

**Clarendon**

**Middle School Band**

**Handbook**

**2022 - 2023**

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### **Welcome to Clarendon Middle School Band**

I am so excited to be your new band director this year. I have so many things planned this year and can't wait to get started. In this year's handbook you will see as follows; grading policies, mission statement, band schedule, and purpose. I will be checking up with every parent every **2 weeks** to discuss progress or set up meetings if needed.

### **Introduction**

Hello band, My name is Mr. Jacob Diaz. I am the new director of bands and graduated from West Texas A&M University. My primary instrument is percussion and my secondary instrument is Clarinet. In my free time I like to watch football and write music. My goal this year is to have a successful band.

### Grading Policies

Grades will be entered daily. Grades that will be taken for are; chair test, pass-offs, concerts, scales/theory test and homework. **For any reason that you are not here please alert the school or the band director.** Grades will be entered as follows;

1. **Chair Test(Only for 6th Grade)**- Every day the students will do a chair test that will be playing a line from their warm-up books or scales. It will be weighted **10%**.
2. **Pass-offs** - Pass offs are for students to pass off music that we are playing this year. Students must record themselves playing the music that is required to pass off. It will be weighted **10%**. Pass-Offs include:
  - Scales (major, minor)
  - Concert Music
  - All-Region Music
  - Solo Music
3. **Concerts** - Concerts are a must attend event by every student. This would allow the student to demonstrate what they are doing in band and how well they progress. It will be weighted **25%**. The attire for concerts will be:
  - Black Pants
  - Band Polo Shirt
  - Black Shoes
  - Black socks
4. **Test(Only for 6th Grade)**- Every Friday the students will be taking a test that covers; music theory, scales, and rhythmic patterns. It will be weighted **25%**.
5. **Test(Only for 7th and 8th Grade)** - It will be weighted **25%**. Test will be there concerts which consist of their:
  - Halloween & Christmas Concert
  - Pre-UIL Concert
  - UIL Concert
  - Spring Concert

6. **Participation** - Every student must participate in any school related band rehearsals in the afternoon, contest and other related band activity. It will be weighted **25%**.
7. **Homework** - Every day the student will bring their instrument home to practice and must be recorded on their practice logs and must be signed by parents every day. It will be graded as a homework assignment. It will be weighted **15%**.

**6th Grade Weighted:** 15%(HW) + 25%(P) + 25%(Test) + 25%(C) + 10%(Chair Test)

**7th & 8th Grade:** 15%(HW) + 25%(P) + 25%(Test) + 25%(C) + 15%(Pass Off)

### **Band Schedule**

*Monday - Friday*

*6th Grade Band - 8:00am - 8:45am*

*7th Grade Band - 1:24pm - 2:09pm*

*8th Grade Band - 12:35pm - 1:20pm*

### **Spring Band Schedule**

Tuesday - After School Rehearsal 4:00pm - 6:00pm

*\*Here is the late policy for students, If you are... **15 mins late** you will receive full credit, **30 mins late** you will receive half credit, after that you will receive zero credit. If you contact me the day or the week before about missing or having to be in tutorials I won't count it, if you text me the day of there won't be any exception.*

### **Band School Supplies**

This is what you need to get your student for class. These supplies are what they will be bringing everyday to class.

- 3 ring 3' Binder
- 1 pack of #2 pencils
- Dividers
- Sheet protectors

If your child is in 6th grade, they will tell me what instrument they want to play. They will tell me by Friday and a list will be given of what to get your child. You can get them at Tarpleys or at Music & Arts.

## **Purpose**

This handbook has been written to help students gain the most from their middle school band experience as well as provide guidance to the practical everyday experiences of the band program.

## **General Goals and Objectives**

### **1. *Mental and physical discipline***

- Learn techniques of preparation as they relate to group and individual Performances
- Develop self and group discipline

### **2. *Citizenship through group endeavor***

- Develop leadership abilities
- Develop responsibility
- Develop ability to cooperate with others and to work as a team member
- Develop goals

### **3. *Physical conditioning***

- Develop strength, stamina, and endurance
- Develop coordination

### **5. *General Music Knowledge***

- Know and use note values and rests
- Know and use keys, key signatures and scales
- Know and use musical terms, signs and symbols
- Recognize and tune intervals and harmony
- Ear training / listening skills

### **6. *Proper instrumental technique***

- Care of instrument
- Assume correct posture and playing position
- Develop and embouchure / stick grip / hand position

- Develop characteristic instrumental tone
- Develop proper breathing techniques
- Develop technical instrumental proficiency (fingering, articulation, rudiments, scales, etc.)



Please sign at the bottom that you and your child understand the policies in the handbook.

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_