

WILLS POINT JR. HIGH BAND GRADING POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Please read the following information, sign the consent form and return it to school as soon as possible. Information about trips, performances, etc. will be sent home with your child throughout the year as well as posted on our website www.willspointbands.com. You may contact the band office by calling either Jr. High School number (903) 873- 4924 or 4946 or email kman_wp@yahoo.com.

Course Requirements

Students are required to have one year of beginning band in order to participate in Junior High Band. Band is a full year class. Students **will not** be allowed to change their schedule after the 1st week of school. Any other schedule changes due to TAKS scores or other special circumstances will be done only at the discretion of the Band Directors and only with Principal approval.

Supplies

Students are required to have:

1. **Instrument in good repair** – traditionally colored instruments such as lacquer or silver only non-traditional colors will not be accepted (larger instruments are provided by the school)
2. **A Wills Point Band Sticker** (\$1.00) to help identify instruments and repair preferences
3. **Short sleeve band shirt** (ordered through the school \$16.00), **black** dress pants and dress shoes
4. **Band book** (ordered through the school \$8.00), a **3 ring binder** with 10-20 plastic sheets, & a **pencil**
5. Junior high students also need a **lyre** (if required for their instrument) and a **flip folder** for pep rallies
6. Students who have a wire front locker should provide their own combination lock for security of items.

Many of these items as well as reeds, valve oil, mouthpieces etc. can be purchased at **Bruce & Human** drug store on 4th St. in Wills Point or at any music store. Music stores in the area are: **Award Music** (972) 524-9995 or www.awardmusic.com in Terrell, **McKay's Music Co.** (903) 885-0074 in Sulphur Springs, **American Band** (903) 593-3195 in Tyler.

Classroom Rules

Students are required to follow classroom rules of conduct as presented in his/her school student handbook.

Additional classroom rules for band class are:

1. *Students must have equipment needed for class each day.*
2. *Students must refrain from eating, drinking or chewing gum during class.*
3. *Students must remain in his/her seats during class.*
4. *Students should be attentive and participate fully each day.*

Students who break the rules will:

1. *receive a verbal warning*
2. *be separated from the class or given a written assignment*
3. *lose participation points*
4. *receive a written assignment or detention, parent notification, and will be documented as according to the school's discipline management plan*
5. *be written up on an official discipline notice, sent to the office and parents are notified*

***** **Serious offences will be sent to the office immediately*******

Grading Policy

Grades for all Jr. High Band students will be based on a combination of the following:

1. **Practice Assignments** - **Students are required to practice out side of class for this course.** 7th grade Practice Assignments will include maintaining a practice record and having parents monitor and sign each week. 8th Graders will be assigned material to practice each week in addition to test material. Practice Assignments will be checked by having each student perform assigned material for a band director either during class or before or after school. Also, we will check band lockers several times a week to make sure that students are bringing horns home to practice. Practice Assignments will count as 100 points of each six weeks grade.

Grading Policy Continued

2. Daily Participation - Students will be given 100 points per six weeks for daily participation. Students are required to have their instruments, a pencil and music each day for class. Points will be deducted for not having supplies and/or breaking classroom rules.

3. Tests – Most tests in band are playing tests. Students must perform an assigned musical exercise on their instrument for a grade. The number of playing tests varies from six weeks to six weeks based on what performances we have coming up. Most tests will be played for a band director in separate room and some will be played in front of the class. Some tests will be graded by *Smart Music*, which is new this year.

4. Attendance – The number of performances and rehearsals vary from six weeks to six weeks. **This is a performance-based class** therefore, attendance at performances is mandatory. Students will not receive a passing grade for that six weeks if he/she misses a performance. All of the performance dates for the year will be sent home with the students in writing before the end of the first six weeks. This will allow parents to make the necessary arrangements to insure that their child will participate in all events. Additional information will be sent home with students prior to each event and will be posted on the website to enable parents to plan accordingly.

*** One special note for students auditioning for All- Region Band. If a student is selected as a member of the ATSSB All-Region band, that student is required to attend the All-Region Band clinic. Any other school event that may conflict is not considered an excused absence. The auditions are **not** mandatory so students who have a conflict should not audition.

Performance Attire

Students are required to wear their blue short-sleeved band shirt to all performances. The cost to replace a shirt if lost or outgrown since last year will be \$16.00. We will send order forms for shirts home with the students in time for the first performance. For Dress performances such as: Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, Contests, etc., students will be required to wear **black** pants and their band shirt. For casual performances such as: pep rallies, football games and other school day performances, students may wear jeans or shorts with their band shirts as specified by the band directors.

Instruments-School owned and Personally owned or rented

School instruments are instruments owned by Wills Point ISD. Students using these instruments are required to pay a **yearly \$20.00 maintenance fee**. Students are expected to take care of their instruments properly. Parents are responsible for any repairs above \$20.00.

For both school instruments and personally owned instruments, if the instrument is broken or not in working condition, we can send it to the shop to be repaired. We ask that for personally owned instruments, parents indicate the shop of their choice. We will attempt to fix the instrument ourselves before we send it to the shop. Due to the large amount of unpaid repair bills, we will hold the child's instrument until the bill is paid in full or until the parent contacts the band directors (by letter, e-mail, or phone call) to set up a payment plan. Parents are responsible for all repair costs for personally owned instruments.

Students who owe fees at the end of the year will have a hold placed on his/her report card until the fees are paid. Please indicate your repair preferences on the consent form and we will label your child's horn with your preference to avoid any unwanted expenses. Students may borrow a school instrument while his/hers is in the shop.

