

Crescenta Valley High School
Visual and Performing Arts Department
Student Handbook 2015-2016
COLORGUARD / WINTERGUARD

Welcome to the 2015-2016 Guard program at Crescenta Valley High School! You are part of one of the most dynamic, energetic, and active groups at this school. As ColorGuard, we are a part of Marching Band, and 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 semester, we leave the band and transition to WinterGuard, the "Sport of the Arts". We interpret different pieces of music using various forms and dance as well as flags, rifles, sabers and other props, moving from the football field to a more indoor dance-environment and floor routines. We will participate in local competitions and performances.

This handbook outlines the policies and requirements of the CVHS GUARD PROGRAM.

Please read this handbook with your parents, fill in and sign the Acknowledgment half-sheet, and turn in to Mr. Schick.

General Student Expectations for this class

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.

- Be on time! **To be early is to be on time; To be on time is to be late, To be late is to be left behind**
- Have your equipment out and be ready to warm up at the start time of class and rehearsal.
- Always be properly dressed for class and rehearsal in comfortable stretchy athletic clothing, close-toed shoes, and hair pulled back from face in a slick ponytail or bun.
- Learn your skills. Practice daily. Use good technique at all times. Not only is it safer, but also how you practice is how you will perform!
- Listen, and follow directions the FIRST time. Raise your hand if you have questions. Don't interrupt.
- When the leader is working on a part other than yours, watch quietly or practice. DO NOT TALK or distract others.
- Don't touch equipment or instruments that are not Guard's. (i.e. band instruments, percussion items)
- Leave all jewelry, electronics, and valuables at home or locked in your locker. (We are not responsible for "lost" items)
- Cell phones are to be kept on silent and off the body during all classes and rehearsals.
- Eat a meal before coming to school, especially on a performance day. Keep hydrated.
- At events, stay with the group; do not "wander" on your own or in a smaller group without permission.
- No PDA.
- No swearing.
- 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.
- Remember, wherever you are, whether you are at practice, in a competition, or at a performance -- you are "in class", and all CVHS and Class rules apply.
- 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 Guard program, and yourself.
- Show SPIRIT! Whether it's a performance for the PTA, or a competition where you come in first, second, or 23rd place, be proud. Do your best and hold your head high! Applaud those who did better than you and those who didn't do as well. Show everyone that Crescenta Valley High Students have class and pride.

Fundraising expectations

In order for our programs to succeed, we depend on a tremendous amount of fundraising. Expenses include things like bus transportation, equipment purchase & repair, performance fees, supplies, scholarships, and more. With everyone helping to raise money, our programs will continue to grow and thrive. As part of the Instrumental Music / Visual and Performing Arts Department, Guard members are expected to participate in all Instrumental Department Fundraisers, which include selling tickets and working at events such as car washes, the Korean BBQ, See's Candy Sales, etc.

In addition, if you know of an individual or business owner who would be interested in financial sponsorship of CV Guard program, their donation is tax deductible. Please see Mr. Schick for a donor form.

If a student needs assistance with any items or expenses, please contact Mr. Schick for alternative solutions. We will not deny any student participation if they are unable to contribute financially.

****All band and guard students are encouraged to join the Student Body. The Student body supports many of the music department's activities. (\$40 – It also provides discounts to many school activities.)**

Classroom Rules

- All equipment must be stored in an *assigned locker* when not in use. It is your responsibility to put away your gear after each class and rehearsal.
- Absolutely NO FOOD, candy, gum, or sugary drinks allowed on the field or track, or in the gym, auditorium, instrumental main room, or practice rooms! WATER ONLY.

Auditorium Performance / Rehearsal Etiquette

- Maintain silence during all performances and rehearsals whether you backstage, onstage or in the audience.
- Do not chew *gum* or *candy* during a practice or performance. It detracts from our professionalism.
- Performances 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 practices or performances. They will be taken and turn in to the Administration.

Crescenta Valley High Instrumental Music Grading Policy.

Grades are based on Attendance, Attitude, Improvement, and Participation. There will be frequent performance evaluation and skills proficiency reviews.

Practices, Performances and Competitions are graded events, and attendance is mandatory. Reviews the calendars provided and add the dates to your family calendar.

Most of the performances this year are already planned; yet as new events come up, I will try to pass out information at least two weeks prior to the event. Visit our web site (www.falconmusic.org) for current information.

Absence Form – (Example attached)

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.

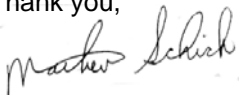
I will evaluate other requests to be excused on an individual basis and will make every attempt to be fair. If an emergency arises, I will accept a note the day you return to school following the absence. If you have an emergency and are unable to make a rehearsal or performance, it is your responsibility to call or text the team captain, coach Danny DeLuna (818-857-9464) or Mr. Schick at moz matt@falconmusic.org.

* *An unexcused absence will result in no points for that event. / An excused absence will result in ½ points.* *
Work is not a valid excuse for missed performances. An excused absence involving another School Activity will be negotiable and dealt with on an individual basis. I require calendars of all possible activities that could present conflicts (sports, drama, choir, yearbook, mock trial, etc).

Please read the weekly email newsletter and visit www.Falconmusic.org for all the latest news and information regarding the Instrumental and Guard programs. I send out emails once a week to inform students and parents about 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.

Thank you again for being a member of the Guard, and a part of the Crescenta Valley High Instrumental Music Department, Visual and Performing Arts!

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.

Crescenta Valley High School Guard

Absence Form

Turn in 2 weeks prior to conflict

Student Name: _____ Class: _____ Grad Year: _____ Per. _____
will be absent from _____ on _____.
Activity *Date*

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: _____

cut here -- sign and return bottom portion

Acknowledgment of Student Handbook Guidelines – 2015-2016

PER: 0 - CG

“I have read and understand the attached Student Handbook for the CVHS COLOR GUARD / WINTER GUARD Program and agree to abide by its guidelines.”

Student Name (print)

Parent Name (print)

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date

Date