

# Vandegrift High School Band

## Weekly Announcement Sheet

March 3-7, 2025

[www.vhsband.com](http://www.vhsband.com)

**Character Trait of the week: Selflessness**

### Weekly Schedule

Week of March 3, 2025 -

**Monday, March 3** - Sectionals; Jazz Orchestra meets after school 4-6:30pm; **Viper Night 5-7:30pm**

**All drumline and student leaders participate in Viper Night; attire 'Chasing Infinity' shirts**

**Tuesday, March 4** - Sectionals; **Percussion Concert 7pm - VHS Auditorium/PAC**

**Wednesday, March 5** - Sectionals; Jazz Ensemble meets after school 4-6pm

**Thursday, March 6** - Sectionals; **Chamber Ensemble Concert 6pm - VHS Auditorium/PAC**

Chamber Ensemble information under the announcement section on Page 3

NO SECTIONALS today - PSAT and Chamber day

**Friday, March 7** - Sectionals; **Mulch Madness Sales END**

NO SECTIONALS for Concert Band 2 today

Week of March 10, 2025 -

**Monday, March 10** - Sectionals; Jazz Orchestra meets 4-6:45pm; **Hawaii Pre-Departure Meeting 7pm;**

Jazz Orchestra Preview Runthrough - Band Hall 615-645; parents invited

Hawaii Pre-Departure meeting at 7pm in the Cafeteria; all travelers required to attend

**Tuesday, March 11** - Sectionals; Mr. Bennett Clinics; Jazz Ensemble meets after school 4-6pm

**Wednesday, March 12** - Sectionals; Mr. Rosenberg Clinic w/Concert Band 2

**Thursday, March 13** - Sectionals

**Friday, March 14** - **Hawaii - Departure Day**

*\*\*The remaining scheduled is posted on the VHS Band Calendar at [www.vhsband.com](http://www.vhsband.com)*

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## IMPORTANT STUDENT INFORMATION

**JOIN THE MARCHING BAND & VISION REMIND – (Class Code - @vhsbandvdc)**

Remind is the app. the directors (and LISD) will text students and families important updates and information.

**JOIN THE GOOGLE CLASSROOM FOR YOUR CONCERT ENSEMBLE**

**Wind Ensemble** (Class Code - [yrxnyzt](#) )

**Symphonic Band** (Class Code - [4kpatru](#) )

**Concert Band I** (Class Code - [vm3a7qr](#) )

**Concert Band II** (Class Code - [qsptuny](#) )

**MUSIC FOR UIL** – Students should have their music in class every day. Any student who needs to replace UIL music should speak to their director before school each day for a new copy. Some UIL music may be available on Google Classroom.

### Chamber Music Weekly Rehearsal Schedule (open to ALL WW and Brass)

Flutes	Tuesday 5-6pm	Trumpet	Wednesday 5-6pm
Bb Clarinets	Thursday 5-6pm	Trombone	Wednesday 5-6pm
Saxophones	Thursday 5-6pm	French Horn	Tuesday 5-6pm
Double Reeds	Wednesday 5-6pm	Tuba/Euph	Monday 5-6pm

## INFORMATION FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

March 10	Hawaii Pre-Departure Trip Meeting
March 14-19	Hawaii Trip
March 28-29	Visionary - Vision Dance Company Concert
March 29	Texas A&M Kingsville Jazz Competition - Jazz Orchestra (Varsity)
March 31	Pre-UIL Concert (Required for all Band students)
April 5	UT Austin Jazz Festival (Varsity & Non-Varsity Jazz perform)
April 8-9	UIL Concert and Sightreading Evaluation Concerts
April 11	Mulch Delivery Day (Parents Only)
April 11	Relay for Life at VHS - Jazz Orchestra and Jazz Ensemble perform
April 12	Mulch Delivery Day! - Required for all students
April 14	Leadership Audition Information Meeting
April 16	Leander HS Jazz Under the Stars - Jazz Orchestra and Jazz Ensemble perform
April 22	Valor Day
April 24-26	Legacies Spring Show (Vision Performances)
April 26	Solo Competition (Required for all Band students)
April 28	Leadership - All Materials Due @ 12:00pm
April 28	New-to-Program Meeting (7pm)
April 30	Vision Teaching Auditions
April 30	Solo Competition Semi-Finals
TBA	Fine Arts Signing Day
May 3	Band Banquet
May 5	Leadership Audition
May 6	Solo Competition Dress Rehearsal
May 7	Solo Competition Finals Concert (Required for all Band students)
May 12	Spring Concert (Riverbend Centre - 7pm)
May 13-16	Viper Band and Vision Camp (5:30-8:00pm)
May 15	VHS Spring Football Game - Band & Vision attend
May 16	Parent Preview Concert/Social Event (6:30-8:00pm)
May 19-20	Band Auditions
May 23	Early Release/Last Day of School!
May 23	VHS Graduation (6-8pm)

