

Shallowater Mustang Band

Handbook

2016 - 2017

This handbook is written for the members and families of the Shallowater High School Mustang Band with the hope of giving information regarding the purpose, procedures, expectations and activities of the band program. **All band students and parents should read the handbook carefully to avoid conflicts with the policies.** As a member of the SHS Mustang Band, you represent an outstanding school and a band program with the highest standards of excellence. It is our responsibility to build upon prior successes and to maintain these high standards for the future. It is *your* responsibility to give your absolute *best* effort at all times to insure the continuation of the quality experience here at Shallowater High School. We are extremely fortunate to have parents, administrators, teachers, school board members and a community committed and dedicated to a quality band program. We look forward to your part of this organization both student and parent.

Philosophy

A well-rounded education is enhanced by one of the most basic of all studies...the study of music. Music, in addition to enhancing the human spirit, teaches discipline, develops self-confidence, and gives each student a feeling of pride and accomplishment. Playing in band teaches students the importance of working with others and helps them develop the social skills necessary to be a part of a performing organization. Instrumental music engages students in a group activity, which allows them to use their free time constructively. Band instills values: responsibility, leadership, purpose and direction, devotion to duty, spirit of cooperation, and sensitivity to beauty. Not all band students become great musicians, but certainly all become more mature, cooperative, self-disciplined, hard working members of society with an appreciation of the fine arts. Music is a subject, which affects all sides of a student's personality. This includes the intellectual, physical, emotional, psychological, spiritual, and social aspects of a person.

The mission of the SHS Mustang Band is to provide students the opportunity to express themselves in some form of musical activity, in group and individual settings, as they mature and grow into productive members of society. Along with musical expression, discipline, pride, and commitment to excellence are instilled as each student participates with others to create **THE SHALLOWATER HIGH SCHOOL MUSTANG BAND.**

ATTENDANCE

Your attendance at all rehearsals is important! It is very difficult to put a performance together when people are not there to rehearse. **You need to be present at each rehearsal if you want a regular spot in the marching show.** Drum Majors, Twirlers and Color guard members must make up any time missed for non-school related or school excused rehearsals.

When you miss it has a negative effect on

1. The Team building effort
2. The people in your section who count on you
3. The music preparation
4. The spacing of the drill

All Band members are subject to sitting out a performance if the directors feel they are not ready to perform due to attendance or preparation.

We expect all members to attend all performances and rehearsals. If it becomes necessary for you to miss, please contact a director **in advance** and bring a note from your parents (or doctor, if appropriate) explaining the reason for your absence. Please try to schedule doctor's appointments, shopping trips, etc. at times that do not conflict with rehearsals or performances. **Athletes and other school activity participants will be excused from band rehearsal only for the time when the event conflicts with band practice.**

Please make all efforts to schedule around the dates. If a conflict should arise please contact the directors before the event and as soon as possible.

Work is not an excuse for missing practices or performances

GRADING METHOD

In keeping with SISD policy, six weeks grades in band will be determined by tests and daily work **coordinated with the state approved Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).** Written tests and/or performing tests may be given. Daily work checks may be announced or unannounced. Evaluation of students during class **or scheduled rehearsals or performances outside of the school day** may include the following areas:

1. Assigned music or excerpts (Test)
2. Marching fundamentals (Test or Daily)
3. **Performances (Test)**
4. Memorization of marching drills (Test)
5. Memorization of marching music (Test)
6. Sight reading skills (Daily)
7. Fundamental music theory ie...note names, rhythmic values, counting rests, etc. (Test or Daily)
8. Proper instrument technique (posture attentiveness and care (Daily)
9. Twirler and Color guard routines (Test)
10. Daily participation and care of music and or assignments Keeping up with class materials (Daily)

Six Weeks Grades will be determined by 60% Tests and 40% Daily work

MUSTANG BAND SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

- I. Any violation of school policy concerning the use and/or possession of illegal substances will be dealt with in accordance to the SISD Board Policy for extra curricular activities.

UIL ELIGIBILITY

Under UIL rules, a student who receives a failing grade on a report card loses his/her eligibility to participate in all extracurricular activities for three weeks. Students have a 7 day grace period at the end of each grading period before they become ineligible or eligible. At the end of the third week, grades will be reported for all ineligible students and **all classes** must be passing to regain eligibility. Once a failing grade appears on the report card, the student is ineligible **EVEN IF HE/SHE LATER MAKES UP THE WORK AND THE GRADE IS CHANGED TO PASSING!** (Exception: A failing grade that was an error may be changed and eligibility may be restored). A grade of Incomplete (I) will cause a student to be ineligible until all work is completed within the allotted time and a grade is changed to passing.

Students must be eligible to go on the Spring Trip.

Because of this, we urge students to remain current in their class work. Assignments should be made-up as soon as possible after absences. Students experiencing difficulty in a class should seek help early (don't wait for required tutorials). Teachers report that the greatest cause of failures is lack of effort and/or failure to complete assignments. Don't get caught short. Give your best efforts in all your classes.

