



Concert Bands Information and Expectations

I. Description of Ensembles

The concert portion of Angola High School consists of the Wind Ensemble and the Concert Band. It is in the Wind Ensemble & Concert Band that performance skills are challenged and the most musicality of the school year is achieved. These ensembles are second-semester classes. Students who play musical instruments in the band program are required to participate in the concert bands.

II. Performances

The Wind Ensemble and Concert Band perform several times each year. Many of these performances occur outside of the regular school day. Both groups also participate in the ISSMA Concert Band Organizational Contest each spring. Attendance at these performances is required. A performance schedule will be provided to the membership at the beginning of each concert band season. Normally, the Wind Ensemble and Concert Band perform the following concerts:

Winter Concert (December)

ISSMA Concert Band Contest (April)

Spring Concert (May)

III. Rehearsals

Most rehearsals of these ensembles are during the regular school day. Some outside rehearsal time may be required. Guest conductors are often invited in to work with the band. These rehearsals, whether during school or outside school, are required. Individual practice by each student in the group is expected.

IV. Auditions

Each spring, members will audition for placement within the two ensembles. These auditions and their results are based on performance and instrumentation needs, not seniority.

While these placements may be used initially, chair assignments are often rotated for different pieces, based on individual players' strengths and stamina. These rotations and assignments are constructed by the director in the best interest of the ensemble. The parts are not about ego - we all serve the group . . .

V. Assessments

Throughout the year, many different types of assessments will be given to maximize student growth. These may appear as:

- Rhythmic Assessments
- Playing Assessments (either in-person or recorded)
- Equipment Checks (Folder, music, pencil)
- Any other assessment the director deems necessary



Jazz Band Information and Expectations

I. Description

The Jazz Band of Angola High School is an extension of the Concert Band program. The goal of the Jazz Band is to expose students to the American form of music we know as jazz. The performances of the Jazz Band provide the students with the opportunity to explore new styles of music and discover improvisation as a playing technique.

Director approval is required to enroll in Jazz Band, and this may be in the form of an audition. As students graduate from the Jazz Band, auditions may be held to fill those spots. All members of the Jazz Band must be participants in the Concert Band. The Jazz Band will be composed of the minimum membership:

Alto Saxophone 2

Tenor Saxophone 2

Baritone Saxophone 1

Trumpets 4

Trombones 4

Piano 1

Guitar 1

Bass 1

Percussion 2

Additional membership may be extended as the director determines necessary.

II. Performances

Most performances of the Jazz Band are outside the normal school day. All performances are required. The Jazz Band will perform several concerts per year including but not limited to:

ISSMA Jazz Band Contest (March)

All That Jazz (March/April)

Community Performances

Elementary School Performances

III. Rehearsals

Most rehearsals of the Jazz Band are during the school day. Some outside rehearsals may be required. All rehearsals by the Jazz Band are required. Individual practice by each student is expected.

IV. Auditions

If necessary, auditions for the Jazz Band membership will be held in the spring for the subsequent fall. The instruments needed for auditions will be determined by graduation of members from the previous band.

Each member of the Jazz Band will play several parts (1, 2, 3, and 4) for each performance. Because of this system, chair auditions in Jazz Band are not necessary.

Occasionally the Jazz Band will hold auditions for solo parts.

V. Assessments

Throughout the year, many different types of assessments will be given to maximize student growth. These may appear as:

- Rhythmic Assessments
- Playing Assessments (either in-person or recorded)
- Equipment Checks (Folder, music, pencil)
- Any other assessment the director deems necessary



Angola Marching Hornets Information and Expectations

I. Description of Ensemble

The Angola Marching Hornets is a competitive marching organization that is part of the band curriculum at Angola High School. Participation in the Marching Hornets is mandatory for participation in the band program at Angola High School. This organization requires rehearsal time outside the school day as well as outside the normal school year. The members of the Marching Hornets will receive 1 credit for the summer in addition to the credit earned in the fall class. All wind and percussion players must enroll in either Wind Ensemble or Concert Band for the second semester. The Fall Color Guard functions as part of the Angola Marching Hornets. The members of this group may or may not be musicians as part of the Angola High School concert bands or Eighth Grade Band. The members of this group are regulated and directed under the same guidelines as any band member. Fall Color Guard members must sign up for band during the first semester, and enroll in Dance Choreography for the second semester.

