

McKinney Boyd HS BAND

HANDBOOK 2023-2024

B O Y D



B A N D

Travis Treadwell, Director of Bands

Vanessa Santamaria, Associate Director

Benjamin Cook, Assistant Director

Scott Gustafson, Assistant Director (Percussion)

Manuel Rabell, Assistant Director (Color Guard)

www.boydband.com

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McKinney Boyd High School Band Handbook

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McKinney Boyd High School Band Handbook

2023-2024

The following handbook is provided to help ensure that the band program will be an enjoyable and rewarding educational experience for all its members. Clear expectations that are established at the beginning of each school year will help make that possible. This handbook contains information about general rules and regulations of the program along with academic rules, UIL rules for competition, school owned equipment, insurance, individual equipment, alternates, concert bands, private lessons, band hall policies, uniform procedures, and attendance policies. Please do not be overwhelmed by the following information, especially if you are new to high school band. The band experience should be a positive one, and this can be achieved through cooperative teamwork among directors, parents and band members.

Travis Treadwell
Director of Bands

Vanessa Santamaria
Associate Director

Benjamin Cook
Assistant Director

Scott Gustafson
Assistant Director (Percussion)

Manuel Rabell
Color Guard Director

PLEASE READ THE HANDBOOK CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING BELOW

"I have read the MBHS Band Handbook and our student has our permission to participate in the band activities stated in this handbook within the guidelines described. We understand that Band and Color Guard are full-year commitments for the 2022-23 school year, and that this handbook may be changed at the director's discretion at any time."

Parent/Guardian Name (PRINTED): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

"I have read the MBHS Band Handbook and agree to abide by the policies stated. I realize that failure to follow policies or directions will result in disciplinary action that could lead to dismissal from the Band/Guard and Band/Guard classes."

Student Name (PRINTED): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date of both signatures: _____

PLEASE RETURN THESE FORMS BEFORE THE FIRST AFTER SCHOOL REHEARSAL.

McKinney Boyd Band Social Media Presence Policy 2023-2024

As a Boyd Bronco Band Member, you are held to a high standard of behavior. You are not only representing yourself, but also your peers, your staff, your school, and your community. This high standard of behavior includes your social media presence. Your internet pages/spaces, posts, texts, group chats, reminds, Snapchats, pictures you link, likes, tweets, retweets, comments, etc., say just as much about you as your real-life interactions that happen face to face. Your future employers and college admissions officers will look at your online presence almost immediately when you apply for a job or to college. This is a fact. Be sure you are being responsible online.

I, _____ am responsible for my social media presence. I understand that I represent the Bronco Band and McKinney Boyd HS in all situations which includes, but is not limited to, my social media and online presence. I agree to uphold the high expectations of behavior that comes along with the privilege of being a Bronco Band Member. I understand this expectation and also understand failure to uphold this expectation will have consequences which may include: a conference with the directors, conference with parents, exclusion from activities or performances, removal from leadership positions, or removal from the band program. In the event a student is ever removed from the program for this or any other disciplinary infraction, the student/parent is responsible for payment of all fees due for that season.

By signing below, I agree with the statements above and will uphold these expectations.

Student Name (PRINTED): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

As a parent or guardian of the above-named student, I understand the expectations of my student to uphold an appropriate social media presence and will do my best to monitor and guide them to do so. I understand I will be notified of any concerns by the directors and that consequences may result if my student chooses to poorly represent the Bronco Band online. I also understand that in the event my student is ever removed from the program for this or any other disciplinary infraction, that we are responsible for payment of all fees due for that season.

Parent Name (please print): _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

PLEASE RETURN THESE FORMS BEFORE THE FIRST AFTER SCHOOL REHEARSAL.

KEEP ALL OTHER PARTS OF THE HANDBOOK FOR REFERENCE.

