

# EASTSIDE HS 2019-20 BAND CLASS SYLLABUS

ALL BAND CLASSES

D. ALAN FOWLER, Director of Bands

Band Office: 770-786-5922

The Band Program at Eastside High School is comprised of students in five band classes and the members of the Eastside Colorguard. During the year, the students of the Concert and Symphonic Bands, Wind Ensemble, and Percussion Techniques classes will perform at a number of concerts. Other special engagements will consist of students from all the classes performing together, as well as in smaller groups. "The Pride of Eastside" Marching Band is comprised of students from all band classes.

*The objectives for the course are simple:* Provide students an opportunity to perform in a band, continue to learn and mature as both musicians and individuals, and work together to make the Eastside Band great. The teamwork aspect of being a part of the Eastside Bands is tremendous educationally for our students. **Performance and other musical and class objectives are posted in the band room and on the band's website.** The students will learn that participating in high school band is a great source of **PRIDE** and is an experience that will benefit them in many ways throughout their lives.

## Requirements:

1. Students need to own or have access to an instrument of good quality and maintained in good playing condition. **A test grade will be given to each student the first week of each semester, simply for having their name clearly displayed on their instrument case.** *(Students using school-owned instruments are asked to contribute \$30 to the instrument maintenance/replacement fund.)*
2. Music will be provided and each student will be responsible for replacing lost music. (Copy Request forms are available.)
3. Students will be responsible for coming to class prepared to learn. A properly maintained music folder (provided by the director), pencil, and notebook (pockets & prongs) with paper are required for each class meeting – marching band members were given one of these. *(Staff paper may be needed. This special paper can be purchased at the store, or for a small fee a packet can be provided.)*
4. Students will demonstrate a positive attitude and aid in creating a positive learning environment.
5. Students will be expected to attend rehearsals and performances outside of the school day.

## Grading:

Band is a co-curricular class for which students receive a grade. Each student will receive a daily grade for each rehearsal. Should the student not have her/his instrument (or music), he/she will receive a zero; however, if the student makes the director aware of her/his situation before the rehearsal begins, then an assignment will be given by which a portion of the daily grade can still be earned.

The semester average for each student will be determined as follows:

Daily Grades / Participation / Attitude / Playing Quizzes	25 %
Test Grades – Playing and Written, certain performances will fall into this category <b>Labeled instrument case / Stick Bag &amp; Playing Tests / Music Pass-Offs</b>	50 %
Attendance at All Outside of School Rehearsals and Performances * <b>A Make-up Assignment will be available to assist students in earning credit for missed rehearsals if requested.</b>	25 %

**Final Exam Grade Policy:** *The final grade for the year will be figured as follows – The averages of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semesters will be averaged with the final exam grade for the final course grade.*

**FINAL EXAM:** Playing Test / Written Test over music from the semester, scales, and exercises and the GSoE.  
*Graduation Band participation is factored into the final exam grade.*

- \* Participation in concerts is a vital part of being a band member; therefore, attendance at concerts/performances is required. Attendance at all band rehearsals and performances is extremely important. Performances and rehearsals are scheduled many weeks in advance and students are made aware of these dates at the beginning of each semester. Only emergency situations and illness can be accepted as excused absences from a performance. In these situations, **contact the director in advance** and supply a note of explanation, as soon as possible. If a rehearsal must be missed, please provide the director with a note of explanation **PRIOR** to the rehearsal (except in emergency situations--follow the same procedures as a performance). Failure to bring a note will result in an unexcused absence. A process will be in place to allow students to earn make-up credit for excused absences, but please remember, no make-up work or practice fully replaces the experience of participating in rehearsals. Not all of the band students are in the same band class; thus after-school rehearsals will provide us with the only opportunity to have each ensemble rehearse together. Please note: **Work is not an excused absence** – further explanation of excused/unexcused absences is posted in the band room. Finally – there is no reason for an “unexcused absence” – Be here or be accountable – Our success depends on it!  
**Expect in August, a link from our homepage at [prideofeastside.org](http://prideofeastside.org) to an “Excused Absence” form. More info. will follow.**

