

West Mesquite



Burnt Orange Band

Handbook

INTRODUCTION

While continuing the rich traditions of American wind bands, the Burnt Orange Band is proud of its commitment to excellence and leadership in the field of music education as it employs new techniques and concepts. Our dedication to innovative performances, high musical standards, and personal excellence make our organization unique in its advancement of music education.

As you will learn throughout your four years in the West Mesquite band, being a member of such a large and successful program has many benefits. To have a program function successfully on so many levels, however, requires concrete systems and policies to ensure continued success and equity among its members. As a band member, you are expected to be familiar with the program's overall structure and the policy materials presented in this document.

All band members, including those in leadership positions, share our goals and responsibilities: the pursuit of excellence in musical performance, the understanding and appreciation for a variety of musical styles, and the encouragement and development of a positive attitude for all of our students. Within this pursuit, a successful band program utilizes competition as a means by which to achieve musical excellence. It is our philosophy that the competitive aspects of our program offer concrete goals for our students to achieve both individually and as a group and are a vital part of our initial successes. We emphasize that music is an art form, however, and not a competitive sport. Therefore, we stress that the results of any music competition are secondary to the process used to achieve those results. What really matters are the musical and life-lessons learned during the process. Understanding this philosophy and living it daily are what makes band such an enjoyable experience. Music is a vehicle to help us better experience life to its fullest!

Band should be fun for everyone involved; students, staff, directors, and parents. Knowing and following policies and procedures will eliminate unwanted concerns and make band more enjoyable for all. More importantly, it is our intent to be specific in this manual so that you will know what is expected of you. A positive attitude is essential for motivating each other to perform to our fullest artistic potential. We assume that you are in band to fulfill that potential, represent West Mesquite High School, and have a good musical experience. As MISD employees, it is our job and responsibility to adhere to MISD and WMHS policies. You are also responsible for the policies regarding personal conduct in this Student Handbook and presented by the school district. All policies will be followed any time you are attending a band-related activity and representing West Mesquite High School (on or off campus -- in or out of uniform.) With this in mind, please do not put your fellow students, directors, or staff in a situation that would compromise our professional positions or the integrity of The West Mesquite High School Band.

There are several forms we need you to complete and turn-in at Band Registration. These forms must be received before you can participate in the band program.

These forms are:

- Field Trip, Medical Release & Member Contract (Physical Form)**
- School Instrument Check-Out (Physical Form)**
- Student Info & Emergency Health (online form)**
- Supply List (Physical Form)**
- PPE- Physical Examination Form (must be completed prior to 1st & 3rd years of HS band) (Physical Form)**
- PPE- Medical History Form (must be completed annually)**
- UIL Marching Band Acknowledgement (Physical Form)**
- Uniform Fitting**

OUR MISSION...

The band's culture statement defines what the band wants to be known for: campus and community leaders who embrace change, thrive on creativity and achieve goals. The band's mission is to promote excellence in music, to build trust in each other, to set a high standard of performance in our region, area and state and to develop character and integrity in every individual as a whole.

Culture Statement:

Every year, the members of the West Mesquite High School Burnt Orange Band write a new chapter in our legacy. As did the contributions of our B.O.B. alumni, their efforts impact the students that will come after them. Each graduation class moves the needle forward for a generation of musicians that they will never meet, but who share their same dream. We are a part of something bigger than that ourselves, we are a family, and this is our story.

Mission Statement:

Developing character, commitment and community through the pursuit of musical excellence.

Communications

Jennifer Borders- Director of Bands; Wind Ensemble; Marching Band

Office: 972-882-7626

[Jborders@mesquiteisd.org](mailto:jborders@mesquiteisd.org)

Lacy Brown- Associate Director; Symphonic Band

Office: 972-882-7654

Lbrown1@mesquiteisd.org

Michael Gibson- Associate Director; Concert Band; Jazz Ensemble

Office: 972-882-7643

Mgibson2@mesquiteisd.org

Dan Dudney- Associate Director; Percussion Cluster Coordinator

972-882-7651

Ddudney@mesquiteisd.org

Website: www.burntorangeband.org

Instagram: @BurntOrangeBand

Remind Text Feeds: Join the appropriate group text feed by texting the following code to 81010:

Brass- @bobbrass; Woodwinds- @bobwws; Percussion- @bobperc AND @wmperc; Color Guard- @bobguard; Parents- @bobfolks

Please only join the appropriate group that you belong to. Parents, please only join the parent text feed.

Absence Form: <https://tinyurl.com/wmhsbandabsence>

GENERAL BAND HALL RULES

- **Always** have a **pencil** during any rehearsal/sectional
- Cell phones are not allowed in rehearsal, unless specified by a director. Leave them in your band locker or case.
- Students must enter the band hall quietly for all rehearsals
- Check the board for information and rehearsal agenda every time you enter
- Check your music slot for new music or handouts every time you enter
- All cases must be stowed in lockers at all times.
- Locks on lockers must be kept locked when not in use. This is for the safety of our inventory.
- No beverages, food, gum or candy in the band room (this includes all lunch periods). Only sealed water containers are acceptable
- Keep the area clean. This includes the hallway, dressing rooms, and practice rooms
- Practice rooms are not for loitering. Students must always ask a director before using a practice room.
- Only members of the West Mesquite Band program are allowed in the band hall at any time without director approval. There are NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Students are not to open the outside door during the school day for anyone. If someone knocks, ask a director to open it.
- Students are not to run in the band hall.
- The band hall is a professional learning environment. Treat it as such.

MEMBERSHIP POLICY

The following policies are designed to promote the ideals addressed in the Handbook introduction:

1. Students must be registered for one of the marching/concert band classes as described in the MISDEducational Planning Guide. MISD policy states that band is a year long course, not a semester course. Make sure that you have allowed for this prior to the start of the school year.
 - 1.1. Enrollment in one of the concert/ensemble band classes requires every member to participate and perform with the WMHS marching band during the fall marching season.
 - 1.2. Enrollment in one of the marching/concert band classes requires every member to participate and perform with a concert band during the winter and spring concert season.
2. Music education is a long-term developmental process. Students are expected to commit to being enrolled in band all four years during their entire high school career.
3. MISD policy states that if you choose not to continue as a member of the organization at any point during high school, you will not be permitted to return to the band program. This policy includes students who chose not to continue band at the middle school level. This policy is subject to director's discretion.
4. Students enrolled in band the previous year, whether at the middle school or high school level, must remain a member of the parent group (marching/concert band) to be in jazz band, color guard, or ensemble class.
 - 4.1. Because the following instruments are not taught in the band curriculum, students not originally in band (including both their middle school and high school enrollment) may audition for guitar, bass, or piano in the jazz bands if positions cannot be filled by current band members. Membership into the jazz band will be upon appointment by a director. Membership policy 3. applies to these students once enrolled.
 - 4.2. Because color guard is not taught as part of the middle school curriculum, students not previously enrolled in band (either in middle school or high school) may audition for placement into the color guard. Membership policy 3. applies to these students once enrolled.

membership policy continued...

