



TRAVIS TIGER BAND HANDBOOK 2017-2018

Please read this document thoroughly. It contains lots of valuable information for you (parent/guardian) and your child.

William B Travis High School Tiger Band Handbook

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PREFACE

The Travis High School Bands have developed a reputation for mature performances of sophisticated wind band literature. Congratulations on becoming a part of this rich tradition of excellence and quality in musical performance.

The success of the band program centers on a commitment to consistently raising each individual member's awareness level, dedication to a worthwhile task, and the willingness to work hard to achieve a common goal. We do not expect every student in the band to become a virtuosic musician. We expect every student to establish both short and long range goals for improvement on his/her instrument, exhibit mature, responsible behaviors at all times, and be willing to contribute lots of hard work for the benefit of everyone.

The band program exists to provide an excellent music education for the students. This goal is achieved through individual study and varied performances opportunities both marching and concert. Our curriculum places an emphasis on comprehensive musicianship. Performance opportunities include large ensembles, chamber ensembles, and solos. The skills that band students acquire in these activities are directly related to skills necessary for auditions, presentations, and interviews in other career fields.

Additionally, opportunities are provided for those who wish to develop their leadership skills. There is an extensive student leadership program, as mentioned in this Handbook. The directors rely upon the student leadership team to lead others by example, assist with limited teaching responsibilities, and create success through achieving organizational goals.

Social skills are also developed. Participation in band enables the students to form close friendships within the school through their collaborative efforts, as well as the opportunity to work with their peers as part of a team. As a member of the Travis Bands, students make long-lasting friendships and develop a sense of loyalty that is unique to this organization. Organizational goals are clearly established and the students depend heavily on each other to achieve them. As a result, the concepts of responsibility, teamwork, and good citizenship develop as each student experiences achievement in the world of music.

The ultimate goal of the program is to produce graduates who operate at a high level of awareness, are knowledgeable about music, can perform successfully and with confidence, can operate within a structured framework, and can work to develop the skills necessary to become a life-long musician. In addition, the program strives to produce informed adults of high integrity who understand and appreciate music and musicians, and who will foster the continuing development of artistic endeavors in their community.

Every year is a new challenge; new combinations of personalities and talent, new audiences, new music, new drills, new members, and new leadership from section leaders and band officers. By accepting membership in the Travis Bands, students agree to perform to the best of their abilities and work together with the band staff to make each year's band the finest musical organization that our combined efforts can produce.

This Handbook is designed to convey the guidelines and operating procedures of the Travis Band. Its purpose is to help answer student/parent questions and be a helpful guide for defining the procedures of the organization. If you need further information, please call and we will assist in whatever way possible.

Sincerely,

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FBISD Instrumental Music Code: Grades 9 – 12

And

Travis High School Tiger Band Handbook

Individual Band Responsibilities

No student is required to take part in the instrumental music program or University Interscholastic League contests, therefore, participation should be considered a PRIVILEGE. It is imperative that students and parents understand the following code and the rules therein.

Travis High School Band Specifics:

Students are placed by audition into one of six classes at Travis High School: Honor Band, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Percussion Class, and Colorguard/Winterguard. Our curriculum is designed to improve individual and ensemble performing skills throughout the year. The responsibilities for students in each group are outlined below:

WIND ENSEMBLE:

- Performance of marching music by memory
- Participation in marching band
- Preparation of All-Region music during the fall, with tape tests and/or live performance tests assigned periodically throughout the first semester
- Participation in All-Region Band auditions
- Performance of 12 major scales by memory
- Performance of a solo and/or ensemble the Travis Chamber Festival
- Performance of concert music as assigned by the directors
- Participation in full orchestra rehearsals, performances and contests
- Participation in performances for selected students
- Attendance at section rehearsals, pass-offs and full band rehearsals before and after school
- Students in Wind Ensemble are expected to fully participate in all performance activities, including approved travel.
- Students in Wind Ensemble are expected to fully participate in the THS/FBISD lesson programs

SYMPHONIC BAND:

- Performance of marching music by memory
- Participation in marching band
- Preparation of All-Region music during the fall, with tape tests assigned periodically throughout the first semester
- Audition for All-Region Band is optional
- Performance of 12 major scales by memory
- Performance of a solo or ensemble at the Travis Chamber Festival
- Performance of concert music as assigned by the directors
- Attendance at section rehearsals, pass-offs and full band rehearsals before and after school
- Students in Symphonic Band are expected to fully participate in all performance activities, including approved travel.

CONCERT BAND:

- Performance of marching music by memory
- Participation in marching band
- Performance of 12 major scales by memory
- Audition for All-Region Band is optional

- Performance of a solo or ensemble at the Travis Chamber Festival
- Performance of concert music as assigned by the directors
- Attendance at section rehearsals and/or full band rehearsals before and/or after school
- Students in Concert I Band are expected to fully participate in all performance activities, including approved travel.

