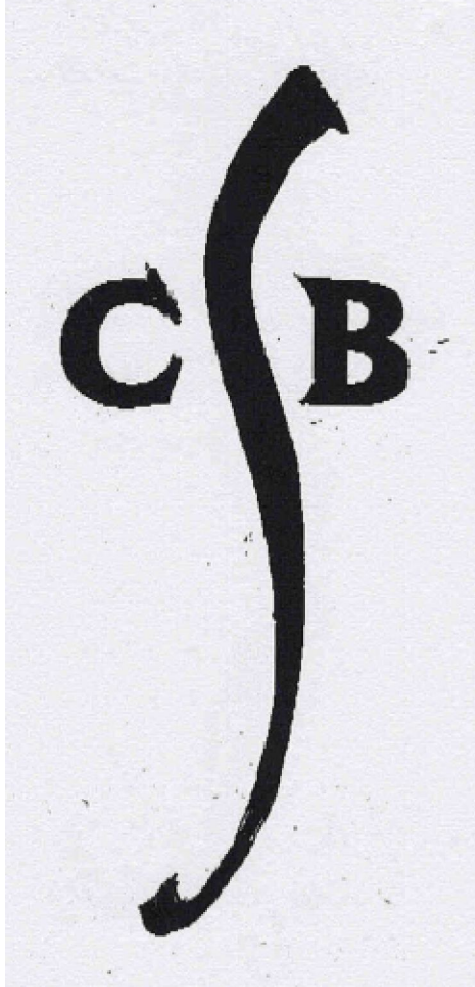


C.B. SOUTH
Symphonic Band



HANDBOOK
2010-2011

Mr. Robinson
Band Director

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DESCRIPTION OF PERFORMING ENSEMBLES

CURRICULAR

Symphonic Band: Symphonic Band is offered to students who play woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments. Students must be invited through audition to be a member of the ensemble, or receive approval from the band director. The class meets all year, every other day for 1 elective credit. Students in the band will play a variety of quality instrumental literature while continuing their studies of select instrumental methods. Technical skills, reading ability, interpretation, tone production, and general musicianship are further developed. Symphonic Band students have the opportunity to perform in numerous public performances including concerts, adjudications, and festivals. Through participation in Symphonic Band students are eligible to audition for the Bucks County Band and the PMEA District Band. Participation in the ensemble includes required after-school and evening rehearsals, concerts, adjudications, and public performances as determined by the director.

Concert Band: Concert Band is offered to any student who plays woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments. Students must have been a participant in the middle school band program or must audition for approval by the band director in order to be a member. The class meets all year, every other day for 1 elective credit. Students in the band will play a variety of quality instrumental literature while continuing their studies of select instrumental methods. Technical skills, reading ability, interpretation, tone production, and general musicianship are developed. Concert Band students have the opportunity to perform in public performances including but not limited to the Small Ensemble concert, the Winter and Spring Concert, as well as the Memorial Day Parade and the Graduation Ceremony at the end of the school year. Through participation in the Concert Band students are eligible to audition for the Bucks County Band and the PMEA District Band. Participation in the ensemble includes required after-school and evening rehearsals, concerts, adjudications, and public performances as determined by the director.

Jazz Ensemble: Jazz Ensemble is offered as an opposite day companion course to the Symphonic Band course. Students enrolled in the Jazz Ensemble must also be enrolled in the Symphonic Band. The course is open by audition to students who play the saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, guitar, bass, or drums. Guitar and piano students are not required to enroll in Symphonic Band unless the student doubles on a band instrument. The class meets all year every other day. Classes are devoted to a study of a wide variety of jazz music and styles. Emphasis is placed on the development of the style, interpretation, and the technical skills needed for jazz performance and improvisation, as well as the historical aspects of this American art form. Participation in the Jazz Ensemble includes required after-school and evening rehearsals, performances, and competitions as determined by the director. Jazz competitions generally occur in February, March, and April on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Jazz Lab: Jazz Lab is offered as an opposite day companion course to the Concert Band class. Students enrolled in this course must also be enrolled in Concert Band. This course is open to all instrumentalists wanting to increase their knowledge of jazz performance, improvisation, styles, and history. Emphasis is placed on the development of the style, interpretation, and technical skills needed for jazz performance along with the historical aspects of this American art form.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

- *Students are strongly encouraged to be in Concert Band or Symphonic Band if they plan to participate in an extra-curricular activity.*

Marching Band: Marching Band is an extra-curricular activity that takes place in the fall season. Membership is open to 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders who play woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments, as well as to students that are interested in spinning flags and rifles as well as dancing in the color-guard. Members of the Marching Band will have the opportunity to perform at Football Games, Competitions, and Parades. Students in the marching band will learn an entertaining, musical, and often times thematic show to be performed on a stadium field. Students will have the opportunity to further their musical studies on their instrument, and learn how to march. Members will also have a learning experience in responsibility, teamwork, discipline, commitment, socialization, physical fitness, and public performance. The Marching Band is a large ensemble offering students the opportunity to form life-long bonds through friendship with their peers. Students are required to attend rehearsals starting at the end of the school year, throughout the summer, and during the fall season. Summer rehearsals include a two-week, mandatory band camp that begins three weeks prior to the first week of school. All performances throughout the season are mandatory. The Marching Band also participates in the Memorial Day Parade in Doylestown, Pa each year.

