



Fort Calhoun

PIONEER BAND

Handbook



BAND MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

THE HEART OF THE BAND — THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

It is the responsibility of all members to be punctual to all rehearsals and performances, to learn all assigned music, to display a positive attitude, and to work as a team.

SUB-SECTION LEADERS

Responsibilities are the same as individual members above, but in addition they should assist the Section Leader with the duties outlined below.

UPPERCLASSMEN

Upperclassmen are critical to the success of the organization. Whether or not they hold office or title, they are role models and cannot be otherwise. At every moment underclassmen are observing, taking note, and learning from the every action and attitude of the upperclassmen. Therefore, it is crucial that every comment and action be constructive and for the good of the organization. The experience of the upperclassmen is invaluable. The overall mood and class environment of the band is largely determined by the maturity of the upperclassmen and their resultant temperament and attitudes displayed.

SECTION LEADERS

The Section Leader is the principle spokesperson for the entire section. He/she recommends part placement for the section. He/she is responsible for personnel decisions and should assist the director by encouraging optimal performance and rehearsal standards. Section leaders should aid freshmen and new students with the transition to high school band and high school life through the development of personal relationships, through the answering of questions, and through the discussion of other materials outlined in our handbooks. He/she is also responsible for helping teach fundamentals correctly and for promoting the maintenance and care of uniforms, equipment, and instruments. Section Leaders may also call and conduct extra sectional rehearsals when appropriate. Section Leaders should be thoroughly familiar with the separate manual entitled “Section Leader Handbook.”

OFFICERS

The elected officers serve not only as the principle leadership of the band organization, but also as spokespersons for the membership of the group. They should serve the group as models of positive attitude, exemplary behavior, outstanding work ethic, and proper procedure. Officers a) should serve as support for the section leaders in their roles, b) should themselves serve as excellent models of correct posture, correct playing techniques, and proper preparation for rehearsal, and c) should serve by assisting with the smooth and orderly operation of the organization. Executive business meetings are held to plan aspects of the yearly projects, discuss successes and concerns in the day to day operations, and to provide internal feedback to the Director. Note the term “serve” used herein and the work and responsibility implied by the term. All officers must be willing to assume the level of responsibility and integrity which comes with the honor of being elected to office.

DRUM MAJOR(S)

The Drum Major remains an officer of the organization during Concert Band, and, as a respected field commander, should retain the capacity to assume complete command of the organization if necessary. The Drum Major may need to assist in leading rehearsals and even certain performances in the absence of the Director. The Drum Major should work in cooperation with the President’s directives.

BAND PRESIDENT

The Band President is the highest ranking student leader, and as such assumes responsibility for assisting the Director with the oversight of the total band program. This includes supervising and assisting other student leaders in their assignments as necessary and working with the Director to assure smooth and orderly operations of the organization. The President should be prepared to

be in complete charge at any time in the absence of the Director. **Expect the President to be authoritative.** Likewise, please cooperate maturely with the student leadership.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Fort Calhoun High School Band

Band (instrumental music) is an academic subject, under the curriculum of Fine Arts, with the main emphasis and purpose being instrumental performance. The various formats and situations of performing, however, require the Band to also function as an organization. Therefore, the Band follows the rules of the school handbooks on curriculum and activities, but in addition has some policies, procedures and rules which must be followed by all to see that our tradition of quality musical education and experience continues. Your membership in the class/organization implies your willingness to comply with all the policies mentioned above and herein.

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is officially listed as a four-level, four-year cycle of classes in the Curriculum Handbook [each year of the cycle emphasizes a different era of music history] and as an academic subject deals with all facets of instrumental performance with the exception of Stage Band (which is a separate course). This is to include work in concert, marching, and pep band. Solo and ensemble work is also encouraged. As listed in the Handbook, **“Students (unless excused) must participate in all designated band activities, rehearsals, and performances to maintain membership.”** Please refer to the separate policy defining distinctions between curricular projects of the class and extra-curricular activities.

The organizational inner structure of the class, necessary due to size of the ensemble, provides a further learning experience for students in how to function as a group. This includes how to follow rules and meet individual responsibilities necessary for the common good of the group--skills necessary for successful participation in society.

