



# GREटना HIGH SCHOOL BAND HANDBOOK 2025 – 2026

Teachers:

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Welcome to the 2025 - 2026 Gretna High School Band Program. Our hope is that this band program will be an organization that the students, parents, and community can be proud of. In order to create a positive environment, the ensemble needs a set of governing policies. To avoid misunderstandings, the expectations of the Gretna Band members are contained in this handbook.

The emphasis of the band program is on musicianship and taking pride in our accomplishments. When taken advantage of, the band program is a place where well-rounded individuals are developed. Through hard work, dedication, and a sense of teamwork, not only are first-rate bands created, but also mature young adults. The success of the band program depends a lot on the individuals of the group striving for our common goals and adhering to the set guidelines.

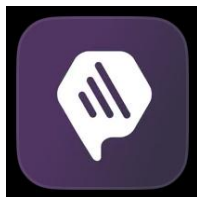
## **Contact Information**

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## **Band Website**

**[www.gretna-bands.com](http://www.gretna-bands.com)**

**The GHS Band will use the ROOMS app for all instant messaging purposes during the 2025-26 school year.**



## Goals

1. To maximize our potential as individuals, and as an ensemble
2. To achieve excellence through our performances, rehearsals, and daily behavior
3. To honor the music and visual designs in our execution
4. To honor our community and achieve a sense of pride in our school, city, state, and country
5. To achieve a sense of unity within our ensemble and create lasting relationships among band members

## Responsibilities of a Gretna Band Member

1. Be on time (early) and present at all required events
2. Have all the required materials for class and outside school events
3. Put your best effort and attitude on display at all times
4. Act with respect and high moral character at all times, inside and outside of the classroom
5. Do all necessary preparatory work necessary to make the band successful

## Expectations in the Classroom

1. Our classroom extends to the marching field during marching season. Class begins when the bell rings. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays during marching season, Varsity Band will begin class at 7:00 a.m. You may need to work out a ride. Please plan ahead. We will also have Tuesday evening rehearsals for Varsity Band from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. on the days stated on the calendar.

b. The Absence Request form is on Google Classroom or the band website: [www.gretna-bands.com](http://www.gretna-bands.com)

### STUDENT LINKS

2. Have your required materials at all times
  - a. Concert Band – Instrument in working condition, music, pencil, reeds, mouthpiece, swab, valve oil, slide grease, etc.
  - b. Marching Band – Instrument in working condition, music, drill, **tennis shoes**, nail bag, pencil, lyre, flip folder, reeds, mouthpiece, swab, valve oil, slide grease, etc.
3. If a student needs to leave the room for any reason during class, that student must fill out an electronic pass and have it approved by a teacher. Only one student will be allowed out of the room at a time. Excessive time out of class or abuse of passes may result in detention time owed at the director's discretion.
4. Show respect for the teachers and fellow students.
5. Follow given instructions from the teachers.
6. Take care of the equipment in the classroom.
7. No food, drinks (besides water), or gum in the classroom at any time.
8. At the end of rehearsals all instruments, music, and other items should be returned to their proper place in the band room.
9. Do not pack up until instructed and stay in the band room until dismissed.
10. Talking in rehearsals should be limited. If you are asked to stop and the talking continues, a detention will be given.
11. Students are expected to do all preparatory work (practice) necessary for making the band successful prior to each performance. Directors reserve the right to deny any student the privilege of performing with the band if they determine that such student is unprepared for that performance.

## Technology Use Policy

**Cell phones:** Nebraska law prohibits student use of electronic communication devices (cell phones) during instructional time (during class). Any exceptions to this policy must be approved by the administration, such as when necessary to manage or monitor student healthcare.

Students are required to put their cell phones in the caddy at the beginning of class. Each student will be assigned a number that corresponds to the numbers on the caddy-students are required to put their phone in that specific pocket.

- Students will NOT be allowed to take their cell phones with them when they use the restroom

**Listening devices:** Students are required to put their listening devices (AirPods, headphones, etc.) away when they put their cell phones away. After all direct instruction has been completed, and the teacher gives permission, students may utilize one AirPods or school-issued headphones in order to complete an assignment or activity that requires them to use audio on their school-issued laptop.

