



Greenville High School Lion Pride Band

Student/Parent Handbook

2021-2022

“Courage”

TO EXCEL

To excel is to continually perform.
Not for a moment or moments.
Not for a day or days.
But to perform day after day,
month after month after month,
and to make the uncommon performance look commonplace.

To excel is to take the inner drive of competition
and not only embrace it, but master it.

It is no wonder then, that when one truly excels,
one is known for excellence.

It cannot be taught, or legislated, or willed into existence.

It must come from the very depths of an individual's
desire to be the best.

– Melanie Erickson

GREENVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
LION PRIDE BAND HANDBOOK
2021-2022

Welcome

Welcome to the 90th year of the Greenville High School Band! As we begin another year full of exciting musical memories, we will continue to follow in the footsteps of the many members of our Lion Pride Band family. Each year brings new opportunities to grow in our musical and academic endeavors.

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 we will achieve as the Greenville High School Lion Pride Band.

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 policies included in this handbook will be followed and enforced to the letter. Policies are 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 High School!

Sincerely,

Richard Burt
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Samantha Williams
Associate Director
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Hunter Langhans
Director of Percussion
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Table of Contents

Welcome	3
Table of Contents	4
Mission Statement	5
Band Motto	5
Mr. Burt's Teaching Philosophy	5
<i>Class Grades</i>	6
<i>Absences</i>	6
General Information	7
<i>Contact Information</i>	7
<i>Care of the Band Hall and Facilities</i>	7
<i>Classroom Code of Conduct</i>	7
<i>Discipline Management Plan</i>	8
<i>Chain of Command</i>	8
<i>Payments Made to the Band</i>	9
<i>Private Lessons</i>	9
<i>Individual Contests and Competitions</i>	9
<i>Travel</i>	9
<i>2022 Spring Trip</i>	10
<i>Insuring Your Instrument</i>	10
<i>School-Owned Instruments</i>	10
Marching Season	11
<i>Marching Season Attendance</i>	11
<i>Tardies/Absence from Rehearsal or Performance</i>	11
<i>Practice like a Champion at all times!</i>	12
Uniforms	13
<i>Anticipated Fall 2020 Uniform</i>	13
<i>Uniformity</i>	13
<i>Holding Your Hat When Not Worn</i>	14
<i>Inspections</i>	14
<i>Friday Night Procedures</i>	14
Football Games	15
<i>Care of Equipment</i>	15
<i>Playing in The Stands</i>	15
<i>Using the Bathroom at Football Games</i>	15
<i>Marching Band Contests</i>	15
<i>Homecoming</i>	15
Concert Season	16
<i>Rehearsals</i>	16
<i>Daily Supplies</i>	16
<i>Concerts</i>	16
<i>Practice Rooms</i>	16
Floor Show	17
Letter Jackets	17
Band Leadership Team	17
Staying in Band	18
Items Not Covered in This Handbook	18
Addendum I – Statement of Compliance with 8-hour Practice Rule	19
Addendum II	20
Addendum III – Covid-19 Response	21
Band Handbook Acknowledgement Form	22

Mission Statement

“Pursuing excellence one band member at a time”

The Band Directors and staff of the Greenville High School Band are committed to strive for excellence in everything we do. Students will be challenged to improve their musical skills, interpersonal skills, and discipline skills continuously. Variety is the color of our band. We embrace this as an opportunity to learn that people are all the same once committed to a common goal. All students will be appropriately challenged based on their current level of ability and skill, and we will continue to raise the bar every time goals are reached and improvements have been made. Through dedicated practice and commitment to the band program, students will learn that hard work and self-discipline release their true reward only when one refuses to quit.

Band Motto

“Pride”

P erseverance	You must give up giving up!
R espect	For yourself, for each other, for parents, and for teachers.
I ntensity	Stay focused and keep your goals in mind.
D esire	To reach beyond your limits and help others reach beyond theirs.
E xcellence	Not perfection! Just a personal commitment to doing your best every day.

Mr. Burt’s Teaching Philosophy

“Music is the heart of life.”
Franz Listz

Music is such an important part of my life. From the very beginning of my band career, I have enjoyed learning the richness that music entails. Music provides me with a safe haven when needed, inspiration when looking for guidance and so many other emotional adventures. It is my hope that I can give you the same throughout your musical career.