B. ORGANIZATION

1. The Senior High band shall elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer at the beginning of each year to deal with business and organizational matter of the group. This executive committee will serve also as an advisory group to the director.
2. The person selected as President should be well-respected and show leadership abilities. The President is “second-in-command” behind the director and often has the responsibility of seeing that many important matters are handled in an appropriate manner. The President may appoint committees, delegate work to be done, etc., as is necessary for the band to function efficiently.
3. The drum majors/majorettes shall also be considered officers of the band. They are selected by an audition procedure the preceding spring, auditions being held only when vacancies occur.
4. In addition, each class may select one individual to serve as a representative of their class in an advisory position to the director and officers.

C. PRACTICE

1. It is impossible to develop your abilities without putting forth some effort. It is assumed, therefore, that all band members will want to put a reasonable amount of time into practicing their music. Do not be the one who holds up the band by not knowing your part. Each member is important and it *does* make a difference whether or not one individual person knows his music. “You may fool some people all the time, you may even fool the director from time to time, but you won’t be fooling yourself ever.” (A wise saying by a director you know well.) You know how much effort you are putting out. Be well-enough prepared that you can take pride in your contributions to the group. In turn, you will be able to take pride in the results YOUR group turns out.
2. The director reserves the right to establish a minimum practice criterion as a part of your grade.

D. QUALITY, CLASS, AND PRIDE

Maintaining our Pioneer Band’s tradition of “Quality, Class, and Pride” requires commitment and devotion to the program. **We must depend on 100% of our membership being able to perform to their fullest potential at all times.** Please remember this not only in your practicing and rehearsing, but in your physical and mental preparation, including activities and rest the night before a major performance. Remember also that these descriptors do not refer exclusively to our performances. Our group conduct is frequently on display. Additionally, your individual conduct, as a member of the FCPB, reflects on the group as a whole. The public image/reputation of the FCPB is of extreme importance and needs to be guarded appropriately.

E. PRIMARY RULE OF PROCEDURE

The primary rule of procedure to use in all situations which may occur is this: **Use your heads.**

F. REHEARSAL

Any rehearsal constitutes an “interactive lab session.” Since it is necessary for everyone to be present for the “interactive” qualification, it is quite impossible to “make up” lab time.

While home practice is expected, much of the daily assignment does center around the “rehearsal.” As daily assigned work is expected in all classes, students can simply not be gone from class, do no work, and expect to receive the same grade as everyone else. Time in class consists of organizational time, limited lecture time, and rehearsal. In an effort to find something fair to make up for missing rehearsal (which, as noted above, is impossible to truly make up) a reasonable assignment of 30 minutes of home practice time—which is productive, practical, goes to the student’s improvement and should be done anyway—is requested in order to receive a grade for the day. As always, practice slips should have parental signatures, please. [Students wishing a more complex make-up assignment or a full-period (50 minute) practice time requirement may request the same.]

Starting Rehearsal...

1. Students should be completely INSIDE the Music Building when the tardy bell rings. If not, they may be counted tardy. Passes are required for excused tardies. Tardies are very disruptive in the band room. If tardies become a problem, the Band Department has the support of the Administration to assign detentions for every three unexcused tardies.

2. Students should be seated as quickly as possible. Two minutes are allowed after the bell to prepare for class. At two minutes after the bell students should:
 - a) Be in their seat **WITH THEIR HORN ASSEMBLED**.
 - b) Have all music and class materials ready, with music open to appropriate warm-up exercises and slurring exercises ready if they need the music.
 - c) If possible, have completed some personal warm-up playing. Please warm up in a constructive manner that will help your embouchure and does not impair the hearing of others in the room.
 - d) Be ready to stop playing, stop talking, and begin organized warm-ups.
3. Students not ready for class at the appointed time may again be subject to being counted tardy. Should the entire class in general become routinely slow in getting ready, the amount of preparation time allowed after the bell will in fact be shortened.
4. If you foresee an absence/tardy in advance, you should personally submit your white slip to the Director of Bands BEFORE the rehearsal.

During Rehearsal...

1. The Director expects to have the attention of each member during rehearsal. When work is focused on one section or an individual, others should please wait in a quiet manner, preferably following along on their own part.
2. Good posture is essential for good breath support and good mental attitude. Please sit up while playing.
3. The Director oversees what part each person will play and what chair each person holds within the section. Seating is set in accordance with these chair assignments. There will be no deviation from your assigned part and seat unless approved first. Parts are assigned with the intent of achieving the best possible balance and blend in the ensemble.

