## JARRELL HIGH SCHOOL BAND and COLOR GUARD HANDBOOK 2025-2026

SCOTT LANHAM DIRECTOR OF BANDS

TROY KAUFMAN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BANDS

SAMUEL ZATKOW ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BANDS

NICOLAS WHITE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BANDS

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## Introduction

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Music education through instrumental music provides students the opportunity to participate in a subject that affects all sides of a person's personality including the intellect, the physical, the emotional, the psychological, the spiritual, and the social, as well as teaches the appreciation of music as an art form. It engages students in a group activity that allows them to utilize their free time constructively, creates a sense of cultural and aesthetic awareness and instills proper values among which are responsibility, seriousness of purpose, devotion to duty, spirit of cooperation and sensitivity to beauty. It develops proper work habits through the academic self-discipline of the curriculum and a daily practice routine, as well as the ability of self-expression and intelligent listening skills fostering greater communication. The purpose of this handbook is to provide each member of the Jarrell High School Cougar Band a comprehensive overview of the rules, regulations, guidelines and procedures that will help students gain the most from their music education experience.

Our mission, as a band, is to join together as a strong and diverse family, effectively utilizing the opportunities provided through music education to build and maintain a tradition of excellence and enjoyment through effective leadership, dedication and quality musical performances.

## Part I: Communication with the Directors

An open line of communication between the directors and both parents and students is a necessary component for any successful band program. As a staff, we understand your time is very valuable and that you may have questions or concerns that need immediate attention. We do ask that you extend us the courtesy of scheduling a time to visit either by phone or through e-mail. If you are unable to reach us directly and need to leave a message, please provide your contact information and our goal will be to respond to every correspondence in a timely manner.

#### **Contact Information**

	N T 1		M IZ C
•	Mr. Lanham	•	Mr. Kaufman
О	Phone: (512) 746-2199	О	Phone: (512) 746-4180
О	E-mail: scott.lanham@jarrellisd.org	О	E-mail: troy.kaufman@jarrellisd.org
О	Fax: (512) 746-2188		
•	Mr. Zatkow	•	Mr. White
О	Phone: (512) 746-4180	О	Phone: (512) 746-2199
О	E-mail: samuel.zatkow@jarrellisd.org	О	E-mail: nicolas.white@jarrellisd.org

## Part II: Performance Ensembles

The Jarrell High School Band Program is comprised of a number of different performance ensembles designed to provide students with a well-rounded music education experience. The directors reserve the right to reassign students within each ensemble according to student standing and compliance to course requirements.

#### **Concert Ensembles**

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• The Jarrell High School Band currently has two concert ensembles. The Wind Ensemble (UIL Varsity ensemble) and the Concert Band (UIL Non Varsity ensemble). Placement is mainly audition based. Preparation, attendance records, academic records, and discipline records will also be factors towards placement. Rehearsals take place both during class time, as well as a few after school or before school rehearsals. Participation is in the Marching Band and enrollment in a Band course first and second semesters are required unless otherwise approved by the director of bands. The bands will prepare several concerts throughout the concert season and compete at UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest. Students are expected to prepare an assigned solo for class performance and/or scheduled solo concert. Wind Ensemble members will be expected to perform at the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest. In addition, all members of the bands have the opportunity to compete at UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest, UIL State Solo and Ensemble Contest, possible other off campus performances, as well as audition for All-Region Band. Private lessons are highly encouraged.

### Marching Band and Color Guard

During the fall semester, ALL members will participate in the Jarrell High School Marching Band. Participation in the Concert Band and enrollment in the Band course first and second semesters are required unless approved by the director of bands. A physical education waiver is awarded to members of the marching band thus the UIL requirement of student physicals is required. Preparation takes place during class time, as well as after-school and a few before-school rehearsals. Performance opportunities include all Jarrell High School football games, UIL Marching Contests, as well as other competitions and contests in the area and beyond. Periodic parades, particularly the homecoming parade is a required expectation. Students are expected to participate in this event and are only excused from this event with prior consent from Mr. Lanham. Students in other participating organizations can march the parade in those organizations required dress and join those organizations at the pep rally after the parade.

#### Instrumental Ensemble Course

• Jarrell High School Instrumental Ensemble Course provides an opportunity for students to obtain small group instruction on their primary instrument, learn a secondary instrument, or begin learning an instrument for the first time with the expectation of participating in the Band course the following school year. Students with prior instrument experience are expected to be enrolled in the Band course first and second semester unless otherwise approved by the director of bands. Students with prior band experience are expected to audition for All Region band and participate in UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest on their primary instrument. These students may choose to also participate in these events on their secondary instrument with director approval. A Jazz Ensemble may be formed within this course if instrumentation/enrollment allows. Enrollment in this course is

audition/interview with the director of bands. All preparation takes place through before-school or after-school rehearsals, the class period and individual practice.

### **Color Guard**

• The Jarrell Color Guard is a visual ensemble within the Marching Band involving an array of equipment, movement and skill designed to enhance the visual experience of the marching band. Membership is audition based and preparation takes place during class time, as well as after or before school rehearsals. Performance opportunities include all football games, marching band contests, winter guard as well as other events. Members are expected to enroll in the Color Guard course first and second semester and participate in the Winter Guard show and contest season second semester unless otherwise approved by the director of bands. There may be the formation of a Junior Varsity Winter Guard if needed due to the number of students, skill levels or event conflicts. Students will audition for Winter Guard placements. Band members may also participate in color guard, but only if they have enough elective slots and can enroll in the color guard class period and a band class simultaneously. These members must perform on their instrument during marching and concert band season and can only perform as a color guard member of winter guard type performances.

## Part III: Universal Expectations

The following universal expectations will be in place throughout the year while participating in any activity associated with the Jarrell High School Band Program.

### **Goals and Objectives**

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#### • Citizenship through Group Endeavors

o Students will be expected to demonstrate good citizenship through group endeavors with hopes of developing diligence, responsibility, the ability to cooperate with others, the ability to work as a team member and to gain a mutual respect for every member involved in the Jarrell High School Band.

## • Mental Discipline

o Students will be expected to develop a high-level of self and group mental discipline in order to maintain efficient rehearsals, memorize music and develop other techniques of preparation as they relate to group and individual performances.

## • Proper Instrumental Care and Techniques

o Students will be expected to demonstrate proper instrumental care, posture, and breathing techniques, as well as characteristic instrumental tone, embouchure, stick grip, hand position, and technical proficiency (fingering, articulation, rudiments, scales, etc.)