McKinney Boyd High School Band Handbook

I. RULES AND REGULATIONS

A. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

- 1) **Conduct:** Band students are to conduct themselves properly at all times. Displays of temper, profanity and/or flagrant violations of school rules will not be tolerated. Any behavior deemed unsatisfactory may result in disciplinary action at the administrative level.
- 2) **Attendance:** Please refer to **V. Attendance.** Deadlines. It is essential for students to comply with deadlines concerning due dates for forms, payments and assignments. Failure to observe deadlines may result in a loss of opportunity for the students involved.
- 3) **Travel:** It should be understood by both parent and student that the performing/competition bands will be involved in out-of-district traveling. This will result in overnight trips for some competitive events (**students who wish to participate in these bands are expected to travel**). Fund raising activities will be designed and provided to assist students in earning funds. The fundraisers are not required, but are created to help both the student and Band Booster Club.
- 4) **Trip Accounts:** Students in performing/competition bands must keep their trip accounts current in accordance with schedule of trip payment dates throughout the school year. We are required to make regular payments to festivals, hotels, bus companies and airlines and must pay for the exact number of traveling students. A student who fails to have the necessary finances in their account at the designated dates may be removed from the performing/competition band. Do not wait until the last minute to pay trip fees and expect to remain in a competing band. REFUNDS ON TRIP PAYMENTS CANNOT BE MADE UNLESS THE VENDORS REFUND MONEY TO THE BAND. THIS RARELY OCCURS AFTER PAYMENT DEADLINES HAVE PASSED.
- 5) **Fees:** All participating band members are expected to pay fees in their entirety each participating school year. Any outstanding fees at the end of the year will be transferred and added to the Boyd "Master Hold" list until they are resolved. Removal from the band or dropping band mid year does not exempt you from fee payment expectations. Students/Parents will be responsible for all fees due and there will be no refunds for any assigned fee.
 - a) **Volunteer Credit Addendum:** Parents & families are strongly encouraged to volunteer through the course of the school year. As an incentive, each student account will receive a credit of \$300 once a family member or friend has volunteered a total of 10 hours. Volunteers must fill out a background check with McKinney ISD. Volunteers sign up for opportunities through the Boyd Booster Website (Membership Toolkit). Volunteers are required to purchase and wear a Boyd Band Volunteer shirt while volunteering.

Band Classes/Auxiliary Groups

Students may participate in more than one band class with audition and/or director approval.

Band classes include:

1st period Honors Band/ Battery Percussion (Fall Semester)

2nd period Concert Band/ Front Ensemble (Fall Semester)

3rd period Symphonic Band II

4th period Symphonic Band I

5th period Jazz Band (By audition only. Students must be enrolled in band class to participate. Non-band rhythm section students may participate by director's discretion)

6th period Conference

7th period Color Guard/Winter Guard (Fall Semester) (Band students who also enroll in guard must remain concurrently enrolled in a band class for the duration of their 1st school year.)

****Students may not drop band to participate in an auxiliary group only.****

MISD Music Organization Participation Policy

In order to participate in UIL group contests, a student must be enrolled in the respective competing band, choir or orchestra. The only exception to this policy is for a student enrolled in a band or orchestra who, with director approval, wishes to compete at a contest in a second band/orchestra. Under this exception, a student is required by UIL policy to play a different instrument in the second ensemble from that played in the primary group [UIL CCR Section II02 (b)(1)(B)].

Electronic Devices and Technology Usage

All band members are expected to abide by McKinney ISD's Electronic Devices and Technology Policies enforced by the district and listed in the MISD Student Handbook. Instruction out on the marching field and in the classroom often requires the use of electronic devices and technology. When the use of electronic devices and technology are required for instructional purposes, students are expected to use their electronic devices and technology for instructional purposes only. Any misuse of electronic devices or technology will result in the device being taken up and turned into the appropriate principals office. 1st/2nd infraction=Confiscation/warning, 3rd infraction= \$15 fine

B. TRAVEL

- 1) All band 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.
- 2) Be on time for all trips, rehearsals, meetings, check-ins, curfews, etc.
- 3) Dress as directed in a neat, conservative manner in accordance with MISD dress code.
- 4) Be mannerly.
- 5) Avoid excessive noise on the buses. Clapping, singing, chanting and drumming, etc. from groups or individuals is not acceptable.
- 6) Keep hands and all other body parts inside the bus.
- 7) Do not shout at or otherwise heckle people outside the bus.
- 8) Stay on the same bus, both going and coming, that you were assigned to.
- 9) Help return all equipment to its proper storage place upon returning to school.
- 10) The "Emergency Medical Form" is due before you may travel with the band.
- 11) See "Code of Conduct for Travel" for expectations concerning overnight trips.
- 12) When traveling with the band, students must go and return with the entire group. Students may not travel in a private vehicle.
- 13) In the event of an emergency, a student may be released to a parent or guardian.

C. ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- 1) A student who is enrolled in a school district in Texas or participates in a UIL competition will be suspended from participation in any extracurricular activity sponsored or sanctioned by the school district or the UIL after a grade evaluation period (first six weeks grade reporting period and subsequent nine week grading periods) in which the student received a grade lower than the equivalent of 70 on a scale of 100 in any academic class other than an identified advanced placement class.
- 2) A suspension continues for three weeks, at which time the student's teacher shall review the grade of the suspended student. At the time of the review, the suspension is removed if the student's grades in **all** classes, other than an identified advanced or honors class, is equal to or greater than a 70 on a scale of 100.
- 3) A student who becomes academically ineligible at anytime is subject to lose their band placement at the beginning of the following semester for a minimum of one full semester.

