MOUNTAIN HOME PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

BAND HANDBOOK

2014-2015

STATEMENT OF POLICIES & REGULATIONS

“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.”

Revised: July 9, 2014
# MOUNTAIN HOME BANDS STATEMENT OF POLICY & RESPONSIBILITY

## Table of Contents

- Preface .......................................................... Page 3
- Band History / Background ........................................ Page 3
- Responsibilities of the Band Department ........................ Page 3
- Responsibilities of the Students ................................. Page 3
- Responsibilities of the Parents .................................. Page 4
- Conduct .......................................................... Page 4
- Attendance Policy ............................................... Page 4-5
- Grading/Eligibility ............................................... Page 5
- Achiever Status ................................................ Page 6
- Transportation .................................................. Page 6
- Fund Raising .................................................... Page 6
- Equipment ....................................................... Page 7
- Fines .............................................................. Page 7
- Music .............................................................. Page 7
- Uniforms .......................................................... Page 8-9
- Marching Band .................................................. Page 9
- Symphonic & Concert Bands ...................................... Page 9-10
- Ensemble Auditions ............................................. Page 10
- Marching Band Alternates ....................................... Page 10
- Alternate Policies ............................................... Page 11
- Performance Expectations ....................................... Page 11
- Auxiliary Groups ............................................... Page 12
- Jazz Band/Small Ensembles ..................................... Page 12
- Band Council ................................................... Page 12
- Band Travel/Code of Conduct .................................. Page 13-14
- Band Awards/Lettering Policy .................................... Page 14
- Conclusion ....................................................... Page 14
- Signature Form to Sign & Return ............................... Page 15
PREFACE:
This statement of policy has been written for the Mountain Home Band Program with the hope of giving information regarding various phases and activities of the program. All band members and parents are encouraged to read this statement carefully at the beginning of each school year to avoid conflicts with the policies and rules stated herein. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact a band director.

BAND HISTORY / BACKGROUND:
The Mountain Home Band Program has long been recognized as one of the outstanding programs in Arkansas. The MHHS Band has consistently given award-winning performances in both concert & marching competitions throughout the state, region, and on the national stage. The band has been an integral part of community events for over sixty years and is an important part of the history of our area. It is one of the most colorful and active groups on campus.

The MHHS Band has performed in the 80th Annual Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade® in New York City, the Florida Citrus Parade®, as well as parades at Walt Disney World® in Orlando. The jazz band has been a featured performer at several of the top shows in Branson. Each year, many students qualify for the All-Region Honor Bands as well as the Arkansas All-State Honor Bands. In addition, numerous band members receive college scholarship opportunities each year.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BAND DEPARTMENT:
The band members will be provided with the proper type of rehearsal atmosphere including a clean and neat room, proper lighting, and modern and well maintained school equipment. Each day the director will be organized with a lesson plan designed to gain maximum use of rehearsal time. Furthermore, the director will see that all members conform to school, band, and Arkansas Activities Association policies. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken when these regulations are not followed. Finally, each student and parent will receive written information about performance dates, rehearsal dates, and other special events well in advance of the scheduled event.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STUDENTS:
Participation in any of the organizations of the Mountain Home Band Program is a distinct privilege which carries with it certain responsibilities for band membership. A band member should always be regular in attendance and account for all absences, in advance if at all possible. Band members should constantly strive to improve on their instrument technically and musically and to set an example of pride and leadership for other band students. A band student should always be honest and above reproach in all dealings with teachers, parents, and other students. A constant attitude of cooperation and willingness to work is expected of all band students at all times. A good general rule of responsibility for a band member is: “BE IN THE RIGHT PLACE, AT THE RIGHT TIME, WITH THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT, WITH THE RIGHT ATTITUDE, READY TO CONCENTRATE AND WORK.”
RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARENTS:
The parents of a band student can be most helpful by encouraging home practice, as well as reminding the student to have the proper equipment which is always clean and in good repair. Parents need to assist a student by making sure transportation is provided to and from rehearsals and performances and see to it that the student is always punctual. Parents can help greatly by notifying the band director of any absences and tardiness, in advance if at all possible. Parents are encouraged to attend band performances throughout the year and become involved in the Mountain Home Band Booster Club. The booster club meets once per month throughout the school year. Parents are always needed to help work in the concession stand for football & basketball games, help with uniform fittings, chaperoning students on band trips, and other band functions.