Pit Orchestra (Musical): Membership for the pit orchestra is dependent upon the instrumentation needed for the show. Typically there are spots available for brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments. A limited number of spots are available per instrument. Students may need to audition to be eligible for the Pit Orchestra. Frequent rehearsals outside of the school day, including weekends are mandatory for this ensemble.

BCMEA County Band: County Band is an Honors Band that features many talented students from all of Bucks County. Students are accepted by audition only, and are required to perform a solo, scales, and sight-reading. Selected students perform in the honors band during a 3-day music festival. The Bucks County Music Educators Association sponsors this event. In order to audition for county band students must be enrolled in concert or symphonic band.

PMEA District 11, Region 6, and All-State Band: PMEA District, Region, and All State Festivals are honors ensembles of the highest level. Students are accepted into District Band by audition only, by performing a required solo, scales, and sight-reading. Selected students for District 11 Band are among the top music students in Bucks and Montgomery Counties. Following District Band, students re-audition for the Region and All State Festivals. In order to audition for district, region, and all-state band students must be enrolled in concert or symphonic band.

SYMPHONIC BAND CALENDER

** Dates listed in **bold** are mandatory and are part of the student's grade.*

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS AT SOUTH (marching band competition)	Saturday, September 25 th , 2010
WINTER CONCERT DRESS REHEARSAL	Monday, December 13th, 2010 6:30 - 8:30pm
WINTER CONCERT	Wed., December 15th, 2010 @ 7:30pm
PMEA 11 DISTRICT BAND AUDITIONS	Saturday, December 11 th , 2010 (at CB East)
BCMEA COUNTY BAND AUDITIONS	Saturday, January 22, 2011 (at Pennsbury)
PMEA DISTRICT BAND FESTIVAL	January 12-14, 2011
BCMEA COUNTY BAND FESTIVAL	March 3-5, 2011 (Location TBA)
SMALL ENSEMBLE CONCERT	Wed. February 23rd @ 7:30pm
PMEA REGIONAL BAND FESTIVAL	February 23-25, 2011
CB SOUTH MUSICAL (PIT ORCHESTRA)	March 31, April 1, 2, 2011 ("The Wedding Singer")
CAVALCADE JAZZ BAND SHOW (Student Volunteers will be needed!)	Saturday, March 12 th , 2011 (AT CB SOUTH)
CB DISTRICT JAZZ FESTIVAL	Tuesday, April 26 th , 2011 (at Holicong)
PMEA ALL STATE FESTIVAL	April 18 th -21 st , 2011
SPRING CONCERT DRESS REHEARSALS	Tuesday, May 3rd, 2011 6:30 – 8:30pm
CB SOUTH SPRING CONCERT	Thursday, May 5th, 2011 @ 7:30pm
MEMORIAL DAY PARADE	May 30th, 2011
CB SOUTH GRADUATION CEREMONY	June 10th, 2011

GRADING

PARTICIPATION GRADE: (100 POINTS/MP) Fifty points are issued at the interim progress report and another 50 points are issued at the end of the marking period. Students will lose points if they are late to class, unprepared for class, or are disruptive to the rehearsal in any way.

PLAYING TESTS: (100 POINTS/MP) Two major playing tests at fifty points each will be given each marking period. Playing tests will be on songs being worked on in band class as well as on assigned musical exercises or etudes.

PLAYING QUIZZES: (10 POINTS each) May include solo playing of scales, chords, or a section of music being worked on in class, as well as small group performances. Quizzes may be announced or unannounced, and may be performed in front of the other musicians.

AFTER SCHOOL REHEARSALS: (30 POINTS each) Extra rehearsals may be added to those listed in the schedule. As stated in the course curriculum, “participation in the band program includes required after-school and evening rehearsals as determined by the director.”

- If an after school rehearsal is missed and is an excused absence, the student will have one week to make up the missed rehearsal time by practicing on their own. See Mr. Robinson for details on how to make up missed rehearsal time. If an after school rehearsal is missed and is an unexcused absence, the student will receive zero points.

CONCERTS AND PERFORMANCES: (100 POINTS each)

- If a concert or performance is missed and is an excused absence, a written research paper assignment will be given to substitute for the missed points. If a concert or performance is missed and is an unexcused absence, no substitute assignment will be given and the student receives zero points.

Excused Absences – Illness, Death in Family, Medical Emergency

Unexcused Absences - Work, Babysitting, Homework, No Ride, Forgot, Outside of school concert, Sporting event, other club or activity

- At the director’s discretion, a substitute assignment may be offered in place of a concert if the student has failed to adequately prepare the music for the performance. Notice will be given at least a week prior to performances.

PROJECTS: (30 POINTS each) May include reading assignments, listening assignments, writing assignments, or musical projects.