D. U.I.L. COMPETITION GUIDELINES

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

- 2) No student shall take part in any UIL contest after the end of the fifth consecutive year following his/her enrollment in the eighth grade, fourth consecutive year following enrollment in the ninth grade, and/or third consecutive year following enrollment in the tenth grade.
- 3) No school may issue and no student may receive an award for participation in interschool 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 interschool activity each year.
- 4) Students must abide by all other rules as set forth by the UIL in Austin, Texas.

E. SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS

- 1) Purpose: School owned instruments are furnished by the school to provide proper instrumentation for the bands and to avoid large expenditures by the parents.
- 2) Use fee: Concert instruments will have a full year fee of \$100. Marching instruments will have a use fee of \$50. PLEASE NOTE: the rental fee is not prepaid repair charges.
- 3) Student responsibility
 - a) Storage: All equipment and materials must be kept in their proper storage location when not in use.
 - b) Maintenance: **Minor, routine repair is the ongoing responsibility of the student who uses the instrument.**
 - c) Damage: Equipment is to be used, not abused. **Damages caused by fire, theft, accident, or abuse will be charged to the student.**
 - d) Practice: Students who use a school-owned instrument are expected to take private lessons and practice that instrument a reasonable amount of time each day. Failure to do so may result in the instrument being reassigned to a student who will make better use of it.
 - e) Insurance: MISD does not provide insurance for individually owned or school owned equipment. Although not required, **insurance is highly recommended.**

F. INDIVIDUAL EQUIPMENT

- 1) Uniform parts: Students will be required to purchase some materials for their uniform such as shoes, socks, gloves, shorts, show shirt, tuxedo shirt, etc.
- 2) Instrument accessories: Students will be required to purchase some materials necessary for their instrument such as reeds, mallets, oil, grease, mouthpieces, BERPS and Breathing Tubes.

G. BAND HALL POLICIES

- 1) A clean, well-kept band hall demonstrates pride toward our band. Please do your part to keep your band hall clean.
- 2) No food, drink, gum, tobacco, etc. in the band hall.
- 3) Do not enter the directors' office, workroom or library/copy room without their permission. Being seen at the door is not an invitation to come in. Please wait to be acknowledged and invited in. Never enter the band office unless a director is present.
- 4) Do not touch, handle, borrow or use anyone else's instrument, uniform, or personal belongings.
- 5) Do not touch or operate any school-owned equipment – especially the stereo equipment, metronome, tuner and speaker system without director permission.
- 6) Do not deface or mark on in any way music stands or walls, etc.
- 7) Keep cases in slots during rehearsals.
- 8) Close the door to your storage slot before, during and after rehearsals.
- 9) After rehearsal, stack the chairs and rack the stands when instructed to do so.
- 10) If you enter or leave the band hall during a rehearsal, move quietly and do not allow doors to slam.
- 11) Non-band students should not enter the band hall. Please be careful to advise your friends of this policy.
- 12) All valuables and personal items **MUST BE KEPT LOCKED IN YOUR LOCKER.**

- 13) Locks will be provided/assigned at the start of each year. It is the students responsibility to care for these locks and not lose them. Failure to return an assigned lock will result in students replacing the lock for \$10

H. MARCHING UNIFORMS

- 1) Provided by MISD: Jacket, pants, gauntlets, hat, and plume.
- 2) Provided by students: black marching shoes, black socks, blue shorts, band show/red shirt and white gloves.
- 3) Wearing the uniform
 - a. Always wear and treat your uniform with pride and respect. The uniform should be worn as a complete unit at all times when in public. The only exceptions to this will be when a director instructs you that you may remove your hat or coat. You will be required to wear your practice shirt under your uniform so that you may remove your coat. You will be required to wear your athletic red shorts under your uniform so that you may remove your bib pants.
 - b. You must wear official black band shoes, black socks and white gloves (student purchases).
 - c. When in uniform, please remove jewelry and hair ribbons. Nail polish is not acceptable. This contributes to the overall appearance of the band, both on and off the field.
 - d. Band students with longer hair will need to put it up under their hat during performances.
 - e. Facial hair is not permitted with the marching uniform.
 - f. Suspenders should not show while in uniform.
 - g. The hat should never be worn backwards.
 - h. Running is inappropriate when in uniform.
- 4) Alterations
 - a. **Never** cut any material from the band uniform.
 - b. Uniform committee members will hem your pants so that the crease does not “break” when you are standing straight up with your BAND SHOES on.
 - c. The pants should come to the top of the band shoe.
- 5) Uniform care
 - a. Band uniforms are issued directly prior to a performance and turned in immediately after the performance.
 - b. Students will be held financially responsible for the appearance and care of the uniform.
 - c. Keep the collar hooked and the zipper up to retain the shape of the coat. Always hang the pants by the crease.
 - d. **KNOW YOUR UNIFORM NUMBERS. MEMORIZE THEM OR WRITE THEM DOWN IN A SAFE PLACE!**
- 6) Inspection: Prior to every performance of the marching band, there will be an inspection to make sure the uniform has been handled properly and is being worn correctly.

