic Band (Band II)

Course #7010 is an upper level course in the band program. The performance demands in this course are significant. Members in this band serve FHS and our community through football games (halftime shows), parades, patriotic events and other important performances. This ensemble is open to sophomore, junior and senior wind players and percussionists. The Symphonic Band is the backbone of everything we do in our Instrumental Music Program. Rehearsals are designed to raise elements of musicianship including: Tone production, technical skills, intonation, music reading, listening and vocabulary.

The ensemble maintains a demanding workout of appropriate concert band literature, technical studies, and has a high ability and artistry to convey a composer's/director's intent in the performance of music. There are classroom assessments to monitor student progress. A number of public performances at formal concerts and/or band contests serve as culmination of daily classroom instruction and musical goals. These performances are a large portion of the semester grade – as this is a performing arts course. Band II musicians are required to attend each scheduled rehearsal and performance. The band performs at all home football games (including any home playoff games), home halftime field shows, local parades and other community events as called upon. These activities are an integral element that support and extend learning in the classroom. Private lessons are encouraged, but not required. Practicing at home is expected.

- Parents - Please provide your student with all necessary supplies for operating and maintaining their instrument. Students must have a designated time and place to practice.
- Students - More than any other class on campus, (because of our large numbers) this band can thrive only through accepting your role within the ensemble. Students must have a positive attitude in allowing your section leader(s), the drum major and director to lead. In addition, you should be *self-motivated* to practice and pursue opportunities to practice/rehearse with your section.

Orchestra

This ensemble functions as the only ensemble in the Foothill High School String Orchestra Program (Course Catalog #7030). Basic experience with string instruments (violin, viola, cello, or bass) is required for enrollment. Fundamentals of string playing will be stressed, including: Bow use and proper tone production, balance and blend in normal playing registers, dynamic control in normal playing registers, good intonation, stylistic variances, sight reading, and correct response to director's instructions. Literature will contain both classical and popular music. Students will perform both in small group ensemble projects and as a full string orchestra. Students participate in several formal concerts per year, solo and ensemble contests, orchestra contest, and other performances. Out of school performances and activities are part of the course grade and are required for all members during the school year. These activities are integral elements that support and extend learning in the classroom. Private lessons are encouraged, but not required. Practicing at home is expected.

In addition, FHS Orchestra will deepen each musician's knowledge of music theory and classical music as a whole; listening to the genre is essential! A reasonable amount of home assignments and classroom drill will lead students to an understanding of more specific musical skills such as aural and written musical analysis, sight-singing and familiarity with cultural/historical perspectives. While music performance is the direct focus, understanding from the course will make the student a better performing musician by increasing intuitive awareness, critical understanding and interpretation.

Jazz B (The Jazz Cats)

Our secondary jazz band is known as "Ensemble Orchestra" in the Foothill Course Catalog (Course #7040) and "The Jazz Cats" to our music department. This class is an upper-level course in the band program, and musicians must be co-enrolled in Symphonic or Concert Band (or FHS Orchestra for pianists, guitarists or bass players) in order to be in this ensemble. Students in Jazz B are expected to be *eager* to enter the world of jazz through listening to jazz, the study of music theory/improvisation and through practicing at a more concentrated level. Students are expected to fulfill 3 hours of sectional rehearsals outside of class per quarter. By taking this course, students are expected to make music a deeper priority in their commitments, including the commitment to significantly add to their practice time outside of class.

Jazz A (The Club Cougar Orchestra)

While Symphonic Band is the foundation of our band program, Jazz A (Course #7020) operates as our premier performance ensemble. This is an upper-level course, and musicians must co-enroll in a concert band (or orchestra for pianists, guitarists or bass players) to be in this ensemble. Students are expected to have a high appreciation of jazz through active listening of many jazz styles and artists, the study of music theory/improvisation and through practicing at a focused level.

Our band's primary function is to serve as the Club Cougar (CC) Orchestra in February. Students are required to be at all CC rehearsals (including after-school rehearsals in January) and performances. If a student loves jazz but cannot fully commit to CC, they should enroll in Jazz B. Students are to be *self-motivated* when it comes to attendance, practice, priorities and commitment, from August to June. To clarify; no job, relationship, electronic device, sport, activity, club or hobby should be more important to a musician in Jazz A than their ensemble. Furthermore, because this ensemble is in the limelight so frequently, it is important that this ensemble models mature behavior. Cynicism and entitlement issues will be met head on, and fundamentals of character are taught and expected to be modeled in this ensemble. FHS zero-period attendance policies are in place, and if students cannot get to class on time, Foothill *requires* me to move them to another course (Jazz B). In addition, all sections must have at least 3 sectionals a quarter.