### [Wind Ensemble Spring Schedule](#) (Including Sectional Dates)

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## PERCUSSION UPCOMING EVENTS

March 27	Drumline Interest Meeting 6pm
April 3	Battery Auditions (Snare/Tenors) 530-730pm
April 10	Battery Auditions (Snare/Tenors/Bass/Cymbals) 530-730pm
April 15	Battery Auditions (All Battery & Front Ensemble) 530-730pm
April 24	Percussion Rehearsal 530-730pm
May 1	Percussion Rehearsal 530-730pm
May 8	Percussion Rehearsal 530-730pm

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Official Band Calendar:** Please visit our official calendar at [vhsband.com](http://vhsband.com). This calendar will be maintained and updated on a regular basis. [www.vhsband.com/calendar](http://www.vhsband.com/calendar)

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## 2025-26 BAND ENROLLMENT

We ask that all of our current woodwind, brass, and percussion students take a moment to fill-out this [Google Form](#), which provides us information about your plans for band in 2025-26. If you are graduating, we appreciate some feedback from you on your experience. If you are a current 9-11 grade student, we hope you'll be joining us for 2025-26. We appreciate your response to this by Friday, March 7.

We have also sent a similar survey to incoming 9th grade students. Please pass this separate Incoming [9th Grade Information Form](#) along to them if you have friends who did not receive it. We hope to see all of our incoming students at Viper Night on March 3, 2025.

[Click here](#) for slides from the Viper Night presentation.

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## NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS (2-24-25)

Currently have 2 of 6, 4 more volunteers needed

### **Vision Fitting (female only volunteers)**

Wednesday, March 12th, 4-7pm

This role involves taking detailed measurements of every vision dancer for the 2025-26 season.

Instructions will be provided, you just need to be comfortable using a measuring tape and recording measurements for next year's marching show costumes.

Currently have 2 of 10, 8 more volunteers needed

### **Visionary Set-up**

Friday, March 28th, 4-7pm (before the show)

This role involves helping with decor and photo back-drop set-up on Main street, check-in duties as guests arrive and helping serve Vision dinner

Currently have 2 of 10, 8 more volunteers needed

### **Visionary Tear-down**

Saturday, March 29th, 9pm to completion (after the show)

This role involves helping with decor and photo back-drop breakdown after the show finishes and storing all equipment away neatly for next year.

### **Chamber Concert Information - [CLICK HERE FOR ORDER OF EVENTS](#)**

The Chamber Music Concert is coming up on Thursday, March 7th at 600PM in the Vandegriff HS Auditorium (PAC). Students that are performing in the chamber concert, should be seated in the auditorium as an ensemble by 5:40PM. All students should plan on being in the audience for the full duration of the concert.

Attire - Performing students should wear all black (dress slacks, shirts, dresses, shoes, socks, etc.). Students should not plan on wearing their concert uniform (tuxes/dresses) unless they have no other option and then they should come talk to Mr. Murray so we can make sure it is ready for them that evening.

Please reach out to Mr. Murray with any questions

### **Hawaii Preparation and Information**

Please look at the [HAWAII TRIP PACKET](#) for valuable information about the trip.

We are only four weeks away from our spring trip! Details are still coming together and we will share information as it's available. All students and at least one parent must attend the pre-trip meeting on **Monday, March 10 at 7 PM**. Chaperones will meet at 6 PM. Prescription medication drop-off will be on Thursday, March 13, from 7-8:30 AM in the band hall. Please review the trip packet for detailed information about medication.