CHALLENGES for a higher chair are possible. This must be done, however, prior to six weeks before a major performance. In this manner, no one is assured of maintaining their seat if they do not work, but there will be no changes during crucial periods of preparation.

4. Drinks and rest room visits will not be necessary during regular class periods. The only exceptions, of course, will be medical problems and emergencies.

Ending Rehearsal...

1. When rehearsal is over, all music and instruments will be put away properly. There will be absolutely no music left laying around the room. Chairs and stands will be dealt with according to given instructions.
2. After dismissal of rehearsal, students should remain within the defined parameters of the Rehearsal Hall or the foyer until the class period is ended. Do not gather in the Instrument Room or the hallway.

G. GRADING

Grading criteria include the following factors:

Quarter One - A) Performance/Performance Analysis, 33%; B) Individual Music Performance/Memorization, 12% (4-5 tests); C) Labs, 55%. (Approximately 41 labs at 100 pts for completion of each full lab; 80% or 60% for partial completions of labs.)

Quarters Two—Four - A) Daily Assignments, 16% (includes written assignments, daily make-up assignments, quizzes, etc.); B) Test Scores, 16%; C) Performance/Performance Analysis, 36% (**READ** Section H. Performance Projects **carefully**); D) Scales, 16% (**READ** Section I. Quarter Scales); E) Attitude/Cooperation, 16% (includes attitude, effectiveness, being on time and working as part of the team—easy grade, starts at 97% with credits or deductions); **plus** Required Individual Performance Objective: 5 Assigned Scales for each quarter are mandatory for a final grade of "A."

H. PERFORMANCE PROJECTS

Performance is the ultimate point, goal, and purpose of instruction in instrumental ensemble. Thus the Performance Projects are the core of the curriculum and the most heavily weighted in terms of grades. A student will not be able to pass the course without completing the assigned Performance Projects. First Quarter Performance Projects include the assigned parades and field performances.

There are five major Performance Projects over the course of the Concert season (2nd, 3rd, 4th quarters.) For each student, a Performance Project consists of two parts:

- a) the public performance of the selected curriculum materials with the ensemble, and
- b) a post-concert evaluation/analysis of the execution, musicality, and overall effectiveness of BOTH that individual student and the entire ensemble.

It is obviously necessary for the student to be present in order to complete either part of the project. [It should then hardly be necessary to mention that attendance at Performance Projects is required of all class members.] It is also impossible for the overall ensemble to be fully effective, and therefore to attain the highest possible level of performance, without each and every member being present to perform their rehearsed part.

Dates

The schedule of major Performance Projects is presented at the beginning of the school year. All are scheduled during the course of the regular school term when the District can reasonably expect students to be in town to attend school as required by State Law. By nature of the definition of “public performance,” the inherent requirement of people to be “available” to form a public audience, and out of convenience in order to allow working parents an opportunity to attend concerts, it IS necessary to schedule performances outside the regular school day.

Student’s Responsibilities

Once performance schedules are released, it is IMMEDIATELY the ensemble member’s responsibility to enter these calendar commitments on their personal calendar and keep these dates clear. Any student at the start of the year (or at the release of a new schedule date) who finds a *significant event* ALREADY engraved on their calendar on a performance date must notify the Director of Bands IMMEDIATELY. The student and the director will assess how serious and how manageable the problem is and then initiate a workable solution to the problem for BOTH the student and the ensemble. In a high percentage of cases, former dedicated members have been able to work in both events. [In some situations a single student may require extreme ensemble performance alterations in order to avoid a performance disaster. Any “adaptations” must be done with the input, planning, and consensus of the entire ensemble and MUST be done at the earliest possible time in the school year.]

In the event of a conflict noted at the start of the season that is impossible to resolve, an alternate project will have to be assigned in order for the student to receive a Project grade of some type for the specified quarter. In most cases this will be a research paper on a topic pre-approved by the instructor. (Research papers must be to specifications provided.) NOTE: Substitute projects are ONLY allowed as a last resort for excused absences.

