



HUNTSVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
*FOCUS: For Our Children's Unlimited Success*

# 2023-2024 MANCE PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND HANDBOOK



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# Mance Park Middle School

## 2023-2024

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## 2023-2024 HISD Band Booster Executive Board

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# MANCE PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND



Welcome to the Mance Park Middle School Band! You are continuing your musical development in an outstanding organization at Mance Park. We are looking forward to a great year of music making and learning!

The study and performance of instrumental music is a wonderful opportunity for young people. It is our goal to enable our students to fully enjoy the life-long benefits of music through learning and performance experiences in the MPMS Band. The skills learned through a positive and successful experience in the school band program: self-discipline, increased self-esteem, group cooperation, commitment, accountability, responsibility, and teamwork will be reflected in our concentration, alertness, memory, and self-control. Enjoying a new level of communication and self-expression is an incredible by-product of being in the band. Creativity is within all of us, and the language of music is a perfect vehicle to allow for this personal growth and development.

The purpose of this handbook is to communicate the expectations, procedures, and policies of the Mance Park Band. It includes information regarding our goals, curriculum and assessment policies, activities/events, fundraising, and student financial responsibility. The goals contained in this handbook are intended to help each band student achieve and experience musical excellence on their instrument and in their band program.

Information in this handbook is important for each member. We ask that all band members and their parents read the handbook carefully. Please sign and return the forms at the end of the handbook and save the handbook for future reference.

You will also find attached the Calendar of Band Events for the 2023-2024 school year. It will be necessary to send home additional information via the students throughout the school year regarding specific event details and any changes in scheduling. **THE MAJORITY OF OUR CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION WILL BE DONE VIA EMAILS AND HANDOUTS.** *We will use the email address you provide to us on the MPMS Band Information Sheet. If you are not receiving weekly emails from the band department, please email or call us and we will add you to our list.*

The last four pages in the handbook are to be turned in to the band directors no later than Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022. These are: (1) MPMS Band Agreement Form, (2) MPMS Band Medical Release Form, (3) Student Information Sheet, (4) Instrument Usage Agreement **(for school owned instruments only)**.

Thank you in advance for doing your part to make this an outstanding year for the Mance Park Middle School Band Program!

## **Program Objectives:**

### **The MPMS Band Program Vision:**

Emphasizing the highest standards of individual and ensemble music fundamentals and performance skills, the MPMS Band Program will provide students with a quality, goal-oriented music education while nurturing a life-long appreciation for music. The band directors at Mance Park are dedicated to providing all band students with a high quality education and experience in music. While we realize that not all students will pursue careers directly involving music, it is our sincere desire to help all students develop skills that will enable them to better understand, appreciate, and enjoy music now and throughout their lives.

The State of Texas has established curriculum guidelines that focus on providing such education in music. Consistent with the TEKS expectations and guidelines, students in all band classes at Mance Park Middle School will:

- Perform independently with accurate intonation and rhythm, demonstrating fundamental skills and basic performance techniques.
- Demonstrate appropriate small and large ensemble performance techniques during formal and informal concerts.
- Interpret music symbols and terms referring to dynamics, tempo, and articulation when performing.
- Develop and demonstrate skills in reading parts, interpreting various music symbols, expressions, and syntax (individual and ensemble performance).

These objectives will be realized through individual and ensemble practice, performance, and playing examinations. Practices and playing examinations will include performances of ensemble parts, etudes, fundamental exercises (focusing on tone development and technique), and other music as assigned.

## **Classroom and Rehearsal Expectations:**

The directors are committed to providing each band member with a challenging, rewarding, and fulfilling musical experience while at Mance Park. Each member of our band can help us reach that goal by being respectful and cooperative before, during, and after rehearsals. Please remember: **only band students are allowed in the band hall.** There are very few rooms on our campus where you are allowed to hang out with your band friends while school is not in session. With the luxury of the band hall comes great responsibility. Please treat your room with respect.

- Students must come into the band hall quietly and orderly. Running and/or shuffling will not be permitted.

