



Band Manual

PREFACE

This music department manual has been written for the Edward Douglas White Catholic High School Cardinal Music members and their parents with the hope of giving information regarding the various phases and activities of the music department at Edward Douglas White Catholic High School. This manual also contains the policies and regulations of the music program.

All Cardinal Music members and parents are urged to read the entire manual carefully at the beginning of each school year to avoid conflicts with the policies and rules stated herein.

I. ACHIEVING MUSICIANSHIP

A. The Importance of Attitude.

The greatest single factor that will determine the success of any individual is *attitude*. Students should use these two words – “I WILL.” It takes intense dedication to reach goals. Students should learn to discipline themselves to daily practice on fundamentals. Again, the “right attitude” must be there with *sincerity, concentration, and dedication* as the basic foundation.

“Everything depends on the attitude of the artist toward his subject. It is the one great essential.” (R. Henri) *Music only becomes alive when it is made to live* – its colors are the colors that are given it; and thus it lives or dies. The serious, young musician will warm up on a fundamental routine concentrating on intonation, correct tone production, and proper body posture. Such an attitude makes an artistic performance inevitable and is the factor that makes the difference between a musical organization and a group of people holding musical instruments.

Approach each new band piece the same way: What can I make out of this? What is this musical phrase trying to say? Am I giving every last effort to make my part contribute to the whole sound of the band? This is the attitude of a true musician.

The director is trying to lead you in this experience at every rehearsal. Music *is* an academic discipline, but it is not something that only the few especially gifted can appreciate. Music is not something that is mysterious and difficult to understand, though it is a complicated science. It is demanding, and only by great effort and study can you really be rewarded as a performer. By acknowledging these disciplines, we can challenge the boundaries of our limited perception and really appreciate the beauty of life.

You who are in Cardinal Music are a favored few. Cardinal Music can do much for you. *Make the most of it in every rehearsal and every performance. Make each rehearsal like a performance.*

B. The Importance of Discipline.

Because of the nature of the organization, discipline must, of necessity, be strict. Cardinal Music students and parents must be willing to accept the ideals, principles, and rules of the organization.

Because Cardinal Music members are constantly on display, each must always be aware of the importance of good behavior. The student should remember that he/she represents the organization, school, and community whenever he/she performs or appears publicly. Any misconduct casts a direct reflection on our school and community and may well undo the good work of hundreds of loyal students.

A good music program is built on discipline, but let us agree on the definition of discipline. Discipline is order. It is also many other things, but primarily, discipline is order. Order is in all things physical or material, spiritual or intellectual. With orderliness comes attainment of things worthwhile.

“Order is Heaven’s First Law; it applies especially to music practice.”

“A Place for Everything and Everything in its Place.”

“A Quiet Person is Welcome Anywhere.”

“Music is a Picture Painted on a Background of Silence.”

To implant these ideals of order and discipline in the minds of Cardinal Music members is to lay the foundation both for good musicianship and good citizenship.

II. A STATEMENT OF CARDINAL MUSIC POLICY

In order to help Cardinal Music members and parents understand their areas of responsibility, a statement of Cardinal Music policy is herein set forth. Becoming familiar with this policy will help each member make the most of his/her fine opportunity to become a better person through his/her association with music.

We firmly believe that the student should improve through daily progress. When a student has lost the will to improve in order to make a better contribution to his/her fellow human, he/she is perhaps wasting the time of the school, their fellow students, and the community by continuing in this program. We are firmly convinced that the happiest student is the one that is improving himself/herself through regular habits of practice and daily progress. He/she must not only know right from wrong, but he/she must be able to stand for their principles. He/she must deploy a high sense of purpose toward which he/she is willing to work.

We intend to conduct this music program in a manner that will encourage all students to achieve these goals.

