

From the Land of the Mustang...

**The Spirit of Dobson
Syllabus and Band Handbook**

2011 - 2012



Administration

Matt Gehrman, Principal
Eric Cruz, Assistant Principal
Rick Fultz, Assistant Principal
Ray Perkins, Assistant Principal
Dora Samson, Assistant Principal

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the Performing Arts Department at Dobson High School! Please take the time to read through the Dobson Band Handbook, as it will provide information regarding the Dobson Band Organization. After the material has been read, print out and sign the consent documents found on pages 12 and 13 of the handbook and return them within the first week of school.

You will find the handbook to be very informative. However, the essence of the material can be summed up with the following culture system that guides our organization.

The Dobson Band Motto

**Character And Integrity Above All
We Before Me
Commitment To Excellence**

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Dobson Band Parents Association

President	Tammy White
Past President & Advisor	Diana Kleppin
President-Elect & VP Fund Raising	Scott Bates
Vice-President of Parent & Student Services	Joyce Roman
Treasurer	Ida Meadors
Secretary	David Chapman

Dobson Band Council

President	Bryan Barney
Vice President	David Gardea
Secretary	Dana Brouillard
Treasurer	Jacob White
Morale Officer	Mady Paley & Belen Herrera
Librarian	Hanna Herrick
Members At Large	Amanda Bushman



Marching Band Section Leaders

Drum Major	Amanda Bushman & Danielle Jones
Flute	Katie Lawson
Clarinet	Jenna Lewis
Bass Clarinet	Rachel Ferguson
Alto Saxophone	Spencer Graf
Tenor/Baritone Saxophone	David Gardea
Trumpet	Andrew Morden & Brian Colton
Mellophone	Bryan Barney
Low Brass	Mellisa Roman-Clarino
Sousaphone	Jacob White
Battery	Cristian Avena
Front Ensemble	Garrett Alexander Foster
Color guard	Kaelynn Dekavallas & Sabrina Hartwig

Dobson High School Performing Arts: Program of Study

District Subject Area Goal and Essential Skills:

Students will acquire the essential components of music by participating in an environment, which consistently promotes growth in performing, valuing, and identifying music as a meaningful part of their education. The student will:

- Participate in music activities, alone and with others.
- Improvise and create music.
- Use the vocabulary and notation of music.
- Respond to music aesthetically, intellectually, and emotionally.
- Recognize and describe the relationships between music and other curricular areas.

Dobson Bands Mission Statement:

The mission of the Dobson Bands, in partnership with the school community, is to offer our students opportunities to further develop and mature musically, intellectually, socially, and emotionally by providing a wide range of musically related experiences in a productive setting. While at Dobson, students will pursue appropriate goals, recognize their individuality and respect that of others, flourish in a group setting, and assume responsibility for their personal behavior. Throughout the learning process, parents are encouraged to provide the supervision and support necessary for students to achieve success. In working together, it is the music staff's hope that students will pursue their adult lives with an increased aesthetic awareness of the musical art form, and as such, be able to gain and contribute from an ever-changing society.

Dobson Bands General Curriculum:

The following guidelines outline knowledge and performance standards for all students participating in the Dobson Band Program:

- Literature that focuses on embouchure, air, playing positions, sound, and phrasing
- Literature that promotes flexibility and technique
- Technical studies that are scale or chord related performed in various keys
- Chromatic/major/minor scales, arpeggios, third studies that focus on specific technique goals
- Articulation studies that reinforce attack-sustain-release concepts
- Tuning studies/chorales that focus on the skill of engaged listening/awareness
- Performance of band literature that represents a proper balance of standard and contemporary repertoire
- Developing informed attitudes toward a particular piece of music, as well as music in general
- Listening to, analyzing, and describing music
- Evaluating music and music performances
- Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside of the arts
- Understanding music in relation to history and culture



Course Offerings and Descriptions:

MU 80 Instrumental Ensemble:

(Referred to as MU80 Concert Band in the MPS Course Description Catalog)

Grades: 09-12

Difficulty: Beginning or modest level of proficiency

Credit: 2 semesters = 1 credit

Prerequisites: Open to all students

Provides a student with limited, or no experience, the opportunity to develop his/her musical proficiency. Performance is not a major priority, but considered a possibility. Emphasis is placed on establishing fundamental instrumental techniques, developing the individual's characteristic tone, technical facility, and reading skills. This course begins to incorporate the District Essential Skills and may be repeated for additional credit.

MU81 Marching Band:

(Referred to as MU81 Marching Band in the MPS Course Description Catalog)

Grades: 09-12

Difficulty: Moderate to difficult level of proficiency

Credit: 1 semester = 1/2 credit

Prerequisites: Member of one of the concert bands / percussion Ensembles, or by teacher approval.

This course provides an opportunity for students from all concert bands to perform as one band. Students perform at all varsity home football games, most varsity away football games, and various marching festivals throughout the fall semester, most, of which may be other than during school hours.