Parents renting instruments through a music company are responsible for making payments each month and returning the instrument to the company should the child no longer participate in the Wills Point band program. The rental agreements are made between the company and the individual parent. Band directors are NOT allowed to return any instruments to the companies.

Consent Form

_____ Instrument

I have read the grading policy and procedures I must follow in order to be in Band for the 2008-2009 school year. I agree to follow all of the rules and requirements to be in Band.

_____ Student's Signature

_____ Date

I have read the grading policy and procedures my child must follow in order to be in Band for the 2008-2009 school year. I give my consent for my child to participate in Band for the 2008-2009 school year.

_____ Parent's Signature

_____ Date

Please fill out the following information in order for me to update my database.

_____ Student's Grade

_____ Student's last name

_____ Student's first name

_____ ID#/Lunch code

_____ Address

_____ Phone Numbers (Home, Work, Cell, Emergency)

_____ Mother's name(or guardian)

_____ Father's name(or guardian)

Personally Owned Instrument Repair Preferences

_____ **DO NOT send my child's instrument to the repair shop under any circumstances.**

_____ **Please call before sending my child's instrument to the shop.**

_____ **Please send my child's instrument to _____ Repair shop.**

_____ **Other (Explain) _____**

WILLS POINT MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND GRADING POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Please read the following information, sign the consent form and return it to school as soon as possible. Other information about travel, performances, etc. will follow throughout the year. Also, you may keep up to date with band activities by checking our website www.willspointbands.com. You may contact the band office by calling either Jr. High School number (903) 873- 4924 or 4946 or email kman_wp@yahoo.com.

Course Requirements

Students are NOT required to have any experience in band in order to participate in Beginning Band. Band is a full year class. Students will not be allowed to change their schedule after the 1st six weeks of school. Schedules will be changed after the first six weeks only at the discretion of the Band Directors and only with Principal approval.

Supplies

Students are required to have:

1. **Instrument in good repair** – traditionally colored instruments such as lacquer or silver only non-traditional colors will not be accepted (larger instruments are provided by the school)
2. **A Wills Point Band Sticker** (\$1.00) to help identify instruments and repair preferences.
3. **Short sleeve band shirt** (ordered through the school), **black** dress pants and dress shoes.
4. **Band book** (ordered through the school \$8.00), a **3 ring binder** with 10-20 plastic sheets, & a **pencil**.

Reeds, valve oil, mouthpieces etc. can be purchased at **Bruce & Human** drug store on 4th St. in Wills Point or at any music store. Music stores in the area are: **Award Music** (972) 524-9995 or www.awardmusic.com in Terrell, **McKay's Music Co.** (903) 885-0074 in Sulphur Springs, **American Band** (903) 593-3195 in Tyler.

Classroom Rules

Students are required to follow classroom rules of conduct as presented in his/her school student handbook.

Additional classroom rules for band class are:

1. *Students must have equipment needed for class each day.*
2. *Students must refrain from eating, drinking or chewing gum during class.*
3. *Students must remain in his/her seats during class.*
4. *Students should be attentive and participate fully each day.*

Students who break the rules will:

1. *Receive a verbal warning*
2. *Be separated from the class or given a written assignment and receive a strike*
3. *Lose participation points and receive a strike*
4. *Receive a written assignment or detention, parent notification, and will be documented as according to the school's discipline management plan*
5. *Be written up on an official discipline notice, sent to the office, and parents will be notified*

***** **Serious offences will be sent to the office immediately*******

Grading Policy

Grades for all Beginning Band students will be based on a combination of the following:

1. **Practice assignments** – *Students are required to practice outside of class for this course.* Students will be given Practice Reports and playing assignments once a week. Students are required to practice 20 minutes a day (120 minutes a week) in order to receive an A for practice assignments. Practice Reports must be signed by a parent, a guardian or myself (if the child practices at the band hall) to be accepted. **Practice Reports will begin the 2nd six weeks and will only be accepted on Monday and Tuesday. Incentives will be offered to students who turn in practice reports every week.**

Grading Policy Continued

2. **Daily Participation** - Students will be given 100 points per six weeks for daily participation. Students are required to have their instruments, a pencil and music each day for class or he/she will receive a strike to the office. Points will be deducted for not having supplies and/or breaking classroom rules.
3. **Tests** - Most tests in band are playing tests. Students must perform an assigned musical exercise on their instrument for a grade. Practicing for playing tests is the same as studying in a traditional class. The more you study the better grade your grade will be. The number of playing tests varies from six weeks to six weeks based on what performances we have coming up. Most tests will be played in front of the class and some will be graded by *Smart Music*, which is new this year.
4. **Attendance** - We have very few performances and rehearsals in beginning band. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. *This is a performance-based class.* Students will not receive a passing grade for that six weeks if he/she misses a performance. All of the performance dates for the year will be sent home with the students in writing before the end of the first six weeks. This will allow parents to make the necessary arrangements to insure that their child will participate in all events. Additional information will be sent home with students prior to each event and will be posted on the website to enable parents to plan accordingly.

Performance Attire

Students are required to purchase a band shirt. The cost will be approximately \$16.00. *Please wait to send money when the order forms come home. We will order shirts in late October to make sure they fit your student all year.* For Dress performances such as: Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, Contests, etc., students will be required to wear **black** pants and dress shoes with their band shirt. For casual performances such as school day performances, students may wear jeans or shorts with their band shirts.

Instruments-School owned and Personally owned or rented

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Students who owe fees at the end of the year will have a hold placed on his/her report card until the fees are paid. Please indicate your repair preferences on the consent form and we will label your child's horn with your preference to avoid any unwanted expenses. Students may borrow a school instrument while his/hers is in the shop.

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