

Pennsville School District Music Performance Policy

Performances are an integral part of many music classes such as band, choir and orchestra. Students in these classes spend many rehearsals studying and preparing music, which is to be performed outside of class time. These performances may take place both during school and after. For students to take part in such groups, participation in performances is mandatory. Educationally, this is important since performance is the demonstration and application of classroom learning. In addition, preparation for concerts teaches qualities important to the 21st century job market. These include dependability, responsibility, cooperation, and collaboration. Each member is responsible for providing a part of the total sound; therefore, the team needs all members.

Every effort is made to provide advance notice concerning performance dates. The dates of major evening concerts are available at the beginning of the school year and are contained on the district calendar website. Additional performances sometimes are added during the year according to the demand. When this happens, the teacher will give details to your child in a reasonable time before the scheduled events and post these dates on their website and other media formats. Performance dates are also listed on the Supervisor website.

Naturally, rare circumstances do make it impossible for a student to participate in a performance. Three situations are considered acceptable:

1. Documented illness of the student.
2. Extreme family emergencies, such as the death of a close family member.
3. Unavoidable situations (such as a major family vacation that cannot be scheduled at a different time). We ask that you try to arrange vacations so they do not interfere with your child's performance schedule and other educational endeavors.
4. If your child does not attend a performance and is in school the day before and after, the teacher has the right to written notification of why the child did not attend and it is the teacher's discretion as to whether or not a make-up assignment shall be given.

For situations #1 and #2, a written note must be given to the teacher on the day the student returns to school. Please include (A) Child's Name; (B) Reason for the absence from the performance; and (C) Date of the performance. For situation #3, a written note explaining the planned absence must be given to the music teacher as soon as the conflict is known but at least one month ahead of the performance date.

Failure to abide by these guidelines will result in the course proficiency not being satisfied and a failing grade for the performance. For those excused absences, supplemental make-up work may be assigned for the lost performance experience. This work will involve an additional performance or study related to the missed activity. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the teacher, who will determine the format and content of the work.

Please help us by insisting that your child be available for performances. By doing so, you teach the importance of work ethics such as dependability and responsibility. Qualities such as these along with music education and the enjoyment of the arts are very important for the healthy development of your child. Please complete and return the ATTACHED RELATED ARTS SIGNATURE PAGE to your child's music teacher.