

Edison High School
Winter Percussion
Handbook



Important Contact and Communication Information

Percussion Director: Michael O'Leary
Email: mike.oleary@edison.k12.nj.us

Assistant Director/Drill Designer: Alfred Braza
Email: alfredbraza@gmail.com

Battery Caption Head/Arranger: David Patterson Jr.
Email: dgpatterson.work@gmail.com

Front Ensemble Staff: Jesse Santoni
Email: santonijesse@gmail.com

JOIN OUR BAND APP!!!

BAND APP Link: <https://band.us/n/a0abAc6di4790>

We ask that all members of EHS Indoor Percussion join BAND APP to stay updated on announcements, video assignments, and fundraisers.

INDOOR PERCUSSION ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

Indoor Percussion is a FULL commitment and a TOTAL GROUP EFFORT! Unlike sports, EVERY student becomes an irreplaceable piece of the puzzle. When students are missing, the whole band suffers. **As of Friday, Dec 6th you must commit for the ENTIRE 2024-2025 season.**

ALL activities on the calendar are MANDATORY, including all rehearsals, shows, and winter camp.

ABSENCE FROM REHEARSAL:

Contact Mr. O’Leary by email or google classroom **BEFORE** rehearsal or as soon as reasonably possible and **FILL OUT THE ABSENTEE FORM!!!** If absent from school day (illness or unexcused), students are **NOT** allowed to participate in band on that day. If a student misses all rehearsals in one week, they will not be allowed to perform at the Saturday competition. If a student misses a practice on a competition day, they will not be allowed to perform (exceptions for sports).

EXCUSED ABSENCES/LATENESS: student illness, absence from school, or family emergencies

UNEXCUSED/UNACCEPTABLE ABSENCES or LATENESS:

- “I don’t have a ride” – You must TRY. Ask a friend. If it’s a major recurring issue, contact Mr. O’Leary.
- Jobs – students must plan their job schedule around band
- Birthdays, vacations, or other family events
- Non-school affiliated sports, activities, concerts, performances, etc
- Simply not wanting to be there, minor stress/anxiety, laziness, oversleeping, etc.

SPORTS: We are flexible to share time with most school sports. Talk with Mr. O’Leary if you participate in school sports.

Ineligibility: Ineligible students will not be permitted to participate in performances or travel with the group during the week of ineligibility (Sunday through Saturday). Ineligibility lists are submitted every Thursday for the upcoming week. Students are responsible to keep their grades up throughout the season.

REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE

In order to have an effective rehearsal with work getting done each time, we must have a system in place that sets us up for success when rehearsing.

What is rehearsal etiquette? All this means is the procedure in which we run rehearsal. There is vocabulary we will use that will help hold us accountable to having a great rehearsal.

“Set”: This means students are ready for the chunk of music we are about to play.

“Stand-By”: This means all talking from students and staff on the floor are quiet and listening to the instructions from the box

“Check and Adjust”: after the group finishes the rep, they will hear this phrase. This means to *check* the spot you are standing in to see if you are in the correct position. Adjust simply means to adjust to the position you're supposed to be in.

“Field”: This means the staff members that are on the floor with the students can make comments or rep chunks of music with individual students on the floor.

“Wrap it up”: During field, this phrase will be used to let students and staff know we are about to start a new chunk

“Reset”: This means the group will do the same rep as before.

Again, for us to have productive rehearsals with minimal hiccups and problems, students AND staff **MUST** become familiar with this vocabulary and procedure in order for us to have a successful season and show. If you have any questions regarding rehearsal etiquette, please reach out to Mr. O’Leary

BEHAVIOR & POLICIES

BEHAVIOR/ATTENDANCE: Any student who has major recurring behavior problems or incurs 5+ unexcused absences, may face temporary suspension or permanent dismissal from the ensemble.

BEHAVIOR & CONDUCT

- A. All school rules apply no matter where we are or what we are doing: Practices, performances, on the bus, and everywhere in between.**
- B. RESPECT yourself, other members of the band, others that you see. When you are with the band you represent the school and who we are. Act in a way that gains respect and praise from others.
- C. Bullying, physical or verbal attacks on any member of the band or staff are not tolerated.
- D. **Social Media:** Everything you post online can not only make you look bad, but could make the band look bad. Bullying, harassment, or hate speak against anyone is not acceptable.
- E. Walk away from drama. Don't feed it. We're here to make music together, not throw insults.
- F. Respect the chaperones! Their word is law in absence of the director & Instructors.**

EVENT TRAVEL (School Policy): ALL students are expected to ride the bus to and from all events. If there needs to be an exception, only a parent/guardian may legally drive the student. A note/email outlining this must be provided BEFORE WE LEAVE for the event (not during or after).

Season Calendar: Scan the code!