- Red Zone - The entire class period MUST be red zone. Electronic devices MUST be on silent and put away. Use of any electronic device while on red will result in automatic confiscation of the student's device.
- Green Zone - Before/after school, passing periods, lunch and school activities.

Misuse of electronic devices (ex: refusal to place phone in caddy, turning in a "burner phone," or refusal to take out earbuds) may result in disciplinary action.

## Expectations for Pep Band

1. Be on time. We will meet in the band room and move to the field or court together.
  2. Be dressed in the appropriate attire (full marching uniform, or pep band polo).
- \*Marching band uniforms are to be worn fully and appropriately in the public eye.
3. The band will be divided into two separate bands for basketball Pep Band. Each band member will either be in the Green or Gold Pep Band.
  4. Attendance at scheduled events is required. The entire band will perform at football games during the first half and during halftime. The assigned band will perform at basketball and volleyball games for their entirety.
  5. Concession stand work is not an excuse for missing a scheduled performance. Schedule your work around the band commitment.
  6. Have your required materials.
  7. Show respect for the teachers and other students as in the classroom.
  8. Use good sportsmanship.

## Attendance for All Band Events

**\*All students are responsible for filling out the appropriate Google Absence Request form if they will miss an event. Mr. Woodside and school administration have the final say in what is deemed as an excused or an unexcused absence. The form is available on Google Classroom or the band website: [www.gretna-bands.com](http://www.gretna-bands.com). If you do not have access to the Internet at home, you may complete this form at school.**

### Excused Absences (as determined by admin)

- Excused absences include but are not limited to illness, bereavement, family emergency, participation in school activity, medical/dental appointment, religious observance, family trip, college visit. The student, upon returning to school, is responsible for requesting assignments for make-up work, and the teacher and student will work together to determine a reasonable timeline for completion.
- Students will be given one day for each day of excused absence to complete make-up work before late grades are assigned.
- Students in sports, clubs, and activities **MUST** be in class all 8 periods in order to participate in practice or events. Missing one or more periods due to illness or unexcused absence will result in the student not being able to participate.
- Students wishing to attend an NSAA state event will receive additional information regarding absences and assignments prior to the event.

### Unexcused Absences (as determined by admin)

- Students may be required to make up work and time missed and may receive zeros for any class work missed during the absence.
- Dual Credit Attendance/Communication policy (in addition to teachers' specific policies)
- All school-related sports or activity absences will be exempt from the following policy. All other absences (excused and unexcused) will be counted.
- When a student reaches 13 absences or 15% of the total class time, the teacher will meet with the student (and email the parents and admin) and may determine that additional work must be completed in order to earn college credit.
- When a student reaches 22 absences or 25% of the total class time, the teacher will initiate a meeting with the student, guardians, and administrator to determine whether or not the student will be able to earn college credit and what steps must be taken in order to do so.

1. All students are required to be at all mandatory band functions. These functions include all rehearsals/sectionals and performances for Marching Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Pep Band, and Solos/Small Ensembles.
  - a. If the Jazz Band or a Solo/Small Ensemble is performing, only members of those ensembles need to be in attendance.
2. Students that plan to miss **any** required band performance or rehearsal must fill out the Gretna Bands Google Absence Request Form at least two weeks prior to the request date. The Absence Request Form can be found on the band website: [www.gretna-bands.com](http://www.gretna-bands.com). Verbal or e-mail notification will not be allowed. Mr. Woodside will decide whether or not to approve the request.
3. Students who are tardy for an unexcused reason to a rehearsal will lose 1 daily grade point for that day, AND will be required to serve a 15 minute detention before or after school at the discretion of the band directors.
4. Students who are absent for an unexcused reason to a rehearsal may lose all daily points for that day.

5. Students who have an unexcused absence from any performance may lose all points for that performance. Please refer to the Concert/Jazz/Percussion Ensemble Make-up portion of the handbook.
6. Excused absences for school athletics (not club) and activities (One Act, Speech, etc....) will be honored if the student fills out the appropriate Google Absence Request form. Doctors' notes, family/medical emergencies, or a parent submitted Google Absence Request form at least 24 hours in advance (with legitimate reasons left up to the discretion of the director) will be the **only** exceptions.
  - a. Only students who suit up on the varsity squad, manage, or contribute to a large extent to the team/organization/school sport will be excused from band events.
  - b. Work will never be considered an excused absence.
  - c. Concession stand work or videotaping for the game is not an excuse for not participating during a scheduled pep band.