As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, “Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.” We should be thankful every day for the gift of music and the rich tradition of the Lion Pride Band and we will reflect our gratification through energetic rehearsals and actions of respect toward one another. To be part of our program is to be part of something greater than ourselves alone. Together we will create Greenville Lion Band Pride history and make memories that will last a lifetime.

Class Grades

Major Grades – 60%

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 to organizing their materials. Performances will count as a major grade. UIL marching show music memory playoffs will be the MAJORITY of the 1st 6 weeks grade.

Daily Grades – 40%

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.

Absences

Procedures Created Prior to Covid-19

Excused absences from rehearsals

School sponsored activity: athletics, UIL events

Personal illness: full-day absence excused by the school, return to school with a doctor's note

Family illness that requires your presence, return to school with a parent note

Permission must be granted with prior written notification.

Parents or students are asked to leave a voicemail message if no one answers.

Unexcused absences from rehearsals or performances

“I have to work”: Work schedules are made weeks in advance; you have your band calendar already.

“I had car trouble”: You can always call for someone to help you.

“I didn't have a ride”: This is simply a lack of planning on your part.

All other activities that are not school sponsored: club sports, social events, etc.

After-school detentions

Birthdays

Case-by-case absences

Church events: School organizations try very hard to not conflict with the traditional “church” times and days. But sometimes church events are scheduled at an “unusual” time and day. Please discuss the event with the band directors well in advance so we can try to come up with a compromise.

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.

Attendance in class, rehearsals and performances is an important part of being in a program. Therefore, attendance is expected for meeting the expectations of the class, organization and self. Failure to be in attendance could result in loss of grade, loss of performance opportunity and loss of learning.

General Information

Contact Information

3515 Lion's Lair Rd. | Greenville, TX 75402
Front Office: 903-457-2550 Band Office: 903-453-3624

Band Website www.lionpridebands.com

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Samantha Williams	williamss@greenvilleisd.com	903-453-3646
Hunter Langhans	langhansh@greenvilleisd.com	

Email is the very best way to contact a director.

Care of the Band Hall and Facilities

We have a great facility here at Greenville HS. It is everyone's responsibility to keep the band hall clean. As we grow in numbers, the room can feel smaller if it gets cluttered. Keep the chairs and music stands in their place. When you use a practice room, rack and stack when finished as to accommodate the next group. Only use the stereo or other equipment with director permission.

Every student will be issued an instrument cubby. All instrument cases need to be put into their cubbies with the cases closed, even while instrument is in use. Locker clean out will occur every week.

There is no eating food, drinking sodas, or chewing gum in the band hall, practice rooms, and music wing. If food is needed, it may be kept in the cubby in a closed bag or package. No fast food bags or drinks that cannot be securely re-closed. Whatever food or drink we find outside the locker will be immediately thrown out. Students in repetitive violation of this rule will be issued a discipline referral.

The directors' office is private and students should always knock before entering. Although we will usually wave you in right away, from time to time we may have private conferences or conversations going on and you need to come back another time. There are to be no students in the director's office without a director present. Students are not to use the directors' computers or take supplies from the office without asking.

Classroom Code of Conduct

It is expected that band students show a high standard of self-discipline and self-control. Failure of any student to behave in such a manner causes a breakdown in the overall quality of work done by all students. Each student will be expected to demonstrate the following:

- Common courtesy at all times between student and teacher
- Common courtesy between student and student.
- Mature conduct – self-control/on-task behavior
- Silence during music and drill rehearsal

All students are expected to follow all school rules and policies as outlined by the Greenville HS Student Handbook in addition to the guidelines in the director's discipline and management plan at all times.

Students who are consistently found guilty of improper conduct will be asked to drop the class at the semester. The Band Director reserves the right to remove the student from the band program in extreme cases. Band is an activity that requires a great work ethic and good self-discipline from each of its members. We expect greatness in the smallest details, for it is in the care of the smallest details that we find the confidence to truly tackle big projects.

Discipline Management Plan

Behavior Expectations

1. Be punctual to all planned rehearsals, concerts, or meeting times.
2. Be positive in your daily attitude toward others while presenting a good example for all to follow.
3. Be respectful of directors, student leaders, and all student peers.
4. Be respectful of the room by keeping your voice level low and refraining from horseplay.
5. Be responsible for your own discipline and prescribed duties.
6. Be consistent, fair, and cooperative at all times.
7. Always show pride in the Lion Pride Band, your instrument, instrument storage space, band hall, etc. by keeping it clean and orderly.
8. Follow the directors' instructions at all times.
9. Treat every other student in a kind and respectful manner.

