

# **Scott High School Band Program**

2010-2011



**Gene Mills**  
Director

**Louise Smith**  
Auxiliary Instructor

**Regan Martinez**  
Drum Major

**Julia George**  
Band Commander

Scott Band Members and Parents,

Welcome to the 2010-2011 edition of the Scott High School Skyhawk Band! To those of you who are new to the high school band program we welcome you and look forward to many years of making music and building memories together.

The Skyhawk band is the most active and exciting activity you will participate in here at Scott. The band encompasses the values of dedication, determination, team work and pride. With a lot of hard work and a good attitude this years band will be the best yet, one in which you, your school and your community will be able to take pride in.

This hand book contains a wealth of information on the day to day running of the band program. While it may seem like a lot, understand that the student leadership and I are here to help all students succeed. Please take the time to read the hand book and keep it in a safe place to refer back to when you have questions. I have tried to cover all of the topics that I feel parents and students ask about the most.

Musically yours,  
Gene Mills  
Director of Bands

Forward

The Skyhawk band will form a vital and important part of your total high school experience. The band represents the very best of the student body not only at Scott but in Boone County. The Scott band is one of the most visible organizations performing at sporting events, concerts, parades, contests as well as many other community events. While the band schedule can seem hectic at first it is possible, by setting your schedule in a reasonable manner, to be in the band, and still maintain the high scholastic standing that is expected of band members.

The band program here at Scott emphasizes discipline and musicianship. It is the pride in a job well done, and in us that makes the busy schedule worthwhile in the end. By working together and keeping open lines of communication between director, students and parents the band will continue its tradition of success.

The thing that separate a good band from a great band is that they simply work harder, work smarter, demand more of themselves and refuse to settle for any less than their very best. I challenge you to make this year's band the greatest yet!

8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents,

Welcome, and congratulations on your students decision to continue their music education in the Scott band program!

The study of music offers students a lot that they will not receive in a general education classroom. The importance of self discipline, team work, hard work, as well as a sense of accomplishment are all attributes I strive for in my students. The skills of your young musician will learn throughout their time in band will help them throughout his/her lifetime.

Besides these there are many other benefits of being in the high school band program. Research has shown that students who study music tend to fall in the top percentages of their class academically. The band boasts to have both valedictorians from the 2010 class as band members. Other benefits are the college scholarship opportunities (and no you don't have to major in music). Many colleges offer stipends for students for simply participating in their band programs. The Scott band Program currently offers \$300 dollar scholarships to select students who have participated all 4 years in the Scott band program in good standing.

In addition to the above, band is an enjoyable class that breaks up the monotony of the normal school day. While continuing working on basic musicianship, we will focus on performing and learning a variety of styles of music.

The enclosed handbook will contain much information about the band program here at Scott. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at Scott High School (369-3011) or email me at [saxplayergene@gmail.com](mailto:saxplayergene@gmail.com)

Musically yours,  
Gene Mills  
Director of Bands

Band Syllabus  
Marching /Concert Band  
Mr. Gene Mills

[Saxplayergene@gmail.com](mailto:Saxplayergene@gmail.com)

Focus: Band is a performance based class. Grades are based on participation, progress and attitude.

Attendance: band is a co-curricular activity which means **performances and rehearsals will be required outside of the normal school day.** As a member of the band program students are expected to attend all after school and in school rehearsals and performances. At least two weeks notice is to be given when a performance or rehearsal is missed. There are times when two weeks notice is not possible. Whether or not the absence will be excused or unexcused will be at the discretion of the director. Examples of excused absences are death in the family, personal illness, medical emergency in the family etc. Working will never be an acceptable excuse. I will strive to make sure I give at least two weeks notice of an event, and ask that you plan accordingly. Students missing an after school performance or rehearsal **must fill out and absence form and turn in two weeks before event!** If two weeks is not possible it must be filled out and turned in immediately upon the students return.

The band website is the best way to make sure you and your student are up to date with what is going on in our band program. I will update the site regularly so make sure to check the calendar and upcoming events for any changes or for the latest information on performances.

The bands website is [www.scottskyhawkband.org](http://www.scottskyhawkband.org)

The following is a list of performances you can already plan on attending this coming year:

All Football Games, any town parades (Fair, Christmas, home-coming and veterans day), Christmas concert, Spring Concert (senior Final), Band Festival, Any pep assemblies, Graduation (final for grades 9-11)

There are also other worthwhile events that do not require full band participation. As a requirement and in order to letter in band you must pick one even to participate in for a grade. Extra Credit can be given for each after the one requirement is met. They are but are not limited to:

All State band, Solo and ensemble, All area band  
All County band, Jazz band, various honor bands

## The Scott Bands

Concert Band: This band is the one from which all band at Scott are formed. The marching, pep, and jazz bands are all extensions of the concert band. The band performs approximately two formal concerts per year, at least one adjudication and performs at commencement.

