

Crescenta Valley High School  
Visual and Performing Arts Department  
***Student Handbook 2014-2015***  
Instrumental Music-Marching Band

Welcome to the 2014-2015 Instrumental Music program at Crescenta Valley High School. You are part of one of the most dynamic, energetic, and active groups at this school. As Marching Band, we perform for football games, spirit assemblies, and other school functions, as well as events for the local community. We also compete successfully at numerous local field show competitions and parades. In the Spring, as Concert Band, we perform in concerts and festivals. Over the past years, we have traveled for our Spring Trip to New York, San Diego, Hawaii, San Francisco, Florida and Las Vegas. This year we plan to go to Hawaii! More information about that will follow soon.

Research continues to demonstrate the importance of music in education:

- 1) "GE hires a lot of engineers. We want young people who can do more than add up a string of numbers and write a coherent sentence. They must be able to solve problems, communicate ideas and be sensitive to the world around them. Participation in the arts is one of the best ways to develop these abilities." – *Clifford V. Smith, President of the General Electric Foundation*
- 2) "The arts significantly boost student achievement, reduce discipline problems, and increase the odds students will go on to graduate from college. As First Lady Michelle Obama sums up, both she and the President believe 'strongly that arts education is essential for building innovative thinkers who will be our nation's leaders for tomorrow.'" – *Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education*

The Crescenta Valley High School Music Department offers students an opportunity to enhance their musical abilities by providing an outlet of creative and intellectual expression through musical instruments. Students will learn discipline and effective time management, as well as the importance of enthusiasm, dedication, teamwork, poise, musicianship, proper care of their instrument, musical literature, and music terminology. They will also develop an understanding of good characteristic tone, style, and improve their intonation while enhancing playing techniques.

**This handbook outlines the policies and requirements of the Instrumental Music Department.**

***Please read this handbook with your parents, fill in and sign the Acknowledgment page in this packet, and turn in to Mr. Schick by Tuesday, July 29th. A copy of this handbook can be found at [www.falconmusic.org](http://www.falconmusic.org)***

## Student Expectations

Attitude is perhaps the single most important thing that a person can have in order to be successful. A person with a good attitude will succeed and win the respect and admiration of those around him or her. If you do not have a good attitude, no matter how talented you are, success will always be a struggle. Do your best to maintain the following:

- *Be on time.* You must have your instrument and music out and be ready to play at the start time of class.
- ***Marching Band starts on the field at 6:45am. Plan to arrive on the field at 6:40am. Class will be dismissed at 7:45. (To be early is to be on time; To be on time is to be late, To be late is to be left behind)***
- *Always have YOUR music, folder, and a pencil with you at every class and rehearsal.*
- *Learn your part.* Number each measure with a pencil and write your name on your copies of music. Practice daily.
- *Play musically* at all times. Warm up softly, create music and not noise.
- Listen, and follow directions the *FIRST* time. *Raise your hand* if you have questions.
- *Eat a meal* before coming to school on a performance day and remember to bring money for expenses.
- *Don't play instruments, which aren't your own.* (i.e. percussion, other people's instruments)
- *Do not switch lockers or instruments* without permission from Mr. Schick.
- *Stay healthy.* – If you are sick and choose to come to school, you must sit in your chair and follow the music.
- *Use your class officers and section leaders as resources.* Respect them and help them to make us better.
- When the director is working on a part other than yours, *sit quietly* and look over the music. ***DO NOT TALK OR PLAY.***
- Phones, distracting electronic devices are NOT permitted during class (no texting, Snap Chatting, etc...)
- Leave all jewelry, electronics, and valuables at home. (We are not responsible for "lost" items)
- At events, stay with the group; do not "wander" on your own or in a smaller group without permission.
- Profanity, heckling, or name-calling will not be allowed towards each other, or students of other schools. Such behavior while in uniform is absolutely unacceptable and will result in severe consequences.
- The use of tobacco, alcohol, or any other drug is strictly prohibited and along with stealing, will be cause for potential dismissal from the group and severe consequences. Besides, It's illegal.
- Each member will at all times present himself/herself in a respectable manner and be courteous and considerate of others. Remember that you represent Crescenta Valley High School, the Instrumental program, and yourself.

