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**Huntsville Intermediate**

**Band**

**Handbook**

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Band Hall Phone (936) 293-2731

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Items with a (\*) need to be filled out, signed and returned.

Huntsville Intermediate School Band

2014-2015 Calendar

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **DATE** | **DAY** | **EVENT** | **LOCATION** | **TIME** |
| AUG. 28 | THURS | Instrument Drive | HIS 6th Grade Gym | 5:00-7:00 |
| SEPT. 5 | FRI | Instrument Purchase Deadline |  |  |
|  |  | -You must have an instrument by this date to remain in band. |  |  |
| OCT. 28 | TUES | Preview Performance - Green Band | HIS 6th Grade Gym | 6:00 |
| OCT. 28 | TUES | Preview Performance - White Band | HIS 6th Grade Gym | 7:00 |
| DEC. 9 | TUES | Rehearsal for Christmas Concert | HIS 6th Grade Gym | 3:30-5:00 |
| DEC. 11 | THURS | CHRISTMAS CONCERT | Walker Co. Fairgrounds | 6:30 |
| JAN. 26 | MON | Band Fundraiser Begins | HIS Band Hall |  |
| FEB. 9 | MON | Fundraiser Orders & Money Due | HIS Band Hall |  |
| APR. 17 | FRI | Solo & Ensemble Contest | Huntsville High School | 3:30-6:30 |
| MAY. 12 | TUES | Rehearsal for Spring Concert | HIS 6th Grade Gym | 3:30-5:00 |
| MAY 11,12,13 | TUES | Evaluations for 6th Grade | HIS Band Hall | In Class |
| MAY. 14 | THURS | SPRING CONCERT | Walker Co. Fairgrounds | 6:30 |
| MAY. 19 | TUES | 6th/7th Combined Rehearsal - Woodwinds | MPMS Band Hall | 3:30-4:30 |
| MAY. 20 | WED | 6th/7th Combined Rehearsal - Brass/Percussion | MPMS Band Hall | 3:30-4:30 |
| MAY. 21 | THURS | All Band Fines and Fees Must Be Paid |  |  |
|  |  | -All fees must be paid in order to attend the trip on May 22nd |  |  |
| MAY. 22 | FRI | INCREDIBLE PIZZA TRIP | Conroe, TX | 10-2:00 |

# \*\*Directors reserve the right to change or add dates to this calendar. If this is necessary, you will be notified by an email explaining the changes or additions.

# Introduction

Welcome to the Huntsville Intermediate School Band Program. We are very excited that your child has decided to participate in band. The purpose of this handbook is to introduce the Band Policies which have been designed to provide you with the best possible band program. Please keep this handbook as a reference.

Sixth grade band is a year-long commitment where students will learn to properly assemble their instrument, make a characteristic tone on their instrument, and attain technical and musical (aesthetic) skill that will carry them into the middle school band program. They will also learn proper rehearsal and performance etiquette.

# Vision Statement

Through a family atmosphere of mutual respect and belonging, HISD band students will experience a dynamic learning environment that results in sustaining a *tradition of excellence.* Students will be successful by utilizing the highest musical standards resulting in a life-long love for music, a sense of pride and self-confidence.

# The list below outlines the HIS Band expectations. It also lists some non-acceptable forms of behavior from HIS Band Students.

