

PIONEER HERITAGE MIDDLE SCHOOL



2017-2018

BAND HANDBOOK

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www.phmsband.com

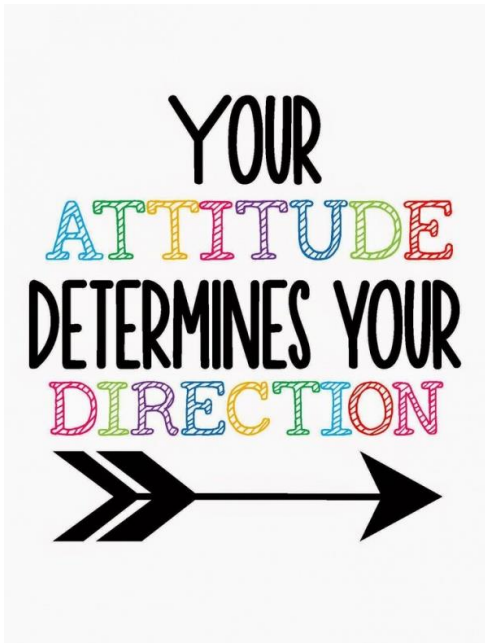
TABLE OF CONTENTS

2.....	Attitude & Conduct
3	Beginner Band/Uniform
3.....	Band Auditions
4.....	Concert Band/Uniform
5.....	Symphonic Band/Uniform
6.....	Grading Policy
6.....	Scale Grids
7.....	Sectionals
8.....	Practice Logs
9.....	Master Classes
9.....	Performances
9.....	Objective Sheets
10.....	Attendance
12.....	Senate Bill 1
12.....	Rehearsals & Daily Procedures
13.....	Region Auditions
13.....	School-Owned Instruments
13.....	Summer Band Camp
13.....	Charms
14.....	Remind 101



ATTITUDE & CONDUCT

Being a member of the PHMS band is a privilege. You are representing your organization, your school, and your community, therefore, your conduct is expected to be exemplary. Proper rehearsal and performance behavior will be expected at all times. Your attitude will affect your performance as well as that of the entire group. All students are expected to come to class each day prepared to learn and to allow others to learn. All students are expected to be on-task at all times in class as well as during any band sponsored activity. Any infraction will be handled on an individual basis and may include parent contact and/or administrative referral. A second violation of any policy in this handbook may result in an elective change and dismissal from the PHMS Band.



PHMS PANTHER BANDS

BEGINNER BAND

Performance Expectations:

- Fall, Holiday, Spring Concerts
- 1 Festival Competition (Sandy Lake)
- Participation in all rehearsals
- Participation in Solo & Ensemble

BEGINNING BAND UNIFORM

Fall & Spring Concerts/Festivals/Trips:

Band Shirt, Blue Jeans, Tennis Shoes

Holiday Concert/Solo & Ensemble-“Best Dress”

Boys – Collared shirt (tucked in), Slacks,
Dress Shoes

Girls – Skirt/Dress (must be lower than
knees when sitting) or slacks &
school appropriate blouse

AUDITIONS – SYMPHONIC & CONCERT BANDS

Auditions are used as a means of seating band members in the various performing bands based on ability.

Auditions will be held in May or by director discretion.

No student may be scheduled into Concert or Symphonic Band without an audition.

Results are final; No re-auditions are permitted.

CONCERT BAND

Performance Expectations:

- Fall, Holiday, Spring Concerts
- 1 Festival Competition
- UIL Contest
- Participation in Solo & Ensemble
- Master Classes
- All Region Audition (select students)
- Sectionals
- Other performances as scheduled

CONCERT BAND UNIFORM

Informal Uniform –Football Games and other events
seemed fit by the director

- **Current** PHMS Band Shirt
- Blue Jeans/Shorts
(no designs/holes)
- Tennis Shoes

“Concert Black” – Concerts & Contests

- Black Dress Shirt (sleeves elbow length or longer)
- Black Dress Pants
- Black Socks (long)
- Black Dress Shoes (close-toed)
- Girls may wear a black dress/skirt (must be below knee length when sitting) *with black hosiery*

SYMPHONIC BAND

Performance Expectations:

- Fall, Holiday, Spring Concerts
- 1 Festival Competition
- UIL Contest
- Participation in Solo & Ensemble
- All Region Audition
- Sectionals
- Master Classes
- Pep Rallies/Football Games
- Other performances as scheduled

SYMPHONIC UNIFORM

Informal Uniform – Pep Rallies, Football Games and other events seemed fit by the director

- **Current** PHMS Band Shirt
- Blue Jeans/Shorts
(no designs/holes)
- Tennis Shoes

“Concert Black” – Concerts & Contests

- Black Dress Shirt (sleeves elbow length or longer)
- Black Dress Pants
- Black Socks (long)
- Black Dress Shoes (close-toed)
- Girls may wear a black dress/skirt (must be below knee length when sitting) *with black hosiery*

GRADING POLICY

Band grades are earned in the same manner as any other class grade – playing and written exams, homework assignments, and practice logs. Band is a team oriented, participatory activity; as a result, attendance at sectionals, rehearsals, and performances is included in determining grades.

