I. Attendance:
   a. Daily Rehearsals:
      i. Be early every rehearsal!
      ii. Have music stand, chair, instrument, pencil and music ready to go when the bell rings to begin class.
      iii. Downbeat of rehearsal begins 5 minutes after Academic Prep ends, 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 punctuality, attendance, attitude and quality work.
      iii. If you skip or miss without notifying Mr. Cole ahead of time, you will not be allowed to make up the missed points. If excused, you must make up the lost ground before school and before next rehearsal.
   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 chair, stand, pencil, music-to-be-rehearsed, and warmed-up instrument. 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, extra reeds, valve oil
   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 class…rehearsal is the time to learn everyone else’s part and how your parts fits with those!

IV. Curriculum:
   a. Instrumental Technique-Exploring intermediate-advanced instrument technique in range/fingering/velocity/articulation
b. Concert Literature-Learning and Performing intermediate to advanced high school literature throughout the school year. Learned skills applied to practical situations and musical opportunities.
c. Fall Field Show Marching, Spring Parade Marching & Pep Band Performances
d. Breathing Efficiency Curriculum-Increasing the efficiency in each student’s lung capacity to create and sustain a fuller characteristic sound.
e. Music Theory-Learning the answer to “Why” and “How” aspects of music work as they do. Basic through Intermediate theory concepts for all students regardless of instrument specialty.
f. Academic Prep Time-Two times a week we will have 30 minutes of independent study time, which is part of our THS “One School”. Each student is required to have materials with them in class. No electronic devices are allowed from school administration.

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 or helping with events (20 pts. !)
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.

Materials Needed (required)
d. In-Class
   i. Concert Instrument (in working order)
      1. At least 2 working reeds (woodwinds)
   ii. Colored Pencil or other colored writing utensils
   iii. Individual Concert Literature
   iv. Any additional materials noted by the band director
   v. Chromatic Tuner or Tuner App (cell phone apps are acceptable-nothing else…that means texting)
   vi. Metronome (may be found as a combo with Tuner)or Metronome App