

**MOJO P BAND**

# **HANDBOOK**

**2021-2022 SEASON**

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## FOREWARD

The success of any organization is dependent upon the spirit, pride, leadership, teamwork, dedication, and cooperation of its members. Certain rules, policies, and procedures are necessary so that the overall goals of the group are met and the welfare of each individual member is best served.

By accepting membership in the Permian High School Band, you are agreeing to perform to the best of your abilities and work together with the band staff in making this year's band the finest musical organization that our combined efforts can produce. In order for this to occur, students will need to be responsible, attentive, and respectful, have a positive attitude, and follow all ECISD, Permian High School and Permian Band rules. The directors will do their best to ensure that every student will be provided the opportunity to be successful, regardless of their ability as an incoming student or of their career ambitions following graduation.

The Permian Band staff has developed this handbook to familiarize each band member with general operation and procedures of the Permian Band and standards by which all band members are expected to conduct themselves. The handbook is not intended to be all-inclusive, as every possible situation and question cannot be predicted in advance; however, a thorough knowledge of these materials is essential to the smooth operation and success of the band this year.

## MISSION

The Permian High School Band is a team, whose success through goal achievement, is attributed to its unconditional pride and devotion to the program.

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

### MENTAL AND PHYSICAL DISCIPLINE

- Develop powers of concentration
- Memorize music
- Learn techniques of preparation as they relate to group and individual performances
- Develop self and group discipline

### CITIZENSHIP THROUGH GROUP ENDEAVOR

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

### PHYSICAL CONDITIONING

- Develop strength, stamina, endurance and coordination

### CULTURAL GROWTH

- Provide opportunities to attain knowledge of music history through performance of various types of instrumental literature

### VALUE JUDGEMENTS

- Ability to make musical value (as they pertain to a musical setting) judgments through critical listening
- Recognition of quality of sound, pitch, style, tempo, rhythm, blend, balance, phrasing, dynamics, and articulation

### MUSIC THEORY

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

## PROPER INSTRUMENT TECHNIQUE

- Care of the instrument
- Assume correct posture and playing position
- Develop the embouchure/stick grip/hand position
- Develop characteristic instrumental tone
- Develop proper breathing techniques
- Develop technical instrumental proficiency (fingering, articulation, rudiments, scales, etc.)

## CREATIVE SELF-EXPRESSION

- Express oneself in every performance experience
- Explore careers

## IN ADDITION TO THE STATE OF TEXAS GUIDELINES, THE PERMIAN HIGH SCHOOL BAND WILL STRIVE TO:

- Provide any interested student with opportunities for musical knowledge, musical fellowship, and fun through participation
- Provide for the mental, physical, social, and emotional development of students
- Instill pride and discipline in each student
- Provide each student with solo and group endeavors to achieve personal goals and satisfaction
- Provide basic psychological needs such as recognition, belonging, self-respect, and a feeling of achievement

## CONDUCT & EXPECTATIONS

**Students in band serve as representatives of the school and school district at many public extra-curricular functions. Membership in any band organization is a privilege and it is within the right of any director to deny membership to a student if they believe that they would not positively represent the organization. Band members will observe all policies set forth by Ector County ISD, in addition to the following, as they pertain to the instrumental music setting.**

- Any behavior which is not representative of good citizenship, as perceived by the band staff, may result in the student's dismissal from the activity at hand as well as the band program. This also applies to the actions of students at both public and private events as well as communication and posts on social media.
- Display of profanity, temper, flagrant violation of rules, etc. will not be tolerated. Individual behavior during a band function is a reflection of the group.
- Students will follow directors' instructions.
- Students will be in their assigned rehearsal area ready to work at the set rehearsal time with all equipment, including music, pencil, instrument, and all supplies to rehearsals daily.
- Students will keep hands, feet, and other objects to themselves.
- Students will not use or play on equipment they do not own without permission from a director.
- Students will not touch, handle, borrow, or use anyone else's instrument, uniform, or personal belongings.
- Students should request permission to speak by raising their hand and waiting to be acknowledged. All rehearsals are expected to be extremely quiet so that time will be utilized wisely and as efficiently as possible.
- When allowed in the band hall, either before or after school, students will not disturb any rehearsal in progress.
- Students will respect the property of others, and return their equipment to its proper storage place when not in use. Students should keep their equipment in the designated storage area, and keep said storage area clean and neat in appearance. Students who demonstrate great difficulty with this may lose the privilege of having a storage area in the band hall.
- Students will not deface or mark on music stands, chairs, walls, etc.
- Students will not write on dry-erase board without permission from a director.
- Students will utilize their assigned storage slot/locker for instrument cases during rehearsals. Cases should not be brought into rehearsals unless requested by a director (possible exceptions: flute, clarinet, oboe, and bassoon).

## DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

Maintaining a higher standard of conduct will also include ensuring that band member websites and social media posts are appropriate. The internet is a worldwide, publicly accessible form of communication. Any communication such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, photo sharing, emailing, or texting, etc., appearing on the internet is public domain, even if it is marked private. Members are responsible for their personal websites and postings, as well as posting on other websites and social media. The areas of appropriateness will include but are not limited to profane, foul, or disrespectful language (abbreviated or alluding to), pictures, suggestive poses, clothing, references to alcohol, drugs, and/or tobacco, and postings (either verbal or photos) that could be interpreted as being negative or threatening towards other ECISD teaching staff or band members, or that demonstrate poor sportsmanship or a disrespectful attitude towards other bands. Any such incident will result in review by the principal (or designee) and may lead to probation or dismissal from the band.

## FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

It is the philosophy of the Permian High School Band that no student should be denied the privilege of band membership due to financial hardship. For options in meeting financial obligations, parents should contact the director. There are several fundraisers available throughout the school year through the band booster program to help students.

### GENERAL BAND ASSESSMENT

All Permian Band members will be responsible for this annual fee. The purpose of the assessment fee is to help with the various expenses that are necessary to run a quality band program, but are not covered by the school district. These include but are not limited to such items as clinicians, contest entry fees, printing specialty items, general supplies, marching band design coordination, charter bus rentals, social activities, snacks at games and more as voted by the Band Boosters.

### MOJO MEAL FEE (OPTIONAL)

This fee covers all pre-game meals, specified meals at camps and some contests during the Fall Marching Season.

### OTHER FEES

Fees listed below are approximate and may vary from student to student.

- Shoes: All marching band students must have the approved black shoes. No other shoe will be acceptable. Approximate cost: \$45.00
- Misc. Supplies: Including, but not limited to, various supplies such as lyres, flip folders, raincoats, water jugs etc. The costs may vary from year to year.
- Contest Fees: fees for Region/State Solo & Ensemble and All-Region/Area/State auditions are not covered by ECISD and must be paid by the student

### SPRING TRIP FEES

Students that chose to travel with the band are required to pay all fees for the trip. This fee varies each year depending on the destination and length of travel. No money can be credited to the spring trip unless all other band fees are paid.

## FUNDRAISING

The Permian High School Band and Band Booster Club engage in fundraising activities throughout each year. The monies raised from fundraising activities will be credited to an account held by the Booster Club and is subject to all state laws. This money will be used only for the direct benefit of the band program.

## CARE OF THE BAND FACILITIES

- **Refreshments** – No gum, food or drinks are allowed in the building except when authorized by the directors.
- **Litter** – All trash (paper, broken reeds/drum sticks, etc.) is to be deposited in the wastebaskets provided.
- **Vandalism** – Acts of vandalism or the willful misuse of school property will be dealt with firmly and appropriately. Every band member is responsible to help the director's monitor the facility and control vandalism, which includes writing or carving on walls, destroying music, or breaking school property.
- **Band Music Library** – Absolutely no student is allowed in the band library without permission. The copy machine is off limits without permission!
- **Practice & Ensemble Rooms** – Are designed for practicing, not social gatherings.
- **Offices** – Please knock, and if you are invited in, you may enter. Otherwise, they are off-limits to students. Students may not use director's phone without permission.

## ATTENDANCE

In order to have and maintain a high quality band program, attendance from all members is essential. While the Permian Band follows all school and district policies and procedures, the following additional guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies for the Permian Band. These attendance guidelines also apply to activities held outside of the school day. Failure to participate in either rehearsals or performances may result in student removal from the organization at the discretion of the band directors.

Attendance will be checked and documented promptly at the start of rehearsal.

### TARDINESS

Students not in their designated area at the appropriate time will be marked tardy. A tardy will be converted to a mark of absent 10 minutes after the rehearsal begins.

**Excused Tardiness:** Tardiness may be excused at the discretion of the directors. Tutorials, appointments etc. will not be an excuse for tardiness unless prior arrangements, with written documentation, are made and approved by a director.