### **Activity Eligibility Policy**

#### Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco.

An activity participant who violates the drug, alcohol or tobacco rules shall be prohibited from participating in any extracurricular activity for the following minimum periods:

1. First Violation: 42 days, with opportunities for reductions.
2. Second or Any Subsequent Offense: 42 days, without opportunities for reductions.
3. Reduction for Self-Reporting: If the student has self-reported, the first violation shall be reduced to 28 days for the first violation.
4. Reduction for Participation in Chemical Dependency Program: If the student has self-reported and parents agree to participate in a school-approved program for chemical dependency, the consequence will be reduced to 21 days. If the student did not self-report and parents agree to participate in a school-approved program for chemical dependency, the first violation will be reduced to 28 days.

#### Pictures

##### **RECORDING OF OTHERS**

Recording others (photographs, videotaping, sound recording, etc.) without direct administrative approval and consent of the person(s) being recorded, other than recording persons participating in school activities that are open to the public, is prohibited.

#### Attendance at School

All students who participate in any school activity must be in regular full day attendance the day the activity is scheduled. This applies to practice sessions as well as games, meets, etc. An exception may be made if a student shows verification of having a doctor's appointment or has prior permission from the administration.

### **Uniforms**

1. Uniforms are worn at all required marching and contest events and are to be worn fully and correctly.
2. Uniforms are expensive and must be taken care of. If negligence causes damage to a uniform, Mr. Woodside will determine what fees will be charged to the student.
3. Uniforms and hats will be fitted and assigned to students during scheduled fitting sessions. This will be the student's uniform for the entire school year.
4. For pep band, students will wear their green band polo.

## Uniform Guidelines

\*Failing to adhere to these guidelines negatively affects how judges score our performances.

1. **Jewelry:** No jewelry of any kind can be worn during a formal marching band performance. This includes, but is not limited to, watches, wristbands, rings, earrings, and necklaces. Nose rings will need to be removed or covered with a band-aid if they cannot be removed.

2. **Hair:** All hair needs to be up and off the collar in a neat and orderly fashion as close to military standards as possible. Students with longer hair may need larger hats so that the hair may all fit inside the hat.

\*There will be hair stations for contests and football games. A student in each section will be assigned responsibility for their section.

### 3. Underneath the Uniform, Socks, and Footwear:

- a. All students need to wear the marching band theme shirt underneath the uniform.
- b. Students also need to wear black athletic shorts underneath the bibs. There may be situations when we will be seen without any part of the full uniform (no bibs or coat), so we still need to look totally unified.
- c. Students need to wear ALL-BLACK full-length socks. Low cut and no-show socks are not usable in marching band.
- d. Students will all need to purchase a pair of Drill Master marching band shoes, and students are expected to keep the shoes clean and free of mud and other field “debris.”
- e. Absolutely NO Jeans.

4. **The Uniform Coat/Jacket:** When the student is in the position of “instrument up” and the head above parallel, the base of the coat should be long enough that none of the t-shirt is exposed. Also, the length of the sleeves in this position should reach all the way to the wrist. The student’s instrument being in the most extreme position should not expose any skin of the arm.

\*Tape for gloves will be at the hair station.

5. **The Uniform Pants:** When standing at “attention” the length of the pants should be such that the end of the pants meets the top of the shoe with absolutely no break in the seam of the pants. This again is the military standard, and although it will look shorter than the pant leg length of traditional “street” clothes, it is correct for marching band.

## Concerts

1. **Appropriate Dress:** Concert black is required for all concert band concerts and contests. This simply means wear all black dress clothes. For both male and female students this is Black Top, Black Pants, Black Socks, All Black Shoes. All black clothing needs to qualify as “dress clothes” and should not be casual attire. T-Shirts and sweatpants will not be allowed.

\*Students that do not follow the dress code will be sent home to change.

\*If there is a financial issue, please contact Mr. Woodside so that other arrangements can be made.