Band camp participation, approximately two weeks prior to the start of the academic year, is expected. The course incorporates the District Essential Skills and may be repeated for additional credit. Special attire is required. Other fees related to marching band supplies are listed, but not limited to: band camp tuition, marching shoes, band t-shirt, uniform cleaning fee. Total marching band costs are announced at an orientation meeting prior to the marching season.

MU82 Percussion Ensemble:

(Referred to as MU82 Band/Percussion in the MPS Course Description Catalog)

Grades: 09-12

Difficulty: Moderate to difficult level of proficiency

Credit: 2 semesters = 1 credit

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation/audition

During the fall semester, this course is taken in conjunction with MU82 Marching Band and covers the fundamentals of: reading rhythms and notes, learning various techniques involved in playing marching and sideline percussion in addition to preparing concert band literature. This ensemble will prepare and perform at least seven shows/concerts during the fall semester, most of which may be other than during school hours.

During the spring, the ensemble focuses more on percussion ensemble repertoire and is taken in conjunction with one of the following bands: MU83 Concert Winds, MU84 Symphonic Winds, and MU85 Wind Symphony. This ensemble will prepare and perform at least two concerts during the spring semester, most of which may be other than during school hours. The course incorporates the District Essential Skills and may be repeated for additional credit. Special attire is required. Teacher recommendation/audition

MU83 Concert Winds:

(Referred to as MU83 Varsity Band in the MPS Course Description Catalog)

Grades: 09-12

Difficulty: Average

Credit: 2 semesters = 1 credit

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation/audition

Concert Winds is a performance ensemble for the developing band student. Students will demonstrate fundamental and intermediate instrumental techniques, with emphasis on the development of the individual's characteristic tone, technical facility, and reading skills. Students will study a wide range of musical styles and forms including solo and small group exposure. This ensemble will prepare and perform at least two concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. The course incorporates the District Essential Skills and may be repeated for additional credit. Special attire is required.

MU84 Symphonic Winds:

(Referred to as MU84 Symphonic Band in the MPS Course Description Catalog)

Grades: 09-12

Difficulty: Average/High

Credit: 2 semesters = 1 credit

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation/audition

Symphonic Winds is a performance ensemble for the skilled musician. Intermediate to advanced instrumental techniques, including a wide range of musical styles and forms will be studied. There is encouragement for further solo and small group exposure. This ensemble will prepare and perform at least two concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. The course incorporates the District Essential Skills and may be repeated for additional credit. Special attire is required.

MU85 Wind Symphony:

(Referred to as MU85 Honors Band in the MPS Course Description Catalog)

Grades: 09-12

Difficulty: High

Credit: 2 semesters = 1 credit

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation/audition

Wind Symphony is an advanced performance ensemble for the highly skilled musician. Advanced instrumental techniques, including a wide range of musical styles and forms will be studied. There is encouragement for further solo and small group exposure. This ensemble will prepare and perform at least two concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. The course incorporates the District Essential Skills and may be repeated for additional credit. Special attire is required.

MU86 Jazz Big Band I:

Grades: 09-12

Difficulty: High

Credit: 2 semesters = 1 credit

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation/audition

Jazz Big Band I is a performance-oriented class, which provides opportunities for the study of improvisation and music in jazz styles. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. The course incorporates the District Essential Skills and may be repeated for additional credit. Special attire is required.

MU86 Jazz Big Band II:

Grades: 09-12

Difficulty: Average/High

Credit: 1 semester = 1/2 credit

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation/audition

Jazz Big Band II is a performance-oriented class, which provides opportunities for the study of improvisation and music in jazz styles. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. The course incorporates the District Essential Skills and may be repeated for additional credit. Special attire is required.

PE22A Color Guard Dance:

Grades: 09-12

Difficulty: Average/High

Credit 2 semesters = 1 credit

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation/audition

Color Guard Dance is a supplemental course that is to be taken with MU81 Marching Band and focuses on the following objectives: to develop and maintain physical fitness, to develop and maintain a working knowledge of correct body alignment, develop kinesthetic awareness, develop movement skills, and develop cognitive skills in color guard / dance arts. This class will prepare and perform throughout the year as indicated on the course syllabus, distributed

at the beginning of each semester. The course incorporates the District Essential Skills and may be repeated for additional credit. Special attire is required.

Grading Policy

Grades can be viewed on line and are updated weekly through the district website at: <http://www.mpsaz.org/mymps>. In addition, progress reports are sent out approximately every three to four weeks. If there are any questions for specific grade progress, please contact the band office.

Student official transcripts will list semester grades only. Therefore, the percentage grade a student receives in the first and third quarter will carry into the second and fourth quarter. A student will not start from a clean slate until the beginning of a new semester. Missed assignments/tests are the sole responsibility of the student and can be made up until the final week of the semester. (The one exception is for playing tests directly related to music being performed at the quarter concert; those playing tests must be made up prior to the quarter concert, while the content is still relevant.)