CONDUCT:
Because of the nature of the organization, band discipline must, if necessary, be strict. Band students and their parents must be willing to accept the ideals, principles, and rules of the organization. Because band members are constantly on display, each student must always be aware of the importance of good behavior. The student should remember that he/she is representing the band, school, family, and community whenever they perform or appear publicly. Any misconduct or inappropriate behavior casts a direct reflection on our school and community and may well undo the good work of hundreds of loyal students. A good band is built on trusting one another and self-discipline.

EXCESSIVE MISCONDUCT MAY RESULT IN A STUDENT BEING PLACED ON BAND PROBATION OR BEING REMOVED FROM THE BAND PROGRAM. All school rules and policies are in effect and will be enforced while students are participating with the band—during the school day as well as outside of the regular school day on all band trips and at all band functions, rehearsals, or performances.

Members of the band program need to respect themselves, others, and property. Remain disciplined on the field, in public, and in the stands. Maintain a positive attitude, have fun, and project pride. Continually contribute your skills, talents, ideas, and abilities to the band. Be ready to start rehearsals on time with all the necessary equipment and expect the best of yourselves and others.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Each band member makes an important contribution to the entire group at each rehearsal & performance. Therefore, attendance at all rehearsals and/or performances is expected for the duration of the event.

Membership in the Mountain Home Band Program automatically includes attendance at all rehearsals and performances. The only excuses which will be acceptable for missing a rehearsal or performance outlined on the “Calendar of Events” will be sickness or death in the family. Attendance is mandatory at designated Tuesday/Thursday night rehearsals during marching season.
Decisions to make exceptions for excused absences in unusual circumstances will be left to the discretion of the band director. Students and parents will be given updated performance schedules throughout the school year.

An unexcused absence from a scheduled rehearsal or performance may result in the student not being allowed to participate at the next band performance. An unexcused absence may also result in a student being placed on band probation or designated as an alternate (see alternate policy). Band probation means if a student misses another event or fails to adhere to any other band regulation or policy, he or she will not be allowed to perform with the band for the remainder of the semester, with the possibility of removal from the band program. **Work is not considered an excused absence.** Please communicate your band schedule with your employer.

The **Mountain Home Bands are performance based groups—it is very important that band members attend rehearsals and performances for the success of the entire band.** Parents and students are encouraged to communicate, in advance if possible, of any schedule conflicts. We will try our best to work with you in the best interest of your child. In case of emergency situations, please contact the band director as soon as possible after the event. Since grade credit is given on students’ performance proficiency at scheduled rehearsals and calendar events, unexcused absences will directly affect a student’s grade. Excessive unexcused absences (2 or more) may result in a parent-teacher conference and possible removal from the band. The band directors will work with other school sponsors, teachers, and coaches when scheduling overlaps or conflicts occur. Students will NOT be punished for attending other school-related events. This will be worked out in advance with the other school group sponsors.

Attendance is also expected during the class period each school day that band meets. If you miss rehearsal the day of a scheduled performance, you may not be allowed to perform at the evening’s event. This will be handled on a case by case basis, determined by the circumstances of the absence.

**GRADING / ELIGIBILITY:**
Students receive academic credit for band. See the school handbooks for specific fine arts credits. Grades in band are based on students’ performance proficiency at calendar rehearsals, band concert assessments, state band assessments, individual playing tests, and written tests, including open-response questions. The grading scale is the same as stated in the school handbooks. Students are responsible for making up points due to an excused absence by completing the playing tests or written tests they missed. Students must meet eligibility requirements established by the Arkansas Activities Association, Arkansas School Band and Orchestra Association, and the Mountain Home School District. Ineligible students (below a 2.0) may be removed from the band or may have to participate in the Supplemental Instruction Program (SIP) and must adhere to the policies established by the school district and the Arkansas Activities Association. Failure to attend SIP or failure to adhere to the policies of SIP may result in removal from band.
**ACHIEVER STATUS:**
Band students that have been enrolled in band (instrumental music) for 4 years with passing grades will be a Fine Arts “Achiever” with an Instrumental Concentration. Students must enroll in Instrumental Music I, II, III, IV (9th, 10th, 11th, 12th grade) to complete this concentration. Students that complete this status will receive a cord to be worn at graduation as well as be honored at an achiever reception. A scholarship application is also available for students that become an achiever in the fine arts. There are other Fine Art’s Concentration areas that students may also complete in Visual Arts, Vocal Music, and Theatre. See those instructors for further information.