PERCUSSION:

- Performance of marching music by memory
- Participation in marching band
- Performance of 12 major scales and rudimental techniques as required by the director
- Audition for All-Region Band for wind ensemble members is required and optional for others
- Performance of a solo or ensemble at the Travis Chamber Festival
- Performance of concert music as assigned by the directors
- Performance of percussion ensemble music as assigned by the directors
- Attendance at section rehearsals, full band rehearsals, and percussion ensemble rehearsals before and/or after school
- Students in all bands are expected to fully participate in all performance activities, including approved travel.

Rehearsal/Performance Schedules

Band/Colorguard/Percussion members are required to attend all activities and rehearsals. Those who must miss a rehearsal, activity, or performance must consult with one of the directors **WELL IN ADVANCE** of the function. Failure to attend a rehearsal, activity, or performance without prior permission or good cause may result in suspension from future activities or performances, and could result in loss of your part assignment, or instrument assignment (percussion).

Students are required to attend all section rehearsals as well as all full ensemble rehearsals.

Students **MUST** attend all performances of all of the groups in which they are a member.

An excused absence is one that the director has 24 hours prior knowledge of and is based on an acceptable reason.

An unexcused absence is one that the director has no prior knowledge of and/or is based on a reason that is unacceptable to the director.

Travis High School Band Specifics:

Participation at pass-offs, sectionals, rehearsals, and performances is required and will be integrated into the student's grade in accordance with the **Grading Guidelines** contained in this Handbook, FBISD policy/procedures, and TEA/UIIL regulations.

A calendar of rehearsals and performances is provided to students and parents. Updated schedules are always available on our online Charms calendar.

Regularly scheduled pass-offs, sectionals, rehearsals, and concerts are curricular and have no academic eligibility requirements. Student are expected to participate fully in all rehearsals regardless of eligibility.

Performance courses in band involve outside-of-the-school-day rehearsals and performances. Students who are members of performing groups are expected to participate fully in all performance activities including approved travel. Please do not schedule a family event or trip that conflicts with a band function. Work does not constitute an acceptable excuse from a band function.

The Tiger Marching Band

The Tiger Band consists of every Travis band student in grades 9 through 12. The Tiger Band will perform at every football game and will attend all scheduled band contests. A complete schedule for marching band rehearsals and performances has been posted electronically in Charms. Any alteration in the schedule will be communicated to the students as soon as possible.

Competition Block

The Competition Block consists of marching band students who are chosen according to criteria set by the band directors. Students in the Competition Block will perform at marching band competitions such as UIL Contest. Students that are not in the Competition Block will attend the competitions and assist the entire band fulfilling a number of jobs that are required to make the whole band successful.

Concert Season

The directors will develop a pass-off, sectional, and rehearsal schedule for each band at the beginning of the concert season that will be distributed to all students and their parents. These pass-offs, sectionals, and rehearsals will begin immediately after marching season concludes and continue throughout the concert season. When possible, the directors will attempt to schedule sectionals at times that do not conflict with individual students' school-related activities.

Tiger Band Calendar

The Tiger Band Calendar was posted by the directors to all band members during the summer break on the Charms website. Please check your calendar and report any conflicts to the directors. Attendance at all performances and rehearsals is a requirement of the class. If an excused absence is anticipated, written notification should be submitted as soon as the student/parents are aware of the conflict and no later than five days in advance of a rehearsal or one week in advance of a performance.

Auditions

Tryout Procedures

Prior to the academic school year, ALL students will audition for placement in one of the band classes. This placement will be determined by an audition on music materials selected by the director and on the student's past performance and/or recommendation from previous director(s). NO STUDENT WILL BE ENROLLED IN ANY BAND UNTIL THIS AUDITION IS COMPLETED.

Travis High School Band Specifics:

There will be one major audition each year to place students in band classes for the following school year. Students will audition in May/June for the following school year. Audition material will include music and scales assigned by the directors. Audition material will be available approximately one month before the audition. Students will be evaluated by the directors for chair/band placement based solely on their audition performance; prior performance or achievement in band is not factored into the audition process. Student chair placement within a band may change during the semester at the director's discretion based on performance and/or chair tests. [The audition procedures for the percussion section are different.]

Auditions for band leadership positions are scheduled and held late in the spring semester. Student leadership positions include drum major, band council, and section leader. Auditions are comprised of a rigorous tryout process involving leadership training, an evaluation of marching skills, an evaluation of teaching skills, an evaluation of conducting skills (drum majors only) and student interviews with the directors. Audition dates are posted in the band calendar. Directors and guest adjudicators will evaluate these auditions.

Awards

Awards will be presented to band/orchestra students based on a point system for participation and service.

- Freshman Region Band 3 points
- District Band 2 points
- Region Band/Orchestra 3 points
- Region Jazz Ensemble 3 points
- Area Band/Orchestra 4 points
- All state Band/Jazz/Orchestra 8 points
- U.I. L. Solo/THS Chamber Festival (Division I) 3 points
- U.I.L. Ensemble/THS Chamber Festival (Division I) 2 points
- State Solo (Division I) 6 points
- State Solo (Division II) 3 points
- State Ensemble (Division I) 4 points
- Performing in the musical (orch.) 2 points
- Senior 10 points*
- Participation each year 2 points

15 points = Award

*These points count only for students who have not received an award by their senior year. They may not be used to receive a second award letter.