A. The Band Member's Responsibility to the Cardinal Music Program.

1. Be regular in attendance and account for all absences.
2. Make a real effort to learn and improve daily.
3. Become responsible for and expect to assume the consequences of his/her actions.
4. Be personally clean, neat, and dress appropriately.
5. Have the proper respect for those in authority.
6. Follow all classroom rules, school regulations, and all travel instructions issued for trips.
7. Be honest and fair with others concerning equipment, music, and school life in general.
8. Cooperate with fellow band members and share with them the responsibilities and privileges that are a part of the music program.
9. Contribute positively to his/her music education and that of others by the best use of his/her talents.
10. Read and play music with insight and expression.
11. Improve his/her knowledge and understanding of music theory, harmony, and history, as well as develop good listening habits.

III. THE CARDINAL MUSIC CODE (A System of Guiding Principles)

A. Integrity

1. "Friends, if we be honest with ourselves, we shall be honest with each other." – George MacDonald
2. To what extent can others rely on my integrity?

B. Respect

1. "Men are respectable only as they respect."

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

2. How often do I respect the other person's opinion, even though it may differ from mine?
3. How does my respect effect the moral beliefs of my associates?

C. Responsibility

1. "Responsibility is like a string of which we can see only the middle. Both ends are out of sight." – William McFee
2. To what ends do I strive to carry out a promise?
3. What responsibilities have I to my school, church, and country?

D. Friendliness

1. "The only way to have a friend is to be one."
– Ralph Waldo Emerson
2. What is my attitude toward the new members?
3. By what standards do I judge my friends?

CODE OF CONDUCT

We believe that being an E. D. White Catholic High School Cardinal Music member is a student choice thereby a privilege, one that along with being a great honor, carries with it responsibilities. As an EDW Cardinal Music member, our young people have a standard to uphold: one of positive leadership, character, responsibility, competitive spirit and integrity. It is imperative that all students taking part in this program understand the following responsibilities and rules and understand that the directors and staff have the right to remove the privilege of participation.

The following are expected of an EDW Cardinal Music member:

- That proper behavior and respect towards others will reflect positively on the group, and in the E. D. White Catholic Community. A positive reflection is the only desirable one for your group.
- That you understand that individual recognition and accomplishments are the result of teamwork.
- That you will accept and respect the decisions of your directors and staff to be in the best interest of the group. Any concerns should be discussed privately and in an appropriate manner with Mrs. Daigle and/or Mr. Brad

Cardinal Music members are must not to smoke, drink alcoholic beverages, or use mind altering substances. No mind altering substances of any kind, including alcoholic beverages may be consumed or possessed by a Cardinal Music member, a member's date, and /or the persons with whom the member attends any school-related function.

An EDW Cardinal Music member is expected to uphold these standards and abide by the Code of Conduct 365 days per year, 7 days per week, 24 hours per day.

If there are no prior disciplinary incidents involving a student member, the following disciplinary action must be taken by the directors.

1st Offense – A first offense would result in a student being precluded from performing in the two subsequent marching festivals, concert festivals or WGI sanctioned performances and any other performance that would occur before the 2nd festival or WGI sanctioned event. This includes any football game performances. The student would still be required to attend all rehearsals and performances.

2nd Offense – A second offense would result in suspension from all performances in that particular season.

3rd Offense – A third offense would result in suspension from the Cardinal Music program for the remainder of the student's high school years.

If there has been a prior disciplinary incident involving a Cardinal Music member, the director always reserves the right to suspend a member from the music program after the first offense with the approval of an Administrator.

This contract outlines the major regulations of the Cardinal Music Program and the type of conduct required of E.D. White Cardinal Music Members. However, it is impossible in any contract to include all of the details of what is appropriate and inappropriate conduct. Any conduct, which violates published or announced regulations of the school, deviates from what is generally considered good behavior, or is contrary to Christian principles may be subject to appropriate disciplinary action by the Cardinal Music Program.

