



The Maloney High School
Instrumental Music Department

Pride - Musicianship - Respect - Excellence

**The Student/Parent Handbook
2009-2010**

Home of the Maloney Spartans
The Pride of the Green & White

The Spartan Marching Band
Concert Band
Jazz Ensemble
Colorguard/Winterguard

Director: Mr. Brian Cyr

Everything you need to know about your department.

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Mission Statement

The Francis T. Maloney High School Band is based on the principles of pride, musicianship, respect and overall excellence within the performing arts. The program is dedicated to the development of character, leadership skills and life skills through artistic development and training.

Take pride in what you do.

Have the honor to do what you do well.

Earn and show respect.

Do what your ensemble expects of you.

Demand the best from your ensemble.

Have fun playing great music together.

Look presentable and professional at all times. Your first impression is to the eye, not the ear.

**The Maloney High School Band
Pride - Respect – Musicianship – Excellence**

8/10/09

Dear Students and Parents,

It is again time to take our first steps on the marching band field, dust off the stand tunes we have come to love, and break ground on the next great field show of the Maloney High School Spartan Marching Band. With each year, the students of our program make great accomplishments, develop as musicians and individuals, and take another few leaps towards greatness. I am proud to write to you after a tremendous year that set the bar once again. From a great trip to outstanding performances, our students have once again proved that anything is possible, and they are willing to work hard to achieve greatness.

I cannot begin to describe to our new members the great traditions, great memories, and great experiences that have occurred within our walls over these last years. But I can tell you that the process of learning and experiencing them is just that: an experience.

We as members of the Maloney High School Instrumental Music Department pride ourselves on being the biggest and greatest family within our school. With over 85 members this year, we are one of the biggest student groups within Maloney High School and throughout the City of Meriden. We are these things because of continued dedication, pride, musicianship and respect.

As an alumnus of this great band, as the director and on behalf of our staff, our parents, and our students, I would like to welcome our new and returning members. You are all a part of the next great year in the history of the Maloney Band.

Sincerely,

Brian Cyr
Director of Bands
Maloney High School

MALONEY HIGH SCHOOL BAND BOOSTERS, LLC

SUPPORTING THE MALONEY HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

121 GRAVEL ST. MERIDEN CT 06450
Phone: 203-238-2334 x156 Fax: 203-630-7011
www.maloneyband.net

8/16/09

The Maloney High School Band Boosters, LLC is an incorporated, non-profit, tax-exempt organization that provides essential support to the Maloney High School band program. The purpose of this organization is to boost the overall spirit and assist the Maloney High School band by providing support to the band director, promote participation of the parents in all band activities, support fundraising activities to provide additional financial support for the Maloney High School Band, and bring about a closer relationship and understanding between the band programs and the community.

Several fundraisers are undertaken each year in order to raise money for music, instruments, repairs, uniforms, transportation, and many other basic needs of the band. The Band Boosters also provide the manpower that is essential for transporting instruments, chaperoning band functions, communicating information, providing refreshments, organizing events and many other functions.

The Band Boosters meet every month in the Maloney High School Band Room unless otherwise determined by the board or band director. The dates and times are always posted on our website. At these meetings you receive information from the band director and Booster Board, hear committee reports, receive financial updates, and have an opportunity to take an active role in band activities. Parent(s), guardians or anyone having an interest in the success of the Maloney High School Band is welcome!! The program's success depends on parental commitment, time and resources. Please get involved, as together we can make a lot of great things happen!!

Feel free to contact any of the board members with comments, suggestions or questions.

President	Barbara Fraser
Vice President	Nancy Twarog
Treasurer	Jeanine Hanlon
Recording Secretary	Chris Albrycht
Corresponding Secretary	Trisha Surowiecki

(Contact Information Available Online)

Musically Yours,

Barbara Ann Fraser
President, Maloney High School Band Boosters

STAFF MEMBERS:

Brian Cyr – Ensemble Director – Brian has been the director of the program for five years. He holds a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Music Education from Plymouth State University, a Master's Degree in Music Education from Boston University and a Sixth Year Degree in Educational Administration from Southern Connecticut State University. He is a US Scholastic Band Association Director, a festival and adjudication chair member for the Southern Region of the CMEA Association, as well as a member of several music and theatrical associations and companies throughout the state and country. He performs regularly as a conductor and saxophonist in numerous jazz ensembles around the state.

Marching Band / Ensemble Staff:

Stephanie Scali – Colorguard Coach – Stephanie is the newest member of our marching staff. Stephanie comes to us with a wealth of performance experience in the areas of winterguard and colorguard. She is an alumni of the Cheshire High School winterguard and colorguard programs and is a current member of the Connecticut Hurricanes DCA Drum Corps colorguard.

Irene Collins – Pit Instructor – Irene has been with the Maloney Pit for one year. She comes to us with a wealth of Corps experience with a variety of Corps as both a mallet and fife performer. Irene currently performs as a member of The Connecticut Hurricanes DCA Drum Corps pit.