1. At no time will Band members be late to a rehearsal or performance, unless cleared with a director in advance. If there is an emergency the director must be notified as soon as possible.
2. Swearing will not be tolerated at any time, during any rehearsal or performance, or trip.
3. Students will respect all school property and that of others at all times. If something is not yours, please do not touch it.
4. The Band Hall is the Band’s “home” and should be treated as such. If you use something, put it back. If you borrow something, return it. If you make a mess, clean it up.
5. The Band Hall is for band students ONLY. Non-band students are not allowed in the band hall. This is to protect people who are not familiar with the safety rules of being around instruments. Additionally, this is to avoid accidents resulting from people who do not know how to handle instruments properly. Finally, this is to minimize the possibility of theft in the Band Hall.
6. Every student should have their band binder, instrument (including extra reeds, valve oil, etc.), pencil and highlighter during every band class.
7. Students will show respect for everyone they come in contact with, in and out of the band program.
8. Cell phones are a useful means of communicating with parents for pick-up and drop-off times. However, cell phones will not be used or visible during any performance or rehearsal (including after-school) or they will be picked up and given to the office and the normal school procedures will be followed as if picked up during the school day.
9. Fighting before, during or after a band performance/rehearsal OR on school property can be grounds for permanent dismissal from the Band Program (this includes school buses).
10. Failure to follow these guidelines can result in dismissal from the band program.
11. Breaking a local, state or federal law can result in permanent dismissal from the band program.

# Disciplinary Consequences

1. Warning
2. One or more of the following:
   1. Phone call or email to parents.
   2. Written assignment during class ~ music worksheets that will count as their class participation when their behavior is disrupting other students’ learning.
3. Office referral
4. Removal from band program.

**Disciplinary Policy for Travel and Band Trip**

**Travel -** Any student that gets into a physical altercation on the school bus or on school property

**will not** be allowed to travel with the band.

**Band Trip**

1. Any student that is ineligible the six weeks prior to the band trip will not be allowed to attend. This means that they are failing any class on their report card.
2. Any student that has been sent to DAEP once, **OR** has been to ISS more than twice will not be allowed to attend the end of year band trip.

# Grading Policy

**Daily Grades 50%**

This includes class participation, practice sheets, written work, and having all supplies

everyday in class.

**Test Grades 50%**

This includes performances and concerts, after school rehearsals, weekly playing tests,

pop playing tests, and written tests.

# Practice requirements

One of the goals of the band program is to help teach the students to be disciplined and responsible. These two principles can help the student in every area of their lives. The homework (practice sheets) time is where discipline and responsibility are developed. The students will be required to practice **100 minutes per week** and turn in a practice sheet **every** **Friday** to receive a 100 for a grade. Practice records will be accepted late, but not for full credit. They will lose 10 points off the total grade if it is turned in late. Practice records will be accepted up to two weeks late for 10 points off. Any practice records turned in more than two weeks after it is due will not be counted. Practice sheets turned in after the end of the six weeks cannot be counted.

**Students with larger instruments (bass clarinet, tenor sax, baritone, tuba, and percussion) MAY** practice before school hours by asking for a practice pass. This will allow them to come to the band hall before school to practice instead of going straight to their first period class. However, they must be passing all of their classes in order to take advantage of this opportunity. Directors will sign off on practice minutes on the students’ practice sheet if they choose to come during this time.

**Extra Credit Work**

All band students may attend an approved instrumental performance for extra credit, including Mance Park Middle School, Huntsville High School, and Sam Houston State University. You must bring the program from the concert to Ms. Autry to receive credit.

# Performances

Band is a performance-based class. Every member of the ensemble is vital to its performance success; therefore, it is easy to see why all performances are mandatory and graded. The only acceptable reasons for missing a performance are severe illness, with a note from physician, or extreme family emergency or tragedy. Please phone the band hall prior to the performance (936-293-2731) if one of these reasons causes your student to miss a concert. Attendance at performances will count as a major test grade. It is unacceptable for a student to be tardy to a performance. Students that arrive after a performance has started will not be permitted to perform and their tardiness will result in a zero for a major grade.

# Performance Attire

Preview Performance, Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, Solo & Ensemble, Picture Day:

**Ladies:**

* Band polo tucked in
* Long solid black slacks **(no jeans)**
* Solid black belt (no accessories or bling)
* Mid-calf black socks or hose (no ankle length or no-show socks allowed)
* Solid black shoes (no flip flops or sandals)

**Gentlemen:**

* Band polo tucked in
* Long solid black slacks **(no jeans)**
* Solid black belt (no accessories or bling)
* Mid-calf black socks (no ankle length or no-show socks allowed)
* Solid black closed-toed shoes

Pep rallies, spring trip:

* Band Polo or Band T-shirt tucked in with a belt
* School approved pants or shorts
* Tennis shoes or close toe shoes

Failure to wear the appropriate attire will result in a loss of participation for that particular event, and therefore a zero for a major grade.