- 4.3. Students who classify under 4.1. and 4.2. are full members of the band program and are welcomed to participate and travel on the spring trip.
5. Color guard and percussion students must adhere to any additional information and policies stated in their audition materials from the previous spring semester.
6. Each concert band has varying levels of requirements for maintaining placement in the group. See “Concert Band Placement Requirements and Expectations” on P.24 for specific policies.
7. In the most severe cases, and at the directors’ discretion, inability or failure to adhere to the above membership policies or any policy in this handbook may result in permanent removal from the program. (see also Discipline Policy.)

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Being present at all rehearsals is the most minimal of requirements for learning to occur. You must do everything possible (by planning ahead) to be in attendance. Remember, in a band your performance is directly related to that of others. No matter what your role is within the band, you are an active participant and the team is counting on you. The following policies are designed with that team concept in mind:

1. Being on time is being in your “correct rehearsal venue” with all necessary materials prior to the official start time as determined by “**B.O.B. Standard Time.**”
 - 1.1. The official “B.O.B. Standard Time” is in sync with the digital clocks set throughout the school.
 - 1.2. Therefore, to be on time, you must be early. This would include any preparation time you need for your instrument and music, changing clothes, filling water, getting a pencil, travel time to and from outside or another predetermined rehearsal venue, etc...
 - 1.3. The correct rehearsal venue will always be determined at least one rehearsal in advance.
 - 1.3.1. Changes to the rehearsal venue will be posted on the board in the band hall at least 5 minutes before.
 - 1.3.2. Our rehearsal venues include, but are not limited to: the Band Hall, the parking lot on the home side of Memorial Stadium, Memorial Stadium field, the stage, or an ensemble room (for sectionals or split teaching), and the gym (for color guard).
 - 1.4. During your band class period, the requirement to be considered “on time” is to be in your seat ready to rehearse exactly one minute after the bell. Students entering the band hall after the tardy bell will also be marked tardy.
 - 1.5. During after-school marching rehearsals, the requirement to be considered “on time” is to be on the sideline of the correct field, ready to rehearse (with all materials) exactly one minute before the scheduled start time. Students entering the band hall after rehearsal has started will also be marked tardy.
2. Attendance at all before and after-school rehearsals is mandatory and part of the curriculum for all band classes (see Calendar for time)
3. Attendance at all summer band rehearsals is mandatory and a requirement of the course (see Summer Band Calendar for specifics).

attendance policy continued...

4. Attendance at all performances is mandatory and a requirement of the course.
 - 4.1. Members not participating in a particular performance may be required by the director, on an event by event basis, to attend. Learning from listening can be just as productive as learning by performing.
 - 4.2. Eligibility may affect attendance requirements (see Academic Eligibility Policy).
5. All required-attendance events are listed on the calendar page of our band website and updated when changed.
6. All absences and tardies will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by Mrs. Borders, with the associate directors' assistance.
7. Excused absences or tardies from performances or rehearsals will be considered only by the following cases:
 - 7.1. When submitted to the band's tinyurl absence form.
<https://tinyurl.com/wmhsbandabsence> (See www.burntorangeband.org/calendar)
 - 7.1.1. Religious Holidays (when notified in advance).
 - 7.1.2. "Once-in-a-lifetime" family event. (ex.: Sister's wedding, Grandparents' 50th Anniversary).
 - 7.2. Last minute emergencies - when notified as soon as they occur and followed up in Remind text:
 - 7.2.1. Student illness.
 - 7.2.1.1. Call the band phone (972-882-7626) or send a Remind text immediately and leave a message.
 - 7.2.1.2. For excusing a performance, it should be a "bed-ridden" illness.
 - 7.2.2. Severe personal injury or medical condition (requires Dr.'s notice).
 - 7.2.3. Death in the family.
8. School athletes must be proactive about handling absences or tardiness due to conflicts.
 - 8.1. Students must notify Mrs. Borders in writing of any rehearsal conflicts at the beginning of the year for fall sports and prior to the start of the season for any other sports.
 - 8.2. With many band students involved in every different sport, the band directors depend on students to communicate openly and in advance to both coaches and directors concerning conflicts.
 - 8.3. With the comparatively few amount of contest performances we have each year, these are rarely excused for athletics practices or games but are handled on a case-by-case basis... **so always talk to Mrs. Borders.**
 - 8.4. After school band sectionals may require you to leave athletics early one day a week during the spring semester only. Make sure you notify your coaches prior to the start of the spring seasons.
9. If an absence or tardy does not meet the above conditions, prior notification will not result in the absence being excused.
 - 9.1. Examples include but are not limited to: work, transportation concerns not worked out in advance, non-school sports practice or games, church related activities or trips, your friend's birthday party, babysitting your little sibling, etc....

attendance policy continued...

- 9.2. With 100% of our marching instruction done outside of school, it is vitally important that parents and students actively schedule any doctor, dentist, or orthodontic appointments around our calendar of events.
 - 9.2.1. The directors will not excuse absences for appointments except in the case of a medical emergency (see 7.2).
 - 9.2.2. One of the main reasons for having after-school marching band rehearsal only on Tuesdays is to encourage all students to schedule any doctor, dental, or orthodontic appointments during after-school times on other days.
 - 9.2.3. During concert season, an appointment during your once-a-week sectional will not be excused. You have four other days to schedule appointments.
- 9.3. With 100% of our marching instruction done outside of school it is vitally important students do not miss rehearsals for tutorials.
 - 9.3.1. The marching band schedule is designed on Monday through Friday 7-8:10am and Tuesday 4:30-6:30pm to allow students to take advantage of the after school time for tutorials. Do not be late to rehearsal. Every teacher on campus is required to have at least one after school tutorial.
 - 9.3.2. Tutorials on scheduled rehearsals during marching season are not excused. (*see band calendar*)
 - 9.3.3. During concert season, tutorials during your once-a-week sectional will not be excused. You have four other days to go to tutorials.
 - 9.3.4. Test make-ups that are going to last longer than 50 minutes must be communicated to Mrs. Borders by the teacher (email or call) at least one day before the scheduled rehearsal or it will not be excused.
10. An approved **excused** absence will constitute a NO GRADE for the summative performance assessment or formative rehearsal grade. This will usually result in a make-up assignment to replace this grade
11. An **unexcused** absence will result in a zero grade for the summative performance assessment or formative rehearsal grade and could potentially change part assignments in concert band and loss of contest spot in marching band.
12. An unexcused tardy will affect your participation grade, and could result in losing your spot in the contest show.
13. Excessive tardies, whether excused or not, may result in loss of music assignment or contest spot and jeopardize your future placement in the WMHS Marching Band.
14. Unexcused absences & excessive tardies (as determined by the band directors) could result in losing participation at a football game for the week in question and losing your spot in the contest show. A student who has overall inconsistent attendance will also lose their spot permanently. *This is not to punish you (as you may have a valid excuse, i.e.: funeral, wedding, illness) but it is to help the band prepare for your absence.*

If each student is committed to the program, plans ahead and communicates with his/her parents, he/she will never have to deal with Policies 1 through 14!!!