### • Critical Listening

o Students will be expected to develop the ability to make musical judgments through critical listening. The students will recognize quality of sound, pitch, style, tempo, rhythm, blend, balance, phrasing, dynamics, and articulation.

### • Music Theory

o Students will be expected to know and utilize note values, rests, key signatures, scales, musical terms, signs and symbols, as well as recognize and tune intervals and harmony through the development of ear-training and listening skills.

#### Cultural Growth

o Students will be provided opportunities to attain knowledge of music history through performance of various types of instrumental literature.

#### • Creative Self-expression

o Each student will be provided the opportunity to express themselves in every performance experience.

#### Physical Conditioning

o Students will be expected to develop physical strength, stamina, endurance and coordination.

#### Conduct

- Band members will observe all policies set forth by the Jarrell Independent School District, in addition to the following:
- o Students will follow director instruction.
- o Students will maintain a high level of good behavior.
- o Students will respect the property of others.
- o Students will not deface or mark on music stands, walls, etc.
- o Students will keep their hands, feet and other objects to themselves.
- o Food, drinks, candy or gum will not be allowed in the band hall without permission from a director.
- o Students will be expected to conduct themselves properly at all times. Display of affection, profanity, temper, flagrant violation of rules, etc., will not be tolerated. Individual behavior is a reflection of the group.
- Any behavior that is not representative of good citizenship, as perceived by the directors, may result in the student's dismissal from the activity at hand, as well as the band program. This applies to the actions of students in both public and private events.
- o Students will be expected to bring all equipment including music, pencil, instrument, tuner and all other supplies to rehearsals daily.
- o Students will be expected to be in their assigned rehearsal area, warming up and ready to work, at least five (5) minutes prior to the set rehearsal time.
- o School policy regarding cell phones applies during all band rehearsals/performances. All rehearsals are expected to be extremely quiet so that our time will be utilized wisely.
- o When allowed in the band hall, either before or after school, students will not disturb any rehearsal in progress.
- O Students will not play on equipment they do not own without permission from a director.
- o Students will not touch, handle, borrow or use anyone else's instrument, uniform or personal belongings.
- o Students will keep their equipment in the designated storage area when not in use and are responsible for keeping said area clean and neat in appearance.
- O Students will utilize their assigned storage slot/room for instrument cases during rehearsals. Cases should not be brought into rehearsals unless requested by a director.
- O Students will be expected to take their instrument, personal or school issued, home daily. JISD is not responsible for instruments left at school overnight.

the Student Code of Conduct. These rules may be listed in the student and campus handbooks or posted in classrooms, or published in extracurricular handbooks, state or national organization bylaws, and/or constitutions, and may or may not constitute violations of the Student Code of Conduct. Additional rules or requirements, not part of the Student Code of Conduct, are adopted and approved by the sponsor, campus principal, and/or district administrator.

Sponsors and coaches of extracurricular activities may develop and enforce standards of conduct that are higher than the District's general standards and may condition membership or the student's participation in the activity on adherence to those standards. Extracurricular standards of behavior may take into consideration conduct that occurs at any time, on or off school property. However, no provision of an extracurricular behavioral standard shall have the effect of discriminating on the basis of gender, race, disability, religion, or ethnicity.

<sup>\*</sup>Addendum - The District may impose campus, classroom, or club/organization rules in addition to those found in

Organizational standards of repetitive behavior of an extracurricular activity are independent of the Student Code of Conduct. Violations of these standards of behavior that are also violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in separate, independent disciplinary actions. A student may be removed from participation in extracurricular activities or may be excluded from school honors or activities for violation of organizational standards of behavior of an extracurricular activity or for violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

All students are expected to maintain the highest level of discipline and decorum at all school functions. Failure to comply with administrative directives promoting order and respect may result in the student being removed from participation in school activities, including, but not limited to, commencement exercises.

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#### Fees

 Any and all fees collected are non-refundable due to the timelines needed to order items and such.

# • In addition to the State of Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), the Jarrell High School Band Program will strive to:

- o Provide any interested and qualified student with opportunities for musical knowledge, musical fellowship and fun through participation in band.
- o Provide for the mental, physical, social and emotional development of students.
- o Instill commitment, pride and discipline in each student.
- o Provide each student with solo and group endeavors to achieve personal goals and satisfaction.
- O Provide basic psychological needs such as recognition, appreciation, belonging, self-respect and a feeling of achievement.

## **Travel Guidelines**

- Please understand that all performances and concerts start and conclude at the band hall. As a member of the band, you are a representative of Jarrell High School and while traveling, should always remain on your best behavior. Your conduct will be such that it never casts a poor reflection on the school, the band, your home, yourself or the community.
- Due to our extensive amount of travel, the following student expectations and conduct while on a bus, school or commercial, is mandatory.
- o Students will travel to and from events on the bus. Any student wishing to arrive or leave with his/her parent must notify a director in writing prior to the event. A decision will be rendered based on the circumstances provided.
- O Students will have all necessary forms completed and returned to travel on any trip with the band.
- o Students will show proper respect to all adults and chaperones associated with the band program at all times. All of our adult volunteers and chaperones sacrifice their time for your safety and provide help in numerous ways. They are a great asset to the band program and deserve your respect.
- o While on the bus, students will:
- Remain seated at all times.
- Sit properly in a forward position.
- Sit in assigned seat (same gender seating only).
- Keep the bus clear of food, drinks, and debris.

- Keep all body parts inside the bus.
- Use only approved types of players/headsets.
- Remain silent when addressed by the person in charge on the bus.
- Refrain from loud, boisterous talking, screaming, whistling, etc.
- Refrain from any public displays of affection.

### **Fundraising**

Each student will be expected to actively participate in (2) band booster fundraiser activities throughout the year in order to ensure that the band program has sufficient funds to maintain the financial integrity of the band program.

#### Social Media

JISD Band students are required to abide by the JISD Social Media Use Policy (see last page of handbook). The violation may result in disciplinary action by the athletics department and the campus.

- 1st Offense Warning and parent meeting with the head director. Consequences will be determined based on the severity of the infraction and may include suspension or dismissal from the band and or activity(s).
- 2nd Offense Parent meeting with the head director and a campus administrator. Consequences will be determined based on the severity of the infraction and may include suspension or dismissal from the band and or activity(s).

## Part IV: General Information

The following general information is essential for each student in order to have an effective and productive music education experience.