# Solo & Ensemble

Solo & Ensemble Contest involves students preparing a solo and an ensemble (a small group) and performing for a judge. The student is given a rating based on the quality of the performance. Each student will be required to perform a solo and participate in an ensemble. This year’s contest is on

April 17th at Huntsville High School.

# School Instruments

Due to the high cost of providing an instrument to every student in the band program, each member of the Band must have an instrument of his/her own that is in good repair and good working order. However, some instruments are too costly for the students to purchase and the school district will provide those instruments. Further information and details regarding the instrument usage fee and related forms will be available at the Instrument Drive on August 28th. The following instruments will be provided to qualified students for a fee of $25 per semester or a one-time payment of $40 by **Friday, September 5th** to cover cleaning and maintenance, but not including abuse or neglect:

* 1. Oboes
  2. Bass Clarinets
  3. Bassoons
  4. Tenor Saxophones
  5. Baritone Saxophones
  6. French Horns
  7. Baritones/Euphoniums
  8. Tubas
  9. Percussion Equipment (except beginning percussion kits and practice pads)

\*\* Note: All percussionists must supply their own mallets and sticks at all times

All students are responsible for supplying their own reeds, oil, grease, creams, and neck straps (as needed by their instruments). All reed players are required to have **four reeds in a reed case**, in good playing condition with them at all times. Oboes and bassoons must have **three reeds**.

It is required for sanitary reasons that each brass player who is using a school owned instrument to purchase his/her own mouthpiece as recommended by the band director. Brass players are required to have valve oil (trombones only: slide cream/slide-o-mix) with them at all times. Additionally each brass player needs to have their own BERP attachment.

Failure of any student to have his/her required instrument parts and accessories each day in class will result in the lowering of that student’s grade.

Each student will label their instrument with their name clearly on an instrument tag on the case, or will have the directors affix a label with their name.

**Required Supplies**

ALL STUDENTS NEED:

Black Band Binder/Pencil Bag with pencil and highlighter = $4.00

(If your student does not have a binder by Friday, Aug. 29th, they will be issued one and charged $4)

Band Polo = $21.00 (purchased from band)

Essential Elements 2000 Book 1 (for your instrument)

Metronome/Tuner

Wire folding music stand for home practice

Flute

* Cleaning cloth
* Tuning rod
* Key plugs for open-holed flutes

Oboe/Bassoon

* Reed case
* Cleaning Swab
* Cork Grease
* 3 Singing Dog Reeds ~ Medium reeds

Clarinet

* Clarinet Mouthpiece ~ 5RV Lyre
* Ligature ~ Bonade Inverted
* Mouthpiece cap
* 1 reed guard (4 model)
* Box of Vandoren reeds (strength 3)
* Cleaning swab
* Cork Grease

Saxophone

* Mouthpiece ~ Selmer
* Ligature ~ Bonade
* Mouthpiece cap
* Box of Vandoren reeds (strength 3)
* Reed Guard
* Neck strap
* Swab
* Cork grease

French horn

* Mouthpiece ~ Holton Farkas
* Rotary Valve oil
* Slide grease
* BERP

Trumpet

* Mouthpiece ~ Bach 7C
* Blue Juice Valve oil
* Tuning slide grease
* Polishing cloth
* Brush snake
* BERP

Trombone

* Mouthpiece ~ Bach 6 ½ AL or Schilke 51D
* Tuning slide grease
* Slide-O-Mix Slide lubricant
* Small spray bottle
* Polishing cloth
* Brush snake
* BERP

Baritone

* Mouthpiece ~ Bach 6 ½ AL or Schilke 51D
* Blue Juice Valve oil
* Tuning slide grease
* BERP

