



**Community Christian School
Band Handbook
2009-2010**

CCS Band Handbook

Table of Contents

Band and the Bible	3
Membership Responsibilities	
• Instruments.....	4
• Mouthpieces	4
• Equipment	4
• School Instruments.....	4
• Private Lessons	5
Procedures	
• Rehearsals	5
• Performances.....	5
• Absence/Partial School Day Attendance	6
• Practice.....	6
• Music.....	6
• Uniforms	6
• Pep Band	7
• Activity Fees	7
Calendars	
• School Year Calendar	7
• Band Calendar.....	8
• School Newsletter	8
• CCS Website.....	8
Chair Tryouts and Challenges	
• Tryouts	8
• Challenges	8
Grading Policies	
• Components	9
• Communication.....	9
• Conduct.....	10
Awards, Recognitions and Letters	
• Achievement Awards and Recognition	10
• The Band Letter	11
Organizations	
• Elementary Band.....	11
• Junior High Band	11
• High School Band.....	11
Grading System/Band Letter 2009-2010	12
Band Calendar 2009-2010.....	13

Band and the Bible

The Bible states the fourfold mission of the band program at Community Christian School: **Luke 2:52 “And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.”** Band is included in the curriculum for elementary, junior and senior high school as it provides enrichment to the Christian school experience of “developing Christian character and spiritual values” (Parent-Student Handbook, p. 33). Band provides students the opportunity to develop skills of communication and expression that can be used to serve the Lord throughout their lives.

- ***Spiritual*** “And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and **in favour with God** and man.” *Band students are encouraged to please God with their talents in instrument music.*
- ***Mental*** “And Jesus **increased in wisdom** and stature, and in favour with God and man.” *Band students are trained to understand the power of instrumental music in communicating ideas and emotions.*
- ***Social*** “And Jesus **increased** in wisdom and stature, and **in favour with God and man.**” *Band students are prepared to serve the families of Community Christian School and the city of Bradenton through the presentation of fine musical literature.*
- ***Physical*** “And Jesus **increased in** wisdom and **stature**, and in favour with God and man.” *Band students are challenged to develop their musical skills so the performance experience gives maximum communication and understanding to the performer and listener.*

The Biblical mission of band at Community Christian School is implemented through five foundational goals:

- **M**old student-musicians to perform music to the glory of God.
- **U**rge student-musicians to share music with others.
- **S**hape student-musicians to love God’s gift of music.
- **I**nspire student-musicians to understand the language of music
- **C**hallenge student-musicians to serve others through instrumental music

CCS Band

Membership Responsibilities

Instruments

- ✓ Students are to have a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument to participate in band.
- ✓ It is recommended that each student buy or rent a high quality instrument from a local music store or rent a school performance-ready instrument.
- ✓ Families should not attempt to refurbish old instruments fallen into long periods of disuse as dependability and appearance of such instruments diminish potential for the student to succeed.
- ✓ The band director or the student's private teacher should be consulted about the purchase or rental of a band instrument.

Mouthpieces

- ✓ Brass and woodwind students are to have quality mouthpieces for their instruments.
- ✓ The band director, on occasion, will recommend a change in mouthpiece to affect quality of tone production and increase airflow to the instrument.
- ✓ The band director or the student's private teacher should be consulted about the purchase of a mouthpiece.

Equipment

- ✓ Percussion students are to have quality sticks/mallets for their instruments.
- ✓ Woodwind players need at least three high quality, broken in reeds for rehearsal and performance.
- ✓ The band director will recommend reed strength and brand of reed to best meet the physical and technical needs of the student.
- ✓ Brass and woodwind instruments are to be clean, oiled and kept in good playing condition; percussion equipment should be clean and kept in good playing condition.

School Instruments

- ✓ The school has a limited number of the more expensive instruments available for student use at a reasonable monthly fee.
- ✓ Instruments are issued in good working order and it is the responsibility of the student to maintain the instrument and turn it back in the same condition.
- ✓ Any damage to a school instrument, due to misuse by the student, is to be repaired by a qualified music instrument technician and paid for by the student.

Membership Responsibilities, con't.

Private Lessons

- ✓ Private study of a band instrument, though not required, is encouraged to help the student make the strongest contribution possible to the band organization.
- ✓ Private instructors are available at one of the local music stores or in association with the local symphony organization; all private instructors charge fees for their services.
- ✓ The band director will assist, on request, in obtaining the services of a private instructor for a student.