Colin Mason – Percussion Instructor – Colin has been a member of the Maloney staff for one year. Colin comes to us with experience as a member of the Cheshire High School percussion program and as a current instructor of The Cheshire Ram Marching Band as well. Colin performs with fife and drum corps around the world and is a current member of The Connecticut Hurricanes DCA Drum Corps pit.

**In addition to our staff members, numerous clinicians from the professional fields will be joining us on occasion to provide instruction as the season progresses.*

The Music Department Calendar 08-09

The Music Department Calendar is no longer listed in the handbook. The calendar can be viewed on our website at www.maloneyband.net

The calendar is officially released at the department Convocation each year and is always updated online.

The Maloney High School Instrumental Music Department **Code of Conduct**

Objective:

The Maloney High School Band functions under the aphorism: Pride, Musicianship, Respect and Excellence. While musicianship is our reason for existence, our primary learning objective remains: the development of character.

The Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps say, "Character is who you are when no one is watching." Our members should be able to respond to that statement with confidence, knowing that they are respectful, mature and genuine young adults.

Procedure:

The band often functions outside of the school day, at competitions, games, concerts and public events. Because of these responsibilities, the size of the band, and our high expectations, we have established a set of guidelines, and thus a policy, which we will be strictly abiding by from this point on. I thank the many parents who contributed to this document by voicing concerns and expressing ideas.

Events, Rehearsals, Sectionals, Performances:

- **ATTENDANCE** - Students are to be at the school at the time requested. Late arrivals will be marked tardy. Unexcused tardies will be reflected in their performance grade. An unexcused absence is an absence in which no prior communication was made to the director. With the exception of a true emergency, students cannot make excuses for missed events after the fact. A serious grade deduction will be applied for any missed event. Note: sectionals are mandatory. If a student cannot make a sectional, they must make arrangements with the director to make up the time. Unexcused absences will result in suspension from performances. Excused absences can result in loss of performance participation as well.
- **DRESS** - Students are required to dress for performances in uniform, black Dinkle shoes, black socks, the black band shirt (as the base shirt), and a marching hat. There are no exceptions to this policy. Any student who is not prepared for a performance will not be permitted to go on stage/field. This lack of preparedness will be reflected in their grade. We do not supply extra shoes. Extra gloves are sold for \$2.00 per pair.
- **DRESS –POST PERFORMANCE** – Students required to be in full uniform (minus hats) at all times. Depending on the weather, students may be permitted to remove their

tops, providing there is a black band shirt underneath. The removal of suspenders, unbuttoning, removal of pants or shoes and the lowering of fly zippers is strictly prohibited. Students who disobey this guideline will be remanded to a chaperone.

- **UNIFORMS** – Uniforms are to be turned in at the end of a night prior to leaving Maloney. Uniforms must be hung by students and brought to the closets. Shoes and gloves are not to be left in cubbies; Guard uniforms are to be returned to the pit truck immediately after performances. Guard members are to have an appropriate layer underneath their uniform and a bag of clothes in which to change into (see following guideline).
- **APPROPRIATE DRESS** – Whether at an event, on a band trip or at school, all band members will dress appropriately per school dress code. This includes rules on shorts lengths, types of shirts and cuts of shirts, etc. Any violation of school dress code will result in remand to a chaperone until a parent can be contacted to pick-up the student or bring the proper attire. At games/competitions, guard members will be required (after a performance) to be in their performance pants and shoes and their black band shirt only. Jackets/sweatshirts can be worn over the shirts. Band attire is preferred.
- **SCHEDULES AND PLANS** – Students are to abide by the expectations of the director, staff and chaperones. At no time, will a student dispute an instruction or disrespect an adult. Schedules are to be followed, orders are to be followed and respect is to be maintained at all times. Rules such as all-ensemble participation in USSBA awards are not to be questioned or ignored. Any student in violation of these expectations will face repercussions such as remand to a chaperone, loss of future privileges or even loss of band trip privileges.
- **BEHAVIOR** – We expect common sense from our members. If you need assistance with common sense issues, see your director. The band does not condone PDA (public displays of affection). This means that if you are caught doing anything you would not do in front of your mother, you will be remanded to a chaperone and referred to the director.
- **CLOSED REHEARSAL POLICY** – Our rehearsals are closed events. They are not opened to the public, friends, boyfriends, girlfriends, etc. By school policy, you are not to bring anyone onto school grounds at any time. Students of Maloney High School whom are not members of the band are not permitted to be at, around or near band rehearsals.
- **CLASSROOM** – Students are expected to maintain their classroom, their equipment and their personal space. Cubbies are to be free of food, clothes, drink bottles and marching attire. Chairs and stands are to be returned to their locations and a general respect for the room and its equipment is expected. Violation of this guideline will result in loss of cubby privileges and/or the lowering of class participation grades.
- **CLASS** – Basic expectations in class require members to have with them each day: their instrument or flag, a pencil, a dot book, a binder and all necessary music. Night rehearsals also require a water jug and sneakers. Class expectations must be followed each day. Failure to have necessary equipment will result in a lowering of grades.
- **HOMEWORK** – Band members have a lot of homework. This includes learning music that is handed out within a reasonable amount of time (usually around 1-2 weeks). Extra help is available to those whom are having trouble with their homework. The

director of the program RESERVES THE RIGHT to administer pop quizzes and/or playing exams to individuals or groups at any time he deems necessary.

