

AP 214 – BAND PROGRAM

Background

The band program continues to be a highly effective educational vehicle for developing musical abilities, understandings, and appreciations. Since music is a performing art, band classes allow students to experience the art of music. In Saskatchewan schools, the Band 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 Program constitutes a legitimate means of achieving the educational objectives of the music strand of the Arts Education Curriculum.

Procedures

1. Entrance / Exit Procedures

1.1 Entrance to Beginner Band

- 1.1.1 The band program's early recruitment shall begin near the end of academic year for Grade four students.
- 1.1.2 All students and their parents shall be invited to attend an information meeting scheduled annually in May. During this introduction, students shall be provided an opportunity to experiment on various instruments that make up a school band ensemble.
- 1.1.3 Students may register in the band program during the information evening or by completing the appropriate registration forms at the end of the current school year.

1.2 Late Entrance

- 1.2.1 It is pedagogically and instructionally difficult for first time students to enter the band program after Grade Six. Students will be accepted into the band program without pre-requisite skills based upon the following criteria:
 - 1.2.1.1 Late entrance to the band program must be made by application the Principal.
 - 1.2.1.2 The band director and Principal shall inform the student and parent the nature, procedures, and expectations of the band program.
 - 1.2.1.3 Student / parent must take the initiative to receive additional lessons from the band director or a private instructor on a regular basis and until the band director is satisfied the student has acquired the necessary skills to participate fully in the band program.

1.2.1.4 The student will be accepted into the band, based upon the recommendation of the Principal in consultation with the band director, if the student exemplifies dedication and commitment to the criteria listed in Section 1.2.1.3.

1.2.1.5 The Deputy Director of Learning shall be advised, in writing, of the specific reasons why a student has been disallowed the opportunity to participate in the band program, or why the student is discontinuing the program.

1.3 Exit from Beginner Band

1.3.1 A beginner student may exit the band program if she/he is experiencing instructional difficulty leading to program failure.

1.3.2 Students must meet with the band director to determine an improvement plan and to discuss programming options.

1.3.3 If difficulties persist after the elements of the improvement plan have been attempted or expired, a meeting between the student, parent, band director and Principal will be scheduled to make arrangements for the student to exit the band program.

1.4 Exit at the End of a School Year

1.4.1 At the end of a school year, students complete their class registration for the next academic year.

1.4.2 Students in the band program may re-register at this time.

1.4.3 A student may exercise their programming choice and select another class offering at this time.

2. Program Materials

2.1 Instruments

2.1.1 Students must provide their own instruments either through individually arranged purchase or rental agreements.

2.2 Division Owned Instruments

2.2.1 The Division shall provide instruments identified as being too costly for individual purchase but are essential to the band program.

2.2.2 Students that select to learn one (1) of these instruments will be assessed maintenance fee to be determined before the date of registration.

2.2.3 Students that select to learn one (1) of these instruments will be responsible for the cost of repair or replacement resulting from damage to the instrument due to careless handling or abuse.

2.3 General Maintenance

2.3.1 All instruments must be maintained to ensure good working order.

2.3.2 It is the responsibility of the owner of the instrument to have it professionally cleaned and maintained at the end of each school year.

2.4 Fees and Associated Band Program Costs

2.4.1 Books

2.4.1.1 Student band program fees will be reviewed annually and assessed at the time of registration.

2.4.1.2 These fees will cover the cost of student exercise books, which are owned and retained by the student.

2.4.2 Field Trip/Tour

2.4.2.1 While travel costs are covered by the band program, students may incur the cost associated with accommodations and meals for field trips (e.g. music festivals) and band tours.

Reference: Sections 85, 87, 108, 109, 175 Education Act