

CRANDALL MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND HANDBOOK

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- I. PHILOSOPHY
- II. EXPECTATIONS
- III. ELIGIBILITY
- IV. EVENTS

- V. COMMUNICATIONS
- VI. NOTIFICATION
- VII. WEBSITE

I. PHILOSOPHY

The instrumental music program at Crandall Middle School is based on excellence. Members strive for excellence in group and individual performance. The utmost standard is held in our conduct and academic standings as well as our leadership and reputation as a campus organization. The end result of our program is more than great musicians. We desire to produce well-rounded students who can apply the concepts of discipline, teamwork and leadership in a wide cross-section of their lives for years to come.

II. EXPECTATIONS

- Members are expected to actively attend all band events listed in the yearly calendar. Band performances are included as grades in the band class. Students missing a performance due to a director-approved emergency will be given an alternate assignment. *See ELIGIBILITY*
- Members are required to have all equipment, instruments, music and necessary accessories for class. Not having all materials in class could reflect on their grade.
- Members are required to practice individually in addition to group rehearsals to ensure each student upholds their part in the ensemble. Members will be tested often over the music that is covered in class.
- Members are to respect and obey those in authority over them. This applies to teachers, sponsors, guest clinicians and the student leadership chain of command.
- Members are required to abide by all Crandall ISD policies both on and off the campus.
- Members are expected to maintain all materials: instruments, music, equipment, etc. Any fees assessed due to lack of maintenance must be paid before students are to regain access to those materials.

- Members of the band program are expected to pay a band fee. The band fee covers a student's band shirt, reeds, oils, equipment usage and basic repairs. The fees are reduced for students that participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).
 - Throughout the year, audio recordings, videos and photos of the band and individuals will be taken and published both online and on various media.
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III. ELIGIBILITY

All band events and competitions fall under the UIL rules of eligibility. Students must maintain an average of 70 in all classes to participate in band. Students who are ineligible may not participate in off-campus events (and some on-campus events) with the band. Students will participate in co-curricular activities like local concerts and school-based events held during school hours. Students who are failing at the 3-week grading period will be encouraged to attend tutorials.

In the event that a student cannot participate in a performance due to eligibility requirements, an alternate assignment will be given.

If a student is ineligible for two or more six weeks of a given semester, then parent contact might be made. At that time, a student may be asked to take a semester out of band in order to focus on academics.

IV. EVENTS

Summer

- University Band Camps – Recommended for all students, but not required
- Crandall High School Band Camp – Required for all 8th grade band members moving into the high school band program
- Freshman Orientation Trip – 8th grade band trip (between 8th grade and freshman year)

Fall

- One High School Football Game – Some middle school band students perform at one high school football game per year (usually one of the last home games)

Winter

- All-Region Band Auditions (7th and 8th grade only)
- Winter Arts Festival
- Solo and Ensemble Contest

Spring

- Music Festivals – Band trips for various CMS Bands
 - UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest – For various CMS Bands
 - Solo and Ensemble Contest
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V. COMMUNICATIONS

As a band staff, we use current communication technology and encourage students to do so as well. However, we need to place the following stipulations on texting, e-mail, messaging, and phone calls.

The band office phones and district e-mail are the only recognized method for contacting directors about absences, tardies, and questions about events. Section leaders and drum majors do have access to directors cell phone numbers if information needs to be communicated or clarified on short notice. We ask that only these people contact us in this manner, if necessary, only between the hours of 7:00 AM and 9:00 PM.

Facebook and Twitter may also be used as a communication between students and directors. However, we also ask that the same respect to hours is given, and that comments and postings reflect the high standard we uphold as an organization. Facebook and Twitter are not the official online communication networks of Crandall Bands.

The Crandall Band website is always the best source for information about band events. Students should check the website first before contacting directors with questions.

VI. NOTIFICATION

Director Phone and Email Information

- Mr. Hamilton Phone: 972.427.6080 ext. 5619 Email: ghamilton@crandall-isd.net
- Mrs. Vasquez Phone: 972.427.6150 ext. 5641 Email: nstovall@crandall-isd.net
- Mr. Welch Phone: 972.427.6020 ext. 5539 Email: kwelch@crandall-isd.net
- Mrs. Farley Phone: 972.427.6150 ext. 5543 Email: hfarley@crandall-isd.net

Attendance

When a rehearsal or performance has to be missed, please let a director know at least 24 hours in advance via email or phone. In the case of an emergency, the only acceptable form of communication on the same day of an event is by phone.

VII. WEBSITE

Crandall Bands is a large organization. We strive to maintain a top notch website to serve the needs of its many members and parents. The website contains the following:

- Announcements and important band information
- Calendar of band events
- Digital copies of letters that we send home with students
- Information on contacting directors
- Band booster club information
- Other helpful information and resources

Students are responsible for the information on the website. Computer access is available to students in the high school and middle school band halls. Members of Crandall Bands make a commitment to check the band website often for information on upcoming events.

www.crandallband.org