After that point, made up assignments/tests must be done within 24 hours upon the student's return to class. Assignments that are not completed will receive zero credit and be averaged into the student's overall grade. Grades will be earned based on the following criteria:

- Assigned homework and projects
- Attendance & promptness
- Class preparation
- Exams using audio/visual recordings
- Overall behavior
- Playing & written proficiency exams
- Performances
- Student self critiques
- Student peer critiques

Chair Placement

Chair placement is made at the discretion of the directors for musical and educational reasons and not necessarily organized in a ranked, top-to-bottom, order. Grades assigned to students will not be determined by comparing their playing with that of other band members. Rather, it will be based on his/her own effort and progress as he/she compares with his/her musical potential and aptitude.

Attendance to Class and Performance Events

It is *important* to recognize the direct relationship that exists between attendance and academic achievement. Attendance is ultimately the responsibility of the student and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s). If a student has six absences, he/she will be contacted by a school

official in order to review the attendance policy and potential denial of credit. Furthermore, if a student demonstrates a pattern of unexcused absences or "inconsistent" absences, he/she may lose the privilege of performance for an upcoming event, as deemed appropriate by the music faculty. Cases that involve prolonged illness or the band directors and school administration will review unusual circumstances.

IMPORTANT... PLEASE NOTE... Attendance is *required* to all performances. Appeals for unique and rare circumstances need to be submitted in writing to the music faculty at least **two weeks prior** to the date of the performance in order to be considered as an excused absence. Emergency absences must be discussed with the music faculty within one school day of a missed performance. A student must have verifiable evidence to support his/her emergency situation or an excused absence may not be granted.

For a complete listing of daily bell schedules, along with late-start, assembly schedules, or early release schedules, go online and view: <http://www.mpsaz.org/dobson/staff/skshepple/bells/>

How to Practice

Practice regularly with a metronome in order to establish consistency of motor skills while practicing various musical passages.

Practice slowly and with patience. Only play something as fast as you can play it perfectly every time, even if that means practicing at one-fourth the tempo. Then, after satisfying yourself that you can play accurately, move the metronome up until you reach a particular tempo. Most importantly, BE PATIENT!

Practice over the entire range of your instrument using scales, interval studies, and chromatic exercises in ALL KEYS!

Budget your practice time and practice regularly. Include the following:

Tape your practice sessions occasionally. This will help you notice your progress as well as allow you to be objective about the things that still need improvement.

When applicable, go online and listen to repertoire that is programmed for the school year at: <http://www.charmsoffice.com>. Listen for musical qualities such as: style, interpretation, characteristic tone, balance, blend, and the like. You can also go online and find great literature on the worldwide web.

Always know that one-on-one assistance is available by contacting the music faculty. Refer to the contact information on page 8, or for a list of private lesson assistance, refer to page 6.

Equipment and Maintenance

All band members are expected to have a pencil at all rehearsals. In

addition, certain types of instruments require special accessories:

Woodwinds:

- (Flutes only) cleaning/tuning rod in the case and a handkerchief/small cloth to swab out the flute and wipe off keys
- The correct swab for your instrument
- A minimum of three playable reeds on hand at all times; Vandoren brand strongly recommended
- An appropriate reed holder that prevents warping; refer to director's recommendations
- A good mouthpiece (see "mouthpieces" below)
- A good quality neck strap for saxophones; also available for clarinet

Brass:

- A bottle of good quality valve oil or a container of good quality trombone slide cream
- A container of tuning slide lubricant; Vaseline is not acceptable
- A flexible cleaning swab for your instrument
- A good quality mouthpiece in good condition and void of dents (see "mouthpieces" below)
- A water sprayer for slide trombones
- A bottle of rotary valve oil for horns
- Mutes: a Vachianno or Denis Wick straight mute and a cup mute for trombones and trumpets.
- Jazz trumpets are required to also have Harmon mutes and plunger mutes. Jazz Trombones are required to also have plunger mutes.

Percussion:

- A stick bag with snare sticks, marching(Vic Firth Ralph Hardimon Wood tip), concert(Vic Firth SD1), and jazz sticks(Vic Firth HD4 or SPE), brushes(Vic Firth Steve Gadd) (if applicable)
- A Vic Firth M183 Yarn Mallets
- A medium (Vic Firth M133) xylophone mallets
- A hard(Vic Firth CT3) & medium(Vic Firth CT1) timpani mallets
- A pitch pipe

Recommended Mouthpieces

Clarinets:	Vandoren 13 Series Profile 88 M30 Vandoren Profile 88 M30 Fobes Debut
Alto/Bass Clarinets:	Charles Bay or Vandoren B44
Alto/Tenor Saxophone:	Selmer C* S-80
Baritone Saxophone:	Yamaha 5C
Trumpets:	Bach 3C or 1 1/2C
Horns:	Giardinelli C8
Trombones:	Bach 6-1/2 AL
Baritones:	Bach 6-1/2 AL or Bach 52GS for players with more lip surface
Tubas:	Schilke 67