Violations also include but are not limited to the following:

- The member hosting a gathering or party where alcohol, tobacco, or drugs are possessed/consumed.
- The member openly discussing or admitting to possessing or consuming alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
- Photographs or videos on social media where the member is consuming or in possession of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
- References on social media by the member regarding the possession or use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.

IV. CARDINAL MUSIC ORGANIZATION

- A. Administration: Principal and Assistant Principals.
- B. Music Director.
- C. Band Council (elected) and Duties.
 - President
 - Student representative of the band.
 - Administrative Assistant to the director.
 - Conducts all Band Council meetings.
 - Sees that council meetings are held periodically.
 - Promotes band activities – social, educational, etc.
 - Coordinates all student officers of the band.
 - Reports to the director any problems or suggestions that may improve the band program.

Vice-President

- Assumes all duties of the band president when necessary.
- Assists band president wherever possible.

Secretary

- Takes minutes of Band Council meetings.
- Creates band scrapbook: records band activities and history.
- Keeps track of attendance and reports attendance to the director.

All Class Representatives

- Represent their respective classes at all Council meetings.

NOTE: The duties listed are the major duties. The band director may assign other duties, if necessary.

D. Band Student Staff (Appointed) and Duties.

Librarian

- Responsible for library and all music – filing and cataloging.

Equipment Force Manager

- Responsible for coordinating the movement of all equipment as instructed by the band director.
- Coordinates the giving out and picking up of uniforms after performances.
- Reports any major uniform problems to the director.

Drum Majors

- Conducts and leads the marching band under the direction of the band director.
- Assists the section leaders.
- Assists the director in all aspects of marching band.

Section Leaders

- Responsible for leading their sections in all aspects of the band.
- Works closely with staff members and the director to help all members in their section to achieve the highest quality of marching and musicianship.
- Encourages and maintains a positive attitude.
- Keeps track of daily attendance outside of class.

NOTE

All of the above positions report directly to the director. These duties are only some of the more important duties. Other duties may be assigned by the director.

V. MUSIC CALENDAR

The music calendar is set at the end of the summer each year. At the beginning of school year, a copy of the entire band calendar will be posted on the bulletin board and on the web page. A copy will be given to the students and sent home to the parents.

A list of rehearsals and performances will be posted as early in the year as possible. If an unexpected rehearsal or performance occurs, notification will take place as soon as possible. Attendance is required at all rehearsals and performances unless a written excuse is approved by the director. *Correlate band with school and outside work!* Most performances are listed on the calendar, but occasionally special performances may be necessary during the school year. Any band member can, by careful planning, arrange his/her schedule and necessary outside work so as not to be affected in the least by band participation. Few exceptions are made in the policy of requiring members to make all performances. By skillfully budgeting one's time, there will be time for a genuine musical experience and

real pleasure, providing the student considers his/her band work as a major part of his/her school activities.

Rehearsals:

Marching Band:	Every Tuesday and Thursday Saturday Rehearsals	3:15 – 5:30 p.m. 8:00 a.m - Noon
Concert Bands:	Every Tuesday and Thursday	3:15 – 5:00 p.m.
Jazz Band:	Every Friday starting In November	3:15 – 4:30 p.m.
Indoor Percussion	Schedule varies based on the availability of practice facilities	
Winterguard	Schedule varies based on the availability of practice facilities	

When the musical or marching performance of the band is in jeopardy, extra (full or sectional) rehearsals will be called.

List of Performances:

1. All Home Football Games
2. Scheduled A/B Pep Band Football Games
3. Pep Rallies
4. Marching Festivals
5. Veteran's Day Assembly
6. Christmas Concert
7. Grandparents Day
8. Cardinal Music Night of Talent
9. Mardi Gras Parades
10. District Concert Festival
11. Divine Comedy Performances
12. State Concert Festival
13. Fireman's Fair Parade
14. Spring Concert
15. Graduation Ceremonies
16. Winterguard, Indoor Percussion and Jazz Band performances will vary.
17. Other performances may be scheduled during the year.