I. CONCERT UNIFORM

- 1) Provided by MISD
 - a. Boys: Tux jacket, pants, cummerbund, bow tie
 - b. Girls: Black dress
- 2) Provided by students:
 - a. Boys: Black dress shoes, black socks tux shirt
 - b. Girls: Black closed-toed flat dress shoes (no heels), black hose

J. PERFORMANCE DAY MEALS

- 1) 1. During football (marching) season, the band uses a closed campus procedure. If a game or contest performance is on a school day, students will need to remain on campus. This same process is followed during concert season as needed on performance days.
- 2) 2. On non-school performance days, specific instructions will be provided. Meals will be made available prior to all football games.
- 3) 3. These meals are paid for during the band registration.

K. MISD LETTER JACKETS

Students are eligible for a letter upon completion of one of the following criteria:

- 1) Audition for, be selected, and perform in the All-Region Band
- 2) Earn a Division I on a Class I Solo at the MISD Solo Contest or Winterguard Solo Contest
- 3) Earn a Division I on a Class I Ensemble at the MISD Ensemble Contest
- 4) Complete six (6) semesters in band or Color Guard

L. CALENDARS

- 1) A listing of the major MBHS Band Events for the coming school year is provided during the beginning of each school year.
- 2) A google calendar with more specific information including all rehearsals will be made available and will be posted on the band website.
www.boydband.com

M. STUDENT LEADERSHIP

- 1) Requirements of student leadership will be presented annually at the Spring Leadership Training day. (February 12, 2022)
- 2) Social Officers
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President
- 3) Marching Band Leaders
 - a. Drum Majors
 - b. Section Leaders
- 4) Appointed Leaders
 - a. Equipment/Loading Crew
 - b. Student Aids

N. WEBSITE

- 1) www.boydband.com is the official web site for the McKinney Boyd High School Band program.

Please refer to this site to obtain additional information, announcements and calendar updates.

O. NOTIFICATION – director email information

- 1) Mr. Treadwell - ttreadwell@mckinneyisd.net
- 2) Ms. Santamaria - vsantamaria@mckinneyisd.net
- 3) Mr. Cook- bcook@mckinneyisd.net
- 4) Mr. Gustafson- sgustafson@mckinneyisd.net
- 5) Mr. Rabell- mrabell@mckinneyisd.net

II. MARCHING SEASON

A. MARCHING BAND ROSTER

- 1) All band students who are members of Honors Band, Symphonic Band I, Symphonic Band II, Concert Band I and Concert Band II are required to participate in the Marching Band with the exception of students in football.

- 2) By the time summer band starts, our show will have already been written based on the number of students who have informed us of their intent to be members of the organization. Our show is professionally written and the numbers cannot be changed.
- 3) A doctor's note is required if participation in marching band should be limited due to a physical condition.

B. RED, BLUE, & JV GUARD

- 1) [Red Marching Position Contract](#), [Blue Marching Position Contract](#), [JV Guard Position Contract](#)
- 2) So that we may begin learning our competition show during summer band, we must commit to a specific number of marchers per section in early June/July. The number we march is based on performance ability (Musical/physical), eligibility and required instrumentation.
- 3) Our major marching competitions take place after the first six weeks and first nine weeks grading periods are complete. We must begin the season with alternates in order to avoid going to important contests with several holes in the marching drill due to student ineligibility.
- 4) Band students who have met all performance criteria, including grades, will attend all performances of the marching band and fully participate when the band performs in the stands and at half time for the drill team piece for all possible performances. Blue band marchers will be given every opportunity to perform at a minimum of every football halftime show.
- 5) During rehearsals, blue band members will march in an assigned position. This will provide the blue band marcher with the opportunity to continue improving his or her marching skills.
- 6) Member contract selection is based upon experience, music memory work, playing ability, marching ability, attendance, attitude and eligibility. Any band student who does not pass the music memory work will not march in a performance. This policy helps ensure student ownership and pride in the program.