**Unexcused Tardiness:** Students who have more than one unexcused tardy shall make up missed time at a time to be arranged by the director and may be subject to one of the following consequences at the discretion of the band directors:

- Loss of spot as a primary marcher
- Loss of marching privilege at a football game
- Requirement to stay after rehearsal or report early to next rehearsal to make up lost time
- Requirement to make up 15 minutes of fundamental marching with his/her section leader

### ABSENCES

**Excused Absence:** Absences will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Appointments will not be an excuse for absence. Absence due to personal illness requiring medical attention, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances (approved by director) may be considered for excused status. Students who are continually ill may be required to provide a doctor's note releasing them from participation to ensure the well-being of the child and to reduce concerns of the band directors. If in doubt, an absence should be checked with a director.

**Unexcused Absence Students:** who have an unexcused absence may be subject to one or more of the following consequences at the discretion of the directors:

- Make up missed time.
- Loss of attendance privilege at one game.
- Loss of spot as a primary marcher.
- Loss of concert band assignment. Assigned to another band class.
- Loss of marching privilege for one game.
- Removal from the marching band and loss of physical education credit.

## DISTRICT OWNED INSTRUMENTS

ECISD will provide a limited number of instruments for student use. These instruments include highly expensive instruments such as the bassoon, oboe, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, french horn, euphonium, tuba and general percussion equipment. This equipment is generally purchased by the school district for student use because of its extremely high expense. Thus, all district owned equipment must be handled with optimum care. Students failing to take proper care of their school-issued instrument may lose the privilege to use such instruments. The following is a list of general procedures for district-owned instruments:

- Order of distribution will be done based on chair order.
- ECISD does not provide insurance for individually owned or district-owned equipment. Students will be held responsible for all district-owned instruments issued to them. This responsibility will include fire, theft, accidental damage, abuse and general maintenance not incurred through normal use.
- Each instrument will be issued in good playing condition. Each issued instrument will be checked and cleaned prior to issue. Students are expected to maintain their issued instruments accordingly.
- The band member is financially responsible for all equipment and/or materials checked out to him or her.
- All equipment and materials must be kept in their proper storage location when not in use.
- ECISD may assess a fee for routine (end of year) cleaning and maintenance of district owned instruments. This fee will be collected by the Permian Band Boosters, and then forwarded to ECISD (this fee does not cover removal of dents or other student-responsible repairs).

Special Note District-owned instruments are not to be treated as "free" instruments. Basic supplies must still be purchased and repairs must still be made just like personally owned instruments. Please strive to treat these instruments as if they were your own. Most district-owned instruments exceed \$2,000 in value.

## GRADING GUIDELINES

ECISD band programs have instructional objectives that relate to the mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for grade level subjects or courses. These objectives are aligned to address the academic skills needed for successful performance in the next grade or next course in a sequence of courses. Assignments, tests, projects, classroom activities, and other instructional activities are designed so that the student's performance indicates the level of mastery of the instructional objectives. The student's mastery level of these objectives is a major factor in determining the grade for a subject or course. Students will be expected to meet the responsibilities for each band class as determined by the director. Since band is an academic music class with extra-curricular activities attached, the band student's grade will reflect achievement in both curricular and extracurricular areas. A band member's six weeks grade will be determined from the following items: student's daily preparation and participation, individual testing, performances, and extended classroom activities such as sectionals and before/after school rehearsals. For more specific information pertaining to how a student's grade is determined, please consult the director. The following list is provided to give students and parents examples of items that can be subject to grading. Additional assignments may be given at the discretion of the director.

- The student will receive a grade for each before or after school sectional and rehearsal during a grading period.
- The student will have instrument, music, pencil, and supplies.
- The student will be prepared to play his/her part successfully.
- The student will mark music and take notes as needed.
- The student will be expected to improve individual music skills.
- The student's individual skill development will be evaluated through recorded music tests, individual playing tests, scale tests, and/or written tests.
- The student will be evaluated on improvement of ensemble skills during daily rehearsals.
- The student will be expected to improve his/her performance fundamentals.
- The student will be evaluated for improvement of his/her music fundamentals through daily observation during the "basics" part of each rehearsal and during sectionals.
- The student will be expected to demonstrate correct posture, hand position, embouchure, air production, and articulation as monitored during rehearsals.
- The student will receive a grade for each performance during a grading period.

