

Jacksboro High School Band Handbook



Jacksboro High School Band
750 W. Belknap St.
Jacksboro, TX 76458
(940) 567-7204 ext. 319

Director of Bands - Patrick Flaniken
flanikenpr@jacksboroisd.net
Middle School Band Director - Steven Mitchell
mitchellsw@jacksboroisd.net

The guidelines found within this document will be followed. However, there is no way to predict every possible situation. In the event that a situation arises that is not covered in this document, the directors will use their discretion to decide how it will be handled. Administrative support will be requested if it is necessary!

The Importance of Attitude

The greatest single factor that will determine the success of any individual is ATTITUDE. Every band student should learn to use the phrases: "I will try!" and "I can!" The worst phrase as student can say or think is "I can't". Whether you believe you can or you can't, you will be right.

The right attitude includes sincerity, concentration and dedication. A good attitude during any rehearsal or practice is of utmost importance for any good ensemble or group to succeed. Attitude is important for both group discipline and self discipline. Analyze your own attitude and be a positive leader in the band. The band can do much for you as you grow and mature. Make the most of it!

A great attitude makes a good band better and together we are more powerful than the sum of our individual talents!

Jacksboro Band Program Overview

Beginning Band (Grade 6)

Emphasis will be placed on learning correct procedures for assembling instruments, learning how to hold instruments with correct posture, learning how to form the correct embouchure (mouth position) and hand position for playing the instrument. Students will learn basic music reading skills as well as begin learning techniques to improve playing upon their instrument. The goals will be to have a beginning understanding of basic music theory, scales, rhythms, music history and other musical elements used in performances. Activities for this group include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Christmas Concerts
- Spring Concerts
- Possible Beginning Band Festival
- Possible Solo And Ensemble Festival

Concert Band (Grades 7-8)

Music learned will be geared towards a performance goal, such as a concert, and individual music played for placement in the All District audition process. The goal for concert bands will be the perfection of music for performance. Students will gain an understanding of basic music theory, scales, rhythms, music history and other musical elements used in performances. Activities for these groups include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Christmas and Spring Concerts
- All District Band Auditions
- All District Clinic/Concert
- Solo and Ensemble Contest
- Any other performance/activity required by the band directors
- Band Festivals
- UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest

High School Band (Grades 9-12)

Music learned will be geared towards a performance goal, such as a concert, and individual music played for placement in the All State audition process. The goal for high school bands will be the perfection of music for performance. Students will gain an understanding of basic music theory, scales, rhythms, music history and other musical elements used in performances. Activities for these groups include, but are not limited to, the following:

Football Games	Invitational Marching Contests
Christmas and Spring Concerts	
All District Band Auditions	Band Festivals
All District Clinic/Concert	UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest
Solo and Ensemble Contest	UIL Marching Contests
Non UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contests	
Any other performance/activity required by the band directors	

Rules and Expectations

Attendance:

All band members are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances unless excused in advance by a director. If the student does not notify the director of the absence in advance (unless impossible), then the absence will be considered unexcused. Excused absences will have substantially less make up work (if any) than unexcused absences! Make up work will be determined by the director on a case by case basis. Please contact the band hall if your student is unable to attend a performance or rehearsal.

Punctuality and attendance are of vital importance to the band. The nature of the band's operation at concerts, and travel away from home make strict adherence to a schedule very important. Students who are habitually tardy or absent will forfeit any position of responsibility or honor with the band and may be transferred out of the program!

Conduct:

Being a member of the band will expose you to many opportunities to be in the eyes of the public. Your actions and words will be scrutinized to a higher degree than many other students. It is expected that every member of the band will conduct themselves properly at all times. All school rules shall be in effect whether we are at school or away from school for a band function.

Use/Possession of Drugs/Alcohol/Illegal Substances:

1. First offense - Student is placed on probationary status for the remainder of the year, eligible to practice unless placed in DAEP, ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities for 30 calendar days. If the Student wishes to return to participation, the student must have a negative test result at the end of the suspension and be retested in the next six random drug tests.
2. Second offense- The student is ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities for 120 calendar days. The student will not be allowed to participate in after school practices during the

suspension. Student is ineligible for a letter award. If the student wishes to return to participation, the student must have a negative test result at the end of the suspension and be retested in the next six random drug tests.

3. Third offense – The student is ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities for one calendar year. The student will not be allowed to participate in after school practices during the suspension.
4. Any positive test after the third offense shall result in permanent removal from the Band Program.