C. VALUE OF COMPETITION

- 1) Competitions are a great tool for motivating students to achieve high levels of excellence. The excitement (for parents and students and the opportunity to see many fine bands perform make band competitions a valuable part of the marching program. Parents and fans are encouraged to attend all competitions and to show their support for the band.
- 2) One of the major competitions in the marching season is the UIL contest. Each year, the UIL conducts a marching contest at the Region Level. On alternate years, the UIL also conducts an Area and State marching contest. Advancing to the Area and State contests on a regular basis is one of the goals for the band program.

D. INFRACTIONS

- 1) Infractions include arriving tardy for rehearsal or failing to have one of the necessary inspection items: organized flip folder, clean black shoes, clean white gloves, clean black socks etc.
- 2) Insubordination toward student leaders, chaperones, directors, school officials or other adults.

E. CONSEQUENCES (Details of attendance consequences are outlined in more detail below in section V)

- 1) Consequences will be in line with the MISD Code of Conduct.
- 2) Subsequent classroom consequences may result in making up time per directors discretion on non-rehearsal days, a grade deduction on their weekly behavioral grade, suspension from participation, or expulsion from the program. In the event of a serious infraction resulting in the removal of the student from the band program, the student/parent will be responsible for all fees due and there will be no refunds for any fees paid.
- 3) Failure to follow through with a consequence may result in losing your current marching position, or not being allowed to travel to FB game or contest.

Fall Semester Marching Contest Schedule

Please plan for these to be all day events:

Wylie Marching Invitational

Saturday, September 30th

Wylie Stadium, 731 Woodbridge Pkwy, Wylie, TX

McKinney Marching Invitational

Saturday, October 7th

McKinney ISD Stadium, 4201 S. Hardin Blvd., McKinney TX

UIL Region 24 Marching Contest

Saturday, October 14th

Lobo Stadium, 1151 East Eldorado Parkway, Little Elm, TX

BOA Prosper

Saturday, October 14th

UIL Area B Marching Contest

Saturday, October 21th

Mesquite Memorial Stadium,

UIL State Marching Contest

Monday and Tuesday , October 30th and 31st

Alamodome, 100 Montana St., San Antonio TX

Marching Band Practice Schedule

Our **'typical'** rehearsal schedule throughout football/marching season will be:

*Monday: 3:45 - 6:45 pm/3:00-6:00 pm (3 Hours)

Tuesday: 3:45 - 5:45 pm/3:00-5:00 pm (2 Hours)

**Wednesday: No Rehearsals

***Thursday: 3:45-5:45 pm/3:00-5:00pm (2 Hours)

Friday: Game Day Run Through (JV Field) and Halftime Performance (@ Football game)

Saturday: Contest Days Times TBA

Make sure that you check the google calendar for the most up-to-date information regarding rehearsal locations and times.

Regular season football games are scheduled every Thursday, Friday or Saturday from August 26th through November 3rd (with the possibility of playoff games beyond that date).

****If Monday is a school holiday, then Tuesdays after school becomes 3:45- 6:45pm (3 Hour)***

*****If Monday is a school holiday or if there is a Thursday game, then Wednesday after school becomes 3:30-5:30pm (2 Hour)***

****** If Thursday is a football game, we will have an afternoon rehearsal on Friday from 3:00-5:00pm (2 Hour)***

III. CONCERT SEASON AND WINTER GUARD

Concert Bands

Students will audition for concert band placement at the end of each semester to be placed into one of four ability-based bands- Concert Band, Symphonic Band II, Symphonic Band I, or Honors Band. The concert bands give a variety of concert and contest performances each year performing in many wonderful concert halls. The concert bands also travel each spring on a three to four night contest trip to a different destination each year. Playing ability, academic eligibility, attendance, work ethic and student discipline are all factors in determining band placement each semester.

A. Honors Band

- 1) The Honors Band is the highest performing/competition band in the program, and will primarily be made up of juniors and seniors.
- 2) This band will have regularly scheduled sectionals required for each section in the band throughout the year and will begin rehearsals as early as 6:45 AM after marching season.
- 3) In addition to band performances, Honors Band members are required to audition for the All-Region Band, perform in an ensemble at the MISD Ensemble Contest and perform a solo at the MISD Solo Contest. It is highly encouraged to perform in the MBHS Concerto Competition Prelims.
- 4) Participating in private lessons is required to be in this ensemble ** If finance is an issue please reach out to Mr. Treadwell for solutions and scholarship opportunities**