Unwanted Behavior Consequences

- 1st offense – verbal warning to change behavior
- 2nd offense – verbal warning to change behavior, assignment of marching band discipline or teacher d-hall
- 3rd offense – teacher conference, d-hall and parents contacted (conduct grade to an S)
- 4th offense – parents contacted and referral to the appropriate assistant principal (conduct grade to an N)
- Severe Disruption – Immediate referral to assistant principal (conduct to a U)

Please be sure to understand that a conduct grade of N or below in any one six-week grading period may disqualify any student from membership into the National Honor Society.

We expect students to show respectful behavior both in person as well as online. Students should be considerate with what they put on social media and Google Classroom. Students represent the band program in and outside of school functions.

Chain of Command

With a large group, it is easy to find information quickly. When you have questions or issues, sometimes one of your peers can answer your question for you. If the upperclassman can't answer your question, go see a member of the BLT. Keep going up the chain of command until someone can answer it for you.

- Upperclassman
- BLT Member
- Drum Major
- Assistant Director or Guard or Percussion Instructor
- Head Band Director

If you have questions about music or uniforms, see a Drum Major before you see Ms. Williams.

Although the directors will be happy to answer questions, sometimes they are very busy, especially right before rehearsal begins.

Payments Made to the Band

Always attempt to pay by check or money order made out to “Greenville High 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 Ms. Williams. Receipts will be provided.

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 High School. Lessons are thirty minutes once a week.

Private lessons should be thought of like an investment in your musical future. Everyone benefits from your enrollment in a lesson program. We are working very hard to have first class teachers in our buildings, and all students need to seriously consider this wonderful opportunity! In order to achieve our goals of excellence, we hope at Greenville HS to have a minimum of 90% of the entire band in the private lesson program. See a band director for enrollment information.

Private lessons are \$16 for a 30 minute session. Students may apply for a scholarship that will pay for half of each lesson.

If you would like contact information for the lesson teachers, please email Mr. Burt.

Individual Contests and Competitions

All Band members will be **HIGHLY ENCOURAGED** to prepare for the All-Region and UIL Solo & Ensemble contests. Actual participation is left to the discretion of the band directors and will depend on the students’ readiness to compete. Our band educational philosophy is that our success as a band depends completely on the students’ individual success; therefore, individual contests will be greatly emphasized. We believe if the students work hard and play their instrument at a high level individually, the band will be more successful. During the 2nd 9 weeks grading period, we will provide each student in the Band with a solo that is commensurate with their playing ability. Students signed up, and **NOT** attending UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest will be responsible for reimbursing the cost of their entry(ies) to the school.

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 (football games, 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 for each trip taken with the band. This information will also be available to all parents and guardians on our website.

For very special situations when the student absolutely must ride with a parent, please contact Mr. Burt at least one day in advance to arrange for a proper transfer of responsibility. The transfer of responsibility must be signed by a principal. Please note that it may be difficult to see the principal one day prior to the event so plan accordingly. Students can ride only with their own parent(s) or guardian(s). Please understand that Mr. Burt will not make exceptions without **prior** arrangements.

Students are expected to follow these instructions exactly. Only personal stereos 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. Special permission can be given to students who need to have food or drink for medical or religious reasons. Please communicate this with a director before the event.

2022 Spring Trip

The Greenville Band may travel on a spring festival trip this year. All trips are subject to approval by the superintendent and school board. As soon as this approval has been received we will announce details concerning the trip. Students will be responsible for all costs pertaining to any trip taken.

Insuring Your Instrument

Please check with your home or auto insurance company regarding the coverage of your instrument. Most homeowner's policies cover musical instruments. If the instrument is rented from a music store, check with them regarding coverage at home and school. Do not leave instruments at school overnight. Greenville High School and the Greenville Independent School District will not be responsible for personal instruments which are stolen or damaged while on school property.

School-Owned Instruments

Each student using school equipment (instruments/flags/percussion) will pay a \$50.00 usage fee for their equipment. This \$50.00 is to cover 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. When your school owned instrument needs to go to the shop, tell a director and she/he will make the proper arrangements.