## ELIGIBILITY

All ECISD Bands adhere to the eligibility rules and regulations as stated by TEA and ECISD. Some band activities are designated as extra-curricular. Students participating in these activities are governed by eligibility requirements. A student shall be suspended from participation in all extra-curricular activities sponsored or sanctioned by the school district during the six week period following a grade reporting period in which the student received a grade lower than seventy in any non-exempt class. Loss of eligibility does not take effect until seven days after the end of the reporting period. Ineligible students are not suspended from practice or rehearsal of extracurricular activities. The student is not suspended from participation during the period in which school is recessed for the summer or any other vacation time. Students may regain eligibility under certain circumstances. If a student has been suspended as a result of failing, he/she may regain eligibility by passing ALL non-exempt courses in the third week of the affected grading period. Reinstatement of eligibility would occur seven days after the three week progress report period (see TEA/UII Side by Side). Activities that are considered curricular components of any course are not affected by the eligibility law. Examples of these activities are all rehearsals and performances that take place as a regular extension of classroom instruction.

## TRAVEL GUIDELINES

The band will frequently travel on either school buses or commercial buses. Student conduct is expected to be at the highest level on any trip. Students must travel to events and return from events on the bus. Students must have all necessary forms (Medical/Travel Release) completed and on file with the band office to travel on any trip with the band. While on the bus students will

- Remain seated
- Sit properly in a forward position
- Keep the bus clear of food, drinks, and debris (At times it may be necessary to eat on the bus. Every effort should be made to keep your area clean.)
- Keep all body parts inside the bus
- Use only approved type/headset radios (no amplified devices)
- Remain silent when addressed by person in charge on the bus
- Refrain from loud, boisterous talking, singing, screaming, whistling, inappropriate jokes, etc
- No public displays of affection
- Remain silent from the time they step onto the bus until otherwise instructed

Students are reminded that all performances start and conclude at the band hall. As a member of the band, you are a representative of your school. Always be on your best behavior. If you are in doubt about an action, do not do it! Your conduct at all times should be considered a good reflection on the school, the band, your home, yourself and the community. Chaperones Adult chaperones are a great asset for the band program. Students will treat them as an extension of the band staff. Proper respect will be shown to all adults always.

## TRIP CHANGE

Any student wishing to leave with his/her parent must submit an ECISD Trip Change Form with parent signature, prior to the event. Trip change forms require the signature of a principal. Permission will be granted or denied based on the circumstances of the occasion. Students are always expected to travel with the band to events when the band is traveling as a group.

## MARCHING BAND

Permian High School has enjoyed a high reputation for excellence in music performance, including marching band, for many years. The marching band is the most visible aspect of the band program. The marching band provides performance opportunities for band students while integrating the band program into school and community activities. Marching Band Participation is an integral part of the band program, Ector County ISD's philosophy is that educationally, historically, and musically, marching band is an essential ingredient in a well-rounded music education in band. ECISD believes that music students need to develop the ability to participate and perform in different ensemble experiences which, for band students, includes the marching band. As a result, marching band is required for all high school students who elect to take an academic band performance course. However, students who have medical

complications or physical disabilities may be excused from participation at the discretion of the head band director. Philosophy regarding all aspects of high school band stems from TEA/UIIL guidelines which govern all Texas schools.

#### PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

As an artistic endeavor, each rehearsal and performance by the marching band is mentally and physically demanding. For the full marching band performance, students are always on task and must bring to the experience their best performance skills. As a result, each student in the marching band is eligible to receive a physical education substitution credit in accordance with TEA guidelines.

#### MARCHING BAND AN INTEGRAL COMPONENT OF STATE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

The music and performance skills and techniques, along with the associated academic skills in the band program, are derived from implementation of the expectations found in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). The curriculum specifically includes requirements such as demonstrating musical skills and artistry, performing in different musical mediums, and experiencing music through a wider range of music literature, which are addressed through the marching band. Each performance by the marching band provides students the opportunity to demonstrate musical artistry through the ensemble, individual music performance skills and techniques, marching performance skills and techniques, and critical thinking skills that include auditory, spatial, and visual awareness.

#### HIGH ACADEMIC STANDARDS MAINTAINED BY STUDENTS

The opportunity for weekly performance is a motivating factor for academic achievement for marching band students, since only by maintaining their eligibility can they continue to perform. As a result, the directors have documented the fact that the least number of ineligible band students during the year occurs during the marching season. In 2016 the marching band had a 98% eligibility rate.