**Band Room Rules:**

1. Treat others as you wish to be treated. Respect others and they will respect you. *See the guidelines in the box below.*
2. Know the rules in the Eastside High School Handbook and abide by them.
3. Come to class promptly and follow the instructions on the board. **Always have a pencil!** *Hall passes will be limited. Please follow the front office prescribed EMERGENCY USE guidelines as reason to be in the hall during class.*
4. Come to class with required materials and ready to rehearse quickly following the bell. Be in the room *en route* to your seat before the bell rings.
5. Take pride in your surroundings. (No food, gum, or drinks in the band room – Clean-up after yourself! – *L.N.T.!*)

*I have stressed this rule for a number of years now, and it still rings true:*

**“You know what’s right – Do that! You know what’s wrong – Don’t do that!”**

**Our approach:** 1. *Everyone takes notes.* 2. *Everyone says “Please” and “Thank You.”*  
3. *Everyone picks up trash.*

*Following the above guidelines and practicing will ensure success here in the band room and beyond!*

**Discipline Procedure:**

Penalty at the discretion of the director, may include: warning, reduction of daily grade, conference with student, phone call to parent, detention, or office referral. **(Severe offenses will result in an office referral prior to other action being taken.)**

**The Beginning of Class:**

Students will be counted tardy if they are not in the room when the tardy bell rings, but it is important that they not just stand around once they arrive. With 5 minutes between classes, students will need to move quickly through the halls. Immediately upon entering the band room, students need to set about promptly getting their materials together to begin rehearsal. Tardies are handled through the Eastside Clinic. *All your classes will go better if you are ready to learn when you walk in the door.*

**Positive Rewards:**

The rewards that students receive in band are numerous and often intangible. One tangible reward that students are given is a chance to earn the right to wear the E.\* As stated earlier, participation in high school band is a great source of **PRIDE**, and this pride is something that will stay with students throughout their lives. While goals have been set forth for the band program here at Eastside, these goals will change and evolve as we continue to develop into the band we want to be.

*\*Requirements for earning a Band Letter are in the process of being modified, and will be posted in the band room by Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>.*

**Communication:**

EACH WEEK, A **WEEKLY BAND AGENDA (WBA)** WILL BE POSTED ON THE BAND WEBSITE, AND IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH STUDENT TO READ THIS AGENDA AND INFORM THEIR PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) OF IMPORTANT BAND NEWS AND EVENTS. THE BAND WEBSITE: [www.prideofeastside.org](http://www.prideofeastside.org)

*Other EHS Band Internet Connections:*

**twitter** – @TPOEdirector

**facebook** – @prideofeastside

**Instagram** – tpoeagleband

**REMIND** – *Please join the Remind group for your Graduation year; it’s easy.*

Send either @23tpoe, @22tpoe, @21tpoe, or @20tpoe to 81010

*The best time to reach me at school is around 2:30pm each day. There is voice mail at the band office, and if you are unable to reach me, I will do my best to get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation and I look forward to making this year the best yet for the Eastside Bands. The easiest way to reach me is by email. That address is:*

**[fowler.alan@newton.k12.ga.us](mailto:fowler.alan@newton.k12.ga.us)**

**BAND BOOSTER NOTE:** The EHS Band Boosters is an organization comprised of the parents of the band and colorguard students who make up the band program. Plan now to attend the first *regular* Booster Meeting later this fall – Check the website for updates. *There will be a Concession Training event in August – So, stay tuned!* Marching Band & Colorguard member families are already part of the Boosters by virtue of having paid their MB Fees, all other students need to pay **\$30** which covers the Band Booster dues and the Concert Uniform Usage Fee. **THANK YOU!**