General Classroom Expectations and Guidelines

I. Attendance:
   a. Daily Rehearsals:
      i. Be early every rehearsal!
      ii. Have music stand, instrument(s), pencil and music ready to go when the bell rings to begin class.
      iii. Downbeat of rehearsal begins at bell, not later.
   b. Assisting students in establishing lifelong habits of reliability and promptness is an instructional objective in this particular course. Progress toward this goal will be measured, at least in part, by tracking student attendance. Therefore, a student’s grade or credit in this class may be adversely affected by reason of tardiness or absence.
   c. Evening Rehearsals (only time to rehearse as a full program):
      i. These are an extension of the school day!
      ii. You do receive credit and points for attendance and quality work.
      iii. If you skip or miss without notifying Mr. Cole or Mr. Winter ahead of time, you will not be allowed to make up the missed points.
      iv. Drum Line/front ensemble percussion sectionals occur outside of the school day (in the fall season) and utilize regular class rehearsals. Your section is required to attend related sectionals if designated by instructor or section leader. These are additional to the regular marching practices and are considered part of the percussion ensemble class curriculum time. This is the time to work with your coach specifically and on drum line/front ensemble music specifically.
   d. Performances: Performances are the culminating experiences for the work completed in the classroom and during rehearsals. All students are required to attend all performances. No performance may be made-up and none of the points may be recovered. If an unavoidable absence must occur, it is the individual’s responsibility to find a replacement of equal or higher performance quality w/o losing a singleton part. Only in this case may the absence be considered excused; otherwise, the entire ensemble’s performance could be compromised. Be here. Be early. Be ready to perform with us. We need you!

II. Punctuality:
   a. Rehearsals: Warm-ups will begin right as the bell rings. Students are expected to be ready to warm-up individually 5 minutes after the bell rings. “Ready to rehearse” means each student has a stand, pencil, music-to-be-rehearsed, and hands-warmed-up. We will follow the school’s expectation action plan in handling tardy issues.

III. Preparedness:
   a. Materials:
      i. Failure to have the “preparedness” items could result in the loss of credit or ability to participate. Check that you have what you need prior to leaving your house!
      ii. Have all necessary items for each rehearsal (Music is often posted on-line!)
         1. Field show: Music, Coordinate Sheets, Instrument, Marching or athletic shoes
         2. Concert Ens: Music, Instrument, writing utensil, sticks and/or mallets
   b. Practice
      i. Put in the time that you need to be prepared for rehearsal. At times, more practice is necessary due to a challenging part. Do not expect to be able to simply keep up by practicing during
ii. class…rehearsal is the time to learn everyone else’s part and how your parts fits with those!

IV. Curriculum:
   a. Instrumental Technique-Exploring advanced instrument technique on all percussion instruments with a focus on mallets, timpani and snare drum.
   b. Concert Literature-Learning and Performing advanced high school and pre-collegiate literature throughout the school year. Learned skills applied to practical situations and musical opportunities.
   c. Fall Field Show Marching, Spring Parade Season & Pep Band Performances
   d. Music Theory-Learning the answer to “Why” and “How” aspects of music work as it does. Basic through Intermediate theory Fundamentals concepts for all students.
   e. Winter Percussion-Each member of the percussion ensemble class will have the option of participating in a winter percussion ensemble feature that will perform in concerts and at basketball games. Special performances may be requested at school assemblies.
   f. There will be 3 auditions a year for drum line…(1-June for fall season; 2-November for winter season; 3-February for spring/tour season)
   g. Solo/Ensemble-Each member will participate in a percussion ensemble for the GRMEA solo/ensemble competition at the end of January. Each ensemble will also have a chance to earn the opportunity to play at the state ensemble level in Ellensburg, WA at Central Washington University.
   h. Each participants in the class will perform 1 solo on a percussion instrument of their choice (rudimental snare; timpani, mallets or multiple percussion) per year of percussion enrollment.

V. Grading Categories:
   a. Attendance/Punctuality
   b. Attitude/Participation/Collective Commitments
   c. Daily/Evening Rehearsals
   d. Daily Assignments (Theory, student talk planning sheet, etc.)
   e. Tests (written, recorded, Playing)
   f. Performances (field show/pep/marching/concert)

VI. Grading Scale
   a. 90-100% = A  (90-92 = A-)
   b. 80-89% = B  (80-82 = B- & 88-89 = B+)
   c. 70-79% = C  (70-72 = C- & 78-79 = C+)
   d. 0-69% = F (unacceptable for a class of this calibre)

VII. Extra Credit (opportunities)
   a. No extra credit will take the place of a missed performance or a missed evening rehearsal
   b. Attending a concert of any kind high school level or more advanced and submitting a short write-up of the event!
   c. Performing on your instrument in a performance that is not school related
   d. Taking weekly private lessons from a teacher with a music degree
   e. Parents attending monthly Band Booster Meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of the month
   f. Any other ideas may be submitted for approval!

VIII. Make-up Work: No student may make up any performance. A performance is a culminating experience established to share the work, time and dedication put forth by the combined efforts of each student working as an ensemble. No extra credit may be completed to compensate for the missed points and experience of a concert. Performances are not like a written exam. In the band program an individual’s attendance and participation has a direct and possibly significant impact on all other’s performance experience. All tests and daily work may be made up outside of class only if absence is excused.

IX. Important Resources!
   a. Swift Band Website! Updated Calendars, links, informational letters, tour info and more
      i. Most info will be posted for students to download/print at home
   b. Parent Booster Website!
   c. Forms: Extended Communication form, Registration forms, fundraising involvement, etc.