

Guidelines for Success

BMSN HONORS AND SYMPHONIC BAND SYLLABUS 2021-2022

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Conference: A Days 12:15-1:51 pm, B Days 2:30-4:00 pm

THE BMSN BAND WEBSITE IS A GREAT RESOURCE FOR UPCOMING EVENTS, FORMS, AND OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION. SCAN THE CODE BELOW FOR EASY ACCESS TO THE WEBSITE AND BOOKMARK IT FOR FUTURE ACCESS!!

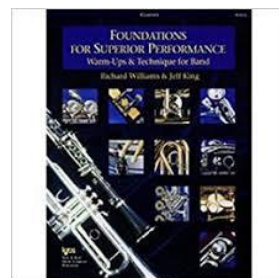


Scan this with your smart device for easy access to our webpage!

Materials:

In addition to the normal materials used for playing and care of your instrument, all students will be required to have the book:

- **Foundations for Superior Performance**
By Richard Williams and Jeff King, Kjos Publishing
(Instrument specific, make sure you get the appropriate book for your instrument)
<https://kjos.com/band/technique/foundations.html>



*We also suggest a Metronome and Tuner App for your personal device, or a metronome/tuner from the music store. There are many free apps that will work well. We suggest the **TONAL ENERGY** app, it is approximately \$3.99, but it is regarded as one of the best apps for student musicians. We use this app daily in our classrooms and personal lives.*

First Nine Weeks:

Students will work fundamentals, learn scales, work on region music, concert music, and prepare football game/pep rally music, Halloween concert music, and Honors Band prepares for Veterans Day Ceremony performance.

Second Nine Weeks:

Students continue working fundamentals, learning scales, and prepare Christmas Concert Music; students continue to individually prepare All-Region Band audition music (contest location and virtual vs. in-person auditions TBD). Students may also begin work on solo and ensemble music.

PERFORMANCE DATES: (FALL)

Performance locations and modes (virtual vs. in-person) are subject to change based on State/County/Local Health Guidelines

October TBD: Football Game Performance with BHS Band @ BHS (8th GR Only)

October 19th: Football Game Performance at BMSN, Home Game

October 27th: Advanced Bands Halloween Concert, BMSN Auditorium

November 13th: South Texas Region Band Auditions @ Kerrville

December 8th: Advanced Bands Holiday Concert, BMSN Auditorium 6PM

January 29th: South Texas Region Band Clinic/Concert for students who earn a position in the band – BMSN

Third Nine Weeks:

Students continue working fundamentals, learning scales, and begin to prepare UIL Contest Music, Students may continue work on Solos and /or Ensembles

Fourth Nine Weeks:

Students will continue working fundamentals, learning scales, and will continue to prepare UIL Concert/Sight-reading Contest music. Focus is now on preparation of UIL music and working sight reading fundamentals. Eighth graders prepare for high school band. Students prepare for upcoming concerts, performances, and solo and ensemble contests.

PERFORMANCE DATES: (Spring)

Performance locations and modes (virtual vs. in-person) are subject to change based on State/County/Local Health Guidelines

March 1st: Pre UIL – Clinic and Concert at Champion HS (pending)

April 19/20: UIL Competition – Champion High School - during school day

May 9th: Spring Concert - BMSN Auditorium 6PM

May 13th: Fiesta Texas Spring Trip

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE BMSN BAND

The BMSN bands are of the highest quality with students earning many accolades. Students are expected to practice **daily** on their instruments. Research shows that for every day a student does not practice, they lose three days of progress. Expect students to bring their instruments home to practice daily. Students with one or more years of band experience are divided into 2 performing groups, by an audition process at the end of each previous semester. The Director reserves the right to move a student to a different performing group if needed. The students have the opportunity to move into a different group by audition at the end of each semester.

We have a great private lesson program available. Information can be found in the private lesson section of our website. Members of the Honors Band should all be involved in lessons if at all possible.

Uniform: for Formal performances

The uniform consists of:

Black BMSN Band Polo (order information will be sent home) appr. \$17.00

Full length Khaki pants/slacks – shirts tucked in

Black Belt

Black socks

Solid black dress shoes

Students are responsible for supplying the uniform. The uniform will be needed for all public performances, unless otherwise specified by the director.

Band T-Shirt: for informal performances Information will be given soon. Cost is approx. \$8.00.

Students will wear band shirts and jeans/ tennis shoes for all football games, pep rallies, and Veteran's Day performances, and any other performance for which the director asks the band to wear their t-shirts.