#### MARCHING BAND POSITIONS

Students who earn a position in the marching band will carry the designation of primary marcher. A primary marcher is a student who:

- Successfully completes summer band and any auditions, chair tests, etc. as required
- Demonstrates high quality marching skills as determined by the directors
- Demonstrates ability to memorize music and perform it at a high level as determined by the directors
- Is punctual in report times
- Is present at rehearsals and performances
- Maintains academic eligibility
- Represents the school, school district, band program and themselves with the highest possible decorum and behavioral standards
- Follows all rules for the band program
- Follows all procedures for rehearsals

#### ALTERNATES

The band directors will keep the number of alternate marchers to a minimum; however, they are a necessary and vital aspect of our program due to the UIL “No Pass/No Play” rules and to prepare for possible substitutions due to injury, sustained illness, etc. Alternate marchers will meet the same attendance, rehearsal, memorization, academic, and performance requirements of varsity marchers. Specific drill may be written and music may be edited for those students who are not yet able to achieve the physical and musical demands required of varsity marchers. This will help improve their individual skill level and will prepare them for future performance opportunities. As a band staff, we are committed to providing performance opportunities for all students. However, the level of performance participation may be limited by eligibility and individual performance ability. There are many ingredients that are vital to a successful marching program and no one part is more valuable than any other.

## NUTRITION

It is important for all students to eat healthy and well-balanced meals every day. During summer band camp, students need to eat a healthy breakfast every morning. Students need to bring a healthy sack lunch to summer camp. We do not recommend fried foods, salty snacks, soft drinks, or sweets. Drink plenty of water. As the new school year begins, students should continue their healthy diet throughout the day. Continue to eat a healthy breakfast every morning. Eat a healthy lunch. Stay away from greasy foods such as pizza, chips, and candy during the school day. Lunch from the vending machines is not appropriate. Students should continue to drink plenty of water throughout the day to stay well-hydrated for afternoon rehearsals. Eating healthy meals and drinking plenty of water is essential so students can remain in good health.

## FOOTBALL GAME PROCEDURES

The football game is viewed as a performance of the band program. Such performances include all aspects of the game from arrival to departure.

- Students will remain on campus after school on game days for a brief rehearsal with time to eat and change into uniforms following. This is in consideration of time, organization, and safety. Please do not ask for exceptions to this.
- Students will arrive at the designated report time.
- Students will load and be prepared to travel at the designated load time.
- Students will load the buses with all equipment needed for the performance. The section leaders will inspect all students boarding buses prior to departure. Students with long hair must have hair up before allowed on bus. Students not meeting uniform, music, and loading guidelines may be sent home and not allowed to participate. Students will receive an unexcused absence for such occurrences.
- Upon arrival at the performance area, students will don all uniform components and prepare equipment for unloading. Students will unload buses when instructed to do so by a chaperone or director. Exit the bus in proper uniform as instructed by the directors, carrying all necessary equipment in garment bag unless instructed otherwise.
- Instruments that arrived via equipment truck/trailer will be picked up at the designated area when instructed. All cases must be put back in original location with latches closed.
- Upon arrival to the seating area, students will remain standing until all band members have arrived and are prepared to be seated. Students will sit in assigned seat and section. Students will remain in that seat and section at all times. Any movement in this bleacher adds risk to the safety of students and their instruments.
- Water and a snack will be provided by the band boosters after the halftime performance. Students must bring their water jug into the stands with them. No other food or drink will be allowed in the stands during the game. Students will refrain from accepting food or drinks from parents, relatives or friends. Parents, please do not offer refreshments to your children.
- Restroom breaks may be granted by a director, chaperone, or selected student leader. Every effort will be made to accommodate needs without jeopardizing the integrity of the section.
- Students will be expected to listen for and watch the directors and drum majors during the game. Students will need to be prepared to perform at all times and at a moment's notice.
- Students will refrain from playing their instruments on an individual basis. The band will perform as a group or with approved small ensembles. While playing, always pay attention to the director/drum major.
- At the appropriate time, the band will be dismissed from the stands for the half-time performance. At this time, the band must move quickly, quietly, and efficiently to the appropriate area. Students will need to be focused on the directors' and Drum Majors' instructions.
- At the conclusion of the half-time performance, students will return to the stands and continue in the stand performance throughout the remainder of the game.
- During the 3rd quarter, we will participate in the good sportsmanship procedures of officer meetings and introductions. The band president will create a schedule of which student leaders participate in this event each week.
- At the conclusion of the game, students will load busses quickly and efficiently.
- Upon return to the band hall, students will ensure that all personal items, uniforms and instruments are placed in the proper storage areas.
- At the conclusion of each engagement, there may be a brief meeting before dismissal.

