



GREENVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
LION PRIDE
BAND

STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK

2024-2025

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Welcome

Welcome to the Greenville Middle School Lion Pride Band!

It is our sincere hope that the Lion Pride Band offers each band member a chance to create long lasting friendships, to learn to respect those around them and to feel a tremendous sense of pride as you achieve what has not yet been done. The band directors are very excited about the new year and all the things you will achieve.

By accepting membership in the Greenville Lion Pride Band, you agree to perform to the best of your ability and to work together with the band staff in making this year's band the finest musical organization that our combined efforts can produce.

This is a very exciting time for us as a band and we hope it is for you as well. Although we do not expect any problems with attitude and behavior, you must know that the procedures and guidelines included in this handbook will be followed and enforced to the letter. The contents of this handbook form the backbone of a first class, well-run organization. Please take time to sit down with your parents and read through this handbook together as a family.

We fully expect to have a wonderful year of music making and history making at Greenville Middle School!

Sincerely,

Kelsey Mattice
Head Band Director
matticek@greenvilleisd.com

Trent McGee
Associate Director
mcgeet@greenvilleisd.com

John Grant
Director of Percussion
grantj@greenvilleisd.com

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Purpose

“Pursuing excellence one band member at a time”

In order for any band to be successful there need to be some procedures in place to help students reach their potential and for rehearsals to be productive. Listed below are some areas that students and parents need to be aware of so that you will have a fun and enjoyable experience in the GMS Band.

Contact Information

3611 Texas St. Greenville, TX 75401
Front Office: 903-457-2620 | Band Office: 903-453-3240

Band Website www.lionpridebands.com

Remind: Text @gmsband245 to 81010 to join

Kelsey Mattice: matticek@greenvilleisd.com

Trent McGee: mcgeet@greenvilleisd.com

John Grant: grantj@greenvilleisd.com

Email or Remind is the very best way to contact a director

Band Description

Wind Ensemble

The GMS Wind Ensemble is the advanced (varsity) performing ensemble. Membership in this band is composed of 7th and 8th graders placed according to ability.

Wind Ensemble is under the direction of Kelsey Mattice.

Performance Expectations:

- Pep rallies and three (3) football games (based on eligibility)
- Winter and Spring concerts
- All-Region Band Tryouts (based on eligibility and ability)
- UIL and Pre-UIL Contest
- Solo and Ensemble Recital
- All events on band calendar for your class

Requirements:

-45 minute sectionals held each week (one sectional a week is scheduled for each section, either before or after school. Student is REQUIRED to attend this sectional and make up any missed sectionals)

-After school rehearsals as scheduled.

Symphonic

The GMS Symphonic Band is the intermediate (non-varsity) performing ensemble. Membership in this band is composed of 7th and 8th graders placed according to ability.

Symphonic Band is under the direction of Trent McGee.

Performance Expectations:

- Pep rallies and three (3) football games (based on eligibility)
- Winter and Spring concerts
- All-Region Band Tryouts (based on eligibility and ability)
- UIL and Pre-UIL Contest
- Solo and Ensemble Recital
- All events on band calendar for your class

Requirements:

-45 minute sectionals held each week (one sectional a week is scheduled for each section, either before or after school. Student is REQUIRED to attend this sectional and make up any missed sectionals)

-After school rehearsals as schedule

Concert

The GMS Concert Band is the beginner (sub non-varsity) performing ensemble. Membership in this band is composed of 7th and 8th graders placed according to ability.

Concert Band is under the direction of Trent McGee & Kelsey Mattice.

Performance Expectations:

- Pep rallies and three (3) football games (based on eligibility)
- Winter and Spring concerts
- Spring Contest (based on eligibility)
- Solo and Ensemble Recital
- All events on band calendar for your class

Requirements:

-After school rehearsals as schedule

***All performance expectations follow the GMS Band Calendar included in this handbook. Dates are subject to change based on GISD, TEA, CDC, and UIL**

Student Expectations

All students are expected to participate fully in band class each and every day. To ensure an effective learning environment, there are a few guidelines that all band students will abide by.

GMS Band Students will:

- Enter the band hall calmly and refrain from talking during rehearsal unless called upon by a director (after raising a hand).
- Have consistent and accurate attendance and participation in all rehearsals and performances.
- Refrain from bringing gum, candy, food, and sodas into the band hall.
 - The only item that may be brought into the band hall is bottled water.
- Help keep chairs and stands in the correct place.
- Assist in placing trash in a trash can. There is no good excuse to leave trash on the floor at any time.
- Keep up with all music and supplies at all times.
- Keep all music and handouts in a 1-inch band binder.
- Keep instruments in the assigned storage area.
- Take their instrument home everyday!
- Show respect for themselves, other students, directors and other adults at all times. GMS Band students will be expected to follow all GMS student conduct rules at all times, and can be removed from the program for violating any school rules.
- Not enter the directors office without permission.
- Be respectful in person and online. Please be mindful of what you post in Google Classroom and on social media. This also includes being respectful with our instrument, supplies, and behavior.
- Recognize that the band is one of the largest and most visible organizations on the campus. Students should also understand that their conduct not only reflects on them, it is also a reflection on the GMS Band. When we travel it is important to realize that you represent GMS and GISD as well as the city of Greenville. Our goal is to always leave a positive impression with those in whom we come into contact!