Band/Orchestra members who are participating in the colorguard during marching season may choose their award for colorguard only. However, a student may not combine points earned to receive an award.

A student may receive only one major award for combined activities during his/her four years in high school and no more than one award per year for participation in the same organization.

Travis High School Band Specifics:

The Travis Band staff will enforce FBISD awards rules and regulations. **It is each student's responsibility to keep track of points earned and notify the directors when he/she thinks that enough points have been earned to merit an award.** The directors are responsible to verify that a student has earned enough points to qualify for the award and to communicate to the appropriate assistant principal that an award is warranted. Directors do not order individual Letters for students.

Special note: In the case that a student still owes fees to a previous band account the student will be fitted for a letter jacket and will receive their letter/jacket once all payments are made to the proper band accounts.

Booster Club

The main objective of the Travis High School Band Booster Club (THSBBC) is to support and enhance the band programs at THS and to provide program communication to students and parents. All parents/guardians are members of the THSBBC through a \$25 fee already assessed in the student's annual dues. Meetings are announced through the e-mail newsletter and on the charms calendar. Attendance at all performances and meetings is encouraged.

There are various expenses necessary to run a band program not covered by the school district. Such expenses include education by clinicians, contest fees, meals for students, student leadership conferences, student scholarships, marching show music and drill, etc. The vast majority of the THSBBC budget is spent on educational activities. We encourage all parents and students to participate in Booster Club fund-raising activities such as the Rock-a-Thon, as well as other fund-raisers throughout the school year.

The THSBBC is comprised of many parents who work diligently throughout the year to support and care for our band students. Your participation and support are needed and appreciated.

Conduct and Due Process

All students are to conduct themselves properly at all times. Display of temper, profanity, flagrant violation of rules, etc. will not be tolerated. Any behavior which is not conducive to good citizenship will subject the student to "Due Process" that may result in dismissal from the organization. "Due Process" shall be defined as the student's right to discuss with the instructor and principal any decision regarding action that would result in the student's loss of grade, suspension from activities, or expulsion from the organization.

Travis High School Band Specifics:

Students enrolled in the band program are expected to display exemplary behavior at all times. At every performance as a band member, you represent your family, Travis High School, FBISD, and your community. Make sure that your actions prove that the Tiger Band is a class act in every way.

Band students are welcome in the band hall before and after school to practice and/or study. However, do not disturb if there is a class, pass-offs, rehearsal, or sectional in progress. Show every courtesy to the directors and students involved. The following requirements will make our rehearsals more productive and will contribute to a positive learning environment.

Travis High School Band Rehearsal Guidelines:

- Be seated with instrument, music, pencil, and supplies one minute after the tardy bell rings.
- Show good rehearsal etiquette by being a good team player—pay close attention to all instruction and mark your music when you receive instructions from the director(s).
- Remain on task at all times; do not talk or interrupt the focus of a rehearsal.
- Maintain proper posture at all times, which is important for all players.
- Raise your hand and ask questions if you need more individual help.
- Leave large instrument cases in your locker during rehearsal and your backpacks at the side of the room.
- Do not leave purses, cell phones, or other valuables unlocked in the band hall.
- No food, gum, or drink is allowed in the band hall. We all take pride in keeping our band hall clean and organized.
- All instruments remain in cases with latches closed inside a locker when not in use.
- Lockers shall remain clean. Items other than instruments, music, and books should not be kept in lockers. If such items are found in lockers, they will be removed.
- No food should be left in lockers.
- Disorderly behavior and abusive language will not be tolerated.
- Please be considerate of directors' requests for assistance or performance of tasks.
- All students will adhere to the FBISD Instrumental Music Code with regards to conduct.

Our goal as a staff is to make sure that all students are treated fairly. Please contact one of the directors if you have any concerns. We will work with you to resolve problems. We are here to provide a quality music education for all our students.

Due Process will be followed precisely as outlined in the FBISD Instrumental Music Code. Students and/or parents may discuss any item of concern with their respective directors at an appropriate time in the appropriate place. If a satisfactory resolution has not been reached, the students/parents may contact the student's grade-level principal to discuss the matter further. If the concern has not been resolved by either the directors or the grade-level principal, the parents may contact the Head Principal to address their concern.

Eligibility

Academic Eligibility Rules

A student shall be suspended from participation in all extra-curricular activities sponsored or sanctioned by the school district during the three week period following a grade reporting period in which the student received a grade lower than seventy in any class other than an identified honors or advanced class. This suspension continues for at least three weeks and is not removed during the school year until the student's grade in each class, other than an identified honors or advanced class, is seventy or greater. Students will continue to practice and rehearse with the group of an extra-curricular activity, but may not participate the activity until the suspension is lifted. A suspended student may regain eligibility seven days after the grading period ends or seven days after a three week evaluation period.