VI. BAND EQUIPMENT

- A. Instruments: The school owns many instruments including piccolos, oboes, bassoons, alto and bass clarinets, tenor and baritone saxophones, french horns, baritones, tubas, percussion, etc. These instruments are issued by the Instrument Manager or the director. At the time of issue, the student will be asked to sign an Instrument Contract. Students and parents will be held responsible for the care of the assigned instruments.

- B. Uniforms: The school owns 135 band uniforms which are issued to Cardinal Music students. Uniforms are issued by the Uniform Manager and the parent supervisor. Students and parents will be held responsible for the care of the assigned uniform and all accessories.

Cardinal Music members will be issued a coat, pair of pants, cord, hat, hat box, hanger, and uniform bag. Plumes will be distributed at marching band performances by the Uniform Manager and Section Leaders. No extra items are to be placed in the plastic uniform bags. Each member must supply his/her own *pair of white shoes, crew-length white socks, and white gloves for all performances*. Place your

name on all personal items. A white T-shirt is to be worn under the coat as part of the uniform. The uniform is to be worn properly at all times. When the coat is worn, it should be completely on and zipped in the back. Any loss of any uniform item should be reported to the Uniform Manager immediately. Each student will be held responsible for any loss or damage occurring to the uniform while issued to him/her.

Uniforms are to be treated as the beautiful and valuable item they are. They are to be hung neatly and properly at all times. Uniforms will be cleaned in bulk. Parents or students should never attempt to clean the uniform at home. If the uniform needs to be cleaned, please bring the uniform to Ocean Surf Cleaners in Thibodaux.

- C. Music and Folders: Three folders will be issued each school year. In the Summer, a marching folder will be issued that has all music needed for marching season. In the Fall, a Christmas concert folder will be issued with all music needed for the Christmas Concert. At the beginning of January, a Concert Folder will be issued. At the end of each season, the folder will be picked up. Any student who loses music will be charged 25 cents per sheet. *Keep a pencil in the folder at all times.*
- D. Care of Equipment: It is every band member's responsibility to show the utmost of care for all equipment, instruments, music, uniforms, folders, band rooms, etc. Percussion players are especially urged to take care of all traps and keep them neat in the percussion cabinet. The band room and instrument storage rooms are not to be used for personal storage or for waste materials. Use the garbage cans for items to be thrown away.
- E. Inspections: Section leaders will conduct periodic inspections of the music folders and instruments in their section.

It is the responsibility of every band member to clean his/her own or school-owned instrument as often as necessary. A band instrument is very fragile, complicated, and built as precisely as a fine watch. Careful handling and cleanliness is very important.

Brass Instruments should be rinsed out with lukewarm water frequently, for the chemicals in the moisture of the breath will attack and eventually destroy the brass. Oil the valves and place cork grease or vaseline on the slides. Clean the mouthpiece as well. Woodwinds should be kept clean by swabbing. Wash the mouthpiece monthly in lukewarm, soapy water.

- F. Repair: All school-owned instrument repairs must go through the instrument manager or the director. Students are urged to use only professional repairmen to work on their instruments and not attempt repairs on their own.

VII. MUSIC ROOMS

- A. Band Room: Band members are to keep the band room clean and neat. Keep the chairs and music stands in place and use the trash cans for items to be thrown away.
- B. Instrument Storage Rooms: These rooms are to be used for instrument storage only. Keep the storage rooms clean and neat. All instruments are to be put in their cases and the cases closed while in the storage rooms. When something is removed from a room it must be returned to the same place from which it was removed.
- C. Director's Office, Library and Uniform Room: The director's office is *private*. Enter the director's office only with the permission of the director. The library is also private and to be used only by the band librarians or with the permission of the director. The uniform room will remain locked and should only be used by the uniform manager and assistants or with the permission of the director.

VIII. ATTENDANCE

The attendance system must apply with equal force to all Cardinal Music members.