II. Performances

The Angola Marching Hornets have several performances each year. The Marching Hornets perform at each of the home varsity football games in addition to several competitions. Like all performances, the Angola Marching Hornets performances are required for all members. The competitive performance season of the Angola Marching Hornets typically begins during the first week in September and runs throughout the beginning of November. The actual schedule is dictated by the dates of the Indiana State School Music Association competition schedule. A complete Marching Hornets Schedule will be published at the beginning of each season.

III. Rehearsals

All rehearsals of the Angola Marching Hornets are required. In order for the band to continue the tradition and success of the past, attendance at **all** rehearsals is essential. For more information on rehearsals, please refer to the **Attendance Policy**. During the school year, members are required to attend several rehearsals before school and one Thursday night rehearsal per week for the length of the competitive season. Color Guard will have a rehearsal Monday evenings, while winds & percussion will have a rehearsal Tuesday mornings.

If a family is planning a family vacation for the summer months, please consider the commitment of each of our members. Certainly, a vacation in early-mid July or one of our "off" weeks in June will affect the success of the student and ultimately the band the least.

IV. Band Camp

Band Camp is a critical week for our students. Band Camp is a *required* activity of each of our members. The band attempts to learn at least half of the competitive show during the week of Band Camp. All students are required to attend all of Band Camp. Students may not leave the campus of Angola High School for *any* reason during Band Camp. Any student leaving the campus for any reason will be placed on alternate status and will forfeit his/her marching spot in the show.

A full packet of Band Camp information as well as rules and regulations will be sent home with every member each June. This informative packet will answer any questions regarding Band Camp.

V. Auditions

Students that participate in the Angola Middle School eighth grade band are automatically eligible for membership in the Angola Marching Hornets. All other participants must meet with the director and schedule an interview/audition session. At this time, the director will determine the eligibility and function of any prospective member.

Auditions for the Angola High School Fall Color Guard are held each spring. A specific set of guidelines and expectations of the group are passed out at the first audition. Auditions usually span three sessions with results posted in the band room. Auditions are open to any Angola High School freshman, sophomore, or junior as well as any current eighth grade student. Audition criteria will be discussed at each session.



Indoor Percussion Information and Expectations

I. Description

The Angola High School Indoor Percussion rehearses and performs on a demanding level. Participation in this group is limited to the number successfully completing an audition and selection process. Members of this group should be members of the Angola High School Band program. Membership in this ensemble may be dependent on whether the student is up-to-date with their band fees.

II. Performances

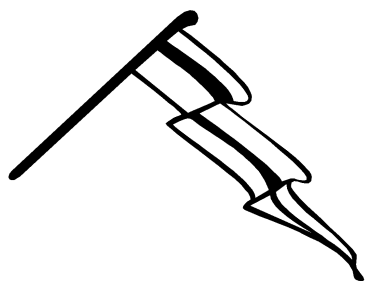
The Indoor Percussion performs at competitions throughout the winter months. These competitions are conducted all over the state and will require the sacrifice of Saturdays on these performance days. Other performances will include a Middle School Performance as well as a performance at the All Bands Concert in March. As are all performances, these are required of all members.

III. Rehearsals

The Angola High School Indoor Percussion rehearses on a schedule set by the directors. Most rehearsals will take place outside the school day; however, some music rehearsals/sectionals may take place during class time. Rehearsals are typically held at gymnasiums at AMS/AHS. As are all rehearsals, these are required of all members.