Percussion Sticks & Supplies: Percussionists will need a variety of **personal** sticks. Percussion students must have their own snare sticks (SD1 General) and a set of medium yarn mallets for xylophone and marimba. Students need to have a stick bag for safe keeping of their sticks and mallets. The school will provide all other mallets including mallets for timpani and bass drum

Website and CutTime: The website listed on the first page of this syllabus is a great resource. I regularly update the site. I will post this syllabus, and any other pertinent handouts, use the website as an important part of our communications, and keep everyone as informed as possible. I also like to post recordings of our concerts, so you can share the links with your family members who may not have been able to attend a performance. CutTime is our main communications and data system for our band. You will see a large amount of info from CutTime throughout the year.

Google Classroom and Flip Grid: As in years past, we will be utilizing Google Classroom to a great extent for both in person and E-Learners. You will receive classroom codes and information from all of your classes at the beginning of the school year. We will also implement FlipGrid this year as the main source for recording and submitting performance videos. It is website based, and there are apps available for all platforms as well. We will give more info on this topic at the beginning of the school year.

Rentals: All students playing a school-owned instrument are required to pay a rental fee of \$80 per year (\$40 a semester). A rental contract must also be turned in. Having insurance is highly suggested. Any damage the student causes during the year will cost the student to repair. Check with your home-owners/tenant insurance, as it may cover the instrument against theft or disaster. Rental fees are due Oct 1st. A link will be sent for online payments through RevTrak

Grades: Students receive daily grades on having supplies, participation in class, and turning in assignments. Grading guidelines are below.

Materials/Participation/Daily Assignments and Assessments (Minor) 50%: Students must have their instruments and music in class in order to participate. Students will be tested an average of once every two weeks on music that has been taught in class and practiced at home.

Performances/Tests (Major) 50%:

Students are required to attend and participate in all concerts. Performances are a major part of the student's grade. Band concerts are school related activities and take priority over non-school activities.

As stated in the BISD Grading Policy:

"Grades for Fine Arts students should be determined with regard to mastery of the TEKS for the particular course including performance. While performance is not the only component considered during assessment/evaluation, it is a legitimate part of assessment. If a performance is the culminating activity based on implementation of the TEKS, a grade may be given for participation or non-participation. Extenuating circumstances shall be considered when a student misses a performance.

Sectionals: Each band student will come to a morning rehearsal once a week, on their scheduled day. A sectional calendar will be available. Sectionals are from 8:00 AM until 8:30 AM. Sectionals are only held prior to major events, and attendance from every members crucial. We limit the number of rehearsals outside of the school day, in order to share our students with other activities and give them more time at home. Please plan to attend our limited number of sectional rehearsals.

Fundraisers:

Fundraisers are planned for the school year. A brochure sale is planned to begin in October, to benefit the needs of the band. Information for any other fundraising opportunities will be provided at a later date.

Parent Involvement:

Volunteers are needed throughout the school year to chaperone. If you are interested in chaperoning at any time this school year, please complete and return a background check form (available in the band hall).

Greyhound Band Boosters:

We will send home information to parents regarding our Booster Organization. This group is very important to our program and we hope you will be involved! We will send out important information from this essential group of band parents who support our middle school and high school band programs, and we hope you have the opportunity to be involved with them!

Class Expectations

Prompt Arrival

Be on time to class. We Begin warm-up right away! If you are tardy and don't have a pass from a teacher explaining the reason, I will mark you tardy in our class roster sheet. Please remember school tardy policy.

Entering Class

Once you have entered class, you are not allowed to leave unless you have received permission from me to do so. You may use the restroom during the time between classes if you will not be tardy to class by doing so.

You will enter the band hall in a quiet, orderly fashion, carefully and quickly assemble your instrument, sit down at your assigned seat, and be ready to start the daily warm-ups.

Leaving Class

I dismiss class. The bell is not an automatic dismissal signal. Do not begin packing your instruments until I have given you the okay to do so. Leave class in a quiet, orderly fashion.

Student Planners

The student planner will be used to record homework, practice assignments, and test dates. You must have it with you every day. If you lose the planner you were given at the beginning of the year, you will be required to purchase a new one from the office. The planner is also your hall pass ...you must have it to leave the room!

Gum

Gum is unacceptable in class! It is against school rules to have gum.

Food and Drink

Do not bring food or drinks, other than water, into class. Don't be surprised when I ask you to throw a food or drink item away if you bring it into class.

Visitors

If someone comes into the class to speak with me, get quiet immediately so that I can hear what the person is saying. (Besides, if you are quiet enough, you may hear something interesting in our conversation!)