**TRANSPORTATION:**
Mountain Home Public Schools will provide bus transportation for all band events. All band students are expected to use the transportation that is provided. Students must sign up for a bus prior to a scheduled trip. Only band students, parent chaperones, and band directors will be permitted to ride the band bus. Parents who wish to have their child return with them must make a written and signed request through the band director **PRIOR to the trip.** Students and their parents must check out with a director before they leave an event. Students will NOT be allowed to leave with other students without proper **parent** supervision. The directors are responsible & liable for the band students while on a school sponsored trip. We take this responsibility very seriously. The safety and security of our students is top priority!!

Any changes in bus assignment must be approved by the band director **before** a trip takes place. There will be absolutely **NO** changing of buses once the band leaves for a trip. All school rules and bus policies are in effect on band trips away from school (see school handbooks for rules and regulations). Parents will be required to sign a permission slip before a student may travel with the band (see last page attachment to sign & return)

**FUND RAISING:**
The Mountain Home Public School District helps fund the band program by purchasing instruments, music, and other supplies for the band program. In addition to the money needed to operate a successful band program, fund raising is a necessary task that we must undertake. This allows us to raise money to feed students on trips, provide reward opportunities, and it allows us to take a Bands of America competition trip, senior reward trips each year, and other potential band trips. Students and parents are encouraged to participate in fund raising activities in order to cut down on the “out of pocket” expenses you may have to pay for extra travel if enough funds are not raised. Fund raising activities include (but are not limited to) cookie dough sales, band pancake supper, operation of concession stands, rummage sales, and other dinners or activities as deemed appropriate. All fund raising activities will be approved through the school administration. As state previously, parents are needed to help operate the football & basketball concession stands. If everyone signed up to work one event, all of the spots would be filled & the work would be equally distributed. We operate the concession stand and do fund raising projects to limit the amount of “out-of-pocket” expenses for our students & their parents.
EQUIPMENT:
Students are expected to take proper care of their own personal equipment, as well as proper care of all school equipment used. Any equipment damaged or lost due to student negligence will be repaired and/or replaced at the expense of the student and their parents. This includes instruments, drums, color guard equipment, props, electronics, or any other percussion instruments. Students are not permitted to use any instrument other than their own or the one they are assigned.

Students using school-owned instruments will check the instrument out at the beginning of each semester. Students are expected to return school-owned instruments in the same condition they were issued. Students will pay a fee of $75 per school year that will be used for regular maintenance of the marching & concert instruments.

As stated above, any instrument damaged or lost due to student negligence will be repaired and/or replaced at the expense of the student and their parents. Students should report any damage to any instrument immediately to their band director. Students and parents should record their instrument serial number at home for insurance purposes if the instrument is ever lost or stolen. You need to check with your homeowner’s/renter’s insurance policies in regards to personally (student-parent) owned instruments.

FINES:
As stated in this handbook, students are responsible for purchasing their own band t-shirt, wind suit, and marching shoes. In addition, instrument rent is $75 for the year and helps off-set the district expense of cleaning and maintaining the school-instrument inventory. Students are also responsible for paying all-region & solo/ensemble tryout fees. The district will pay the all-region clinic fees, all-state tryout & clinic fees, and all full band entry fees. Failure to turn in your money for any of these items, fund raising or other items ordered throughout the year will result in students being placed on the school fine list, just as they would be for textbooks. This includes turning in the marching band uniform as well as band tuxedos, bow ties, and concert dresses. Students placed on the fine list may not receive their report card, transcripts, or possibly even their diploma for not paying their fines. In addition, students may not be allowed to participate with the group (school handbook policy). Please be prompt in paying for items and turning in items in a timely manner. Your cooperation with this will be greatly appreciated.

