

MIDWAY MIDDLE SCHOOL
BAND HANDBOOK
2019-2020



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(Must be filled out and turned into a director as soon as possible)

MIDWAY MS BAND CALENDAR

2019-2020

*Dates in the calendar are subject to change. We will notify you as soon as we become aware of changes.
Most performances and events will require academic eligibility to participate.*

SEPTEMBER 2019

Friday 27th • 8th Grade Band Night with the HS Band

NOVEMBER 2019

Saturday 2nd • MS All-Region Auditions at Midway MS, 9am-3pm

Required for Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band students

Saturday 16th • MS All-Region Clinic/Concert at Temple College, all day

DECEMBER 2019

Monday 2nd • MS/Int. Winter Concert at Midway PAC, 6:30pm

Tuesday 11th • MS/HS Winter Jazz Concert at Midway HS Theater, 7pm

JANUARY 2020

Friday 31st • All-Region Jazz Auditions in Temple, 2pm-9:30pm

FEBRUARY 2020

Friday 21st • Midway MS Solo/Ensemble Contest at Midway MS, 4-8pm

MARCH 2020

Tuesday 3rd • MS/HS Jazz Concert at Midway HS Theater, 7pm

Tuesday 17th • District Concert & Sight-Reading Evaluation, time TBD

Tuesday 24th • UIL Concert & Sight-Reading Evaluation, time TBD

APRIL 2020

Thursday 2nd • MISD Percussion Concert at Midway HS Theater, 6:30pm

MAY 2020

Tuesday 7th • MS/HS Jazz Concert at Midway HS Theater, 7pm

Tuesday 19th • MS/Intermediate Bands Spring Concert at Midway PAC, 6:30pm

SPRING TRIP TBD (by earned invitation only)

MIDWAY MS BAND BELL AND DIRECTOR SCHEDULE

PERIOD 1 • 8:10-8:53

MS Jazz Band (Alvarado, Sanchez)
MMS Band Hall

PERIOD 2 • 8:57-9:46

Wind Ensemble (Alvarado, Sanchez)
MMS Band Hall

PERIOD 3 • 9:50-10:33

Symphonic Band (Sanchez, Alvarado)
MMS Band Hall

PERIOD 4 • 10:37-11:20

Concert Band (Alvarado, Sanchez)
MMS Band Hall

LUNCH • 11:24-12:24

Lunch, Travel to River Valley Intermediate/ HS

PERIOD 5 • 12:29-1:25

River Valley Beginning Trombone (Alvarado)
HS Band (Sanchez)

PERIOD 6 • 1:29-2:25

River Valley Beginning Trumpet/Horn (Alvarado)
HS Band (Sanchez)

PERIOD 7 • 2:29-3:25

Conference/Travel to MS (Alvarado)
River Valley Beginning Percussion (Sanchez)

MIDWAY MS BAND ENSEMBLES

Ensemble placement is based on several factors including but not limited to: Audition results, performance ability, work ethic, attitude, reliability and group instrumentation.

WIND ENSEMBLE (VARSITY)

The Wind Ensemble is the top performing ensemble in the Midway MS band department. This band is known for its success and tradition of superior musicianship. In addition to the winter and spring school concerts, Wind Ensemble members will be required to participate in all-region auditions, our solo/ensemble contest, MMS and UIL concert/sight-reading evaluations and one before or after school sectional each week. Wind Ensemble members are expected to practice daily.

SYMPHONIC BAND (NON-VARSITY)

The Symphonic Band also known for its success and tradition of superior musicianship. In addition to the winter and spring school concerts, Symphonic Band members will be required to participate in all-region auditions, our solo/ensemble contest and the MMS and UIL concert/sight-reading evaluations. Symphonic Band members are expected to practice daily.

CONCERT BAND (SUB NON-VARSITY)

The Concert Band is a performing group that focuses on developing student musicianship and instrumental technique in preparation for 8th grade or High School. In addition to the winter and spring school concerts, members of the Concert Band will be required to participate in the our solo/ensemble contest and the MMS concert/sight-reading evaluation. Concert Band members are expected to practice daily.

JAZZ BAND

The Jazz Band is open to 7th and 8th grade wind/rhythm section musicians with previous experience on their specific instrument. Woodwind players that are wanting to double on saxophone are encouraged with approval from the band staff. The jazz program gives students a unique musical experience that will encompass multiple styles and genres. In addition to the winter and spring concerts, students enrolled in the jazz band will be expected to audition for the MS all-region jazz band in the spring and participate in a jazz festival in March/April. Enrollment in the jazz band requires approval from Mr. Alvarado or Mrs. Sanchez.

PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE

- Attendance at all performances is **MANDATORY**. All absences must be approved, if at all possible, **in advance** by the directors. Only conflicts of a serious nature will be considered excused. Not attending required performances may result in a change of band placement and/or loss of participation in band events/trips.
- If you absolutely must miss an activity due to an unavoidable conflict or family emergency, a written request, phone call, or e-mail by parent or guardian will be needed preferably **BEFORE** the band performance. Please submit the request in a timely manner. Requests will be reviewed and excused at the directors' discretion.

Every member of our band is important. One missing member is like a missing link in a chain. You are important!

- The success of our program is directly proportional to the overall attendance rate throughout the year. **Please make every effort to schedule your medical, dental, or other appointments around band activities and class time.**
- **A note about dental appointments & braces:** If at all possible, please check the band calendar for performances, auditions, contests, festival, etc. before scheduling these kinds of appointments. Students work very hard in preparation for these events and sometimes he/she cannot participate after dental/braces work has been done.

GRADING

EVALUATION GRADES: (40%)

- **Major Concert Performances:**
attendance; performance, attire, concert etiquette
- **Playing Tests/Objective Sheets**
For each six-week grading period, students will receive a set of musical objectives based on ensemble placement and individual strengths and weaknesses. Objectives will be presented on an “objective sheet” which will be kept in the band binder. Each objective will count as a separate test grade.

Students must complete all objectives with a minimum grade of 90% by the end of each six-week grading period in order to remain eligible for extracurricular band events and trips.

Objectives may be re-attempted as many times as needed during the six-week grading period.

APPLICATION GRADES: (30%)

- **Daily Rehearsal Participation:**
Students are graded daily on their engagement, participation, performance and observance of rehearsal procedures. (100 points per week)

PRACTICE GRADES: (30%)

- **Weekly Practice Log and Reflection:**
Students will complete and submit a Google Form each week detailing daily practice, reflecting on current strategies and setting future performance goals.
- **Written Practice:**
Students will complete written work that allows them to reinforce concepts of rhythm, music theory and instrumental techniques.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

As mandated by the Texas University Interscholastic League, any grade below 70 on a six-week report card will deny a student competitive performance privileges for a three or six-week period. Because of the adverse effect this problem can have on an individual and the group as a whole, we will monitor this situation around All-Region, Solo and Ensemble Contest, and U.I.L. Concert and Sight-reading Contest.

Parents, we ask that you continue to supervise your child and communicate with their teachers if any grade questions should arise. Students should understand that their grades have a direct influence on other students as well as themselves. Every individual in the band plays a vital role as a link in our chain.

Outline of UIL Academic Requirements (no pass, no play)

1. If a student receives a grade below 70 in any subject, that student will become in-eligible for extra-curricular activities starting on the Friday following the end of the six-week grading period in which the failing grade was received.
2. A student can regain eligibility on the Friday following the 3-week grading period if the student is passing EVERY class and receives no remark of “currently failing” on his/her 3-week progress report.

BAND HALL AND PRACTICE ROOMS

These are your rooms to use! Show respect and pride by keeping them neat and clean.

1. No food, drinks, or gum allowed in band hall or ensemble/practice rooms.
2. Keep band locker clean and neat.
3. No writing on stands, chairs, walls, lockers, lapboards, etc.
4. Only band students are allowed in the band hall.

INSTRUMENT STORAGE

Each student will have a locker assigned for their instrument and band supplies. Students will be issued a combination lock from the band department upon request. Lockers are for storage of instruments and music **only**. Please keep schoolbooks, coats, athletic wear, etc. in other appropriate locations.

CLASS MATERIALS & INSTRUMENT REPAIR

- All students **MUST** have a 1-inch 3 ring binder; pockets inside (plastic cover on front to put ensemble name provided by director).
- “Foundations for Superior Performance” by Richard Williams & Jeff King (for your instrument)
- A #2 pencil is also needed for every rehearsal.
- Additional supplies for specific instruments such as reeds, valve oil, cork grease, etc. will also need to be provided by the student.
- It is highly recommended that students purchase a tuner/metronome with clip mic.
- Percussion students should acquire and maintain snare drum sticks, marimba mallets, timpani mallets, a stick bag, and a practice pad. These items are necessary for class participation. Mrs. Sanchez is happy to make suggestions on brands and types of gear.

If you think your personally owned instrument needs repair, let a director look at it **BEFORE** it goes to the shop. It may save you some money and time. The directors do have some experience with minor instrument repair. Please bring a parent note if your personal instrument is in the shop being repaired.

School owned instruments that need repair must be given to band directors. Parents and students are not authorized to take school-owned instruments to a repair shop.

SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS

- All students playing an instrument owned by Midway ISD will be required to pay an instrument usage/maintenance fee of **\$50 per year**.
- The fee is intended to help offset a small part of the normal repair and upkeep cost of these expensive school owned instruments: ***Euphonium, Tuba, French Horn, Bass Clarinet, Tenor Sax, Bari Sax, Oboe, and Bassoon***. Students are responsible for the cost of the excessive damage, loss and/or replacement of the instrument that occurs while in their care. Fees are due by the third week of school.
- Checks may be made out to: **Midway MS Band**
- All fees are non-refundable. If a student moves or is no longer part of the band program, they will not receive a refund. All band students that use a school-owned instrument will be responsible for paying the full fee regardless of the enrollment date.
- ***Students will not be denied from playing an instrument because they are unable to pay this fee. Contact the band director if you need assistance.***

UNIFORMS

- All Bands will be wearing “all black” for formal performances.
- Band T-Shirts will be worn for smaller, informal settings. T-Shirt price is **\$10.00**.

8th grade will be wearing these T-shirts for MS Band Night at the HS football game on 9/27.

Students will supply their own:

- Black plain front pants. **NO** jeans or shorts, and **NO** cargo pockets.
- Solid black closed toe shoe
- Black socks that cover the ankles or black knee highs
- Black button-down shirt, polo, or blouse
- Girls may wear a black, full length dress

SPRING TRIP

To be able to participate in any end of year band trips students must:

1. Be academically eligible during the grading period of the trip- This is an extracurricular trip; therefore, students must have passed all classes (70+) on the six-weeks report card prior to the trip.
2. Return a signed permission slip, filled out completely.
3. **Be present and perform at all major/formal performances. These performances are graded and participation is mandatory.**
4. Have settled all financial obligations to the fine arts organization and to the school before the trip.
5. Have met behavior standards
6. Completed all individual objectives with a 90 or above

BAND INFO AND UPDATES

In order to stay up to date on all the middle school band happenings, please be sure to utilize one or more of the following resources:

- Schoology – This will be your “go to” location for the most up to date info.
- www.midwayband.org – The HS and MS Band Website
- Remind App- Parents, enroll in the Remind group corresponding to your child’s band class in order to receive real time updates and reminders. This will be especially useful during trips and events.
 - Wind Ensemble- text @288dd2 to phone number 81010
 - Symphonic Band- text @e2a7c7 to phone number 81010
 - Concert Band- text @abgedb to phone number 81010
 - Jazz Band- text @2fg279 to phone number 81010

STUDENT ACCOUNTABILITY

Students in the Midway Middle School Band program are held to a high standard of behavior and performance. In addition to the campus wide discipline process, students who do not follow expectations will face consequences that may include:

- Exclusion for band trips and activities
- Loss of performance privileges
- Removal from the band program

RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

RESPECT:

Your Environment

- Use instruments, equipment, furniture and materials carefully and responsibly.
- Restore the band hall to a clean and organized state before being dismissed.

Your Directors

- Ask for permission before using director equipment, instruments, furniture or materials.
- Listen carefully and follow instructions.
- Communicate in a professional manner.
- Follow through with scheduled appointments.

Your Band

- Encourage and support your fellow band students.
- Be prepared and on time for rehearsals, sectionals and concerts.
- Do not touch another student's instrument, materials or personal property.
- Resolve disagreements without resorting to name calling, shouting or physical violence.
- Follow rehearsal etiquette.

Yourself

- Give your best effort at all times and with all assignments.
- Set long- and short-term personal goals.
- Take responsibility for your actions, both good and bad.
- Learn from your mistakes.
- Focus on daily improvement not perfection.
- Remember, musical ability does not equal self-worth.



MIDWAY MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND HANDBOOK SIGNATURE FORM 2019-2020

*Both the student and the parent are required to sign below.
Please return to your band director as soon as possible.*

STUDENTS: I have reviewed the 2019-2020 Midway Middle School Band Handbook. I understand that I am responsible for the policies and requirements outlined. I will do my best to uphold the standards and principles of the Midway Middle School Band, and fulfill my commitment to the organization of which I am a part.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS: We/I understand that we/I am responsible for the policies and procedures covered in the Midway Middle School Band Handbook. We/I understand the requirements and needs for my child's performing ensemble as outlined in all of these pages.

Student Printed Name (print legibly!)

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

STUDENT T-SHIRT SIZE (CIRCLE ONE)

Adult S Adult M Adult L Adult XL Adult 2X Adult 3X

FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

I am interested in receiving information about private lessons for my child _____

I am interested in volunteering for band related events and trips _____