B. Symphonic Band I

- 1) The Symphonic Band I is the second performing/competition band in the program, and will be primarily made up of sophomores, juniors and seniors.
- 2) This band will have regularly scheduled sectionals required for each section in the band throughout the year as well as regularly scheduled full band rehearsals after marching season.
- 3) In addition to band performances, Symphonic Band I members are required to audition for the All-Region Band, perform in an ensemble at the MISD Ensemble Contest and perform a solo at the MISD Solo Contest.
- 4) Participating in private lessons is required to be in this ensemble ** If finance is an issue please reach out to Mr. Treadwell for solutions and scholarship opportunities**

C. Symphonic Band II

- 1) The Symphonic Band II is the third performing/competition band in the program, and will be primarily made up of freshman and sophomores, as well as some juniors and seniors.
- 2) This band's members will have the option of attending fall sectionals which cover the All-Region etudes.
- 3) This band will have regularly scheduled sectionals required for each section in the band throughout the year as well as regularly scheduled full band rehearsals after marching season.
- 4) Students in this band are required to perform in an ensemble at the MISD Ensemble Contest, have the option to audition for the All-Region Band, and have the option to perform a solo at the MISD Solo Contest.
- 5) Private Lesson participation is not required for this ensemble but is HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.

D. Concert Band

- 1) The Concert Band is the fourth performing/competition band in the program, and will be primarily made up of freshman.
- 2) These band members will have the option of attending fall sectionals which cover the All-Region etudes.

- 3) Concert Band will have regularly scheduled in-class sectionals as well as required scheduled full band rehearsals after marching season.
- 4) Students in this band are required to perform in an ensemble at the MISD Ensemble Contest, have the option to audition for the All-Region Band, and have the option to perform a solo at the MISD Solo Contest.
- 5) Private Lesson participation is not required for this ensemble but is RECOMMENDED.

E. ELIGIBILITY

- 1) Students are expected to maintain an A average in band each grading period to demonstrate competence in the objectives for each grading period.
- 2) Students are also expected to maintain passing grades in all of their classes in order to maintain academic eligibility to perform with the band. If a student misses a performance due to ineligibility, the student may be moved to the next lower band.

Winter Guard

Color Guard students will audition for winter guard placement at the conclusion of marching season to be placed into one of two ability-based winter guard ensembles – Varsity or Junior Varsity Winter Guard. The winter guard competes in a variety of contests each year performing in many schools and arenas across the state. The winter guard also has the option of traveling each spring on a three to four night trip to a different destination each year. Performance and equipment technique ability, academic eligibility, attendance, work ethic and student discipline are all factors in determining band placement each semester

A. VARSITY WINTER GUARD

- 1) The Varsity Winter Guard is the highest performing/competition winter guard in the program, and will primarily be made up of juniors and seniors.
- 2) The Varsity will have regularly scheduled rehearsals required throughout the year and will begin rehearsals after school immediately after marching season.
- 3) In addition to winter guard competitions, Varsity guard members are required to maintain an A/B average, attend ALL rehearsals, and perform at the MBHS Bailadora Spring Show.
- 4) Any varsity member that loses eligibility during the winter guard season may be immediately moved to the junior varsity or removed from the show that season.

B. JUNIOR VARSITY

- 1) The Junior Varsity Winter Guard is the second performing/competition winter guard in the program, and will primarily be made up of freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors.
- 2) The Junior Varsity will have regularly scheduled rehearsals required throughout the year and will begin rehearsals after school immediately after marching season.
- 3) In addition to winter guard competitions, Varsity guard members are required to maintain an A/B average, and attend ALL rehearsals.
- 4) Any junior varsity member that loses eligibility during the winter guard season may be removed from the show during that season.

C. ELIGIBILITY

- 1) Students are expected to maintain an A average in guard each grading period to demonstrate competence in the objectives for each grading period.
- 2) Students are also expected to maintain passing grades in all of their classes in order to maintain academic eligibility to perform with the band. If a student misses a performance due to ineligibility, the student may be moved to the next lower guard.

IV. PRIVATE LESSONS

Learning to play an instrument does not end after the sixth grade, but continues as a lifelong study which requires practice and instruction. The school district has established a private lesson program made up of the finest private teachers in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. A student who might be considered to have weak skills will greatly benefit from the individual attention that private lessons offer. An advanced student will also benefit greatly from private lessons allowing them the opportunity to enhance their performance abilities and knowledge of their instrument and music. Please consult a director for private lesson information. Lesson teacher contact information is available on the band website.

Private lessons are provided at a low weekly rate of \$24.

If enrolled in private lessons, it is very important to pay your private teacher in a timely manner. The money they collect is their sole source of income, so please be considerate toward your private teacher.

