

The Pride of Durant Band Manual

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This manual has been prepared as a guide through whom you will become better equipped in the basic fundamentals of being an outstanding bandsman. Please remember that this manual is a work in progress. It will be re-evaluated at the end of each school year.

**PLEASE READ THIS MANUAL CAREFULLY AND RETAIN IT FOR
REFERENCE THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR.**

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I. ORGANIZATIONS---MARCHING BAND, CONCERT BAND, AND JAZZ BAND

A. Marching Band

1. Summer Band Camp – It is a requirement for all students enrolled in band (including Sparklers) to attend summer band camp. Camp normally starts either the last week of July or the first week of August. Rehearsals start at 7:30 a.m. and last until 3:00 pm. Failure to attend camp without prior notification could jeopardize the participation of a student in the marching show for that season.
2. Performances – At least seven football games (and possibly play-off games), three or four marching contests, pep rallies, and two or three parades will be required of all Marching band and Dance Team students. Every individual must attend all performances. If a performance must be missed, you must notify the director as early as possible prior to the performance time. The final decision as to whether the excuse is acceptable or not will be at the discretion of the director.
3. Extra Rehearsals
 - a. Monday Night Practice – Will be held on the practice pad or in the band room from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Rehearsals can also be at SOSU on Monday Nights from 6:30-8:30 pm every week unless otherwise announced.
 - b. Sectionals –These sectionals will be held prior to morning band rehearsal to avoid conflicts with after school activities.) Percussion and dance team sectionals will be scheduled at the discretion of their instructor.
4. Stand Etiquette
 - a. No food or soft drinks are allowed in the stands at any time. Water is acceptable any time.
 - b. All students will remain in their assigned sections.
 - c. Remember that performing is the priority. Be ready to play at all times. Football games are noisy, if you do not hear a comment made by the director or drum majors, please ask your section leader.
 - d. No playing in the stands unless authorized by the drum majors or directors.
 - e. Group cheers, chants and dances are encouraged.

B. Concert Band

1. Individual Contests – All winds and percussionists will audition for the All-District Honor Band (unless excused by the director) **and** are encouraged to participate in a solo and/or ensemble at the District Solo and Ensemble Contest in the 2nd semester.
2. Full Band Contests – OSSAA Concert and sight-reading Contest is held in early April. We will try to attend a preliminary contest/clinic if the opportunity arises. All full band contests are required activities. Chair auditions, rehearsals, and playing grades must be met to attend any contests.
3. Wind players will be encouraged to have a sectional each week, the section leaders will schedule these sectionals. (These sectionals will be held prior to morning band rehearsal to avoid conflicts with after school activities.) Percussion sectionals will be scheduled at the discretion of their instructor.
4. Public Concerts –You will be required to attend all public performances given by the full band.

C. Jazz Band

Jazz Band is a volunteer class offered to teach the students about modern American music. The class will encompass all forms of popular music from 1940 through today. The jazz band will have two rehearsals a week starting in late October. The Jazz Ensemble is an auditioned group. Students participating in spring sports may sign up for jazz band if they can work out conflicts and be at all rehearsals and performances. Once you sign up for jazz band it is your responsibility to be at all rehearsals and performances. Instruments used in Jazz Band are as follows: Trumpet; Saxophones-Alto, Tenor, Bari; Trombone; Rhythm Section-Piano, Guitar, Drums, Bass, Aux. Percussion Sometimes the following color instruments are used: Flute; Clarinet, French Horn, Tuba

The jazz band will possibly perform at basketball games, at various schools and other public performances. Mr. Gregg, Mr. Dickson, and Mr. Walker will select all music performed by the group. Once a student signs up for the group, that student needs to be at all rehearsals. Work or sport conflicts need to be addressed before the student becomes a part of the group. Attitude and attendance issues will not be tolerated. Any student who cannot abide by the policies will be dismissed from the group.

II. Rules, Policies, and Procedures

A. **Conduct Statement** – Because of the many contacts a bandsman makes in public, he must act as a goodwill ambassador for the school. It is expected and requested that each student act like a lady or gentleman at all times. Polite and courteous behavior is a credit to the organization and the school. Bandsmen are encouraged to cultivate an attitude of good discipline and attention during rehearsal. Each rehearsal should be a musical learning experience for each student. Each performance can be only as good as its best rehearsal. Constant disturbances by any bandsman show lack of interest and respect to the band, and therefore he/she should find another place or activity to hold their attention and respect.

B. Class Rules

1. Allow teaching / learning to happen.
2. No food or drink during band rehearsal or performances. No eating or drinking on the carpet in the band room.
3. No throwing any in-animate objects at anytime in the band room or bus or near any band equipment.
4. Name tags with name, address, and Durant High School Band on all instrument cases.
5. Only directors and authorized persons will be allowed in the office, music files, cabinets, cases, etc...
6. Instruments that need any repair must be repaired at the earliest available time.
7. No one is allowed to use anyone else's property.
8. No one should use school equipment that isn't checked out to them unless a director is present and has given temporary permission.
9. Do not leave trash on the floor or on the stands.
10. Do not get up once seated for class, rehearsal, or performance unless acknowledged by a director or in case of an emergency.