## **Required Daily Supplies**

- All issued music
- Pencil

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- Instrument
- Tuner
- Metronome (for home use)
- All marching related equipment (during marching season)
- o Drill coordinates
- o Lyre/flip folder
- o All issued music
- o Other marching equipment as needed
- All of the following supplies relative to their instrument:

Flutes		Clarin	nets
O	Tuning rod	О	Three playable Vandoren V-12 reeds
O	Cleaning rod	О	Reed guard
O	Cleaning cloth	О	Ligature
O	Key oil	О	Mouthpiece (Vandoren 5 RV Lyre)
O	Screwdriver set	О	Mouthpiece cap
O	Approved instrument	О	Key oil (Case storage)
		О	Bore Oil (Home Storage)
		О	Cleaning swab
		О	Approved instrument
Saxes/Low Reeds		Trum	pets
О	Three playable Vandoren	О	Valve oil
reeds	1 ,	О	Polishing cloth
O	Reed guard	О	Mouthpiece (Bach 5c or 3c)
O	Ligature		,
O	Mouthpiece (Selmer C star)	О	Approved Instrument
О	Pad and neck saver		••
O	Approved instrument		
Horn		Trom	bone
O	Rotary oil (Concert horn)	О	Slide-o-Mix
O	Valve oil (Marching horn)	О	Polishing Cloth
O	Polishing cloth	О	Mouthpiece (6 ½ AL or 51D)
О	Mouthpiece (Holton Farkas)		,
О	Approved Instrument	О	Approved instrument
Danie	/E	<b>T</b> 1	
Baritone/Euphonium		Tuba	7.0
О	Valve oil	О	Rotary oil (Concert tuba)
О	Polishing Cloth	О	Valve oil (Sousaphone)

o 51D) o	Mouthpiece (6 ½ AL or Approved Instrument	0 0 0	Polishing cloth Mouthpiece (Conn Helleberg) Approved Instrument
Percussion		Color Guard	
О	Snare Sticks	О	Pole
О	Xylophone Mallets	О	Flag
О	Vibes/Marimba mallets	О	Rifle (if applicable)
О	Timpani Mallets	О	Saber (if applicable)
О	Stick bag	О	Electrical Tape
	_	О	Gloves

#### **School Owned/Issued Instruments**

- The Jarrell Independent School District will provide a limited number of instruments for student use. These instruments, generally purchased by the school district for student use because of their extremely high value, include the bassoon, oboe, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, bass clarinet, horn, euphonium, tuba and general percussion equipment.
- Due to their extremely high value, all school owned equipment must be handled with optimum care. Students failing to care for their school issued instrument will lose the privilege to use such instruments.
- The following is a list of general procedures for school owned instruments:
- o When possible, students will be issued one instrument for home use and one for school use. Order of distribution will be based on chair order.
- o JISD does not provide insurance for individually or school owned equipment; therefore, it is highly recommended of all students utilizing school owned instruments to provide insurance coverage for the said instrument. (Please understand that students will be held responsible for school owned instruments issued to them. This responsibility will include fire, theft, accidental damage, abuse and general maintenance not incurred through normal use.)
- o Students and parents must sign an instrument check-out form before the instrument can be used by the student.
- o Students will be expected to maintain their issued instruments accordingly.
- o Students will be financially responsible for all equipment and/or materials that are checked out to him or her.
- o Students will keep all equipment and materials in their proper storage location when not in use.
- School owned instruments are not to be treated as "free" instruments. Basic supplies will still be purchased and repairs will still be made just like personally owned instruments.

#### **Personally Owned Instruments**

- The band program, school or JISD is not responsible for personally owned instruments. Any damage that might incur during rehearsals or any other time is the responsibility of the owner; therefore, it is highly recommended that students provide insurance coverage for their instrument.
- Please remember that the instrument storage area is not secure. Again, we stress the importance of every instrument going home daily as JISD is not responsible for instruments left at school overnight.

#### **Private Lessons**

• It is the goal of the Jarrell High School Band Program to provide the very best learning experience for each student. One of these learning experiences is the opportunity for interested students to study privately with a professional instrumentalist and receive additional individual help in their musical training. This individual attention generally improves the performance level of the individual student and has a positive effect on the ensemble in which the student participates. Students who engage in private lessons through the band program may receive grades upon progress and participation within the lesson program.

#### **Uniform Guidelines**

• Students will adhere to the following uniform guidelines applying to both marching and concert season without variation.

#### • Issue, Return and Care

- O Uniforms will be issued for marching season during summer band camp and concert season in the fall prior to our Holiday Concert.
- o Uniforms will be stored at school in the band hall uniform room.
- o Students will be issued a uniform storage number. This number should be memorized or recorded in a readily accessible location. Students will use this number when picking up their uniform.
- o Students will pick up their uniform from the uniform racks at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to inspection during marching season or report time during concert season.
- o Students will follow the posted pick-up/return guidelines. Students who fail to follow these guidelines will receive director assigned discipline.
- o When returning the uniform, students will always hang the coat with the collar hooked and hang the pants by the crease in order to keep the uniforms in the best possible condition.
- o Students will be held financially responsible for the uniform and its components if any uniform part is lost or damaged beyond repair.

#### • Donning the Uniform

- o Students will always wear and treat their uniform with pride. The uniform should be worn as a complete unit at all times when in public unless otherwise instructed by a director.
- O During marching season, students will wear their band t-shirt under their uniform. The band shirt will be part of pre-performance inspection.
- o Students will wear the Dinkel Black marching shoes and black socks with the marching uniform.
- o Students will refrain from wearing jewelry, bright-colored hair ribbons or nail polish, etc., while in uniform. These items hinder the uniform appearance of the band.
- o Students with long hair, both male and female, will need to use a hair clip, have it braided or use some other method so that the hair remains off of the uniform at all times.
- o Students will refrain from wearing unnatural hair-color treatment while in uniform.
- o Male students will be clean shaven while in uniform.
- The consumption of food or drinks while in uniform will not be tolerated without permission from a director.
- O Cell phones will not be allowed while in uniform.

## **GROOMING**

Students in the Jarrell Band are to be well groomed and neatly dressed while representing our community, school and band program at all functions. Hair in the front, male and female, should not fall below the eyebrows (eye contact is our only means of communication during a performance). Male student's hair on the sides and back should not fall below the shoulders. Hair color needs to remain a "natural" hair color (ie. Shades of red, brown, blonde, or black). No fire engine red, blue, pink, or other non-natural hair colors. Men are not to wear earrings while wearing the Jarrell Band uniforms. Female students should wear only one pair of small "stud" earrings in the ear lobe. These must be almost unnoticeable. No tongue studs are allowed while in uniform or while playing instrument. Other jewelry should be small and unobtrusive while wearing the uniform. Students whose hair falls below their shoulders will wear their hair up and French braided in their hat for marching band performances and when in the band shorts/pants and shirts, boys and girls with longer than shoulder length hair will wear their hair back in a "ponytail". When not in uniform at any band event, band students will adhere to the Jarrell ISD dress code policy.