DISCIPLINARY POLICY

“Group discipline is everyone in the group being *self-disciplined* at the same time.” With this ideal in mind, students in the Burt Orange Band strive to learn self-discipline as a method for efficient rehearsing, a path to adulthood, a way of life. In fact, as a member of the Burnt Orange Band you must understand that we PRIDE ourselves in promoting the most disciplined atmosphere of any organization at West Mesquite HS. In our short history we have already developed a set of traditions that help to establish our self-discipline as a group and genuinely foster mutual respect for our peers and adults. The following policies are designed to ensure just that: development of a strong self-discipline for each and every student in band:

1. All discipline policies outlined in the MISD & WMHS Student Code of Conduct apply to all band students.
2. To facilitate an efficient and respectful rehearsal environment, the following are general rules that apply to many different band situations and are strictly adhered to at all times
 - 2.1. Follow all attendance policies (see above).
 - 2.2. Talking and extraneous noise is unacceptable during rehearsal inside or outside; whether at attention, parade rest, check, or at ease.
 - 2.3. No noodling! Noodling is defined as playing when no one else is, at an inappropriate time and place. This would include before and after rehearsal and during breaks; anywhere outside, in hallways, or non-music rooms. We always warm-up together. Use extra time instead to prepare your materials for rehearsal inside a music rehearsal room.
 - 2.4. Tall, straight posture is of the utmost importance to facilitate solid breathing techniques. This includes no backs in the chairs.
 - 2.5. Responding respectfully to all student leaders and adults (this includes chaperones).
 - 2.5.1. When asked to do something, don't question, just do.
 - 2.5.1.1. The best “brain test” for this is to ask yourself if what you are being asked to do is “illegal or unethical.” If it is, then you have the right to say **NO** and come talk to a director at an appropriate time.
 - 2.5.1.2. When speaking to adults in or around the WMHS campus (administrators, teachers, parent volunteers), band members will be expected to respond “Yes/No Sir” or “Yes/No Ma'am”
 - 2.5.2. Handle constructive criticism with maturity and grace along with a deeper understanding that it is offered only for your benefit and to help make you grow as a musician and human being.
 - 2.5.3. No matter what group an instructor or student leader is usually in charge of, they will commonly assist with other groups. All students must be flexible to instruction from a variety of directions.
 - 2.5.4. Each student should develop a positive vocabulary of rehearsal “body language” as this can often be interpreted or misinterpreted to be disrespectful.
3. Many other discipline policies are detailed throughout the handbook within sections that are specific to that scenario (attendance, general band hall rules, uniforms, etc...). Those policies also apply to developing a general self-discipline among our students.
4. With 100+ members to help teach, we utilize student leaders and a “chain of command” to help maintain discipline.

discipline policy continued...

- 4.1. All members of the chain may implement appropriate discipline measures as defined by the directors.
- 4.2. Any questions by students concerning discipline must first be addressed with the person responsible for the assignment. Further questions need to be addressed through the appropriate chain of command.
- 4.3. Remember, complaining to someone who cannot solve your problem is basically gossip and counter-productive. Respect for each other is a major component of the B.O.B.
- 4.4. The chain is quite logical but is spelled out here so all are aware:
 - 4.4.1. Directors
 - 4.4.2. Auxiliary staff: only consult for minor issues as they need to be able to concentrate on teaching.
 - 4.4.3. Drum Majors
 - 4.4.4. Band Leadership Team Members
5. There are typically two ways for a student to falter in following all discipline policies:
 - 5.1. A “Responsibility Issue” - known as being forgetful of specific policies such as missing an item at Inspection, a one-time tardy, leaving your instrument out, etc
 - 5.2. A “Respectful Issue” – or lack of; the more severe of the two ways, such as being on your phone during a rehearsal, talking in rehearsal, talking back, cursing, insubordination, etc..., can result in an elevated consequence as outlined below.
6. Failure to adhere to any rules outlined throughout the entire handbook will, at the director’s final discretion, result in the following progressive consequences.
 - 6.1. A verbal warning for incorrect conduct or procedure.
 - 6.2. Assigning a detention for repeated incorrect conduct or procedure.
 - 6.2.1. If the discipline infraction is severe enough, a detention may be assigned without a verbal warning.
 - 6.2.2. The student should be told of the assigned detention at the next available opportunity.
 - 6.3. If a student accumulates an excessive amount of detentions, the student and parent may, at the directors’ discretion, be contacted and apprised of the discipline issues resulting in the multiple demerits.
 - 6.3.1. If the discipline infraction is severe enough, the parent may be contacted regardless of the number of demerits/detentions.
 - 6.3.2. During marching season, an alternate position may be assigned in the event that the consequence is elevated.
 - 6.3.3. During concert season, another player may be moved to cover the student’s part or solo.
 - 6.4. If a student accumulates excessive amounts of detentions over several weeks, at the directors’ discretion, a parent/teacher/student conference may be set-up and a behavioral contract may be implemented as a result.

discipline policy continued...