Not following these guidelines will result in conferences between the student, parent, and administrators. If the student is having trouble following these guidelines, a result of this could be a discussion about removal from the band program.

Class Grades

Major Grades – 50%

Each school semester, students will receive a Calendar with their major assignments for the grading period, as well as deadlines for completion. These range from playing tests, grade checks, assignments, and organizing their materials. Performances will count as a two (2) major grade. Concert attendance is not optional!

Daily Grades – 50%

Daily grades include daily performance in class, having all necessary supplies to participate in class, and additional rehearsals. This will include all full band rehearsals and sectionals. Students are also expected to fill out their rehearsal reflections after each band rehearsal and will turn it in at the end of each week. Taking their instrument home will be factored into their grades, and points will be removed if the instrument is never taken home that week. 20 points are deducted from each week's grade for every day they do not have their instrument and supplies.

Eligibility

Performance at contests, festivals, band trips, rehearsals, and football games/athletic events are considered extra-curricular and are subject to eligibility rules. Participation in extracurricular activities is based on eligibility requirements set by the State Board of Education, applicable law, Greenville ISD procedures, the contents of this handbook, and campus administration. Students must maintain an average of 70 or above in all classes each reporting period to remain eligible. Honors/Pre-AP classes are at 60 or above. We will have grade checks in the fall.

Attendance

The performance aspect of the band class is a required Fine Arts TEK in the State of Texas, therefore; student attendance at all performances is **REQUIRED** and **GRADED** (2 major grades per event) unless the performance is considered extracurricular, and the student is determined to be academically ineligible due to the no-pass/no-play (HB 72). Grades are checked every 3 weeks.

The definition of an Excused Absence is as follows:

The absence of a student due to a family emergency, illness, or extenuating circumstance already communicated to and cleared by a director. Not having a ride is NOT an excused absence. We can help coordinate a ride when given prior notice. EXCUSES ARE AT THE SOLE DISCRETION OF THE DIRECTOR. Communication of particular circumstances needs to take place at least 48 hours in advance of the event on the calendar.

Absences from a Performance

If at all possible, contact band directors in advance to inform them of a conflict with performances. There are no excused absences from a performance except personal or family illness or death. All scheduling conflicts can be avoided by using the available calendar resources. Alternate assignments will not be given to recover the missing test grade. Please understand the difference between not feeling well and being legitimately ill.

It is our belief and hope, that with the full-year calendar being published early on, you and your family have all the information up front to make good scheduling decisions. We ask for prior notice for any conflict.

Rehearsals

Regular rehearsals take place in class during the school day, but extra rehearsals are often necessary to accomplish all the goals set for the students. A schedule of extra practices and sectionals will be posted in the band hall and on the website well in advance to avoid conflicts. These extra rehearsals will be in the form of weekly sectionals, individual pass-offs, and clinics. If a student is to miss a sectional, they are to let a director know in advance and attend another sectional during the week. Phones are not to be out in any rehearsal unless specified by a director for music/band related purposes.

Daily Supplies

Each student will need to have all the basic band supplies with them every day. This includes their instrument, pencil, valve oil, extra reeds, mutes, and other needed accessories, all needed music and great rehearsal etiquette. Instrument maintenance should be done outside of the classroom, not during rehearsal. If your instrument needs to go to the shop for repair, we will require a written notice from your parents to that effect. Refer to the syllabus provided by the concert ensemble director for more specific information.

General Information

Band Uniform

The Football Game/Pep Rally/etc performance uniform consists of:

- GMS Band Shirt
- Blue jeans without holes or rips.
- Tennis shoes/sneakers

The concert performance uniform is formal clothes that consists of:

- Black Socks
- Black Shoes
- Black Dress Shirt and Pants
- Black Dress/Skirt that goes below the knees

Payments Made to the Band

Always attempt to pay by check or money order made out to “Greenville Middle School Band.” Place the money in an envelope, seal it, and write your name on it. It is very important that you include your name and specifically what the money is for. Turn into any director. Receipts will be provided upon request.

Private Lessons

The single most important factor in the development of a superior band program is the development of the individual player. There are many opportunities in the area for student musicians to study privately with professional teachers. There will also be a teaching specialist on each instrument who will teach at Greenville Middle School.

