



# Calallen High School

## Percussion Class

2019-20

## Course Syllabus

Director:

Mr. Goodman

Office phone: 242-5630 ext. 7115

E-Mail: [ngoodman@calallen.org](mailto:ngoodman@calallen.org)

# Percussion Class Description

**Music Band/ Percussion: 1 credit**

**1100 I 03150100**

**1101 II 03150200**

**1102 III 03150300**

**1103 IV 03150400**

**Grades: 9-12**

**Prerequisites: Audition and Teacher Approval**

**Percussion Class is an extension of the regular band class designed to give percussionists individualized and group instruction on various percussion instruments. This course is designed to ensure all students receive a well-rounded percussion education. All students enrolled in the Percussion Class will participate in marching band as part of the curriculum. Marching band participation includes May (of the previous year) marching training, rehearsals throughout the summer, late summer band camp, outside of the school day rehearsals and performances throughout the fall semester. The Marching Band performs at Varsity Football Games, community events, and competes in marching contests sponsored by the University Interscholastic League (UIL) and other organizations. During the spring semester, all students participate in a concert band according to their proficiency, as determined by audition and instructor placement. During the spring semester, students will participate in UIL sponsored events such as solo and ensemble contest and concert and sight reading contest. Contests through other organizations may be entered as well. Students may participate and compete on an individual basis through solo competition at district, regional, area, and all-state levels. Extra rehearsals and performances are mandatory as part of the student's grade. In addition, all students in Percussion Class perform in the Winter Percussion Ensemble/ Winter Drumline student activities. Students enrolled in Band/ Percussion Class may receive a fine arts and P.E. credit for their participation in Marching Band.**

**The Percussion Class is scheduled during 6th period and is under the direction of Mr. Goodman. Additionally, Mr. Valperts and will be in class to assist and run Concert Band sectionals.**

# General Policy and Requirements

## **Grading Policy:**

Each member of the CHS Percussion Class will be assessed on the following criteria: Daily grades (participation, etc.), rehearsal attendance and preparation, materials tests, playing tests (both live and recorded), written exams, written assignments, and major performance grades.

*The 9 weeks grading breakdown is as follows:*

*40% - Daily grades*

*60% - Major Grades*

*The Semester grading breakdown is as follows:*

*42.5% - 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Average*

*42.5% - 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Average*

*15% - Semester Exam*

## **Class Time:**

6<sup>th</sup> period Percussion Class WILL start at 2:09 the tardy bell each class. Any student not in his/her seat at the time of the tardy bell will be counted tardy. The CHS Tardy policy will be enforced once the tardy bell rings. Rehearsal will begin promptly at 2:09 on regular school days, at 2:30 on pep rally days, at 2:15 on collaboration days. It is the responsibility of the individual student to know and follow the CHS bell schedule.

## Calallen Bandhall Rehearsal Guidelines and Procedures

*“IF YOU CANNOT DO THESE THINGS, WE WILL SOON PART COMPANY!”*

1. Be in your seat ready to listen at the tardy bell.
2. When the director steps to the podium, all sounds including playing and talking will cease (Time lost at the beginning of a rehearsal will be made up at the end).
3. Sit up straight on the edge of your chair in a good listening/playing position at all times.
4. Pay attention at all times. Do not talk to your neighbor. NEVER...NEVER TALK WHILE A DIRECTOR IS SPEAKING!
5. Always play with proper technique and be ready when it is time to play.
6. Produce the best sound possible when playing your instrument. THERE WILL BE NO BAD SOUNDS PRODUCED IN THE BANDHALL.