- Students **are not allowed** to touch equipment or instruments that do not belong to them. Any student who damages someone else's instrument or a school-owned instrument will be financially responsible for the repair or replacement of that instrument.
  - **NO GUM** will be permitted in the band hall **AT ANY TIME**.
  - All students are expected to have the necessary supplies for successful rehearsals. These supplies include their instrument in good working condition, band binder, music, pencil, highlighter, reeds, oil, stick bag, and sticks/mallets. **Not having the necessary supplies will result in not being able to fulfill the daily requirement which will result in a lower daily grade. If a student does not have everything they need to rehearse that day, they will be given a packet of work in which the highest grade they can receive for that day is a 70.**
  - All students will be assigned a specific instrument locker for daily storage while at school. Students must have an ID name tag identifying their instrument. If they are not able to get an ID tag, we will put a label on their instrument case for them. **No student is to touch anything in a locker that belongs to another student.**
  - Quiet rehearsals are productive rehearsals; therefore, **TALKING DURING INSTRUCTION TIME IS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED.**
  - Band class is over only when the director dismisses the class.
  - Cell phones are a useful means of communicating with parents for pick-up and drop-off times. However, during rehearsals, including after school rehearsals, it should not be used for communication purposes, i.e. texting, calling, social networking, etc. Any misuse of technology during class or rehearsal will result in the following consequences:
    1. Confiscated until the end of the class period.
    2. Confiscated and sent to the AP's Office.
  - Fighting before, during, or after a band performance or rehearsal with any student can be grounds for permanent dismissal from the band program for the student's remaining middle and high school years.
  - There is a zero-tolerance policy regarding bullying of any nature. If there is evidence against a student bullying, that student will either be demoted to a lower Band, or removed from Band entirely.
  - Breaking a local, state, or federal law can result in permanent dismissal from the band program.
- Failure to follow any of these guidelines may result in dismissal from the band program.**

**Consequences for classroom behavior:**

1. Warning – you will get a verbal warning during or after class.
2. Parent contact – your parents will receive a phone call/email to discuss your classroom conduct.
3. Detention – you will receive a 30 minute detention for before school, after school, or during lunch.
4. Office referral – you will be sent to the office with a discipline referral. A behavior contract will be implemented and enforced.
5. Removal from the band program – you will be **permanently** removed from the MPMS Band Program and will be denied entry to the Huntsville High School Military Marching Band Program.

**THE EXPECTATIONS OF ALL MANCE PARK BAND STUDENTS ARE HIGH. WHEN THE REQUIREMENTS, GUIDELINES, AND EXPECTATIONS ARE MET, THE REWARDS ARE GREAT!**

## Tardy Policy

- **Tardy to class**
  - Students **MUST** be in the band hall when the tardy bell rings. Passes from the office or teachers should be handed to a director in a manner not to interrupt the teaching and/or learning.
  - Students will have an additional **three** minutes after the tardy bell rings to be in their seats, ready to play. Any student not in their seat after the additional three minutes has elapsed will be given a tardy.
  - Rehearsal will begin when the director steps up on the podium. Warm-up and rehearsal information will be posted each day.
- **Tardy to a performance:**
  - If a student arrives **after the performance has started**, they will **NOT** be permitted to perform and will receive a zero for a major grade.

### **Excessive class tardies will result in the following:**

1. Warning
2. Phone call home
3. Principal Intervention

## 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 their own that is in good repair and good working order. However, some instruments are too costly for students to purchase and the school district will provide those instruments. The following instruments will be provided to qualified students for a fee of **\$50 due on October 13th** to cover cleaning and maintenance, **but not including abuse or neglect.**

1. Oboe
2. Bassoon
3. Bass Clarinet
4. Tenor Saxophone
5. Baritone Saxophone
6. French Horn
7. Baritone/Euphonium
8. Tuba

All **woodwind** students using a school owned instrument are required to have **their own mouthpiece**, reeds and cork grease. All **brass** students who are using a school owned instrument are required to have **their own mouthpiece**, valve oil, and slide grease. **All students are required to have all supplies with them at all times.**



**Failure of any student to have his/her required instrument or parts and accessories will result in not being able to adequately perform and will result in a lower grade.**

## **Required Supplies for All Band Students:**

1. White uniform concert/contest shirt **PURCHASED ONLY THROUGH THE BAND DEPARTMENT** (see “performance attire” for more details.)
2. White under shirt
3. Black slacks **WITH BELT LOOPS** – It is recommended that **SLACKS BE LOOSE FITTED BELOW THE KNEE – no skinny-fitted slacks.**
4. Solid black belt. Belts must not contain “bling” and **belts with silver rings/holes going around the belt are not permitted.**
5. Mid-calf black socks or hose (no ankle length or no-show socks allowed)
6. Solid black, close-toed dress shoes – all shoes must be **SOLID BLACK**, shoes with a white bottom/sole will **NOT BE PERMITTED.**
7. 2023-2024 MPMS Band t-shirt
8. Black, 1 inch, 3 ring binder **PURCHASED ONLY THROUGH THE BAND DEPARTMENT and will include the following:**
  - a. Pencil bag
  - b. Pencil
  - c. Highlighter
  - d. 4 music dividers
  - e. 1 sheet of hole reinforcements
9. Metronome/tuner (Korg TM-40 recommended)

