

AMS Band Concert Etiquette

Arrival- It is the expectation of the administration and director that all band students arrive on time for proper warm up and last-minute details before a performance event. All performances are mandatory for all band students. Performances count as the majority of a student's grade. There is no way to make up a missed performance as it cannot be duplicated. A missed performance will only be excused due to a death in immediate family, illness, (accompanied by a doctor's note), or an excused absence note from school. It is that important to the overall success of the performance.

Dress- It is the expectation of the administration and director that all students will dress professionally for special performance events. This means no flip-flops/sandals, no jeans, no T-shirts, no jogging/sweat suits for concerts. For most concerts, the young men may wear the Ashland MS Band polo (to be ordered during the beginning of the 1st Nine-Weeks), and khaki pants. For gentlemen, polos should be tucked in and worn with a belt. Young ladies wear the Ashland MS Band polo, and khaki pants.

The only exception to this attire is special non-concert events or performances. Ms. Skiles will confirm the attire for such occasions. However, in general, these non-formal performances/trips have the group wearing: the AMS Band polo, AMS band t-shirt or hoodie (potential future orders), and blue jeans.

If there is a foreseeable problem with obtaining suitable clothing, please discuss this with the director and a solution will be offered.

Entering the performance area- Ms. Skiles will go over these procedures with students days prior to the actual performance.

Set up change- When a set up change from one group to another occurs, the performers who just finished should push stands back to allow for a walkway. All students are expected to move silently from the set up to the audience seating area and vice versa. Adjust stands, music etc. and wait quietly for further warm-up instructions. This is not the time to leave or ask the director if it is okay to leave. *All performers are expected to stay for the entire concert.*

At the conclusion of the performance- All performing students will be dismissed first in an orderly manner to store instruments and equipment. They are also expected to help with the clean up of percussion equipment and chairs, stands, sound equipment, etc. The band room must be left in mint condition with all instruments properly stored in their respective storage areas. All percussion equipment must be covered and stored in the correct place. After everything is put away and stored properly, students may leave with a parental unit.

An attentive audience- Parents are requested to be respectful of the performance situation by not entering or exiting the gym during a musical number. Although performances may take place in the gymnasium, the atmosphere should not reflect the arena. Please enter between numbers as this disruption often breaks the attention of the student performers. The young performers are going to try to perform to the best of their ability and will need all the concentration time they can get. Butterflies, nerves and preparedness will be enough to create an unsettled situation for them.

Pictures are highly encouraged, but please refrain from flash photography as this may distract the performers.

During set changes, it is appropriate for audience members to take a short stretch break but should remain respectful of the students that are warming up. Parents are encouraged to help with the breakdown of the area by storing chairs and stands on the appropriate racks and helping get it back to the band room. It takes everyone doing their part to create a classy atmosphere and to take pride in all aspects of the school spirit. Thank you for your continuing support of music education.