A student must meet the following requirements in order to participate in extra-curricular activities during the first six weeks of the fall semester.

NINTH GRADE - PROMOTED from the eighth grade to the ninth grade

TENTH GRADE - earned at least five (5) state approved credits toward graduation

ELEVENTH GRADE - earned at least ten (10) state approved credits toward graduation, or during the preceding twelve months he/she must have earned five (5) state approved credits

TWELFTH GRADE - earned at least fifteen (15) state approved credits toward graduation, or during the preceding twelve months he/she must have earned five (5) state approved credits

Rules Relating to U.I.L. Competition

No student may take part in any University Interscholastic League competition who, at the time of the contest, has not been a bona fide regular attendant of the school for fifteen (15) calendar days, or since the sixth day of the current school year.

No student shall take part in any U.I.L. contest after the end of the fourth consecutive year following enrollment in the ninth grade, and/or third consecutive year following enrollment in the tenth grade.

No school may issue and no student may receive an award for participation in inter school competition in excess of \$50.00 (or the equivalent in value) during his/her high school enrollment in the same high school. Additional symbolic awards not to exceed \$8.00 each may be presented for each additional inter school activity each year.

Students must abide by all other rules as set forth by the University Interscholastic League in Austin, Texas.

Travis High School Band Specifics:

The Travis Band staff will enforce all eligibility rules and regulations. Students who are ineligible will continue to rehearse during their band class, before and after school, and participate in curricular performances to earn their band grade. **Ineligible students may not travel with the band or participate in extracurricular performances.**

Special note: A student that is ineligible may not travel with the band. Furthermore, any funds paid to the student's travel cannot be refunded. If a student still owes to the travel account they are *still* financially responsible for the entire amount due.

Grading Guidelines

Grading: Addendum for Band

Learning objectives are based on performance skills, responsibility, and participation. Therefore, students are expected to fulfill individual and group responsibilities.

Since band and orchestra are performance based courses and team activities, all students are required to attend all performances and rehearsals. Therefore, students may have points deducted for the following:

Unexcused absence from rehearsals that are extensions of classroom activities such as section rehearsals, and large group rehearsals = double daily grade

Unexcused absence from a performance that is an extension of classroom activities, such as school concerts, which do not meet the definition of extracurricular = double major grade

Travis High School Band Specifics:

Students must be committed to developing individual academic and musical skills and be disciplined with expectations to deadlines. A band member's grade will be an average of the following:

Participation

- The student will receive a grade for each before and after school sectional and rehearsal during a grading period.
- The student will be on task and focused during all rehearsals.
- The student will have instrument, music, pencil, and supplies.
- The student will be prepared to play his/her part successfully.
- The student will mark music and take notes as needed.

Fundamentals and Skills

- The student will be expected to improve performance fundamentals.
- The student will be evaluated for improvement of music fundamentals through daily observation during the "daily drill" part of each rehearsal and during sectionals.
- The student will be expected to demonstrate correct posture, hand position, embouchure, breathing, air support, articulation, technique, and attentiveness as monitored during rehearsals.
- The student will be expected to improve individual and ensemble music skills.
- The student's individual skill development will be evaluated through taped music tests, individual playing tests, scale tests, and written tests.
- The student will be expected to develop a historical knowledge of the literature relative to his/her respective instrument.

Performance

- The student will receive a grade for each performance during a grading period.
- The number of performances will be determined by the performance calendar.
- If no public performance occurs during a grading period, the performance grade will be based upon criteria determined by the director.

Motivational Plan/Reluctant Students/Re-testing

Students will be encouraged to perform all marching music by memory, demonstrate proficiency on all-region etudes, major scales, daily ensemble drills, and solo/ensemble music (see above). Students will be given regular graded tests to encourage and motivate them to develop performance skills and demonstrate proficiency on given assignments. Students will be assigned a numerical grade and a chair in their respective sections for all graded tests.

Reluctant students may be assigned a peer tutor, who is an upperclassman that plays the same or a similar instrument to the reluctant student. The peer tutor will work with the reluctant student at regular intervals until proficiency on assignments is demonstrated.

Band directors will work with reluctant students in a one-on-one tutoring situation to re-teach and encourage the reluctant student until proficiency on assignments is demonstrated.

Students may re-test as many times as necessary in order to demonstrate proficiency on assignments. No point deductions on numerical grades will be taken for retesting; however, chair placement will not change after the initial grades/chairs are posted. Grades will be updated accordingly upon demonstration of proficiency in re-re-testing up to the last day of the three-week grading period.

Additional Criteria Affecting Grades

Excused Absences:

In accordance with FBISD policy, all excused absences will be honored with no grade penalty. These will include:

- Medical emergency or illness (doctor's note must be provided)
- Death in the family
- Family emergency
- Religious holiday

Circumstances may justify an excused absence for reasons other than those listed above in accordance with FBISD policy. Please refer to FBISD Instrumental Music Code for the definition of an excused absence. If an excused absence is anticipated, a written notification should be submitted as soon as the student/parents are aware of the potential absence and no later than two days in advance of a rehearsal or one week in advance of a performance. A reminder e-mail should be sent to the directors one to two days in advance of pre-approved absences.