2. **Punctuality:** Arrive at least 30 minutes prior to each performance.

3. **Required Attendance:** Students must participate in each concert, as they are a major part of the band program and account for at least 50% of the students’ grades.

## **Concert/Jazz/Percussion Ensemble Make-ups**

1. **Unexcused:** Any student who misses a marching/concert/jazz/percussion ensemble performance with an unexcused absence must make-up 70% of the performance participation points by completing an alternative assignment as determined by the directors.
2. **Excused:** Any student who misses a marching/concert/jazz/percussion ensemble performance for an excused absence will be exempted from that grade in the gradebook.
3. **Pep Band Make-Ups:** Any student who misses a Pep Band performance with an unexcused absence will be allowed to make-up the performance **by attending an event for a different pep band (i.e. If you are in Gold Band, you can complete a make up by attending a Green Band event)**. Not making up unexcused performances will result in loss of points from their grade that will be made up only to a 70% by completing an alternative assignment as determined by the directors. Directors will handle excused absences on a case-by-case basis.

## **Expectations for All Other Outside Events**

1. Be on time (early).
2. Be dressed in the appropriate attire.
3. Have your required materials.
4. Follow all instructions from teachers and adults.
5. Represent yourself, your school, and your band in a positive way.
6. Show respect for volunteers (parents, bus drivers, trip hosts, etc.).

## **Gretna High School Band Ensembles**

### **Varsity Marching Band (REQUIRED FOR ALL 10-12 BAND STUDENTS): 6021**

The Gretna High School Varsity Marching Band performs in the Gretna Days Parade, at all home and playoff football games, and at five field marching competitions. This portion of the course meets every day during 1<sup>st</sup> hour, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings at 7:00 AM, Tuesday evenings from 6:00 – 9:00 PM, and on Saturdays of competitions in the fall.

### **Varsity Concert Band (REQUIRED FOR ALL 10-12 BAND STUDENTS): 6021**

The Gretna High School Varsity Concert Band will be divided into two performing ensembles (Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band) based on auditions following marching band. The concert bands perform numerous concerts throughout the school year and participate in concert band contests and festivals such as the NSBA Concert Band Festival and District Music Contest. These ensembles will develop technique, rehearsal skills, theory knowledge, musicality, and music appreciation throughout the duration of this course by performing classic and modern wind band literature. This portion of the course meets every day during 1<sup>st</sup> hour.

### **Freshmen Marching Band (REQUIRED FOR ALL 9<sup>th</sup> BAND STUDENTS): 6011**

The Gretna High School Freshmen Marching Band performs in the Gretna Days Parade, at all home and playoff football games, and at two field marching competitions. This portion of the course meets every day during 2<sup>nd</sup> hour, Thursday nights from 6:00-7:30 PM, and on Saturdays of competitions.

### **Freshmen Concert Band (REQUIRED FOR ALL 9<sup>th</sup> BAND STUDENTS): 6011**

The Gretna High School Freshmen Concert Band performs numerous concerts throughout the school year and participates in concert band contests and festivals such as the Bellevue West Concert Band Festival. This ensemble will develop technique, rehearsal skills, theory knowledge, musicality, and music appreciation throughout the duration of this course by performing classic and modern wind band literature. This portion of the course meets every day during 2<sup>nd</sup> hour.

### **Percussion Ensembles (REQUIRED for ALL Percussion Students):**

The Gretna High School Percussion Ensembles meet mainly during Varsity and Freshman Band class. The purpose of these ensembles is to challenge percussionists to develop musicianship and technique on all percussion instruments, while also strengthening ensemble awareness and performance. The percussion ensembles prepare a wide variety of repertoire throughout the school year, and prepare music for 1-2 concerts, as well as, Solo/Ensemble Contests.

### **Pep Band (Gold/Green Band, REQUIRED FOR ALL 9-12 BAND STUDENTS):**

The Gretna High School Pep Bands perform at home GHS volleyball and basketball games to show our pride and support of the community, school, and student athletes. Because of the number of students enrolled in band, Pep Band is split up into two balanced instrumental ensembles: Gold and Green Band. These ensembles perform a variety of music to support our student athletes and entertain our spectators.

