**Tivy High School**

**Band Program**

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**2017-2018 Handbook**

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TIVY BAND MEMBERS HANDBOOK

**INTRODUCTION**

The Tivy Band consists of the marching band, concert bands, jazz ensembles, percussion ensembles, and color guard.

Furtherance of the Tivy Band's’ efforts toward excellence and accomplishment requires cooperation and dedication from the students, parents, directors and administration. The purpose of this handbook is to acquaint members and parents with the Tivy Band Program and to provide information on its operation. If you have any questions or concerns about any information in this handbook or about the Band generally, you may contact the Band director.

All Band members and their parents are requested to read this handbook thoroughly and must sign the consent and agreement on the last page to indicate their consent to and commitment to comply with the Band rules and requirements, as a condition of participation in the Tivy Band. Please return the signed consent and agreement as required and keep this handbook for future reference.

**BAND DISCIPLINE PLAN (BDP)**

For a violation of any State Law, Kerrville ISD Policy, Tivy High School Rule, UIL rule, Tivy Band rule or requirement, the following disciplinary actions may be imposed.

1. Student correction and or/counseling
2. Parental notification
3. Office referral and loss of band privilege
4. Exclusion or removal from the band program.

The above information outlines the general plan for most disciplinary offenses. However, the disciplinary action imposed in each instance will be at the discretion of the Band Director considering the nature and severity of the conduct, the circumstances of the conduct, its frequency and prior warnings or action, consistency of action considering other situations, and other relevant factors.

All appeals should be addressed to the Band Directors first. They may then go to the Vice-Principal. Appeals to the Principal's office should be made only after the Band Director and the Vice-Principal have responded.

BEING REMOVED FROM BAND: The band directors reserve the right to remove a student from band due to excessive behavior issues, placement in alternative school, drug use, alcohol use, etc. It is up to the discretion of the band directors if the offense warrants removal from the program.

**BAND HALL/REHEARSAL RULES**

Rules applicable to rehearsals and to the use of the Band Hall are as follows:

* Rehearsals and classes start ON TIME. Have instruments and all necessary equipment and supplies.
* Follow all applicable laws, rules and teacher instructions.
* Store instruments, music, equipment, etc. in the correct place. **Lock all lockers.**
* Only instrument cases and music are allowed in locker overnight. All other items must be taken home at the end of the school day.
* Do not talk during rehearsals unless asked to do so.
* Do not leave class without permission.
* Do not deface (write on, etc.) walls, stands, equipment or furniture.
* Do not use the Band hall or any rehearsal rooms as your playground.
* Do not consume drinks, food or chew gum in the Band hall.
* Non-Band members are not allowed in the Band hall.
* Do not use band hall supplies for personal use.
* The band hall music library is for directors only. Students may be allowed in the music library with director approval.
* Do not use or touch school owned instruments unless they are checked out to you.
* Do not touch or play on percussion equipment if you are not a percussionist.

**LOCKERS AND LOCKS**

Lockers will be provided for storage of instruments and other band equipment. Band equipment will consist of music folders, instrument accessories. Instrument accessories should be kept inside the instrument case if at all possible. Marching clothes, and EMPTY water bottles may be stored in lockers during the school day, but these must be taken home at the end of each day. All clothing items must be placed inside a bag before they are stored in the locker. There should not be any other items stored in these lockers. Students are not allowed to store school textbooks and non-band school materials in their locker. All unauthorized items can be confiscated and discarded. Should student need extra space for book bags, etc. a hallway locker may be checked out from the directors.

Each locker will have a school issued lock. These locks can be opened by the band director if necessary. The student assigned to that lock is fully responsible for the lock and all contents of the locker. Therefore, it is in the student’s best interest to **MAKE SURE THE LOCK IS LOCKED AT ALL TIMES.** If a lock is stolen from a locker because it was left unlocked, the student will be responsible for replacement of the lock and all school-owned property inside the locker. The Tivy band will not be responsible for property stolen from the Tivy Band Hall. Any items left outside a locker or in an unlocked locker are at a very high risk of theft due to the large number of individuals that frequent the band hall each day.