7. When the Director stops conducting, you stop immediately and quietly listen for instructions (DO NOT PLAY ON OR START TALKING TO YOUR NIEGHBOR).
8. If you have a question or comment, raise your hand and wait to be recognized by the Director. (If your comment is not important enough for you to raise your hand...it is not important enough to be said)
9. Tapping/ touching along on your instrument is good and encouraged, but do not create any sound that will be a distraction from the rehearsal.
10. Listen to the Director at ALL TIMES even though he might be working with a different section. This will keep your mind in the rehearsal and the information the Director is giving to the other section might also pertain to you as well.
11. Have all materials at your seat (tuner, pencil, music, sticks, mallets, accessory instruments, etc...) and take care of the things not essential to the rehearsal (i.e. using the restroom, setting up equipment, etc...) BEFORE THE REHEARSAL BEGINS!
12. Make a conscious **EFFORT** to be the best possible musician you can be at all times.

**If you follow these simple guidelines, we will have very productive rehearsals and performances. You will have a high grade and enjoy your experience in band.**

**For those individuals that chose not to follow the simple rehearsal guidelines, there will be consequences for your choices:**

Upon the first infraction of these simple guidelines, a student will receive a verbal warning. Upon the second infraction, a student will be given a band detention to be served that or the next day. Upon a third infraction, a student will be held for a conference and the parent/guardians will be called. At any point, if the director deems necessary, a severe discipline action can take place which may include dismissal from that class period, immediate referral, or loss of membership in the ensemble based upon the discretion of the director.

**Membership and chair placement:**

Membership in the Percussion Studio should be looked at as an honor and a privilege. Membership and seating is initially based upon audition. However, if at any time, the director feels that a member of the ensemble is not behaving properly, keeping up with assigned material, academically ineligible, etc. a member may lose their position in the ensemble based upon the discretion of the director.

**Eligibility:**

UIL rules state that a student must be passing ALL classes with a 70 or above to remain eligible for performance at UIL events. Therefore, individuals that are not academically eligible may lose their position in the ensemble based on the discretion of the director. Non-eligible students will still be required to attend all rehearsals as a part of the class.

**Band Portfolio:**

Each member of the Percussion Class must own and maintain a Band Portfolio. The portfolio will consist of a black three ring binder with clear plastic inserts. Every member will keep all handouts, music, tests, etc. neatly in the band portfolio. The portfolio needs to be with the member at every rehearsal and will be periodically checked for a grade by the director.

**Music:**

All sheet music must be brought to each rehearsal. Each member of the ensemble is responsible for their own music. Any member who fails to have his/her music at rehearsal will be subject to having his/her grade lowered. All music must be marked with the name of the student and all measures numbered.

**Pencil:**

Each member of the ensemble must have a working pencil on their stand at all times. This is necessary to mark music with changes, reminders, etc.

**Technology: Every member of the Percussion Class must have the Charms Blue App or have Charms Office at home for playing Exams. Also every member must join the Calallen High School – Student Dropbox. The Calallen Wildcat Percussion YouTube channel will house helpful resources to be successful in the class. The Calallen Wildcat Percussion Instagram also provides photo updates throughout the year. @calallenwildcatpercussion**

**Equipment Requirements for Percussionist:****Basic Implements:**

Each percussionist must own and have readily available at least the minimum:

*\*Items purchased in the Beginner Kit will satisfy these requirements\**

1 Stick Bag

1 Practice Pad – Vic Firth Heavy Hitter Slim Pad

1 pair Concert Snare Drum Sticks – Vic Firth SD 1 General

1 pair Marching Snare Drum Sticks – Vic Firth Ralph Hardimon Wood Tip

1 pair Medium Timpani Mallets – Innovative Percussion CT-3 Medium

2 pairs (matching) Medium Marimba Mallets – Innovative Percussion IP-240

Vic Firth Virtuoso M212

Encore Nancy Zeltsman Birch NZ3B

*\*Students are encouraged to expand mallet collection to enhance the musicianship of TMEA auditions, Percussion Ensemble, and Concert Band*

**Music:**

Each percussionist is responsible for their own music! This means no sharing of music. Each percussionist must have their own black three ring binder with plastic inserts just like each wind player.

**Accessories:**

All percussion players are required to own the basic accessories for your instrument including a black towel, stick tape, bees wax, etc.