- REHEARSAL EXCUSES / ALTERNATE ASSIGNMENTS – While students are expected to be at all rehearsals and performances, we do realize that sickness, injury and other problems can occur. If a student is injured or sick and cannot participate, they need to have a parents note. If they are injured and cannot participate, they need a doctor's note, just as we require for gym classes. If practices or events are missed, make-up assignments can be administered by the director or staff member.
- EXTENSION OF THE SCHOOL DAY – All band events, regardless of location or length, are extensions of the school day. All school policies and guidelines are in effect at all times. Any infraction will result in serious consequence within the band as well as school administration.
- SUBSTANCE ABUSE – It is against school policy and federal law for students to poses or be under the influence of any illegal substance. This includes but is not limited to alcohol, marijuana and other narcotics. Any student suspected to be in possession of or under the influence of an illegal substance will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. If found to be under the influence or in possession of illegal substances, students will be suspended, arrested, and remanded to an expulsion hearing. This same policy applies to trips in and out of state.

The Maloney Band - Dress Code

The Maloney Band takes dress very seriously. The following requirements are in addition to the dress code specifics mandated by the Meriden Board of Education and the administration of Maloney High School.

Band Camp:

Student must wear a light colored, short sleeve t-shirt, shorts, sneakers and socks to camp each day. **Sandals and bare feet are not permitted.** These specifics are for student safety, not for uniformity.

Marching Band:

Students must wear the issued band uniform to each performance unless otherwise directed. Shoes must be black Dinkles (and they must be clean prior to performances). Students must wear black socks and school-issued black gloves at all times. A provided band t-shirt must be worn under the uniform top until it is cold enough that additional layers are needed. No jewelry is permitted on the field other than small stud earrings. Hair on both males and females must be worn up inside hats at all times.

NOTES: The issued uniform must be kept clean and wrinkle free at all times. Uniforms **MUST BE DRY-CLEANED ONLY**. The school washes them twice yearly – during July and January. If additional cleanings are necessary, please contact the department. Uniforms are the responsibility of the student, and all damages will be billed to the student and family. The uniform is expected to be presentable and neat at all times. They must be returned in the same condition as when they were signed out. Any damages or missing articles will result in charges. Each uniform is valued at \$400.00. Please take very special care of your uniform. The uniform is dry cleaned each summer before they are signed out. If it gets dirty during the season, **IT MUST BE DRY CLEANED!!** Washing them in a conventional washer will ruin them. All uniforms must be clean at each performance; please see the director if a cleaning is needed.

At the start of the first game, black gloves will be issued at no charge. Replacement gloves are \$2.00 per pair.

Dinkles Marching Shoes must be purchased at the start of the school year. Students are sized during camp. If they are taken care of, shoes will last all four years and will double as dress shoes for concert season.

Concert Band:

All students (male/female) must wear a white, long-sleeve, oxford shirt that buttons to the neck, a solid black tie (properly tied), black dress pants, black socks, and black shoes. Black jeans are not permitted, low-rise pants are not permitted and shirt/pant combinations that reveal skin at the waist are not permitted. Skirts are not permitted. Dinkles or black dress shoes are the required footwear.

Colorguard:

Attire varies by season. In any case, uniforms must be worn exactly as designed. Hairstyles, makeup and accessories will be decided upon prior to performances and time will be made to prep each member. Again... uniformity is key. All attire must be kept neat, clean and free of wrinkles. Do not wash your attire in a washing machine!

Jazz Ensemble:

All members must dress in solid black. This includes: a black oxford shirt, black dress pants, black dress shoes or Dinkles, and black socks. In addition to this attire, each male member is provided with a black sport jacket as part of the required uniform. Females are provided with black performance dresses as well. The care instructions and policies for these jackets are the same as for marching uniforms.

Concert Band/Marching Band Casual Dress:

In some situations, we elect to dress the band in casual attire due to the style of venue or temperature. The attire is as follows:

Green band polo shirt, khaki colored pants, black socks, black Dinkle shoes. Low-rise pants are not permitted. Shirt/pant combinations that reveal skin at the waist are not permitted. Belts should be black.

NOTES: All students are required to purchase a green "Band" polo shirt. This again can last the full four years if taken care of. It should not be worn excessively beyond the set performances to save on wear.

This is also the normal attire for student volunteer help at band-sponsored events unless otherwise instructed.

In all performance situations, no jewelry other than ear studs are permitted, no unnatural hair color, visible tattoos, body piercing, excessive hairstyle or anything that draws specific attention to the individual will be permitted. Performers **MUST** look uniform at all times.

Any student not meeting the required attire standards will not be permitted on the stage, field or performance venue.

Rationale:

In any performance environment, the focus is musical. The visual aspect should not attract attention to specific people but to the group as a whole. Furthermore, we spend a great deal of time perfecting quality performances. It is essential that we command the same amount of professionalism in our appearance as we do in our art.