## Classroom Expectations

- All instruments and music must be stored in an *assigned music locker* during the day. Every student must sign-up for a locker. Each student should plan to use a school lock from the student store or Instrumental music dept.
- It is your responsibility to put away your stands, chairs and instruments after each class and rehearsal.
- *No food, candy, gum, or sugary drinks allowed in the music or practice rooms. Keep the music room clean!*

## General Expectations for Students and Mr. Schick

*I will be fair towards you and you will be fair to your peers and me.*

*I will listen to your concerns and you will listen to my instructions.*

*I will prepare you for performances and you will do your best during performances.*

*I will act professionally and you will act professionally*

*I will teach you how to be better musicians and you will help me become a better teacher.*

## Concert / Rehearsal Etiquette

- Maintain silence during all performances and rehearsals whether you backstage, onstage or in the audience.
- Do not chew *gum* or *candy* before or during a concert or performance. It detracts from our professionalism.
- Cell phones, distracting electronic devices of any kind are not permitted during rehearsals.

## Audience Etiquette

- Concerts should be treated with respect. Do not yell to friends onstage or talk during performances.
- Cell phones, IPODS, and other electronic devices have no place at concerts, rehearsals or performances. They will be taken and given to the Administration. When you are at a concert, rehearsal or performance, you are "in class".

## Concert Attire

In order for our concerts to look and sound professional, please apply the following dress codes for performances. Check Class supplements for additional attire. It is your responsibility to make sure you are dressed appropriately. Removal from a performance and/or point deduction may occur if students don't follow the following dress standards.

- Guys
  - Black dress shoes (no sneakers), black socks, black pants, white *long* sleeve dress shirt, long tie (any color), black sport jacket.
- Girls
  - Black dress, or black dress slacks or black skirt, with modest white blouse. No black jeans.
  - Dresses or skirts must be at least 6 inches **below the knee when sitting down. NO SLITS**
  - Black dress shoes (no flip flops)

## Crescenta Valley High Instrumental Music Grading Policy

Performances, concerts and rehearsals are graded events. Review the calendar provided so that you may add the dates to your family calendar. Participation is mandatory unless prior notice is given with a reasonable excuse.

Everyone in the instrumental music department will participate in school concerts. Most of the performances this year are already planned; yet as new events come up, I will pass out information at least two weeks prior to the event. Visit our web site ([www.falconmusic.org](http://www.falconmusic.org)) for current information.

Requirements	Percentage	Description
1. Attendance / Participation	30%	Rehearsals, Performances, class
2. Musical tests / Quizzes / Finals	30%	Written and performed
3. Sectionals	30%	Group work: Required weekly
4. Attitude / Improvement / Cooperation	10%	Teacher evaluation per quarter

**The final grade will be determined by dividing the points earned by the points possible**

**A=90%+, B=80%-89%, C=70%-79%, D=60%-69%, F=0%-59%.**

## Sectional Requirements – **IMPORTANT.**

- Sectionals are a time when the entire group (trumpets, saxes, percussion, etc.) practices during lunch or after school.
- Sectionals are Mandatory for every student and make up 30% of the student's grade. 16-18 sectionals are held per semester.
- Students **MAY NOT** make up more than 5 missed sectionals a semester.
- Section leaders are carefully chosen by Mr. Schick and will schedule sectionals based on the scheduling needs of the entire section. (Mon-Fri) If a student has a problem with a section leader, see Mr. Schick immediately for an alternative assessment.
- If a section leader fails to hold a sectional in a week, the section leader will LOSE 20 points and each person in that section will receive 10 points.
- Marking a Sectional Sheet under false pretenses will be considered cheating and subject to disciplinary action with the Assistant Principal.

## Procedures for Making up points

- Practice for **30** minutes at school. (10 points each session)– *must sign in with Mr. Schick*
- Concert reports or Composer/performer biography. (1 well written page = 10 pts.)

## Classroom Consequences

Tardy and truancy rules follow the CVHS handbook.

Event tardy = ¼ of event points

Class tardy = -5 points - Students earn 25 points per week in warm up participation.