**MEMBERS MUST TRAVEL WITH BAND**

The Band frequently travels and participates in activities away from Tivy High School. All Band members are required to travel to and from Band functions in vehicles, which are provided or approved, by the school officials and/or KISD. Any exception to this must adhere to the following guidelines.

1. A written request may be made IN ADVANCE from the parent/guardian and approved by the band director.
2. Arrangements for the member’s equipment must be made before departure.
3. The member WILL NOT be surrendered to anyone other than his/her parent/guardian unless the written request signed by the parent/guardian directs that the member be surrendered to a specifically named responsible individual.
4. Both the Parent/Guardian and the Band Member themselves must both notify a director of their departure.

If this procedure is not followed, the member must return with the band or may be subject to discipline under the BDP.

**GENERAL TRAVEL AND EVENT RULES**

Activities away from Tivy High School require particular responsibility and cooperation from Band members. In addition to other applicable laws, policies and rules, the following specific rules are in effect for and applicable to all members for all such activities, unless instructed otherwise by the Band director. Band Booster chaperones usually accompany the Band on these trips. On trips in which chaperones are not present, the Band director or other supervising adult will perform the functions of chaperones specified in these rules and should be consulted accordingly. Any failure to comply with these rules or the applicable General Travel and Event Rules may subject the member to discipline under the BDP.

At any time while traveling to or at an event or Band Function, each member must:

* Immediately notify a chaperone of illness or injury.
* Not possess any medication, prescription or non-prescription. (Directors or medically trained Chaperones will give members medication allowed on the member’s medical form.)
* Refrain from loud or disruptive behavior
* Ride their assigned buses.
* Remain seated while en route on buses.
* Not extend body parts or objects out bus windows.
* Not throw objects on or from the bus or call from the bus at motorists or passersby.
* Enter and exit the bus through the front bus door only. EMERGENCY DOORS SHALL BE USED IN EMERGENCIES ONLY.
* Not bring food or drinks or eat or drink except refreshments provided to all members.
* CHAPERONES, BUS DRIVERS, ETC. CANNOT AND WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY PERSONAL ITEMS LEFT ON BUSES.
* Stay with the Band at all times unless escorted (i.e. to the restroom) by chaperones.
* Act respectfully at all times.

**BUS TRAVEL**

Only Band members and assigned chaperones are allowed on the Band buses. Upon arrival at a destination, Band members should remain seated on the bus until instructed to exit the bus. When instructed to exit, members must, without unnecessary delay, talking and activity, exit promptly, get their instruments and equipment, and assemble in the designated area. Playing instruments while exiting or entering buses and assembling is prohibited. Students should return to buses immediately after each event unless otherwise instructed by the chaperone chairperson or the directors. At all times while getting on and off buses, getting equipment and assembling at any Band function DO NOT STOP TO VISIT; it is unacceptable for a few members to keep the entire Band waiting. Any failure to comply with these rules or the applicable General Travel and Event Rules may subject the member to discipline under the BDP.

**FOOTBALL GAME STADIUM RULES**

Only Band members and assigned chaperones are allowed in the Band section at the stadium. Visitors may be allowed in special circumstances, but only with the permission of the Band director. Band members will remain in the Band section at all times unless accompanied by a chaperone. Members will be assigned seats in the stands, and must remain in those assigned seats unless otherwise instructed. The unorganized playing of instruments in the stand is unprofessional and is prohibited. There will be no food or drink in the stands. Especially with new uniforms, there will be no eating while in uniform. Members will only be provided water during the game. Any failure to comply with these rules or the applicable General Travel and Event Rules may subject the member to discipline under the BDP.