**Metronome/Tuner:**

Every member of the Percussion Studio should own and use a metronome/tuner on a regular basis.

**Concert Attire:**

**Concert Band:** When performing with the Concert Bands, the percussion students will wear the same attire as the rest of the band.

**Percussion Ensemble:** When performing as the Percussion Ensemble, men will wear black dress pants, black belt, black shoes, black socks, and a non-textured black button up shirt. Ladies will wear black dress pants, black flats, and a solid black purchased in previous years. If purchasing new attire, please plan on wearing black dress pants, black flats, and a solid black top.

**Steel Band:** We are looking to get T-Shirts to use for steel band performances and drumline gigs.

**Challenge System:**

A challenge is a competition between two or more members who play the same instrument for seating placement within the section, or from Symphonic Band to Wind Ensemble.

**Within Symphonic Band/ Within Wind Ensemble**

1. One can only challenge the person immediately seated ahead.
2. The challenge is only official after it is confirmed with the band director who is to hear the challenge.
3. The person challenging must inform the person being challenged before registering the challenge with the director.
4. All challenges must be registered a week in advance of the challenge date to allow for preparation. The director will schedule the specific time for the challenge.
5. All challenges will be scheduled before school or Fridays after last period.
6. Both parties have to be present at the time the challenge takes place. If the challenger or challengee does not show up at the scheduled date and time of the challenge, the individual that does not show will forfeit the challenge.

7. A challengee may decline the right to defend his/her chair; however, he/she must forfeit the position.
8. If the challenger wins, they may continue to challenge ahead, and the challengee may be challenged the next week by the person seated behind.
9. Should the person being challenged win, the challenger must wait a week before re-challenging. This allows the next person in line an opportunity to challenge.
10. There will be no challenges heard within two weeks of a major performance.
11. Challenge material will consist of assigned band literature and scales determined by the director at the time of the challenge registration.

### **From Symphonic Band to Wind Ensemble**

1. Only the first chair symphonic band players on a particular instrument can challenge into the wind ensemble.
2. The first chair symphonic band player can only challenge the last chair wind ensemble player on their particular instrument.
3. Band to band challenges must be registered with both directors at least a week in advance of the challenge.
4. Challenge material will consist of assigned band literature from the wind ensemble and scales determined by the directors at the time of the challenge registration.

## **The Rehearsal**

### **Concepts:**

1. Webster's Dictionary says that a rehearsal is "something recounted or told again." The word re-hear-sal implies that something that has been played before is now going to be played again. Sometimes we sight read in a rehearsal, but sight-reading is not rehearsing. Rehearsing begins when the process of sight-reading ends. If one does not prepare for rehearsals by studying and practicing his/her part, then the process of sight-reading continues which then becomes a waste of valuable rehearsal time.
2. Rehearsals are not the place to learn parts, but rather the place to put the piece together.
3. The rehearsal is a place to do the things together that you can't do alone. Through the leadership of the conductor and principal players, the rehearsal is the place where the ensemble comes to a consensus concerning interpretation, phrasing, balance, blend, intonation, expression, dynamics, timbre, nuance, articulation and precision. Only then is the ensemble ready to achieve its desired performance level. None of this can be achieved on an individual basis. (You can learn your part alone.)
4. You don't come to rehearsals to learn your part, but rather to learn everyone else's part. Not until you know everyone else's part will you be able to understand the full impact and message of the composition, and not until then will you be able to perform at

your highest level. In instrumental music, only the conductor has a full score. Instrumentalist must learn all the parts from listening during rehearsals.