## UNIFORM GUIDELINES

Students are expected to follow the listed uniform guidelines. No variations will be allowed.

- Students will be held financially responsible for the uniform(s) and all components.
- A participation grade may be taken for uniform care. ISSUE AND RETURN
- Students not properly hanging the uniform will receive a community service assignment and/or an additional uniform care fee.

## WEARING THE UNIFORM

Always wear and treat your uniform with pride. The uniform should be worn as a complete unit at all times when in public. The only exception to this will be when a director instructs you that you may remove your hat or coat. Loading crews may be exempt from wearing the uniform during loading/unloading procedures.

- The band (official “show shirt”) is to be worn under your uniform. The band shirt will be part of pre-performance inspections. The band tee-shirt does not pertain to the Concert Band uniform (dress or tux)
- You must wear approved black band shoes and black socks (student purchases).
- Jewelry, hair ribbons, and bright colored nail polish etc. are unacceptable while in uniform. These items hinder the uniform appearance of the band.
- Band students with long hair will need to put it up before loading the bus. Hair must not touch the collar of the jacket and must be above the top of the ear or pulled behind it. No visible hair on forehead.
- No consumption of food and drinks (other than H<sub>2</sub>O) while in uniform without permission.

If a uniform part is damaged or lost, the student will be responsible for the replacement costs. All marching uniforms are professionally cleaned at the same time to prevent unequal discoloration and fading. The costs for cleaning are collected from each student in advance (see Financial).

## CONCERT ENSEMBLES

**Symphonic Band** — selection into this group is by audition, director recommendation, and demonstration of academic proficiency. Members in this ensemble will participate in the TMEA Region Band process (includes attendance at Region Concert/Clinic), UIL Marching Contest, UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest, preparations for special possible honor concerts and UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contest. Members of this group will have one hour long section rehearsal each week. Additional rehearsals will be scheduled as needed. In UIL activities, this group will be designated the “Varsity” band.

**Concert 1/2/3** — selection into any of these groups is by audition. These groups, at varying levels, will participate in TMEA Region Band process (includes attendance at Region Concert/Clinic), UIL Marching Contest, UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest and UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contest. Members of these groups will have one hour section rehearsal each week and an assigned hearing time outside of the school day. These groups will give a variety of performances. In 16 UIL activities, these groups will be designated as the “Non-Varsity” and “Sub Non-Varsity” bands. Students in the band program will be placed in a concert ensemble by audition, as well as observation throughout the year. The second semester placement will include the progress of students in the Hearing Time process.

**Black Cat Jazz** — Black Cat Jazz is the jazz band at Permian High School. All members of the jazz band must be a member of the marching band and one of the concert bands concurrently with the exception of specialty rhythm players at the discretion of the band directors. The Black Cat Jazz performs several times throughout the year at contests, concerts, and other community events.

All students are required to audition for each performance ensemble. The Head Band Director determines audition requirements, and directors will notify students of audition dates, requirements, and results. Directors will serve as an evaluator during auditions. Audition material will reflect the director’s anticipated performance level for the students and will be based on prior learning, and auditions may be live or recorded at the director’s discretion. Students will be re-evaluated periodically for participation in select performance ensembles.

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The Permian High School Band has many opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills. Students can audition and/or apply for both selected officer positions and elected officer positions. In this manner, students can not only serve their band program but also refine skills that they will be able to use in other school organizations, as well as in their future careers. Audition criteria is selected at the discretion of the directors and is communicated to the students. The directors evaluate all selected officer candidates based on their performance both during the audition and during their performance during the current school year. Student leaders are held to higher standards of performance and behavior than a general band student. They are expected to be positive role models for all band members at all times. The leadership positions are listed below along with a description. The role of the officers may be changed whenever the band directors assess new needs, expectations and requirements. Students who have issues with conduct, eligibility, attendance, or violate any expectations may be removed from a leadership position either temporarily or permanently. The band directors may remove any student from a leadership position at any time.

**Band Captain:** The Band Captain is a senior member of the band who oversees all members and reports directly to the band directors. The Band Captain leads through example. He or she has displayed the best and most upright self-government and has proven him or herself countless times musically, morally, and as a leader. He or she must always be prepared so that they can help when called upon. The band captain will call meetings to meet with other leadership to discuss and implement goals and ideas for the band. The band captain will represent the band when called upon by school administration

**First Lieutenant:** Assists the band captain in all duties. Serve in place of the band captain when the band captain is absent. The First Lieutenant leads through example. He or she has displayed the best and most upright self-government and has proven him or herself countless times musically, morally, and as a leader. He or she must always be prepared so that they can help when called upon. The band captain will call meetings to meet with other leadership to discuss and implement goals and ideas for the band.