- 6.4.1. If the discipline infraction is severe enough, a conference may be scheduled and contract implemented regardless of the number of detentions.
- 6.4.2. If the terms of the contract are not met within the designated time, at the directors' discretion, the consequence would fall under Discipline Policy 6.5.
- 6.4.3. During marching season, the student may be placed as an alternate and may regain their spot only when meeting all conditions of the contract to the directors' satisfaction.
- 6.5. **If a discipline infraction by the student is so severe as to elevate itself to “conduct unbecoming of a West Mesquite Band member,” the student, at the directors' discretion, may be immediately removed from the ensemble or program and may not be allowed to return.**
 - 6.5.1. Consumption of alcoholic beverages, the use of illegal drugs, or “conduct unbecoming of a West Mesquite Band member” while with the band at any performance, rehearsal, West Mesquite High School sponsored/related activity, or online exhibitions will not be allowed. Individuals in violation of this policy will be sent home immediately from events or trips at the individual's (or parents') own expense and may be permanently removed from the ensemble or program.
7. If a student is caught outside of band involved in illegal activities or an act considered to be “conduct unbecoming of a West Mesquite Band member”, including online exhibitions, the student would fall under the Mesquite I.S.D. Extracurricular Standards of Behavior policy.
8. Those who earn detentions, must serve them by reporting to the director that issued them.
 - 8.1. Detentions are served the following Tuesday after school from 4-4:30pm in the band hall
 - 8.2. If you have a conflict with that Tuesday's detention, you must notify the director who issued it to you. It will be served the following Tuesday or at an agreed upon date and time.
 - 8.3. Failure to serve a band detention will result in a campus detention and subsequent conference with an assistant principal. From this point on, all disciplinary proceedings will be handled through the campus discipline office.
 - 8.4. Accumulating too many detentions can make it difficult to serve them all and will result in individual consequences outlined by the band directors following parent contact.
9. If a student is assigned to In School Suspension (ISS), Out of School Suspension (OSS), Challenge, or The Learning Center (DAEP), they will not be allowed to attend any rehearsals before or after school until after they are released from these suspensions.
 - 9.1. A suspended student will not be allowed to participate with the band at a football game during the week of their suspension. This applies, even if the student is released from suspension before the day of the football game within the same week.

GRADING POLICY

1. Band is established as a co-curricular course and therefore may have additional grade requirements in addition to or separate from school grading procedures.
2. Our grading system for band is based on the 60% formative, 40% summative policies.
 - 2.1. **Daily - 60% of your grade**
 - 2.1.1. Are based on the following:
 - 2.1.1.1. Attendance at all rehearsal/sectionals outside of school.
 - 2.1.1.2. Daily class rehearsal participation.
 - 2.1.1.3. Daily practice (taking instruments home).
 - 2.1.1.4. Overall contribution to rehearsal.
 - 2.1.2. Specifically, participation grades are taken weekly and are determined as follows:
 - 2.1.2.1. Each student starts with a perfect weekly grade of 100.
 - 2.1.2.2. This grade is maintained with good effort, attendance, and being on time with the proper materials.
 - 2.1.2.3. Proper attitude and effort is more important than ability or talent in participation grading.
 - 2.1.3. Any deviation from policies, procedures, or rehearsal expectations will result in the lowering of the weekly grade.
 - 2.1.4. Unexcused absences from rehearsals outside of the school day will result in a permanent grade of 0 for that day and will severely affect your participation grade. (see Attendance Policy).
 - 2.2. **Participation– 20% of your grade**
 - 2.2.1. Are based on every performance as a group and as an individual.
 - 2.2.2. Those include but are not limited to:
 - 2.2.2.1. Attendance at each performance (weighted for importance – see Attendance Policy).
 - 2.3. **6 Weeks Test- 20% of your grade**
 - 2.3.1. Playing tests.
 - 2.3.1.1. Marching music pass-offs. Memorization is required. (color guard students will NOT be required to memorize)
 - 2.3.1.2. Counting tests
 - 2.3.1.3. Written tests.
 - 2.4. **Grades for Conduct** as outlined by the WMHS grading policies.
 - 2.4.1. All students in the band should get satisfactory or excellent. Anything less indicates a serious problem and a need for improvement (see Discipline Policy). You are responsible for keeping your music, assigned books, and folders. Guard them with your life.
 - 2.4.2. There is no such thing as “stolen music” in this band program. Your failure to plan and be organized does not constitute an emergency for the student leaders, or staff.

TRAVEL POLICY

Traveling to an event is a privilege provided by the band, not a right. The following policies are designed to make our travel as efficient and enjoyable as possible while representing our school and community with the best intentions.

1. As a student at West Mesquite High School, you are subject to school rules governing student conduct; including but not limited to:
 - 1.1. Mesquite ISD Student Code of Conduct
 - 1.2. Mesquite ISD dress code
 - 1.3. UIL eligibility requirements
 - 1.4. WMHS Band Handbook policies.
2. Be respectful of others in the group and all persons not connected with the group.
3. All travel will require complete medical/release forms.
4. In addition to regular school policies, there are several rules that are specific to our program that help us function better and travel faster.
 - 4.1. Singing, yelling, gestures, or body parts out the window are inappropriate. We are representing a professional and successful organization everywhere we go.
 - 4.2. When packing for trips, directors will give specific procedures to accommodate the mode of transportation being used.
 - 4.3. Remain on the bus until you have been instructed to leave.
 - 4.4. Students are responsible for knowing/following the itinerary at all times and for being punctual (always be early, not just on time). In addition, chaperones may not change the itinerary or the rules for this activity.
5. Any student who is disrespectful to a chaperone or who does not follow a chaperone's instructions will be disciplined and lose privileges.
 - 5.1. If the discipline problem is severe enough, the student could be sent back immediately at the parents' expense.
6. Refrain from public displays of affection. Students unable to comply with the staff opinion of what is appropriate may lose any and all privileges...the first of which will be bus seating.
7. When traveling, the directors are responsible for your safety and location at all times. Therefore, you may not separate from the group without *the staff's* permission.
8. All students will travel with the band to and from all events.
9. Any member missing school-provided transportation is responsible for getting to the event safely on time.
10. Bus Lists
 - 10.1. Once bus assignments are finalized and/or posted, you may not ride on or change to a different vehicle without director approval.

Travel policy continued...

- 10.2. At the directors' discretion, some factors such as eligibility or balancing bus capacity may cause individual bus assignments to be changed prior to depart.
- 10.3. Directors and chaperones reserve the right to modify seating assignments at any time.
11. Choosing not to adhere to these policies will have consequences which may include the inability to travel/perform with the band in the future (see Discipline Policy).
12. At the directors' discretion, severe disregard for any Travel Policy may result in permanent removal from the program.

Remember...people will judge our band and school by your actions, both on and off the field or concert stage. Your behavior must be exemplary and well beyond what is expected of you as a private individual. The fine reputation of a band program takes years to build and can be destroyed by one individual in one unfortunate incident... This is a classy organization. Help keep it that way.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY POLICY

1. As we participate actively in UIL Competition, we must adhere to TEA/UIL's policies regarding student eligibility. Though the directors monitor student eligibility and inform students of any problems, it is helpful to be familiar with the most basic policies outlined by UIL:
 - 1.1. Any student who fails a class at the eligibility grading period becomes ineligible for the following grading period.
 - 1.2. Students may regain eligibility at a date set by the district by passing **all** courses on their progress report.
 - 1.3. Ineligible students may not participate in or travel with the group to any activity where admission is charged or a competition is held. This includes football games, band contests, pep rallies, parades, individual instrumental competitions, and the spring trip.
 - 1.4. Per UIL/TEA rules, losing or regaining eligibility is always delayed one calendar week from the end of the grading period in question (called the "grace period" rule).
 - 1.5. **After school rehearsals and concerts are an exception** since they are co-curricular and admission is not charged. Therefore, any ineligible students who do not perform at contests are still expected to attend rehearsals and perform at the concert.