NOTE: Notification of a date conflict at any point, including the start of the year, DOES NOT

NECESSARILY mean the absence is excused. Individual circumstances will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

Absences

ABSENCES WILL NOT ONLY AFFECT YOUR GRADE, THEY MAY AFFECT YOUR STATUS AS A MEMBER OF THE BAND.

- Notification of a date conflict at any point, including the start of the year, **does not NECESSARILY mean the absence is excused.** Individual circumstances will be reviewed on a case by case basis.
- After the first of the school year, very few scenarios could constitute an excused absence from a Performance Project other than a dire emergency on the day of performance. Even then, it is rare that a phone notification is not possible.
- One unexcused performance absence warrants a failing grade and possible dismissal from Band, pending individual circumstances.
- Non-notification of a performance absence will result in automatic failure and near-certain dismissal from Band.

I. QUARTER SCALE REQUIREMENTS

Scales are a bedrock foundation both to the mastery of musical knowledge and to the mastery of technique on any musical instrument. FIVE scales are assigned each of the last three quarters of the school year. These are to be played individually, by memory, for the Director or a designated agent. They may all be played at one sitting, or on several different days. Only three attempts to pass each scale may be made on any given day. ALL FIVES SCALES FOR THE QUARTER MUST BE COMPLETED to receive credit for the project. There is no partial credit. YOU MUST RECEIVE CREDIT FOR THIS PROJECT TO RECEIVE AN “A” GRADE IN CONCERT BAND.

Students **SHOULD NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST WEEK OF THE QUARTER** to play these requirements. The Director of Bands will be under NO obligation to listen to scales the last week of a quarter, unless a specific appointment has already been made for that time. Any scales heard that week are solely at the time, convenience, and mercy of the Director. IT IS TO BE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT IT IS THE STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITY TO TAKE CARE OF THIS REQUIREMENT BEFORE THE LAST WEEK. The Director and Officers may at their discretion move the quarter deadline up even earlier, providing adequate notice is given.

J. THE BAND ROOM

The Band Room needs to be kept as clean and orderly as possible at all times. It provides a more pleasant environment and helps prevent damage to equipment. Please share the responsibility and each try to leave the Band Room in BETTER CONDITION than you found it.

The following guidelines will also be followed:

1. The work counter in the hallway and the tops of the music cabinets are not a depository for assorted junk, nor a storage space for student materials. Please keep them clean.
2. The mechanical/storage room is generally off-limits for students. No one should enter the room without specific permission. The Band storage area in Room 123 is also generally off limits.

3. Fines will be assessed for equipment and instruments not put away properly. Everything has a place and should be there at the end of the period. Fines start at 50 cents per item left out. (Music is limited to \$5 per set of music left out *IN* folders—this does not refer to LOST folders of music. That will be billed *per piece* and will be much more expensive.)
4. Each person is to move his own stand at the end of the period if so instructed. Stands left out are 50 cents.
5. All band fines will go toward purchasing new band music or equipment.
6. All music files are off-limits for students unless authorized by the director.
7. The classroom piano should not be played without permission.
8. We have a lot of people, a lot of valuable equipment around, and not much room. PLEASE--in all situations, rehearsal or performance, think first and act later.
9. There is to be **NO GUM IN THE MUSIC BUILDING**—none whatsoever at any time.

K. MUSIC

Each Fort Calhoun Pioneer Band member is expected to take care of and keep track of our music.

YOU are responsible for YOUR issued MUSIC...KEEP IT SAFE and BRING IT TO ALL REHEARSALS.

1. All folders are to be stored in the folder cabinets. Please follow directions as to where your folder belongs. Fines will be assessed for folders left in other locations.
2. All music is to be treated with great care. Fines will be charged for damaged or lost music. Fines will range from 50 cents up to the full replacement cost per sheet. also, a lost “only copy” may result in your buying a whole new set--cost: \$30 upward to over \$100. Fines will be assessed liberally as there is no excuse for damaged music. There will be a \$5 minimum charge for sets of music found *not secured in a proper concert band folder*. The tremendous cost of printed music necessitates firm adherence to these rules.

L. PENCILS

Bring a pencil to every rehearsal you ever attend!! Please make our rehearsals more efficient by marking problem spots, missed notes, and special instructions.

M. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please check DAILY for any POSTED ANNOUNCEMENTS. You are responsible for any information and instructions posted in the room. Please listen for any other VERBAL announcements. You are likewise responsible for this information. The Website is also a good resource for information.