Unexcused Absences:

Please refer to FBISD Instrumental Music Code for the definition of an unexcused absence. An unexcused absence to a before or after school pass-off, sectional or rehearsal will result in a reduction of the grade by the directors.

Tardiness:

Each tardy to a before or after school pass-off, sectional or rehearsal will result in a reduction of the grade by the directors.

Conduct Grades

A student merits a conduct grade of "E" when he/she fulfills all classroom behavioral expectations consistently.

A student merits a conduct grade of "S" when he/she fulfills most classroom behavioral expectations regularly.

A student merits a conduct grade of "N" when he/she does not fulfill classroom behavioral expectations regularly and director feedback is occasionally necessary.

A student merits a conduct grade of "U" when he/she does not fulfill classroom behavioral expectations, is disruptive to the educational process, and director feedback is regularly necessary.

Instruments

Individual Equipment

Students will be required to purchase some materials for their uniform such as shoes, suspenders, bow tie, white dress shirt, all black for percussion students, etc., as well as all materials necessary to perform their instrument (example: reeds, drum sticks, valve oil, etc.).

Fort Bend Independent School District does not provide insurance for individually owned equipment. Insurance may be purchased by the parent/guardian.

School-Owned Equipment

Each member is financially responsible for all equipment and/or materials checked out to him/her for their personal use. Equipment is to be used, not abused. No charge will be made to the student if the instrument becomes damaged due to normal wear and tear. However, damages caused by fire, theft, or abuse will be charged to the student. All equipment and materials must be kept in their proper storage location when not in use.

School owned instruments are furnished by the school for the purpose of avoiding large expenditures to the parent, and to provide a well-rounded instrumentation for the performing organizations. Students who use a school owned instrument will be expected to practice this instrument a reasonable amount of time each day. Failure to do so may result in the instrument being taken up and re-issued to a student who will make better use of it.

Travis High School Band Specifics:

Students in band are required to provide an instrument. The maintenance, repair, and insurance against theft or damage of these personal instruments are solely the responsibility of each student. Students are responsible for the care and insurance of school owned instruments against theft or loss while in their possession. Instruments must be returned at the end of the school year in the same condition as issued.

Personal Instruments:

A quality program requires quality musical instruments. By the time a student is a sophomore at Travis High School, it is recommended that he/she own a professional quality instrument. In most cases, these instruments will have been purchased during the eighth or ninth grade year.

A list of recommended instruments is available in the band office. If a purchase is needed, the staff will be most happy to consult with the student and parents in order to avoid an inappropriate purchase and to assist in obtaining the best possible price for the instrument.

With all personal instruments, it is strongly recommended that the instrument be insured through your homeowner's policy or a private company. The school District will not assume liability for maintenance, repair, or damage of personal instruments.

School Owned Instruments:

Travis High School furnishes the following instruments for students to check out: piccolo, oboe, English horn, bassoon, alto clarinet, bass clarinet, contrabass clarinet, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, C trumpet, French horn, bass trombone, euphonium, tuba, marching horn, marching baritone, sousaphone, and all percussion instruments **(Percussion students are responsible for the purchase of all required mallets to accurately perform their part assignment).**

The following is a list of general procedures for district-owned instruments:

- Order of distribution will be done at the discretion of the directors. If possible, students who play large instruments and are dependent upon FBISD buses may be issued one instrument for home use and one for school use. This will be at the discretion of the directors and will be based on instrument availability and transportation needs.

- FBISD does not provide insurance for individually owned or district-owned equipment. It is required of all students utilizing district-owned instruments to provide insurance coverage for the instrument that has been issued to them. Students will be held responsible for all district-owned instruments issued to them. This responsibility will include fire, theft, accidental damage, abuse and general maintenance not incurred through normal use.
- Students and parents must sign an instrument checkout form before the student can use the instrument.
- The student is responsible for damage to the instrument while in his/her possession.
- Each instrument will be issued in good playing condition. Each issued instrument will be checked and cleaned prior to issue. Students are expected to maintain their issued instruments accordingly.
- The band member is financially responsible for all equipment and/or materials checked out to him or her.
- Students must provide their own personal accessories such as mouthpiece, various mutes, drum sticks, mallets, and reeds.
- All equipment and materials must be kept in their proper storage location when not in use.
- The instrument will be inspected at the end of the year for damage and the student must pay for any repairs.
- FBISD will assess a fee for routine maintenance of district-owned instruments. This fee \$80.00 and will be collected at the beginning of each school year.

Special Note

District-owned instruments are not to be treated as "free" instruments. Basic supplies must still be purchased and repairs must still be made just like personally owned instruments. Please strive to treat these instruments as if they were your own. Most district-owned instruments exceed \$2,000 in value.