**MEDICAL, CONSENT AND OTHER FORMS REQUIREMENTS**

To enjoy the privileges of engaging in certain Band functions, KISD policy requires that members turn in consent and medical forms and other commitments, permissions or other documents properly signed and promptly returned as required by the Band director. It is the responsibility of each Band member to timely obtain the proper documents, to provide *all* the required information, to properly sign and have his/her parent or guardian sign any such documents and to return such documents to the proper person, or place, in the proper manner and *by the specified time*.

The failure to timely return, properly and fully completed and signed, any form, consent, commitment, permission or other such document as required by the Band director may subject the member to discipline under the BDP, including particularly exclusion from a Band function or functions.

**UIL SOLO & ENSEMBLE CONTEST**

All band members will be invited to participate in this contest, which is held during the second semester. Medals may be won and students who receive DIVISION I ratings on CLASS I selections may also compete at the STATE level at the end of the school year. In order to take a Class I solo to State contest, the student must perform the piece memorized at the Region level.

**TMEA REGION/AREA/ALL-STATE**

Band members are strongly encouraged, and some band classes may be required, to prepare the prescribed music for these auditions, sponsored by the Texas Music Educators Association, to such a level that they may successfully compete and learn from the experience.

**MARCHING BAND – AUGUST TO NOVEMBER**

**Primary** **Marchers:**

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 the audition requirements by the appropriate time.
* Demonstrates high quality marching skills
* Is punctual in report times
* Maintains academic eligibility
* Represents the school, school district, band program, and themselves with the highest possible decorum and behavioral standards

**Special Note:** Students who fail to meet the music memorization requirement may be penalized by one of the following: a) perform at football game without a mouthpiece b) loss of position as a primary marcher, c) loss of performance opportunity, or d) performance as a marcher only.

**X-Box/Alternates/Shadows:** The band directors will keep the number of alternates 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. Alternates will meet the same attendance, rehearsal, memorization, academic, and performance requirements of primary 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 primary 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. Examples of ways that students can contribute to the performance are: Marching Winds, Marching Percussion, Pit Percussion, Color Guard, Stage Crew, Pit Crew, and Tech Crew.

**SUMMER REHEARSALS**

Summer band is mandatory for all members of the marching band. PLAN YOUR SUMMER VACATION ACCORDINGLY! Students usually start rehearsal at the end of July or beginning of August; the summer rehearsal is about two weeks long from 8:00am to 4:30 pm, plus evening rehearsals the week prior starting school. There are also one or two brief rehearsals in May or June to help introduce our freshmen to the marching band skills.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Freshmen, Percussion, Colorguard and Leadership Camps start earlier in the summer!

**UNIFORMS**

During Summer Band, students will be assigned their uniforms that they will be using during marching season. These uniforms never come home, but are retrieved from and put back in Band Hall before and after each game/competition. Students are not allowed to eat or drink while they wear their uniforms.

Along with their assigned uniform they wear: Tivy Band Shirt or Show Shirt, thin athletic shorts that accommodates KISD dress code but will not be visible on the outside of their bibbers, long black socks, Dinkles Marching Shoes.

**WEEKLY REHEARSALS**

We rehearse the marching band from 4:30- 7:30 on Monday, 5:00 - 7:00 on Tuesday, and 4:30 - 6:30 on Thursday. There will usually be a rehearsal Fridays after school before the game and a rehearsal TBD for Saturday competitions.

**GAME DAY**

On Game Days, students will eat the meal that the Band Boosters made available for purchase at the beginning of the week. Our home games are held at Antler Stadium. All students are taken to games and brought back to school by bus. They cannot go home directly from the stadium with parents after games are over. We will update our Facebook as well as send out a Remind text when we are headed back to the school with an ETA for every home and away game.

**COMPETITIONS**

We participate in four to five marching band competitions that are usually held on Saturdays in September, October and November. These are all day events and are REQUIRED. Students should not take the SAT or ACT on any of the contest days. You can always find our Competition Schedule Days on our website.