UNIFORM POLICY

1. While in a WMHS Band uniform, represent our band with the utmost air of respect and PRIDE.
2. The marching band uniform consists of: coat, power top, 1 pant (black), hat, hat box, gloves, gauntlets, t-shirt, black shoes, long black socks, hanger, garment bag and poncho.
 - 2.1. Plumes will be issued on a function-to-function basis.
 - 2.2. Long black (pure) socks must be provided and worn with the uniform.
 - 2.3. The proper pants length will be set at check-out. Do not hem the pants.
 - 2.4. Hats must not be left on ground, in bleachers, etc. Hang on to your hat. Keep in hat boxes when not in use. (Hat boxes are brought to all performances and can also be used for small equipment items such as ponchos, flip folders.)
3. The following items will be assessed during each “uniform inspection” prior to every performance:
 - 3.1. In accordance with MISD dress code, facial hair will not be allowed in uniform.
 - 3.2. Shoes must be cleaned and presentable before each inspection!
 - 3.3. Power Tops must be clean and presentable. Instructions on how to clean & care for them will be given at the beginning of summer band
 - 3.4. Proper pant length
 - 3.5. Long black Socks.
 - 3.6. Long hair must be worn completely up under the hat. (no pony tails)
 - 3.7. No earrings or other pierced areas/objects while in uniform.
 - 3.8. No make-up or sunglasses in performance.
 - 3.9. Check buttons often. Report issues to Ms. Brown
 - 3.10. Gloves to match pants and shoes must be cleaned before each performance.
 - 3.11. Instruments must be cleaned and polished prior to all performances.
 - 3.12. Woodwinds must have a “quality” reed plus backups.
 - 3.13. Brass valves and slides must be working smoothly.
 - 3.14. You must have your flip folder labeled with your name, band, and containing all your music. (See Music Policy on P.12)
4. Concert Uniforms consist of the following:
 - 4.1. For Gentlemen: Black slacks (no jeans), a long sleeved black dress shirt or appropriate sweater, black socks, and black dress shoes.

uniform policy continued...

- 4.2. For Ladies: Black full-length dress. You may also wear black slacks with a long sleeved dress shirt, blouse, or appropriate sweater, black socks or hose and black dress shoes.
 - 4.2.1. Flip-flops, open-backed shoes, tennis shoes, and crocs are not formal and therefore not permitted.
 - 4.2.2. Jeans, short skirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, long sleeved t-shirts, sporting shirts, low-cuts or other revealing tops are not formal and therefore not permitted.
5. A band fee will be charged to you at band registration for our uniform.
This cost covers your band t-shirt, dry cleaning, shoes, gloves, and other previously listed items (see Fee Breakdown below).
6. You will be billed for any lost or damaged uniform parts up to the full uniform cost (approximately \$500.00)
7. Jewelry, sunglasses, excessive make-up, or any attire or apparel that detracts from the overall appearance or image of the band may not be worn at performances.
 - 7.1. This includes earrings. Please keep in mind that band-aids will NOT be used to hide earrings. Plan ahead to not have issues with this.
8. Wear the complete uniform at all times when in public.
 - 8.1. This includes arrival to school and even
 - 8.2. when going home. Do not change in public (including the band hall/percussion room).
 - 8.3. At games and contests you will be instructed when to remove hats, plumes, coats, etc., do not do so individually.
 - 8.4. The official power top or dri-fit shirt is to be worn under the uniform top AT ALL TIMES or as instructed by the director or staff, at pep rallies and on game days.
 - 8.5. During extremely uncomfortable situations, we will be able to remove our uniform jackets ONLY if all members are wearing their official band T-shirts.
 - 8.6. Marching uniforms must be transported in a band garment bag. When you are not wearing the uniform, it should be hanging on a hanger at all times.
9. Know your uniform and hat numbers, they all look the same!
10. **Most importantly, as a band member, when you are in uniform you are in your ENTIRE uniform...not part of it!**

MARCHING BAND AND UNIFORM FEES

Students will fit into one of three categories: winds, percussion, or color guard, and new or returning students for band fees. Our goal is to take the mystery out of how much you pay and why. It is our philosophy that every student who wants to be in band has the opportunity regardless of their family's personal financial situations. If these expenses are a problem please contact Mrs. Borders at (972) 882-7626 or via email for assistance. Understand however, the WMHS Band cannot scholarship any personal items purchased (marching shoes, gloves, etc...). We will be glad to help develop a payment plan to help. We want every student to have a chance to participate. All forms must be filled out for us to release the uniform and accessories to the students.

Additionally, there are daily classroom supplies necessary for every student in the band. Those include a pencil, Blue Book (Foundations for Superior Performance), reeds (including spares), valve oil, binder with plastic pages, tuner, and other regular instrument maintenance supplies. All wind students are expected to have these items.

With the exception of the cleaning fee, food & drink fee, and operating fee, these are one-time costs (unless an item needs to be replaced). Any additional expenses for percussion and color guard were explained at their audition practices. All fees should be paid online through *In Touch*, or through Ms. Shelton in the campus ticket booth located by the auditorium. Payments cannot be accepted by a band director.

Every student in the Burnt Orange Band is required to pay for band fees, supplies, and equipment that are ordered and received. Orders and receipt of supplies will be documented and verified by a student and/or parent signature with Ms. Borders. Students will be financially responsible for the payment of these items that were ordered for them even if they quit band or transfer away from West Mesquite High School.

GENERAL MARCHING BAND PROCEDURES:

Dress Code for Marching Band Rehearsals

1. **Students must wear tennis shoes** (*preferably cross-trainers as running shoes do not provide enough lateral support*). No other shoe is acceptable for marching band. Any other shoe (sandals, flip-flops, boots, high-heels, crocs) constitutes a health hazard.
2. Bring a hat with you, but out of common courtesy please do not wear it at any time while inside the building.
3. **Sunglasses are a necessity** when outside but are to be taken off when inside the building.
4. Wear loose-fitting light-colored shirts to summer band due to the heat factor.
5. **Shorts are also required** as we have had a few students in the past who thought incorrectly that they could brave the heat in baggy black jeans.
6. Everyone must wear a shirt and no one may wear any article that is in violation of the school dress code.
7. All new band members will be issued a new water jug during summer band. Students should have those water jugs filled before every rehearsal. **These are not optional.**
8. Apply sunscreen prior to every rehearsal (even if overcast)

ASSIGNMENT OF ROLES FOR MARCHING BAND

The WMHS Band is the largest, positive image-projecting organization on campus. The group appears in halftime performances during varsity football games and represents WMHS in public community events as well as in the competitive marching band arena. Each year from January through July, much thought and effort is put into the numerous factors that determine the number of 'positions' that should be charted in the competition show, or Field Production, for that season. These decisions must be made well in advance as a result of the time involved in the construction and design of the program each year.