Marching Band: The most active and visible of the bands. Marching band requires after summer school rehearsals, some weekend performances in the fall. It lasts approximately 10 weeks.

Jazz band: Although this is a volunteer group, it is generally made up of the best players in the program. The band will practice after school on Monday and Wednesday from 3:15-5:15 after marching season.

Pep Band: The pep band will perform at select home basketball games, and will perform stand tunes we used during football season. Attending all pep band games will fulfill the extra requirement mentioned in the syllabus. Participation can also fulfill some playing test requirements each semester.

## **JAZZ BAND**

Jazz band is a completely extra curricular activity. The band will meet twice a week and is open by audition to any member of the band. Students outside of band will be welcome to audition on an instrumental need basis.

Instrumentation will include:

5 saxes  
4-5 trumpets  
4-5 trombones  
1 keyboard player  
1 drummer  
1 aux., bass, and guitar

The jazz band could become a very active and requested group to perform for the community and other events. The jazz band will only exist if the dedication of the students makes the band happen.

## Grading

## First Nine Weeks:

The first nine week's grades are determined primarily by attendance at all rehearsals and performances. Various things checked at each performances in which points will be deducted for violations. Other factors involved are the students attitude and behavior during rehearsals and performances. Students are required to participate in marching band unless they are medically unable to do so (a doctors note and contact information is required).

## Second-Fourth Nine Weeks:

Grades will be determined by daily participation and performances (this may include an extended football season). Students will receive a participation grade every week of 100% . From this deduction will be made in the following manner:

No instrument -20

Talking in rehearsal -10

No pencil or unprepared -10

All concerts are mandatory and are worth 500 points. Points will be deducted if not dressed as directed.

After school rehearsals that are called at least two weeks in advance will be mandatory and require a make up playing test or assignment if missed.

Playing test will be given periodically, other activities can take the place of playing test at the directors discretion, examples are pep games, sectionals etc. Playing tests will also determine the chair placements for concert band.

## Awards

**Bars-** participation In marching band

**Letter-** "A" in band, no unexcused performances (1<sup>st</sup> year)

**Section Leader of the year-** outstanding section leader

**Directors Award-** Highest award given to band student each year

**Honor letter-** Met all requirements for letter, participated in an honor or all county band, participated in pep and or jazz bands, no unexcused performances

Marching band points system  
Deductions from 100 points weekly Grade

Unexcused Rehearsal	50 (benched next performance)
Unexcused Performance	100 (benched next performance)
Tardy Rehearsal	5
Tardy Performance	10
Unexcused Sectional	50
Tardy Sectional	5
Wrong Color Socks	10
No helmet	50 (do not perform)
Uniform not clean	20 (possibly not perform)
Uniform not pressed	10
Shoes not polished	10
Hair not up	20
Jewelry that is seen	20
No uniform	100 (will not perform)
Incomplete uniform	20-50 (will not perform)
Improper appearance	50
Profanity	20
Public Display of affection in Uni.	20
Smoking	30 (written up for disc. Action)
Improper uniform/inst. Care	20
Playing out of turn	10

Gum, Eating or drinking @ perf	10
Playing others instrument	10
Poor participation	20
Music, instrument out of place	10
Failure to check in materials	Incomplete
Materials not at rehearsals	20
Intentionally damage school prop.	Dismissal from band
Drinking or drug use	Dismissal from band
Fight, steal, moral misconduct	Dismissal from band
Out of section at performance	15
Miss proper equipment	20
Back 2 min before 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter	10 (no time off next game)
Food drinks in band stand (h2O ok)	20 (no time off next game)

### **Football Game Guidelines**

1. Plan on staying the entire game in your uniform. Do not disrobe any portion of the uniform until told to do so by the band director. You must always have your current year's band shirt on. If you do not, you will not take off the jacket if instructed to do so. IF YOU ARE TOLD TO TAKE JACKETS OFF, you fold them and lay them neatly to the right, your hat goes on top of the jacket.
  
2. Check with the band director or Drum Major before leaving the stands for any reason. We need balanced instrumentation during the entire game so you will only be allowed if it is an emergency.
  