CONCERT EVALUATION PAPER: (50 POINTS each) Students are required to attend one musical concert for each half year semester (total of two for full year), and write a one page, single spaced reflection on the performance. If a student attends the annual VH1 Benefit Concert on **January 21st, 2011**, that paper will count for both paper assignments. Mr. Robinson will provide more details in class.

UNIFORMS

- *Members of the Symphonic Band are required to wear a uniform for all performances.*

MEN - tuxedo shirt, black jacket, black pants, black bow tie, and black shoes (Men provide their own black pants and black dress shoes)

WOMEN – Floor length, sleeveless black dress

Tux jackets, tuxedo shirts, and black dresses will be purchased from a uniform company in bulk to save on costs and to insure consistency. Prices vary but should be around \$60. All students in Symphonic Band must own a uniform. Students who have purchased the uniform in a previous year will not need a new uniform. Bow ties will be purchased by CBSIMPA (Instrumental Music Parent Association) and will be provided the day of the performance to the men.

Students in Jazz Ensemble can double their Symphonic Band uniform as their jazz uniform.

If a student participates in both Choir and Band, the student has two options:

1. Purchase both the uniforms
2. Purchase the choir uniform and use it for Band as well. Students are not allowed to wear the Band uniform for Choir performances, but they can wear the Choir uniform for Band performances.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Private lessons are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED**. There is no better way to get the individual attention and training on your instrument necessary for accelerated improvement than by taking private lessons. Most students that take private lessons find playing their instrument more enjoyable and rewarding as they attain increased ability. A list of local private teachers and music schools can be provided upon request.

INSTRUMENTS

A quality band program is dependent on students playing on quality instruments. While it is not essential for every student to immediately upgrade their instrument, students are encouraged to consider upgrading. Many high school students continue to play on beginner model instruments and mouthpieces that hinder the students' development towards more advanced playing skills. If you are interested in upgrading your instrument or equipment, please see Mr. Robinson for more information.

All instruments used in band must be kept in proper playing condition. Students should routinely clean their instruments, and should periodically have it professionally serviced. Please see Mr. Robinson if you do not know how to properly care for your instrument.

Common Problems with Instruments

BRASS:

- stuck tuning slides
- dirty and corroded valves and valve casings
- dirt collection on inside of horn (can significantly impair proper tone production and intonation)

WOODWINDS:

- bent keys
- old pads that need to be replaced
- leaks
- bent posts and rods
- broken springs and screws
- dirt collection on inside of instrument

INSTRUMENT STORAGE

The school provides lockers for most instruments. The student should provide a lock for their assigned locker. Please make sure to give Mr. Robinson the lock combination in case you forget, or in case of emergency. Any instrument left unlocked or left overnight is done at the risk of the student. The school is not responsible for student instruments.

BAND ROOM RULES

- 1.) Be on time to class. Students should be in their seats ready to play with instrument, music, and a pencil by 5 minutes after the bell.
- 2.) Restrooms should be used before or after class. Frequent restroom visits during class are a disruption to rehearsals.
- 3.) All students should have their own copies of music, neatly organized in a folder (folders provided in class). Not having your music may result in a loss of participation points.
- 4.) All students must have a pencil at every rehearsal. Not having your pencil may result in a loss of participation points.
- 5.) Cell phones are not permitted in class. If seen with one you will lose participation points.
- 6.) Homework for other classes is not to be worked on in class. If seen with other schoolwork, you may lose participation points.
- 7.) No gum, food, or drink in band room. Water is permitted.
- 8.) When band director is on the podium, all talking and playing must stop immediately.
- 9.) Only touch and play your own instrument.
- 10.) Be respectful of all equipment in the band room including percussion equipment, music stands, and chairs. Music stands are for music, not leaning on.
- 11.) Mallet instruments and timpani are not tables to put your belongings on.
- 12.) Always ask permission before using classroom computer, writing on boards, opening and closing blinds, or operating audio/visual equipment.
- 13.) The instrument storage area is for instruments and equipment only. The locker room is not a hang out place. The sink is to be used for cleaning purposes only.
- 14.) Please be respectful of each other and the band director.

Come to class each day with an open mind, and a positive attitude. Beautiful music cannot be achieved with negativity.

STUDENT CONTRACT

Student Name (please print): _____ Grade _____

Student Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Student Instrument in Band Class: _____ Other Instruments: _____

Private Lessons? Yes / No Instrument(s)? _____

Private Lesson Teacher Name and Location: _____

*I have read and will abide by all rules and requirements stated in the
CB South Band handbook.*

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____

PARENT INFORMATION

Parents Names (please print): _____

Parents Email Address: _____

*Emails may be sent out occasionally, and generally act as reminders or announcements about
upcoming deadlines or events.*

Contact Phone Number(s): _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

CBSIMPA (Central Bucks South Instrumental Music Parents Association) is the support group for all bands at CB South. Meetings are generally held on the second or third Tuesday at 7:30pm of each month in the band room. Parents are asked to participate in the band parent association, as there are many events and activities throughout the year that will require your support. Please visit our website at: www.cbsouthmusic.org for information on schedules, fundraising, and announcements.

Please feel free to contact Ed Rossiter (president) edrossiter@comcast.net, if you would like to volunteer or if you have any questions.