

## **CEDAR SPRINGS BANDS ATTENDANCE POLICY**

The unique nature of the band class has, as part of the curriculum, performances outside of the scheduled school day. The success of our organization and ensembles depends directly upon the full and complete participation of all of its members. Calendars are provided at the start of each school year and are updated and available on the website and in the classrooms. The performance expectations of the ensemble are outlined in the course description published prior to course selections and the band handbook as a reminder at the start of the year. It is reasonably expected that with this notice, as a member of the Cedar Springs Bands, **you will attend every rehearsal and performance.** Please do not schedule avoidable conflicts with rehearsals or performances. These include job commitments, family vacations, baby-sitting, doctor and dentist appointments, senior pictures, etc. Band is an academic class and is graded. Attendance will be taken at every rehearsal and performance and there is nothing that can truly replace the absence of a performance. To begin the potential make-up process, a parent must **call** the band director **at least two weeks before the requested rehearsal or four weeks before the requested performance** detailing the situation, and the student must see the band director for the details of the make-up assignment.

### **School-related Conflicts:**

It is expected that students who choose to participate in several activities or classes that have an “after-school” practice/performance component will make every effort to completely fulfill their obligation to each group. In many cases, splitting time equally between the two simultaneous activities is the best compromise. Graded academic activities, such as performances within the arts, will take precedence over non-graded extra-curricular activities.

### **School-related Athletics:**

Performances/games take precedence over practices/meetings. The student and/or parents should resolve practice conflicts by giving advanced notification to that student’s coach. If possible, the director will make special arrangements to limit the amount of practice time missed.

Performance/game conflicts should be resolved with full understanding and cooperation of all involved including complete and open communication between the students, teachers, parents, and coaches. Students can only be excused if participating in the sporting event’s game. If possible, arrangements may be made to split time between the two events.

Because our calendar is available from the beginning of the year, it is expected that students check their schedule against the band schedule. Any conflicts should be addressed at the beginning of a sport’s/activity’s season. All conflicts must be worked out no fewer than at least two weeks before the requested rehearsal or four weeks before the requested performance. This will allow coaches and directors to make the necessary adjustments to their ensemble or team.

### **Emergencies/Illness:**

If you suddenly miss a rehearsal or performance due to an emergency or illness, a parent must attempt to contact the director within 48 hours of the missed event. This is still required if the student has been excused from school during the day.

### **Make-up Work:**

Upon the notice of an excused absence, an assignment will be given to earn the points lost while missing the performance. The assignment due date will be determined by the director and will be completed before the end of the marking period that contained the missed performance. The director reserves the right to deny make-up work to a student who does not provide four weeks or more notice for missing a performance. Partial credit may also be given for situations that arise within the four-week window. For emergency absences, the student is held responsible for the missed performance and should arrange to get the make-up assignment within five days of the performance. It is the student's responsibility to **arrange for and complete** the required assignment. Failure to complete the assignment within the time frame allotted will result in a "0" (zero) entered into the grade book for that performance.