The following is a list of required supplies for each instrument. Your child will be given a supplies price list for purchasing items through the band department. You can also find the price list at the end of this handbook. When a specific model or brand name is listed, it is our professional recommendation:

### Flutes

- Tuning/Cleaning rod
- Cleaning Cloth
- Flute hole plugs (for open-holed flutes only)

### Oboes

- **THREE** good/playable reeds **AT ALL TIMES** (no chips or excessive wear). Absolutely **NO** plastic reeds.
- Reed guard/case (holds at least 3 reeds)
- Small container with cap for soaking reeds in water
- Cleaning swab
- Cork grease

### Bassoons

- **THREE** good/playable reeds **AT ALL TIMES** (no chips or excessive wear). Absolutely **NO** plastic reeds.
- Reed guard/case (holds at least 3 reeds)
- Small container with cap for soaking reeds in water
- Cleaning swab

### Clarinets

- Mouthpiece – 5RV Lyre or Gennusa Intermediate
- Mouthpiece cap
- Ligature: Vandoren Optimum or Bonade
- **FOUR** good/playable reeds **AT ALL TIMES** (no chips or excessive wear) Absolutely **NO** plastic reeds.
- Recommended reeds: Vandoren (blue box) – strength 3 or 3 ½
- Reed guard/case (holds at least 4 reeds)
- Cleaning swab
- Cork grease

### Bass Clarinets

- Mouthpiece – Vandoren B45 or Yamaha 4C
- **FOUR** good/playable reeds **AT ALL TIMES** (no chips or excessive wear) Absolutely **NO** plastic reeds.
- Recommended reeds: Vandoren (blue box) – strength 3
- Reed guard/case (holds at least 4 reeds)
- Cleaning swab
- Cork grease

### ALL Saxophones

- Mouthpiece – Vandoren AL3 (alto), TL3 (tenor), BL3 (bari), or Clark W Fobes Debut for all saxes
- Mouthpiece cap (only Alto Sax needs a mouthpiece cap)
- Ligatures: Vandoren Optimum or Bonade (only Alto Sax needs a ligature)
- **FOUR** good/playable reeds **AT ALL TIMES** (no chips or excessive wear). Absolutely **NO** plastic reeds
- Recommended reeds:
  - Alto Saxophone – Vandoren (blue box) – Strength 3 or 3 ½
  - Tenor Saxophone – Vandoren (blue box) – Strength 3
  - Baritone Saxophone – Vandoren (blue box) – Strength 3

- Reed guard/case (holds at least 4 reeds)
- Cleaning swab or pad saver
- Cork grease
- Neck strap (prefer the clip end)

### Trumpets

- Mouthpiece – Bach 5C
- Valve oil – AL Cass recommended

### French Horns

- Mouthpiece – Holton MDC Farkas
- Rotary valve oil – Hetman Synthetic Light Rotor oil

### Trombones

- Mouthpiece – 6 ½ AL, or Schilke 51D
- Slide grease – Slide O Mix Rapid Comfort All in one
- Spray bottle (can be found at stores in the travel toiletries section for under a dollar)

### Baritones/Euphoniums

- Mouthpiece – 6 ½ AL, or Schilke 51D
- Valve oil – AL Cass recommended
- Mouthpiece pouch for carrying mouthpiece from home to school

### Tubas

- Mouthpiece – Conn Helleberg
- Valve oil – AL Cass recommended
- Mouthpiece pouch for carrying mouthpiece from home to school

### Percussion – Split up by grade level

- 7<sup>th</sup> grade – the same supplies you had in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, PLUS
  - 1 pair of Bell/Xylo mallets, encore 1 1/8 red medium rubber unwound keyboard mallets
  - 1 pair of marimba mallets IP 100N
  - 1 pair of Vic Firth snare sticks IP Shane Gwaltney
  - 1 solid black hand towel
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade – everything you had in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade PLUS
- 1 pair of Vic Firth M170 Multi-Application rubber core soft marimba mallets
- 1 pair of IP general series GT5 Ultra Staccato timpani mallets

## Music

Each student will be issued one copy of all the current music selections. If a student loses their music or their binder, the following fees will apply:

- Binder
  - \$7.00 – this includes replacing the binder with all of the supplies and all of the music.

\*\*\*If a student loses a piece of music during the year, it is his/her responsibility to communicate with the directors for another piece of music before the next rehearsal. **All students must have their own copy of each piece of music.** If a student needs a new piece of music, they must ask a director **before** class starts.