These estimations define how the music is arranged and determine the number of drill positions that are plotted. It is the responsibility of the directors to ensure that the students in the marching band are set up for success, including the job of fielding a complete ensemble without 'holes' in the drill or music. The directors carefully consider several factors when determining these numbers:

1. Current and prospective enrollment in the band program
2. Students' standing in band
3. Academic eligibility history of student
4. Attendance during previous school year and preseason training rehearsal
5. Basic skills and physical conditioning that allow for the student to march and play without the threat of injury to himself/herself or to others

Based on these factors, students are preliminarily assigned into one of two categories during summer band preseason:

A) Principal Marcher or B) Alternate/Auxiliary Squad

This delineation determines the INITIAL type of role that the student will have during the competition show.

All other aspects of membership are identical:

INSTRUCTIONAL AND PERFORMANCE PRIVILEGES FOR ALL MEMBERS

(Applies to Principal Marchers AND Alternate/Auxiliary Squad)

- Rehearse as a unit during all band classes
- Rehearse as a unit during marching fundamentals
- Rehearse as a unit during music ensemble rehearsals
- Perform as a unit at all pep rallies
- Perform as a unit at all parades
- Perform as a unit during the West Mesquite Band halftime show

INSTRUCTIONAL AND PERFORMANCE DIFFERENCES

- Principal Marchers march and play during the competition show during halftime and for band contests throughout the season
- Shadows are allowed to challenge weekly for performance positions until the end of September; at that time, members are assigned an Auxiliary Squad role for the competition show. Auxiliary roles include performance contributions in the areas of visual effects or logistical assistance, depending upon the needs of the program. Of course, this privilege is extended upon contingency of academic eligibility.

AUDITIONS FOR MARCHING BAND ROLE ASSIGNMENTS

1. Wind players and color guard members will audition for marching spots in the contest show at the end of July.
 - 1.1. The audition consists of fundamentals and playing of the show music for winds and choreography for guard.
 - 1.2. This audition only serves as an initial placement to start the season.
2. Those not receiving a spot in the contest show will be placed as a “shadow” until a designated time in September. At this time, permanent spots will be assigned in the drill. Other students will be assigned to important logistic positions.
 - 2.1. Since our first goal is to educate students about music and give them every opportunity to perform, all students will perform in some capacity during the fall.
 - 2.2. “Shadows” may gain a contest spot through several ways:
 - 2.2.1. The challenge process (see #3.).
 - 2.2.2. Academic ineligibility of another player.
 - 2.2.3. At the directors’ discretion by replacing another player who is either
 - 2.2.3.1. Not performing or rehearsing up to the level expected.
 - 2.2.3.2. Absent or tardy, or perhaps injured or sick (see Attendance Policy)
3. At contests “shadows” will not perform but will accompany us and will assist with equipment and show presentation as needed.
4. Individuals with documented medical limitations for marching may be invited to perform in the pit provided they are willing to work to learn a new instrument in addition to their regular concert instrument.

PERFORMANCE PROCEDURES FOR MARCHING BAND

Your performance responsibilities extend beyond the realm of pre-game, half-time entertainment, or contest performance. Any time you are wearing your uniform in public, you are viewed as a member of the Burnt Orange Band, not an individual. Please act in accordance with these policies.

1. During the game:
 - 1.1. You must remain in formation at all times. This means you must stay in your assigned spot, in your assigned section.
 - 1.2. Non-band members, including parents, alumni, and friends are not allowed in our section. Alumni and parents may visit at the discretion of a director. No student, SLT, or Drum Major may make this decision.
 - 1.3. Be visually alert to the conductor and audibly alert to the directors.
 - 1.4. No food or drinks from the concession stands are allowed. You will be provided with a snack by the BPA.
 - 1.5. Accurate, quality performance of music in stands is most important. Brass and percussion stand when playing. Be alert and ready to play on a moment's notice.

Performance procedures for marching band continued...

- 1.6. Be respectful and attentive to the visiting or host band.
 - 1.7. We will stand at parade rest during the other band's performance.
 - 1.8. As you leave the field following a performance, be ready to play the team back onto the field.
 - 1.9. Turn in your plume to the parents assisting at the gate.
 - 1.10. Instruments must be stored in a consistent and orderly fashion during refreshments.
 - 1.11. **Students are required to stay in the band section during the third quarter. Students may leave only to use the restroom with director permission.**
 - 1.12. No hugging, kissing, holding hands, or any form of PDA (see Uniform Policy).
 - 1.13. We are "performing" the entire time we are there (game or contest) and must maintain an air of professionalism at all times, including the third quarter.
 - 1.14. No noodling on instruments at any time. We will always play together as a group.
2. After home games:
 - 2.1. Your section leader will dismiss you from the band hall after you have checked out with them
 - 2.2. You are responsible for transportation home.
 - 2.3. You are also responsible for having all things necessary to rehearse back at school on Monday.
 - 2.4. During contest season, you are also responsible for having all things necessary to perform back at school at the designated report time.
3. After away games and contests:
 - 3.1. We will load the buses and depart for school.
 - 3.2. We dismiss from the buses.
 - 3.2.1. Spec Ops, & Loading Crew help to unload the truck and store all equipment & items.
 - 3.2.2. Everyone else will return your instrument to your lockers. You must then change out of your marching uniform, hang the parts up correctly and hang them on the designated uniform racks.
 - 3.2.3. All students must check out & be dismissed by their section leader.
 - 3.3. You are responsible for transportation home.
 - 3.4. You are also responsible for having all things necessary to rehearse back at school on Monday.
 - 3.5. During contest season, you are also responsible for having all things necessary to perform back at school at the designated report time.

Performance procedures for marching band continued...

4. Students who are consistently left waiting on a ride to pick them up after games, rehearsals, or contests are putting an undue strain on the staff that must chaperone them until they are picked up.. All band events on our calendar will have a defined end time. Itineraries are posted during the week of an event with specified end times listed. Students are instructed to contact parents while we are in transit back to WMHS. Any student who is consistently left waiting on a ride for more than 30 minutes after we have returned to campus may forfeit their privilege of participating in our next event until a parent conference can be scheduled and an agreed upon plan can be reached so that this type of thing doesn't happen again.