Rehearsal Etiquette & Expectations

Due to the size and nature of the band program, it is imperative that all students follow the guidelines at each and every rehearsal.

1. Students are required to have with them:

MARCHING SEASON:

- Instrument
- Music in flip book
- Dot Book or Coordinate Sheets
- Pencil
- Water Jug (camp and evening rehearsals)
- Binder
- Gloves (guard)

CONCERT SEASON:

- Instrument
 - Music in folder
 - Pencil
2. Rehearsals begin at the designated time. Members are expected to be on time.
 3. Talking is not permitted during rehearsals.
 4. Homework in ensemble courses is often performance-based. Students are expected to know required music for rehearsals as designated by the director. Extra help is always available to students who need or want it.

CONCERT ETIQUETTE NOTE:

We as musicians lead by example. When performing, we expect audiences to be respectful, courteous and mature at all times. This includes refraining from yelling names, hollering and whistling. (I encourage you to educate your peers and families on these expectations as needed)

Band members are expected to follow the rules of proper concert etiquette at all times. This is a major teaching initiative at Maloney High School; one that the band must exemplify.

Discipline

Students enrolled in the Francis T. Maloney High School are bound by the rules and guidelines and outlined in the Francis T. Maloney High School Handbook. These rules and guidelines are in effect at any band-sponsored event. This includes but is not limited to trips, competitions, games and performances at any location.

In addition to rules and guidelines in the Maloney Handbook, students are expected to adhere to all guidelines set forth by the director and the Music Department at all times.

These rules include but are not limited to:

- The basic classroom rules
- Attendance policies as outlined in the grading policy
- Student contracts/permission slips
- Common sense

Respect:

In addition to the above, students in the band are expected to respect all students, parent volunteers, staff members and others associated with the program at all times. This includes other bands, audience members, etc. Students are expected to act as mature, respectful individuals at all times. Unsportsmanlike conduct, aggression towards others and general disrespect will result in serious disciplinary consequences.

Failure to meet the expectations as listed above will result in disciplinary options including:

- Removal from performances, activities
- Loss of privileges
- Lowering of class grades
- Referral to school administration

Note: Disciplinary action through the school administration (such as suspension) can result in loss of privileges within the band program.

THE MALONEY BANDROOM
Classroom Rules and Expectations

1. Instruments are to be stored in cases and in cubbies or shelves at all times. If you need a storage place, ask.
2. Uniforms must be stored per the guidelines set at the start of each season.
3. Music is to be in a flip folder or band folder at all times
4. Clothing is not to be stored in the band room. Gym clothes are to go home and excess clothing/personal items are not to remain in the room. If you bring a coat, sports bag, etc, it is to go on top of the cubbies or in your cubby. There is not to be anything on the floor.
5. Chairs and stands are to be put away in their proper places at the end of each period
6. All equipment is to be returned to its proper storage place at the end of each class. If you used it, it is your responsibility.
7. Food and beverages are not to be consumed in the band room at any time unless permission is obtained from the director
8. Personal performance materials are expected to be with each player each day. This includes but is not limited to reeds in good condition, oils, sticks, etc. **NEVER COME TO REHEARSAL WITHOUT A PENCIL.**
9. A quality rehearsal is expected each day. This includes a start time of 11:00, talking is to permanently cease for the duration of the class, a pencil to be present, and music to be with each person.
10. You are expected to model Pride, Respect, Musicianship and overall Excellence each and every day.

Our Grading Policy.

The Maloney Band is based on the belief that Pride, Musicianship, Respect and Overall Excellence are what make our ensemble great. By becoming a member in this ensemble, you agree to the terms that we set forth. As this ensemble increases in talent level and maturity, we need to ensure that every member is doing their part, and contributing properly to the group in which they are involved.

An ensemble is only as strong as it's weakest player. We do things as a group, not as individuals. Basic expectations are set forth for all members. They are set for a reason and are therefore expected to be followed. Everyone must do their part. As an ensemble member, you are expected to be a cut above. Certain things are just expected of you.

Expectations can be summarized as:

1. Attendance/Punctuality

- Being at sectionals
- Being at performances
- Being on time to rehearsals and events

2. Learning/Practicing Music

- Learning the music assigned
- Being prepared for sectionals and rehearsals
- Obtaining help and assistance when problems arise in learning your music
- Working during rehearsals

3. Following Classroom Rules

- Quiet during rehearsals
- No food consumed in room (unless by permission from director)
- Chairs and stands put away
- Cubbies in proper order and free of objectionable items
- Personal equipment put away
- Required equipment with you each day

Band is a class.

You will be graded on how well you do the work and satisfy the expectations.

Your grade breakdown:

Your grade is based on a series of points accumulated throughout the term. While this point total differs depending on the term and the amount of performances and assessments within the term, the criteria remains the same each term. Your grade is based on:

Sectional Attendance/Punctuality
Playing Exams/Knowledge of Music
Effort/Cooperation/Respect/Class Rules
Equipment/Needed Materials

Sectional Attendance/Punctuality

Be where you are supposed to be... on time.