Daily (20%)

- Materials Check
- Practice Logs

Major (50%)

- Playing/Written Tests
- Sectionals (Symphonic/Concert Only)
- Performance Attendance
- Scale Grids (2 Major Grades)

Minor (30%)

- Objective Sheets
- Performance Dress

SCALE GRIDS

Scale Grids are a cumulative Year-Long project for Symphonic/Concert Band, and a Semester-Long project for Beginners. Scale Grids will be collected two weeks before the end of school and will count as two Major Grades. Each box of the Grid is worth two points.

SECTIONALS (Symphonic/Concert Only)

Sectionals are held regularly throughout the year in the morning (7:30-8:15am) and afternoon (3:45-4:30pm).

As best as possible, scheduling will be arranged to avoid conflicts with other activities. For things to work smoothly, students are responsible for notifying their coach every time they need to go to sectionals.

Students cannot rely on the coaches to remember to dismiss them for sectionals.

A few time per year when the sports seasons shift, there may be slight changes to the sectional schedule. We do this to accommodate the participation of students in both band and athletics.

It is also crucial that students go to the sectional with their like-instrument group because the concepts covered during sectionals are specific to each instrument.

These rehearsals are **mandatory** and count towards the students' major grade (50%). A grade of 100 will be assigned to students in attendance for the entire rehearsal. Points will be deducted if you are tardy to a sectional as follows to affect the major grade:

- 1-5 minutes late = 90%
- 6-10 minutes late = 80%
- 11-15 minutes late = 70%
- 16+ minutes late = 0%

If a student misses a sectional due to illness that requires a doctor visit, absence from school, or other excused conflicts, the student must make up the

sectional within one week to receive the full grade. If a student misses a sectional because they forgot, overslept, or did not plan accordingly, then the absence will be considered unexcused. The maximum grade a student can receive from an unexcused sectional is a 70%. Not making up an excused or unexcused absence from a sectional will result in a zero for that sectional grade. We determine excused and unexcused absences based on the same guidelines that are used at Pioneer Heritage Middle School.

PRACTICE LOGS

Graded on a weekly basis – Begin on Monday and conclude on Sunday. Practice Logs are due online at www.charmsoffice.com every Monday by 7am. Concerts, Rehearsals, & Lessons count for 30 minutes. There will be a ‘10’ point deduction for each day it is late through Thursday. After Thursday, the highest grade granted will be 50%. Late Practice Logs must be recorded using the Late Practice Log Sheet located on the band website.

Two days or less of practice a week will result in a ‘0’

Minutes	Grade
0-29	0
30-59	50
60-89	60
90-119	70
120-149	80
150-179	90
180-209	100
210-239	105
240+	110

MASTER CLASSES (Symphonic/Concert Only)

Master classes are designed to help students prepare for All-Region Auditions and are held twice in the fall semester. Our private teachers will lead the master classes on each individual instrument. Master classes are required for Symphonic Band members and are strongly encouraged for *select* Concert Band members.

PERFORMANCES

In order to share the gift of music with others and meet TEA's essential element requirements, public performances are scheduled throughout the year. A preliminary calendar of events which includes such performances is located online at www.phmsband.com. Attendance at performances is **mandatory** and counts toward the students' major grade (50%). Any student not following this policy will receive a zero for that grade.

OBJECTIVE SHEETS

Objective sheets are utilized to maintain progress and achievement throughout the year. The Objective Sheet will be customized for each six weeks. Each objective must be passed off for a band director by the indicated due date for credit. Each six weeks the student will receive a copy of their Objective Sheet. A parent signature will be required at the beginning of every six weeks to allow parents to see all the due dates and assignments for that grading period.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is required for all rehearsals and performances in the PHMS Band. Unexcused absences may easily keep students from performing with the band, lowering their seating, cause demotion to a lower band and/or affect their grade.

Most dates for public performances/contest are announced weeks and even months in advance.