## Behavioral Consequences

1<sup>st</sup> time = Reminder (optional Classroom pick-up)

2<sup>nd</sup> time = 30 min. detention

3<sup>rd</sup> time = Call home & hour detention

4<sup>th</sup> time = Removal from class

## Fundraising expectations

In order for our department to succeed, we depend on a tremendous amount of fundraising. We need to raise around \$30,000 this year in order to establish and maintain our high quality of musical excellence. Expenses include: buses, instrumental purchase & repair, performance fees, supplies, scholarships, and more. With everyone helping to raise money, our music program will continue to grow and thrive.

## Recommended Expenses and Costs

**\*\*All instrumental music students are encouraged to join the Student Body. The Student body supports many of the music department's activities. (\$25 – It also provides discounts to many school activities.)**

### Other sample expenses and suggested replacement costs

Instrument Usage - \$50.00 per sem.

Alto / Tenor Sax Reed - \$3/\$4

Bari Sax Reed - \$5.00

Clarinet reeds - \$2.00

Strings - \$3.50 - \$26.00

If a student needs assistance with any items, please contact Mr. Schick for alternative solutions.

We will not deny any student participation if they are unable to contribute.

## Absence Form – (Example on other side of this page)

If a student is unable to attend a rehearsal or performance, they are required to fill out an "[Absence Form](#)" **two weeks** before an event. Not all absence forms will be automatically excused. Performances are the result of long hours of preparation requiring the participation of everyone in the group.

Students will only be excused for the following reasons; Death in the family, serious illness, or other family emergency.

I will evaluate other requests to be excused on an individual basis and will make every attempt to be fair. If an emergency arises, I will accept a note the day you return to school following the absence.

In addition, it is your responsibility to call a class officer, or leave a message with Mr. Schick via email or a phone call if you are unable to make a rehearsal or performance. **Work is not a valid excuse for missed performances.**

An events calendar is included in this packet, and available <http://www.falconmusic.org/Instrumental/Calendar/calendar.htm> on the website, as well as posted in the classroom. Please study the calendar now to avoid all future conflicts. All efforts will be made to keep the calendar current

\* An unexcused absence will result in no points for that event. / An excused absence will result in ½ points. \*

An excused absence involving another School Activity (i.e. sport) will be negotiable and dealt with on an individual basis. I require calendars of all possible activities which could present conflicts (sports, drama, mock trial, etc).

Please visit [www.Falconmusic.org](http://www.Falconmusic.org) for all the latest news and information regarding the music program. I send out emails once a week to inform students and parents about music events and it is important that I have your correct email address so that you may be informed. Please take the time to review the attached calendar and all the information provided.

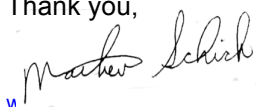
**Please take the time to review the attached calendar, and fill out the following forms by Tuesday, July 29th.**

- Acknowledgment of Handbook Guidelines (blue form)
- Field Trip Waiver/Student Insurance/Medical Authorization (front and back) (green form)

**Earn 20 extra credit points by turning in all forms to Mr. Schick by Tuesday, July 29th. If not turned in by Wednesday, July 30th, students will lose 20 points.**

**Thank you again for being part of the Crescenta Valley High Instrumental Music Department.**

Thank you,



Mathew Schick

**SAMPLE**

Students can pick up this form in class, or copy and use the one below. It can also be downloaded from [www.falconmusic.org](http://www.falconmusic.org).

**Crescenta Valley High School Instrumental Music**

**Absence Form**

Turn in 2 weeks prior to conflict

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Per: \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Inst: \_\_\_\_\_

will be absent from \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.  
*Event or Activity* *Date* *Time*

for the following reason: (if this is a recurring event, e.g. tutor every Wednesday, please explain)

Signature of Parent: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Excused

Unexcused

Comments:

**Crescenta Valley High School Instrumental Music**

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Signature of Parent: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Excused

Unexcused

Comments:

**Acknowledgment of Student Handbook Guidelines – 2014-2015**

**PER: 0**

**And**

**Acknowledgement of Uniform Policy – 2014-2015**

***“I have read and understand the attached Student Handbook (white) for the CVHS Instrumental Music Program and agree to abide by its guidelines.”***

***“I have read and understand the attached CVHS Marching Band Uniform Information and Policies (yellow) and agree to abide by its guidelines.”***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date