If you cannot attend a sectional/rehearsal, see Mr. Cyr for a **TIME TO MAKE IT UP**.

Make sure you sign the attendance sheet.

Playing Exams/Knowledge of Music

You need to know your music.

I will assess your knowledge of the music assigned through various forms of formal and informal assessment as well as your work in sectionals (I will attend and run some) Formal assessment means test and quizzes – we have a few of these. Informal assessment is me watching and listening and observing what you do in rehearsals, performances and sectionals.

IMPORTANT NOTE!! If you have trouble with music, which you very well might, this does not mean you will automatically do poorly in this class!! Effort in getting help and assistance as needed, will **HEAVILY** impact your grade.

Progress and improvement will be taken into account as well.

Effort/Cooperation/Respect/Class Rules

Follow the classroom rules.

You know them.... Follow them.

Equipment/Needed Materials

Make sure you have what you need everyday.

Band C Members – Please refer to your course description for grading policy information.

Attendance is required for all performances and sectionals.

Prior notice is very important to the grading procedure especially due to the large number of students involved. A performance missed without excuse will result in a severe grade reduction (usually a term D or F). Sectionals missed without excuse will do the same. We do work with student schedules and conflicts, but it is the student's responsibility to work out their conflicts ahead of time. Excuses are worked out on an individual basis between the student and director prior to the event only.

As a performing ensemble, each member has an obligation to one another to be present and perform well. In regards to performances, should a major conflict arise which prevents a member from attending an event, it must be cleared at least one week prior to the performance in writing, and the note must be signed by a parent. If a student is excused from a performance by the proper methods as listed above, that individual may be asked to do a make up assignment as assigned by the instructor. It is the responsibility of the individual to complete the make-up assignment as directed by the teacher.

Fundraising. 09-10.

What we do and how we do it.

Perhaps the word that makes all of us shudder the most is fundraising. But like most organizations, it's a necessary component in order to do what we do.

I would like to make sure everyone both new and old understand how our fundraising works, and what is expected from you and your son/daughter.

Reasons for fundraising: We fundraise for three separate reasons, and we designate our fundraisers by these:

1. Band fundraisers
2. Band trip fundraisers
3. Band Booster fundraisers

1. Band fundraisers are run in order to raise money for the program. This money goes towards equipment, transportation and other necessary expenses that come up over the year. We expect all band members to take part in these, as they benefit all students involved. However, circumstances do come up where families for a variety of reasons cannot or do not feel comfortable participating in a particular fundraiser. If this circumstance arises, I just ask that a parent send a note or email excusing the student from the fundraiser.
2. Band trip fundraisers account for the majority of fundraising we do each year. Each fundraiser under this heading is for students to earn funds for the spring band trip each year. The majority of funds earned go directly into an account for that individual student to use to pay for the spring band trip. **THESE ARE NOT REQUIRED FUNDRAISERS.** All band trip fundraisers are completely optional. If you would like to opt out of these and pay for the trip out of pocket, or opt out of some and not others, the choice is completely yours. Note: A very small percentage of earnings from trip fundraisers do go to the band fund for a variety of reasons pertaining to the fundraisers.
3. Band Booster fundraisers are run by the parent organization in order to raise funds for their organization which in turn helps ours. Participation by all is appreciated.

Our fundraiser calendar does change from year to year. However, our most successful and popular fundraisers in each category are listed below with an approximate month in which they will be taking place.

Band fundraisers:

Donor Letters – September
Car Washes
CMEA Festival – January
Family Night

Trip Fundraisers:

Program Ads - September
Pies & Cookie Dough – October
Wings & Subs
More TBA

Band Booster Fundraisers:

SCRIP
Can & Bottle Drives
Bake Sales
Pasta & Pops
Java & Jazz

Expenses:

All band/guard members are required to purchase several necessity items for use throughout the band season. While this is an expense, most items can be reused from year to year if taken care of.

Band/Pit/Battery

Marching Shoes	\$25.00
Dot Book	\$5.00 *Optional
Flip Book	\$5.00
Lyre	\$5.00
Arm Lyre/Book	\$12.00
(flutes only, instead of flip book and lyre)	
Band Polo Shirt	\$15.00

Colorguard

Guard Gloves	\$12.00 ea. (two pairs recommended)
Guard Dance Shoes	\$35.00
Dot Book	\$5.00
Black Jazz Pants	\$30.00

All items are available during camp. Students can pay for everything at once or individually. All checks can be made payable to THE MALONEY BAND. Regardless of how you wish to pay, students need flip books, lyres and colorguard gloves (respectively) at the start of camp, and will need to purchase these items on their first day of camp if they do not have them.

Letter Requirements - Instrumental Music

*Students must apply for letters in May of each year. Applications are distributed during class. Letters are awarded at the Band Awards Banquet at the end of each season.

A letter is awarded at the discretion of ensemble directors to students who represent outstanding achievement in their respective groups. Letters are to be displayed as a symbol of high achievement in their artistic medium. It is an honor and a privilege to receive a letter. No student, regardless of class or rank is entitled to or guaranteed a letter without the full completion of the criteria below and the recommendation of their ensemble director.