Marching Season

The primary role of marching season at Greenville High School is to provide a well-rounded competitive experience in the marching band art form. It will also provide valuable halftime entertainment for football games. The philosophy of the band program at Greenville HS is to provide the students with a complete musical education. Marching band is an important part of this education as it teaches teamwork, self-discipline, hard work, and selflessness as well as all the musical benefits for the students. The marching band is one of the main support groups at Greenville High School that assists in raising the spirit and enthusiasm of the entire school.

Marching band is a vital part of the students' educational experience in high school band. For this reason and many more, marching band is a required part of the band program at Greenville High School. Three half credits are gained as a substitution for Physical Education for students who march in the Lion Pride Marching Band.

Marching Season Attendance

Please follow the rehearsal and performance schedule closely in order to avoid work or other non-school related conflicts. It is crucial to have every member at every rehearsal. Students who enroll in other school activities such as athletics, choir, drama, and drill team need to plan ahead in order to avoid conflicts. These students are responsible for asking to receive a complete semester calendar from all of their activities so that he/she can have the maximum amount of time to work out potential schedule conflicts. A band director should be informed of any conflicts that arise as soon as possible in order to solve the problem. We are very good at resolving time conflicts! Let us help! It is our policy to encourage our students to be as active as they wish in other school activities.

Tardies/Absence from Rehearsal or Performance

Unexcused Tardy to Rehearsal / Performance

Marching discipline for first two tardies; on the third, conference with director and parent contacted.

Unexcused Absence from Rehearsal / Performance (i.e. skipping practice)

Teacher conference, d-hall assigned, and parents contacted to determine reason for absence and determine the value of continued participation in the program. At any time following the first unexcused absence, the band staff may deem necessary to remove the student from the drill for the good of the whole band if there is reasonable doubt that the student will be present at all rehearsals. *As always, please make every attempt to contact us as soon as possible to advise us of any conflict.*

With only a limited amount of time daily to practice, we need everyone in attendance at every rehearsal. There are no benchwarmers, substitutes, or timeouts. When one student is absent from rehearsal, it is difficult for a student to practice correct spacing awareness in drill regarding alignment and concerning pitch matching of the music, precision and continuity. *Addendum II*

Marching Band Rehearsal Expectations

Students must wear appropriate loose-fitting clothing, shorts, socks, and athletic shoes for all rehearsals. Sunglasses, hats, and sunscreen should be worn while outside to avoid overheating. Students **MUST** bring their own water jugs to rehearsal. UIL Guidelines require that no food or water is shared. Please eat regular meals, as it is very hazardous to your health to work out as we do in marching band on a poor diet.

During actual rehearsals you are expected to behave professionally and work as hard as you can to achieve as much as you can. In order to accomplish as much as possible:

- Only directors, drum majors, and captains may talk during practice.
- Do not move around during instruction periods—stand at “standby” position.
- Be prepared for every rehearsal; have your coordinate sheets, music and equipment
- Breaks will be short but frequent—have your water nearby.
- Ask questions by raising your hand; speak loudly and clearly.
- We have no problems with keeping you late when daily goals are not met (we have some time built in so we do not exceed the 8-hour limit. Addendum I)
- Phones are not to be out during rehearsals.

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!

Uniforms

****Procedures Created Prior to Covid-19****

Our uniforms are top quality uniforms. They are designed to last a long time, but will not resist abuse. Please understand that you are responsible for any damage beyond regular wear and tear. We expect all students to treat their uniforms with the utmost care and respect. Jackets and pants will be dry cleaned following a schedule provided by our Boosters. Only gloves can be washed at home following each performance. Uniforms are to be stored in a cool, dry place, and hung up at all times when not being worn. Uniforms will be checked out to each student during Band Camp. Each Friday morning students should verify all uniform components are performance ready. Any issues must be dealt with before the day of the performance as no extra parts will be issued on the day of a performance.

NEW Uniform Replacement Cost	\$425.00
Jacket	\$200.00
Bibber Pants	\$130.00
Hanger	\$5.00
Garment Bag	\$15.00
Hats	\$75.00

Anticipated Fall 2021 Uniform

Students will wear khaki shorts, black show shirt, black belt, black marching shoes, mid-calf black socks with no logo, and white gloves for the first few football games.