Marching Band

Summer Rehearsals

There will be a series of summer rehearsals prior to the beginning of the school year, which all students participating in the marching unit MUST attend. These rehearsals will begin prior to the beginning of school and will be held daily, until school begins. **The one week June and July Percussion camps are communicated a full year in advance to all percussion students, and are required. Missing these camps will affect your placement for the Marching Band season.**

Travis High School Band Specifics:

The marching band is a highly visible aspect of the band program which provides performance opportunities for band students and integrates band into school and community activities. As an integral part of the band program, the District's philosophy is that educationally, historically, and musically, marching band is an essential ingredient in a well-rounded music education. FBISD believes that music students need to develop the ability to participate and perform in different ensemble experiences which includes marching band.

State Curriculum Requirements

The music and performance skills and techniques, along with the associated academic skills in the band program, are derived from implementation of the expectations found in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). The curriculum specifically includes requirements such as demonstrating musical skills and artistry, performing in different musical mediums, and experiencing music through a wider range of music literature, which are addressed through the marching band. Each performance by the marching band provides students the opportunity to demonstrate musical artistry through the ensemble, individual music performance skills and techniques, marching performance skills and techniques, and critical thinking skills that include auditory, spatial, and visual awareness.

Participation

Marching band is required for all high school students who elect to take the academic band performance courses. Exceptions are granted for those students who play a school-sponsored sport that conflicts with Marching Band, like football and volleyball. Any other conflicts should be addressed with the directors immediately.

Eligibility

All students enrolled in the Travis High School band program are eligible and required to participate in the marching band. Students who have had a previous failing grade on a term grade or PR2 may not be considered for the competition block, this includes colorguard primary spots, hornline primary spots, and/or percussion primary spots which include battery and front ensemble keyboard instruments. The competition block will be filled by students who have met the music, visual criteria/demands as well as academic eligibility for the past academic year.

Academic Standards

The opportunity for weekly performance is a motivating factor for academic achievement for marching band students, since only by maintaining their eligibility can they continue to perform in the competition block.

Competitions

The marching band will attend UIL Marching Contests. The Marching Band will enter other additional marching contests as determined by the directors.

Grading

Since marching band is a part of the academic band course and therefore, part of the graded curriculum, students in marching band are responsible for assimilating the academic aspects of the band elective as found in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Attendance at rehearsals and performances is mandatory and will be integrated into the students' grade for band in accordance with TEA/UIL guidelines and FBISD policy/procedures.

Physical Education Requirement

As an artistic endeavor, each rehearsal and performance by the marching band is mentally and physically demanding. For the full marching band performance, students are always on task and must bring to the experience their best performance skills. As a result, each student in the marching band is eligible to receive physical education credits in accordance with TEA guidelines and FBISD policy/procedures. Physical exercise and running will be a part of this course.

Instruments

Marching band students who play an instrument that the District does not provide (flute, clarinet, alto sax, trumpet and trombone) must personally provide, march, and perform with the same instrument they use in band or a second instrument of the same type that is listed on the FBISD Recommended Instrument List.

The District assumes no responsibility for maintaining instruments they do not supply. Since these instruments will be played outside in various weather situations (sun, heat, wind, rain, etc.), students and parents need to be vigilant regarding instrument maintenance to keep the student's instrument in top playing condition.

Practice Time Limits

Marching band practice times are closely regulated by TEA/UIL guidelines. Adherence to these guidelines is the responsibility of the Head Band Director and is monitored by the Director of Fine Arts. TEA and UIL rules state:

The members of marching band or any of its components may not begin the marching preparation for a UIL contest presentation prior to August 1. In addition, no more than ten hours of director-supervised instructional time may be devoted to marching fundamentals between the end of the previous school term and August 1.

Music preparation is not affected by this ten-hour rule between August 1 and the first day of school. Practice schedules are determined by the Head Band Director and Principal. During the school year, no more than 8 hours of rehearsal per week, outside of the school day, is allowed. Exceptions to the 8-hour rule include preparation immediately before games and competitions.

Rehearsal Schedules

Consult your band calendar for the specific times of each rehearsal and performance. Summer band rehearsals begin in early August. These rehearsals are extremely concentrated and important; you will miss a lot of learning if you are absent. Attendance is a major factor in determining who is chosen for the competition block. Our show is professionally written for a specific number of students, so we are counting on every student to participate. If summer rehearsals will be missed, please notify the directors as soon as possible. After school begins, the marching band weekly schedule provides for one sectional rehearsal by group per week and two or three days of full band rehearsals. For the duration of marching season, there most likely will be a game on Fridays and a rehearsal on Saturday mornings. There will always be a practice preceding a game or contest performance.

Marching Band Attendance

Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances of the marching band. An unexcused absence from a performance will jeopardize one's position in the contest drill. Note the band calendar and clear all the performance dates now!

A student is tardy to rehearsal if he or she is not in the attendance block with instrument, music, tool belt, and supplies when the directors/drum majors begin the rehearsal. Habitual tardiness will jeopardize one's position in the competition block and may result in removing the student from performances.