### **Jazz I (Auditioned): 6012**

The Gretna High School Jazz I is an auditioned ensemble that performs at numerous concerts throughout the school year and at jazz band contests and festivals such as the Great Plains Jazz Festival. Students may audition on either their primary instrument or on a secondary instrument. This ensemble will develop technique, improvisation, rehearsal skills, theory knowledge, musicality, and music appreciation through the performance of classic and modern jazz literature. This course meets every Tuesday and Friday morning at 6:45 a.m. once marching band has ended. Jazz I is graded, and students receive a .6 credit for completion of this course.

### **Jazz II (Auditioned): 6013**

The Gretna High School Jazz II is an auditioned ensemble that performs at numerous concerts throughout the school year and at jazz band contests and festivals such as the Great Plains Jazz Festival. Students may audition on either their primary instrument or on a secondary instrument. This ensemble will develop technique, improvisation, rehearsal skills, theory knowledge, musicality, and music appreciation through the performance of classic and modern jazz literature. This course meets every Wednesday and Thursday morning at 6:45 a.m. once marching band has ended. Jazz II is graded, and students receive a .6 credit for completion of this course.

### **Solos/Small Ensembles:**

Solo/small ensembles at Gretna High School are student-organized and student-led. They perform at numerous solo/small ensemble contests and festivals such as Elkhorn Band Olympics (9-10 only), Elkhorn Band Olympics Sr., and other public performance venues. Solo/small ensembles perform a variety of classical and modern literature to ensure the development of instrumental techniques, rehearsal skills, musicality, theory, improvisation, and music appreciation. Solo/small ensembles meet before or after school and receive guided instruction by Mr. Woodside, Mr. Hickman, Mrs. Aiken, or Mr. McKenzie.



## Course Outline

### First Quarter:

1. Prepare and present halftime/pre-game shows at football games, perform at selected volleyball matches
2. Participate in scheduled marching contests
3. Prepare individuals for All-State and other honor band auditions

### Second Quarter:

1. Prepare and perform a Winter Concert
2. Prepare individuals for honor band auditions
3. Study and test scales/rudiments and other music skills
4. Prepare and provide band spirit at selected home basketball games
5. Begin Jazz Band rehearsals

### Third Quarter:

1. Prepare and perform a concert
2. Provide continued support at selected home basketball games
3. Prepare and present solos and ensembles for Elkhorn Band Olympics
4. Study and test scales/rudiments and other music skills
5. Jazz Band participation in festivals

### Fourth Quarter:

1. Prepare and perform for District Music Contest, NSBA CBF, or Bellevue West CBF
2. Prepare and perform for a Spring Concert
3. Prepare solos and small groups for Gretna Music Festival
4. Study and test scales/rudiments and other music skills

## Grade Components

### 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Grade Determined by:

1. Daily Grade – Full participation and cooperation in the classroom; instrument and all materials every day; no gum, beverages, or food; proper footwear
2. Skills Tests – Scales, rudiments, terms tests, rhythm packets, etc.
3. Attendance at Marching Contests, Concert, and Pep Bands – **Music must be memorized to participate in marching performances. If students do not have their music memorized, they may be asked to attend the contest but not perform. The grade for the performance will be 70%.**

\*Grade is determined by an accumulation of points from the entire semester.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Grades Determined by:

1. Daily Grade – Full participation and cooperation in the classroom; instrument and all materials every day; no gum, beverages, or food
2. Skills Tests – Scales, rudiments, terms tests, rhythm packets, etc.
3. Attendance at Pep Band – On time, stays for the entire game, and participate fully
4. Attendance at Concerts and Contests

\*Grade is determined by an accumulation of points from the entire semester.