Criteria for Lettering:

- Students must exhibit a high level of quality leadership among their peers
- Students must take an active role in their groups, including but not limited to consistent help and support to the group and overall department
- It must be evident that students are dedicated musicians at all times. This means, adequate practicing, preparedness for rehearsals, attendance to and contribution in sectionals, and a clear impression to all parties that the student is serious and dedicated to the art form in which they are studying.
- An active approach to the betterment of one's own musicianship is a key element in the awarding of a letter. It must be clear that the student is working towards development and progress through such avenues as solo interest, audition attempts, section leader trials, jazz improvisation work, regional/all-state audition attempts etc. The active approach is the key element to this component of the criteria.
- A student must exhibit a positive attitude towards instructors and peers, and clearly maintain an attitude that coincides with the development and progress of the group.

Requirements:

- A dedicated 2 consecutive years of membership or more in a performing group
- A student must have auditioned for section leader or drum major at least once
- A student must have auditioned for Regionals or a select Maloney ensemble at least once (Chamber ensembles, Jazz, Winterguard, Drumline). If selected the commitment must have been completed thoroughly and with dedication.
- A student must maintain straight A's in their performing ensembles
- Attendance must be perfect (excluding excused absences cleared by the director)

The letter is an award of dedication and accomplishment. It is not awarded to the person who enters the room with the most talent, it is awarded to the person who values their art and their ensemble most.

Letters are awarded at the discretion of the directors. Exceptions can be made to the above criteria if a student exhibits qualities that deem special consideration appropriate.

Brian Cyr – Director of Instrumental Music

Select Ensemble Eligibility Policy

Students wishing to take part in select ensembles including but not limited to Jazz Ensemble, Chamber Ensembles and Winterguard, must be registered members of Band, Band C or Flag Bearer respectfully.

Clarification and Exceptions:

Jazz Ensemble candidates who are auditioning on an instrument not present within the normal band (guitar, bass etc.) can be awarded placement within the ensemble only upon the recommendation of the director. Situations of this manner will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and will be the sole decision of the director based on the audition, other auditionees and the best interest of the ensemble. Students who are granted placement in this manner do so with the understanding that this is normally a one-year grace period in which time the student is expected to gain experience on a band instrument in order to join the large ensemble the following year.

Should a member of the Jazz Ensemble regardless of instrument decide to drop Band or Band C, they will immediately lose eligibility within the ensemble.

All situations of this manner will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Exceptions if any will be the sole decision of the director based on the circumstances at hand.

Student Event Dismissal Policy:

Students must ride school transportation to and from all band events.

If a student needs to meet us at an event, notification must be made by the parent to the director as early as possible.

If a student needs to leave an event early or needs to leave an event without the use of the provided school transportation, a note from the parent and/or direct contact from that parent must be provided to the director prior to the event taking place. The note must designate who is picking up the student and what relation that person is to the child. Direct contact between the director and parent is highly recommended.

If a student needs to leave an event early and has not taken the proper steps as outlined above, they can only be released directly to a parent. There are no exceptions to this rule.

A chaperone can dismiss per this policy only if they have made direct communication with and received confirmation from the director.

A student is under the jurisdiction of the band director while involved in school sponsored band events. If a situation arises where the director feels as though a

potentially unsafe situation is at hand regarding a student's dismissal from an event, he reserves the right to retain that student, regardless of prior arrangements until the student can be transferred to the parent.

The Maloney High School Instrumental Music Department Community Service Procedures

1. **Band Yearly Hours:** Students receive 10 hours per year of school-based service hours for their participation in the band. This was decided several years ago based on their involvement in the many parades, performances and public events within the city each year. This was agreed upon by guidance in order to standardize the band hours, and to eliminate the paper trail from band students submitting separate sheets for every community performance they partake in.

Specifics:

These hours count towards the school requirement for graduation

These hours count towards accumulation for the Meriden Comm. Serv. Scholarship.

These hours are signed off on by the director. They have no affiliation with the Band Boosters LLC.

2. **Band Booster LLC Service Hours:** Students partake in community service through the Band Booster organization. These hours are to be counted as non-school community service hours.

Specifics:

Any event run by The Band Boosters LLC will provide non-school community service hours.

These hours DO NOT COUNT towards the 10 non-school service hours required for graduation. These 10 hours must be completed outside of the school, Boosters and Music Department

Booster hour submissions will be signed by the Booster LLC President or Vice President.

These hours DO COUNT towards the city community service scholarship.

Band C

A Program of the Francis T. Maloney High School Instrumental Music Department

Rationale:

- Provide highly-motivated individuals with a rigorous performance-based curriculum
- Offer a program worthy of honors credited based on the standards of the Maloney High School Honors Program.
- Attract individuals pursuing a high level of musical instruction and involvement
- Give students a wide range of musical experiences in order to best prepare them for college level music studies.
- Incorporate Project-Based Assessment and Applied Learning in ways that will benefit students in a variety of musical areas.

Band C is designed for the highly motivated student looking for a rigorous and highly demanding music program and students planning to pursue music as a career.