## Part V: Marching Season

The Jarrell Cougar Marching Band is one of the most visible organizations of the instrumental music program. All members of our organization are expected to participate. Students who participate in school sponsored varsity level activities, such as cheerleading, volleyball or football, may be excused from participation at the discretion of the band director. Students may also be excused for medical complications or physical disabilities. Please note different solutions will be presented for varying situations. All exemptions will be at the discretion of the directors.

#### Rehearsal Schedule

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- A calendar will be handed out outlining our rehearsal schedule. The calendar should be considered a living document. Rehearsals schedule may change depending on the day of the football game, progress of the band, weather, etc. The staff will do everything possible to make sure that notification via email or updated calendar of any changes is put out as soon as possible.
- The marching rehearsal schedule is:

•	Monday	3:45-5:45 pm
•	Tuesday	3:45-5:45 pm
•	Wednesday	3:45-5:45 pm
•	Thursday	3:45-5:45 pm

• (Friday 6:30- 8:00 am) (Only if no Thursday rehearsal.)

#### **Attendance Guidelines**

• Due to the participatory nature of band, attendance is required for all rehearsals and performances. The quality of the Jarrell High School Band Program is directly proportional to consistent attendance. Absences hurt the individual student and the overall team goal. The following guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies for the marching band:

#### Tardiness

- o Attendance will be taken promptly at the beginning of rehearsal in attendance block.
- O Students not in the attendance block at the appropriate time will be marked tardy.
- Tutorials, appointments etc. will not be an excuse for tardiness unless prior arrangements are made and approved. Students must have their parents contact the director to request an excused absence at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the rehearsal. Tardiness will be excused at the discretion of the directors.
- o Students who have more than one unexcused tardy shall be subject to one of the following consequences issued at the discretion of the directors:
- Loss of spot as a primary marcher
- Loss of marching privilege (for one game) at a football game.
- Requirement to stay after rehearsal or report early to the next rehearsal to make up lost time.
- Lowered participation grade.
- Requirement to make up 15 minutes of fundamental marching with a drum major to make up for lost time.

#### Absences

o A tardy will be converted to an absence fifteen (15) minutes after the start of rehearsal.

# O If a student is present at school during the day, they are expected to attend all rehearsals.

- With advance notice, absences may be excused at the discretion of the band directors. Tutorials, appointments, notes from parents etc. will not be an excuse for absence. Personal illness requiring medical attention, death in the family or other serious problems will be considered as an excused absence. Students who are continually ill will need to provide a doctor's note releasing them from participation in order to insure the well being of the student and to reduce director concerns. If in doubt, an absence should be checked with a director.
- o Students who have an unexcused absence will be subject to one of the following consequences:
- Loss of spot as a primary marcher.
- Lowered participation grade.
- Loss of marching privilege for one game.
- Loss of attendance privilege at one game.
- Removal from the marching band and loss of physical education credit.

#### **Field Positions**

#### • Primary Marchers

- o Students who earn a position in the competitive field production will carry the designation of primary marcher. A primary marcher is a student who will:
- Successfully complete the memorization requirement for music by the appropriate time.
- Demonstrate high quality marching skills.
- Be punctual for all report times, rehearsals and performances.
- Be present at all rehearsals and performances.
- Maintain academic eligibility.
- Demonstrate a determined work ethic and good attitude.

#### Secondary Marchers

o Secondary marchers are students who will be given the opportunity to substitute with certain primary marchers. They will need to meet the same requirements of primary marchers and will be given various opportunities to march in both rehearsals and performances. A minimum number of secondary marchers is a must. The position of secondary marcher will also be utilized for those students who display difficulty in meeting the criteria of a primary marcher.

#### **Student Leadership Positions**

#### • Drum Major(s)

O Drum Major(s) will be selected through an audition process and be used in the instruction of marching fundamentals, as well as the setting of drill. They will serve as field commander and conductor of the marching ensemble, complete weekly inspections, maintain field discipline, provide instruction, serve as a positive role model and are considered to be an extension of the directors. Drum Major(s) will demonstrate the highest level of musical, marching, leadership, organizational and communication skills. In the event

an underclassman is selected as drum major, he/she must reenter the selection process the next school year.

#### Section Leaders

o Section Leaders will be selected through an audition process and be used in the instruction of marching fundamentals, as well as the setting of drill. They will complete weekly inspections, maintain field discipline, provide instruction, serve as a positive role model and assist the band directors as needed. Section Leaders will demonstrate a high level of musical, marching, leadership, organizational and communication skills. They will be responsible for music memorization play-offs and efficient operations of their sections.

#### • Band Librarians

o The Band Librarians will be selected through an audition process and will be responsible for copying/filing music and keeping up with the cleanliness of the music library. They will demonstrate a high level of leadership, as well as organizational and communication skills.

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### Loading/Stage Crew Captain

The Loading/Stage Crew Captain will be selected through an audition process and will be responsible for overseeing the loading/unloading of equipment for trips, the setting up of necessary equipment for outdoor rehearsals and stage set-up for concerts. They will demonstrate a high level of leadership, as well as organizational and communication skills.

#### • Uniform Captain

o The Uniform Captain will be selected through an audition process and will be responsible for overseeing the issuing/returning of uniforms and keeping up with the cleanliness of the uniform room. They will demonstrate a high level of leadership, as well as organizational and communication skills.

#### Performance Day Procedures

- All football games, pep rallies and contests are viewed as major performances. Every aspect of each event, from arrival to departure, is considered part of the performance. Information for each performance will be disseminated to students via handouts. *The use or possession of cell phones is prohibited during all performances.*
- Please note that all performances are an extension of the classroom; therefore, students will be graded accordingly.
- Students will be expected to adhere to the following performance day procedures:
- o Students will arrive at the set report time. This will be the designated time at which all members should be at the high school or set location. Students should have all attire and necessary items for the designated performance prior to the report time.
- o Ten (10) minutes after arrival, students will be expected to be ready for a final rehearsal before departure.
- O Upon completion of the rehearsal, students will have time to eat meals purchased the week of performance. If the meals were not purchased, students will need to provide food on their own (if applicable).
- O Students will meet for inspection. At this time, students must meet the following requirements:
- Students will be expected to display all music not related to the field production.
- Students will be expected to display lyre and flip folder.