**NO PASS/NO PLAY**

The Texas Education Agency defines band as a performing art and concert and marching performances are an extension of class time. Attendance at rehearsals and performances is required and is a part of the band grade. A student will be suspended from participating in any extracurricular activity (marching band activities, pep rallies, parades, UIL solo and ensemble and other competitions) after a six week grading period in which a student receives a grade below a 70. The student will remain eligible and responsible for band and technique class requirements including sectionals and performances. Interim progress reports are issued in the middle of each six week period to students who are borderline or failing a class. Students can ‘regain’ eligibility at this time if he/she is passing.

**Lettering in Band/ Color Guard**

To earn a letter jacket award, you must earn the following during your high school band career: 10 points with Band, 6 points with Color Guard.

Points can be accumulated from the following:

1. Participate in UIL Region Marching Contest

2. Participate in UIL Concert/Sightreading Contest

3. Audition for the TMEA All-District/All-Region Band

4. Be selected as a member of the TMEA All-Region Band

5. Be selected as a member of the TMEA ALL-State Band (Automatic Letterman)

6. Receive a first-division at UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest

7. Advance and participate in State Solo & Ensemble Contest

8. Participate in Winter Guard

9. Be elected/appointed student leader for band/color guard for one year

***Additional Criteria that must be met to receive a jacket award:***

1. Must continue to be enrolled in and participate in the TIvy HS Band for the school year following receiving the points.
2. Maintain eligibility for all UIL events
3. Maintain an “A” average in band/colorguard for the entire school year
4. Not have received an office disciplinary referral from band for the entire school year

**Notes:**

* If the “Additional Criteria” are not met, then an award jacket is not earned and the criteria will be re-evaluated at the next jacket order time
* Being a senior in the organization does not automatically qualify you for a letter jacket. A student must “letter” via the point system as outlined above and meet the outlined criteria.
* Typically letter jackets will be ordered once a year in the fall so they arrive before it gets cold.
* The band program will pay for the letter jacket and the school logo. Any extra patches, etc. are your financial responsibility.

**WIND ENSEMBLE**

The Wind Ensemble is under the direction of Roxanne Vickers, director of bands. All the members in Wind Ensemble participate in the Tivy Marching Band. In addition to performances at UIL Concert Sightreading Contest, the band has a Winter Concert and a Spring Concert. Along with their performance obligations, all members of the Wind Ensemble are required to audition for Region Band and perform a solo at Solo and Ensemble Contest. Wind Ensemble rehearsals will occur Monday and Tuesday after school from 4-6 pm. Members of the Wind Ensemble are selected by auditions that occur in May.

**SYMPHONIC BAND**

The Symphonic Band is under the direction of Tyler McClendon. The Symphonic Band performs at UIL Concert & Sightreading Contest as well as their Winter and Spring concert. Symphonic Band rehearsals will occur Wednesday and Thursday after school from 4-6 pm All members in Symphonic Band participate in the Tivy Marching Band as well as in UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest.

**BAND PLACEMENT AUDITIONS**

Auditions for the following year usually occur in May. The band Directors posts the results.

**SCHOOL CONCERTS**

* Winter Concert: Usually occurs during December.
* Pre-UIL Concert: Occurs right before UIL Contest
* Percussion Concert: Usually occurs at the end of April
* Spring Concert: Usually occurs during the second half of May.

**CONCERT DRESS CODE**

Concert attire will be concert black for both ensembles.

**Tivy High School Band Program**

**Handbook Consent & Agreement Form**

We have read and understand the Tivy Band Member Handbook, particularly all the rules and requirements and the Band Discipline Plan (BDP), and, as a condition of the Student’s participation in the Tivy Band, consent to and agree to comply with all rules and requirements therein. We have accessed the handbook online or have requested a hard copy from the band director.

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Student’s Signature Parent’s Signature

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Student’s Name (printed legibly) Parent’s Name (printed legibly)

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Date Date

This consent and agreement must be signed and dated, as indicated, and returned to the Band director.

To access the Handbook online, go to www.tivyband.weebly.com

If you would like a hard copy, please inform Ms. Vickers and one will be provided.