Course Prerequisites:

- Students must complete one full year of Band 5 before opting to take Band C
- The instructor must recommend all students enrolled.

Note: Band C meets at the same time slot as Band 5. It does not have a specific and separate meeting time other than occasional meetings and masterclasses at designated times.

Band C is designed with many components of a college-level independent study program. It is not based around a text, nor is there normal daily written assignments. Instead, there are several components in which the students must adhere to, plan and budget time for, and take the initiative to carry out properly.

Components:

1. Regional Audition/Solo Performance – Each student will take part in the CMEA Southern Regional Audition in the fall. Any student, who does not

want to take part in this audition, must still attain the audition material and perform it for the instructor in a mock audition setting.

Guidelines:

- a. Students will acquire the audition material no later than the start of the school year. (This will incur a nominal fee, as originals are required)
- b. Students will prepare the music throughout the fall and have it to performance standards prior to auditions in early November.
- c. Students will review music with the instructor no less than twice before auditions. It is the student's responsibility to schedule these meeting times.
- d. Students will participate in the CMEA Southern Regional Audition Process.

Note: Should the student feel that the audition piece is beyond their level of experience, they may elect to lobby the instructor for a different piece. Should the student be granted permission to perform a different piece, it will remain the responsibility of the student to obtain a copy of the alternative piece. In any case, this component of the course is a TERM II GRADE.

2. Year-Long Musicianship Component – Each student will complete a yearlong study pertaining to either musical performance or leadership/instruction. The purpose of this component is to expand your musical horizons and expose you to new aspects of the arts. This experience should allow you to better yourself as a musician and explore new musical and/or leadership-based experiences.

Options:

- Membership in Morning Choir
- Membership in Winterguard
- Membership in Props & Paints
- Membership in an established performing group outside of the school, which meets weekly. (Paperwork showing evidence of the groups specifics must be submitted to the instructor) Examples: City-Wide Band, The “R” Band, Neighborhood Music School Groups, etc.
- Mentoring of a new student musician or a student switching to a new instrument

Note: Students may lobby the director should they wish to establish a small ensemble beyond the listed options. Small ensembles will not be considered unless they are an established chamber style with acceptable instrumentation and regular meeting and performance times.

Note: Jazz Ensemble may not be used as an ensemble to satisfy this component of the course. Jazz Ensemble is a separate course, which is above and beyond the Band and Band C courses. (Morning Choir is the only ensemble, which can be taken for course credit and still satisfy this requirement)

Mentoring Guidelines – Students wishing to engage in a mentoring option must follow specific guidelines in order to satisfy this component.

Band C members must select a candidate whom they will mentor for the year. This candidate must understand that they are making a commitment to you and you must understand that your success and grade has much to do with their participation. – Pick your candidate carefully.

Guidelines:

- Candidates must be selected by the middle of term I
- Mentors and mentees must meet at least once a week for no less than 20 minutes. – method books will be provided by the department.
- A log or journal must be kept, outlining each meeting time.
- A monthly progress report must be submitted to the director to help map progress. – Journal entries and log should be relatively short but should clearly state the progress and what has been accomplished.
- At the years end, the completed journal must be submitted. In addition to this, the mentor and mentee must meet with the director in order to view/hear the final product.

3. Committee Participation – Each student will take part in one committee as designated by the Band Booster Organization. Each committee within the Boosters will focus on one particular function of the bands year. Examples include but are not limited to: CMEA Committee, Publicity Committee, Bake Sale Committee, etc.

Guidelines:

- a. Each student will decide on a committee in which to be a part of.
- b. Each student will attend the committee meetings and the Booster meetings when the committee is on the agenda.
- c. Each student will participate in the event in which the committee is responsible.
- d. Once the committee involvement is completed, students must complete a write-up for this component. This sheet can be downloaded from the Band C page on our website.

4. Participation and Program Involvement – Students enrolled in Band C are expected to perform at a level, which is above and beyond the expectations of the Band 5 course. Mentoring younger students, volunteering to work at the many events we take part in through the year and participating at a high musical level are all practices expected from the Band C student.

While this is not a text-based course, and daily written assignments are not a norm, there will be some reflective writing, evaluations and other assignments as necessary throughout the year. In addition to this, the instructor reserves the right to hold seminars and meetings at various points throughout the year.

Assessment:

Members of the Band C course are also members of Band 5 and are bound by the requirements of each course. There is a percentage scale for each course, both of which they are responsible for. Students will be graded on the criteria for both the Band and Band C classes. Failure to meet requirements for either course will result in grade reductions.

General Band Grading Criteria:

Sectional Attendance/Punctuality
Playing Exams/Knowledge of Music
Effort/Cooperation/Respect/Class Rules
Equipment/Needed Materials

Band C Grading Scale:

Regional Audition/Solo Performance – 30% of total Term II grade
Year-Long Musicianship Component – 30% of total Term IV grade
Committee Participation – 30% of total term grade (term when presentation is completed)

Final Exam Grade – 100% of total exam grade - Evaluation Narrative to be submitted on day of final exam

The remaining percentages of the term grades will be determined in the same manner as the Band 5 course with adjusted percentages.