Private lessons are \$18 for a 30 minute session once a week. Students may apply for a scholarship on a need basis. Payment will be arranged between student and private teacher. Checks should be made out to the private lesson teacher, not GMS. Scheduling conflicts need to be communicated between student and teacher no more than 48 hours in advance. If you would like contact information for the lesson teachers, please email a director.

Travel

Greenville ISD sets travel policies that we are required to follow with a few additions of our own. All band students are to ride the bus to all band events (trips, contests, etc.) and back to the school. The reasoning behind this rule is that the directors are legally responsible for the students from the moment we get together at school until the moment that students are dismissed at the end of the event. Students will be clearly informed of the exact schedule and pickup procedures for each trip taken with the band. This information will also be available to all parents and guardians on our website. If parents/guardians would like to pick up the student from an event that is planned to return to the school, they may after signing out their student with a director.

Students are expected to follow these instructions exactly. Only personal, portable devices with headphones will be permitted on buses. No food or drinks will be permitted on the buses at any time except for water. Students are expected to pick up trash and they are responsible for collecting all of their belongings before exiting the bus. Consideration and alternate arrangements or accommodations may be permitted for students who need to have food or drink for medical or religious reasons. Please communicate with a director before the event to enable the director to make alternate arrangements available to the student.

School-Owned Instruments

Each student using school equipment (instruments/percussion) will pay a \$50 usage fee for their equipment. This \$50 is to cover cleaning, repair, and general maintenance for that equipment. Damage, including accidents such as dropping or stepping on the instrument, and theft of the instrument will be your responsibility as detailed in the rental agreement. Dents and other such damage are not considered by the school as normal wear and tear.

School owned instruments include: oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, tenor/baritone sax, french horn, large-bore trombones, euphonium, tuba, and percussion. We also have a very limited number of flutes, clarinets, alto saxes, trombones, and cornets/trumpets.

Chaperones

There will be opportunities for parents to serve as chaperones at band events. If you would be interested, please contact the GMS front office and fill out the volunteer background check form. This is required by GISD for anyone who wishes to volunteer as a chaperone. We will contact parents when those occasions arise where we are in need of chaperones.

Practice like a Champion at all times!

When you practice like a champion, a certain general attitude becomes you and you start to do everything like a champion. Your whole attitude changes for the better and you become more than you ever thought possible. Regardless of scores or rankings at festivals and contests, a champion's attitude is never deterred and defeated but always steadfast and strong. We must rehearse as well as we want to perform and never settle for less! Go for it, Lion Pride!

Items Not Covered in This Handbook

Every year, a new situation arises that the directors have not encountered before. When something occurs that is not in the handbook, the directors will follow the principles of the handbook, including their teaching philosophy and Mission Statement, the procedures and policies of Greenville ISD, and statutory guidance. Using these, common sense and open communication with administrators and parents, we will come to a decision in the best interests of all involved. It is reality that this handbook cannot anticipate all situations that may arise, but just because it is not in the handbook does not mean the principles behind the handbook do not apply.

****Items in Handbook are subject to change based on guidelines and recommendations according to TEA, UIL, CDC, applicable law, and Greenville ISD. Parents and students will be notified of any changes that will be made.****

Lion Pride Band Instrument Supply List!

Flute:	Trumpet:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jupiter710RO Flute or Yamaha YFL-222 Flute ● Polishing Cloth ● Tuning Rod ● Cleaning Swab ● Plugs for open-holed flute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Yamaha YTR-200AD Trumpet ● Bach or Blessing 5C Mouthpiece ● Brass Mouthpiece Brush ● Bach Synthetic Valve Oil ● Schilke Slide Grease
Oboe:	French Horn:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3 Bocal Majority or Singin' Dog (beginner/medium soft) Reeds ● Hodge Reed case ● Water Cup ● Silk Swab ● Cork Grease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Holton Farkas MDC Mouthpiece • ● Brass Mouthpiece Brush ● Hetman Rotor Oil ● Schilke Slide Grease
Bassoon:	Trombone:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3 Bocal Majority or Singin' Dog (beginner/medium soft) Reeds ● Hodge Reed case ● Water Cup ● Silk Swab and Bocal Swab ● Cork Grease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Yamaha YSL-350C or YSL-200AD Trombone ● Bach 6 1/2 (Large Shank) Mouthpiece ● Small Spray Bottle ● Brass Mouthpiece Brush ● Slide-o Mix Trombone Slide Lubricant ● Schilke Slide Grease
Clarinet:	Euphonium:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Yamaha 200AD or Jupiter 750N Clarinet (Wood) ● 1 box Vandoren Reeds strength 3 ● Reed Guard ● Silk Swab ● Cork Grease ● Rovner Ligature ● Vandoren 5RV Mouthpiece 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bach 6 1/2 (Large Shank) Mouthpiece ● Brass Mouthpiece Brush ● Bach Synthetic Valve Oil ● Schilke Slide Grease
Saxophone:	Tuba:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● JupiterJAS-669/710GNA or Yamaha YAS-26 Alto Saxophone ● 1 box Vandoren Reeds strength 3 ● Reed Guard ● Silk Swab ● Cork Grease ● Rovner Ligature ● Vandoren V16 A5 Mouthpiece or Selmer C* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Helleburg Tuba Mouthpiece ● Brass Mouthpiece Brush ● Bach Synthetic Valve Oil ● Schilke Slide Grease

All students will also need a 1" Binder, a set of 5 dividers, and a pencil!