GRADING POLICY

In Band II/Band I/Orchestra grades are posted in the following categories:

- **Performance (50%)** - This includes adherence to call times, proper attire and professional conduct at all performances. If a student misses a mandatory performance, their semester grade will be lowered 10%. If a student misses a major performance (CMEA Festival, Winter Concert, Spring Concert), their semester grade will be lowered 20%. In the event of an emergency, a grade may be allowed to be partially recovered. But, ultimately *nothing* can fully replace not attending a performance. For more information, see the “Performances” page in the Syllabus.
- **Rehearsal (25%)** - Towards the end of a grading period, attendance/rehearsal points will be placed in the Aeries grade book. Loss of points take place when students do not follow the classroom rules or attendance/tardy policies. The “Code of Conduct” page in the syllabus has much more information on Rehearsal Etiquette. This portion of the grade also includes the timely return of letters to parents that are sent home. Any letter sent home will be on our band website. Included in this category are: Memory tests, quizzes, rhythm/theory worksheets, sectionals and semester finals (explained below).
- **Practice Sheets (25%)** - Students are to practice a minimum of 6 hours per month. This equals three 30 minute sessions of practice a week – an attainable goal; even for the busiest of student! Practice sheets are available for download online. For more information, see the “Practice Card” page in the Syllabus.
- **INCOMPLETE** - An incomplete grade is given if one of the following are not rectified by the end of a grading period:
 - FHS Instrument Rental Fees Paid
 - FHS Band Uniforms not Returned
 - FHS Band Supplies not Returned (instruments/metronomes/mutes/ensemble books/etc)
 - FHS Band Fundraising Tickets/Supplies/Money are Unresolved

1st Semester Final – Solo/Ensemble Performance: Yes, we are flipping the Finals (Please reference “The Big Shift” on Page 11)! Students will (with the help/oversight of director, section leader and other student leaders) perform a solo/ensemble that is at an appropriate difficulty grade level for the student(s). Throughout the year, students research and choose an appropriate piece. Once a selection is found, it must be brought to the director for approval. Students are graded on the CMEA Festival rubric: A - Superior, B - Excellent, C - Good, D - Fair, F - Poor (a C lowers a semester grade by 5%, a D or F 10% drop).

2nd Semester Final – 12 Major Scales: All 12 Major Scales (memorized) in the following time: 2:00 for freshmen, 1:45 for sophomores, 1:30 for juniors, and 1:15 for seniors. **Students in Band I are encouraged to, but do not have to memorize the scales.** Each note error counts **five seconds** against the time. If there are more than 6 errors, the test is a zero. Note accuracy is vital. In addition, students must perform with an acceptable level of tonality and overall musicianship. Students may try to complete all 12 Major Scales in 60 seconds. Students in the Minute Club will get their name on a classroom certificate and will be taken out to dessert (see calendar for date). Grades: A - Achieves goal, C - Short within 15 seconds, F - Short by more than 15 seconds.

Aeries (Electronic Grade Program): Parents, allow me a quick deviation...and a little venting! For my courses, I use Aeries primarily as a communication tool (especially when it comes to letters). If your child has not turned in a letter, I enter it as a missing assignment for a small, almost completely inconsequential amount of points. What then happens is several parents E-Mail and call, inquiring about the missing assignment. While I appreciate the communication, what I would prefer that you do is to assist your student in getting the letter turned in. The points really don't matter, and will never affect the student's semester grade. Turning in the letter is what matters! Often, it is a permission slip, a change in performance times, an alteration of a policy and reminders about future events....I need to know that you are aware of these events. I think the usage of Remind App this year will lower the frequency of this greatly! Thanks for your understanding. ☺

PERFORMANCES

Band members are required to attend performances. There are three things every musician must bring to every performance: All necessary materials/supplies/clothing, a clear focus on the task at hand, and a positive attitude. Students must be **on time** to all performances. A 5:00pm call time means that students are expected to be in their chairs, ready for the downbeat at 4:59pm. This is a realistic expectation! Families find a way to appointments and athletic events on time...the discipline of music shouldn't be any less important.

Excused absences (in cases of severe personal illness or a death in the family) are granted only by the director. If you are absent on the day of a performance, please call/e-mail and notify the director. A written note signed by parent/guardian is required when you return to school. Unavoidable conflicts *will* at some point come up. I have a long track record of working with families who **communicate ahead of time**: A family wedding, an older sibling's college graduation, SAT test, etc... The following do not justify your absence from a performance: Work, driving arrangements, or forgetfulness. Quick steps will be taken to replace a musician who puts the aforementioned items ahead of an ensemble performance. This will be done for the sake of the other musicians in the band, who become frustrated with the lack of respect for the ensemble.

PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

- Casual:** Football games, rallies, events on campus or feeder school concerts are examples of casual dress. We wear our FHS Band polos and jeans (most of the time) for these events. On cold football game nights, students may wear school colored (red, black or grey) jackets/sweatshirts.
- Marching Uniform:** These items of the uniform will be provided: Marching shako (hat), plume, jacket and pants. Upon check out until the day we turn them in, students are fully expected to hang, store and wear their uniform with the utmost pride! Students are responsible for any damage to the uniform beyond normal wear and tear. For example, if you get a stain on your uniform, you must get it dry-cleaned before our next marching performance. However, if damage is caused to the band uniform through negligence, students will be liable for repair/replacement costs (so take good care of your property!).
 - Marching Shoes:** All Band II students must purchase marching band shoes. These shoes are supportive, well-made all-black shoes that many guys wear for concerts. We will be sizing shoes once the year begins. If students have black marching shoes that fit from previous years, they do not have to buy shoes.
 - Marching Socks:** All students are required to wear **black socks**. These socks must be calf-length.
 - Marching Misc:** When students are in full uniform they are not allowed to wear jewelry (small earrings are fine), and all hair must be put up in the hat (yes, guys too!). The fees associated with marching band season are included on the FHS Cougar Band Expenses form in the back of the syllabus.
- Concert:** Concert attire is formal black and white dress.

All Gentlemen are **required** (this means, no attire...no performance) to have:

 - Band I** - Black pants, white shirt, black bow tie, black shoes and black socks (calf-length).
 - Band II** - Black tux pants, black suit jacket, white tux shirt, black shoes and black socks (calf-length). A RED BOW TIE will be provided by FHS Band Boosters before every performance.
 - Orchestra** - Black tux pants, black suit jacket, white tux shirt, black shoes and black socks, black bow tie.

All Ladies are required to have:

 - Band I & Orchestra** - Black dress, **AT LEAST knee length while seated** with a **modest** neckline, black nylons and black shoes. Jewelry and make up should look professional and not showy. Ladies, there will be designated moms around at all formal performances. If your "dress" is deemed too short and inappropriate, you will be given the option to change, or be removed from the performance. Tubists, cellists and bassists may choose to wear a black pant-suit outfit.
 - Band II** - FHS red dress (provided by Boosters). We will be sizing/hemming soon!

Jazz Band Attire: Guys - Black shoes, socks (calf-length), pants, shirts with a school colored tie/bow tie. Girls can wear the same outfit as the guys, or choose to wear a modest black dress.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Under Armour had a marketing slogan a few years back, “*We must protect this house!*” As responsible musicians, we must protect what we have...by keeping an eye on and taking care of **all** equipment (individual or school property), staying out of other’s lockers at all times, keeping all non-musicians out of the Kennel and abiding by all other classroom rules as related to food, drinks, gum, etc...

You should “protect this house” in other ways as well. We need zero tolerance (out of respect for yourselves and the band) when it comes to PDA, theft, cheating, inappropriate language or conversation (mocking other students) and illegal paraphernalia of any kind. A few years ago, former NBA head coach Mark Jackson restricted profanity in his practices or the locker room of the Golden State Warriors. If NBA players can do it, *you can too!*

1. Students are responsible to be in class on time ready to rehearse with their instrument (a luggage tag on their case handle is recommended), folder, music, *pencil*, and necessary equipment.
2. There is no food, candy, soda, energy drinks, coffee or GUM allowed in the band room (this includes brunch, lunch, before school and after school). During rehearsals, water is the only exception.
3. Students are not allowed to talk or play instruments when the director (or whoever is on the podium) is speaking. Students *must* display respect for and have pride in:
 - a. Band Room: Clean up equipment, trash, band room and lockers.
 - b. Instrument/FHS Instruments and Equipment: Instruments should be well-maintained, with students taking the time to care for their instrument. Students need to do their part in organization and cleanliness. Percussionists (and rhythm section players in jazz band) must clean up all music, mallets, sticks and equipment every day before leaving the rehearsal room.
 - c. Classmates: Our band is not just about you...it is about all musicians, not just the ones you like. We must “protect our house” by making the band room and kennel a place ALL students feel comfortable hanging out in these places.
 - d. Director: The practical application of “respecting the director” is demonstrated by doing what the director says: In practice, in rehearsal and in performance.
 - e. Yourself: Take pride in your musicianship and be responsible for your behavior (around your friends, mind your language, demonstrate respect for your classmates/director/program, on social media, etc...it is your responsibility. These are the years that mold the adult you will become.
4. No electronic equipment is allowed in the band room during rehearsals (a metronome/tuner is the only exception). Students should leave all phones, video games, whatever...in the Kennel. As you can imagine, this is an on-going, ever-present battle in modern education. A band student absolutely has the right to bring the director another student’s device during rehearsal. When a device is being used for educational purposes - totally fine. BUT, when cell phones are flagrantly used for watching videos, incessant messaging, etc (and this usage is not always appropriate)...I will take phones.
5. For everything else not covered, school rules and code of conduct apply at all activities, practices, rehearsals and performances.