Membership in the E.D. White Cardinal Music Program Automatically Includes Attendance at all Rehearsals, Sectionals, and Performances.

Absence due to illness or accident will, of course, be honored. However, the director must be notified before a performance.

Specific arrangements must be made with the director in the event of conflicts with other school activities.

Except in the case of an accident or immediate illness, excuses must be submitted via the EDW Cardinal Music Absent Request Form two days prior to being absent. The form can be found on the band page under the absent request form folder. Students who do not submit an absent request form will receive an unexcused absence.

Acceptable Excuses - Keep in mind that excuses can be granted only in the case of illness, serious unavoidable conflict, or emergency.

Unacceptable Excuses - A student's work schedule, social activities, family events (birthday parties), driver's ed classes/receiving driver's license, and other similar events will not be considered excused absences

Each rehearsal, football game, and festival is worth five points towards a participation grade. For every rehearsal missed, five points will be deducted from their total. At the end of each quarter, participation grades will be based on the total amount of points earned. Rehearsals are mandatory before all major performances.

Members who are on athletic teams or other school squads will be excused at the director's discretion.

Unexcused Absence: An unexcused absence from any rehearsal or performance will result in a daily grade of an "F", loss of merit points and possible suspension from the next performance.

If a student is absent from school the day after a performance, they may not be allowed to perform in the next performance of the group. The decision will be made by the director.

Tardies: Being on time for class, all rehearsals and all performances is extremely important. Tardies will result in loss of merit points and lowering of the grade. Excessive tardiness may result in suspension from a performance.

IX. CELL PHONES

Student cell phones will not be permitted at band camp, any band rehearsals, football games, and festivals during a performance. Students will put all phones in their designated "phone drop" container, which will be locked in the office. Should an emergency occur, the director will contact the parents.

X. BAND GRADES

Grade of "D" Not recognized as a passing grade in the Cardinal Music Program: used only to point out a definite need which must be corrected.

- Grade of "C"
1. Minimum required attendance at band performances.
 2. No apparent individual effort to improve through practice.
 3. Minimum contribution to band activities; reluctant to assume responsibility.
 4. Rehearsal conduct erratic and uncertain: lacking in self-discipline.
 5. Poor scores on playing and written quizzes.
- Grade of "B"
1. Prompt, attentive and alert at all rehearsals and performances.
 2. Assumes musical responsibility in band; consistent practice to insure satisfactory performance.

- 3. A positive contribution to band activities; definite self-improvement through private lessons and/or individual practice.
 - 4. Exercises good self-control, self-discipline and good, cooperative spirit in band and group activities.
 - 5. Fair scores on written and playing quizzes.
- Grade of "A"
- 1. Shows positive leadership and interest in his/her particular section, and shows independence and resourcefulness in assisting rehearsal procedures.
 - 2. Outstanding progress in self-improvement through consistent individual practice, honor band auditions, and solo and ensemble participation.
 - 3. Strong positive contributions to the music department as a whole.
 - 4. Personal integrity and character best exemplifies the principles of the E.D. White Cardinal Music Program.
 - 5. Good scores on all written and playing quizzes.

Better use of practice time will help a band member's grade. Parents are encouraged to consult the director at any time in regard to the band grade and their child's progress in the band. A close contact of parents and director will indicate a strong interest in the band program and can thus aid both parties in understanding and solving any problems.

XI. MERIT SYSTEM

Points will be awarded for achievement and deducted for infractions that are detrimental to the individual and the program. The purpose of the system is to reward those individuals who consistently do the things necessary to better the individual and the program. The Merit System will be part of the semester grade.