For football games in cooler weather, students will wear their band uniform.

Students will be notified of any uniform changes the week of the football game.

For marching competitions students will wear knee-length black golf shorts, black show shirt, black belt, black marching shoes, ankle-length black socks with no logo, and white gloves.

No jewelry is to be worn, including watches. Hair that is shoulder length or longer should be tied up and away from the face.

Uniformity

The very nature of the word “uniform” means that all members are the same without any discrepancies or variants. Uniforms are to be worn only at band events and never on your own.

All members are expected to wear the entire uniform, buttoned, and correctly worn whenever in public unless otherwise directed to do so by a band director or drum major. Absolutely no jewelry will be worn with the uniform. The entire uniform also includes black “Drill Master” marching shoes, black socks, and issued white gloves. A black show shirt and lightweight/thin and black shorts should be worn underneath the uniform, not baggy shorts or jeans. If the band is allowed to change out of the uniform (i.e. at contest performances), hang up the uniform carefully and wear school appropriate clothing in the stands.

STUDENTS ARE NOT TO EAT IN UNIFORM OR DRINK ANYTHING BESIDE WATER

Alterations will be made at the time of check-out by parent volunteers who are seamstresses and will take care of making sure the uniform fits perfectly. Please do not have alterations made on your own and please do not cut material off the uniforms for any reason.

Holding Your Hat When Not Worn

When carrying your hat, place it facing forward in the palm of your left hand. When sitting, your hat will be placed on your left on the seat next to you facing forward.

Inspections

You are expected to wear your entire uniform for review by a student leader prior to each performance. A student leader will also check for your flip folder and lyre. Your instrument will be in perfect playing condition (working slides, oiled valves, clean and polished, good reeds, etc.). You are not contributing to the band if your instrument is not in good playing condition.

Friday Night Procedures

Students will need to report at the assigned time. The schedule for each Friday will be announced and posted on the website. For two or three of our games this year, there will be an earlier departure time than normal. In these instances, we will either stop somewhere to eat, or provide a boxed dinner, or students will need to plan ahead and provide their own meals. Please follow the itinerary to the letter.

Students will be instructed to notify parents that we will be returning to school when we are departing the football game and are expected to keep parents updated on estimated time of arrival.

PARENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PICKING UP STUDENTS PROMPTLY FOLLOWING ANY BAND FUNCTION!

Football Games

Care of Equipment

There is a great potential for damage to expensive personal and school instruments while in the stands. Do not leave your instrument unattended. Do not lay your instrument down or give it to someone else to hold. To help avoid any accidental damage you will be expected to stay in your own seat throughout the game. Damages due to a lack of care on your part will be charged to you (or more accurately, your parents).

Playing in The Stands

We will play as often as possible in the stands as we support the efforts of the football team and do our share for school spirit. There will be no individual playing allowed in the stands. We are a band: we all play together, not as individuals. We expect every member of the band to have his/her own flip-folder, lyre, and all the necessary music for performances in the stands. All students are expected to play to the best of their ability while in the stands (good fundamental sounds as a first-class organization should). Watch the drum major or band director at all times and be ready to play for the audience in the stands and in support of our football team.

****Phones are not to be out in the stands. Students need to be at the ready to play stand tunes and the fight song. If a student does not follow this rule, they will be asked to give their phone to a director for the remainder of the game.****

Using the Bathroom at Football Games

For home games, students should use the restroom in the high school before marching over to the stadium.

For away games, students will have the opportunity to use the restroom at the stadium when we arrive. Students will need to notify a director if using the restroom during the game is necessary. Students will have another opportunity to use the restroom before we depart.

Marching Band Contests

The band will compete in several marching band contests/festivals this year. Please make sure to refer to the website/calendar for a list of important marching events. UIL Marching Contest is the culmination point of our competitive season for marching band. You will be expected to act in a manner that will bring positive light onto yourself, the band, and the school at all times. All school rules apply when we are on the road at a contest or festival. Students should make smart choices at all times.

The schedule for the day will be announced and published in advance. Plan accordingly and pay close attention to non-uniform dress. Also, you will be able to plan carefully for meals or any extra money for souvenirs.