3. Stay in your assigned seat and keep the rows straight. YOU ARE PERFORMING WHEN IN THE STANDS SO STAY IN PERFORMANCE MODE!

4. No “Friends” outside the band are permitted to sit in the band section NO EXCEPTIONS!

5. Do not play or make non-musical sounds during the game.

6. You are free to go to the concession stand and rest rooms during third quarter. You MUST be back in your seat when the scoreboard reads 2 minutes before the fourth quarter. Failure to do so will result in loss of participation points and you will not get 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter privileges next game!

7. You must be ready to play at any given moment. Always have your instrument in hand and ready to go. Missing entrances because you are not paying attention will not be acceptable.

8. Do not have people bring food and drink to you in the stands. You will have 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter to go to the concession stand and take care of getting food. Anything brought to you will be taken and thrown away on the spot.

**These rules apply to both home and away football games!**

### **General Policies**

All school rules and policies apply to band members when those students are with the band. Violations of those policies will be handled as outlined in the Scott High School Student Handbook.

### **Bus Rules**

1. There will be at least two adult chaperones per bus.
2. Only our students, school personnel, and county approved chaperones are allowed to ride the bus.
3. Students will go and return on the same bus.
4. Students may return home with their parent only if they have arranged to do so. A note from the parent is required and needs to be initialed by the band director and given by the student to

his or her chaperone. You must do this before we leave the school on a trip.

5. Students will stay in their seats while the bus is in motion

6. Loud, boisterous, profane language, or indecent behavior will not be tolerated.

7. There is no food or drinks taken onto school buses.

8. There is no smoking or alcoholic beverages on band trips. This is school board policy and violators will be turned over to the school administration.

9. No windows or doors will be opened or closed without permission of the bus driver.

10. Students will stay seated until the bus comes to a complete stop and they are instructed as to what they are to do next.

11. Upon arrival at a destination, students are to stay seated until given permission from the director or a chaperone.

12. At the conclusion of the trip. All students will clean their area of the bus, this means checking the floor under your seats as well.

#### **Scott High School Rules of conduct for School Sponsored Trips**

1. There are to be absolutely no alcoholic beverages or drugs of any kind used on trips.

Anyone who is caught with alcohol or drugs prior to the beginning of the trip will not be allowed to go and will face disciplinary charges. (If you are on a school suspension you will not go on the trip, no exceptions!)

2. Anyone caught with drugs or alcohol during the time of the trip will be turned over to the proper authorities.

3. Anyone who shows signs of drug or alcohol use will not be allowed to board the bus at the time of the trip.

Any infraction of the above rules will result in the following:

a. Your parents will be called

b. You will be turned over to the local authorities

c. You will not ride the bus back to Madison

d. Your parents will have to make arrangements for your bail and or your transportation back.

**These rules will be strictly enforced by all chaperones!**

4. During the trip to and from a destination, you are under the full authority of the

chaperones and band director. All school rules for conduct at school and school

functions are in force.

5. Since the behavior of one person in a school group can result in the expulsion of the whole group from the trip, every person is responsible to abide by the rules and to report anyone who is not abiding by the rules to the band director immediately.

6. All participating students must have returned the parent approval form supplied by the band director (its at the end of the handbook).... if you do not return a form with a proper signature you will not go on any trips.

7. No student will drive his/her car to or from a destination. All vehicles carrying

participants shall have an adult chaperone that is approved by the band director and or principal.

8. Where applicable, no students will enter the room of a student of the opposite sex without permission AND ADULT SUPERVISION.

9. Where applicable, chaperones will periodically check all rooms throughout time of occupancy.

10. All students shall adhere to regulations alone with any other imposed by the

chaperones or band director.

11. All students shall conduct themselves in a polite and proper manner. No loud or boisterous actions will be tolerated at anytime during a trip.

12. All participants will leave Scott High and return by the same mode of transportation and the same chaperones.

13. Chaperones will see that students are not excused from their care anytime during a trip.

14. Students will remain with the group for the duration of the trip. At no time will a student wander off alone for any reason.

15. Outside influences are strictly forbidden. Remember that everyone has rights. Those who are going on a trip for the pleasure and learning of the trip do not want it ruined by a few selfish, self centered troublemakers who can not control themselves and are not mature enough to know how to behave. Do not be one of those who cause others to suffer by their selfishness and immaturity!