## Grading Policy

### Daily grades:

Students receive daily grades based on:

- Having their supplies - Not having all supplies will hinder the students from participating in class which will result in a lower grade.
  - See “Required Supplies For All Band Students” for a full list of the required supplies
- Active class participation
- Rhythm/Theory Sheets
- Practice Sheets
- Listening Assignments

### Major Grades

Major grades include music assignments given by the band directors:

- Playing tests
  - Scales
  - Exercises
  - Region band music
  - Band music
  - Etc.
- Sectionals
  - Scheduled after school (see “Sectional Policy” for more information)
- Performances
  - Concerts (Fall, Christmas and Spring)
  - Solo and Ensemble
  - Pre-UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest
  - UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest

\*\*\***THE WEIGHT OF THESE GRADES WILL BE BASED ON THE SCHOOL POLICY.**

## **Sectional Policy**

In an effort to provide the strongest and most efficient learning experience, all students will be **required** to attend after school sectionals. Each band has a different after school sectional schedule that is given to them at the beginning of the new school year. Listed below is information regarding after school sectionals.

- All sectionals will be taken as a major test grade.
- We realize and appreciate that our Mance Park students are involved in many activities within the school; therefore, the band directors will compromise or split the rehearsal time with other organizations or activities. In these circumstances, email communication with all involved must take place **prior** to the band practice. Specific schedules will be made for each individual student so that they are able to participate in all after school activities/practices that they wish to be involved with.
- **Auditions/tryouts for any and all other school activities are not a valid excuse for a missed rehearsal.** The band directors will **always** work with all school coaches, teachers, and sponsors to create a schedule so that each individual student is allowed to participate in their desired activities.
- **If a student chooses to skip an after school sectional in order to go to a different after school activity/practice, they will be given a zero for their major grade. No exceptions, and no make-ups will be given.**
- A student may be excused from a band rehearsal **only for performances/games** with other school organizations.
- Absences due to participation in NON-SCHOOL SPONSORED activities (club soccer, baseball, gymnastics, dance class, karate, boy/girl scouts, etc.) are **NOT** excused.
- We realize that scheduling medical appointments can be difficult; however, please reference your child's sectional schedule when planning those appointments and try to avoid scheduling appointments during those times. Emergent medical appointments will be excused on a case by case basis.

## **Commitment to the Band Schedule**

As a performing musical organization, the band is a group actively dependent on **ALL** of its members. Every member of the band is important, and all students are required to attend all band performances and rehearsals. The band calendar and other notices are distributed in advance so that conflicts with other activities and events can be avoided and coordinated. The directors work with all campus organizations to ensure that students are able to participate in band and other organizations on our campus without conflicts.

EXCUSED absences are considered as those occurring due to personal illness (with a doctor's note), family emergency, or participation in another **school** activity that has already been cleared by the band directors. Please email your director to explain the reason for your child's absence.

The email should include parent contact information and the name of student.

Band activities in which the students participate comprise each student's grade. Unexcused absences from sectionals, full band rehearsals, and performances will be reflected in the student's grade. Students who miss rehearsals frequently may be asked to sit out of certain performances. UNEXCUSED absences may result in one or more of the following: 1) grade of zero, 2) parent conference, or 3) student placed on Probationary Status (not allowed to perform with the band). In extreme circumstances, students may be placed in a lower band due to consistently missed sectionals and performances.

**The following reasons will NOT be accepted for missed sectionals or performances:**

- 1. Student/Parent forgot about the Event:** A calendar is given to each student and is also located in the handbook and on the band website.
- 2. Practice with another Organization:** A student may be excused from a band rehearsal only for performances/games with other school organizations. Practice with another organization is usually not excused unless deemed a crucial practice by the leader of that organization. The band directors will compromise or split the rehearsal time with other organizations or activities. In these circumstances, email communication with all involved must take place **prior** to the band practice.
- 3. Student Has Homework:** We understand that all students are busy; however, time management is an important aspect of being a successful individual. Students are expected to complete homework assignments outside of performance time.
- 4. Cannot get a ride:** There are over 200 students in the band. Carpooling is not only encouraged, but may become a necessity. Please make arrangements to work together with other parents and students who can share in the carpooling experience.
- 5. Other Issues:** Issues that are not communicated beforehand with an email or phone call from parents will not be excused.

**Doctor, Dentist, Orthodontist, and other appointments:**

Please make every attempt to schedule dentist, doctor, and orthodontist office visits for times other than when you will be involved in a rehearsal or performance. Because of the group dynamic involved in band, all students are needed in attendance for all rehearsals and performances. We do recognize; however, that there are situations when this is impossible or unavoidable. Please remember to communicate to avoid problems!