MUSIC:
Students will be issued music (marching, concert, all-region, etc.) and folders as deemed necessary by the band director. Students will be expected to keep up with their music and have it for all rehearsals and performances. Students may be responsible for paying for extra copies of music if lost. This also includes flip folders, drill sheets, and marching chips for high school band members—a “fanny pack” will be provided during marching season for students to keep up with their stuff—these need to be returned at the end of marching season. Please keep up with everything you need for band. Students are encouraged to bring a pencil to band class each day. Please keep up with your stuff!
UNIFORMS:
Students will be issued a marching band uniform each year. Students are expected to take care of their uniform. If there are problems with your band uniform, please report it to the band director at once. The uniforms will be cleaned before they are issued to a student and as the director deems appropriate. Students are responsible for keeping their uniform clean. If the uniform gets dirty, the student is responsible for getting the uniform professionally dry cleaned (see director for specific cleaners to use). Students are encouraged to be particularly careful when eating or drinking after a performance. Certain soft drinks and foods will not be served by the concession stand because of the white band jacket, especially with the white band coat and silver sash.

Students are required to wear the designated band t-shirt under their band uniform. These may be purchased at the beginning of the school year ($10). Students will be required to wear the uniform in the appropriate manner at all times. Any abuse of the uniform may result in the student being dismissed from a performance and/or being placed on band probation. Each student will be required to fill out a uniform-agreement form when they are issued a band uniform.

Students are responsible for purchasing and wearing the appropriate band marching shoes during marching season ($30). Students need to purchase their own BLACK socks for marching band—these should be calf high—please, no anklet or footie socks. Shoes are to be kept clean for all performances. Failure to comply with any uniform policy may result in a student not being allowed to perform with the band.

The goal of our group is to look “uniform”—to be one unified group, with one purpose of each member looking & doing their personal best. Therefore, NO jewelry (boys & girls) will be allowed to be worn while in uniform. This includes necklaces, rings, watches, bracelets, etc. Long hair (boys & girls) must be placed in the hat during marching performances. Small studded earrings will be acceptable. Make-up should be kept to a minimum (white jacket).

Each student will need to purchase a wind suit (approximately $60) to be used at the discretion of the director (travel, games, parades, etc.). Students are responsible for keeping these clean and having them when designated by the director. The band director will determine the appropriate shoes to wear and students must wear their band t-shirt with the wind suit. Wind suits are to be worn when the director deems it necessary. Failure to have your wind suit or any part of the uniform will result in a student not being allowed to perform with the band.

Shorts, gloves, earmuffs, and rain ponchos will be issued at the discretion of the director based on performance needs and weather conditions. Students are not allowed to wear any additional outerwear such as hats, gloves, etc. while performing in uniform. Exceptions to this will be allowed at the discretion of the band director based on performance needs, weather conditions, and student safety.
Tuxedos and concert dresses will be provided during concert season. The tuxedos are to be dry-cleaned only and boys will need a white collared shirt, black shoes, and black socks for concert performances. The dresses are machine washable (please check instructions before cleaning). Girls will need to wear the proper hosiery and black shoes for concert performances. Students are responsible for turning in their marching and concert uniform at the end of school year. Students will be financially responsible to pay for any uniform that is missing or damaged.

A UNIFORM INSPECTION WILL BE CONDUCTED PRIOR TO EACH PERFORMANCE. STUDENTS WHO DO NOT PASS THE INSPECTION WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PERFORM UNTIL THE PROPER CORRECTIONS ARE MADE

MARCHING BAND:
Mountain Home High School Career Academies has one marching band. Membership is open to all students grades 9-12 who are enrolled in band. This band is a competitive group and all students must audition for performing positions. The audition will consist of both musical & marching requirements. Students that don't qualify for performing positions will be utilized in other ways for the competitive marching show (see alternates below). This may include, but not limited to, helping move equipment or props, "shadowing" a marching position, or other necessary tasks for the success of the band.

ALL band students will be expected to participate with the band at all home football games, pep rallies, parades, and other community & school related performances. All students will be expected to follow the band's rehearsal & performance schedule throughout the fall marching season, including travel. All attendance policies are in effect for all band students.

The marching band is a double-blocked class for the entire fall semester and the group will meet during the school day. There will be required marching rehearsals in late July/early August to prepare for the fall season. There will also be additional Tuesday/Thursday night rehearsals for the full band, including a weekly sectional for each specific instrument. A schedule of rehearsals & performances will be provided.