CCS Band
Procedures

Rehearsals

- ✓ Band members are to be in place and ready for the start of rehearsal at the time stated by the director.
- ✓ Students are to have instruments, instrument accessories, music, folders, pencils, instrument maintenance equipment and handouts ready for use at the beginning of rehearsal.
- ✓ If extra rehearsals are scheduled sometimes to prepare for special events, families will be notified well in advance.
- ✓ School dress code policy is in force for all band rehearsals.

Performances

- ✓ Attendance is required at all performances of a band organization and is part of the band grade.
- ✓ Exceptions to attendance at band performances are identified under the Plays and Programs heading of the Parent/Student Handbook.
- ✓ Dates of school programs, festivals and most contests are given on the school year calendar and are further clarified by the band calendar, the school newsletter, and verbal communication at band rehearsal.
- ✓ Senior class graduation at the end of the school year is considered a school program and attendance of high school band members is required because the band performs at graduation.
- ✓ Tardiness to a performance or performance warm-up and preparation time is addressed through the school discipline system.
- ✓ Attentiveness and order of band members is required at all performances; failure to do this is addressed through the school discipline system.

Absence/Partial School Day Attendance

- ✓ Absence, late arrival or early departure from school affecting attendance of a band event (rehearsal or performance) requires reasonable advance notice to the band director.
- ✓ School policy and procedure for absence from class or performance is outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook (see Class Absences and Plays and Programs).

Practice

- ✓ Band members are expected to practice their instruments outside of class; elementary and junior high band members keep a written record of practice to be graded on a regular basis.
- ✓ All band members are to be prepared to play their parts within a reasonable period of time to allow for ensemble development and performance preparation.
- ✓ Practice for band serves the same purpose as homework for an academic class.

Music

- ✓ All band sheet music is the property of the school and is issued to the band in excellent or readable condition; it is to be returned in the same condition.
- ✓ Junior and senior high band students are to keep all sheet music, method books, technical studies and other supplementary music in a high quality music folder; students needing folders will purchase them through the band director the first week of school.
- ✓ Elementary and junior high students use method books, which are purchased by the student at a local music store.
- ✓ Method books for high school students are usually school property and are to be returned in the same condition as when issued at the beginning of the school year.
- ✓ It is the responsibility of the student to pay for and replace lost music or music irreparably damaged because of student misuse.

Uniforms

- ✓ Elementary and junior high band uniform for performance is dressy school attire as specified by the band director.
- ✓ The high school band uniform is used for contests and contest related programs; the band director will specify dress for all other programs and events.

Procedures, con't.

- ✓ The woman's uniform for high school band is a black ankle-length, short-sleeved dress and black shoes; the dress must be made or purchased.
- ✓ The man's uniform for high school band is a black jacket (available for a low rental fee from the school if the student does not own one), black dress slacks, black shoes and socks, white tux shirt and school issued tie.

Pep Band

- ✓ Pep band (high school band members only) provides support and enhancement to school spirit.
- ✓ Pep rallies and basketball games are the venues for pep band.
- ✓ Many band participants are also on the sports teams, which create personnel limitations at games; pep band will provide support at games when the instrumentation is sufficient to fill out the parts that make the pep band "sound."

Activity Fees

- ✓ Activity fees for band are assessed to the student account prior to the event requiring such payment.
- ✓ Activity fees are charged for participation in the following events:
 - Band festivals (e.g., Florida Suncoast Christian Schools Band Festival)
 - Sunshine State Association of Christians Schools (SSACS) competitions
 - American Association of Christians Schools (AACS) competitions (overnight four day event)
- ✓ Overnight trips require additional fees to pay for lodging, fuel and meals; exact cost is communicated to families well in advance of the event.

CCS Band

Calendar

School Year Calendar

- ✓ The school year calendar is given to every family at the beginning of the school year in the school packet of information.
- ✓ Students and families are to maintain awareness of dates for school programs and contests involving the band.

Calendar, con't.

- ✓ Updates to the school year calendar and band calendar are posted in the school newsletter; it is very important that parents read this newsletter to make note of any changes to the school year calendar and band calendar.