Homecoming

Students nominated for the homecoming court will be presented in their band uniform or formal dress. This is consistent with the Flashes, Cheerleaders and Football team.

Concert Season

Although the marching season seems long and all inclusive, it only makes up one-quarter of the year in the band program. The rest of the time is concert season. A lot of attention is placed on individual skill and achievement. The basic philosophy of the band directors is that good band students make good bands. A student that plays well individually will play well in the band. During this time students will prepare for All-Region contest, perform a holiday concert in December, prepare for Solo & Ensemble UIL contest, perform in the pre-UIL judged concert, compete at Concert & Sight-reading UIL contest, travel on our spring trip, and perform a spring concert in May to close out the year.

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. Phones are not to be out in rehearsals.

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.

Concerts

Concerts are an important part of the band class and they count as a major grade. Concert attendance is mandatory for all students. There will not be any opportunity to make up a missed concert. From time to time conflicts may arise with other school activities. In this event, please contact Mr. Burt so he can try to work out a solution. Non-school conflicts will not be excused.

Practice Rooms

In order to ensure student safety, we have adopted the following policies for the practice rooms.

1. Doors are to remain locked and closed at all times when not in use.
2. When letting students in, relock the door so that when they are done the door is locked.
3. No students in a practice room without a director in the Music Wing to monitor.
4. No more than 3 persons in a room at a time. Exception: ensembles utilizing more than three performers, provided that they are actively practicing said ensemble.
5. Respect the pianos.
6. Absolutely no students in the practice rooms with lights off.
7. No food or drinks in a practice room
8. Only band, choir, and Suzuki Strings students should be in a practice room.

Floor Show

The Band/Flash Floor Show is a long tradition here at GHS. Since this is a combined production, we need to share equally in the pre-show preparations. ALL students will be expected to sell program ads and tickets. Starting in April, there will be decorating meetings and practices. We need as many parents as possible to help out. Please remember that Floor Show is a Band activity and part of the grade for that six weeks grading period.

Set up for the show is the Monday before the show. We need everyone to be available to help so that we can get everything set up as quickly as possible. Tear down is the Sunday after the show. Please refer to the included calendar for specific dates and times.

All students are expected to be at the Dress Rehearsals. Any unexcused absence will result in the student not performing at Floor Show.

Please remember that Floor Show is an extra-curricular activity and students must be academically eligible to participate.

Letter Jackets

The following policies will be in affect when dealing with the awarding of band letter jackets:

- Letter jackets will be ordered only for those students that are actively participating in band that have met the requirements.
- Students that make the All-Region Band **and** attend the All-Region Clinic/Concert during or after his/her 9th grade year will be awarded a letter jacket during the fall semester of the following school year.
- Students that make a “superior” rating at the UIL State Solo/Ensemble Contest will be awarded a letter jacket during the first semester of the following school year. (Class 1 Solo/Ens.)
- Students that have been in the Greenville High School Band for at least two consecutive years and have participated in **all** band contests during those two years will be awarded a letter jacket in the fall semester of his/her junior year in high school.
- Seniors that have not received a letter jacket and have been in band since August of his/her junior year will be awarded a letter jacket during the first semester of their senior year.
- The Band Director reserves the right to deny a letter jacket to a student that has discipline, attendance, or eligibility problems.
- The school pays for the letter jacket. Students are responsible for paying for patches.

Band Leadership Team

The Band Leadership Team (BLT) is the student leadership group for the band. This group consists of Marching Band leaders (Drum Majors/Captains) and the Band Officers. Each has its own unique role to play in the Band. The exact make-up of the team is flexible and is based on the needs of the band each year. Try outs will be in the spring and will consist of an application, training sessions and interviews. Students trying out for a Marching Band leadership position will also demonstrate marching skills and technique. Student Leaders will be selected by the Band Directors based on the strength of their applications and interviews, and their demonstration of leadership concepts throughout the year.

Staying in Band

While we understand that student interests change during high school, we strongly urge you to seriously consider the following before you decide to quit band.