**Unless the doctor's appointment is due to sudden illness, or other extreme circumstance, the absence will be considered unexcused.**

## **Practice Requirements**

In order to become successful on a musical instrument, it is important to develop consistent practice habits which will guarantee a successful and positive learning experience for the band student. Parent support and guidance are the key factors in establishing a regular practice schedule ensuring the attainment of musical goals. The most effective home rehearsal programs are based on 30 minutes per day dedicated to quality practice. Parents can help their band student practice in the following ways:

- Establish a regular time and place for your child to practice every day.
- Encourage your child to practice and remind him/her of its importance.
- Home practice is **expected and required**. The physical requirements and muscle memory for producing a quality sound, playing with clean technical accuracy, and the reading of music notation will be strengthened over time **ONLY** through regular, daily practice.

In order to be a successful musician and contribute their fullest potential to the Mance Park Middle School Band Program, we expect our students to understand that the necessary practice time must be met to achieve the individual goals they want to accomplish. Effective practicing requires organization and consistency. Weekly playing tests during class will show the amount of time each student puts into practicing.

## **Communication**

This is probably the most important key factor in having a successful band program. The main way we communicate is **via email and student handouts**. If you have not received an email from a band director lately, please make sure we have your email address on file.

### **Regarding Braces:**

Woodwind and brass players: Please be aware of the timing involved in getting braces. Braces are necessary for many students. If you should get braces, you will continue to be successful with them after the initial adjustment, but it does take some time to get your embouchure back to maximum playing ability. For this reason, we ask that you consider the timing in close proximity to major performances (i.e. Region Band Auditions, Solo and Ensemble Contest, Concerts, and UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest). Please inform us early of your intention to have major dental or orthodontic work done.

**REMEMBER – COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS WITH REGARDS TO SCHEDULING CONFLICTS!**

## Performance Attire:

- Formal Uniform: To be worn at performances such all Concerts, and Contests.
  - 1) Solid black dress pants/slacks with belt loops. **ABSOLUTELY NO** stripes, glitter, etc. **Capri pants, gauchos, skinny pants, jeans, “jeggings/leggings” are not acceptable.** Skirts/dresses are not acceptable unless for a religious reason, in this case, please see Mr. Voisard.
  - 2) Solid white, long-sleeved, button-up dress shirt, tucked in. **ALL STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE THEIR UNIFORM WHITE BUTTON-UP SHIRT THROUGH THE BAND PROGRAM.**
  - 3) Solid black bow tie (**TO BE PROVIDED/LOANED BY THE BAND DEPARTMENT**).
  - 4) White under shirt.
  - 5) Solid black belt (no accessories or bling).
  - 6) Mid-calf black socks or hose (no ankle length or no-show socks allowed).
  - 7) Solid black, close-toed dress shoes – all shoes must be **SOLID BLACK**, shoes with a white bottom/sole will **NOT BE PERMITTED.**
- Informal Uniform: To be worn at pep rallies, Fall Concert, and other events.
  - 1) Band t-shirt (please indicate your student’s size on the Student Information Sheet), tucked in **with a black belt.**
  - 2) Nice blue jean pants (not black, khaki, or other colors, and no holes).
  - 3) Comfortable closed-toe shoes.

**\*\*\*FAILURE TO WEAR THE REQUIRED ATTIRE FOR ALL FORMAL AND INFORMAL EVENTS WILL RESULT IN A PHONE CALL HOME AND THE STUDENT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PERFORM IN SAID EVENT. THEREFORE, THE STUDENT WILL RECEIVE A ZERO FOR A MAJOR GRADE.**

## Academic Eligibility

The Mance Park Band expects its members to be in high academic standing. The state requires the band program to participate in UIL No Pass – No Play in certain events. Students earning below a 70 in any class at the end of a six-week period in which there is a No Pass – No Play event, will not be able to participate in that event. Students must be academically eligible and in attendance at all of the listed events:

- All-Region Band and Orchestra Auditions
- All-Region Orchestra Clinic and Concert
- All-Region Clinic and Concert

Students will still be responsible for rehearsals both in-class and after school rehearsals regardless of eligibility.



## **Solo & Ensemble**

Solo & Ensemble Contest involves students preparing a solo or an ensemble (a small group) and performing for a judge. The student is given a rating based on the quality of their performance.

Each student in **Wind Ensemble** will be required to perform one small ensemble and a solo. The band department will pay the entry and accompanist fees.

Each student in **Symphonic Winds** will be required to perform one small ensemble and a solo. The band department will pay the entry and accompanist fees.

Each student in **Symphonic Band** will be required to perform a solo and will have the option of performing a small ensemble. The band department will pay the entry and accompanist fees.