IV. Auditions

Auditions for the Angola Indoor Percussion are held in the month following Marching Band. Auditions are open to all Fall Percussion Members and other band members that have consulted and receive permission to audition from the director. The percussion directors will determine the length and format of the audition process.



Winter Color Guard Information and Expectations

Refer to the Winter Guard Handbook found on the website.

Solo and Ensemble Information and Expectations

I. Description

The Indiana State School Music Association conducts a Solo and Ensemble Contest each winter. This “contest” is for solo musicians (with or without accompaniment) and small ensembles (no more than 20). Participation in this event is mandatory for wind and percussion students. Many sections will form an ensemble - participation in these larger ensembles is highly encouraged, but small ensembles and solos are where most growth occurs. Students will be required to perform a solo in either 9th or 10th grade, and will again be required to perform a solo in either 11th or 12th grade. During the course of participation in this event, students develop strong individual skills and learn even more about self-discipline and goal setting. Students may participate at three different levels: *Group III* Medium difficulty level, *Group II* Moderately Difficult level, and *Group I* Difficult level. *Group I* music is music that would be suitable for audition to a collegiate school of music. Participants that receive a first division rating at the District Contest in *Group I* are eligible for participation in the State Solo and Ensemble Contest. Students receive no academic credit for participation in Solo and Ensemble.

II. Rehearsals

Some coaching and lessons for Solo and Ensemble participants will be available. These times and sessions will be advertised by the director. Essentially, preparation for Solo and Ensemble Contest is the responsibility of the student.

III. Auditions

All Band members of Angola High School are eligible for participation in Solo and Ensemble Contest. The director may make suggestions as to which level is appropriate for students. Either the director or the student finds accompanists.

Private Lessons Information and Expectations

I. Description

Private lessons are without a doubt the best way to improve on your instrument. Lessons for student musicians are highly encouraged. While directors are skilled instructors on the various instruments in the band, there is simply no substitution for private instruction received from someone who is considered to be a professional performer on a particular instrument. Most instructors for private lessons live outside the Angola area so the commitment level of students wishing to study privately must be high. Private lessons are for the student that is willing to push himself/herself to a new level of playing.

Private lessons are not just for students wishing to pursue music as a career. Private lesson participation can make a lasting impression on a student's self-confidence and ultimate life success.

The director will attempt to help students locate private instructors as well as teach private lessons when available.

All students are encouraged to pursue private instruction as part of their Angola Band experience.

Pep Band Information and Expectations

I. Description

The Angola High School Pep Band functions as part of the band curriculum of Angola High School. Pep Band is an extension of the band classroom and all performances are considered curricular. Participation in the Pep Band is expected of all members of the Angola Band Program.

II. Rehearsals

All rehearsals for the Pep Band will be during the school day and before performance. There will be no outside rehearsals for the Pep Band

III. Auditions

There are no auditions for Pep Band. All winds and percussion members are expected to participate in Pep Band.

Notes for Athletic Band Performances:

Basketball and football games are tons of fun, and we are there to support the team. However, we must maintain a class act at all times. Band members can stand up and YELL and SCREAM in support of the team throughout the game, but should always remain in his/her "spot." It is important to remain alert concerning all of the expensive equipment around you as well as the need to be ready to play at a moment's notice. Only band students are allowed in the band section.

Attendance is required at home football games and basketball games per schedule.

Student Leadership

Student Leaders (Section Leaders & Drum Majors) are chosen through an application/audition process each spring for the following school year. Though their responsibilities are primarily marching band-related, the director will rely on these students throughout the year to be positive examples for the entire band program.

Some of the duties of the Student Leaders are:

- Inventory of music in the section
- Inventory of instruments or accessories in the section
- Inventory of uniforms and uniform accessories in the section
- Attendance of the section at rehearsals or performances
- Set up and clean-up of events
- Leading the section in marching or music sectionals
- Help with logistics of performances and rehearsals
- Communicating relevant information to section members
- Other duties specified by the director

A checklist will be provided to section leaders at the beginning of band camp that must be maintained. Verification of completed task will need to be shown to lead bus chaperone or directors as needed.