The instructor reserves the right to change or modify the requirements of the course and grading policies during the year, should the need arise.

The Band Glossary

By: Camarie Shepard

At attention—when at attention you must stay perfectly still and you cannot make any noise. You must remain this way until Mr. Cyr or a drum major says “at ease” . .

Band Boosters— These are the nice people who help out our band. This group consists mostly of band parents. You will see them at almost all band events. They are always there to help with hair, answer questions, or patch you up when you get hurt.

Band Football Game—very early on the day of the Thanks Giving’s Day Game is the Band Football Game. This is a student tradition held on the field behind Maloney. This is not a required event but it can be very fun for those willing to wake up early.

Band Trip- Every year we go on a trip. These trips are wonderful learning opportunities that expose us to performances and experiences simply not possible in a classroom. These trips are very special to us.

Brian Cofrancesco- an alumnus who is known for his devotion to Maloney band, the Key Club and the City of Meriden. The band last year started an award in his honor.

Cadence—this is something the drum line plays when we are in parades or walking on and off the field. It is used to keep the band in step.

Christmas in the Band room- every December our band decorates the band room afterschool. We don’t just put up a tree, we make a big production of it. Almost every surface is covered in lights and garland. The cubbies are decorated and the ceiling and walls too. Where do these decorates come from you ask? They come from us. The band already had quite a collection of old decorations but every year people bring in items they no longer want. This is why we have a light up reindeer with no legs.

Colorguard—they are a group of students who twirl flags, rifles, sabers, and dance. They have their own staff and two student Captains. They are a large part of our program during marching band.

Dinkles— It is not uncommon to hear the phrase “Where are my Dinkles?” before games. This is the brand name of our marching shoes. We all wear the same shoes for uniformity. We also wear black socks under them. Those who wear white socks will hang their heads in shame. It has been threatened that Cyr will spray paint your socks black if you wear white socks. If you take care of your Dinkles they will last all four years. However certain band members seem to keep losing their shoes....

Dot- The number assigned to you that denotes where you stand on the field.

Drum majors- These are the students who keep time during marching band performances. They are great people to go to with questions. They are devoted band members and they work very hard. They should be treated with the same respect that Mr. Cyr receives.

Flip book- This is a tiny book that when attached to a lyre will hold your marching band music for you. If you need one please see Mr. Cyr.

In Step- when marching you should be “in step” meaning your left foot hits the ground at the same time as everyone else left foot

Jazz band- this is a select ensemble of student. There are auditions held for this group. In the past this group has won many awards .

Lyre- This is a metal piece connecting your flip book to your instrument.

Stand Tunes- the songs played from the bleachers of a football game. The bleachers are also called the stands.

Sectionals- This is the extra practice done as a section every week. The time will be determined by your section. These practices are run by your section leader and are a great time to get help with any problems you might be having with the music.

Section leaders- these are people in each section appointed by Mr. Cyr to lead their section. Section leaders are great people to ask for help and if you want to learn a new instrument you can ask that section's leader for help or tutoring.

Stage Show- Our band has created three original stage shows. They were MOMP, Elements, and Journey.

Pit- The section that is stationary at the front of the field is the Pit. They play Xylophones, Marimbas, Vibraphones, Bells, Cymbals, and so much more.

Pit Baby- At the start of last year's Band Camp a baby doll was found back stage by the Pit equipment. It was adopted by the pit and the Pit's former section leader, Noreen Sit, made the baby a uniform. The Drum line likes to kidnap the baby. The baby hides in mallets bags during performances

Pit Truck- This is the truck that moves all the pits equipment and the band's instruments to games and competitions.

Roll Stepping- a type of marching step where you roll your foot from heel to toe.

Walking Taco- This is a famous competition food. It consists of a Fritos bag with chili and cheese.

BOTTOM OF THE BACKPACK SYNDROME.

While not an official illness, many students at the high school level suffer from this problem. It is very simply the process of receiving important paperwork from teachers, placing it in their backpack, and forgetting about it until they clean the bag out at the end of the year. By this time, the papers have migrated to the bottom and have been pulverized into a fine dust.



For this reason, and to save a tree, we have elected to reduce the amount of paper we send home. We have instead decided to maintain a thorough and frequently-updated website. It contains all the current information concerning all facets of the Band, Boosters and all of our involvements.

Please check the site often. Notices will be sent home periodically, but checking the site every couple of days will ensure that you know all that is going on in your son/daughters program.

www.maloneyband.net

If you have questions or have thoughts on how to improve the site, please email me at:

cyr@maloneyband.net

REMINDER:

Members of the Band Booster Parents Group will be at Band Camp each day in order to collect:

- **Medical Forms**
- **Permission Slips**
- **Contact info**
- **Shoe & Polo & Accessory Money**
- **Attire Order Forms (Sweatshirts, Shirts, etc.)**
- **Booster Group Registration Fee**

And also to distribute:

- **Boosters Group General Information**
- **Student supply needs**

Parents are encouraged to stop by the table to get information and hand in forms. Thanks!