N. UNIFORMS

Uniforms will be issued at the beginning of the season, in accordance with the terms defined in the Uniform Use and Fees Contract. From that point on, you are responsible for maintaining your uniform through the season, until such time is designated for them to be returned. Be sure

to return all parts with your assigned number to avoid fines.

You will need to supply:

- 1) White band shoes with white soles. These are normally ordered through the Band Office. If you already have a pair, check with the Director to see if they match the style currently worn by the FCPB.
- 2) White socks, meaning full-length white crew socks. Low-cut socks are **unacceptable**.
- 3) White T-shirts WITH SLEEVES (mandatory—must be worn under coats.)

If you wish AT ANY TIME to have your coat off in public while wearing part of your uniform, your T-shirt not only MUST have sleeves, it MUST meet school dress code (any words or pictures) and it must look presentable. [NOTE: UNIFORMS MUST BE WORN IN FULL PERFORMANCE CONDITION AT ALL TIMES WHEN IN THE CONFINES OF A PERFORMANCE STADIUM.]

Shoes are *NOT* to be carried *inside your garment bag*. Fines will be issued accordingly.

If you have a problem with your uniform, contact the Director or a Band Parent Uniform Committee member immediately.

O. SCHOOL INSTRUMENTS

There is a nominal fee for the use of School-owned instruments. (Please keep in mind that the collective rental fees over the life of these horns will nowhere near pay for their initial purchase.) Since these are nearly all specialty instruments that we need badly in the band, since it is vital that they work well, and since we have limited funds for replacing them, it is not only imperative that you learn to play them well, but that you *take excellent care of these instruments*.

1. NO ONE SHOULD BE PLAYING A SCHOOL INSTRUMENT OTHER THAN THE ONE TO WHOM THE INSTRUMENT HAS BEEN ISSUED. This helps avoid “accidents” and thereby unnecessarily having a horn damaged, a horn out of service for repair, and a player out of service in the meantime.
2. The regular rental fee as established by the school will be charged under most circumstances. Any exceptions will be discussed on an individual basis with the Director/Administration.
3. You will be charged the full cost of repairs for any damage the Director feels is not the result of normal use of the horn. Treat all school-owned properties with great care—they do not belong to you.

Maintenance.

It is expected that you will perform normal routine maintenance on these instruments (oil valves, grease slides, clean horn, polish horn, etc.). If your horn needs repair, consult the Director of Bands for instruction on how to proceed. Report problems as soon as you note them; this helps avoid minor problems becoming major expenses.

Take care of cases as well. *Keep ALL latches hooked at all times, whether the horn is in the case or not.* This helps avoid someone snagging a latch and tearing it off while they walk by the case.

Your Reciprocal Responsibility as an honor student playing a specialty horn....

If you have one of the specialty horns (French horn, tuba, oboe, baritone, bari sax, bass clarinet), *in addition to having been identified as a dependable student with special talents, you have also taken on a special responsibility to your classmates in band.* While you are using a school horn, no one else can use it and develop their skills on this instrument. Since these horns are limited in number and are very necessary for the success of our ensembles, *each person using a specialty*

horn needs to develop their abilities on the instrument to the best of their abilities. These students are EXPECTED to take every available opportunity to improve their performance skills, including participation in solo/ensemble contests and other events that may avail themselves. Also in turn for the school's subsidy of these horns, said students are EXPECTED to be present to play when these horns are needed, and are expected to help in special situations where their expertise may be needed, such as assisting with younger levels of the instrumental program.

P. BEHAVIORS TO AVOID

1. Do not play another student's instrument.
2. Language inappropriate to the school environment should not be used in the Band Room.
3. No one is to play the percussion instruments except the regular percussionists, unless special permission is granted, and only approved timpanists are to play the timpani. In street language this means "Don't touch!" **Violation of this rule is an automatic detention.**
4. The tuba bells are for amplification of sound. They are not targets. Any person throwing objects which enter a tuba bell will have an **automatic detention.**

Q. MARCHING BAND

While this Handbook is generally an overall document, please refer to the Marching Band Handbook for specifics referring to the first quarter of the school year.