- Students will be expected to display water bottle.
- Students will be expected to adhere to all uniform guidelines (See "Donning the Uniform," page 12)
- Students who do not pass inspection will not be allowed to perform.
- o Immediately following inspection, students will be dismissed for load time. This will be the designated time at which all members should be on the appropriate bus with all equipment loaded. (All equipment will be checked by the section leaders)
- O Upon arrival at the performance area, students will don all uniform components and prepare equipment for unloading.
- o Students will unload buses when instructed to do so by a director or chaperone.
- o At the conclusion of all performances, students will load busses quickly and efficiently.
- o Upon return to the band hall, students will insure that all personal items, uniform and instruments are placed in the proper storage areas. There will then be a brief meeting once everything is accounted for.
- The following procedures are football game specific:
- o After unloading at the performance area, students will report to field-entrance formation for final inspection.
- o Students will report to assigned seating area.
- o Students will remain in the band seating section at all times during the game.
- o Students will be expected to refrain from moving about freely during the game.
- o Water will be provided by the band boosters. Students will refrain from accepting food or drinks from parents, relatives, or friends.
- o Students needing a restroom break will be expected to ask permission and accompanied by a chaperone. Restroom breaks will not be granted in the second quarter.
- O Students will be expected to listen for and watch the directors and drum majors during the game at all time in order to be prepared to perform.
- o Students will be expected to refrain from playing their instruments on an individual basis.
- o Before halftime, the band will be dismissed from the stands for the half-time performance. At this time, the band must move quickly, quietly and efficiently to the appropriate area. Students will need to be focused on the directors and drum majors for instructions.
- O At the conclusion of the half-time performance, students will return to the stands in order to complete the remainder of the games stand performance.
- The following procedures are pep-rally specific:
- o After being dismissed from class, students will immediately report to the band hall.
- O Students will gather all appropriate materials, tuck in their band shirt and report to pep rally formation.
- Once in formation, we will march from the band hall to the gymnasium. Any students arriving after we begin marching will be sent back to their class and unable to participate.
- o While the directors want students to have a good time, we expect them to behave professionally in order to maximize our performance.

## Part VI: Concert Season

Once marching season concludes, the main focus of the Jarrell High School Band Program will be on our concert ensembles. The ensembles are designed to give students a learning experience in music that is commensurate with their experience, musical proficiency and level of commitment.

#### Rehearsal Schedule

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- Section rehearsals may be scheduled as before or after school as needed to develop fundamentals of instrument technique, as well as prepare for All-Region and Solo & Ensemble. This will be at the director's discretion.
- Students will be expected to be punctual and prepared for each section rehearsal.

#### **Attendance Guidelines**

• Due to the participatory nature of band, attendance is required for all rehearsals and performances. The quality of the Jarrell High School Band Program is directly proportional to consistent attendance. Absences hurt the individual student and the overall team goal. The following guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies during concert season:

#### Tardiness

- o Attendance will be taken promptly at the beginning of rehearsals.
- o Students not seated at the appropriate time will be marked tardy.
- o Tutorials, appointments etc. will not be an excuse for tardiness unless prior arrangements are made and approved. Students will be expected to request an excused absence in writing at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the rehearsal. Tardiness will be excused at the discretion of the directors.
- O Students who have more than one unexcused tardy will be expected make up missed time with a director at a later date.

#### Absences

- o A tardy will be converted to an absence fifteen (15) minutes after the start of rehearsal.
- O If a student is present at school during the day, they are expected to attend all after-school or before school rehearsals.
- With advance notice, absences may be excused at the discretion of the band directors. Tutorials, appointments, notes from parents etc. will not be an excuse for absence. Personal illness requiring medical attention, death in the family, or other serious problems will be considered as an excused absence. Students who are continually ill will need to provide a doctors note releasing them from participation in order to insure the well being of the student and to reduce director concerns. If in doubt, an absence should be checked with a director.
- O Students who have an unexcused absence will be expected to make up missed time with a director at a later date.
- o Along with ability and attitude, the directors reserve the right to reassign students based on attendance.

#### **Performance Expectations**

- All concerts and contests are viewed as major performances. Every aspect of each event, from arrival to departure, is considered part of the performance. Our performances include, but are not limited to, the Holiday Concert, the Mid-Winter Concert, Pre-UIL, UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest and the Spring Concerts. Information for each performance will be disseminated to students via handouts. *The use or possession of cell phones is prohibited during all performances.*
- Please note that all performances are an extension of the classroom; therefore, students will be graded accordingly.
- Students will be expected to adhere to the following performance expectations:
- o Students will be required to attend the entirety of all concerts in support of their fellow band members.
- O Students will arrive at the set report time. This will be the designated time at which all members should be at the high school or set location. Students should have all attire and necessary items for the designated performance prior to the report time.
- o Students will be expected to adhere to all uniform guidelines (See "Donning the Uniform," page 12)
- o Students will be responsible for and expected to make up all missed work in the event a performance causes a student to miss another class.
- o A concert concludes when the last group performs, the stage is cleared and the directors have given permission for students to be dismissed.
- During performances, please adhere to the following concert etiquette guidelines:
- o Audience members will be expected to remain seated and quiet when the performance is in progress. If it is necessary to arrive late or leave before the concert is over, please do so between musical selections.
- The appropriate way to show appreciation for the performance is through applause. Whistling, yelling or screaming is not appropriate at any time before, during or after a concert.
- o Parents will be expected to keep small children seated with them and not allow them to move around during the concert. If very young children become restless and disrupt others' ability to listen, we ask that you please take them from the performance area until they are quiet.
- o Please keep a careful eye on the conductor when the music stops to decide whether or not to applaud. Some musical works have extended endings, several parts or multiple movements and the audience will be expected to applaud only after all movements have been performed.
- o Please be sure that all cellular phones, pagers and any other electronic devices are turned off as they can disrupt a performance.

#### All-Region Band

• The All-Region Band audition is designed to improve the individual playing level of the students. Students will prepare three (3) assigned etudes as wind player, four (4) assigned etudes as a percussionist, to perform for a blind judging panel and be ranked competitively against other students from Jarrell High School and the other high schools in UIL Region 8. Preparations will begin during summer.

- All students are required to learn the etudes and perform them for the directors and class. Participating in the real audition is not required for symphonic or concert band.
- Students will be responsible for entry fees.
- Students will be required to play-off their music for a Jarrell ISD director in order to attend the audition.
- Once entering the contest, students will be required to attend the audition performance. Failure to do so will result in consequences issued at the discretion of the directors.
- The audition usually takes place the first weekend in December.
- Students placing in the top spots in the All-Region Band audition may be certified to audition at the All-Area audition for advancement to the All-State Band. Transportation will be provided for all events, each of which is part of the lettering process.
- Students gaining All-Region and All-State honors will be expected to participate in the subsequent clinics and concerts. Failure to do so will result in consequences issued at the discretion of the directors.
- Detailed information will be distributed closer to the event.