Recommended Mouthpieces for Jazz Students

Alto Sax*:	Runyon Custom 7, Hard Rubber Meyer 6M
Tenor Sax*:	Peter Ponzol Traditional
Baritone Sax*:	Otto Link 7*
1st/2nd Trumpets:	Schilke 14A4 or Schilke 14A4A with 26 throat
3rd/4th Trumpets:	Bach 3C gold plating preferred
1st/2nd Trombone, small shank:	Dennis Wick 10CS
3rd Trombone:	Dennis Wick 5BL or 5BS depending on shank
Bass Trombone:	Bach 1 1/2 G Gold plating preferred

* Recommended reeds for saxophones in jazz band: Vandoren Javas, Vandoren ZZ's, or LaVoz for Bari sax.



Private Lessons

EXCELLENT ADVISE ... It is highly recommended that students consider taking private lessons with a qualified music teacher who is capable of providing expert attention and guidance. Listed below are a few suggestions of instructors in the Phoenix Metro area.

Flute:

1. Joe Corral, Phx Sym/ASU, joecorral@juno.com
2. Marla Flannagan, 602-486-5184, marla721@yahoo.com

Oboe:

1. Mary Ann Pendel, Phx Sym Orch, 602 953-5923
2. Stephanie Fox, 480 897-7122

Clarinet:

1. Alex Laing, 602 230-9375, amjlaing@hotmail.com
2. Steve Hanusofsky, Phx Sym Orch, 602 451-5314
3. Jon Gomez, 480 577-2929, jagomez@mpsaz.org

Bassoon:

1. Andy Bunch, 480 985-3990

Saxophone

1. Lewis Nelson, Highland HS, 480 370-5393
lewis0803@hotmail.com
2. Chris Charbonneau, 480 370-4038,
christopher.charbonneau@asu.edu
3. Keith Kuczynski, 602 622-5494, krkuczynski@mpsaz.org

Trumpet

1. William Humbert, GCC, 602-405-7736
2. Andy Kissling, AM4072@AMGLTD.COM

Horn

1. Dr. John Ericson, ASU, 480 965-415,
John.Ericson@ASU.edu
2. Gregory J. Umber, Phx Sym Orch, 602 216-9846
gjumber@yahoo.com
3. Douglas Akey, Mesa Schools, 602 803-9205
dougakey@aol.com
4. Karen Teplik, 480 969-7834

Trombone

1. Richard Bass, 480 945-2386, richardbass@cox.net
2. Robert Wittkamp, Mesa Schools, 480 820-5606
3. Steve McCallister, Mesa Schools, Euphonium

Euphonium

1. Brian Wilson, Mesa Schools, 480 456-8789
briancwilson@cox.net
2. Brandon Kiesgen, 602 570-3048
Brandon.Kiesgen@gmail.com

Tuba

1. Mike Hall, 602-615-6095, mikehallmusic@cox.net
2. Patrick Sheridan, patricksheridan1@cox.net

Percussion

1. Joe Goglia, Dobson HS/ASU/MCC, 480 250-5155
jovingog@gmail.com
2. Dom Moio, ASU/MCC, 480 524-3744

Locks and Lockers

Band lockers are for the purpose of storing instruments and music accessories. The use of band lockers in the performing arts facility is a privilege, not a right. They should not be used to store food, books and personal belongings. Also, the hanging of posters/pictures or stickers in or on the lockers is strictly prohibited.

Each student will have a locker for his/her instrument and is required keep the locker secure at all times. The school assumes NO responsibility or liability for anything kept in the lockers. The student must furnish his/her own combination lock for their locker and give the directors the combination. This will be kept on file in case of an emergency. Avoid giving combinations to other students.

Students may only enter the locker room area during their respective music class time and may not enter the locker room area during

classes they are not enrolled in. He/she may lose the privilege of locker use as a result of interrupting classroom instruction for which they are not enrolled, or for inappropriate usage. Also, students are NOT permitted to congregate in the locker room area; it is not a social gathering venue.

Behavior Expectations

The primary responsibility in band is to learn about music. Any behavior that distracts from or interferes with the learning process is unacceptable. As such, corrective measures will be taken to achieve appropriate behavior. Corrective measures will first take the form of a conference between the student and the staff. If unacceptable behavior persists, the staff will pursue further means of action and notify the student's parents. Ultimately, a student may be transferred to another class where appropriate behavior can be more easily achieved. In addition to the expectations outlined in the band handbook, all Dobson High School Handbook rules and district guidelines also apply.