## Uniforms

Cleaning- The student fee that each member pays for the band at the

beginning of the school year goes for the first cleaning of the

uniforms. All student uniforms are sent in at the same time by the band boosters. Students are individually responsible for maintaining a clean uniform. Not all band members have been responsible for taking proper care of their uniform. Failure to do so will result in the student no longer being allowed to take the uniform out of the band room after a performance.

Fitting- It is very important to the overall look of the band that each individual band member be fitted properly in his or her uniform. The fitting will take place during the last week of school and the first week in August. Bring your marching shoes if you have them for proper fitting in the pant length. If the student has hair that goes below the collar, it must be put up for proper fitting of the hat.

#### Uniform Rules:

1. Only black socks and the assigned black shoes will be worn with the uniform.
2. Uniforms will be hung up neatly on the hanger supplied with the uniform. The bibbers should be hung neatly to insure a pressed crease at the next performance.
3. NO ONE WILL ALTER a uniform without the permission of the band director. YOU MAY NOT CUT THE UNIFORM IN ANY WAY WHEN ALTERING.
4. The uniforms will be kept at home unless the student has proven themselves too irresponsible to enjoy that privilege.
5. All shoes will be polished before performances. With the patent leather show you will be able to see yourself in them. It is very important to make sure they are polished and ready to go!
6. The current band shirt will be worn under the band jacket. Also, it is advisable to wear gym shorts under the pants for modesty's sake,

as it is often necessary for us to change on the busses when we are

traveling. NO DENIM WILL BE WORN UNDER THE UNIFORM, EVER! IT LOOKS SLOPPY

7. Jewelry may not be worn! This includes tongue piercing, ear rings,

watches, rings etc. For both girls and guys

8. Hair can not be on or below the collar. This includes guys and girls. Hair must be put up in the hats to promote a uniform appearance. When hats are off hair for both guys and girls should be

back in a pony tail.

9. Uniforms are to be returned immediately when requested at the end of the year with the original hanger issued with the uniform. Failure to return the uniform when asked will result in your name being turned in on the final obligations list for the year, deduction in daily participation points, and a bill sent home for the amount of the replacement uniform.

## 2010-2011 Summer Band Schedule

**July-** Tuesdays and Thursday's starting on the 6<sup>th</sup> from 5-9 These rehearsals are NOT MANDATORY. Section leaders and drum majors need to inform me if they will not be there.

**July 19-23-** Mandatory Drum line and Guard camp week

from 5-9 Mon.-Fri. Failure to attending could jeopardize your spot on the line or in the show.

**August- 2<sup>nd</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> Mandatory band camp all members**  
9 am - 9 pm

**August 9-13 Mandatory band camp all members**  
5pm -9pm

**August 16-20<sup>th</sup> Mandatory band camp all members**  
5pm -9pm

## **Other dates:**

July 26<sup>th</sup> Student leadership meeting- Drum majors and section leaders at Scott Band Room

August 3<sup>rd</sup> shoe and glove fitting during band camp

August 20<sup>th</sup> Parent show and end of band camp picnic  
(students will perform show at 5:30)

## Forms Due:

Accompanying this hand book students will have a variety of forms due. A student will not be allowed to participate in the Scott band program without having turned all of these forms in by the end of band camp.

### Forms Check List:

Band Booster and Parent Support Form	_____
Agreement Form For members	_____
Agreement Form for Parents/Guardians	_____
Chaperone approval/request form	_____
Permission for out of town trips	_____
Emergency Medical form	_____
Auxiliary contract (guard majorette)	_____
Uniform care sheet	_____

## Band Dues and Student Accounts:

Band dues for this year will be \$75. This includes the band t-shirt and two cleanings of the uniforms (before and mid year). No student will be turned away because of financial difficulty. If you have financial difficulty please speak the band director about making other arrangements. The band director will be the only person who will be aware of you and your students situation and that information will be kept private.

Each student will have a “points” account which will include money owed to the band and will keep track of the money your student earns from fundraising towards spring trips and other expenses. The band director will keep tract of this information. If you need to know how much your student owes in dues, trip moneys or how much they have earned from fundraising percentages please contact me at [saxplayergene@gmail.com](mailto:saxplayergene@gmail.com) and I will supply you with that information. If parents wish to use points from the account towards band expenses they must simply fill out a points form and turn it into me informing of their intention. Each point in a student account is equal to \$1.

There will be a meeting a parents meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 in the Scott band room. I ask that I have one parent/guardian of each student marching present to explain how the point system will work and to go over the handbook. Dues and all other forms can also be collected that evening.