## Grading Policy

Marching Band, Pep Band, and Concert Band grades will be taken every quarter in the following areas:

1. 31% - Daily Points (Rehearsal Participation/Worksheets/Etc.)	<u>Grading Scale:</u>	
2. 31% - Performances	90 - 100	A
a. Marching/Concert/Contest Performances	80 - 89	B
b. Pep Band Performances	70 - 79	C
3. 31% - Skills (Playing/Scales/Rudiments)	60 - 69	D
4. 7% - Final Exam	59 – Below	F

Jazz Band grades will be taken every quarter in the following areas:

1. 50% - Daily Attendance/Rehearsals/Worksheets/Listening Assignments
2. 50% - Performances

**\*\*\*Semester Grades will be determined by accumulating points from the entire semester.**

All scale and memorization tests will need to be completed within a designated timeline. If a student fails to complete the playing/scale/rudiment test by the due date, they will only receive a lowered grade upon completion. The degree to which the grade will be lowered will be relative to the degree to which it was turned in late. If late work/missed quizzes or tests have not been made up in one week, the student will meet with Mr. Woodside and an administrator to discuss further options.

## Cheating Policy

Students caught cheating on an assignment will redo the assignment on their own and may only receive up to a 70% upon completion. In the case of students doing work for others, all students involved will be held to this standard.

### Misuse of AI, Cheating, and Plagiarism

Academic dishonesty includes cheating, plagiarizing and inappropriate use of AI.

Students may use AI tools to support learning (e.g., idea generation, feedback, or revision), but using AI to complete assignments dishonestly—such as copying answers or submitting AI-generated work as their own—is considered academic dishonesty.

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and may result in an automatic zero. Students will be required to redo any assignment involving academic dishonesty. The highest possible grade on the resubmission may be 50%.

Parents and/or guardians will be notified, and additional consequences may be assessed.

### Late Assignments and Failed Tests

Retakes will be expected for those students who fail any assessment. Students will only be able to attain up to a 60% (passing grade) on a retake or late assignment. The student will immediately meet with the instructor to establish a way to meet the objectives/expectations.

## **Instrument and Equipment Fees**

**Concert Woodwinds and Brass (oboe, bass clarinet, bassoon, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, French horn, concert baritone, concert tuba): Paid by November 7, 2025.** Students are responsible for standard expenses that go along with their instrument. This includes reeds, valve oil, slide grease, additional mouthpieces, mouthpiece covers, ligatures, neck straps, etc.

1. Students who need to use a school instrument will be charged a **\$90.00** maintenance fee. This fee covers routine maintenance expenses. Students are responsible for the supplies listed above.
2. All woodwind and brass students are responsible for the maintenance of all school-owned wind instruments. If students misuse, mistreat, or break a school-owned instrument he/she is responsible for the repair costs for the instrument.
3. Students will not be allowed to checkout at the end of the school year if outstanding fees have not been paid, or if their instruments are in an unacceptable condition.
4. **Students checking out a school instrument will need to fill out an Instrument Checkout Google form by November 7, 2025. A link to this form will be sent to students via their Gretna School e-mail**

**Marching Band/Jazz Band Woodwind and Brass (tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, mellophone, marching baritone, bass trombone, marching sousaphone): Paid by November 7, 2025.** Students are responsible for standard expenses that go along with their instrument. This includes reeds, valve oil, slide grease, additional mouthpieces, mouthpiece covers, ligatures, neck straps, instrument stands, lyres, etc.

1. Students who need to use a school instrument **only for Marching Band or Jazz Band** will be charged a **\$50.00** maintenance fee. This fee covers routine maintenance expenses. Students are responsible for the supplies listed above.
2. All woodwind and brass students are responsible for the maintenance of all school-owned wind instruments. If students misuse, mistreat, or break a school-owned instrument he/she is responsible for the repair costs for the instrument.
3. Students will not be allowed to checkout at the end of the school year if outstanding fees have not been paid or if their instruments are in an unacceptable condition.
5. **Students checking out a school instrument will need to fill out an Instrument Checkout Google form by November 7, 2025. A link to this form will be sent to students via their Gretna School e-mail.**

### **Percussion:**

1. Percussionists will pay a **\$90.00** maintenance fee that covers maintenance of equipment, routine head replacement (both Concert and Marching Band), and starter sticks/mallets for marching band.
2. All percussionists are required to buy additional marching sticks/mallets.
3. All Concert Band Percussionists are required to have and label (a list of quality equipment suggestions found below):
  - a. Personal stick/mallet bag large enough to house all personal equipment
  - b. Concert Snare Drum Sticks
  - c. Xylophone/Bell Mallets (plastics/brass only)
  - d. General Tympani Mallets
4. All Jazz Band Percussionists are required to have and label:
  - a. Personal Stick Bag (can be concert stick/mallet bag)
  - b. Drum Set Sticks
  - c. Brushes