### **MULCH FUNDRAISER - ONE WEEK TO GO!**

We have currently made over **\$125,000** on our mulch fundraiser, with just one week to go.

**Fundraising Goal - \$160,000**

- Fri Mar 7 - Sales End
- Fri Apr 11 - Parent Delivery Day
- Sat Apr 12 - Student + Parent Delivery Day

**STUDENTS**, if you have not set up your Fund-Team account, go to the [signup page](#) and set it up ASAP. If you have any questions or issues, email [mulchchair@vhsband.com](mailto:mulchchair@vhsband.com)

**PARENTS**, pallet delivery day is Friday, April 11. Please consider volunteering for this day of parent-only large mulch order delivery. We will need more than twenty-five volunteers.

### **Link to Student Presentation Deck:**

[2025 Mulch - Presentation - Campaign Kickoff Meeting - 2025-02-04](#)

### **Senior Scholarship Applications are Open**

Applications are now open for the Booster Club scholarships and the Maxwell David Fink Memorial Scholarship: <https://vhsband.com/scholarships/>. Application materials are due March 31.

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## **ARCHIVED ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Viper Valor Board Celebrations - Recognizing the best in our band and Vision community**

#### **[VIEW THE VIRTUAL VALOR BOARD](#)**

Over the course of sixteen weeks during the spring, the Viper Band and Vision Dance Company will focus on eight core values of being a great team member, citizen, and human. We will celebrate students for demonstrating examples or acts of **kindness, patience, selflessness, joy, gentleness, resourcefulness, discipline, and extraordinary behavior**. We encourage our students to use [this Google form](#) to share examples of other students modeling these traits that they witness in their daily interactions and index cards to post on a board in the band hall. Each time a student demonstrates behaviors that represent these words, we have an opportunity to reinforce these values. As band and Vision members enter and exit the band hall, they can stop to read examples of "Viper Valor."

We will continue on Monday, 2-24, with "**SELFLESSNESS**." This will be the virtue we explore in classes and rehearsals for the next two weeks. Students are encouraged to recognize their peers using the form above for acts of patience. They can be simple in nature -- we want to celebrate all acts, little and big.

### **Relay for Life - Join TEAM HOWARD**

It's time to start registering for Relay for Life, an exciting event and meaningful fundraiser in support of the American Cancer Society taking place on April 11th! Students around the school from different organizations are able to unite for the fight against cancer. If you would like to be a part of this, please follow [this link](#) to join "Team Howard" representing Band and Vision. Thank you!"

### **Booster Club Meeting Summary**

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us on Tuesday night! We covered details about Mulch Madness, reviewed our current finances, talked about opportunities to join the booster club leadership next year, and information about the senior scholarships. If you have any questions, please reach out to Jess Cance at [president@vhsband.com](mailto:president@vhsband.com). [Booster Club 2/4/25 Meeting Slides](#)

### **Sectional Rehearsals**

Weekly sectional rehearsals for all woodwind and brass are underway. These weekly rehearsals are mandatory for all members of the section scheduled. Conflicts should be communicated well in advance to directors.

### **Make Music Cloud Smart Music Assignments for Concert Band I and Concert Band II**

Mr. Murray will be posting Smart Music/Make Music Cloud assignments for students in Concert Band I and II. These short musical practice assignments help our woodwind and brass students prepare for UIL Concert and Sight Reading Evaluation in April. Participation in these assignments will be a factor in auditioning for the 2025 Viper Band.

### **Vision Dance Company "Visionary" and "Vanguard" Tech Rehearsals**

We have posted the tech rehearsal schedule for our upcoming Visionary and Vanguard Dance Concerts. All Vision members should see the email from Ms. Hopkins for the detailed schedule of after school rehearsals. We are so excited for our upcoming performances.

### **An Invitation to RETURN TO BAND for students who dropped**

If you have a friend in the Vandegrift Community who dropped out of band and would like to return, please come see Mr. Lipman and let's get them enrolled ASAP. We are working to grow our band and Vision program through this spring and into 2025-26.

