

Sierra Vista High School Band and Colorguard Syllabus—Fall 2014

Contact Information

Ms. Elva Gomez, Band Director

Band Room Phone: (626) 856-4017

Email: ecgomez742@bpusd.net

www.marchingdons.com

Introduction

The Fall semester is a busy time for the students in the Band and Colorguard program. Not only do we compete in numerous Field Tournaments and Band Reviews, but we also perform at all home football games as well as school rallies and events. Our goal is to do our best at all competitions so that we can qualify for Championships. This will require hard work and dedication from ALL members. However, at the end of the season, you will have experienced new things, made new friends, and had a great time being a part of the Marching Dons.

Instrument and Locker Use

We ask that all students using school instruments contribute the rental cost \$40. This will help us maintain the quality of our instruments. However, any repairs that need to be made to your instrument due to improper use or negligence are your responsibility. Please take good care of the instrument while it is checked out to you so that we can keep the need for repairs to a minimum.

Each student will be assigned a locker. It is the student's responsibility to lock their lockers each day to protect their belongings inside. Students that lose their lock or damage the locker will be charged for its replacement or repair.

Practice/Sectionals

All Marching Band and Colorguard students should be enrolled in 7th period Marching Band (PE MPD). This class meets on Tuesday nights from 6-9pm and Thursday nights from 5-8pm. Remember that this is a class! If you do not attend, you will be marked absent and will have to clear it with the attendance office. Any conflicts must be brought to the attention of Ms. Gomez in a timely manner.

Students are required to take their instrument/guard equipment home at least once per week for their grade. Students will also have scheduled after-school sectionals about once a week that last for 1 hour. Students are expected to attend these and are given notice of their dates and times at least three days prior. If students are unable to attend due to tutoring or other scheduled activities, they must inform both me and their section leader. We will then find another way for them to make up the time.

Attendance

Due to the performance-based nature of our program, attendance to class, all rehearsals, football games and competitions is required. Students should be aware of this before enrolling in the class. If you already know that you will have an issue with one or more scheduled rehearsals or events, you need to let me know as soon as possible. Every person has a spot on our field and is needed for the success of the group. If you miss, then you are letting the entire group down. Please let me know of a necessary absence at least 1 week in advance.

Uniform

The uniforms for each group are as follow:

Band: Uniform Jacket, Pants, and Shako (hat)—these items are provided.

- You will need to purchase gloves (\$4) and marching shoes (\$38-new students only) from the Band Boosters.
- When in uniform, you must wear black socks (crew length or longer—purchase on your own), and wear your hair in a way that it can easily be tucked into your shako.
- Under the uniform, you are expected to wear the band T-shirt and athletic shorts.

Colorguard: You will need to purchase a uniform and shoes for competitions and games.

For casual events (such as rallies), all students will wear their Band T-shirt and dark blue jeans

Grades

Grades for courses will be distributed as follows:

Attendance and Participation: 50%

- Attendance, behavior and participation, bringing materials to class

Quizzes: 25%

- Scale quizzes, playing/performing tests, quizzes on terms and concepts

Assignments: 25%

- Attending sectionals, taking instrument/guard equipment home, class work, reflections

Classroom Rules

1. Respect whoever is on the podium/leading you
 - Includes director, instructors, drum majors, section leaders, guest clinicians, etc.
2. Respect each other
 - Do not touch other people, their instruments, or belongings
 - No cursing or foul language
3. Respect the room and the equipment
 - Absolutely NO food or drinks are allowed in the Band Room (only water)

- No chewing gum during any Band activities, especially not on the field or in the room
 - Handle stands and chairs carefully and do not touch equipment that is not yours
4. Respect our rehearsal time
- Be on time, do not talk, do not disrupt the rehearsal. No phones or electronics are allowed.

Consequences:

1. Warning 2. Time-out/removal from activity 3. Detention 4. Call home 5. Referral to office
If there is ever a major concern with a student, the parent will be notified immediately. Depending on the severity of the issue, the student may be removed from the program.

Band Contribution and Fundraisers

Fundraisers are absolutely necessary for the success of our program. Participation in all fundraisers is expected from all students. In order to be able to provide all that we do and afford to go on as many trips as we have planned, we also ask for each student to help us through a \$140 contribution to the program. This will be used for show and transportation costs. We provide numerous ways for students to fundraise the amount and alleviate the cost. If you have any questions or concerns about the contribution, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Below is a guide for payment in installments:

- \$38 Shoes (if needed) Friday, August 22, 2014
 - \$30 First Payment Friday, September 5, 2014
 - \$30 Second Payment Friday, October 3, 2014
 - \$40 Third Payment Friday, November 7, 2014
 - \$40 Fourth Payment Friday, December 5, 2014
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Stay connected:

Website: www.marchingdons.com

- Updated schedules, class handouts, reminders, announcements.

Facebook: - *Sierra Vista High School Band/Colorguard Parent Boosters* (Parent group)

- *SV Marching Dons* (group for students, but parents may join)
- Stay connected with reminders and announcements. Parent group posts upcoming meetings, chaperone information, and fundraisers.

Band and Colorguard Contract

Please initial (both student and parent) each item below and sign at the bottom.

Return signed form to Ms. Gomez by Friday, August 15, 2014.

_____ I have read and understand the responsibilities and expectations of being a member of the Marching Dons.

_____ I agree to participate in all fundraisers and activities that are for the benefit of the group.

_____ I will abide by the rules of the class.

_____ I understand that I must behave in a mature manner and respect other students, parents, and instructors that work with the group.

_____ I will attend all scheduled rehearsals and performances. I understand that if I am not present at 7th period rehearsal, then I will be marked absent and will have to clear my absence with the school attendance office. I will practice good time management and will not use schoolwork as an excuse to miss practice.

_____ I understand that practice is from 5-8pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. As a student, I must be ready to begin class by 5pm—instrument out, athletic shoes and clothes on, music and drill.
_____ I must also leave for home or be picked up by 8:10pm at the end of practice

_____ I will communicate any issues regarding attendance, conflicts, or anything that interferes with my performance in the group with Ms. Gomez at least one week before for rehearsals, and at least one month in advance for competitions.

_____ I understand that my failure to follow these guidelines may result in my removal from specific activities or the program as a whole.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Student Name (print)

Parent Name (print)