

Code of Conduct

The Mission Viejo Instrumental Music Program holds in place high standards in order to ensure its highest success and the safety of all participants.

To participate in the program, students and parents are required to sign and return an ACKNOWLEDGEMENT that they have read and agree with the Code of Conduct Action & Consequences, and Early Dismissal Policy. A student's decision to become a member of the MVHS Instrumental Music Program involves certain responsibilities and obligations, as listed below. If there are any questions about this policy, please do not hesitate to ask Mr. Westphal. The Code of Conduct lists a set of mandatory requirements for our organization, which include expected behavioral guidelines for performing, rehearsing, or traveling with the Mission Viejo High School Instrumental Music Program.

1. Behavior by a member of the Instrumental Music Program that brings discredit or embarrassment to themselves or the organization is unacceptable. Conduct that falls into this category includes, but is not limited to:

- Fighting with or harassing students
- Damaging public, school or personal property
- Stealing
- Using profanity
- Use of alcohol, tobacco and/or illegal drugs at any time
- Public displays of affection
- During travel with the organization, alteration of a student's person
- Speaking negatively of other programs, in or out of MVHS

It is expected that the behavior described above will be avoided on and off the MVHS campus.

2. All booster parents and volunteers are to be treated with respect, and their requests are to be obeyed by all students without exception.

3. When participating in a festival, parade, half-time competition, or any other contest, respect to all other groups must be shown.

4. Failure to attend a performance will result in a lowered grade (see grading policy). If you have a conflict with a rehearsal or performance, contact Mr. Westphal at least three (3) weeks prior to the event.

5. A proper attitude toward school is required of all program members. By this it is meant:

- No "F"s. An "F" grade will result in ineligibility to participate in the next semester.
- Excessive and/ or unexcused absences will result in a lowered grade (see grading policy).
- Don't be late. Tardiness will result in a lower semester grade (see grading policy)
- Be respectful at all times, to all people. That means teachers, parents, students, competitive groups, and the general public.
- Do not schedule appointments during rehearsal hours. If there is an issue, contact Mr. Westphal

6. Take proper care of uniforms and instruments:

- No eating or drinking (except water) in uniform.
- Wear the designated undergarments under your uniform.
- Hang up your uniform correctly.
- Do not take your uniform home.
- Take care when using any school issued instrument. You will be financially responsible for any damage or loss.

7. Dress code will be followed for all events for all performance groups. The Instrumental Music Program represents the entire school when performing and all involved are to be neatly and uniformly dressed.

8. Instrumental Music students must buy an ASB card as we receive funds from ASB to help support our activities throughout the year.

9. It must be understood that violations of the instrumental Music code may be sufficient cause for removal from the music program. Complete authority in this matter lies directly with the band director and the dean of students, whose decision is final and binding.

EARLY DISMISSAL POLICY

Leaving early or arriving late to any performance are strongly discouraged. However, under extenuating circumstances, school and district policy state:

1. Students wishing to leave an organized music group activity (e.g., performance or festival) prior to the group dismissal must bring a note from his/her parent to the appropriate manager for the event at least one week prior to the event. The note should explain the reason for early dismissal.

2. The student assumes responsibility for making sure that his/her equipment and uniform are properly hung and placed where it can be stored with the other students' after general dismissal.

3. The student will be dismissed only to his/her parent, or an adult (21 years or older), authorized in writing by his/her parents. The student will not be dismissed to an unauthorized person.

4. The student must also bring a completed SVUSD Transportation Exemption Form at least 48 hours before any event for which District transportation (i.e. buses) have been provided.

BUS BEHAVIOR RULES

When traveling to or from MVHS instrumental events by bus, the following rules apply:

1. SILENT bus when leaving and arriving parking lots and while on surface streets. Talking is allowed when the bus is on the freeway.
2. Do not change seats while bus is in motion unless authorized by the parent chaperone.
3. No public displays of affection. Holding hands is permitted.
4. No propellants (hairspray, etc) or anything that will broadcast a scent.
5. Show proper respect to chaperones, drivers, and all student leaders at all times.
6. Pick up all trash when the trip is over BEFORE getting off the bus.
7. Students are responsible to help load and unload instruments, props, etc., into and out of the truck or trailers.