

**Unatego  
Sr. High  
Band  
Handbook  
2011-12**

## **REHEARSALS**

- If you are in school you are expected to attend each rehearsal.
- Arrive on time, get your instrument out, and be seated as quickly and quietly as possible. You will be given several minutes extra to get out your instrument and music. Three tardies will result in a referral.
- You must bring your instrument (including reeds), music, and a pencil to every rehearsal.
- There will be no food, drink, candy, or gum permitted in the band room.

## **GRADING**

Quarter grade will be divided into two parts: Summative (90%) and Formative (10%). Summative grades will include daily music skill assessments during rehearsals and graded performances. Formative grades will include lessons and other practice.

## **LESSONS & PRACTICE**

- Senior band students are required to attend 5 lessons each quarter at their convenience.
- Alternate assignments are available if you are unable to come to lessons.
- You will be expected to practice individually an average of 1/2 hour per day for at least five days per week to be prepared for rehearsals and lessons. This practice may take place at school or at home. If each student builds his/her own playing skills everyone will benefit.

## **BONUS CREDIT/RESPONSIBILITY SHARING**

For those students who complete the required assignments, there is the opportunity to earn bonus credit (up to 10 points per quarter). This may include but is not limited to the following:

- NYSSMA-5
- All-County-5
- Solo Concert Performance-5
- Student Conductor (one per concert)-5
- Band Officer-5
- Section Leader-3
- Article Summary-1 per article
- Band Assistant: TBD as the need arises-5
- Out of school performance (must be accompanied by a note)-5
- Concert Attendance (must be accompanied by concert program)-1 per concert

## **PERFORMANCES & CONCERTS**

- Attendance at all performances & concerts is **mandatory**. If there are extenuating circumstances you may be excused by the director. Parades & pep band are considered to be performances and will be graded as such.
- Transportation for performances & concerts is not provided. It is your responsibility to find a ride to the performance or concert.
- Concert dress is as follows:
  - **Ladies**- Black skirt or pants and white blouse
  - **Gentlemen**-black pants and white shirt, black jackets and ties are appreciated but optional
  - **Everyone** should wear nice black shoes not sneakers. Blue jeans, sweat pants or shorts are not acceptable concert attire.

### **Graded performances for this year include:**

- Pep Band-September 16
- Pep Band-September 30
- Pep Band-October 7
- Pep Band-October 21
- Elementary Assemblies-November 21
- Sr. Band Winter Concert-December 13
- Sr. Citizen's Day Concert-December 21
- Sr. Band Spring Concert-April 3
- Memorial Day Parades-May 28
- Jazz Band Concert-June 5
- Flag Day Parade-June 14 (note: this is during Regents week)

### **Other important dates:**

- Fundraiser Kickoff-September 19
- UMASS Band Day-October 8
- All-County Auditions-November 5
- Holiday Ensemble-December 15
- Senior Band All-County Festival-February 2 & 4
- Junior Band All-County Festival-March 1 & 3
- Marching Band Workshop-April 5
- NYSSMA Solo Festival, Norwich-May 11 & 12
- NYSSMA Solo Night-May 7
- 7-12 grade Band trip-June 9 (note: this is a week earlier than usual)

**Mark your calendar now with these dates!**

## COMMUNICATION

- It is important that parents, students, and teachers communicate effectively. If there are ever any problems that I should be aware of please contact Mrs. Nages immediately. The quickest way is by email [cnages@unatego.stier.org](mailto:cnages@unatego.stier.org) You can also call the music office 988-5039 or send a note with the student.
- In an effort to keep you informed about what is going on in band Mrs. Nages will send out emails and newsletters.
- Mrs. Nages regularly updates the music website [www.unatego.org/cnages.asp](http://www.unatego.org/cnages.asp) You can also get to this by clicking “Web Links” from the main Unatego web page and selecting the music webpage at the bottom. There is also a Unatego Band Facebook page where reminders and information will be posted.

## MUSIC, SUPPLIES, & REPAIRS

- Since we buy our supplies in bulk band students pay just \$10 for the purchase of all band supplies that they will need for the entire year. These supplies can include reeds, valve oil, cleaning rods & clothes, swabs, drum sticks, & mallets.
- This money also covers the cost of **replacing any lost or damaged music or band folders** as well as the use of any school instrument (including drums) and minor repairs that Mrs. Nages can do at school.
- In the past students have paid for these items as the need arose at the cost of anywhere between \$1.50 for a clarinet reed or up to \$25 for a pair of timpani mallets. This arrangement is better economically for the students and makes it easier for parents.
- Money will be due by **Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>**. Checks should be made payable to “Unatego Central School”. If you have questions or if you would like to make other arrangements please contact Mrs. Nages

## MUSIC AND EQUIPMENT STORAGE, CARE, AND MAINTENANCE

- Instruments must be kept in a locker when not in use.
- It is recommended that students put a lock on their band locker. Students may sign out a lock for the year or provide their own if they wish.
- All percussion instruments, sticks, and mallets must be properly stored at the end of each rehearsal.
- All music should be kept in the appropriate file or in your locker when not in use.
- You will be given a handout that outlines basic care and maintenance information for your specific instrument. Please be sure to read that information and become familiar with your instrument’s recommended maintenance schedule. Proper care will increase the life of your instrument as well as the performance.