Student Transportation / Overnight Travel

I. Transportation

The MSD of Steuben County will provide transportation to and from most Angola High School Band events. Therefore, all students are subject to the code of conduct regarding the transportation privileges of Angola High School students. The staff of the Angola High School Band, the principal, and the Director of Transportation will determine appropriate consequences for students violating the code of conduct.

All students must turn in a permission form distributed in June of each year. This form must be signed by the parent or guardian and will accompany the band on every trip. No student may travel with the band unless this form has been completed.

Students not riding the bus must have a written note from a parent or guardian. That note must be given to band director before the day of the event.

Band director approves final appointments of all chaperones and assigns them to a designated bus.

Students may be asked to do the following:

- Sign up on bus lists
- Sign up for seat partners
- Change assigned busses
- Change assigned seat partners

II. Overnight Travel

Occasionally, the Angola High School Band is required to travel overnight. In this case, the following guidelines will be applied:

- Students must stay with requested or assigned roommates
- Students must stay in the room after curfew
- Students may not enter the room of the opposite sex
- Students may not enter the floor of the opposite sex where applicable
- Students may not call out on room phones
- Students may not order food to their rooms without special permission
- Students will treat chaperones with respect
- Students will leave the room in satisfactory condition
- Students will report any damage to the room immediately
- Students will stay out of restricted areas

Violations of these guidelines may result in dismissal from the trip at the student's expense. Further, the student will be subject to the Code of Conduct of Angola High School and if necessary the local law enforcement authority. No violations of these overnight policies will be tolerated.

Membership Costs

The cost of membership in the Angola High School Band will vary depending on the number of ensembles in which the student participates. However, some costs apply to all members.

I. Marching Band Student Membership Fee*

*Additional documents concerning membership fees have been passed out to students. If you did not receive the information please contact the band director immediately to obtain the documents.

The student membership fee is applied to all members. There are two different payment plans from which to choose. (See commitment form) **Payments must begin at the first payment date in order to reserve a spot in the Marching Band Competition Show.** Below is an outline of the use of the student membership fee in order of priority.

II. Fundraising

Fundraising is an essential part to keeping the program running. A predetermined amount of fundraisers will need to be completed by students each semester. These will vary each year depending on the financial situation of the program.

III. Marching Band Shoes/Pants

Upon entering the AHS band program, all students will be provided a band polo. This polo will be used as a uniform for parades, athletic events, and community performances. If this polo is lost/damaged in the student's time at AHS, the student will be responsible for ordering another polo through the band (\$35).

All hornline and percussion members will be required to wear their band polo and a pair of khaki shorts for parade performances. Throughout the school year, jeans will also be used with the polo to constitute an athletic uniform.

All color guard members will be required to wear their band polo and an inexpensive pair of black shorts for parade performances.

All hornline and percussion members will be required to wear black socks for fall competitions. These socks should be mid-calf in height (no ankle socks).

IV. Performance Accessories

Members are responsible for accessories. Items such as reeds, valve oil, sticks, etc., are the responsibility of the member.

Students are responsible for each component of their uniform. This will often include black socks, hair accessories, etc.

V. Winter Guard

A membership fee will be applied to all members. This fee will be used to pay for staff expenses, contest entry fees, show design and a show shirt. Winter Guard members will be responsible for the purchase of parts of their uniform and their shoes. In addition, members may be responsible for accessories such as equipment, tape, etc.

VI. Indoor Percussion

A membership fee will be applied to all members. This fee will be used to pay for staff expenses, contest entry fees, show design and a show shirt. Indoor Percussion members will be responsible for their shoes. In addition, members may be responsible for accessories such as mallets, sticks, etc.

VII. Solo and Ensemble

Students participating in this activity will be charged a fee covering judges and medal expenses. The Indiana State School Music Association determines this fee.