Classroom rules are great...conceptually. However, at times, rules are broken. When they are, we start down the following road: 1. Verbal warning and chair/stand duty for the day 2. Parent contact, chair/stand duty for 3 days, after-school Kennel cleaning 3. Parent conference with administration, room duty after school for an hour and loss of rehearsal points 4. In-House suspension, loss of all rehearsal points for the quarter 5. Removal from class

PRACTICE CARDS - HOMEWORK

As a musician, you should always feel that you have homework. Parents, if you ever hear “I don’t have any homework tonight,” the student needs to be reminded of their responsibility as a musician. AND, this should be viewed as enjoyable – you get to *play* an instrument!!

Homework/Practice is vital in this course. Monthly practice cards are available in class and for printout online (under forms). To receive full credit, hours must be totaled up, there must be a parent signature at the bottom of the page, and there must be a COMPLETED assignment attached to the practice card. Practice Cards are worth 150 total points. Because of a significant lack of adherence to deadlines, late work will no longer be accepted.

- Students in Band I/Band II/Orchestra must commit to practice a minimum 6 hours a month (when totaling monthly hours, please round to the nearest half hour).
 - 6+ hours – 50 points (5.5 hours is NOT 6)
 - 3-5.5 hours – 25 points
 - 0-2.5 hours – 1 point (I place 1 point in the gradebook, so you can tell that it was turned in)
- The attached assignment is worth 50 points
 - Assignment with no/few errors– 50 points
 - Assignment with significant errors – 25 points
 - No assignment - 1 point (I place 1 point in the gradebook, so you can tell that it was turned in)
- The Short Essay Assignment is worth 50 points
 - Assignment with depth of thought and appropriate length– 50 points
 - Assignment with lack of depth and length – 25 points
 - No assignment - 1 point (I place 1 point in the gradebook, so you can tell that it was turned in)

A few things about “practice:

- Practice may include the visual study of music, completion of assignments and the study of music theory.
- Practice may include work on a secondary instrument, but only with prior authorization from the director.
- Practice does not include individual private lesson time with an instructor.
- Practice does not include sectionals.
- Practice does not include simply listening to music. Active listening is important, and exceptions will be made with prior authorization will be made (particularly with a musician who is injured and cannot play).
- I am much more interested in consistency more than the length of practice. If a month or two comes up a little short, I will be accommodating. Life gets busy sometimes.
- If a student lives a great distance away from school, and therefore does not have the time at home to log the time, or has hardship in transporting their instrument to and from school, I will be accommodating. Foothill has a unique issue when it comes to geography!
- Exemptions:
 - Practice card requirements begin in September for all musicians (August is waived).
 - All members of the Club Cougar cast are exempt from turning in a practice card in February.
 - Band II Drumline is exempt from turning in a practice card in May.
- Practice Cards are due the first three school days of the new month. It is the responsibility of the students and their individual section leaders to ensure practice cards come in on time. If the entire section turns in the practice card on time, the section will receive an additional 10 points extra credit. In addition, the Remind App will be used to further remind students of the due date.
- Because the deadline for turning in Practice Cards has been blurred/ignored by students in past years, late assignments will no longer be accepted for any credit.
- Jazz musicians will have practice projects. These separate projects are listed online (Under “Forms”).

THE BIG SHIFT

This page represents a fundamental change of philosophy. “The Big Shift” deals with my desire to break free of the trappings that can come with over-rehearsing. While rehearsals are vital to the success of ensembles, over-rehearsing (repetition for the sake of repetition) is not. With 57-minute classes, 5-days a week, I want to incorporate more activities into the curriculum that will foster growth towards fluency in the language of music. We simply rehearse too much.

Students who go home and consistently practice must wait, while I teach patterns and basic fundamentals to students who could readily shed these in their own practice time. In effect, rehearsals punish those who practice!

What is the motivation to practice? If we truly honor practice and the time-honored-definition of rehearsal: “Rehearsal is where you learn each other’s part,” then we must rehearse (repeating the same sections of music over and over and over...and over...again) less.

Growth in theory, ear training, sight-reading, sight-singing, ensemble work, group projects and fundamentals represent the advancements we will make this year. Students are to do the homework that they are supposed to do at home. Will performances suffer? Maybe. Hopefully not...but, maybe! However, I am willing to take that risk in order to showcase ensembles that are trying to honor the significance and importance of practice and rehearsal. That’s learning.

The inclusion of these additional things into our curriculum necessitates more: writing, quizzes, tests and projects. These are not intended to add busy-work to student’s lives, they are needed to facilitate learning and build genuine musical fluency. The primary change that we will continue to adopt is a strong department-wide push towards solo/ensemble playing. Small groups and individual soloing is where music-making is pursued at its most authentic level.

The **first** semester final will now be a Solo/Small Ensemble Final. February is a Solo/Ensemble Festival at Chico St, and we are pushing hard to get a Solo/Ensemble Festival here in Redding in March! We will host our own Solo/Ensemble evening in the band room, where parents can come and hear our amazing groups and individuals perform. Our goal is to get students playing more literature; growing in appreciation of great literature and in the efforts of their classmates.