### **Solo and Ensemble vs. Solo Concerto Contest information vs. Chamber Music**

We have three different events at VHS for students to work solos or ensemble music:

**UIL Solo and Ensemble** – A limited number of VHS students may attend this event to qualify for the UIL State Solo and Ensemble contest. Students begin preparing a solo from the Prescribed Music List (PML) in November/December and have an accompanist. They will compete in March to earn the opportunity to advance to the UIL State Solo Contest, which is held annually in May each year in Austin. Students should speak to one of the band directors.

**VHS Concerto Contest (Solo Contest)** – Held at VHS each spring in April and May, this is our campus solo and ensemble contest, where students prepare solos to compete and perform on campus. This process is open to all students, and participation is highly encouraged. We have NOT done sign-up for this yet. Students should work with their lesson teachers to select a solo. If a student needs help, they can ask any band director.

**Chamber Music** – Held at VHS. Open to all students. Chamber music groups are groups of students who all play the same instruments. Since our sections don't get to meet all together after marching season ends, our chamber groups allow our students a weekly opportunity to play together under the direction of one of our studio teachers. These are low stress, fun rehearsals that are more for bonding and camaraderie. Younger players can learn from our older players. We will prepare music together to perform at the March 6th concert. Mr. Murray coordinates chamber music, and students can still participate. Percussion students perform in ensembles that they work in classes daily for their March 4th concert.

### **TMEA All-State Results**

[Click here](#) to view results from our TMEA All-State and All-Region contests. Vandegrift had 10 All-State Students in 2025. Also, 60 students advanced to the region band, the highest total in the region. We also had 26 students advance to TMEA Area. This is so impressive and we are so proud of all of our band members who participated in the region process.

### **PARENTS: Join the Booster facebook page!**

A great way for parents to keep connected with the program throughout the year is the Vandegrift Band & Vision Booster Club facebook page.

### **STUDENTS & PARENTS: Photography - See wonderful photos of your band and Vision members**

Our photography team is behind the scenes, capturing the joy and hard work of our students! Pictures of rehearsals, events (e.g., back to school party at Main Event), and soon football games and competitions, are available at <https://vhsband.smugmug.com/> and the password is 24ChasingVHS.

Please remember that the videos shared on Smug Mug cannot be shared or posted on other websites, like YouTube. We have permission to video the performances for educational purposes, but any sharing beyond the Smug Mug posting is considered copyright infringement.

#### **Required Forms - All 2024-2025 Members**

- [New-to-Program Meeting Slides](#)
  - [Forms](#) (Due by Registration - 7/27/24)
    - Physical - [Physical Form](#)
    - Dietary Needs - [Dietary Needs Form](#)
    - Uniform/Attire Sizing (Winds/Percussion Only) - [Uniform Fitting Form](#)
    - Mentor/Mentee Signup - [Mentor Signup Form](#)
    - Rank One Forms - [RankOne Signup Link](#)
    - Directory - [Directory Form](#)
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## **STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Staff Responsibilities** – Please see below about which staff member to contact to get the quickest possible response to the listed subject matters.

- **Jarrett Lipman** – Calendar, Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Concert Band 2, Program Administration
  - [jarrett.lipman@leanderisd.org](mailto:jarrett.lipman@leanderisd.org)
- **Kyle Norris** – Private Lessons, Symphonic Band, Wind Music Coordinator
  - [kyle.norris@leanderisd.org](mailto:kyle.norris@leanderisd.org)
- **Tristan Murray** – Lockers, SmartMusic, Region Band, Concert Band 1, School Owned Inventory
  - [tristan.murray@leanderisd.org](mailto:tristan.murray@leanderisd.org)
- **Joe Hobbs** – All things Percussion, Transportation
  - [joe.hobbs@leanderisd.org](mailto:joe.hobbs@leanderisd.org)
- **Katie Hopkins** – All things Vision Dance Company
  - [katie.hopkins@leanderisd.org](mailto:katie.hopkins@leanderisd.org)

*“**Great** acts are made up of **small** deeds.” -Lao Tzu*