The following are **Rehearsal Expectations**:

- Be early to rehearsals. To be early is to be on time; to be on time is to be late. Late is unacceptable.
- Be prepared with all equipment: instrument, music, and pencil, all accessories needed for the day.
- The most preferred form of communication is listening. The least effective form of communication is talking.
- Be respectful and helpful to each other.
- Engage in a positive attitude during rehearsals and you normally get positive results.
- When you focus on the task at hand, behavior issues become minimal.

Behavior in the Performing Arts Building

The following are general expectations regarding conduct in the performing arts building:

- No food, drinks, and gum in the hallways, locker rooms and general rehearsal room areas.
- Be respectful of all school and personal property.
- Use appropriate language on school property or while representing Dobson High School.
- Students are only permitted to play on their personal or school issued instruments.
- Appropriate behavior is to be used while in the performing arts building; no running or horseplay.

Behavior at Concerts

The following are general expectations regarding conduct during concerts:

- Students are required to attend the entire concert. Most concert performances will not be more than two hours.
- Students are instructed to observe all portions of the concert. When they are not featured on stage, they are seated in a reserved section in the auditorium house.
- Students will be well mannered, completely silent during performances, are not permitted to use cell phones, and will follow appropriate concert etiquette.
- Students will be in complete and proper uniform attire one hour before the concert begins and will not add to or take away from the uniform at any time before, during, or after the concert until he/she is at home.
- Students will keep concert attire, including shoes, clean and presentable. Uniforms, including shirts, will be cleaned and pressed and shoes will be polished.
- Students will demonstrate class and professionalism while hosting performance events.
- Students will take instruments into the auditorium house and store in the south lobby. Students will not return to the band room until after the concert has ended.

Behavior at Games

The following are general expectations regarding conduct during football games:

- A performance time consists of the period of time in which a student is in uniform. Students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately, given the circumstances of the performance event. In the bleacher area, students are encouraged to be enthusiastic during the game and maintain good sportsmanship without losing site of their musical /performance responsibilities.
- The band marches in formation to the stadium while demonstrating proper self discipline and esprit de corps.
- Each member has a reserved section in the stands and is expected to stay in his/her area.
- Only DBPA volunteers and band staff are permitted in the reserved band section.
- The band plays only the selected music as specified by the staff or drum majors.
- When the band plays, everyone plays and performs what is written.
- Students are required to bring their flip folders with them to all football games, regardless of whether or not the music is memorized.
- Food, gum, and soft drinks are not be consumed at games or when in uniform unless given staff permission.
- Everyone remains in the stands during the game.
- Refrain from playing your instruments until asked.

Behavior While Traveling

Proper behavior is simply a matter of adhering to the School and District Codes of Conduct. Failure to behave in the proper manner is possible grounds for sending a student home at his/her own

expense. The following are overall expectations of conduct:

- Be responsible for yourself and for everyone else around you.
- Always know what the expectations are.
- Treat all chaperones and adults with the utmost respect. Every request made by a chaperone should be adhered to in a timely and courteous manner.
- Never go anywhere alone and never go anywhere you shouldn't be.
- All students are expected to ride district transportation to and from events. Any exceptions need to be cleared in writing PRIOR to the event and will only be permitted for rare situations deemed necessary.
- Whining/complaining is usually not good form. Be flexible and smile as much as possible.



Behavior on Buses / Motor Coaches

As a courtesy to others, it is important for all members to agree to the following:

- Be respectful of others and use quiet voices while traveling.
- Treat your drivers with respect. Simple words such as "please" or "thank you" are appreciated.
- Remain seated while the bus is in motion.
- For safety and attendance purposes, stay on the same bus while traveling.
- Food and drink will only be allowed on the buses at the discretion of the bus drivers. However, keep in mind that food and drink is almost always not permitted while in uniform.
- Keep a clean environment and pick up after yourself. Make sure that all drinks are confined or have a lid.
- Finally, when in doubt regarding appropriate behavior, make decisions that will reflect the highest level of character and integrity.

Behavior At Restaurants or Fast Food Stops

- Always be considerate of other cash-paying patrons and use quiet voices during conversation.
- Playing with your food or with utensils/condiments is inappropriate. Please enjoy yourself, but be on your best behavior.
- Treating your waiter/waitress with respect is always appreciated.
- Finally, when in doubt regarding appropriate behavior, make decisions that will reflect the highest level of character and integrity.

Forms of Communication

Official Virtual Band Office Web Site (Charmsoffice):

<http://www.charmsoffice.com/charms/parents.asp>

How to register online for Charms:

1. Go to the above site and log on:
2. School log in: type "dobsonhsband"
3. Student password: type "your child's school ID"
4. From there, you have access to protected information by pressing the various icons.
5. **Important:** It's vital that student and parent email address are kept accurate at all times in order to receive information in a timely fashion. Go to the orange "personal info" icon to make such changes.

Official Music Department Web Site:

<http://www.dobsonmusic.com/>

School Web Site: <http://www.mpsaz.org/dobson>

Daily Announcements on "The White Boards":

Students are responsible for taking note of daily instructions and special announcements on the white boards. Typically, the center white board provides instructions for class preparation while the second white board provides a schedule of the week's activities.