SUPPLIES, INSTRUMENTS AND EQUIPMENT

Supplies: Students need supplies. A trumpet player **MUST** have valve oil. A clarinetist **MUST** have reeds. These are essential items. Every musician needs equipment to play their instrument effectively. The following items are *bare minimum essentials* that every musician is **required** to have in their possession.

- a. Flutes: Cleaning rod, cleaning cloth ***
- b. Clarinets: Mouthpiece brush, silk swab, cork grease, cleaning cloth, pad cleaning paper and *several* good reeds that are being rotated ***
- c. Saxophones: Mouthpiece brush, neck cleaning brush, saxophone swab, cork grease, cleaning cloth, pad cleaning paper and *several* good reeds that are being rotated ***
- d. French Horn: Cleaning cloth, rotary valve oil, bore brush, slide grease and mouthpiece brush ***
- e. Trumpet/Baritone/Tuba: Cleaning cloth, snake, valve oil, slide grease and mouthpiece brush ***
- f. Trombone: Cleaning cloth, snake, slide cream or oil, small spray bottle (for water) and mouthpiece brush ***
- g. Percussion: Stick bag, pair of sticks (SD1/5A), practice pad (or snare drum). ***
- h. Guitar/Bass: Tuner, *cable* (to plug into amp) ***

*** In addition, every student needs lyres/flip folders for the football games. Students may purchase these items through local music suppliers: Music Connection, Brass Reed or Mike's Music and Sound. **Lyres and flip folders must be purchased before our first football game.** Plan ahead. Music stores do not carry a huge stock of these; they need to be ordered *ahead of time*. (Drumline does not need lyres/flip folders as they are expected to have all pep band music memorized at all football games). Lastly, it is ***strongly recommended*** that each musician owns a metronome and tuner for individual practice.

FHS/SUHSD Instruments: These instruments will be distributed to students according to the needs of the band department, under the discretion of the director. Please note: Students are not allowed to play a school instrument unless the director has a current Instrument Rental Contract on file. Members are solely responsible for these instruments at all times. Percussionists are asked to pay a \$25 supply donation for the year. This covers the cost of classroom materials that must be replaced regularly. A violin, viola, flute, clarinet, trumpet or trombone may be rented for \$25 for the entire school year. A cello, upright bass, oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, alto sax, tenor sax, baritone sax, French horn, baritone or tuba may be rented for \$50 for the entire school year. If a student does not practice or shows negligence to their instrument, the instrument **will** be reclaimed by the director. In some cases, repair costs will be assigned to the student. Details are explained in the SUHSD/FHS Instrument Rental Contract.

FHS/SUHSD Equipment: The FHS Instrumental Music Department has a substantial amount of quality music equipment. Extreme measures are taken to ensure that this equipment will stay in top working order for as long as possible. I have specific rules I share with the students about our equipment in order to protect our inventory. If rules are broken, equipment will get damaged. These costs will be passed on to individuals that violate the rules.

Personal Equipment: Often, equipment holds students back: A chipped reed, and old mouthpiece, an instrument with a faulty spit valve or pad leaks. Please make sure your musician's equipment is quality, and can help them be productive high school musicians. We would never send a soccer player out on the field with one cleat and one sandal! Personally, I know that my son cannot participate in flag football if he doesn't have a mouth guard. He is sent off the field; no questions asked. These are the rules of the game. Please send your director an e-mail if you have questions regarding upgrades or quality mouthpieces, ligatures, reeds, instruments or anything else. These are important upgrades, as students take large steps forward in their musicality, and need high quality accessories.

CLUB COUGAR

Foothill High School's Performing Arts Production, "An Evening at Club Cougar" is an event to raise money to support FHS music and drama departments, while educating music students in the art of performance skills. It is a step back in time, as we recreate a 1930's Chicago-style jazz club; featuring authentic dress, music and decor. This evening of dining, drama and dancing to big band music is made possible by the extraordinary talents and commitment of our music and drama students, as well as their parent volunteers.

Aside from our Jazz A (the CC Orchestra), band students may audition for a vocal or dancing role, or fill out an application to serve in the busser/server crew. The 8-night, two-week long February show is held at Redding First Church of the Nazarene, 2225 Bechelli Lane. Students will need transportation to and from the church each night.

Because we could not do this show without the support of countless volunteers, parents are required to help with a minimum of 2 volunteer shifts during the performance, as well as offer a food donation check, as we cover dinner/snacks for each student for 8 nights! Volunteer shifts include their student's group clean-up night, as well as their choice of two additional volunteer shifts and/or closing night clean-up and tear down.

Club Cougar is the main income generator for the arts at FHS. So, even if your student is not part of the cast, you can still be involved in the show as a volunteer. Much more information about Club Cougar (including an entire CC calendar) will be coming soon. I hope many band students will join the cast this year!