Summer Heat Guidelines / Outdoor Rehearsal Requirements

Rehearsal dress includes sunglasses, hat, shorts, a white T-shirt, hat or cap, tennis shoes (cross-trainer type or running shoes), and socks. For health and safety reasons, students will not be allowed to march in any other footwear.

Students must have their individual water bottle labeled with their name at all rehearsals. Water bottles will be kept close and frequent water breaks will be taken.

Students should eat breakfast and drink plenty of fluids before morning rehearsals. Good nutrition is a must to remain healthy during marching season.

Students are trained by the directors to watch for signs of dehydration. Students should monitor their bodies to make sure they perspire heavily during rehearsal. Lack of perspiration is a sign of dehydration. Students should sit down immediately if dizzy or weak. A director will provide assistance.

During summer rehearsals, directors will constantly monitor the weather conditions and make adjustments as necessary for the safety of the students.

Water will be provided by the Booster Club for students at games and competitions.

Game Procedures

- Members of the Tiger Marching Band will be expected to adhere to the following game guidelines. Remember to show your PRIDE in the Tiger Band at all times while in uniform!
- Each person is responsible for his/her equipment at all times.
- Report for inspection on time, in half uniform, with all required equipment.
- Remain in half uniform at all times unless instructed otherwise by the directors. No jewelry, make-up, or caps are worn with the uniform.
- Sit in assigned seats and do not move about the band area during the game without permission.
- Hat (shako) cases should be placed under the bleacher seat.

- No food or gum is allowed in the stands.
- All students must have music in a flip folder. Students who play any instrument other than flute, tuba, or percussion must provide a lyre for their instrument.
- Play your very best each time the group performs and do not play your instrument at any time the entire band is not playing.
- Percussion is only to play with the full band or with the yells or as a section on an organized cadence or feature.
- Percussion students are to play their assigned instruments in the stands at all times.
- No one except band personnel is allowed in the band section. Ex-band students or special visitors are allowed in the band section only by permission from the Head Band Director.
- Watch the director(s) at all times when they are standing in front of the band.
- Watch closely for cutoffs in the music, as the band will sometimes stop playing when play is resumed on the field.
- File orderly from the stands to the assembling point before the half-time show, in step.
- Do not play instruments in transit.
- Cheer with the cheerleaders. Group cheers are acceptable; however, unsportsmanlike cheers will not be tolerated.
- Do not make discourteous remarks to visiting bands, peers, and other students.
- Remember that you represent Travis High School.
- Students will ride the bus to and from all games and performances. No audible electronics are allowed – only personal electronics with earphones are allowed.
- All students are expected to follow rules established by bus drivers and to be courteous to all directors/band chaperones.
- Upon arrival back at Travis, all students will unload the equipment trucks, return their uniforms to the uniform room, put away all equipment, and clean up the band hall before leaving school.
- Students without vehicles will make every effort to be picked up immediately upon returning to school from a marching band performance.

Medical Release Form

All students enrolled in band, choir and orchestra must have a Medical Release Form on file in the Director's office no later than the end of the first week of the new school year. No one will travel or perform with the band without this form on file.

Orchestra

Wind and percussion students participating in orchestra must have concurrent membership in the Travis Band program. Honors Band students will be required to participate in full orchestra.

Private Lessons –Music Enrichment Program and Fees

Private lessons are provided for students as an enrichment program in Band. Private study is encouraged, but not required, to participate in the Travis Bands. The advantages of a one-on-one experience are overwhelming. Private study fees are consistent throughout the District and are determined by the Director of Fine Arts. The current fee is \$20 per lesson if lesson is taught on the school campus. Some special instruments may require a \$25 fee for lack of availability of the teacher's schedule/expertise. The private teachers are hired, supervised, and evaluated by the Head Band Director and must complete a Criminal History Check and pay a Building Use fee.

Required Expenses and Fees

Members of the Travis Bands have financial obligations in two different categories: Required Materials Fees and Trip Expenses. No student will be denied participation in the band program due to financial difficulties. Parents should contact the Head Band Director with any specific financial concerns. A brief

description of all expenses follows.

Required Materials Fees:

These fees are paid to the THS Band Booster Club at the beginning of each school year. The amount varies from student to student depending on which items each student needs for the year. Some of these costs have to do with uniform items and accessories. Students may pay with a check made out to THSBBC.

Required Materials Fee

Description of fee:

Show t-shirt, dry-balance shirt, gloves, uniform cleaning fee and upkeep, contest entry fees, marching band equipment, marching drill design, show music, tailgate meals, transportation, awards, clinicians, marching band shoes

Marching shoes (required for all students; new style to match new uniforms)

Program Fees (all students pay this)	\$450
Duncanville Invitational	\$185
Band Shoes	\$40
Guard Shoes	\$35
Dry Balance t-shirt	\$18
FBISD Instrument Fee	\$80

Band Trips:

The Duncanville Invitational will be out annual trip for 2017-2018.