**Woodwind/Brass/Percussion Lieutenant:** The instrument lieutenants are the head section leaders for each large section. They assist the director of woodwind, brass and percussion class each day. Instrument lieutenants can also serve as section leaders.

**Section Leaders:** Section leaders are responsible for the actions of those in your section. They help train members of their section of the rehearsal expectations and instrument maintenance. They lead by example though both musical and marching skills. They encourage the members of their section to play-off music and maintain eligibility. They should be welcoming of all members and understanding of issues that occur. They also hold their section members accountable to the responsibilities assigned by the band directors.

**Equipment Crew & Captain:** The Equipment Crew is a vital part of the band. These student leaders ensure that rehearsals & performances are setup so that the band can rehearse/perform without delay. The crew captain communicates to the crew members the expectations for each day and manages the team so that they are focused on their duties. The Equipment Crew Captain reports directly to the directors.

**Pride Crew & Captain:** The Pride Crew helps manage the band facilities. These student leaders help maintain and clean the band hall, especially after performances. For example, after a football game, the Pride Crew will make sure the band section at the stadium is left clean. They make sure the band hall is kept in good condition. The crew captain communicates to the crew members the expectations for each day and manages the team so that they are focused on their duties. The Pride Crew Captain reports directly to the directors.

**Quartermaster & Uniform Crew:** The Uniform Crew helps manage the band uniforms. These student leaders help with the initial uniform checkout. They ensure that all the band uniforms are organized and kept in good condition. They will assist with uniform issues on performance days. The Quartermaster communicates to the uniform crew members the expectations and manages the team so that they are focused on their duties. The Quartermaster reports directly to the directors.

**Librarians & Head Librarian:** The Librarians manage the band library and music. These student leaders are responsible for the issue and maintenance of music, music folders, and the band music library. The head librarian manages the librarian team and reports to the band directors.

**Morale Officer:** The morale officers main goal is to find ways to encourage all members of the band program. They organize group activities that build spirit and comradery. They find ways to help the band students and directors stay motivated as we work toward long term goals.

**Publicist:** The band Publicist goal is to generate and manage publicity for the band. They help with school announcements recognizing group and individual accomplishments. They also help publicize good news on the band social media accounts.

**Trip Manager:** The band manager assists with attendance and travel. They take daily rehearsal attendance. They assist the band directors with band travel by creating bus lists and selecting bus captains. They ensure that the buses are labeled correctly and assist parent trip sponsors with their duties.

## BAND BANQUET

A band banquet is held each spring near the end of the school year. This special evening brings the band together one last time to review the year and to wish the seniors a fond farewell. Tickets are sold to cover the cost of the dinner, decorations, DJ, etc. To buy a ticket a student must not have any past due fees or fundraisers.

## BAND BOOSTERS

The Permian Band Boosters exist to assist the band directors in reaching the band program goals. The boosters usually meet on the first Tuesday of every month. The meetings are open to the public and begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Permian Band Hall. Support activities provided by the boosters include serving meals to students before games, providing chaperones for trips, providing chaperones for social events, financing of social events, providing parents to assist in various aspects of the marching band production, and numerous other activities. There is a place for every parent in this organization. Your service is not only encouraged, but also needed. For more information, please visit our website.

## A PARENTS GUIDE TO COMPETITION

Texas is blessed with a tremendously strong curricular music program in the public school systems. For whatever reasons, our music programs have survived every curricular innovation, every scheduling impediment, and every budgetary crisis in the last 75 years. A large part of this longevity may be attributed to the well-organized and maintained competition system in Texas that is the model for the rest of the country. Band competition in Texas is sponsored by two very different organizations: the University Interscholastic League (UIL) and the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA). The Association of Texas Small School Bands is an organization similar to TMEA, but is for 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A schools. The UIL is an organization of schools. Schools may elect to be a part of the UIL each year and nearly all of the Texas public school systems choose to do so. TMEA is an organization of music teachers (including band, choir, orchestra, classroom music teachers, and private lesson teachers) who teaching students in grades Kindergarten through college. Marching and concert competitions are sponsored by the UIL, while TMEA and ATSSB (Association of Texas Small School Bands) sponsors the competition that chooses the All-State performers each year and, in biennial cycles, selects the Honor Bands in each class through recordings that may or may not be from UIL competitions.

