



OLA HIGH SCHOOL WINTERGUARD 2026 ATTENDANCE POLICY

Absences affect performance and the success of performance-oriented activities such as band and depend upon full participation. Each student's participation affects the group's outcome, and each student plays a valuable role in this process. Attendance guidelines have been developed to support the learning process for both the student and the ensemble. Attendance is related to both self-discipline and learning. If a student is not in rehearsal, he or she has missed that participatory portion of his or her educational experience and that experience cannot be made-up. A calendar of events is published in advance for your planning. Students and their families are requested to plan appropriately when scheduling appointments, etc. so that rehearsals and performances are not missed. The following attendance policy applies to all ensembles associated with the Ola High School Band Program.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Excused absences will only be granted for certain unforeseen conflicts. Excused absences include illness (with a doctor's note), death in the family, an important religious observance, and other unforeseen emergencies.

Personal conflicts such as doctor's appointments, jobs, homework, being grounded, tickets to games, tickets to concerts, ISS, OSS, will all be considered unexcused.

If a student must be absent due to an unforeseen emergency such as personal illness, **the student is required to communicate to the Director of Bands** to inform him/her of the absence. If a student is well enough to attend class during the school day, the student is expected to attend rehearsal. The request must be submitted via email (not the Band App or on social media).

director@olahighschoolband.com

Please note that documentation will be requested for all absences and excuses will be verified with a parent/guardian.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

An unexcused absence is one that does not satisfy the requirements listed above for excused absences.

Rehearsals - An unexcused absence from a rehearsal will result in the student not being allowed to perform in the next performance.

- Two unexcused absences from rehearsals will result in the student forfeiting any awards that he or she would have been eligible for during that season and an indefinite suspension.

Performances - An unexcused absence from a performance will result in the student forfeiting any awards that he or she would have been eligible for during that season and an indefinite suspension.

Multiple unexcused absences due to ISS and OSS may result in an indefinite suspension. Any student who finds their participation status changed due to attendance issues or behavioral consequences will not be refunded or excused from any financial fees and responsibilities due for participation in the activities/events.

Please note that students who are absent the day before a performance will be sidelined for that performance due to safety purposes and the loss of instructional time.