Band Calendar

- ✓ The band calendar is issued to all junior/senior high students at the beginning of the school year.
- ✓ All events involving the junior or senior high band are listed on the band calendar.

School Newsletter

- ✓ Families are to pay close attention to the school newsletter and make note of specific information regarding band events listed in the school year calendar and band calendar.
- ✓ Students are responsible to be informed of band events by paying close attention to all information contained in calendars and newsletters.

CCS Website

- ✓ Please check the school website (cbc-ministries.net) for additional information and changes regarding the CCS band calendar.

CCS Band

Chair Tryouts and Challenges

Tryouts

- ✓ Tryouts for position within a section of band (e.g., trumpets) take place at the beginning of the school year.
- ✓ Position in a section is based on instrument proficiency and music literacy.

Challenges

- ✓ Challenges determine position within a section of band.
- ✓ Challenges to positions take place throughout the school year.
- ✓ Position within a section is determined by quality of performance during the challenge.
- ✓ Challenges may be teacher-initiated or student-initiated.
- ✓ Students may not challenge positions four weeks prior to performance of programs or contests.
- ✓ The band director reserves the right to move band members to different positions in a section at any time throughout the course of the school year to best accommodate the organization.

CCS Band **Grading Policy**

Components

- ✓ Grades are issued on the nine-week academic report card for band organizations.
- ✓ Depending on the particular organization, a nine week grade is determined by various combinations of the following components:
 - Practice time recorded on a practice card
 - Playing quizzes and tests
 - Personal initiative for the organization
 - Performance attendance
- ✓ At the discretion of the band director, other facets may be included to determine the final outcome of a nine-week grade; students will be made aware of discretionary facets affecting the outcome of a grade.
- ✓ Elementary and junior high band organizations keep practice card records on individual practice cards for a grade.
- ✓ High school band members do not keep practice card records for a grade (see "The Band Letter" regarding the practice record in high school band).
- ✓ Practice cards for elementary and junior high band organizations are to be signed by the parent and submitted by the student to the band director on a regular basis.

Communication

- ✓ Grading system specifications for each band organization are given to the students at the beginning of the school year.
- ✓ Students and parents are responsible to stay informed of student progress and status of the academic grade in band based on the grading system specifications.

Conduct

- ✓ Members of all band organizations receive a conduct grade on the nine-week academic report card.
- ✓ Personal conduct standards are given in detail in the Parent/Student Handbook; the conduct grade in band is based on this.
- ✓ The letter assigned to assess conduct for the nine-week grading period is as follows:
 - ✓ E (excellent), S+ (satisfactory plus), S (satisfactory), S- (satisfactory minus), or U (unsatisfactory).
- ✓ The conduct grade is determined ultimately by the subjective experience of the band director.

CCS Band

Awards and Letters

Achievement Awards and Recognition

- ✓ **Elementary band members** receive recognition for a variety of accomplishments at the Elementary Awards Program held the last day of the school year.
- ✓ **Junior High band members** receive achievement awards and recognition certificates at the Junior/Senior High Awards Program held near the end of the school year.
 - ***Most Consistent Achievement Award***-a certificate given to the junior high band member who has demonstrated the most consistent effort in band for the school year.
 - ***Most Encouraging Achievement Award*** -a certificate given to the junior high band member who has been the most encouraging student to the director for the school year.
 - ***Most Improved Achievement Award*** -a certificate given to the junior high band member who has shown the most improvement in the band for the school year.
 - Contest Recognition-certificates are given to all junior high band members who participated in music contests for the school year.
- ✓ **High School Band members** receive achievement awards and recognition certificates at the Junior/Senior High Awards Programs held near the end of the school year.
 - ***“Living for Jesus” Consistent Service Achievement Award***- a plaque given to the high school band member who has best demonstrated throughout the school year the consistent service qualities exemplified in the song for which it is named.
 - ***“Make Me a Blessing” Uplifting Spirit Achievement Award***-a plaque given to the high school band member who has best demonstrated throughout the school year the uplifting spiritual qualities exemplified in the song for which it is named.
 - ***“Higher Ground” Personal Commitment Achievement Award***- a plaque given to the high school band member who has best demonstrated throughout the school year the personal commitment qualities exemplified in the song for which it is named.
 - ***“John Philip Sousa Band Award”***- a plaque given to the senior who has best demonstrated throughout the school year leadership, musicianship, character, spiritual maturity and skill.
 - Senior Recognition-senior recognition pins are awarded to all seniors in band as an expression of gratitude for their participation.