Dobson Music Faculty & Staff Contact Information:

Rob Nichols	Dept. Chairman & Orchestra
rrnichol@mpsaz.org	480.472.3216

Jon Gomez	Instrumental Music
jagomez@mpsaz.org	480.472.3220

Rob Lubbers	Instrumental Music & Theory
rjlubber@mpsaz.org	480.472.3221

John Haggard	Orchestra
jphaggar@mpsaz.org	480.472.3393

Joe Goglia	Percussion Studies
jovingog@gmail.com	480.250.5155

Ron Carpenter	Vocal Music
rdcarpen@mpsaz.org	480.472.3217

Brian McCormack	Color Guard Coordinator
brcormack1@gmail.com	337.781.0076

Teacher biographies can be found on line at:

<http://www.mpsaz.org/dobson/staff/>

Guidelines for the Formal Marching Uniform

Keep the uniforms properly maintained and avoid sitting on dirty surfaces while in uniform if there is no way to protect the uniform. Also, be very careful to not lean on soiled surfaces while wearing the uniform, especially the white side of the jacket. This includes, bleachers, sidewalks, walls, vehicles, or soiled surfaces of any sort.

IMPORTANT: DO NOT clean the uniform on your own for any reason, either dry cleaned or machine-washed! All uniforms are cleaned twice a season by a vendor who has specialized training regarding the maintenance of our uniforms.

Your uniform number is your assigned jacket number. You will also be assigned to one of several uniform racks, which will be color coded to the number on your hanger.

Be extra careful to take your own shako; it is difficult to find your shako if someone has taken it by mistake. Plumes will be distributed at a different point and time, depending on the performance venue. Shako boxes are to remain on the shako racks unless otherwise instructed to do differently.

On performance days, take your uniform off the rack and put it on. Return your empty hanger to the rack, putting it in numerical order so it will be there after the performance.

To dress for the performance, remember the following:

1. Long hair (hair that hangs beyond the neck line for both genders) needs to be braided and PINNED inside the shako. Long bangs also need to be pinned back away from face. You are responsible to bring bobby pins, hair spray, rubber bands to help you. Do this PRIOR to dressing out.
2. The official band shirt is to be worn with the uniform. Only in the event that the band has back-to-back performances, will students be allowed to wear other shirts. The band staff will advise members when such an occasion comes up.
3. Black socks must be worn with your black marching shoes. Socks should be long enough so as to not see the flesh on your leg while marching or sitting. Socks in any other color are unacceptable.
4. Adjust the trouser properly by using suspender adjustments. There should be one break in the front crease of the trouser when wearing shoes.
5. The jacket is zipped from the back. Members may need assistance in putting on and removing the jacket. Once it is on, it stays on until instructed by a staff member to do otherwise.
6. When gloves are not being worn on the hands, both gloves are placed in your bib pocket.
7. Plumes can only be handled while wearing gloves; the oils produced from your skin are not good for the plumes. Make sure to place plumes in the plume tubes correctly; go with the direction of the plumes to avoid breaking the plume shafts.
8. Shakos are to be worn with the brim two fingers-width from the nose. Ideally, it should not be altered with the strings

inside the shako. Additionally, for students with long hair, they should be fitted with the hair braided and up and pinned. The black band around the rim of the shako is to be worn below the chin for extra security.

11. When the shako is being carried instead of worn, it is to be placed on the right arm. The left arm should be perpendicular to the body and the performer's fingertips should secure the brim of the shako. When done correctly, the sabers should be facing away from the performer's body. The shako is not to be held or dangled like a purse. Also, the shako is never to be left alone or unsupervised. In the stadium, please follow instructions as directed by the band staff.
12. Section Leaders will hold inspections prior to EVERY performance. Inspections do factor in to the overall performance grade. Also, a member can have performance privileges removed if the uniform presentation is not in accordance with Dobson Band Handbook standards.
13. The uniform is never to be worn in a partial fashion, i.e.: wearing sneakers with the trousers, or wearing the trouser suspenders off the shoulder. Once it is ALL on, it stays on until instructed otherwise.
14. One's hair color is not allowed to detract from the uniform. Please adhere to natural colors only.
15. Ball caps are not a part of the uniform and should not be worn whenever any part of the uniform is being worn.
16. Running while in uniform is unacceptable.
17. Earrings and other jewelry should be removed or covered. Watches, however, are acceptable.
18. Remove nail polish and excessive makeup products that detract from the uniform.
19. Member shirts will be the black shirts with the "Spirit of Dobson" emblem on the front. This is the only shirt that is acceptable. Due to its special wicking properties, make sure to properly wash the shirt immediately after each use and do not use fabric softener as it will affect the makeup of the fabric.