## **VIDEOS**

Periodically during the school year we will be watching videos during band. According to Board of Education policy if a video is unrated the student must have permission to view the video. Below is a list of the videos that may be shown this year.

- Composer Videos
- History of Music Videos
- Instrument Maintenance Videos
- Elements of Music Videos
- Stomp
- Blue Man Group

## **UNATEGO MUSIC AND ARTS COUNCIL (UMAC)**

- One of the main purposes of UMAC is to promote, foster, and encourage achievement and excellence in and the advancement of the performing arts in Unatego Schools. This organization does this through various activities such as providing meals at the All-County Festival, water for the marching band at parades, Board of Education Advocacy, yearly scholarships, Angel Program for summer lessons, and Enrichment Funding for Arts activities.
- UMAC also gives monthly Artist & Musician of the Month Awards
- Meetings of UMAC are held 3 times during the school year. At these meetings Artists & Musicians of the Month will be recognized and student talent will be showcased.
- Membership in UMAC is open to parents of and students in Unatego Arts programs and all other interested individuals.

### **How Can You Help?**

- Serve as an Officer
- Serve as our Publicist
- Volunteer to help with our activities
- Make a Donation

For more information about UMAC contact Mrs. Nages or call the high school at 988-5098.

*If you have any questions at all concerning this handbook please let me know before you sign the agreement on the last page.*

**I am very excited about this year; I think that it is going to be great!**

**WELCOME BACK!!!**

Please complete and return this page to Mrs. Nages by Friday, September 9, 2011.

**SENIOR BAND STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email \_\_\_\_\_

Student Cell Phone for text message updates and reminders \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Cell Phone for text message updates and reminders \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (include zip code) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument \_\_\_\_\_

Brand \_\_\_\_\_ Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument is a: (check one)

Rental

My own

School Owned Instrument (If you are using a school instrument and have not already signed a lending agreement please do so as soon as possible.)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, and my parent/guardian, \_\_\_\_\_,

understand, have discussed, and agree to the expectations for Senior high band. Furthermore, I give my child permission to watch any of the videos listed in the band handbook.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian signature)

**\*Please complete both sides\***

Please complete and return this page to Mrs. Nages by Friday, September 9, 2011.

### UMAC Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

I would be interested in helping by (please check all that apply):

- serving as an officer or publicist
- helping with the senior high marching band
- donating baked goods for art & music events or fundraisers
- helping with the fall fundraiser
- making a donation
- call me when you need help! Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

**\*Please complete both sides\***

## SENIOR HIGH BAND OFFICERS

**Drum Major/Majorette**-One senior will be chosen. He/she will conduct marching band rehearsals during the spring. He/she will also serve as assistant conductor for the concert band. He/she will be responsible for learning to conduct the pieces the band is performing and assist with daily warm-ups. In the event that Mrs. Nages is absent the assistant conductor will run the rehearsal.

**Pep Band Director**-One will be chosen. He/she will conduct the pep band rehearsals during home football games in the fall. He/she will also serve as assistant conductor for the concert band during pep band season. He/she will be responsible for learning to conduct the pep band pieces the band is performing and assist with daily warm-ups. In the event that Mrs. Nages is absent during pep band season the pep band director (along with the drum major/majorette) will run the rehearsal.

**Assistant Drum Major/Majorette**-One will be chosen. He/she will share the responsibilities of the Drum Major/Majorette.

**Secretary**-One will be chosen. He/she will be responsible for taking daily attendance for band, carefully marking absences, tardiness, and unprepared students and checking it with the absentee sheet. Attendance should be taken for rehearsals (both concert band and marching band), concerts, pep band performances, and parades. This person will also record minutes for all band meetings. He/she will also assist Mrs. Nages with other secretarial duties such as filing and copying.

**Treasurer**- One will be chosen. This person will be responsible for keeping track of the band finances. This includes counting money from fundraisers, making deposits and other financial transactions.

**Librarians**-Two may be chosen. The main responsibility of these people will be to help organize the music for the band department. This will include sorting, filing, and computer entry. They will also be responsible for handing out and collecting music for the senior high band.

**Equipment Manager**-One will be chosen. He/she will be responsible for keeping the band room in order. This will involve keeping the chairs and stands set up with the correct number in each row. They are also responsible for the equipment bus during marching season.

**Inventory Manager**-One will be chosen. This person will be responsible for signing out school instruments and keeping the inventory current. This person will also be responsible for signing out marching band uniforms, pep band folios, and lyres.

**Percussion Equipment Managers**-Two may be chosen. They will be responsible for keeping the percussion equipment organized and in working order (both marching and concert). They are also responsible for the checking the percussion on the equipment bus during marching season.

**Section Leaders**-One will be chosen for each section. This person does not have to be the first chair player. Responsibilities include handing out and collecting music and information to the section.

*All of the officers chosen must be willing to give up some of their free time to fill the responsibilities of their position. Because these positions do require extra effort officers will receive extra credit each quarter that they fulfill their responsibilities. You may apply for more than one position. Officers will be chosen by Mrs. Nages based on your application and her discretion.*

