

# BMSN Guidelines for Success

## BEGINNING BAND SYLLABUS 2021-2022

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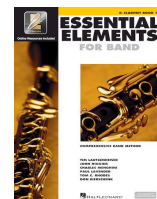
THE BMSN BAND WEBSITE IS A GREAT RESOURCE FOR UPCOMING EVENTS, FORMS, AND OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION. SCAN THE CODE BELOW FOR EASY ACCESS TO THE WEBSITE AND BOOKMARK IT FOR FUTURE ACCESS!!



### Materials:

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

- *Essential Elements for Band Book 1 (Yellow) - Hal Leonard Publishing* <https://www.halleonard.com/ee/band/book1.jsp>



*Please make sure your child has the proper supplies throughout the school year. Make sure they have plenty of reeds, cork grease, valve oil, a cleaning cloth, etc. A list of supplies and vendors is available on our website.*

*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.*

## **PERFORMANCE DATES**

- Monday, December 8th – Beginner Holiday Concert – 6pm - BMSN Auditorium
- Tuesday, May 2nd - Spring Concert - 6pm BMSN Auditorium
- Performance locations and/or mediums (live or virtual) are subject to change based on State/County/Local health guidelines.

Information will be sent home with students prior to the performance. Please check for any changes when you receive the information letters.

**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 and take precedence over non-school activities**

## **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. **We have a great private lesson program available. Information can be found on the private lesson section of our website.**

## **CONCERT ATTIRE**

Students will need to dress appropriately for concerts. “Sunday” dress is expected. All students should wear nice pants (khakis/slacks), a nice shirt/blouse, and nice shoes. Blue jeans, shorts, or tennis shoes are not acceptable.

## **BAND T-SHIRTS**

The band will have a new shirt each year, and this t-shirt is sometimes used as an informal uniform. Any student attending the Spring performance trip is also required to wear the band t-shirt. They are approximately \$8. More details and design info will be available soon.

**Website and CutTime:** The website listed on the first page of this syllabus is a great resource. I will update the site; post this syllabus, and any other pertinent handouts. I use the website as an important part of our communications; keeping everyone as well 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 communications and data hub for our band program.

**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 homeowner's/tenant insurance, as it may cover the instrument. Rental payments are due Oct 1st.

### **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.

### **Fundraisers:**

Fundraisers are planned for the school year. A brochure sale is planned to begin in October, to benefit the middle school band for purchase of new music, materials, instruments, and to supply student needs. Information for any other fundraising opportunities will be provided at a later date.

### **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 (See next page for COVID-19 additions)**

### **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 - Bathroom or Drink of Water

In order to leave class, ask for permission. 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. \*See me privately if it is an extreme emergency. You may not ask to leave class 15 minutes after the beginning of class or 15 minutes before the end of class. 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.

### 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. Any student with an unexcused absence from a band 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](http://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***