After a performance, replace your uniform on the hanger in the following order:

1. Trousers over wooden bar crease to crease.
2. The jacket goes on last, unbuttoned and unzipped to allow for drying.

Take the uniform to your assigned rack and have it "checked in" by a parent. Do not place it on the rack until she/he looks it over and checks off your name. Be sure to tell her/him at that time if there is anything wrong with your uniform: rips, stains, missing buttons, etc.

Guidelines for the Informal Marching Uniform

1. Each student is responsible for obtaining black shorts that fit that come down to the knee. The bottom of the shorts should extend no lower than 2 inches below or above the knee and must be worn with a black belt at the proper waist level. Running shorts or sweats are not acceptable.

2. This year's member shirt is to be worn and tucked.
3. The use of a belt is required.
4. Proper sneakers are to be used with white crew or ankle socks. Shoes need to be tied and provide proper support. Do not wear the official marching shoe for informal situations.
5. Guard members will be provided further details that may reflect different standards noted above, but consistent to the band staff's expectations.
6. Long hair (hair that hangs beyond the neck line for both genders) needs to be in a ponytail or braided. Long bangs also need to be pinned back away from face. You are responsible to bring bobby pins, hair spray, rubber bands to help you. Do this PRIOR to dressing out.
7. Gloves are used for performance.
8. Shacos will not be worn. Ball caps are not to be worn unless given permission by the band staff.
9. Sun glasses are not to be worn unless given permission by the band staff.
10. One's hair color is not allowed to detract from the uniform. Please adhere to natural colors only.
11. Running while in the informal uniform is unacceptable.
12. Earrings and other jewelry should be removed or covered. Watches, however, are acceptable.
13. Remove nail polish and excessive makeup products that detract from the uniform.

Guidelines for Concert Band Attire

Concert band attire is handled differently in some respects than the marching band guidelines. Concert attire for all performing ensembles in the Music Department at Dobson High School is formal and professional. It is expected/required that all musicians wear the same attire enabling the focus to be on the music rather than personal clothing. To dress for performances, adhere to the following:

1. Once uniforms are attained, they are kept and dry cleaned by the individual user of the uniform.
2. The ladies will purchase a specific uniform dress provided by a specific vendor within the first month of school.
3. The gentlemen have the option of renting a tuxedo (pants, jacket, tie and cummerbund) provided by renting an upgrade tuxedo from a specific vendor or purchasing a tuxedo from a specific vendor. The trouser should be worn with one break on the front crease of the tuxedo pant legs when wearing shoes. Button the tuxedo jacket using the top button (only) when standing. When sitting down, it is appropriate to unbutton the jacket completely.
4. For the gentlemen, black socks must be purchased and worn with the tuxedo. Socks should be long enough so as to not see your leg while sitting. Socks in any other color are unacceptable.
5. For the gentlemen, a white wing-tipped tuxedo must be purchased. White button down shirts are not acceptable. Also, it is an expectation that shirts be laundered and pressed

following each performance. Wrinkled and soiled shirts that are left in lockers are not acceptable or allowed for performance situations.

6. All performers will purchase shoes from a specific vendor. It is expected that the gentlemen wear the black patent leather shoes that the marching band wears. If a male member participated in marching band, they will not need to purchase additional shoes; they are the same style. Male members who don't participate in marching band and all ladies will have a specific pair of shoes that will need to be purchased soon after the school year begins.
7. With regard to hair colors and styles, all performers are expected to use natural colors that may, in the eyes of the band staff, detract from the performance. For both males and females, one's hair is to be drawn away from the face and styled in a classic manner. Take time and pride in presenting oneself in a professional manner.
8. Costume jewelry (ear rings, bracelets, rings) used to enhance the uniform is acceptable when used tastefully at the band staff's discretion. Diamonds, pearls, silver/gold jewelry is always a beautiful and elegant touch. Colorful and bulky jewelry is discouraged.
9. Attire checks are made prior to EVERY performance and are a factor in the performers' grade. Also, a performer can have performance privileges removed if the uniform presentation is not in accordance with Dobson Band Handbook standards.
10. The uniform is never to be worn in a partial fashion. Once it is ALL on, it stays on until instructed otherwise by a staff member or when the student has left campus.
11. Ball caps are not a part of the uniform and should not be worn whenever any part of the uniform is being worn. Similarly, sunglasses are not to be used indoors.
12. Running while in uniform is unacceptable.

Vendors for Uniform Needs

Hayden School Supplies:
55 Hoover Ave, Mesa AZ 85210
480.968.2670
Supplier of: marching shoes, men's concert shoes, gloves

LeSueur's Tuxedo:
www.lesueurstuxedos.com
156 South Mesa Drive, Mesa - (480) 890-2924
Supplier of men's concert attire.