SYMPHONIC & CONCERT BANDS:
Mountain Home High School Career Academies will have two concert bands:

The Symphonic Band will consist of 10th, 11th, and 12th grade band students that successfully display continued growth and improvement in their musical ability. This class is single-blocked and will meet on odd-numbered calendar days during the second semester.

The Concert Band will consist of all 9th grade band students and any 10th, 11th, or 12th grade students that are not meeting minimum performance abilities necessary to play the required music literature in the symphonic band, or students that cannot schedule Symphonic Band on odd-numbered calendar days. This class is single-blocked and will meet on even-numbered calendar days during the second semester.
Although the bands will be single-blocked second semester, students may choose to double-block band, if their schedule permits. Those that double-block will practice all-region music, perform in small ensembles for various community and school-related events such as basketball pep bands, patriotic events, etc. Freshmen (9th grade) students that double block band either semester may be single blocked temporarily if they don’t meet certain academic requirements set forth by the 9th grade teachers. These requirements will be provided to all students.

ENSEMBLE AUDITIONS:
To help with the placement of individuals and part distribution for each instrument, the first 2 etudes listed on the audition page will be required for membership in the marching band. All students MUST audition. In addition, all upperclassmen (current 9th-11th grade students) must play the all 4 etudes completely to help with initial placement in the symphonic band. Upperclassmen not performing at a proficient level may be placed in the concert band. The additional 2 etudes will also help us in evaluating part distribution and placement for the marching band. In addition, all students will be critiqued on marching fundamentals and drill maneuvers that will be taught later in the spring.

ETUDES MUST BE PLAYED IN THEIR ENTIRETY TO BE ACCEPTED. IF YOU DO NOT COMPLETE THE REQUIRED EXERCISES YOU WILL NOT BE PLACED IN ANY ENSEMBLE AND FORFEIT YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM!!

MARCHING BAND ALTERNATES (“Shadowing”):
In the Mountain Home Band program, any student who is recommended by their director is granted membership in the MHHS Band. A student’s skill level (playing and marching) will determine the extent of a student’s participation. This will initially be done through a music & marching audition.

During football season, everyone will participate in pep rallies, parades, playing in the stands at games, and in daily marching rehearsals. For the halftime/competitive show, we will march fewer people and will use several students as alternates. Every good band has alternates—that is, extra people who continue to learn or shadow a marching spot and can possibly fill in or replace other band members if need be. Alternates will learn a position in the show by sharing or “shadowing” a spot with someone else.

For the competitive show, we will use the best performers (music & marching). Some students will not possess the skills necessary to march in the competitive show. Instead of eliminating these students, we continue to work with them and allow them to participate in all other activities (pre-game, playing in the stands at games, parades, trips, etc.). In the Mountain Home Band, individual status is constantly re-evaluated as marching season progresses. Even though there is constant re-evaluation, there is no guarantee that a student will earn a spot. The way to avoid becoming an alternate is to know one’s music, to know the marching routine, and to avoid unauthorized absences or tardies at rehearsals and performances. Attendance, attitude, punctuality, and discipline are also considered when assigning or evaluating alternates.
ALTERNATE / SHADOWING POLICIES:
1. Alternates will initially be determined by the directors based on skill level (music proficiency and marching) through a competitive audition. Attendance, attitude, punctuality, and discipline are also considered.
2. Once chosen, the alternate will learn a position in a show by sharing/shadowing a spot with another student. (Remember, no one has permanent alternate status or a permanent spot in a show).
3. An alternate will have opportunities to gain a regular spot by replacing people who miss practice or by replacing individuals who demonstrate an inability to play their music or march their spot. Attendance, punctuality, and attitude will be considered. Sometimes a spot needs to be filled due to an injury or illness.
4. Alternates will attend all performances (including contests). Alternates will also travel with the band and play at all football games.
5. Some alternates may be called on to assist with props or the front ensemble that are used in the competitive show. Having dependable people who can handle the props is a vital part of our success at contest. The props play a huge role in the performance.
6. Everyone has a place in the Mountain Home Band. To ensure the success of the band, we must have extra people to fill spots that are vacated throughout the season.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS:
1. Look your best. Try your best. That’s all we can ask of you.
2. Home football games will be played at Bomber Stadium. Warm-up time will begin 1 hour before kick-off. Non-conference games will start at 7:30 pm & conference games will start at 7:00 pm. Students may be asked to warm-up earlier for special events such as homecoming or senior night. Please be on time!!
3. Students are to remain in full uniform unless otherwise instructed by the director. To maintain the cleanliness of the uniforms, please be careful during 3rd quarter break at the concession stand with food/drink.
4. The band will sit in the stands together by sections. Please stay in your designated area with your section.
5. The band will only play as a group (full band or sections such as percussion as designated by the directors or drum majors).
6. Please be careful in the stands—while enthusiasm & school spirit are encouraged, it’s important than students or instruments not be injured or damaged in the stands.
7. Please have your music folder & be ready to play at any time—Bomber Man, etc.
8. For band concerts—please be at the designated warm-up area at the designated time. Please wear the appropriate uniform (see uniform policy). Please be quiet entering the stage.
AUXILIARY GROUPS:
The senior high band will have the following auxiliary groups: drum majors and flags (color guard). Membership in these groups is limited to band students presently enrolled in band. Selection for membership will be by competitive tryouts with qualified judges. Students must meet Arkansas Activities Association grade point requirements to be eligible to tryout. The band directors will announce specific tryout procedures and tryout dates. Members of the auxiliary lines may be required to attend extra practices in addition to regular band rehearsals. Attendance at these practices and rehearsals will be required (see attendance policy). Excessive absences from auxiliary practices may result in the student being removed from the line. (See auxiliary guidelines handout each spring).