Tuba

* Mouthpiece ~ Conn Helleberg 120-7B
* Mouthpiece Pouch
* Blue Juice Valve oil
* Tuning slide grease
* BERP

Percussion

* Vic Firth V8806 Bell Kit
* 12” Real Feel Double Sided Practice Pad
* Ralph Hardimon Jr. Snare Sticks
* Xylophone Mallets
* Marimba Mallets
* Vic Firth Standard stick bag

# Private Lessons

A tremendous asset to the band program at Huntsville Intermediate is the Private Lessons Program. We want to be sure that every parent and student in the band program understands the purpose and value of private lessons on their instrument.

1) Private lessons give the student an opportunity to learn from a specialist on his/her instrument.

2) Private lessons help individualize the student’s instruction and allow the student to move at a pace that meets with his/her individual needs.

3) Private lessons will help to insure the success of your investment.

We encourage you to seriously consider private lessons for your student. Please have your child pick up and bring home the private lessons form and return it to Ms. Autry if you wish for your child to be involved in the program. Forms are available in the band hall.

# Summer Band Camps

Most colleges in the state of Texas offer a week of band camp in the summer. Band camps are a great and fun way to improve as musicians. Information about band camps usually arrives in the band office in March or April. We will post band camp information in the band hall as it becomes available.

**2014-2015 Band Booster Executive Board**

President

Christi Welle [president@huntsvillemilitaryband.com](mailto:president@huntsvillemilitaryband.com)

Vice-President in Charge of Concessions

Nanci Yamada [vp-concessions@huntsvillemilitaryband.com](mailto:vp-concessions@huntsvillemilitaryband.com)

Vice President in Charge of Chaperones

Terri Kaye Hall [vp-chaperone@huntsvillemilitaryband.com](mailto:vp-chaperone@huntsvillemilitaryband.com)

Treasurer

Dawn Tolbert [treasurer@huntsvillemilitaryband.com](mailto:treasurer@huntsvillemilitaryband.com)

Secretary

Joeline Bryant [secretary@huntsvillemilitaryband.com](mailto:secretary@huntsvillemilitaryband.com)

HIS Representative

WE NEED YOU!! Contact Ms. Autry if you are interested!!

Band Website: www.huntsvillemilitaryband.com

# Items to be Returned

There are four pages that need to be filled out, signed, and returned to Ms. Autry by **Friday, August 29, 2014.**

Those pages are:

1. HIS Student Information Sheet
2. Medical Release Form
3. Learning and Commitment Contract
4. Instrument Usage Agreement for school owned instruments users ONLY (students will be bringing this form home once they are assigned a school instrument)

Also attached is a Band Calendar. Some of the dates have not been set yet but will be soon. We provide a calendar so that you have advance notice of our upcoming events. **Please keep these dates in mind when planning other events.**

**Payments = All checks for band supplies need to be made out to “HIS Band”. Please write your drivers’ license number and phone number on the check!**

# Conclusion

Policies are set forth in this handbook to better serve the needs of the group. Parents and students who have questions or would like to discuss these policies may call the band office at 936-293-2731 OR email Ms. Autry at [sautry@huntsville-isd.org](mailto:sautry@huntsville-isd.org). **The best way to reach the directors is by email.** The Huntsville Intermediate Band Program is here to develop your child to his/her full musical potential. Your child is our first priority and we have a strong desire to help them in their overall growth as a musician and a young adult.

**Please have all documents completed, signed, and returned to school by Friday, August 29, 2014.**

**Huntsville Intermediate School Band**

**Learning and Commitment Contract**

* We have read and understand the material in this handbook regarding grading policies, rehearsal and concert attendance, classroom and other behavior expectations, materials needed, and concert attire.
* We understand that lack of transportation to/from a rehearsal or concert is not an excused absence. Please work out carpooling.
* We understand that band class is a year long commitment.

Students may not drop out due to lack of interest.

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Student Name (please print clearly)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (please print clearly)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature Date