5. All percussionists are responsible for the proper care and maintenance of all school-owned percussion equipment. If any school-owned instrument/equipment is misused, mistreated, or broken by a student, they are responsible for the repair costs for the instrument/equipment.
6. Students will not be allowed to checkout at the end of the school year if outstanding fees have not been paid.
7. Students interested in adding to their personal equipment, beyond the required materials, can look through the following list to find high quality equipment that will aid in solo/ensemble performances. All items listed are helpful suggestions for picking quality equipment that will last for years (if used properly). You may find many of these items (or similar) at <https://www.steveweissmusic.com/> and/or at your local music stores - Dietze Music and Schmitt Music.

**Stick / Mallet Bag:**

Jumbo Mallet Bag with Backpack (~\$30)

Carry-All-Caddy Mallet Bag (~\$30)

One Half Size Tour Mallet Bag (~\$30)

**Snare Drum Sticks:**

Concert Drumsticks:

Promark Concert One and Two Drumsticksj Bundle (~\$16 per pair)

Promark TXC1W Concert One Snare Drumstick (~\$14 per pair)

Promark TXC2W Concert Two Snare Drumstick (~\$14 per pair)

Vic Firth American Custom SD1 General Drumsticks (~\$12 per pair)

**Timpani Mallets:**

Promark JH2 Jonathan Haas Staccato Timpani Mallets (~\$40 per pair)

Promark JH3 Jonathan Haas Hard Timpani Mallets (~\$40 per pair)

Promark JH4 Jonathan Haas General Timpani Mallets (~\$40 per pair)

Vic Firth T1 - General (~\$33 per pair)

Vic Firth T3 - Staccato (~\$33 per pair)

**Marimba Mallets:**

Vic Firth M114 - Medium (~\$40 per pair)

Vic Firth M115 - Medium Hard (~\$40 per pair)

Vic Firth M123 - Medium (~\$40 per pair)

Vic Firth M124 - Medium Hard (~\$40 per pair)

Innovative Percussion IP240 Medium Birch Marimba Mallets (~\$40 per pair)

Innovative Percussion IP300 Medium Hard Birch Mallet Mallets (~\$40 per pair)

**Vibraphone Mallets:**

Vic Firth Gary Burton Keyboard M25 (Blue) (~\$40 per pair)

Vic Firth M31 Terry Gibbs Medium Blue Cord (~\$45 per pair)

Vic Firth M32 Terry Gibbs Medium Hard Green Cord (~\$45 per pair)

Mike Balter 22R Medium Hard Green Cord (~\$40 per pair)

Mike Balter 23R Medium Blue Cord (~\$40 per pair)

**Xylophone Mallets:**

Innovative Percussion James Ross IP902 Medium Soft Xylo/Bell Mallets (~\$37 per pair)

Innovative Percussion James Ross IP905 Bright Xylo/Bell Mallets (~\$37 per pair)

Mallettech Bob Becker BB34 Medium Rattan Xylo/Bell Mallets "Becker Blues" (~\$35 per pair)

**Bell Mallets:**

Innovative Percussion Orchestral Series OS5 Full Rattan Glock Mallets (~\$35 per pair)

Innovative Percussion Orchestral Series OS7 Very Bright Rattan Glock Mallets (~\$35 per pair)

Innovative Percussion James Ross IP907 Small Brass Bell Mallets (~\$37 per pair)

**Jazz Band:**

\*Drum Set Drumsticks/Brushes:

(any percussionists in Jazz band as a drum set player must have their own drumsticks and their own brushes)

Vic Firth American Classic 5A Drumsticks (~\$11 per pair)

Vic Firth Peter Erskine Original Wood Tip or Ride Wood Tip Drumsticks (~\$12 per pair)

VicFirth Buddy Rich Drumsticks (~\$12 per pair)

Liberty One Standard Telescoping Wire Brushes (~\$17 per pair)

Promark TB3 Jazz Wire Brushes (~\$25 per pair)

**Marching Band Attire:**

1. All GHS Band students 9-12 are required to buy a Gretna Band Polo (\$40) and Drill Masters marching shoes (\$45/pair) at the beginning of each year. Students who already own these items are not required to re-purchase them. Trade-ins are also available based on availability. New shoes and shirt checks must be written to the **Gretna High Band Booster**. Used Drill Masters are available in limited quantity and are free to any GHS Band Student. Used shoes will be given out in a first-come-first-served basis.