Each student in **Concert Band/Concert Band 2** will be required to perform a solo.

If the student cannot attend for **any reason** (illness, failing grades, death in the family, etc.) the student and/or parents must reimburse the band program for the entry fee **and** the accompanist for his/her fee because of the preparation time.

## **Student Pick-Up Policy After Rehearsals/Performances**

Rehearsal and performance times are stated and all students are expected to be picked up within 10 minutes of the end of rehearsal, or upon returning to the band hall from a performance. **Please be prompt in picking your student up from after-school sectionals. Our directors also have families to go home to and do not appreciate waiting extended periods of time for students to be picked up. If you know you will be arriving late, please contact the directors so we know ahead of time.**

Carpooling is not only encouraged but may become a necessity. Please make arrangements to work together with other parents and students who can share in the carpooling experience.

There are a few events where arrival times are not exactly known, but are estimated. In situations like this, students will call when we are on our way to the band hall. Please plan to be at the school before we arrive so you can pick your child up in a timely manner.

**Students must be picked up by the band gate. Students are NOT allowed to be picked up at the front of the school when staying late for band-related events.**

## Band Travel Policy

Throughout the school year there are several occasions when the band travels. These include: All-Region Auditions, football games (8<sup>th</sup> grade band night), Solo/Ensemble Contest, UIL Contest, and the spring trip. The students will be representing Huntsville ISD as well as Mance Park Middle School and should be on their best behavior. Any non-compliance with expectations set forth by this handbook and Mance Park Middle School policies will result in disciplinary action. **Illegal behavior will not be tolerated and will result in immediate and permanent removal from the Band Program.** Our primary concern is the safety of our students. We do not want anything to jeopardize their safety or ruin their experience. The directors may decline to bring a student on any trip who has been placed in ISS, OSS, DAEP, or has had any other behavioral incident making the student untrustworthy. These instances will be handled on a case-by-case scenario.

## Bus Policies

As the main form of transportation for the band, there are specific policies that must be followed.

- 1) All school rules for bus behavior will be followed at all times. Please keep noise to a minimum, stay seated, and do not lie down on the floor while the bus is in motion. Additionally, if the bus driver or a chaperone asks the students to do something, the students will follow the directions.
- 2) There will always be chaperones on each bus. The chaperones will be given a seating chart of who should be on each bus and will call roll every time the bus is loaded.
- 3) Please limit what you bring to only what is absolutely necessary.
- 4) Electronic devices are allowed, but there must be no low volume or they will be taken up by the chaperones. All music must be listened to through head phones.
- 5) Neither the district nor the band directors will be responsible for any lost or stolen items.
- 6) Everyone who travels with the band must return with the band. The only exceptions are those situations pre-approved by the directors. Directors must have a note or email, from the parent, BEFORE the day of the performance if their student is not to ride the bus back.

## Annual Spring Trip

The band takes an annual spring trip every year. This trip is a reward for the students' hard work throughout the year. Students who do not meet the requirements of the band class, as indicated in this handbook, will not be permitted to attend the trip. **Students must attend ALL major performances and events: Fall Concert, Christmas Concert, Solo and Ensemble, Pre-UIL, Concert and Sight-Reading Evaluation, Spring Concert, etc.) in order to attend the trip.** Monetary reimbursements may not be given. If the student paid out of pocket for their trip, and a reimbursement can't be given, they will receive the ticket they purchased.

## 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.

Scholarships are available through Huntsville Band Booster Club Inc. Information will be handed out at the end of the spring semester. Scholarships will be given on a first come, first-served basis.

## **Private Lessons**

The directors will invite a staff of teachers to teach private lessons. These lessons are not mandatory, but are **strongly encouraged**.

The lessons are designed to be one-on-one teaching for the student. It is an outstanding way for each student to become more proficient on their instrument and can especially help all-region auditions, solo & ensemble, concert music, football/pep rally music, evaluation/chair test music, and to generally improve the playing level of the student.

The lessons will be coordinated through the high school band office, but will be handled by the individual lessons teacher. There will be an attempt to provide a lessons teacher for the following instruments: Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet/Bass Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Baritone/Euphonium, Tuba, and Percussion. These lessons will cost \$20-\$25 per half hour (depending on the qualifications of the teacher). Students and parents can sign up for lessons by following the listed steps:

1. Go [huntsvillemilitaryband.com](http://huntsvillemilitaryband.com)
2. Click on the drop down menu in the top right hand corner
3. Click on "Information"
4. Click on "Private Lessons"
5. Click on "Private Lessons Sign-Up"
6. Click the link for the "Huntsville ISD Private Lessons Sign-Up Form"
7. Fill out the form and wait to be contacted by your lesson teacher

## **Private Lessons Scholarships**

The Band Boosters offer money to be used for Private Lessons Scholarships. The scholarships are either partial (\$3, \$6, or \$9), or full scholarships. If they are partial, the student/parent is expected to pay the difference at the time of the lesson.