Awards and Letters, con't.

- Band Participation Recognition-band participation pins are awarded to all members of the high school band.
- Contest Recognition-certificates and medals earned are awarded to all high school band members who participated in music contests for the school year.

The Band Letter

- ✓ The band letter is awarded to high school students in band.
- ✓ To obtain a letter in high school band, the high school student must complete the following requirements during the school year:
 - Participate in all band performances and contests.
 - Play with a group or in a solo setting in church or chapel at least one time per semester during the school year.
 - Play in a group or solo setting for at least one contest that involves the school.
 - Complete listening assignments.
 - Practice at least two hours a week on the band instrument and submit a record of practice on a practice card to the band director each week of school.
- ✓ The band letter is not part of the grade received in band; pursuit of the band letter is encouraged but is strictly optional.

CCS Band Organizations

Elementary Band

- ✓ All sixth grade students participate in band.
- ✓ Students practice in like sections at the beginning of the school year and are gradually put together with the rest of the class as music and playing skills progress to an acceptable level.
- ✓ Sixth grade band prepares for school programs and music contest.

Junior High Band

- ✓ All junior high students participate in band.
- ✓ Please refer to the Parent/Student Handbook regarding expectations and requirements for junior high band (see Music Program).
- ✓ Junior High band prepares for school programs, music festivals and music contests.

High School Band

- ✓ High School band is an elective class.
- ✓ Please refer to the Parent/Student Handbook regarding expectations and requirements for High School band (see Music Program).
- ✓ High School band prepares for school programs, music festivals, music contests, chapel, pep band and community ministry.

Community Christian School Band Grading System/The Band Letter High School Band

There are three parts to the academic grade for CCS High School Band.

Attendance Grade (performances and contests)

Participation in all performances and contests involving the band is required of each band member. **Participation in performances and contests counts for one third of the academic grade in band.**

Daily Grade (initiative and quizzes)

Initiative is the daily contribution of the student to the organization, **counts for one half of the academic grade in band** and is assessed each class period. The facets of initiative are music preparation, classroom cooperation and response/attentiveness.

Quizzes occur three times per quarter and **count for one sixth of the academic grade in band.** Material from method books, technical books or sheet music is used to administer quizzes.

Semester Exam Grade

Semester exams occur at the end of each semester. They count for one fifth of the semester grade in band. Each quarter counts for two/fifths of the semester grade in band. Material from method books, technical books or sheet music is used to administer exams.

The Band Letter

To obtain a letter in band, students should complete the following requirements:

1. Participation in all band performances and contests.
2. Play your band instrument in a group or solo setting in church or chapel at least one time per semester during the school year.
3. Play your band instrument in a group or solo setting for at least one contest involving CCS during the school year.
4. Complete any listening assignments.
5. Practice at least two hours a week on your band instrument for the school year.

Letters in band are not part of the grade received in band. Pursuit of the band letter is encouraged but is strictly optional.

Band Calendar 2009-2010 Community Christian School

(as of August 12, 2009)

October 9 (Fr) Grandparent/Parent Day

October 15-16 (Th/Fr) Florida Suncoast Christian Schools Band Festival
Band Festival @ Location TBA /Concert-Friday, 7:00 p.m.

November 13 (Fr) Jr./Sr. High Fall Concert (7:00 p.m.)

December 18 (Fr) Jr./Sr. High Christmas Program (7:00 p.m.)

February 19 (Fr) Jr./Sr. High **SSACS** Warm-Up Concert (7:00 p.m.)

March 11-12 (Th-Fr) **SSACS** High School Preaching/Academic/Fine Arts Competition
Clearwater, Florida

April 13-16 (T-F) American Association of Christian Schools
High School Preaching/Academic/Fine Arts Competition
Greenville, South Carolina

April 30 (Fr) **SSACS** Elem./Jr. High Fine Arts Festival
Location-Land O' Lakes Christian School

May 14 (Fr) Jr./Sr. High Spring Concert (7:00 p.m.)

May 27 (Th) Jr./Sr. High Awards Program (7:00 p.m.)

June 4 (Fr) Senior Graduation (7:00 p.m.)