

Helpful Guidelines for New Students

The student will be assigned to a band class meeting once a week for an hour. Books and additional tools needed are listed on page 4 of the AAA Band Handbook. Mrs. Rollins gives grades every quarter. The requirements for grades are listed on page 5*. The dress code for the concerts are explained on page 7*. Band communication will be facilitated through e-mail, website and calling post (see page 8* for details) If a student act inappropriately during lessons, rehearsals or concerts, Mrs Rollins will give that student one warning. If the behavior continues, that student can only participate if the student's parent sits with the student during lessons and rehearsals. That student may be asked not to participate in the concerts.

Beginning Students

- The first concert is the Christmas Concert in December. The students will receive music to practice. The concert is usually held at River of Life Church in Aiken. A rehearsal prior to this concert will be announced. This formal concert requires the formal dress. (see dress code on page 7*)
- When the second semester begins in January, Mrs. Rollins will assign those students who qualify a solo and/or ensemble music. Solo and Ensemble is usually the first week-end in May. The solo is played with an accompaniment and the ensemble is played with one or more other students. Solo and Ensemble is sponsored by the SC Band Directors Association, of which Mrs. Rollins is a member. This gives the student the opportunity to be critiqued by other band directors to enhance and encourage the student's music education. A theory exam is offered for those who have completed the first two theory books. (see required books on page 4*)
- One Saturday in May the Da Capo Band is formed. Up to eleven of the AAA band beginning students who have passed off the most pages are chosen to participate in this event. This band is comprised of beginning students from all the band programs in the Aiken area. Those selected rehearse most of the day and perform at 3 pm.
- Solo and Ensemble and Da Capo Band require a fee.
- As the students master their instruments they may be asked to participate in patriotic events that are popular in the spring.
- Mrs Rollins offers summer lessons.

Intermediate and Advanced Students

- These students are assigned an hourly class as well as an intermediate or advanced rehearsal class that meets one hour once a week. Intermediates meet on Tuesdays and the Advanced meet on Wednesday. There is no charge for the rehearsal classes.
- A list of tentative performances is on page 6*. Additional opportunities for the band or ensembles to perform will most likely become available and those opportunities will be posted on the website.
- As part of the student's music education, Mrs Rollins will spend a great deal of time working with the students as they prepare to compete in All-State and Solo and Ensemble. A theory exam is offered. These events require a fee.
- Mrs Rollins will may prepare the band for the USCA Music Festival, a competition held at USCA in March. Additional rehearsal most likely will be required for this event. This event gives the students the opportunity to be critiqued as a band, not individuals. As a band they will learn how to blend with dynamics and articulation.
- Mrs Rollins offers summer lessons. For those who have completed Essential Elements Book III, this is the time for students to take lessons for a second instrument as well as Jazz Band, if they wish.
- **As always, if you have any questions please feel free to contact one of the AAA Band officers.**

* Page numbers refer to the AAA Band Handbook located on the website.