BAND COUNCIL

The Band Council exists to: Provide fun, team-building activities for the band, to provide a positive atmosphere in the band room and to assist the director. The council consists of 7 officers (president/drum major, vice president/librarian, assistant drum major/secretary, treasurer/social chair, uniform manager, equipment manager and the photo/video historian). The drum major and assistant drum major are appointed by the director, while the other 5 officers are elected by the members of the band.

Nominations and voting will take place during the second week of school. Student Leadership will meet alone in the band room two lunches a month during the football season. After that, they will meet once a month. The officers will preside over the FHS Band Club, and will assist the director in decisions throughout the year. Officers will work closely with the Band Booster Social Chair and support the band at all times by fulfilling the roles they are elected to perform. Any officer may be replaced at any time if they do not do their job, or if they are a negative influence in the band in any way.

STUDENT ACCOUNTS

The FHS Band Boosters provide a student account for your band student. Student accounts may be used to pay for anything band-related: Registration fees, trips, lessons, instruments, accessories, instrument repairs and attire. Funds are added to student accounts through booster fundraising activities or personal deposit. Our Band Booster Treasurers, Kristen Gibson and Susan Lessinger, work very hard to keep student records current. You may e-mail our treasurers to inquire about money available (contact info available on the Band Booster page).

FHS Band Boosters is not a bank...money earned by a student is not to be treated as a personal savings account. In accordance with FHS Band Booster Bylaws, money cannot and will not be "withdrawn" to a student/parent when a student decides to leave the band program; whether this is prior to their senior year or after graduating. Furthermore, monies cannot be used to cover additional FHS fees: Parking tickets, library fees, student store fees, other FHS course/club trips or fees. Any money that remains in a student's account after that student has graduated high school may be passed onto an upcoming sibling or be transferred into the Band Booster Scholarship Fund and/or into the Boosters General Fund.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Each year, the Foothill High School Band Boosters sets aside \$3,000 to be given to deserving graduating seniors (maximum scholarship per senior is \$500). Scholarship Applications will be available from Mrs. Nancy Johnson in the FHS Counseling Office on April 13, 2018...seniors, don't forget to remind me! ☺ Applications are due to Mrs. Johnson in the FHS Counseling Office on May 4, 2018 by 3:15pm. Late applications will not be accepted.

TRAVEL

Students in the band program will travel to many different locations this year. It is important that we have "SUHSD District Approved Parent Drivers" that can transport students locally. (I will explain more about this at our first Booster meeting.) When we do not travel locally, students must travel to and from the event on a bus. If a parent chooses to take their **own child** home from a performance, the parent must sign the student out through the director. Then is the student released from the event.

Chaperones are selected jointly by the Band Booster Board and the director. If you would like to be considered as a chaperone for an event, you may inform the Board at a Band Booster meeting. Chaperone Slips will be made available at meetings. These are to be filled out and turned in at the end of the meeting to one of the Board members. You must be present to notify the Board of your desire to chaperone a specific trip. The Board will announce chaperones for an event a month or two prior to each event.

If you are a parent who chooses to drive to an event on your own, you are welcome to join us, and cheer us on in all band-related events and performances...*we genuinely appreciate your support!* But, keep in mind, your child is not on a family vacation. They are a part of a SUHSD-sanctioned field trip, under the supervision of the band director. At all times, students are expected to remain together, following the rules and itinerary of the trip. Students are not allowed, outside of a medical emergency, to leave with a parent in the middle of a field trip. Also, the FHS Band Boosters are not responsible for providing hotel accommodations, meals, tickets to performance venues, or tickets to any other event/activity.

The Off-Campus Activity Release Form in the back of this syllabus is important to get signed. I am hoping that this pays dividends for some students who get unnecessary aggravation from teachers when they miss a day of class. This also streamlines communication more efficiently so that the Attendance Office and Administration know what we are up to as the school year rolls along. Students will not be able to perform off-campus during school hours if the form is not turned in.

CLOSING NOTES

If you've stuck it out through the syllabus, thank you!!! I hope you have some clarity about how the program runs...It does take a small army to pull off everything. To that end, if you want to "enlist," please attend our Booster Meetings...we'd love to see you there. Your director and Band Booster Board are so excited about the 2015-2016 school year! Tons of great memories and lifetime friendships are in store...for students and parents alike. Please join us for the Booster BBQ on the 19th (flyer attached) and our 1st Band Booster Meeting on September 11th...and get involved!

Thanks again,

Mr. Bahr

FORMS

Forms may be turned in by a student anytime between August 16 to August 23...Including Saturday August 19th at our Boosters Welcome Back BBQ. Extra forms will be made available at the BBQ if you forget to bring 'em!

I have read the FHS Instrumental Music Department Syllabus for 2017-2018.