5. Rehearsals should be active, exciting, a place where discovery is going on, a community of musicians working together, a laboratory, a place where you get to experiment with what you have been studying. Remember, **“The whole equals more than the sum of the parts.”**

***(The 5 Ps: Prior Preparation Prevents Poor Performance)***



## Preparation Standards

The Calallen HS Percussion Studio has a rich history of musical excellence. Past members of the Percussion Studio have pushed themselves to come in prepared in order to allow the group to reach the highest standards possible. The following guideline should help students gauge and plan. Music, especially for Percussion Ensemble, will be handed out **well in advance**. These benchmarks will ensure a more enjoyable rehearsal. Failure to reach these standards will result in lowered daily grades.

### First rehearsal:

- Students should know, and be able to play, all the notes and rhythms at 50-75% of the written tempo
- All multiple percussion set-ups should be defined and worked out in advance, even though it could change throughout the semester
- Students should know the road map of the piece including any repeats, D.S., etc.
- Measure numbers will be written in
- Stickings, accidentals, personal notes written in
- Students should have all copies and page turns worked out
- Students should understand all terms used in the piece
- Dynamics should be learned at 50%

### Halfway through the concert cycle (halfway between the 1<sup>st</sup> rehearsal and performance):

- Students should know, and be able to play, all the notes and rhythms at 75-90% of the written tempo
- Students should know, and be able to play, all dynamics
- Rehearsals will focus on ensemble cohesion, balance, details, etc.
- Students should be able to play their part well enough to think about performance presence
- Students will be bringing stick bag to rehearsal to work on mallet selections

### Two-three weeks before performance:

- Students should be able to perform piece individually and with the ensemble at the written tempo

# PERCUSSION INSTRUMENT CARE AND CLEANING

## AFTER EVERY REHEARSAL:

Make sure that every percussion instrument is put away in the percussion cabinet. All keyboards and timpani must be covered after every rehearsal. Put all of your mallets back into your stickbag and secure them in your locker. Place all school owned mallets (bass drum, chime, gong, etc.) back into the percussion cabinet.

If you see something not covered or lying out, even if you were not the one using it, cover it or put it away!

## FACILITIES:

**No** equipment or personal items will be kept outside of designated areas. All personal equipment and items will be kept inside of individual's lockers. No items are to be kept in the band halls or in storage rooms.

All school equipment will be put in the proper location at the end of each rehearsal.

## Schedule of Events

August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Away Football Game at San Benito

September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Home Game vs. Flour Bluff

September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Away Game at Needville)

September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Home Game vs. Floresville

September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Marching Competition - Beeville

October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Home Football Game vs Somerset

October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 –Marching Band Competition at GP

October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Home Game vs Southside

October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Bay Area Marching Contest at Calallen

October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Homecoming Game vs Tuloso-Midway

October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – UIL Region 14 Marching Contest at Calallen

October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Away Football Game at GP

October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – UIL Area Marching Contest at Weslaco

November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 - Home Game vs Alice – Senior Night

November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – State Marching Contest

November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – State Marching Contest

November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Away Game vs Calhoun

Please check the check the CHARMS calendar to be the most up to date with band events.

### **Sectional and full band co-curricular rehearsals:**

Each member of the CHS Band will be required to attend graded co-curricular rehearsals and sectionals. The weekly schedule is initially as follows:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	Percussion Sectional 4:30-6:00	Full Band 4:30-7:30pm	No rehearsal	Full Band 4:30-7:30

\*The rehearsal schedule is subject to change on a weekly basis as determined by the Director. Please check on the Charms Calendar for the most up to date rehearsal and performance schedule. Sometimes, additional sectional time may be scheduled outside of the school day or there may be a Saturday camp.

