

## Seycove Music Program Attendance Policies

**ATTENDANCE IN CLASS, AND AT CONCERTS, IS MANDATORY.** Although your class may take place outside of school hours, it is no less important than in-timetable classes. Everyone depends on each other's full participation at every rehearsal and every performance in order to succeed. A high number of absences, late arrivals and early departures brings down the morale of the whole group and holds everyone back from achieving excellence. **It is your responsibility to ensure that you are available for *all* of the major performances for your ensemble, which are treated like exams. Significant marks will be deducted for any unexcused absences or lateness from classes, dress rehearsals, sectionals, sound checks or performances, which may result in a failing grade for the term.**

If you are *severely* ill (i.e. much worse than the common cold) or have another legitimate reason for missing a performance, parents are asked to reach the school immediately, so that arrangements can be made to hire a professional musician in your place, if necessary. You may see many students in the class, but there is often only *one* person who can fulfill your role, and that's *you*!

### **Regarding missing classes (not concerts), if you have...**

- 1. a regularly occurring conflict between this course and another activity, such as an outside-of-school team,** speak with your instructor about it in September. If you are not available for most of the classes, it's just not fair to others and you may not be allowed to take this course.
- 2. a medical appointment, illness or emergency,** your absence will be excused. Because any absence impacts the rehearsal plan, please let your instructor know as soon as you know about an upcoming absence. Please make sure your parents call the office to excuse your absence. Please make your best effort not to schedule these appointments during our class time.
- 3. a field trip,** your absence will be excused. Because any absence impacts the rehearsal plan, please let your instructor know as soon as you know about an upcoming absence. The office will mark you absent.
- 4. a game for a Seycove team,** your absence will be excused. Because any absence impacts the rehearsal plan, please bring your instructor an official team schedule at the start of the season and you and your instructor will plan which, if any, classes/rehearsals you may miss. The office will mark you absent.
- 5. a practice or team meeting, these do NOT take precedence over class time and you should not miss class for them, generally.** If you absolutely must attend an important practice that conflicts with band, bring your instructor your official team schedule at the start of the season and you and your instructor will plan which, if any, classes/rehearsals you may miss.
- 6. a project or a make-up test to do, volunteering or a club meeting.** These do not take precedence over our class time and you should not miss rehearsal for these things, generally. If you ask permission at least a day ahead of time, it might be possible depending on the rehearsal plan.
- 7. a family event, such as a birthday, vacation, tickets to a game or concert or other events of a personal nature.** Your parents have the right to call the school to excuse you in these instances, however please be aware that all absences impact the group negatively and impede progress. All students have made personal sacrifices in order to attend and have a great experience, including planning their personal time to happen later. Whenever possible, book personal events outside of class time. Your parents must call the office to excuse you in these instances.
- 8. a part time job. You should never miss any class, even x-block classes, for a part-time job.** Employers cannot insist that you miss school, whether in x-block or in-timetable. Give employers your school schedule early to avoid conflicts later. If it happens, no one wants you to lose your job, but let's talk about how we can ensure it never happens again.

**A list of performances and events is posted to [seycovemusic.weebly.com](http://seycovemusic.weebly.com).**