### Solo & Ensemble Contest

- Solo & Ensemble Contest is designed to improve the individual playing and small group performance level of the students. Students will prepare a solo/ensemble of appropriate difficulty to perform for a judge and receive an individual rating. Preparations will begin no later than December.
- The band will be responsible for purchasing their solo/ensemble, as well as entry and accompanist fees. The Jarrell High School Band will secure a qualified piano accompanist (for solos) or the use of Smart Music. Students who do not work to adequately prepare for this event will be expected to reimburse the band for the entry fee and accompanist fee.
- Students may elect to use an accompanist of their own; however, they will need to cover all costs.
- All students will be required to learn a UIL solo and perform it for the directors and class or solo concert
- All Wind Ensemble students will be required to perform at UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest.
- Students will be required to play-off their music for a Jarrell ISD director in order to attend the performance.
- Once entering the contest, students will be required to attend the performance. Failure to do so will result in consequences issued at the discretion of the directors.
- Detailed information will be distributed closer to the event.

#### Spring Trip

- A spring trip is scheduled to give students an opportunity to perform in a professional setting. It is intended as a reward for a year of hard work in class, before and after-school rehearsals and sectionals.
- Because the trip is intended as a reward, students who are ineligible for Marching Contests, UIL Marching Contests and/or Concert and Sight-Reading contest may not be allowed to go on the spring trip even if they regain eligibility. The directors do not want to send the wrong message by rewarding students who are not achieving academic success in all areas. Students must be passing all of their classes and maintain eligibility in order to travel and participate on the spring trip.

- Attendance: Student must have no unexcused absences from band rehearsals, no more than (4) unexcused tardies and be in good standing with the school attendance in order to go on the trip.
- Money paid towards trips will not be refunded if a student decides not to participate in the trip.

This is due to contractual obligations with the tour company.

- Money paid towards trips cannot be refunded if a student cannot participate.
  This is due to contractual obligations with the tour company.
- All unpaid band fees or charges must be paid in full before any payment will be applied to a trip fee or balance.
- The quality of our performances is dependent upon participation by the entire membership of the ensemble. Attendance is critical for the success of each group.
- The directors work to keep the cost of our spring trip in a range that all students will hopefully be able to meet. Depending on where we travel will determine the final total cost, which will cover transportation, rooms, contest entry fees and most other expenses.

## Part VII: Grading Policies

As a member of the Jarrell High School Band Program students will regularly receive grades for having their required daily supplies, adherence to the attendance guidelines outlined in the sections regarding Marching Season and Concert Season, and daily participation/citizenship. Grades will also be given for individual playing test on scales and music.

Below you will find the standards and expectations to which students will be held for their playing test and the grading rubrics that will be used to determine their score. It is followed by a chart explaining how each grading rubric relates to the letter-grade a student will receive for their performance.

## Music Performance Standards (100 point scale)

- 100-90
- The performer executes all of the technical demands of the piece fluently. Minor inconsistencies in articulation phrase direction, and tone quality in extreme ranges and at extreme dynamic levels may be present but is rare. Moments of true artistic expression are frequent as all elements of a well-prepared performance are in place. The performance would be worthy of Outstanding Soloist recognition at solo & ensemble competition and may qualify the performer to advance to Area level.
- 89-80
- o Notes, rhythms, articulations, dynamics, and phrasing are correct and performed confidently. Slight errors (if they occur) are handled without stopping. Tempos are appropriate for the etude and for the skill and musicianship of the performer. Breathing is a natural and rarely causes distraction. The performance would always receive a Division I rating by UIL standards and may qualify the performer for membership in Region band.
- *79-70*
- O Comprehension is demonstrated, as note and rhythmic errors are almost nonexistent. Stops (if any) are minor and recovered from quickly. Rhythms are performed correctly but may be uneven or have a tendency to change tempo. Dynamic contrast is present and convincing. Correct articulation is present although it may be inconsistent. Tone quality is characteristic throughout most of the excerpt but may suffer in more technical passages. Phrasing has been addressed and carefully worked out, but may not be fully refined. The performer occasionally displays expressive qualities which elevate the piece beyond mere notes.
- 69-60
- An awareness of the key is present, though frequent errors may occur in notes and rhythms. Tone quality is developing properly though inconsistencies may exist outside the comfortable register of the instrument. Tempos are constant, but may be significantly below those required. There is some dynamic contrast. Frequent or occasional stops prevent any meaningful musical communication.
- 59-40
- o There is a superficial level of preparation and the presence of some fundamental technical skill. Wrong notes and rhythms are a constant distraction, and

little or no attention to articulation and dynamics is evident. Characteristic sound may or may not be present.

- 39-0
- O An attempt was made to play the etude. Tone quality may be poor and many of the notes are wrong due to a severe lack of preparation or poor fundamental skill. The student may not have finished the piece.

## Scale/Rudiment Performance Standards (10 point scale)

- Ten (10)
- o There are no discernible flaws to the most discriminating listener. The presentation takes on all positive characteristics of a professional performance.
- Nine (9)
- o Maximum tempo is used for the instrument. The scale is well in tune and the performance is perceived as effortless. The performer plays the scale melodically with proper phrase direction, shape and tonal energy. All elements of musicality are present.
- Eight (8)
- o Tempos are approaching maximum for the instrument. Tone quality is consistent and well-developed over all ranges. Vibrato is refined and mature. Inconsistencies in pitch in extreme ranges may exist to a small degree. Articulation is clear over the range of the scale and does not cause distraction.
- Seven (7)
- Takes on all positive characteristics of a "6" but at a faster tempo. There is melodic direction and the scale begins to take on a refined feeling.
- Six (6)
- Starts and articulation are clear and tone quality is characteristic. Technique is even and there is no smearing. The scale is not perceived as slow. Rhythm is totally accurate regarding relation of quarter note and eighth notes: The scale does not rush or drag on the key notes. Octave tuning has been addressed though inconsistencies may exist in the extreme ranges. Vibrato is present on long notes and the last note finishes the phrase musically.
- Five (5)
- o All notes are correct. Tone is developing properly but may be inconsistent in the extreme ranges. Rhythm is even or very close and the correct range was performed. Vibrato may or may not be present. Articulation is consistent but may be in need of further attention.
- Four (4)
- o Most notes are correct but rhythm may be uneven or the scale was played too fast for accuracy. Tone quality may not be refined but would not be considered poor. Correct range was attempted but may not have been completed.
- Three (3)
- o Some of the notes are correct. Tone quality may be poor and the correct range may not have been performed.
- Two (2)

- o Tone quality may be poor and many of the notes are wrong, or the student did not finish the scale.
- One (1)
- o The student attempted to play the scale but it is unrecognizable.