Winter guard (WG) is an optional activity that competes during the 2nd semester. Information about tryouts, choreography clinics, etc. will be distributed in early November. The winter guard will begin practices in late November/early December and will compete January-March at select competitions. WG is open to any student that meets the requirements listed above for auxiliary groups. If there is enough interest, it may be possible to divide the WG into two performing groups. While the WG is a great way to improve your flag, rifle, and dance skills, it is a separate tryout from the marching band guard. Even if you’re not on the marching band guard you can tryout and participate if you qualify or if you’re on the marching band guard, you do not have to be on WG.

JAZZ BAND / SMALL ENSEMBLES:
Students are encouraged to participate in small ensembles and jazz band. These ensembles usually start meeting after marching season has ended in mid-November. Various ensembles are open to all students—audition requirements, schedule of events, etc. will be distributed later in the year. These ensembles will perform at various school & community functions.

BAND COUNCIL:
Student leadership within the band program is extremely important and will directly affect the degree of success we will achieve. The band council is the student government of the band program. The band council’s function will be to insure the smooth function of the band. They will serve as liaison between the band and director. They will provide input and make suggestions to the director from time to time concerning types of activities, new ideas, and situations affecting the band’s daily routine. It is important to note that the final decision on these suggestions and recommendations will be made by the band directors. All school and district policies will be observed and all decisions will be made in the best interest of the individual band student and the band program.

Band council positions will include these officers as voted upon by the band at the beginning of the school year: President (Sr), Vice-President (Jr), Secretary/Historian (Soph), 1 Senior Rep, Junior Rep, 2 Sophomore Reps and 2 Freshmen Reps. In addition, the following appointed positions will also serve on the band council: 1 Music Librarian, 1 Uniform Captain, 1 Flag Member, 1 Equipment Manager, and the drum majors. Meetings will be called by the band directors & president, as needed.
BAND TRAVEL:
Bands take trips for contests and performances throughout the year:

- Code Of Conduct
  - As members of the Mountain Home Instrumental Music Department you will be highly visible, not only as a musical organization, but as representatives of our school, community, and state. That responsibility and opportunity carries with it an obligation to project and maintain the absolute highest moral and musical integrity. Many of those who come into contact with us as we perform and travel will form their opinions of Mountain Home based upon the impressions we create, both in close proximity and from a distance.
  
  - Therefore, the rules of the Mountain Home Public School District and individual campus program rules and regulations apply at all times. As in any situation, good judgment must always prevail.
  