**Drillmasters will only be worn for performance and not for practice.**

**Flip Folders and Lyres:**

All students must purchase their own flip folders and lyres from Dietze or Schmitt Music stores prior to the first Gretna Days Parade rehearsal. Students should take their marching instrument with them to the store to have the proper equipment fitted to their instrument.

**Lockers**

All woodwind and brass players will be assigned a locker to store their instrument for the 2025-2026 school year on the first Gretna Days rehearsal in the summer.

1. Each student is responsible for cleaning and maintaining his/her locker.
2. Only instruments, flip folders, band polo, and Drill Masters will be allowed in these lockers.
3. Any gum, food, or drink other than water will be immediately thrown away if found.
4. Students will not be allowed to check out if their lockers are not properly maintained or cleaned.

**Chair Placements****Marching Band:**

The directors determine the chair placement for the marching band.

**Wind Ensemble/Symphonic Band:**

Chair placements will be based on audition. All students interested in auditioning to become a Principal Player or Jazz Band member must prepare and perform their audition material to the degree of being awarded with that type of position.

**Jazz Band:**

Chair placements will be based on audition. Challenging will not be allowed and parts can only be changed by the directors

## Checkout Policy

At the conclusion of every school year, all students will follow the below check out procedure. Students will not be allowed to check out unless all the following areas are completed:

1. Locker cleaned out and instrument taken home.
2. All graded work completed.
3. Concert Band music checked-in.
4. Jazz Band music checked-in.
5. All fees and IOU's paid.
6. Returned school-owned instrument in acceptable condition.
7. Let a director know if you are interested in auditioning for All-State (Jazz Band, Concert Band, and/or Orchestra).
8. A signature from a director confirming that all of the above areas are complete (a checkout spreadsheet will be made for each ensemble at the end of the year).

## Lettering in Band

\*Below is a list of ways to earn points towards a letter in band.

All students may earn a Band Letter by accumulating 1200 points, or by being director recommended.

Drum Major	100 pts
Marching Band Section/Rank Leader	100 pts
Attendance at Marching Band Contest Performances	100 pts/contest
*Papio South, Capitol City, Elkhorn, OMI, NSBA	
Attendance at all Pep Band Performances	200 pts
*Includes if all <u>excused</u> absences were made up	
Attendance at Concerts (3 during school year)	100 pts/each
Attendance at Concert Band Contest/Festival/Clinic	100 pts
Gretna Days Parade	25 pts
Winter Percussion or Guard Member	200 pts
Honor Band Audition	25 pts
Honor Band Acceptance	Additional 50 pts
Solo Performance at Contest	100 pts
Superior Rating for Solo	Additional 50 pts
Small Group Performance at Contest	100 pts
Superior Rating for Small Group	Additional 50 pts
Attend a Summer Music Camp (Not Gretna Band Camp)	50 pts
Lessons with a Private Instructor on Band Instrument	50 pts per semester
* <u>Must turn in a lesson schedule signed by the private teacher.</u>	
Voice/Piano/Non-band instrument Lessons with Private Instructor	25 pts per semester
* <u>Must turn in a lesson schedule signed by the private teacher.</u>	
Jazz I or II (good standing attendance record and all performances)	200 pts
OAYO Member	50 pts
Assistance with concert setup (GHS or GMS)	25 pts per concert
Assistance with Chili Cook-Off	50 pts per shift

PARENT/STUDENT BAND HANDBOOK AGREEMENT FORM  
**DUE FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 2025**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (student's name) and \_\_\_\_\_ (parent's name)  
have reviewed the Gretna High School Band Handbook, are in compliance with all terms and responsibilities it  
has outlined, and accept responsibility for any non-compliance with any or all requirements listed in the GHS  
Band Handbook (including financial stipulations).

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_