Band Hall Rules:

1. Respect the right of other students to learn and the teacher to teach.
2. Food, candy, gum and drinks (other than water) are not allowed at any time unless excused by the director ahead of time.
3. Have your instrument, in good working order, your supplies, and your music at your seat when rehearsal/class begins.
4. Remain seated/in assigned spot during rehearsals.
5. Keep the band hall neat and orderly.
6. If it's not yours, don't touch it.

Marching Band Additional Rules:

1. All school rules will be in effect.
2. Do not leave the stands without director approval.
3. No gum, food, or drink in the stands without director approval.
4. Electronics (cell phones, etc.) are not allowed to be used in the stands.
5. Only band members are allowed to sit with the band unless approval has been given by Mr. Flaniken.
6. You are responsible for the safety of your instrument and music at all times during the game.
7. No jewelry is allowed while in uniform.
8. Make up must be limited to eye-liner and/or eye shadow.
9. The uniform, when worn, will be worn correctly at all times.

Bus Rules:

1. Instrument cases must have name tags with the student's name on them so they can be identified.
2. You are responsible for getting your instrument, music, uniform on the bus or to the loading area.
3. Chaperones will attend. Instructions given by chaperones will be followed at once, no exceptions.
4. Behavior on the bus will follow school rules and safety concerns.
5. Music players (ipods, etc.) may be used on the bus. Headphones must be worn. The school assumes no responsibility for personal equipment on the bus.
6. No displays of affection are allowed.
7. If you do not ride home on the bus, it is your responsibility to take your instrument and uniform home at that time and return them to school on the next school day.

Band Trips:

All band members shall ride to and from the destination on designated buses. Students may not change buses on the return trip. There are two exceptions to these rules:

1. A band member may be released to a parent/legal guardian after the game/performance. The following things must be done:
 - a. Band member must travel to the original destination with the band.
 - b. The parent/guardian must sign the release form in person with the band director with their child in order to be released. This release form absolves the director and school of any further responsibility for the child's transportation home from that event.
 - c. Students will only be released to their own parent/guardian. They will not be released to anyone else unless there are outstanding circumstances. If circumstances dictate that a student must ride home with someone other than their parent/guardian, it must be approved 24 hours in advance by Mr. Flaniken and Ms. Sanders. Call Mr. Flaniken if this becomes necessary.
2. In case of a medical emergency, Mr. Flaniken may approve other means of transportation.

At some point in the year an overnight trip may become necessary. If this happens, all necessary information will be sent home in advance of the trip.

Eligibility:

State laws require that students have passing grades to participate in extracurricular activities. Eligibility for such events will be determined according to state law.

If any other trips are planned that do not follow under these laws, the following rules will be in effect:

1. Students must have participated in **all** required events unless excused by Mr. Flaniken
2. Students must meet UIL eligibility rules.
3. Students must be current on financial obligations and either pay for or fundraise the money needed for the trip.
4. Students must not have served time in ISS for a major infraction during the current semester. (Two minor infractions will count as one major infraction.) Definitions of major and minor infractions will be at the band directors and principals discretion.
5. Any student who has served time in AEP or been Expelled will not be allowed to attend the trip.

Consequences For Failure To Follow Rules:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Written Warning/Parent Notification
3. Detention/Parent Conference
4. Referral to Office
5. Dismissal from Program

Dismissal from Band:

Any student may be dismissed from the band because of lack of cooperation, violation of or refusal to conform to rules and regulations, or a general poor attitude. This will only happen after parents have been

contacted for repeated violations of rules and will require approval from the principal prior to any action being taken.

Grading Procedures

The Band Department will follow Campus Grading policies. Grades will be split into three categories, daily grades, major grades and a Six Weeks test. Daily grades will be worth 25% , Major grades will be worth 50%, and the Six Weeks Test will be 25% of the six weeks grade.

Daily Grades:

Daily grades will include minor written assignments, playing quizzes, written quizzes, and a weekly grade based on observable learning taking place. This grade will include showing correct posture, embouchure, preparedness, playing position, etc. Each day, students will receive up to 20 points (enough to add up to a 100 for the week) for each observed objective.

Major Grades:

Major grades will include major written exams, playing exams and performances. Performance grades will be given for all required performances. Examples include but are not limited to half-time shows, parades, extra practices, and concerts. Credit will not be given for unexcused absences from performances. Excused absences will be offered a project to make up absences from performances. The nature and length of the project will be left up to the band director.

Students will be given grades according to a rubric on assigned playing exams. The rubric is based on correct notes, rhythms, tone quality, technique and musicianship.

Students will earn a grade of 100 for concerts and other performances for performing. If other groups are performing, such as at a Christmas or Spring concert, students are expected to stay for the entire concert. They will be given a grade based on concert etiquette for their role as audience members as per the TEKS for music.