  - All rules and expectations are set forth to help you enjoy your trips to the fullest and to avoid the embarrassment and inconvenience which momentary lapses in judgment may bring about. It is the goal of the Mountain Home Instrumental Music Program, that upon our return home to Mountain Home, you will have acquired an even greater sense of pride as a Mountain Home band member and as a Mountain Home Public School musical ambassador.
  
  - Punctuality is essential in adhering to our busy trip schedule. Be early for everything and help each other stay organized. When enjoying free time and during sightseeing excursions, always stay in groups of three or more members. This is for your safety. There should not be any deviation.
  
  - School dress code is required on all trips. In swimming pool areas, keep attire modest. When in concert attire OR full marching band attire, remain in full concert attire. It is unprofessional to have shirttails out, to wear athletic shoes while in formal attire, to chew gum, etc. The loading of equipment may necessitate adjustments to these expectations. Follow the instructions of the chaperone or adult sponsor in charge.
  
  - Mixed company in hotel rooms is prohibited.
  
  - While staying in hotels we will share facilities with other student groups and individuals from other schools and programs. Some of these groups and individuals may be unsupervised at times and may engage in behavior that would violate this Code of Conduct.
  
  - Do not be influenced nor persuaded to engage in any behavior that is in conflict with the spirit of this Code of Conduct.
• Code Of Conduct (continued)

  o Members must remain reasonably quiet at all times when in hotel facilities. Curfews will be strictly observed. Any personal needs, which might require leaving your room after curfew, must be arranged in advance with a chaperone or director. Generally, most needs can be taken care of BEFORE curfew begins.

  o Band members are responsible for all their own equipment and personal items (triple check for uniform parts, extra reeds, valve oil, mutes, music, etc.) However, we all must share in the logistical responsibilities of the trip. We will all participate as equipment movers, sanitation engineers, loading crews, stagehands, etc. Please perform the duties asked of you. The more helpers we have, the easier the work becomes.

  o There will be times when changes to our plans become necessary. Look for solutions to problems and avoid complaining.

  o Concerns should be expressed at an appropriate time and in an appropriate manner. Suggestion: Never complain to anyone who cannot solve your problem. See a director.

  o Be respectful and courteous to all bus drivers, parent chaperones, band directors, band helpers, and anyone else you come in contact with while you’re with the MH Band.

AWARDS / LETTERING POLICY:
The band will receive group awards at various marching & concert competitions throughout the year. Individual band members will receive awards for all-region, all-state, and solo & ensemble based upon the adjudicated event. End of year band awards will be voted upon by the directors & students and will be presented at the final concerts of the school year. Students that participate in the high school band will qualify for a band letter based upon the following: Be enrolled in band, maintain an “A” grade in band, and attend all performances. Students are eligible as sophomores if they audition for the high school all-region band. All others will letter by their junior year in band by meeting all of the other stated requirements.

CONCLUSION:
We hope this document helps inform you about the policies and procedures of the Mountain Home Band Program. These policies are designed to maintain the integrity, excellence, and high standards that have been established for decades with our band program. Our goal is to provide our students with the best experience possible as they share their love and appreciation of music, improve their musical aptitude on their instrument individually and collectively, as well as developing the life skills of respect, hard work, dedication, teamwork, self-discipline, pride, and a sense of belonging to one of the premier organizations in our school.
PLEASE READ, SIGN, AND RETURN THIS PAGE ONLY

Student’s Name (please print):____________________________________________

We, the parents/guardians of a band student, have read this statement of policy of the Mountain Home Bands. We will comply with all regulations and policies as stated and will encourage our child to do the same. Please initial each statement below & sign the form.

_____ We give permission for our child to travel with the band during the 2014-2015 school year to various football games, band competitions, and region band events, via school provided transportation.

_____ We give permission for our child to be in band photographs and videos for concert programs, newspaper articles, etc. during the 2014-2015 school year.

_____ We give permission for our child to participate in band fund raising activities during the 2014-2015 school year.

Signed:__________________________________________________

(Parents/Guardians signature)

Date:____________________

I, a student in the Mountain Home Bands, have read this statement of policy of the band program. I do support the policy and will do everything within my power to follow these guidelines.

Signed:_________________________________________________

(Band student’s signature)

PLEASE DETACH THIS SHEET AND RETURN IT TO YOUR BAND DIRECTOR
BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 2014.