VIII. Private Lessons

Participation in this optional activity has a cost. The cost varies by instructor.

IX. Normal Band Travel

The band normally stops for meals on most trips. Students should be prepared to purchase fast food style meals on band trips.

Angola Bands Attendance Policy

Section I Rehearsals

Attendance for all rehearsals of the Angola Band is required for those members involved with each individual ensemble. Perfect rehearsal attendance is essential to the success of our organization. If a rehearsal must be missed, the following procedure must be followed:

Emergency Absence: Emergency absences are unavoidable family emergencies such as a death in the family or serious injury or sudden serious illness of a band member. **All absences need to be reported. Leave a message on my voice mail at 665-2186 x2300.**

Unexcused Absence: Assume all other absences are unexcused. *Family members visiting from out of town does not constitute an excused absence.* Please be honest and fair about the attendance at all rehearsals. We expect to trust each of our members.

Injury: In the unlikely event of an injury, attendance to all band rehearsals/events/performances is required. Band is a class. A grade will be earned.

Assume all other absences are unexcused unless the proper procedure has been followed and status of the absence has been checked.

Section II Consequences

Consequences for a missed rehearsal will be handled on a case-by-case basis. However, an unexcused absence from a rehearsal may result in the lowering of a grade or the performance status of a student.

Marching Band

June: The accumulation of two or more unexcused absences in the month of June will result in the member being placed on alternate status and a full letter grade reduction. There will not be a marching spot written for that student in the competition show for the upcoming season. The student may be placed back into a marching spot if another student is unable to function under the policies of attendance.

All other activities such as athletics, 4-H, and other organizations will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

July/August: The most crucial time of the year for our band is the month before school begins. We expect perfect attendance in the months of July/August. This is the time that we learn the largest portion of our competition show. Any absence by any member will severely affect that

member as well as the entire organization. **Band Camp** is required of all members of the Angola Band. Any student not attending band camp will assume an alternate role. ***Any unexcused absence in the month of August will result in a full letter grade reduction.***

School Year: The rehearsal schedule for the entire year is published at the beginning of the season. Rehearsals during the school year follow the same guidelines as above. ***If a student misses two or more rehearsals during a week for any reason, the director reserves the right to remove the student from that week's performance, in the interest of the ensemble's safety. The director will determine when the student is able to perform next. This is a safety issue.***

Tardies: Tardiness is considered not being fully prepared for rehearsal at the rehearsal location at the scheduled beginning time. Expectations are that students arrive with enough time to prepare instruments and travel to the rehearsal site prior to the schedule beginning time. ***The accumulation of two tardies to any summer or school year rehearsals will result in an unexcused absence and a full letter grade reduction. Every subsequent tardy will result in 1/2 letter grade reduction.***

"To be early is to be on time . . . to be on time is to be late . . . to be late is to be left behind."

Note: Participation in performances is always at the discretion of the director. Students may be prohibited from performing for any reason including discipline, attendance, etc.

Section III Performances

All performances of each ensemble are required. Failure to participate in the performances of the Angola High School Band will result in the lowering of the student's grade a full letter grade and possible further action.

Performances of the Angola High School Band are the tests by which the faculty assesses the achievement of each student. Failure to perform gives the faculty no basis for the assignment of a grade in the class.

Section IV Band Attendance and Athletics

Several Angola High School Band members also participate in Angola High School Athletics. We will follow the following policy regarding athletics and Angola High School Band rehearsals:

1.) Game v. Rehearsal

We believe that if a student is participating in an athletic contest with another school and that contest conflicts with an Angola Band rehearsal time, the student will be excused from the conflicting band rehearsal.

However, if a student is finished with a game or contest in time to attend a reasonable amount of the Angola Band rehearsal, the student is obligated to attend part of the rehearsal.

2.) Band Contest or Performance v. Athletic Practice

If a band student has a scheduled band performance that conflicts with an athletic practice, the student is obligated to attend the performance.