Careful attention to all aspects of the performance will increase the pride in the organization and will be recognized by the thousands of fans that observe your activities.

GENERAL CONCERT BAND PROCEDURES:

AUDITIONS FOR CONCERT BANDS

Auditions for placement in each year's concert bands take place at the end of the Fall and Spring semesters. Specific information on this audition will be included in a packet given to all band members prior to the audition.

1. We will have three full concert bands: Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band.
2. Any student who surpasses a Wind Ensemble player by making the All-Region band may be a candidate for moving up to that band if it fits the needs of the instrumentation.
3. Poor participation, performance, behavior, attendance, or eligibility during or after marching season may result in the reassignment of a student to another concert band.

CONCERT BAND PLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

By auditioning last spring for one of the ensembles below, you have selected your level of commitment to that group. Please be familiar with the requirements and expectations of your ensemble and understand that they are a year-long commitment.

Wind Ensemble (composed mostly of 10th-12th graders) **members are REQUIRED to:**

- Audition for the All-Region/Area/State Band (and perform with if you make it).
- Perform a solo at Solo contest.
- Perform an ensemble at the ensemble contest.
- Travel with the Wind Ensemble on any performance trips.
- Perform with the Wind Ensemble at all concerts and contests.
- Perform at graduation and any other school requested functions.
- Attend regularly scheduled master classes during the fall semester.
- Attend regularly scheduled rehearsals/sectionals during the spring semester.

...and are **EXPECTED** to:

- Participate in jazz band, instrumentation permitting.
- Participate in the MISD Music Enrichment Program (private lessons).
- Fill in instrumentation for any additional ensembles for concerts/performances when asked to do so.

concert band placement requirements and expectations continued...

Symphonic Band (composed mostly of 9th-12th graders) **members are REQUIRED to:**

- Perform a solo at Solo and Contest.
- Perform an ensemble at Ensemble Contest.
- Perform at graduation and any other school requested functions.
- Travel with the Symphonic Band on any performance trips.
- Perform with the Symphonic Band at all concerts and contests.
- Attend regularly scheduled master classes during the fall semester.
- Attend regularly scheduled rehearsals/sectionals during the spring semester.

...and are **EXPECTED** to:

- Participate in the MISD Music Enrichment Program (private lessons).
- Fill in instrumentation for any additional ensembles for concerts/performance when asked to do so.

...and are **ENCOURAGED** to:

- Audition for the All-Region/Area/State Band (and perform with if you make it).

Concert Band members (composed mostly of 9th-10th graders) **are REQUIRED to:**

- Perform a solo at Solo and Contest.
- Perform with an ensemble at Ensemble Contest.
- Travel with the Concert Band on any performance trips.
- Perform with the Concert Band at all concerts and contests.
- Attend regularly scheduled master classes during the fall semester.
- Attend regularly scheduled rehearsals/sectionals during the spring semester.

...and are **ENCOURAGED** to:

- Participate in the MISD Music Enrichment Program (private lessons).
- Audition for the All-Region/Area/State Band (and perform with if you make it).
- Perform at graduation and any other school requested functions.

CONCERT BAND SECTIONALS/PASS OFF SCHEDULES

1. Attendance at all sectionals is mandatory and serves as a weekly participation grade for each student.
2. Band sectionals will be held once a week for one hour.
3. In addition, students may be assigned a pass off appointment for the individual performance of contest music and fundamental material with their band director.
4. Each student is responsible for being on time, having music practiced and prepared, and having the necessary materials (pencils, mutes, reeds, etc.) at all rehearsals, including sectionals.
5. Any student who is either late or misses a sectional/rehearsal/pass off unexcused will forfeit his/her part assignment and may be moved to another band (see Attendance Policy).

AUXILIARY GROUP PROCEDURES:

JAZZ BAND

The jazz bands study and perform the various styles of modern “big-band” jazz music: swing, ballad, Latin, funk, and rock.

1. Jazz band is an additional ensemble that meets outside of the school day
2. It utilizes trumpets, trombones, saxes, a rhythm section (Piano, Guitar, Bass Guitar, & Drum Set) and occasionally vocalists.
3. Upper level band students, especially Wind Ensemble and Symphonic, are strongly encouraged to participate, instrumentation needs permitting.
4. Students who play piano, bass, or guitar are encouraged to audition for placement in the rhythm section.
 - 4.1. Wind or percussionists are welcome to audition for piano, bass, or guitar but must maintain their playing on their original instrument.
 - 4.2. See Membership Policy 4. and 4.1.
 - 4.3. The jazz band will rehearse before or after school per schedule assigned by Mr. Gibson
5. The jazz bands will perform at the winter concert during the fall, the evening of jazz in the spring and additional competitions to be determined.
 - 5.1. See Band Calendar for tentative dates.
 - 5.2. The jazz band may also perform on the spring trip...to be determined each year.

COLOR GUARD CLASS

The color guard is a choreography and equipment-work group designed to significantly augment the visual caption of our marching show. **Fall color guard is scheduled as part of the Wind Ensemble class, which will meet everyday during 1st period for the fall semester only.**

1. Auditions for color guard are held the previous spring, and those desiring to audition must meet the following membership requirements to be eligible to audition:
 - 1.1. Must be a West Mesquite student the upcoming fall.
 - 1.2. **Does not need to have been a member of the band previously or have had previous musical experience.**
 - 1.3. Band members who play a woodwind instrument may audition for color guard.
 - 1.3.1. **Current band members will enroll in the Wind Ensemble class (first period) for the fall.**
 - 1.3.2. The directors can help students take care of any scheduling concerns/conflicts after the auditions are completed.
 - 1.3.3. Brass members of the band may be considered to audition at the directors' discretion.

color guard class continued...

2. Once accepted into the color guard by audition, members are required to:
 - 2.1. **Enroll in the 1st period Wind Ensemble/Color Guard class (see also 1.3.1.).**
 - 2.2. Pay any additional expenses associated with color guard (see fee schedule).
 - 2.3. Participate in any additional performance or rehearsal requirements.
 - 2.4. Non-band members that make the color guard will be placed in a 1st period Wind Ensemble course for the fall semester only. Students in this course will also be taught the basic TEKS outlined for marching band in order to receive their marching band/P.E. credit.
 - 2.5. Woodwind players will be placed in their audition based concert ensemble for the holiday concert and spring semester courses.
3. All other handbook policies apply to the color guard.