Substitutes

We try to miss as little school as possible, but occasionally we have to miss a day. Our subs are a valuable part of our school and we need them throughout the year. When we have a substitute, she or he is in charge and will have seating charts, name lists, etc. in advance. You will receive an office referral, either from the sub or the band directors, if you are insubordinate or rude to the substitute.

Permission to Leave Class

In order to leave class, ask for permission. If I say it is a good time, you will fill out the back of your planner where it says "Hall Pass." I will need to initial it. You will take this with you when you leave the room in case anyone asks to see your pass. Only one person will be out of the room at a time. If you abuse the privilege of leaving class by going somewhere you have not been given permission to go, staying out of class too long, creating disruptions for other teachers and/or students, etc., you will lose the privilege. If you just want a drink of water, again, get my permission, get a drink, and come right back to your seat. You must go only where you said you would go and let me know when you have returned to class.

Emergency Drills

During fire drills, you will follow silently in a straight line out through the courtyard towards the football field. We will remain silent walking outside, waiting outside, and walking back inside our room. We will review every time we return to the classroom. We will also review procedures for non-standard fire drills. A disruption during any drill will result in an Incident Report to the office and a parent phone call. Take drills very seriously.

Saying Thank you!

We all need help from time to time. Whether the help you receive this year comes from myself or a classmate, you must always remember to say "Thank you!" These two words are underestimated in their power and value. Use them often!

Spring Trip

Each Spring the band takes a trip. It is important that students participate in raising funds, so we can continue to take this trip free of charge to the students. Invitation to the Spring Trip is a privilege that is earned or lost through academic performance and adherence to band and campus policies and procedures. Invitation to the trip is at the discretion of the Director and campus administration. Students with an unexcused absence from a performance may lose the privilege of attending the Spring trip. We look forward to being able to take all of our band members on the Spring Trip.

No Pass, No Play

The Spring Trip and Several of our travel and competitive trips fall under the state “No Pass, No Play” guidelines. The UIL and TEA Side by Side document outlines the details of academic eligibility and can be reviewed at:

www.uil-texas.org/files/tea-uil-side-by-side.pdf

WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE HAVING TO UTILIZE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES THIS YEAR - THEY ARE SIMPLY LEFT HERE FOR REFERENCE IF NEEDED

COVID-19 Rehearsal Expectations

- Keep all items to yourself. Do not share at any time.
- If given permission to move about the room, follow a path that allows for social distancing.
- Face coverings (instrument specific) will be used at all times, with modifications for specific performance requirements.

COVID-19 Instrument Care Procedures

- All instruments, aside from Low Reeds, Tubas, and Baritones, will open their cases & assemble their instruments at their seat.
- Clean up your rehearsal space at the end of each class - sanitize when asked
- Brass players will utilize their personal cloth to empty water keys.
- All members will utilize their personal cloth to wipe any sweat, condensation, etc. from their equipment/instruments regularly
- Woodwind players must use proper swabbing and instrument care procedures after instrument use. Reed rotation is required.
- Community percussion equipment must be sanitized after each use. Please follow the specific guidelines that will be set forth for percussion students

COVID-19 Band Hall Protocols

Main Rehearsal Hall

- *FREQUENT BREAKS WILL HAPPEN DURING REHEARSAL*
- *SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE PRACTICED*
- *EXTERIOR DOORS MAY BE OPENED AND FANS MAY BE USED TO FACILITATE AIR CIRCULATION IN THE FACILITY*
- *OUTDOOR SPACES WILL BE UTILIZED OFTEN*
- *FOLLOW DESIGNATED PATHS FOR MOVING ABOUT THE ROOM*

Instrument Storage Areas

- *INSTRUMENTS WILL ONLY BE STORED IN A LOCKER DURING THE SCHOOL DAY - INSTRUMENTS MUST GO HOME EVERYDAY*
- *ONLY 5 STUDENTS MAY ENTER THE INSTRUMENT STORAGE ROOM AT A TIME BEFORE AND AFTER CLASS*
- *SOCIAL-DISTANCING SHOULD BE PRACTICED EVEN IF IT TAKES LONGER TO ACCESS YOUR LOCKER*

Practice Rooms

- *NO MORE THAN TWO PEOPLE ALLOWED IN A PRACTICE ROOM AT A TIME*
- *PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING AND REHEARSAL PROTOCOLS WHILE IN PRACTICE ROOMS*
- *OPEN PRACTICE ROOM DOORS AND STEP OUT AT LEAST ONCE EVERY 15 MINUTES*

Director's Office

- *STUDENT ENTRY BY PERMISSION ONLY*
- *ONLY ONE STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED INTO THE OFFICE AT A TIME*