Excused absences from public appearances will be graded in cases of genuine emergencies only, such as serious illness of the student or death in the family.

Jobs, family trips, etc. do not justify absences.

Students who feel they have an excused absence, but do not discuss it with a director before the performance and miss the performance, will be disciplined on an individual basis. An unexcused absence from any public appearance is very serious and will be dealt with on an individual basis. No person may remain in the band that is not faithful in attendance. The student will receive a grade of '0' for an unexcused absence. If the student is excused from the performance, he/she will be expected to make up this grade as the director sees fit.

It is the student's responsibility to see the director for make-up work and set up times with the directors.

SENATE BILL 1

Senate Bill 1, Education Code reads as follows:

Sec. 33.081 (c) "A student enrolled in a school district in this state shall be suspended from participation in any extracurricular activity sponsored or sanctioned by the school district during the grade reporting period after a grade reporting period in which the student received a grade lower than the equivalent of 70 on a scale of 100 in any academic class. A suspension continues for at least three weeks and is not removed during the school year until the conditions of Subsection (d) are met.

(d).....a school district shall review the grades of a student under subsection (c) at the end of each three-week period following the date on which the suspension began. At the time of a review, the suspension is removed if the student's grade in each class is equal to or greater than the equivalent of 70 on a scale of 100."

Extracurricular activities as stated above include UIL contest, All-Region Band, Solo and Ensemble contest, Band festivals, and certain special concerts. All students are eligible to play in the concerts that are given throughout the school year.

REHEARSAL & DAILY PROCEDURES

1. Enter the band hall courteously/orderly
2. Students are considered tardy if they are not in their seat 1 minute after the bell
3. Students only play their instruments with permission
4. Students will not play other students' instruments (including percussion)
5. Members should bring all band supplies to every rehearsal
6. Absolutely no gum in the band hall under any circumstances
7. Must stands are for music – not leaning
8. Under no circumstances should your instrument ever spend the night in the band hall or your locker over the weekend
9. If your instrument is in the shop, please bring a note from home. You are still expected to attend section rehearsals. Have your mouthpiece and/or reeds; we may be able to supply a temporary instrument
10. Students who do not bring instruments to school will have points deducted from their daily grade and serve a detention after school.

REGION BAND

Region 24 sponsors a program to honor the outstanding middle school band students throughout the region. **All Symphonic Band members are expected to audition for Region Band.** Select Concert Band members will be encouraged to audition. This is an extremely high honor and it is hoped that many of the PHMS students will set this as one of their goals for the year.

SCHOOL-OWNED INSTRUMENTS

Pioneer Heritage provides some of the larger and more expensive instruments. Students are responsible for the care and daily maintenance of these instruments and are expected to keep them in excellent playing condition. There is a \$100 rental fee per year for the use of school instruments. There is a \$50 rental fee per year for percussionists in Symphonic and Concert Bands for the use of the school's percussion equipment.

SUMMER BAND CAMP

A summer band camp is provided to get students ready for the upcoming school year – specifically Symphonic Band who has their first performance before the first day of school. Attendance is expected of all students entering Symphonic Band. Typically, this camp will take place 2-3 weeks before school starts. Summer Band dates are announced on the band calendar at least 1 week after the FISSD Board approved the following year's academic calendar – usually mid-February – so vacations can be scheduled accordingly.

COMMUNICATION

To ensure that you are on our mailing list, please log into Charms (our office assistant), and check your email address and contact information.

Initial Log-In:

Go to: www.charmsoffice.com

Click: Enter – Parents/Students/Members (top right)

Enter: phmsband

Enter: Student ID

You will then be prompted to change your password.

If you forget your password, please email Ms. Davis at davisr@friscoisd.org and she will reset your password to your child's ID number.

REMIND 101

Sign up for reminder text messages – the fastest way to get up-to-date information!

Text this number: 81010

Class:	Message:	Class:	Message:
Beginner Flute	@phmsflute	Beginner Trombone	@phmsbone
Beginner Oboe/Bassoon	@phmsreeds	Beginner Euphonium	@phmseuph
Beginner Clarinet	@phmsclar	Beginner Tuba	@phmstuba
Beginner Saxophone	@phms sax	Beginner Percussion	@phmsperc
Beginner Trumpet	@phmstpt	Concert Band	@phmscon
Beginner French Hn	@phmshorn	Symphonic	@pioneersym

CONTACT INFORMATION

#1 source of information is our band website:

www.phmsband.com

Website

The calendar is updated in real time on our website.



Like us on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/phmsband

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