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent of (Student's Name): _____

* Parent/Guardian E-Mail: _____

Student E-Mail (**ONLY** if no parent E-Mail): _____

* Booster E-Mail

The Boosters would like to create an FHS Band Booster E-Mail list this year. Please check the box if you **do not** want to be included in periodic group E-Mails.

Remind App

Mr. Bahr would like to create an FHS Band Booster phone number Remind App list this year. Please check the box if you **do not** want to be included in periodic group Remind App reminders from Mr. Bahr.

Parent Cell Phone #1 _____ Parent Cell Phone #2 _____

Instrument Information

Type of Instrument: _____

Make of Instrument: _____ Serial Number: _____

Is this instrument owned by FHS? No __ Yes __ *If yes, please turn in a rental agreement by 8/23

If you have multiple instruments, please check the box and fill out additional information on the back of this sheet or on an attached piece of paper.

Medical Emergency Information

The Medical Emergency Information and SUHSD Field Trip Form are now one form...One less section of information to fill out...you're welcome! ☺

FHS Cougar Band Expenses

The following are FHS Band Expenses. Not all are required. Please select carefully.

Student Name: _____ **Band:** _____

FHS Instrument Rental Fee *	\$25	_____
Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone, Violin, Viola		
FHS Instrument Rental Fee *	\$50	_____
Oboe, Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, French Horn, Saxophone, Euphonium, Tuba, Cello, Bass		
Percussion Supply Fee (all drummers) **	\$25	_____

* FHS Instrument will not be distributed to student until rental fee is paid in full & Instrument Rental Contract is turned in.
 ** Fee helps cover costs of drumheads, mallets and supplies for FHS Drum Equipment. Students must pay fee in order to be in Percussion Section.

	Quantity	Size(s)	Price	
<u>Concert Bands</u>				
Men's Band Polo Shirt	_____	_____	\$25	_____
Women's Band Polo Shirt	_____	_____	\$25	_____
Band Track Jacket (if desired)	_____	_____	\$30	_____
Black Marching Shoes (Band II, if needed) *	_____	n/a	\$25	_____
Marching Uniform Cleaning Fee (Band II)	_____	_____	\$20	_____

<u>Orchestra</u>				
Orchestra Polo Shirt	_____	_____	\$25	_____

<u>General</u>				
Hogwarts Baseball Tee (if desired)	_____	_____	\$20	_____

TOTAL AMOUNT PAID: _____

Paid with:

- Check # _____ (please make check payable to: FHS Band)
- Cash
- Student Account

* We will size marching shoes during class.

 (For Office Use Only)

Date Paid: _____ Rec'd By: _____

Cougar Band Boosters Volunteer Sign-up Form

PARENTS – PLEASE sign-up for at least THREE events for the year by placing an **X** in the left most column next to the event(s) you want to help with. In addition, all parents are needed to help with CLUB COUGAR in February (if your student is a part of the 2018 CC Cast). It’s going to be a great year and many hands make the work light and more fun!

X	Event	Date	Event Description
	Football Games	Aug/Nov	Field Show & Football Game support @ FHS Football Field – water on field and moving equipment
	Band Bash	Sept 22	Band BASH @ FHS – Take water to field, help with dinner and dessert.
	Poinsettia Sales	Oct-Dec	Poinsettia Fundraiser for students to earn money for their student accounts.
	Veteran’s Parade	Nov 4	Community Parade in Shasta Lake City
	Sweet Swingin’ Jazz Cafe	Nov 16	Refreshments & Basket Silent Auction Fundraiser at FHS. ***
	Redding Lighted Parade	Dec 2	Redding Lighted Christmas Parade support and refreshments in downtown Redding. ***
	Winter Concert	Dec 6	Hallway monitors, Lobby supervision, Decorating in David Marr Auditorium
	SUHSD Honor Band	Jan 8	Work with directors to provide hospitality (snacks) and lunch for SUHSD Honor Band .
	CLUB COUGAR	February	Many, many volunteers needed for this enormous production ***
	CMEA Festival	Mar 23	Band supervision, hallway monitors, lobby/classroom supervision at Shasta College. ***
	Feeder Frenzy	Mar 28	Assist Mr. Bahr with feeder school student activities on FHS campus, snacks, room supervision.
	Kool April Nights BBQ	Apr 25	Tri-Tip Dinner Fundraiser in Big Tent at Convention Center. ***
	Spring Concert	May 16	Hallway monitors, Lobby supervision, Decorating in David Marr Auditorium
	Rodeo Parade	May 19	Parade support and refreshments at Redding Rodeo Parade in downtown Redding.
	Jazz – Elk’s Lodge	May 24	Support team for afternoon jazz performance
	Awards Banquet	May 24	Plan, purchase and prepare awards for Awards Banquet
	Prom Clean up	May TBA	Clean up after the Senior Prom (11:30pm-1:30am) Need night owls!! ***
	Grad Sundaes	Jun 6	Procure sundae ingredients, set up before graduation, and clean up after graduation.
	Chaperones	Various	Chaperones must express interest at a Band Booster Mtg