C. Bus Rules

1. The sign-up for bus trips will be as follows:
Officers, Seniors, Juniors, Sophomores, Freshman
Note – If there is more than one performance for the week, the seating will stay the same.
2. Bus Clean up is the duty of all band students. If a bus is left dirty, the students who rode that bus will be responsible for cleaning all buses on the next band trip.
3. Bus Leaders – One upper classman per bus will be assigned each trip to be the bus leader. They will be responsible for making sure that all students are on the bus on time and making sure that the bus is left clean.
4. Everyone must ride to the performances with the group. Special permission may be obtained for extenuating circumstances for a different form of transportation home. Permission will be granted after the director receives a written request, signed by the parent.
5. Parent Sponsors – There must be at least two parents per bus on every trip. Their responsibilities will be to make sure that role has been called, help maintain proper conduct, and to report any misconduct directly to the band director.
6. General Rules –No Glass Containers on the bus; Nothing out of the window (hands, arms, or trash); No climbing over seats; No sitting on the back of the seat or in the aisle; No loitering or standing in the aisle; Earphones are required for portable stereos.
7. Misconduct – If a parent sponsor reports misconduct on the bus, action will be taken by the director.

D. Policies

1. Anything left in the band hall is left at your own risk. The band will assume no responsibility for any personal items in the band room. This includes your instrument, combs, curling irons, clothing, books, etc.
2. Anything left in the stands is at your own risk including school horns.
3. Due to recent finding by the Surgeon General, and according to school and state policy, the band wishes to re-emphasize the non-use of tobacco (chewing, dipping, smoking) in the band or any association with the band.
4. Any use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or any inappropriate behavior is strongly discouraged, using, or being under the influence of the above during class, rehearsal, performance, in the band hall, or while in uniform while in public, will leave that person subject to expulsion from the band program along with school disciplinary action.
5. Anyone found stealing will be dismissed from band.
6. Practice rooms are for practicing, lessons, and try-outs only.
7. Any abuse of property (school, your own, or other) must be repaired, replaced, or reimbursed immediately. Fines will be collected for partial damage or repair that would be best done at a later date.
8. Raise your hand to be acknowledged in class.
9. Reed players are encouraged to have four playable reeds, marked and rotated daily.
10. Wind players do not disassemble instruments in class unless absolutely necessary.

E. Procedures

1. All horns go home during extended breaks.
2. No student is to leave a horn on the floor, especially in walkways.
3. Do not put music or other items in an instrument case unless it has a special compartment. This is to prevent costly repair.
4. Keep any bulletins until the next bulletin is passed out. If dated material, keep until the last date happens (i.e. semester schedules, trip agendas, etc.)
5. After rehearsals put everything away in its designated spot. Each music folder and instrument has a designated spot.
6. You are encouraged to warm-up quietly until the director or drum major gives a warning. Do not play your instrument loudly outside or in the band room before rehearsals or performances. This is only a way to show off and no one cares to hear it because it is disturbing.
7. Repairs and sales will not be held during class time. Take care of individual business after a rehearsal.
8. You are discouraged from using class time for individual problems, doctor's appointments, concerns, comments, etc...
9. Always be at least 10 minutes early to a set time before a rehearsal or performance to take into consideration clock differences and possible problems en-route.
10. Mamma/Daddy rule: Don't ask one director then go to another and ask the same question hoping for a better answer, unless that director asks you to ask another director.
11. If you do not have proper equipment for rehearsals and performances (instruments, sticks, music, etc...), you put yourself in jeopardy of being able to participate in band.
12. The procedure for getting a second copy of music is: Write your name, date, part, and title of piece on a slip of paper and give it to the band librarian. There will be a \$1.00 charge for each copy made from now on. I hope this encourages students to keep up with music.

III. GRADING AND ATTENDANCE – Students will be graded based on two factors: Participation and Performance.

A. Graded Point Assignments for Band Events.

1. General Performances (Football Games, Concerts, Parades)-100 points
2. OSSAA (District, Regional, State) Performances-200 points
3. Evening rehearsals – 50 points.
4. Sectionals – 20 points.
5. Chair auditions, playing grades in class, playing grades on Flipgrid–20 points.
6. Pep rallies – 20 points.
7. Uniform inspection (will take place before every performance that requires a uniform) – 10 points.
8. All-District Honor Band Auditions and/or District Solo and Ensemble Contest – 200 points.
9. **Note:** Extra credit assignments will be given at the discretion of the director to help with zero or failing grades. Extra-credit will not makeup total points lost but will help makeup partial credit.

B. Attendance

1. Daily – Marching Band starts at 7:15 a.m. This means on the field ready to play, march or dance at 7:15 a.m. Concert Band starts at 7:30 a.m. This means in your seat ready to warm up by 7:30 a.m.
 - a. All tardiness and absences will be reported to the main office daily.
 - b. The Durant High School attendance policy will be enforced.
 - c. If a student receives an unexcused tardy for a third time, within a nine week period, the student will risk losing the opportunity to perform with the band which could result in a substantial loss of grades for the nine week period in which the tardiness occurs.
2. Attendance is required for all Monday Night Rehearsals and Sectionals.
3. Attendance is required for all full band performances. The only valid excuses for missing a performance are death in the immediate family, family emergency (wreck), or doctor's note stating that the student should not participate for health reasons.
4. Excessive tardiness or absence could result in a student not getting to participate in band events.
5. Ineligibility Explanation. (See School Student Handbook)

D.H.S. Band Manual Contract 2019-2020

I, _____, have read through and understand the terms of this
(Student's Name)
Manual.

In signing and returning this contract, we accept the conditions and responsibilities set forth in the 2019-2020 DHS
Band Manual.

(Student's Signature)

(Parent's Signature)

Chris Gregg, Director of Bands

This contract agreement is due back to Mr. Gregg by Wednesday, August 21st, 2019.