R. PERFORMANCES

1. A Band is not complete unless every member is present. Every band members holds a vital position in the organization. On **that day** your particular talent and contribution is irreplaceable. Therefore, **YOU ARE EXPECTED TO BE IN ATTENDANCE FOR ALL MAJOR PERFORMANCES OF THE BAND.** The **ONLY** excused absences will be illness of the student or extenuating family circumstances and the Director shall be notified **BEFORE** the time of performance.
2. An unexcused absence will most likely result in an **F** for the course for that quarter. Any such situation will be subject to individual consideration. Refer especially to the the section on "Performance Projects."
3. Because of the frequency and nature of pep band performances, some exceptions for legitimate excuses may be allowed, providing adequate instrumentation is available. Mandatory attendance will be required by sections or for the entire band if necessary to assure quality standards at our performance commitments.

S. SOLOS AND ENSEMBLES / HONOR BANDS

The solo and ensemble competitions in which we participate have been the bedrock of our program. Due the extremely low numbers of our students who can participate in private lessons, the coaching with the Director in preparation for these solo/ensemble events has provided almost all of the individual instruction to our older students. Likewise, the preparation for various honor band auditions has further developed the technical skills of many of our students.

All students are encouraged to participate in these events. The more talented the student, the more they are not only encouraged, but expected, to participate in these activities, in order that they may develop their skills to the maximum and thereby be the strongest players and best prepared musical leaders possible within our own band program—not to mention the individual honors they may earn in the process.

T. TRIPS

1. Band members are to be on time (or early) for all trip departures. The bus will leave promptly at the time designated. You will be left.
2. All instructions given by the Director concerning the trip are to be followed to the letter. Failure to do so may result in your being left home the next trip and in possible disciplinary action.
3. In similar fashion, you will respect the orders of any sponsors or bus drivers on the trip. The Director expects to hear no reports of student misconduct from any sponsor, bus driver, or from anyone!
4. Any band member riding the bus to an activity shall return on that bus, according to rules and exceptions outlined in the school handbook concerning activities. **ALL EXCEPTIONS WILL BE HANDLED BEFORE THE DAY OF DEPARTURE.**
5. Band members shall at all times conduct themselves in a manner **which brings credit** to our Band and to Fort Calhoun Schools.
6. When on a trip, use your heads! Be aware of and observe all safety precautions given for that particular trip.
7. For your safety, always stay in groups of at least three while on trips.
8. When buses arrive at destinations, please remain seated for instructions until dismissed by the Director or a designated person.

U. ASSISTANCE FROM THE DIRECTOR

1. The Director will be glad to meet with anyone on an individual basis as frequently as feasible to give assistance with solos, ensembles, etc. Please speak up to get help.
2. Solo and ensemble work is highly encouraged.
3. The Director will be glad to discuss any problems you may have with music, your playing, your horn, transportation, grades, scheduling, personnel in your section, etc. Be it these topics or anything else you wish to visit about, personal or otherwise, feel free to schedule an appointment or just stop by the Band Office any time.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

1. While these guidelines are written specifically for the Senior High curriculum, all policies and procedures herein shall pertain equally to the Junior High program except as follows. The only exceptions shall be those statements herein which can in no way be construed to have bearing on the junior high band students.

2. IF, during ANY band activity, AN EMERGENCY SHOULD OCCUR OR SOMETHING GOES SERIOUSLY WRONG, TELL THE DIRECTOR IMMEDIATELY.
3. The above policies and procedures should serve as a guideline for your conduct in Band. This shall constitute fair warning!

LEADERSHIP COMMITMENT

Probably the single-most negative and destructive action that *anyone*—but *especially anyone in a student leadership position*—can take is quitting the program. Our student leaders must be committed to the long-term success and improvement of the ensemble.

This type of long-term commitment and dedication is also a personality trait that is much admired and highly sought-after by colleges and employers alike.

By accepting a Section Leader or Officer position and assuming a clearly visible student leadership role, you are hereby pledging your solid commitment to help lead, promote, build, and improve our band until the day you graduate from high school.

In accepting a leadership position you are giving your personal “word” to this commitment. Keep in mind that the integrity of a person’s “word” is perhaps a person’s most important personal asset.

(Students not willing to invest this level of commitment not only should not, but must not accept a student leadership position. This is to be clearly understood by students and parents alike.)