

What Do Students Actually LEARN From Participating in Band?

If a student's participation in band was just about being able to read notes on a sheet of paper then by all means it should be cut in today's economy. The truth is that a student's participation in band leads them to be better prepared for life, makes for a more successful career and makes them a better citizen.

Leadership - Many students will not have the opportunity to become a leader if it was not for band. Students are encouraged to help others and lead the way to a stronger and more successful ensemble. The High School Band in particular relies on student leadership for its success. Students who often are characterized as quiet or not as outgoing have flourished in the band program and will take these skills with them either into college or the work force.

Cooperation and Teamwork - The students who comprise a band come from many different backgrounds and are yet all asked to complete one goal. Students learn and depend on each other for their own success. Communication plays an important role in the band as differences are settled and true teamwork is achieved.

Discipline - Student at the middle school and high school age are rarely asked to behave as professionals yet with every rehearsal and performance they do. Students follow a disciplined pattern of rehearsal and present themselves as professionals at every concert or community performance.

Hard Work - No other academic class demands the attention to detail and pursuit of perfection as band does. As passing grade in other classes is set at 70% and higher. A performance by a band at 70% would be considered a failure.

Art and Culture - Students in band will have experienced and interpreted an art form which will mold their thinking and development for the rest of their life.

Well Rounded - A student's participation in band makes for a more well rounded education. Every band student that graduates high school will be more successful in their life based on the critical lessons outlined above.