They are offered on the basis of financial need, instrumentation, student's academic success, and student's commitment to the band program. Furthermore, there are a limited amount of scholarships so they are based on a first-come, first-served basis.

For **private lesson scholarships**, you will follow the same steps. When you get to step number five, click on scholarship application, click on the link it takes you to and fill out the form.

## **Items to Return**

There are a few pages that need to be filled out, signed, and returned to the directors no later than Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Those pages are:

- 1) MPMS Band Agreement Form
- 2) Medical Release Form
- 3) Information Sheet
- 4) Instrument Usage Agreement\*

\*Instrument Usage, Repair, and Maintenance Agreement – **for school owned instruments only**

- a. All usage fees in the amount of \$50 are due by **October 21<sup>st</sup>**. If you need to make other arrangements, please contact a band director. Cash and checks are acceptable. Please make checks out to **Mance Park Middle School Band** with your **driver's license number and phone number on the check.**

Also attached is a Band Calendar. All dates/times are subject to change based on scheduling. We provide a calendar so that you have advance notice of our upcoming events. Please keep these dates in mind when planning doctor, dentist, orthodontist and other appointments or events.

## **Conclusion**

You have received the Mance Park Middle School Band Handbook. Please read it thoroughly and refer to it throughout the year! By signing the MPMS Band Agreement Form that follows, you agree to uphold the standard of excellence of the Mance Park Band to the best of your ability!

**IT'S GOING TO BE A GREAT YEAR FOR THE MPMS BAND!**

**Please have all documents signed and returned to school no later than Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**

# Mance Park Middle School Band

## 2023-2024 Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
Aug. 23 (T)	All-Region Sectionals Begin	MPMS Band Hall	TBA
Aug. 28-Sept. 1	Poster Parties	MPMS Band Hall	3:45-5:30
Sept. 22 (F)	8th Grade Band Night W/HMB	Huntsville High School	TBA
Oct. 26 (TH)	Fall Concert	Huntsville High School	6:00
Oct. 28 (S)	All Region Auditions for All Instruments	Stockton Junior High	TBA
Nov. 17-18 (F-S)	All-Region Orchestra Clinic and Concert	Klein Forest HS	TBA
Dec. 8-9 (F-S)	All-Region Band Clinic and Concert	College Park High School	TBA
Dec. 12 (T)	MPMS Christmas Concert	Huntsville High School	6:00
Jan. 16 (M)	Spring Sectionals Begin	MPMS Band Hall	3:45-5:00
Feb. 2 (F)	MPMS Solo and Ensemble	Huntsville High School	5:30-9:00
Feb.26 (M)	Pre-UIL Concert	Huntsville High School	TBA
Mar. 26-28 (T-Th)	Non-Varsity UIL Evaluation	Willis High School	TBA
Apr. 18-19 (T-W)	Varsity UIL Evaluation	Tomball Memorial High School	TBA
May 3 (F)	Percussion Concert	Huntsville High School	TBA
May 10 (F)	Jazz Concert	Huntsville High School	TBA
May 21 (M)	MPMS Spring Concert	Huntsville High School	6:00
May TBA (Th)	8th-11th Grade Combined Rehearsal	Huntsville High School	TBA

\*\*\*subject to change after guidance from the region



**MANCE PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND  
MEDICAL RELEASE 2023-2024**

I authorize Aaron Voisard, Mitchell Filipiak, and Austin Nelson (the Band Directors), or any Huntsville Band Booster Chaperone to authorize any medical attention that may be needed for my child, \_\_\_\_\_, while on any band activity during the 2023-2024 school year. I understand that Huntsville ISD, the Band Directors, Band Chaperones, and other employees will not be held responsible for any injury that occurs to my child during band activities. **By signing this form, I give my child permission to attend all scheduled band activities for the 2023-2024 school year (please see MPMS Band Calendar).**

Does your child have any pre-existing medical conditions? (e.g. asthma, diabetes, heart murmurs, etc.)

**YES NO**

What are those pre-existing medical conditions? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your child take any prescription medication on a regular basis? (e.g. inhaler, Prozac, insulin, etc.)

**YES NO**

What medications does your child take? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your child have any medication, food, or other allergies?

**YES NO**

What are those allergies, and what medications are being taken?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Will you allow over-the-counter medication to be given to your child? (e.g. Pepto-Bismol, Tylenol, etc.)