## Fall Semester Weekly Breakdown

Typically, here is the weekly routine for Fall Semester of Percussion Class:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday – Region Etudes, Units of Study,  
Percussion Ensemble, Steel Band

Thursday, Friday – Marching Percussion: Show Music, Stand Grooves,  
Stand Tunes, Streetbeat

*\*Alterations to the Schedule will be made at the discretion of the teacher\**

The following weekly schedule will help the students as individuals and the group as a whole achieve success:

8/14-8/16 – Discuss Policies, Procedures, Show Music, Stand Grooves,  
Stand Tunes, Streetbeat, Marching Materials Test, Snare Etude  
Review

8/19-8/23 – Snare Etude Testing, Show Music, Stand Grooves,  
Stand Tunes, Streetbeat, “I am Soca,” 2 Mallet Etude Pre Test

8/26-8/30 – 2 Mallet Etude mm 39-56, Scales, Show Music, Stand Grooves,

Stand Tunes, Streetbeat, "I am Soca," "Hello"

- 9/3-9/6 – 2 Mallet Etude mm.57-67, Scales, Show Music, Stand Grooves,  
Stand Tunes, Streetbeat, "Hello," "I am Soca"
- 9/9-9/13 – 2 Mallet Etude mm. 67-end, Show Music, Stand Grooves,  
Stand Tunes, Streetbeat, "Sapna"
- 9/16-9/20 – 2 Mallet Testing, Show Music, Stand Grooves,  
Stand Tunes, Streetbeat, "Sapna"
- 9/23-9/27 – Timpani Etude mm. 1-10, Show Music, Stand Grooves,  
Stand Tunes, Streetbeat, "Sapna," "I am Soca," "Hello"
- 9/30-10/4 – Timpani Etude mm. 11-20, Show Music, Stand Grooves,  
Stand Tunes, Streetbeat, "Tobago Jam"
- 10/7-10/11 – Timpani Etude mm. 21-End, Show Music, Stand Grooves,  
Stand Tunes, Streetbeat, Timpani Etude Testing, "Tobago Jam"
- 10/14-10/18 – 4 Mallet Etude mm.21-28 (Top-C), Show Music, Stand Grooves,  
Stand Tunes, Streetbeat, Steel Band Run Throughs!
- 10/19 – UIL Region Marching Contest**
- 10/21 – Steel Band Performance at State of the District Luncheon**
- 10/21-10/25 – 4 Mallet Etude mm. 29-37, Show Music, Stand Grooves,  
Stand Tunes, Streetbeat,
- 10/28-11/1 – 4 Mallet Etude 38-End Show Music, 4 Mallet Etude Testing
- 11/4-11/8 – Mock Auditions, Playoff Show, Holiday Percussion Ensemble
- 11/11-11/15 - Playoff Show, Mock Auditions, Holiday Percussion Ensemble
- 11/10 – District Band Auditions**
- 11/18-11/22 - Playoff Show, Holiday Percussion Ensemble, Concert Band Music
- 11/25-11/26 - Playoff Show, Holiday Percussion Ensemble, Concert Band Music
- 12/2-12/7 - Playoff Show, Holiday Percussion Ensemble, Concert Band Music,  
Final Exam Review
- 12/9-12/13 - Final Exams, Playoff Show, Holiday Percussion Ensemble,  
Concert Band Music
- 12/16-12/19 – Final Exams, Playoff Show, Percussion Concert Reveal Party

## **Winter Percussion**

The Calallen High School Band Program has a strong tradition of excellence and has been proud to offer winter activities such as Winter Drumline, and Winter Percussion Ensemble. Students in these ensembles must be enrolled in one of the curricular band classes and must be part of the fall marching band. For numerous years, CHS has alternated between competing as a Marching Class Unit and a Concert Class Unit. This rotation allows students to develop percussive and musical skills that reflects the CHS Percussion Program's philosophy of a well-rounded education. Once percussion students graduate from CHS, they not only have the training to gain entrance to the country's elite drumlines, but also have the skills to enter the nation's most prestigious universities for music and percussion.

For the 2020 competitive season, Calallen plans to compete as a Marching Unit.

# Acknowledgement Form

It is extremely important that each student, as well as the parent or guardian, review this syllabus.

*This form must be signed and returned by Friday, August 16, 2019.*

---

I have received the 2019-2020 Calallen High School Percussion Class Syllabus.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Parent/ Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

*A copy of this syllabus is also available online on the Charms website as well as the Calallen HS Website.*