*** Need many hands!

Parent(s) Name(s): _____ E-Mail: _____

Student(s) Name(s): _____ Phone Number: _____

Band Classes (circle all classes taking):

Band I (freshman) Band II (symphonic) Orchestra Jazz A Jazz B

*** The FHS Band Boosters organization accepts monetary donations (Minimum \$50 donation) in lieu of time. Donations do not excuse you from working Club Cougar in February (if your student is in the 2018 CC Cast). If you cannot help with time or money, please contact Volunteer Coordinator (Information available on FHS Band Booster Page)

I prefer to donate (please check and submit payment with form):

_____ \$50.00 _____ \$100.00 _____ \$200.00 _____ Other



Shasta Union High School District, Foothill Instrumental Music Medical Emergency Information and Field Trip Permission Form

Student I.D.#: _____

Parental Permission

I hereby give my permission for _____ (print student name) to attend an FHS Instrumental Music Performance off-campus during school hours, as shown on the 2017-2018 Performance Calendar.

In the event of illness or injury, and whether the FHS Instrumental Music performance takes place during school hours or not, I do hereby consent to whatever x-ray, examination, anesthetic, medical, surgical or dental diagnosis or treatment and hospital care are considered necessary in the best judgment of the attending physician, surgeon, or dentist and performed by or under the supervision of a member of the medical staff of the hospital or facility furnishing medical or dental services. I understand that I am responsible for any expense incurred as a result of obtaining the necessary medical care. Transportation is arranged in most cases. Students shall ride both to and from the event in District-approved transportation.

As stated in CA Ed Code, Section 35330, I understand that I waive all claims against the Shasta Union High School District, its officers, agents and employees for any injury, accident, illness, or death occurring during or by reason of this field trip or excursion, including acts of negligence by the Shasta Union High School District, its officers, agents or employees.

I fully understand that participants are to abide by all rules and regulations governing conduct during the trip. Any violation of these rules and regulations may result in that individual being sent home at the expense of his/her parent /guardian.

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Phone: (Home) _____

(Cellular) _____

(Emergency) _____

Insurance Policy: _____

Policy/Group # _____

Family Doctor: _____

Family Doctor Phone # _____

*** A Special note to Parent:/Guardian:**

1. All drugs must be registered on the form (list below):
2. All drugs, excepting those which must be kept on the student's person for emergency use, must be kept and distributed by the staff.
3. ____ Check here if there are special problems that the staff should be aware of and no drugs are required on the trip.
4. If any medication or drugs are to be taken by student, list them here: (Name reason): _____
If your son/daughter has a special medical problem, kindly attach a description of that problem to this sheet.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT CONTRACT AGREEMENT

Student Name _____ Date _____

Instrument _____ Make _____ Serial # _____

- I agree that I will assume *full responsibility* for the above instrument from: **8/16/2017 - 6/7/2018**
- I understand that this instrument is the property of the Shasta Union High School District, and that the instrument must be returned to Foothill High School by the end of the rental contract agreement.
- I agree that the estimated value of this instrument is \$ _____. It will be my responsibility to pay for this instrument if it is lost, stolen, or damaged severely.
- I am aware that I am being charged a rental fee of \$ _____ for the school year of 2016-2017. I recognize that it is my responsibility to purchase all necessary materials in order to maintain and care for this instrument.
- I understand that I will not be billed for repairs that are necessary due to normal wear and tear on an instrument. I agree that I will be billed for the entire cost of repairs that are necessary because of student negligence.
- I understand that I will not be allowed to play the instrument until this paper is on file with the FHS Music Department. (*Payment can be made later if necessary, but the rental contract must be turned in ASAP.*)

**** It is expected that students put forth the effort that it takes to perform well on this instrument. If, over a period of time, the student is careless with the handling of the instrument, significantly lacks in practice time, or develops a disparaging attitude, the Foothill High School Instrumental Music Department reserves the right to reclaim the instrument without return of any rental fee.*

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Telephone # _____ E-Mail _____

THIS CONTRACT IS APPROVED BY SHASTA UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE FOOTHILL HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT AND IS VALIDATED WITH THE INCLUSION OF THE SIGNATURES ABOVE AND THE SIGNATURE BELOW:

Director Signature _____ Date _____

*** Please feel free to make a copy of this document for your personal records ***

(For Office Use Only)

Rental Fee Paid: Y / N Method of Payment: _____ Date: _____



Band Boosters

Back to School BBQ

When: Saturday, August 19, 2017

Where: Foothill Cafeteria

Time: 12:30-1:30pm

What: Hamburgers/cheeseburgers, hot dogs, drinks and chips will be provided by the Band Boosters.

Why: Come eat, visit and hear what Mr. Bahr & Band Boosters have planned for this year! This is a perfect time to get questions answered (especially for parents of freshmen), and a great time to meet people.

