

Performance Policies

Indoor

The following policy was established between music directors and administrators in order to bring about a clear understanding regarding attendance at music performances.

Required Performance	Required performances are part of the credit course and required of all students in the course. The director of the ensemble will inform students in the ensemble as soon as possible of required performances. These include performances that are listed on the published school calendar.
Voluntary Performances	These are performances that are either optional, or added at short notice by request. If a student volunteers for a performance it then becomes an absolute commitment to perform (ie. Pep band, wind & percussion with orchestra, etc.). The director will inform students whether a performance is required or optional.
Unexcused Absence	When a student fails to submit an acceptable written excuse (parent signature) to the director, the absence is considered "unexcused." Unexcused absences will affect the student's quarter grade and deduction of points. Performances are considered on the same level as an exam for an academic class.
Excused Absences	Will be limited to illness (in an emergency a parent should call director as early as possible), church services, or situations involving the entire family. The director will notify the students of specific deadlines for written excuses for each individual performances (usually one week). In terms of "entire family" we mean if the family is going out of town for an extended time and cannot leave the child behind.
Work excuses	Inform your employer of your performance commitments. You'll find him/her to be very cooperative in recognizing your educational obligations if you notify your employer as soon as possible. You will know your obligations in plenty of time (dates, times, etc.). Should a problem arise discuss it with your teacher. Remember you must take the initiative and be fair to everyone by giving the employer plenty of notice. Students will not be excused from performances due to work.
Other Commitments	Before committing to another organization for use of their music talents, it is suggested that students check with their director to be sure they are meeting the school music requirements first. It is the student's obligation to place their music class requirements first until after the student graduates. Any time the high school band or orchestra has a meeting, the student has an obligation to participate.

Attendance

Students are expected to remain for an entire performance in which they are involved. This includes listening to other performances in addition to the performance in which they participate. Seating is provided for students. If there is a problem with the student staying to participate in the entire performance, the parent should request, in writing, a release which will be honored. Requests will be kept on file in the music office.

Directors will attempt to be flexible, however, we feel the student participation in the audience of a performance is an important part of the music education, and an important part of the course objectives. Students may be asked to write an evaluation of another group on the concert.

Parents are reminded that their interest is imperative for a successful music program to function well. Each and every student has a definite part to perform within the music organization. The student has a responsibility to himself or herself, as well as to the whole ensemble, the school, and the community. As directors, we are committed to teach students responsibility, honest, and integrity. We know the parents will support our efforts.

Field trips, performances, or enrichment activities made by the group during the school day are class projects. We occasionally perform for special audiences and feel it is important to represent the school and music program in the best way possible. This can only happen when all members of the group participate.

Outdoor

The following are policies adopted by the Hartford High School Music Department relative to outdoor performances of any kind.

The HUHS Music Department realizes the significant impact musical programs bring to various community and school functions. We are pleased to be invited to perform at community, organizational, and school activities both in the Hartford community and in area communities. We will make every effort to meet our obligation to perform for scheduled events.

We realize that outdoor performances present unique situations that are beyond the control of anyone. Namely, weather conditions may be less than ideal. We do have some legitimate concerns for the health and welfare of our students who are scheduled to perform outdoors.

Therefore, we have established the following guidelines for outdoor performances by our performing groups:

1. We will not participate in outdoor performances when the temperature is determined to be detrimental to either students or equipment. Such weather conditions do not allow a

healthy atmosphere for students without appropriate attire. Frost bite factors may enter in during inclement weather conditions. It is also very difficult for wind instruments to perform, as valves and slides begin to freeze, making the instrument unplayable. Please note that our first concern is for the welfare and safety of our students' health.

2. We will not perform in rainy conditions. Again, the health of our students becomes jeopardized when they are exposed to wet and cold. Parents and taxpayers invest a great deal of money in instruments, uniforms, and other equipment that can be damaged if exposed to rain. If we happen to be caught in the rain, students are responsible to see that the uniform is hung properly, outside of the garment bag, to air dry.
3. Students must report to school to prepare for the scheduled performance. Do NOT assume that a performance will be canceled because of weather conditions at home. The director will make the final decision whether to perform or not, and inform students in a timely manner. All students who report to a performance in a timely manner, and who are prepared to perform will be given credit for the performance.