**Lesson Participation is required in order to be in Honors or Symphonic 1 (Financial assistance is available for those who qualify)

V. ATTENDANCE - (Official Absence Request Form: [CLICK HERE](#))

A. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

- 1) **ALL MARCHING BAND MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND ALL REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES OF THE MARCHING BAND AS SCHEDULED. IF YOU ARE GOING TO BE ABSENT FROM SCHOOL, FILL OUT AN OFFICIAL ABSENCE REQUEST FORM TO LET US KNOW SO THAT WE MAY BETTER PREPARE AND PLAN FOR A REHEARSAL. ALL BAND EVENTS ARE *REQUIRED* UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.** FOR EXAMPLE, A FAMILY TRIP IS NOT AN ACCEPTABLE EXCUSE FOR MISSING A BAND FUNCTION. WHEN EXACT TIMES ARE NOT LISTED, IT MEANS THAT THEY WERE NOT AVAILABLE TO US AT THE TIME THE CALENDAR WAS RELEASED. Please note that times listed for performances are the actual time of the performance, not the warm-up or report time for the student. The same is also true for rehearsal times. **End times are, for example, the times when the practice is over at the marching field.** The time it takes a student to walk to the Band Hall and put up equipment will vary. Please allow at least 15-20 minutes from the end of a rehearsal before picking up your student.

B. LOGISTICS

- 1) Student parking: Student vehicles should be parked in the student parking lot, not in a faculty and visitor lot. THIS APPLIES BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER SCHOOL HOURS.
- 2) A student should never drive his/her own vehicle on the marching field. Adhering to this policy will allow for a safer pedestrian environment for students and staff.
- 3) Students should walk on the paved areas on campus and refrain from walking on the grass or on the road.
- 4) **Students may NOT be dropped off at the loading dock. Students need to be picked up and dropped off in the south parking lot only.**
- 5) BUS LOADING/UNLOADING ZONE
 - a. Buses will always load and unload the band and equipment from the curb in the back of the building and in front of the band hall.
 - b. We ask for parents to refrain from parking cars along the curb so the buses and equipment trucks will have safe, unobstructed access to this loading zone.
- 6) AFTER PERFORMANCE PICK UP PROCEDURE
 - a. Return times are approximate, since event timing and traffic are unpredictable. When the band returns from an event, there is a tremendous amount of equipment to be unloaded. Parents are welcome to help; this will allow our loading crew and students to get home earlier.

- b. Please do not pick your student up from a band event any later than 45 minutes after it is over. Following an evening event, a director will stay until the last student is picked up. After the 45 minute mark, we are obligated to reach out to CPS/McKinney Non-Emergency line. Please be considerate of directors so that they may go home in a timely manner.

C. TARDY/ABSENCE POLICY

1) UNEXCUSED TARDIES

- a. 1ST tardy – student conference, deduction in behavioral grade.
- b. 2ND tardy – parent phone conference, deduction in behavioral grade.
- c. 3RD tardy – student may be removed from the show for the week, deduction in behavioral grade.
- d. Any additional tardy will result in further loss of performance, and may affect band status.

2) ABSENCES

- a. Any unexcused absence from a band rehearsal will result in loss of performance status and a deduction in behavioral grade.
- b. Two or more absences from marching rehearsals (for any reason) may result in losing your place, or not being allowed to travel to FB game or contest.
- c. Refusal to run laps or appropriate consequence may result in suspension from performance for an indefinite length of time.
- d. *An UNEXCUSED absence from a performance may result in disciplinary action at the administrative level and may also result in removal from the performing band. The student/parent will be responsible for all fees due and there will be no refunds on fees paid.*

D. ATTENDANCE POLICY

- 1) All band students must abide by the McKinney Boyd High School attendance policies.
- 2) Attendance is required at all rehearsals, sectionals, performances, and band events. Performances include but are not limited to football games, marching contests, concerts, and concert contests including out of town trips.
- 3) Leaving a band event early is unacceptable except in an emergency situation.
- 4) Absences, tardiness, and early dismissals will be excused only for medical and family emergencies.
- 5) Examples of unexcused absences, tardiness, and unexcused early dismissals include but are not limited to:
 - a. Work, including applications, interviews and hours of work
 - b. Drivers Education class (we strongly recommend enrolling in such a class during the summer holidays)
 - c. Transportation not arranged
 - d. Over sleeping
 - e. Family trip
 - f. Church retreat or activity (we will always make an effort to avoid scheduling events on Wednesday evenings but occasionally a Wednesday rehearsal or performance is unavoidable).
 - g. Social gathering
 - h. Banquets
 - i. Orthodontist or doctor appointment (unless illness requires immediate appointment)
 - j. Tutorials (Students are expected to use non-rehearsal days or times. Also refer to #2)
 - k. Testing i.e. SAT, PSAT, ACT, etc. (Band calendars are given in advance to allow for personal schedules. It is advised not to schedule an exam for the morning after a band event. **Please consult a director if unsure about possible conflicts before scheduling a test or appointment.**