**YES NO**

Are there any other problems/concerns we should know about? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Insurance Company Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Insurance Policy Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Legal Guardian Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Home Phone Number

(\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Work Phone Number

(\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Cell Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Second** contact in case of Emergency (please print)

(\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone Number

(\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone Number

(\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Third** contact in case of Emergency (please print)

(\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone Number

(\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone Number

(\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone Number

**MANCE PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND  
STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET 2023-2024**

**HISD Student ID #** \_\_\_\_\_

**First Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Middle Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, St.: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Student school E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Year (circle one):    7<sup>th</sup> Grade            8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Shirt Size (circle one):    S        M        L        XL        2XL        3XL

Are you on free or reduced lunches? (circle one)    No        Reduced        Free

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**Parent/Guardian 1 - Name (please print):** \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: Mother    Father    Stepmother    Stepfather    Grandparent    Guardian

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, St.: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Ext. \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Parent/Guardian 2 - Name (please print):** \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: Mother    Father    Stepmother    Stepfather    Grandparent    Guardian

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, St.: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Ext. \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_



**Huntsville Independent School District  
Instrument Usage, Repair, and Maintenance Agreement 2023-2024**

Each school-owned instrument carries a usage fee of \$50 (Oboe, Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, Tenor Sax, Bari Sax, French Horn, Euphonium, Tuba). This fee is non-refundable and will be due on Friday, October 13th. Please make checks payable to **"Mance Park Middle School Band"** and have a **valid Driver's License number and phone number** written on the check.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have the following instrument(s) checked out to me:

Instrument	Brand	Serial Number
<hr/>		

I have inspected each instrument and have found the following problems:

Instrument	Problem
<hr/>	
<hr/>	
<hr/>	

**Student's Agreement**

I agree that any damage or problem not listed above has occurred during my use of the instrument and I will pay to repair each instrument to the condition it was checked out to me. Additionally, if I am a percussionist, while I know I do not owe the \$50 usage fee, I know that any damage that I cause to any percussion equipment (including mallets, drumheads, parts, auxiliary instruments, etc.) will be charged to me for repair or replacement of the damaged item(s).

<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Student name (please print)	Student Signature	Date

**Parent's Agreement**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the parent/legal guardian of the above named student, have inspected the instrument(s) named previously and agree that any damage or problem not listed has occurred during my student's use of the instrument. Additionally, if I am a parent of a percussionist, while I know I do not owe the \$50 usage fee, I know that any damage that my child causes to any percussion equipment (including mallets, drumheads, parts, auxiliary instruments, etc.) will be charged to me for repair or replacement of the damaged item(s).

<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Parent/Legal Guardian name (please print)	Parent/Legal Guardian Signature	Date

# Mance Park Middle School Parent Band Booster Volunteer form

Welcome to the MPMS Band Program! We have a wonderful and exciting year ahead. Thank you for your interest in volunteering with us. The school year consists of numerous opportunities to get involved with that are listed below:

- Poster Parties
- Football Games
- All-Region Auditions
- Fall Concert
- Christmas Concert
- Band Fundraiser
- Solo and Ensemble
- Pre-UIL
- Percussion Concert
- UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Evaluation
- Jazz Band Concert
- Spring Concert
- Spring Trip

If you are interested in chaperoning/helping at any point during the school year, please fill out the information below

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell # : \_\_\_\_\_ Home # : \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_

In order to be a chaperone/band booster, **ALL** parents **MUST** purchase a MPMS Band T-Shirt (\$10) and **fill out an online background check. Background checks must be re-submitted every year. You can find the directions listed below.**

- Go to the Huntsville ISD website page
- Click on Departments
- Go to Human Resources
- Click on Employment Opportunities (on the right)
- Then click volunteers and follow the instructions

## Mance Park Middle School Band Student Fee Supply List

<b>Band Fees Due by September 8th</b>	
MPMS Band T-shirt	\$10.00
MPMS White Uniform Shirt	\$16.00
Vest Dry Cleaning Fee (All Students)	\$3.00
MPMS Black Music Binder (All Students) Includes the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 inch, 3 ring binder</li> <li>● 2 zipper pencil pouch</li> <li>● 1 sharpened pencil</li> <li>● 1 highlighter</li> <li>● 4 music dividers</li> <li>● 1 sheet of hole reinforcements</li> </ul>	\$7.00

Please add your total together and specify to the Band Directors what you are purchasing. 8th graders may use the same Band T-shirt and White Uniform Shirt that was used previously, as long as it still fits appropriately.

\*If paying by check, please make all checks out to MPMS Band and include your driver's license number and phone number.