3.) Band Contest or Performance v. Athletic Contest

The Band Contest schedule consists of state run events: ISSMA MB Invitational, ISSMA MB Regional, ISSMA MB Semi-State, ISSMA MB State, ISSMA District Concert Band, ISSMA State Concert Band, ISSMA District Solo and Ensemble Contest, ISSMA State Solo and Ensemble Contest. In addition, the band program participates in several invitational events run by individual schools.

The Athletic Department of Angola High School also participates in state run events through the IHSAA. These students also participate in invitationals as well as regular season games and matches.

In order to provide band students with a consistent guideline, the following policy will be followed:

- If a regular season game, match, or invitational conflicts with an ISSMA or IHSCGA event, the ISSMA or IHSCGA events will take precedence.
- If an invitational or scheduled concert conflicts with an IHSAA event, the IHSAA event will take precedence.
- If possible, the student and parent should make every effort to attend both events when reasonable time allows.

All other situations will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

4.) Band Rehearsal v. Cheerleading

We believe students should have the opportunity to participate in cheerleading as well as band. To give the students a consistent guideline, the following policies will be followed:

- A cheerleader will be excused from band rehearsal to cheer for the level of team of which they are selected. For example, a JV cheerleader will be excused from a band rehearsal to cheer for JV games. A freshman cheerleader will be excused from a band rehearsal to cheer for freshmen games.

- A cheerleader will be expected to attend band rehearsal if the level of team of which they are selected is not participating in a game.

This should only affect JV and Freshmen cheerleaders as the band rarely has Friday evening rehearsals and performances.

5.) Cheerleading Games v. Band Performance or Contest

There is essentially no conflict regarding this issue. A varsity cheerleader involved in a game during football season would be expected to participate in the half-time performance of the band. This would ***not*** require the student change into a band uniform.

Certainly, any varsity or JV cheerleader involved with a home basketball game would be exempt from participating in the Pep Band.

Note: Band Awards Banquet

Students must see their commitment through the entire school year to remain eligible for any awards at the band awards banquet. In order for students to earn awards and patches all fees must be up to date

Angola High School Band Discipline Policy

I. Outline

The Angola High School Band operates under a philosophy that every student is special and every student is different. Therefore, almost every situation is different concerning student discipline. The staff of the Angola High School Band will attempt to make the fairest possible decision regarding each disciplinary action.

However, some guidelines should and will apply to all members of the Angola High School Band. These guidelines will be consistently applied.

II. Curricular Activity = Angola High School Code of Conduct

As a member of the Angola High School Band, each student is enrolled in the subject of Band as part of the Angola High School Curriculum. Therefore, the Angola High School Code of Student Conduct will be applied at all times. Band students are subject to the same consequences and due process as outlined in this policy.

III. Outside The School Day or School Year

The students' participation in band requires many outside activities. The band is a representative of Angola High School and the Angola community. There is an extracurricular element to the students' participation. Therefore, the staff of the Angola High School Band holds members accountable for inappropriate behavior at a higher level than the general population of Angola High School.

If a student violates a guideline from the Angola High School Code of Student Conduct or participates in (passively or actively) any activity that negatively affects the standards of the Angola High School Band, he/she may be subject to the following consequences.

- **Student may be required to sacrifice participation in one or more performances.**
- **Student may be required to perform "community service" within the school as repayment for damages**
- **Student may be required to take financial responsibility for lost or damaged items**
- **Student may be placed on alternate status**
- **Student may be turned over to the city, county or state police when appropriate**
- **Student membership may be terminated**

IV. Illegal or Controlled Substance

If a student is found to be in possession of or found to have consumed or made use of a controlled substance, there are additional steps taken than outlined in the above discipline policy. These student actions are offenses that could lead to expulsion from Angola High School. More importantly, these actions cannot be representative of the ideals and reputation of the Angola High School Band Program. Therefore, school policy will be followed