Points will be awarded for the following achievements (**Merits**)

<u>Points</u>	<u>Activity</u>
30	Section Leader (Includes Colorguard Captain)
40	Band Council Member
40	Drum Major
40	Equipment Manager
40	Librarians
40	Uniform Manager
40	Instrument Manager
100	Audition for District Honor Band
50	Making Honor Band
50	Audition for State Honor Band

100	Making State Honor Band
100	Making other Honor Bands
75	Private Lessons for over 3 months with qualified instructor
25	Playing a solo for solo and ensemble festival
25	Playing in an ensemble for solo and ensemble festival
25	Private Lessons on secondary instrument for over 3 months with qualified instructor
25	Participation in Sightreading Clinic
25	Participation in summer music or colorguard camps
25	Participation in Community Band
25	Participation in Winterguard
25	Participation in Indoor Percussion
25	Participation in Jazz Band
30	Playing a solo or in an ensemble in public on primary instrument
5+	Special assignments (approved by director)
5+	Other – Discretion of the director

Points will be deducted for the following infractions (**Demerits**)

<u>Points</u>	<u>Activity</u>
10	Uniform hung incorrectly
10	Uniform worn incorrectly (includes shoes not being shined)
3	Misplaced music
5	Music or instrument left in band room
5	Carelessness with instrument (cleaning, etc.)
5	Tardy for rehearsal or performance with excuse
10	Tardy for rehearsal or performance without an excuse
5	Missing sectional rehearsal without a reasonable excuse
15	Absent from rehearsal or performance without an excuse
5	Absent from meetings without a reasonable excuse
5+	Disruptive during rehearsals or performances
5+	Conduct detrimental to the Cardinal Music Program

The following points are needed to receive a Merit Award:

Bronze Medal	300 – 399 points
Silver Medal	400 – 449 points
Gold Medal	450 points or more
Platinum Medal	The member with the highest points above 450

A student will not be awarded a medal if he/she has received 60 Demerit points in one school year.

If any member receives more than 60 Demerit points in one quarter, the final quarterly grade will be lowered at the discretion of the director.

XII. AWARDS AND HONORS

A. Award Eligibility:

Awards are given for loyalty, dependability and outstanding contribution to the E. D. White Cardinal Music program. Students should not expect to receive special awards or recognition for minimum service and average participation.

B. Awards

The following awards and honors will be given:

1. Medals for a superior rating in solo and ensembles
2. Special recognition for honor band selections
3. Merit Awards
4. Flaming Cardinal Award for Music
5. Flaming Cardinal Award for Band (Chosen by band members)
6. Band Sweetheart Court (Chosen by band members)
7. Outstanding Class Award
Outstanding student in each class
8. Outstanding Cardinal Vanguard Member
Outstanding student in the Cardinal Vanguard
9. Jazz Award
Outstanding student in the Jazz Band
10. Arion Award
Outstanding student in the Concert Band
11. Winterguard Award
Outstanding student in Winterguard
12. Indoor Percussion Award
Outstanding student in Indoor Percussion
13. John Philip Sousa Award
Overall best musician
14. Director's Service Award
Outstanding Service to the Band
15. Outstanding Cardinal Music Member
Overall outstanding band member
16. Band Jackets
Band Jackets are awarded based on the following criteria:
 - a. Students must have completed their Sophomore year.
 - b. Students must have completed 2 years in the Cardinal Music program.
 - c. Students must remain in band in the year the jacket is awarded.

- C. Awards are not given when reprimands, disciplinary actions or unsatisfactory conduct jeopardize the awards eligibility.

XIII. E.D. WHITE Cardinal Music Club

The purpose of this support and advisory organization is to provide positive support the Edward Douglas White Catholic High School Music program. Supporters of this advisory group will largely be made up of parents of current students in the music program, however all alumni, family and friends of the Cardinal Music Program are encouraged to be involved. This support will be largely financial and involve a number of various fundraisers, however the organization will also provide support to the music program spiritually or with people-power.