Good Testing Days

- August 27th
- September 10th
- October 22nd
- November 5th
- December 10th
- February 5th
- February 11th
- March 11th
- April 15th
- May 6th
- June 3rd
- June 10th
- July 15th

Bad Testing Days

- October 1st
- December 3rd

- 6) All absences must be reported to the directors in advance by filling out the google form so that adjustments to the rehearsal schedule can be made if necessary. An explanatory email from the parent or guardian is appropriate.
- 7) Absences that occur without prior notification may be classified as unexcused absences.
- 8) Unexcused absences and tardies may result in, but are not limited to:
 - a. Grade reduction
 - b. Running laps or other consequential measures
 - c. Loss of performance status
- 9) ANY TIME THAT IS MISSED FROM REHEARSAL MUST BE MADE UP OR "GIVEN BACK" TO THE BAND.
- 10) Students must use school transportation to and from band functions (unless directors assign other transportation).

E. ROLL CHECK

- 1) Every band function will have a roll check.
- 2) You must be in your assigned position, or you will be considered absent or tardy.
- 3) Roll check positions you must know:
 - a. Seated indoor rehearsal set-up.
 - b. Position in the marching warm-up block.

VI. Grading Policy/ Syllabus

GRADING POLICY

Grades in all subject areas will be defined by two categories:

- Summative: These grades will comprise 70% of a student's grade average in the course. (Students will complete a minimum 3 summative grades per quarter)
- Formative. These grades will comprise 30% of a student's grade average in the course. (Students will complete a minimum 10 formatives grades per quarter)

SUMMATIVES

Summative grades may include but are not subject to: Football Performances, Concerts, Clinician Rehearsals, Weekly Effort Grades (For details, please see below)

FORMATIVES

Formative grades may include but are not subject to: Objective Pass-Offs

WEEKLY BEHAVIORAL GRADES

Students will receive weekly effort grades based on:

- Attendance
 - ❑ If a student has an unexcused absence, their effort grade for that week will be lowered based off of how many rehearsals they should attend during that period of time.
- Necessary Materials
 - ❑ If a student fails to come to class or rehearsal without the necessary materials, their grade is subject to being lowered 5 points for that day.
- Proper Classroom Behavior
 - ❑ If a student fails to follow classroom procedure (improper phone usage, class disruption, etc.) their grade is subject to being lowered 5 points for that day.

SYLLABUS

(Changes are up to Directors' Discretion)

A. FIRST QUARTER

- 1) Fight Song memorization
- 2) Marching music memorization
- 3) Marching rehearsal attendance
- 4) All performances are required
- 5) Pep rally attendance
- 6) Wear show shirt on Friday
- 7) Bronco Fest/Homecoming Pep Rally Attendance
- 8) Pass off All-Region Etudes at reduced tempos
- 9) Color Guard routine memorization

B. SECOND QUARTER

- 1) Marching music memorization
- 2) Marching rehearsal attendance
- 3) All performances are required
- 4) Marching competition attendance
- 5) Pep rally attendance
- 6) Wear show shirt on Friday
- 7) Pass off All-Region Etudes at full tempos
- 8) Competition attendance
- 9) Scales/Arpeggio semester testing
- 10) Winter Concert
- 11) All-Region Tryout
- 12) Color Guard routine memorization
- 13) Winter Guard rehearsal attendance

- 14) Winter Guard show routine memorization

C. THIRD QUARTER

- 1) Ensemble rehearsals (rehearsal evaluation form weekly)
- 2) Ensemble recital
- 3) Ensemble recital evaluation form
- 4) Ensemble Contest
- 5) Weekly scale/arpeggio testing
- 6) Section rehearsals
- 7) Full band rehearsals
- 8) Pre-Contest Concert
- 9) MISD Pre-UIL Concert
- 10) Winter Guard rehearsal attendance
- 11) Winter Guard show routine memorization
- 12) Winter Guard competition attendance

D. FOURTH QUARTER

- 1) Solo rehearsals with accompanist
- 2) Solo Performance and Concerto Contest Prelims evaluation
- 3) Concerto Competition Finals attendance
- 4) Scale/Arpeggio/Sight Reading Semester testing
- 5) UIL Concert/Sight Reading Contest
- 6) Spring Contests/Festivals/Concerts
- 7) Scales/Arpeggio testing
- 8) Sectionals
- 9) Full band rehearsal