Band Letter and Award Requirements

In order to letter in band, the following activities must be accomplished:

1. Be in a concert ensemble for three consecutive semesters at Dobson. A student may also be eligible for a letter after two consecutive semesters if they are a member of the All State Band/Orchestra as a freshman or sophomore.
2. Maintain an "A" average in the band program for three consecutive semesters.
3. Be in attendance and on time to all performances.
4. Complete a regional audition.
5. Receive a rating of a "superior" or "excellent" as a participant in the AMEA Solo and Ensemble Festival.
6. Participate in all fund raisers and be in good financial standing with the Dobson Band Organization.

Additional information regarding the awards criteria:

- If a student completes five of the six requirements above, he/she may still letter. With the band staff's approval, one may participate in an activity or event that is worthy of receiving a letter.
- Color guard members who do not participate in band for the remainder of the year will receive a letter after three seasons of marching band and/or winter guard.
- All marching band members who participate for three complete seasons will receive a music lyre pin.
- A student who is a member of more than one performing ensemble receives only one chenille music letter. As he/she letters in other performing ensembles, an additional pin is awarded in lieu of an additional letter.
- Awards will be presented to students at the conclusion of the second semester each year.

MESA PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENT TRAVEL FOR DOBSON BAND ACTIVITIES PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION FORM

(Print and return this permission form to the Dobson Band Office as soon as possible.)

This permission form is intended for the purpose of parent(s)/guardian(s) offering collective permission for their children to participate in all of the events listed on the Charmsoffice.com calendar. The week of an event, an email explaining specific event schedules will be sent to students and parents via email addresses that are listed in the Charms system.

The purpose of the travel/activity of any specific event is described on the Charms calendar. All events that require travel will be provided by the district via bus transportation and the expectation is that all students will use the transportation provided by the district. In the event that individualized transportation is necessary, parents/guardians must provide written correspondence via email to: jagomez@mpsaz.org. In the event that there are unique circumstances that permission is not granted for a specific event, a parent/guardian is asked to inform the band staff by contacting them at least two weeks in advance of the event date. Finally, if your child's medical information changes during the school year and you wish to inform the band staff, please fill out a new form and ask that it replace the old permission form.

Sincerely,

Dobson Instrumental Music Staff

PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION

My signature below indicates my permission for my child (please print name here), _____, to participate in the student travel/activities described in the Charmsoffice.com calendar. My signature also indicates that I have read and approve the medical treatment authorization.

MEDICAL TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION

In the event of illness or injury occurring to my child while on this travel/activity, I hereby give my consent for medical or dental care deemed necessary by the attending health care provider or dentist. My child may be examined and any necessary procedures (medical, dental or surgical), anesthesia, or diagnostic procedures (lab or x-ray) may be performed under the supervision of a member of the hospital or medical office staff furnishing such services. **I further acknowledge that I am financially responsible** for any medical, dental, ambulance or other health care expenses or transportation of my child home, which might occur as a result of such illness or injury. I also acknowledge that I may obtain accident insurance through the school nurse if I do not currently have family medical insurance. I understand that, in the event of **other than minor** illness or injury, reasonable effort will be made to contact me.

Please PRINT name of Parent or Guardian

Home Phone: _____ Hours: _____

SIGNATURE - Parent or Guardian

Work Phone: _____ Hours: _____

Date: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Hours: _____

STUDENT DRIVING/RIDING IN PRIVATE VEHICLE

A. When District transportation is not provided for student travel, District Policy IICA permits students to drive or ride in private vehicles arranged for by a school employee to and/or from school related activities, if the student's parent/guardian gives written permission.

B. When District transportation is provided or private vehicle is arranged for by a school employee the parent/guardian may instead drive the student, allow the student to drive, or allow the student to drive another student or to ride with another student if permission is indicated below. *Where transportation is provided by a student or an adult in lieu of transportation provided for or arranged by the district, the district has no responsibility for the conduct of the driver/vehicle and no responsibility for ensuring that the driver of the vehicle has proper license and insurance.*

FAILURE TO GIVE PERMISSION RESTRICTS THE STUDENT TO TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED FOR OR ARRANGED BY THE SCHOOL.

SIGNATURE - Parent or Guardian

Please PRINT name of Parent or Guardian

Date: _____

PRINT THIS PAGE AND TURN IN

Dear Students and Parents,

After reviewing the Dobson Band Handbook, please acknowledge that both the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) and student accept the expectations as stated in the handbook. Also, sign a second time below if you grant permission for the son/daughter to be photographed or video recorded during the course of the school year.

HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGMENT...

By signing below, the student and parent acknowledges that all parties have read the handbook and understand the policies and expectations of the contents included.

Parent signature:

Student signature:

SLIDE SHOW/WEB SITE/PHOTOGRAPH CONSENT...

By signing below, the student gives permission to have photographs/video of themselves included on the Dobson web site (dobsonmusic.com), band videos/slide shows, or public relations/media material.

Parent signature:

Student signature:

**This form is to be returned to the band room within the first two days of instruction,
or by the second Friday of the first semester.**