### UIL MARCHING CONTEST

**Region Level:** This contest has been sponsored by the UIL for over half a century and takes place in the 24 different designated regions in the state in October each year. Bands march shows of no less than 5 minutes and no more than 8 minutes to be given a rating by each of three independent judges: 1=superior; 2=excellent; 3=good; 4=fair; 5=poor. The judges cannot confer about their ratings and the FINAL rating is a consensus of the three NOT an average. For instance, a I, I, V is a ONE. A V, V, I is a FIVE, etc. Theoretically, EVERY band can get a I=superior or a V= poor. The competition is NOT among the bands themselves but against a standard of excellence that has been established through the many decades of this competition. This contest was the primary competitive goal of Texas bands until 1979 when the State Marching Contest was founded. It is still the first of three parts of a "Sweepstakes" which includes Marching, Concert, and Sightreading.

**Area Level:** This contest is held every two years. Its sole purpose is to choose the State Qualifiers from the regions within our area. One band per 5 entered will advance to the State Marching Contest. The contest uses 5 judges: 3 music judges and 2 marching judges. Each judge ranks the bands from top to bottom and the total ranks are added for a "rank total." The lowest rank total is first place!

**State Level:** The contest has been held since 1979 to choose a State Champion in each class. It is now held every two years in even numbered years and has been moved to the Alamodome in San Antonio to prevent weather interruptions. The contest is similar to the Area Contest with five judges and the lowest total of "rank points" becomes first place. Permian won this competition in 1982.

### UIL CONCERT AND SIGHTREADING CONTEST

This is the staple competition for UIL, occurring every year in the spring in all regions of the state. Bands prepare a concert program of three pieces chosen from the Prescribed Music List and perform for a panel of three judges who rate the bands with one of five ratings, just as in regional marching competition. Again, the comparison is only with a standard of excellence, not with other bands in

the contest. Theoretically, every band could earn a First Division or a Fifth Division! Immediately following the concert, bands move to another room to sightread a piece of music chosen to be read by all the bands within a class statewide! The music for sightreading is composed specifically for the contest and addresses certain fundamentals that are aligned with the curriculum for each classification. This is the musical equivalent of a statewide achievement test for Band.

#### SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CONTEST

Solo and Ensemble Contest is an "individual" competition that is usually held in February and May of each year. Students choose a solo and/or an ensemble and begin preparation in November/December. Once again, judges are rating each performance compared to a statewide scale of excellence, not as a comparison of one student to another. A judge will listen to the performance, write comment to the performer(s) and assign a rating (1=superior; 2=excellent; 3=good; 4=fair; 5=poor) based on the preparation and performance. Students earn medals for receiving a First Division rating (1) from the judge.

#### ALL REGION/AREA/STATE BANDS

The Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) sponsor individual competitions every fall that culminate in the selection of the All-State Bands, Choirs, and Orchestras that perform at the annual convention held in San Antonio, TX in February. The Texas regions hold the first level of competition and the top students advance to the Area level held in January. In each of the Areas, a designated number of the top students are selected to All-State. At each level of competition, students perform for a panel of 5 judges in a blind audition where judges are screened from sight and do not know which students are performing. Just as in other head-to-head competitions in Texas, each judge ranks each student in comparison with each other and the lowest total of rank points is first chair! The All-Region Bands perform in a concert in the middle of January each year, but the Area Band is for qualification purposes only. The All-State groups rehearse for 3 days in February prior to their performances with internationally acclaimed conductors and educators!

#### PRIVATE LESSONS

The single most important factor in the development of a truly outstanding band program is the development of the individual players. Private lessons are the most valuable tool we can offer our students to aid in their progression through the program. All students are strongly encouraged to take private lessons. There are many opportunities in the area for student musicians to study privately with professional teachers. We prefer that students study with director approved teachers on their instrument and avoid lessons at music stores, churches, etc. where less qualified individuals may be teaching lessons on several instruments simply for financial gain. There will be at least one private teacher on each instrument who will be available to teach as many students as possible either during the school day or outside of school hours. Lessons are \$20 per 30 minute lesson, once a week. Information on how to enroll will be distributed during the first week of classes. A limited number of scholarships are available for those in need. Please talk to your band director to obtain the appropriate forms.