GMS Band Handbook Acknowledgement Form

2024-2025

After reading the band handbook, I agree with the philosophies and policies of the band directors and agree to adhere to them to the best of my ability.

I further understand that I will be held accountable for the information in this handbook in cases where conflicts arise with band activities. **Not reading the handbook will not be accepted as an excuse.**

I also give permission for photos of my child to be used on the Band Webpage and other promotional materials for the band. **Please strike through the previous sentence if you do not consent and initial the strikethrough.**

I understand that a successful band is made up of committed students who are willing to work together with the band staff toward common goals. The sole purpose of these rules is to ensure a great experience for all members of the Greenville MS Band without being subjected to those who would prohibit learning from taking place.

Student Signature

Print Name

Parent Signature

Print Name

Please return this form to school during the first month of school.

FIELD TRIP
Parental/Guardian Consent Form and Liability waiver

Participant's / Child's Name: _____ Birth date: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

I, (Parent/Guardian) _____, grant permission for my child, (child's Name) _____, to participate in this field trip event that requires transportation. This activity will take place under the guidance and direction of employees and/or volunteers from **Greenville Middle School Band**.

A brief description of the activity follows:

Type of event: **Band Contests/Auditions**

Location of Event: **TBD Based on Event (all located in DFW area)**

Individual(s) in charge: **Band Directors - Kelsey Mattice, Trent McGee, and John Grant**

Date and time of departure: **TBD Based on Event**

Mode of transportation to and from event: **School District Bus or Vehicle**

Medical Matters:

**Please contact the director or school principal for consideration of appropriate accommodations.*

I hereby warrant that to the best of my knowledge, my child is in good health, and grant permission for my child to attend the above named event(s). Below is a list of medical information the school needs to be aware of (ex: allergies, chronic illnesses, medications, etc); if there are none write "none", if they are listed with the school nurse, please write that as well.

Emergency Medical Treatment:

This is to certify that I authorize the Superintendent or a designated representative to secure any and all emergency medical care and treatment for my child for acute illness suffered or injury sustained while participating in this trip or activity. I understand that, while student safety is a high priority for the District, under State Law, the school is not responsible for medical costs associated with student injury

In the event of an emergency and you are unable to reach me at the above numbers, contact:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone : _____

Release and Waiver of Liability:

In consideration for my child's participation in the above-mentioned field trip or activity, I expressly release and waive liability, now and at any time in the future, Greenville ISD, its Trustees, employees, agents, and assigns, for any and all claims for medical expenses, loss of services, injury to person or property, death, or other claims, actions, or liabilities made against it on them on behalf of my child, regardless of the cause of such claims, actions, or liabilities, or any concurrent or contributing fault or negligence of it or them as such may result from my child's participation in the above mentioned trip.

Indemnification and Hold Harmless:

In further consideration for my child's participation in the above-mentioned field trip or activity, I also agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Greenville ISD, its Trustees, employees, agents, and assigns, from and against any and all suits, actions, losses, damages, claims, or liabilities of any character, type, or description, including attorney's fees and court costs, that may result from my child's participation in the above mentioned trip or activity. I understand that the Greenville ISD, its Trustees, employees, and agents are not waiving any sovereign or governmental immunity, which it or they have under Texas law. I have read and understand this release and I sign it voluntarily and with full knowledge of its significance.

As parent and/or legal guardian, I remain legally responsible for any personal actions taken by the above named minor participant. I agree that I have filled out this form to the best of my knowledge and the information provided is accurate and complete.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



GMS Band Shirt Form



A band shirt is required for multiple middle school band performances. The shirt for middle school is not the same as the 6th grade/beginner band shirt. This is a RED shirt with our band logo. If you already have a middle school band shirt, you will not be required to purchase an additional one as long as it still fits. Payment can be either cash or check, please make checks payable to "GMS Band".

Band Shirt Cost: \$10

Please circle a shirt size, if you would like to order multiple shirts please indicate how many next to the size. Shirts are all adult sizes. Don't forget to write in your name. Turn this form in with your cash/check

Shirt size and #: XS ___ S ___ M ___ L ___
 XL ___ 2XL ___ 3XL ___

Student name: _____

Cash: _____ Check: _____