- How much time and money have you (or your parents) invested in learning to play your instrument?
- How much time and money have we invested in your band experience? (school owned instrument, etc.)
- Students with significant fine arts experience are highly desired by college admissions committees. They see this experience as a proxy for creativity and “big picture thinking”
- Music majors have the highest rate of admittance to medical school. (source: Rockefeller Foundation)
- Every year a student participates in music instruction, their SAT score improves (source: College Board)
- “Music produces profound and lasting changes in the brain” (source: Scientific American, November 2010)
- “The very best engineers and technical designers in the Silicon Valley are, nearly without exception, practicing musicians.” (source: Grant Venerable, 1989)
- We are moving from a left-brained world that values linear, logical thinking and action to a world that values the ability to recognize the big picture, empathize and to come up with multiple solutions to complex problems. (source: Dan Pink, UIL Leaguer, 2009)

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. 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 CDC, TEA, UIL, and Greenville ISD. Parents and students will be notified of any changes that will be made.****

On the last page of this handbook you will be asked to acknowledge reading this addendum and to return it to the band directors in the first week of school.

Addendum I

UIL Marching Band Statement of Compliance with 8-hour Practice Rule

Required practice for marching band and all of its components, outside of the academic school day cannot exceed eight hours per calendar week (Sunday through Saturday).

Examples of activities subject to the UIL Marching Band Eight Hour Rule:

1. Rehearsals (full band and components)
2. Group instructional activity
3. Breaks
4. Announcements
5. Debriefing and viewing marching band videos
6. Playing off music
7. Sectionals (both director and student led)
8. Clinics

In addition, on performance days (football games and competitions), the amount of practice and warm-up cannot exceed one hour (excluding the scheduled warm-up at the contest site). Multiple performances on the same day do not allow for additional practice and/or warm-up time.

The following activities are not included in the eight hour time allotment:

1. Travel time to and from rehearsals and/or performances
2. Rehearsal set-up time
3. Pep rallies, parades, and other public performances
4. Voluntary practice for individual activities other than marching band such as All-Region/Area/State try-outs and Solo and Ensemble preparation.

Directors are responsible for the observance of these regulations. Directors in violation will be subject to penalty in accordance with the UIL penalty structure applicable to all UIL activities.

NOTE: An extensive Q&A for the Eight Hour Rule for Marching Band can be found on the music page of the UIL website at: www.uil.utexas.edu.

Addendum II

I'm Only One Person in the Group

Even though my typewriter is an old model, it works quite well except for one of the keys. I have wished many times that it would perform perfectly. It is true that there are forty-six other keys that function well enough, but just one key not working makes them different.

Sometimes it seems to me that our group is somewhat like my old typewriter – not all the key people are working properly and together.

You may say to yourself, “Well, I am only one person. It won’t make much difference. But, you search for the group to be effective it needs participation from every person.

So the next time you think you are only one person and say that your effort is not needed, remember my typewriter and say to yourself, “I am a key person and needed very much.

Band Handbook Acknowledgement Form

2021/2022

Student Name _____

Date _____

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. Please refer to the director's philosophy of teaching for a better understanding of the goals of the Greenville HS Band.

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.

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 HS Band without being subjected to those who would prohibit learning from taking place.

Student Name

Parent Signature

Print Name

Print Name

* * * * *

“We have read and understand the Eight-Hour Rule for Marching Band as stated in Addendum I of this handbook. We agree to abide by these regulations and understand our responsibility to report any violations to the school authorities.”

Student Name

Parent Signature

Please return this form to school and turn in to the “in-box” during the first week of school.

Greenville High School Band

MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION
2021/2021

TO: Any Physician, Hospital, or Other Health Care Provider:

STUDENT NAME: _____

We, the undersigned, represent and warrant that we are the parents or legal guardians of the above-named student, a minor child, and we do hereby give Richard Burt or Samantha Williams, of the Greenville Independent School District, the power to consent to any and all medical and/or health care which he/she/deems necessary in an emergency while said child is in his/her custody and control while on a district sponsored trip.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20 _____.

Print Name of Parent or Guardian

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Print Name of Parent or Guardian

Signature of Parent or Guardian

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Home Phone: _____

Business Phone: _____

Insurance Company: _____

Insurance Co. Phone: _____

Policy Number: _____

Medical Allergies: _____

Pertinent Medical Information (diabetes, asthma, heart disease, etc.): _____

Medications: _____

Family Doctor: _____

Phone: _____

Other Contact in Emergency: _____

Phone: _____

It will be the responsibility of the parent to notify the school of any changes in the above information.

****This form will be destroyed at the end of the school year.**