## **Individual Performance Grading Guidelines**

• Below are the student objectives and letter-grade correlations regarding the aforementioned standards for playing test on music and scales.

Music	Scales/Rudiments	
	(Play assigned scales in one sitting)	
Grading Objective: Perform music with proficiency of 85 or greater.	Grading Objective: Play assigned scales and have an average proficiency of 6 or better.	
Total Score	Total Score	
• > 90Grade = (A)	• 10-8Grade = 100 (A)	
• $89 - 80$ Grade = (B)	• $7-6$ Grade = 85 (B)	
• $79 - 70$ Grade = (C)	• $5-4$ Grade = $70$ (C)	
• 69-60Grade = (D)	• 3-2Grade= 50(D)	
• 59-0Grade= (F)	• 1Grade = 0 (F)	

## Part VIII: Eligibility

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Please read the following rules and regulations regarding academic eligibility as it pertains to participation in the Jarrell High School Band Program:

- Many activities associated with music education are designated by the state as extra-curricular including, but not limited to, football games, pep rallies, UIL Marching Contest and UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest. These activities are therefore governed by the state laws regarding participation.
- The state law is such that a student shall be suspended from participation in all extra-curricular activities sponsored or sanctioned by the school district during the six-week period following a grade reporting period in which the student received a grade lower than seventy (70) in any one class. However, the student may not be suspended from participation during the period in which school is recessed for the summer. Also, students are not suspended from regular practice or rehearsal of extra-curricular activities.
- Students may regain eligibility under certain circumstances. If a student has been suspended as a result of failing, he/she may regain eligibility by passing ALL courses in the third week of the affected grading period. Thus, he/she may regain eligibility at the conclusion of the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) week of the suspension period.
- A few music education activities are designated by the state as co-curricular. These activities are those occurring on campus and are a natural extension of the learning taken place in the classroom. An example of this type of activity is the public concerts held at Jarrell High School. These activities are not governed by the state eligibility law.

## Sound Advice for a Passing Grade

<u>Each student should develop structure and discipline in their study habits. Here are some common sense ideas.</u>

- **1. Pay Attention.** Do everything you can to try to discover just what it is the teacher is attempting to get across to you.
- **2. Review Daily.** Make a habit of reviewing your notes/music on a daily basis to solidify material covered in class.
- **3. Do all homework and turn it in on time.** The most frequent reason why students fail a class is the failure to turn in assigned work.
- **4. Fail to Prepare, Prepare to Fail.** Prepare for all tests and projects in a timely manner. You should not wait until the night before a test or project deadline to begin the work.
- **5. Be Courteous.** Treat all teachers with the same respect that you expect from them.
- **6. Follow Up.** If you have a failing grade at the three-week period make every effort to resolve each grade in question.

## Part IX: Letter Jackets

#### BAND/GUARD JACKET AWARD SYSTEM

- Jackets will be awarded in the Senior year to those students who have <u>actively</u> <u>participated (4) four years</u> and made a positive contribution to the Jarrell High School Band or Color Guard. <u>Students who do decide to leave the band or color guard program will not be eligible to receive their letterman jacket the following school year.</u>
- Students may earn a letter jacket as early as the fall of their Sophomore year if they have earned enough points to do so. Points are used to encourage students to participate in all facets of the band program. Students who excel in the various aspects of competition are awarded additional points. **25 points** are required to earn a jacket. UIL states that students may receive only one award jacket in high school; therefore, students already possessing a letter jacket will not receive a second one. Jackets are ordered early in the fall semester. Points may be earned as follows:

#### ATTEND ALL CONTESTS: MARCHING, CONCERT, SIGHT READING

- 1 point for participation in each Contest—this does not include spring trips, JISD sponsored concerts, football games, or parades.
- 3 points for participating in All Region Band Auditions
- 5 points for making a Region band
- 10 points for making the highest Region Band
- 5 points for going to Area Auditions
- 8 points for participating in the JHS Jazz Ensemble (If ensemble is formed) and enrolling in the Instrumental Ensemble Class period and attending all Jazz rehearsals and events. (No points awarded if no Jazz Ensemble)
- 10 points for All-State (automatic jacket)
- ALL-STATE JAZZ AND ORCHESTRA
- 2 point for participation
- 5 points for getting a Region patch
- 5 points for Area (taping) patch
- 10 points for All-State (automatic jacket)
- All points are subject to participation in the region clinics and concerts.
- UIL SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CONTEST: REGION AND STATE
- 2 points for participation per solo or ensemble at Region
- 1 points for second division rating per Class 3 solo or ensemble at Region
- 3 points for second division rating per Class 2 solo or ensemble at Region
- 3 points for first division rating per Class 3 solo or ensemble at Region
- 5 points for first division rating per Class 2 solo or ensemble at Region
- 6 points for second division ration per Class 1 solo or ensemble at Region
- 7 points for first division rating per class 1 ensemble at Region
- 10 points for first division rating per Class 1 solo at Region

- 3 points for second division rating per solo or ensemble at State
- 5 points for first division rating per solo or ensemble at State
- Color Guard members may earn points in the following manner:
- o Two (2) points each season of participation beginning their sophomore year. A season includes ALL summer rehearsals, practices and performances each semester.
- o 1 point for participation in each Contest
- Jackets will be awarded in the Senior year to those students who have <u>actively participated (4) four years</u> and made a positive contribution to the Jarrell High School Band or Color Guard.

## Appendix I: Effective Daily Practice

The following guide to effective daily practice is comprised of information provided by Mike Fischer of the Baylor University School of Music and Craig Morris of the University of Miami Frost School of Music.

Playing any musical instrument well takes work. You must practice daily and develop a sense of pride in your musical endeavors. Studying with a qualified private teacher will certainly be to your advantage. So, ask your band director about the Private Lesson Program in your school.