GENERAL BAND INFORMATION:

PRIVATE LESSONS

With a large band program, it is impossible to create a student-to-teacher ratio that is conducive to the individual attention necessary to help all students excel as musicians. We utilize professional private instructors on every instrument to further our students' musical development:

1. All students regardless of ability are encouraged and expected to take private lessons.
2. As mentioned above, those taking lessons will be most likely to progress faster and therefore have the best chance at advancement through bands.
3. Lessons occur once a week and the MISD district-approved rate for private lessons is \$18 a half-hour. Our rate is fairly inexpensive when you consider the cost of other private lessons such as piano, dance, karate, etc...
4. A limited number of partial scholarships are available courtesy of the MISD.
 - 4.1. They are awarded on a first-come-first served basis.
 - 4.2. Students or parents must complete the private lesson scholarship application form and return to Ms. Brown for consideration for a scholarship.
 - 4.3. Students or parents must in some cases be willing to show proof of the financial need.
 - 4.4. The student must maintain regular attendance at lessons and regular practice habits in preparation for the lesson to warrant continuation of the scholarship.
 - 4.5. The scholarship may be revoked if the student does not meet the above conditions.

private lessons continued...

5. Our private teachers are interviewed by the directors and approved by the district. We do not recommend using non-approved teachers for the following reasons:
 - 5.1. We cannot control the hourly rate.
 - 5.2. We have no idea of their teaching capabilities, strengths or weaknesses.
 - 5.3. They may be wonderful teachers but may teach something pedagogically different than what we recommend teaching.
 - 5.4. Scholarships are only available for MISD approved teachers.
6. Our most advanced students often take hour lessons to be able to cover more material with their instructor.
7. If you are **going to miss a lesson for any reason, you must call the instructor to reschedule at least one day in advance.** Failing to do so will result in still paying for that missed lesson. Many of our teachers drive great distances to teach here, and it is an unprofessional discourtesy to not show up for a lesson.
8. Repeated absences from lessons may result in being dropped from that teacher's schedule.

Instrument Guidelines

1. All instruments must have a WMHS Band luggage tag on them.
2. Proper storage - all instruments must be stored in cases with *latches closed*.
3. Proper transportation - always in an instrument case except as designated for marching band.
4. Damage control - take care to avoid dents, scratches, bent keys, broken valves, etc. You will be held responsible and potentially charged for any damage beyond normal wear and tear.
5. All parents need to purchase insurance for their instruments. This includes school owned instruments.
6. We encourage all parents to consider purchasing a "step-up" model instrument for their students. Many instruments that functioned great for middle school level playing will not be able to handle the technical and tonal demands of high school level music. If you are considering this, please consult the directors and your private lesson instructor on the appropriate brands and models to pursue.

SCHOOL-OWNED Instrument Guidelines

These instruments are a privilege, not a right; therefore they carry with them certain responsibilities:

1. Upon receiving a school-owned instrument, you accept responsibility for its proper care and maintenance.
 - 1.1. Any damage must be reported immediately to Mr. Gibson.

school-owned instrument guidelines continued...

- 1.2. At the end of each season, repair will be assessed by a repair company and each individual will be billed for the repair expense.
 - 1.2.1. Know that this includes regular “wear-and-tear” conditioning repair and does not require “damage” to have a cost associated with it.
 - 1.2.2. When available, school funds may be used to supplement a portion of the marching repair due to the sometimes volatile nature of marching and playing.
2. Improper care or misuse will result in loss of instrument privileges.
3. School owned instruments are for school related use and are not issued or intended for community bands, churches or other personal uses.

LOCKERS, INSTRUMENTS AND LYRES

We provide you with an instrument locker in the band room for instruments ONLY and it is your responsibility to keep it clean.

1. Instrument slots are ONLY for instruments. Folder slots are ONLY for music.
2. Students unable to help keep the facilities clean may receive a detention or loss of privileges

WMHS BAND PARENT ASSOCIATION

As with any large organization, there are many people that help to make the group successful. Our biggest support group is the Band Parent Association (BPA). This group is made up of parents, friends, and relatives of WMHS band members. We strongly encourage parents to become part of this organization and get involved with their kids. The BPA does a variety of things to help the band throughout the year:

- “ Provides a tremendous amount of information to families and can help you better understand what it takes to have a well-rounded, successful band program
- “ Sponsors several fundraising events throughout the year.
- “ Fosters camaraderie among band parents. For example, during football games, most of the band parents and families sit together, have a good time, and get to know each other better.
- “ Helps organize volunteers to chaperone the bus trips (including the spring trip, contests, and football games) and we provide snacks for the band members during the third quarter of the football games.

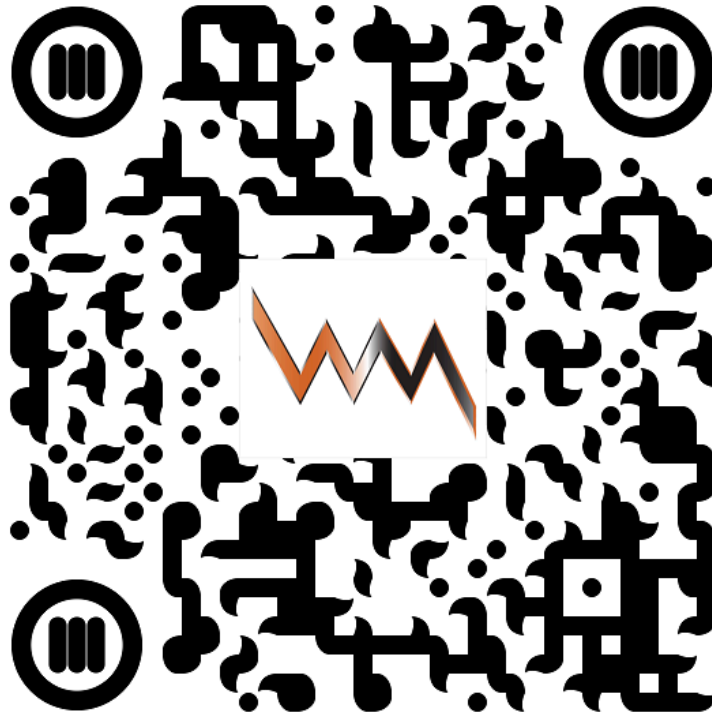
The BPA has organizational meetings monthly. If you are interested in volunteering for any of these committees, please contact our BPA president, volunteer coordinator or the specific committee chair you are interested in volunteering for. Contact information for BPA board members and committee heads will be available at our website. We are already planning and scheduling activities to service our students. Please get your family involved with the band - together we make it a great experience for our kids!!!

Best wishes and good luck in all your musical endeavors!

BURNT ORANGE BAND ABSENCE FORM

Use this form to report absences AT LEAST 24 HOURS prior to the scheduled rehearsal or event.

Scan the QR code with your phone to fill out the form.



You can also visit <https://tinyurl.com/wmhsbandabsence> to complete the form.

This form is a communication tool. Filling out this form DOES NOT constitute an excused absence. (see Attendance Policy)