Side note 1:

It is of utmost importance that parents as well as students understand that holds are turned in for unpaid accounts at the end of each semester. This will prevent students from receiving their report card and it will prevent them from attending their prom as well as attending their graduation.

Side note 2:

Students who are ineligible in accordance with the “No-pass/No-play” law may not travel with the band to any event. Any money paid by the student is non-refundable. In addition, any balance remaining will still be the financial obligation of the student and their guardian.

Side note 3:

If a student is unable to attend a trip due to illness or other reason besides ineligibility, the parent/guardian will not be able to receive any amount of refund.

Fundraising and Refund of Fees:

To be in compliance with Internal Revenue Service mandates, all monies earned through fundraising activities belong to the organization’s general fund and will be dispersed equally among all band students participating in the band. There are no refunds granted from fund raising monies.

Any student who did not travel for the current year may request a refund of his/her out-of-pocket trip money. Trip funds may be non-refundable depending on the specific trip payment agreement and date of request. Trip Insurance is available; however, insurance does not cover ineligibility due to failing grades.

Required Materials Fees are non-refundable. Any student who is removed or withdraws from the band program will forfeit any and all deposited Required Materials Fees.

Any student's parent may appeal in writing the decision of the band staff concerning refunds. Any appeal of this nature must be submitted to the Head Principal.

Transportation

If a student is required to leave from an event or activity, the parent/guardian of the student must provide written notification to the instructor prior to the student leaving and the student may leave ONLY with that parent/guardian as stated in the written notification. STUDENTS MAY NOT LEAVE WITH ANYONE EXCEPT A PARENT/GUARDIAN. A telephone call confirming the written notification is also desired.

Travis High School Band Specifics:

The Head Band Director and Principal will determine the mode of transportation to and from all performances. If a student must leave directly from a performance, he/she can be released only to his/her parent/guardian. Any exception to this guideline must be submitted in writing and approved by the band director prior to the event.

Travel

It should be understood by both parent and student that the competition band/orchestras will be involved in out of district traveling and that students who participate in these organizations must also participate in the travel. This may include a limited number of overnight trips for some competitive events. If the parent does not want the student to travel, the student should register for an organization that does not travel so extensively.

All members represent the school and community and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner in keeping with the following regulations when traveling in or out of the district.

- Be on time for all trips
- Dress as directed
- Be mannerly
- Avoid excessive noise on the bus
- Return on the same bus
- Return equipment to its proper storage place on returning to the school

Travis High School Band Specifics:

During a high school band student's career, a student may participate in one approved spring trip, including up to three school days, to travel beyond the state of Texas. For all remaining years, bands may have three school days of approved travel within the state of Texas. Exceptions to the above (i.e. invitation to Midwest, special invitation for international travel, etc.) must be approved by the Head Band Director, Principal, Director of Fine Arts, Superintendent, and FBISD Board of Trustees. The District will bear no cost for invitational travel excluding the UIL State Marching Contest, TMEA performances, and members of the All-State Music groups.

Overnight Travel Requirements

Out of district trips are not mandatory for any member and will not affect their status or grade in any way. However, students in the top performing music ensembles do have a travel expectation. Since participation in our music program is a team effort, any student not participating in a spring trip should advise the directors well in advance of the trip (a minimum of nine weeks is recommended). The directors can then initiate alternative arrangements to cover for missing students.

When traveling, each student must meet all local and state eligibility requirements to participate in the competition.

- Students who are ineligible may not travel with the bands.
- Students must be able to satisfactorily perform the material assigned for the performance(s).
- Students must have attended scheduled rehearsals.
- Students must fulfill their financial obligation.

Uniforms

The District provides uniforms for high school music groups and these are mandatory for participation in Band performances. The individual student must provide uniform accessories as appropriate. Students are responsible for repair or replacement of any damaged or unreturned uniform parts.

Marching uniforms will be stored in the band hall and issued before each performance. These uniforms will be returned after each performance prior to leaving the school.

Some uniforms may require minor alterations such as adjusting the hem of the pants. These alterations are the responsibility of each student. Make sure that the hem is simply raised or lowered, and that no material is removed from the garment.

Students are responsible for providing personal accessories for their uniform. During marching season, these accessories are ordered at the time of fitting during the first two weeks of August. These accessories include gloves, marching shoes, dry-balance shirt to be worn under the uniform, the band t-shirt and the long black socks. During Concert Season, boys will provide a tux shirt, black bow tie, black cummerbund, black dress shoes, and black socks. Girls will provide black hose/stockings and black dress shoes.

Each student is responsible for replacing any uniform part that is damaged or lost. The replacement costs for marching uniforms and concert uniforms are listed as follows.

Marching Uniform

Marching Uniform	Replacement Cost
Jacket	\$160
Pants	\$75
Hat/Shako	\$50
Plume or Mirror	\$20
Gauntlet	\$30

Concert Uniform

Concert Uniform	Replacement Cost
Tux Pants	\$80
Jacket	\$110
Cummerbund	\$10
Dress	\$100

www.travistigerband.org

www.charmsoffice.com

TravisHSband