

Rocky River Middle School and High School Music Department Performance Attendance Policy

The commitment that a Rocky River student musician makes to a performing group is important; each student is an integral part of the group and shares in the efforts, progress and achievement of the ensemble.

In Rocky River, we desire to continue our proud tradition of performing accomplishments in music education with the active and committed involvement of all musicians. A student's participation in our music performances is essential, and we make every effort to provide students with a schedule of all outside-of-the-school-day performances at the beginning of the school year.

We recognize, however, that, on a rare occasion, an absence from a performance may occur.

This music department policy for performance attendance clarifies opportunities and consequences when a student misses a performance. It has been designed to apply to both band and choir, as well as to span grades 6-12, in order to facilitate a student's familiarity with, and remembrance of, the policy.

Quarter Grades in 6-12 Band and Choir Classes

A student's quarter grade in band and choir classes consists of the following components:

- 50% class participation (daily participation, embouchure, posture, carriage, etc.)
- 20% written and performance assessments (octet checks, music play-offs, concert critiques, etc.)
- 30% performance participation:
 - Note: All performances within a given quarter receive one grade, regardless of the number of performances. An absence at one of the quarter's performances will subject that quarter's final performance participation grade to one of the five (5) levels below.

Absence Levels

Level 1: Student permitted to complete an alternative assessment* for up to 100% credit of performance participation.

- Illness with documentation (doctor's note or an excused absence from school required)
- Family emergency, including but not limited to: death in the family, hospitalization, situation beyond the control of the parent and student.
 - Examples of non-emergencies: concert tickets, major or minor league sporting tickets.
- 30 calendar days notice of major life events (e.g., weddings, college graduations, military ceremonies)
- Extreme unusual circumstances will be determined at the discretion of the director.

Level 2: Student permitted to complete an alternative assessment* for up to 85% credit of performance participation.

- All absences that do not qualify under Level 1 turned into the director at the beginning of the school year (Band by Monday 8/15/16, Choir by Friday 9/2/16) with signed syllabus using the director-provided form (e.g., family vacation, non-RRHS activities, concert tickets, major or minor league sporting tickets)

Level 3: Student permitted to complete an alternative assessment* for up to 75% credit of performance participation.

- 30 calendar days notice of absence not described in Level 1 (e.g., family vacation, non-RRHS activities that arise after start of the school year, concert tickets, major or minor league sporting tickets).

Level 4: Student permitted to complete an alternative assessment* for up to 65% credit of performance participation.

- 14 calendar days notice of absence not described in Level 1 (e.g., family vacation, non-RRHS activities that arise after start of the school year, concert tickets, major or minor league sporting tickets).
- Illness without documentation (e.g., teacher notified by parent call/email only and no doctor's note provided).

Level 5: Absence is unexcused. Alternative assessment is not an option. No credit awarded for performance participation.

- Less than 14 calendar days notice given.
- Excuse provided by student without parent involvement (e.g., email from student, verbal notification from student, etc.).

***Alternative Assessment**

Whenever alternative assessment credit is available, the alternative assessment is due by the performance date, or within the school-allotted number of makeup days following an absence due to illness.

Athletic/Activity Conflict Hierarchy

Students are encouraged to participate in multiple activities of interest to them. At times, however, these activities' schedules may conflict. At Rocky River, we have the following hierarchy in place for all students participating in athletics and activities:

1. Any OHSAA tournament game/OMEA performance takes precedence over a "regular" season game or concert. For example: OMEA State Contest is takes precedence over the Avon Relays, and basketball playoff game takes precedence over the holiday choir concert.
2. A performance or a game takes precedence over a rehearsal or practice.
3. A performance, game, rehearsal or practice takes precedence over a team dinner or similar social activity.
4. If a conflict arises between a regular season game and a school sponsored concert, the student will be permitted to choose between the two events without penalty.