## An Effective Warm-up

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- Warming up correctly prepares our entire body for a productive practice session. It especially relaxes and stretches our embouchure muscles for the upcoming session.
- The following exercises should be used in warm-up
- o Breathing (We play wind instruments, so we must practice taking deep and relaxed breaths).
- o Mouthpiece buzzing (Brass, 5-10 minutes before you play the instrument).
- o Embouchure exercises (Woodwinds)

### An Effective Daily Fundamental Routine

- Daily routines allow the musician to focus his/her attention on proper breathing, foundation of tone production, as well as specific skill sets, including technique, articulation, flexibility and range, needed to perform music at a high-level.
- The following exercises should be used in developing an effective daily routine:
- o Foundation Exercises
- Long tones
- Flow Studies
- o Skill Set Exercises
- Technique
- o Scales and Arpeggios
- o Finger coordination exercises
- Articulation
- o Initial Attacks
- o Single Tongue Clarity and Speed
- o "Ku" Tongue Clarity and Speed
- o Triple Tongue Clarity and Speed
- o Double Tongue Clarity and Speed
- Flexibility
- o Wide Intervals (slurred and tongued)
- o Slow Slurred Exercises (smoothness and connection)
- o Fast Slurred Exercises (agility)
- Development of Upper/Lower Registers
- While each exercise does not need to be performed daily, each aspect should be addressed.
- Specifics on Range Development (Brass)
- o Playing Higher and Higher
- Start on a lower scale and play it up and down. Then, play the next higher scale. Continue ascending through the scales until you reach your limit. When you think you

cannot go any higher, try one or two more scales. You may surprise yourself and play a higher scale. Eventually, you will increase your high register.

- o Playing Lower and Lower
- Do the opposite of Playing Higher and Higher: Start on a higher scale and play it down and up. Then, play the next lower scale. Continue descending through the scales until you reach your limit. When you think you cannot go any lower, try one or two more scales.

#### An Effective Music Practice Session

- In order to have effective daily practice it is best to schedule time that is specifically aimed at fixing problems in band music, solos, private lesson materials, etc.
- In order to achieve effective results, please adhere to the following:
- o Have a reasonable goal to achieve each day.
- o Work on the sections that you are having problems playing. Practice a difficult measure until you can play it right several times in a row. Then add another measure until you can play both measures right several times in a row. Continue this routine until you have worked out the difficult parts.
- o Do not be afraid to slow down.
- o Use a metronome and tuner.
- Be patient
- o Carefully listen to how you play and make adjustments accordingly.
- o For more detailed information regarding music preparation, see Appendix II.

### Specifics for Working on Technical Passages

- o The metronome is a very important tool for improving technique.
- o Begin very slowly and learn the notes. Use the metronome and do not be afraid to slow the metronome down if necessary.
- o Practice the difficult passages away from the instrument by fingering the notes and tonguing the rhythms while using a metronome. Alternate the fingering and tonguing technique with practicing the music on the instrument.
- After you can play the passage two or three times in a row without any mistakes, increase the tempo by three to five beats. Work on the passage again until you can play it two or three times in a row without any mistakes. Continue this method everyday until you can play the passages at the desired speed.
- o Have a reasonable goal every day. Learning and playing two to four measures correctly is a much smarter method of developing good technique rather than playing eight to sixteen measures incorrectly.

## Specifics for Developing Ear Training

o Sit at a piano or electronic keyboard with your instrument and music. Play music on the piano and try it on the instrument. Brass players should buzz the music on the mouthpiece.

#### • Perform Your Music

o Performing your music from beginning to end without stopping builds the physical endurance required for playing that particular piece. It also enables you to become familiar with the complete work and see how the phrases fit together.

#### Have Fun

o Enjoy playing music. We spend a lot of time and effort learning how to play our instruments and it is enjoyable to play, so take time to have fun.

#### Effective Techniques to Overcome Performance Anxiety

Breathe slowly and deeply two or three times before starting.

- Perform for family and friends.
- Perform for directors and private teachers.
- Practice performing in similar situations.
- o If you will be performing on stage with hot lights, practice in a hot room or wear a heavy coat while practicing.
- o Wear your performance attire during a practice session.
- Eliminate unnecessary worries.
- o Empty all tuning slides before entering stage.
- o Oil the valves regularly.
- o Have four (4) good reeds available.
- o Make sure all pads and keys are in good and working order.

## Appendix II: Music Preparation

When preparing music for performance, it is essential to practice the music accurately and precisely with careful attention to detail in order to perform the music at an extremely high level. It is very attainable to achieve a high level of musical performance by adhering to the following guidelines:

## Focus on Sound

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Always play each note correctly with a clear, quality sound. Good sound is achieved by maintaining consistent air support, a firm embouchure with an emphasis on keeping your facial muscles as still as possible still as you play and having a concept of what you want to sound like in your ear. Focusing on these ideas will help in making the best possible sound every time you play your horn.

## • Focus on Rhythm

o Always play every rhythm accurately and precisely. It is important to make sure that each rhythm is counted correctly. This can be achieved by maintaining a steady, **SLOW** tempo when learning your music.

## • Focus on Style

o Always play the music in the correct style. Pay careful attention to accented notes, staccato notes, legato notes, slurs, non-slurred notes, etc. Playing the correct articulation and achieving the correct style go hand in hand.

#### • Focus on Dynamics

o Always play the music with the correct dynamic markings. Be aware of crescendos, diminuendos, volume markings and any other listed changes in volume. It is a good idea to highlight dynamic markings with a color that will catch your attention as you play.

#### Start Slow

o Begin learning each piece at a slow pace. One half the marked tempo or slower is a good place to start. Once you can accurately play all notes and rhythms at half tempo, begin increasing the tempo by ten beats per minute each week. If the tempo in not clearly marked, a director or private teacher will be glad to give you a tempo marking.

#### • Variations of Practice

o Instead of always starting at the beginning of the music, try starting in different places. This will help develop consistency.

### Practice Daily

It is important that the music be practiced daily with all of the above items in place. It is important to understand that maintaining a consistent high-level work ethic is difficult. However, a little hard work will go a long way. Just remember that hard work guarantees nothing, but without it, to achieve a high-level of performance is impossible.

## Jarrell High School Band Handbook Signature Form

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I understand that the 2025 - 2026 handbook is available at the Jarrell High School Band website. It is my responsibility to review and understand the rules, regulations, guidelines and procedures governing my participation in the Jarrell High School Band provided in the 2025 – 2026 handbook. Realizing that my best performance and contribution to my school and my band will result from my following the aforementioned policies, I hereby accept my personal responsibility to the Jarrell High School Band Program and further agree to abide by the policies set forth.

Student Name:	
(Print)	
Student Signature:	
Date:	
Grade:	
I acknowledge receiving and reviewing the rules, regulations, guidelines a	-
governing my son/daughter's participation Jarrell High School Band pro 2019-2020 handbook.	vided in the
Parent Signature:	-
Date:	