Some of the objectives of the Cardinal Music Club are:

- A. To arouse, stimulate and maintain an enthusiastic interest in all phases of the Cardinal Music Department.
- B. To cooperate with those in charge of Cardinal Music and the administration of the school to the end that this department be brought to and kept at the highest possible degree of efficiency.
- C. To develop a closer relationship between the parents and the school, fostering the musical interest and education of the children, and stimulating the knowledge, performance and appreciation of finer music.
- D. To provide financial support enabling the Cardinal Music program to maintain a high level of excellence.

XIV. MUSIC AND BAND IS GREAT TRAINING FOR THE MIND

Music and band are the best mind trainers on the list. Band teaches orderly thinking! Not only does the musician have to think in an orderly manner, and make correct, instantaneous responses to hundreds of printed symbols, but he/she must also fit playing into that of a group. So band teaches cooperation as well.

Consider the problem from this standpoint. In one simple march that is played, we have 100 players, each of whom must perform approximately 500 notes, which makes a total of 50,000 notes to play. Any one of those notes could be played too long, or too short, too early or too late, too loud or too

soft. In addition the notes must be played in tune, in relationship with the other notes of an individual instrument as well as in relationship with all the other instruments.

Add to this the fact that a simple quarter note can mean any one of five different pitches: natural, sharp, flat, double sharp and double flat, and the player must remember the key signatures at all times and quickly adjust to the accidentals.

Add still further the fact that a simple quarter note may be counted in so many different ways. It gets one beat in 4/4 time, two beats in 3/8 time, 1/3 of a beat in fast 6/4, 2/3's of a beat in fast 6/8 and half a beat in cut time.

To further compound the problem, rests of all sizes and shapes must be properly counted. Players must know all the notes on their instruments and how to finger them. Clarinets and bassoons have a range of about 40 half-steps, flutes 37, brass instruments at least 31, and saxophones the same. Percussionist must learn how to play a large variety of instruments of different sizes and types.

On top of all this we must add the feeling and expression of the music. We must know how to handle six levels of dynamic change and when they mean what they say and when they don't. How to change gradually or suddenly to a different volume level. (All this while remaining in tune.)

Now add all of that and move around on a football field in various formations at different speeds making sure that you are in the proper formation marching at attention with your instrument held properly.

All things are pointed out to show how many chances for mistakes there are. They run into the millions, but only one way to play right! It is really a wonder the students can do it at all. You can see now why it takes so many years for a person to learn to play well and march well. There is so much to learn.

Also consider this: It is impossible to play well seated next to a person who is playing badly. On a geometry test a person getting all the answers wrong will not affect the person in the next chair. This is not so in the band. No amount of good notes will cover up one bad one.

You can easily see that music is great for the mind and for learning cooperation, and, by the way, it is really fun to play in the band.

XV. I AM MUSIC

I AM MUSIC, most ancient of the arts. I am more than ancient; I am eternal. Even before life commenced upon this earth, I was here – in the winds and the waves. When the first trees and flowers and grasses appeared, I was among them. And when Man came, I was at once the most delicate, most subtle, and the most powerful medium of expression of Man's emotions. When men were little better than beasts, I influenced them for their good. In all ages, I have inspired men with hope, kindled their love, given a voice to their joys, cheered them on to valorous

deeds, and soothed them in times of despair. I have played a great part in the drama of Life, whose end and purpose is complete perfection of Man's nature. Through my influence human nature has been uplifted, sweetened and refined. With the aid of men, I have become a Fine Art. From Tubalcain to Thomas Edison a long line of the brightest minds have devoted themselves to the perfection of instruments through which men may utilize my powers and enjoy my charms. I have myriads of voices and instruments. I am in the hearts of all men and on their tongues, in all lands and among all peoples; the ignorant and unlettered know of me, not less than the rich and learned. For I speak to all men in a language that all understand. Even the deaf hear me, if they but listen to the voices of their own souls. I am the food of love. I have taught men gentleness and peace; and I have led them onward to heroic deeds. I comfort the lonely, and I harmonize the discord of crowds. I am a necessary luxury to all men.

I am MUSIC.

- Allan C. Inman