Financial Obligations

Students are required to have an instrument daily in class. Smaller instruments must be purchased or rented at your expense. Some larger or extremely expensive instruments are available through the school. Students are expected to keep all instruments in working order. If repairs are needed, instruments must be taken or sent to the music store for repair. Do not attempt to repair instruments yourself. Students are expected to have supplies appropriate to the instrument that they play. Lists of appropriate supplies will be available in the band hall.

Fundraising

Fundraising is a voluntary part of our band program that allows each student to help raise funds needed for band trips and other related activities. Fundraising will be conducted in accordance with school policy and with the permission of the school. All fundraising activities will be supervised and managed by the band director and/or band booster organization. The handling of money, orders, and/or merchandise related to any fundraising will be decided upon and announced based on the individual project. Your participation in fundraising activities is regulated by the following guidelines:

1. All funds become the property of the Jacksboro Band Program and/or band booster organization.
2. All funds must be used for the activities and function of the band program.
3. Funds are not refundable because of cancellation or withdrawal from participation or ineligibility.
4. Funds raised by students who withdraw or graduate from the program will stay as part of the band program activity fund.
5. Any extra funds raised will be placed in the band program activity fund.
6. Trip privileges will be denied to anyone who has not turned in fundraising money.
7. Each student is responsible for all fundraising items and monies associated with those fundraising items. Each student will receive a receipt showing the amount of money due to the band.
8. Any time money is turned in to the band for fundraising activities, the student will receive a receipt showing the amount turned in as well as the balance owed.

Letter Jackets

Letter Jackets can be earned using the following system. In order to earn your letter jacket, you must earn 6 points (cumulative) from the following:

1. Perform at UIL Marching Contest - 1 point per year
2. Perform at UIL Area Marching Contest - 2 points per year
3. Perform at UIL State Marching Contest - 3 points per year
4. Audition for and be accepted in the All Region Band - 1 point per year
5. Audition for All Area Band - 2 points per year
6. Advance to All State Band - 3 points
7. Participate in UIL Concert And Sight Reading - 1 point per year
8. Participate at UIL Solo and Ensemble - 1 point per event per year
9. Make a First Division at UIL Solo and Ensemble - 1 point per event per year
10. Participate at UIL State Solo and Ensemble - 2 points per year
11. Make a First Division at UIL State Solo and Ensemble - 3 points per year

Dress for Public Performances

Hot Weather Marching Uniform includes:

- Band T-Shirt, Band Shorts, Band Shoes and socks.
- Wearing this uniform is a new privilege. Its purpose is to be cool and comfortable during the early games of the season.
- Shoes and socks are provided by the student and dark colors are preferred for these.
- The plan is to wear these uniforms until the weather cools down enough to transition into the Full Uniform.

Full Uniform includes:

- Bibber Pants, Jacket, Hat with Plume, Marching Shoes and LONG BLACK SOCKS!
- This uniform should be worn with utmost pride as it is a representation of our program.
- Band Shirt and shorts should be worn under this uniform. I recommend simply planning to wear your hot weather uniform under it.
- LONG BLACK SOCKS ARE MANDATORY! If you do not have long black socks, they will be provided for a \$2.00 fee!

Dress Uniform Includes:

- Tuxedo for gentlemen, Long black dress for ladies
- This uniform is worn for Concert Contest
- Alternatively, you may wear a solid black outfit of your own. It may consist of a school appropriate dress, or solid black dress pants and a solid black long sleeve button down shirt. Shoes must be solid black. If you have any questions about your attire, ask Mr. Flaniken for clarification.

Forms to be returned

Please read, sign and return these forms to the band director by August 16, 2019

Students will be held to the rules outlined in this document. This handbook will be discussed in class in order to make sure all students understand the document.

To the Student:

I have gone over the Jacksboro ISD Band Handbook and understand the policies stated within it. I understand the privileges and responsibilities that go with membership in band and will do my best to bring honor to myself, the band, our school and the community at all times. I understand that my commitment to the band and its members requires active participation, practice, discipline and the best of attitudes.

Student Name Printed

Date Signed

Student Signature

To the Parent:

As the parent/guardian of the above band student, I understand that my child will be held accountable to the policies in the Jacksboro ISD Band Handbook. I will do my best to encourage my child to fulfill their highest musical potential and will do my best to provide support and encouragement at home.

If needed, please check:

_____ I would like to receive a hard copy of the band handbook in Spanish.

Parent Name Printed

Date Signed

Parent Signature