How to pass:

1. Do Your Homework.
2. Make up missed work quickly.
3. Don't be afraid to **ask for Help. Go to Tutorials even if you are not assigned!**
- 4. Do Your Homework!**
5. Study in small groups for tests (3 person max.).
- 6. Do Your Homework!!**
7. Get Projects done early.
- 8. Don't Let Your Dog Eat Your Homework!!!**
- 9. Hand in Your Homework!!!**

DISCIPLINE PLAN

MUSTANG BAND DEPARTMENT

The purpose of discipline is to create an environment that enhances learning and performance and provides for the safety of the students. Students should exhibit proper behavior at all times. Improper behavior in class will be dealt with as appropriate. (refer to Student Code of Conduct). Please remember that events outside of class are considered an extension of the classroom and students must follow these guidelines during practices/rehearsals/trips and performances including dress code(tattoos, piercings, clothing.....) and classroom guidelines. In addition to the Student code of conduct members of extra curricular activities are subject to disciplinary measures within the organization.

Mustang Band Discipline Guidelines

Minor Offenses

May include the following:

1. According to the Shallowater Code of Conduct
2. Running, push ups, or other physical reminders may be used

Serious Offenses(Recurring Minor Offenses)

First Offense:	Loss of Performance privelege(s)
Second Offense:	Loss of Performance privelege(s) EXTENDED
Third Offense:	Suspension from activity for 88 school days
Fourth Offense:	Removal from Band

Mustang Band Council

Band President-To Be Elected
Vice President- To Be Elected
Senior Representative- To Be Elected
Junior Representative- To Be Elected
Sophomore Representative- To Be Elected
Freshmen Representative- To Be Elected

Senior Drum Major-Ali Oliver
Junior Drum Major- Kalli Workman
Loading Crew Chiefs- Oakley Ockerman, Ethan Luna
Uniform Chiefs – JoAnn Summerlin, Ashton Buck, Lauren Camp, Emily Summersgill

Staff

Don Summersgill, Head director
Kyle Billett, Middle School director-7th Grade
Ashley Ford, Color Guard Tech

Tammy Summersgill-Middle School 8th Grade
Caleb Blakeney, HS Director/Choir
Ms. Sherry Fogersen, Twirler

Band Officers-Elected Positions

President - Elected from returning juniors or seniors. Duties include: Plan social activities (with director approval); represent the band at booster meetings; host/greet visiting bands; edit band newsletter.

Vice President - Elected from returning juniors or seniors. Duties include: Assist president with social activities, booster meetings, visiting bands, and newsletter; act as publicity chairman for the band.

Class Representatives (Sr., Jr., Soph., Fresh.) - Elected from respective class. Duties include: Assist president and vice president with social activities, booster meetings, visiting bands, newsletter, and publicity. Represent class members at "band council" meetings.

Band Council - Will consist of president, vice president, class representatives, drum majors, twirler representative, and color guard officer representative.

Appointed/Auditioned Positions-Service Officers

Drum Majors - Selected by audition from returning juniors and seniors. Duties include: Act as field director of the marching band; conduct in stands as needed; assist president. (see Qualifications)

Color Guard(Flags)- Selected by audition from returning sophomores, juniors and seniors. Duties include: Perform at football games and pep rallies. Other performances may be scheduled with sponsor's approval. (see Qualifications)

Twirlers - Selected by audition from returning sophomores, juniors and seniors. Duties include: Perform at football games and pep rallies. Twirlers may participate in UIL Solo & Ensemble(Region & State) only if they are a current member of the band. Other performances and practices may be scheduled with sponsor's approval. (see Qualifications)

Loading Crew - Selected by loading crew chiefs (with director approval). Duties include: Loading and unloading instruments and equipment for home and away games, off-campus pep rallies, and trips.

Loading Crew Chief - Selected by directors (with input from graduating chiefs). Duties include: Selecting crew members (with director approval); instruct crewmembers in loading procedures and techniques; insure that all loading/unloading is done efficiently.

Uniform Crew - Selected by uniform crew chiefs (with director approval). Duties include: Assist with uniform check-out/check-in; maintain order and organization of the uniform room; instruct band members in proper care and wearing of uniform.

Uniform Crew Chief - Selected by directors (with input from graduating chiefs). Duties include: Selecting crew members (with director approval); instruct crew members in check-out/check-in and uniform care procedures; insure that uniform room is kept organized and orderly.

Note: All officers are expected to project a positive image of the band to the band members, the school, and the community. Disciplinary referrals and attitude problems will be reviewed and may be cause for probation or removal from office.

Qualifications for Twirler, Color Guard, Drum Major

1. Must have parent's permission to serve.
2. Must be currently enrolled in band and remain in band for both the fall and spring semesters of the year served.
3. Must be eligible under UIL rules at time of tryouts.
4. Poor citizenship, disciplinary referrals, and absenteeism for the year will be reviewed by principal and director.
5. Twirlers, Color Guard members, and Drum Majors are expected to maintain an attitude and conduct that will project a positive image of the band, the school, and the community. Members may be suspended disorderly or disrespectful conduct while representing the band.
6. Some expense may be incurred for specialty uniforms, make-up, shoes, socks, etc.
7. Twirlers, Color Guard members, and Drum Majors are expected to attend summer camps and/or workshops scheduled by the director/sponsor.
8. The number of twirlers accepted will be determined by the judges' recommendation of the number of candidates who have demonstrated a sufficient level of twirling skills (up to a maximum of 5).
9. The number of Color Guard members will be determined by the judges' recommendation of the number of candidates who have demonstrated a sufficient level of dance/flag skills

BAND BOOSTERS

All parents of band members are automatically members of the Shallowater Band Boosters. They support the band through fundraisers and sponsor other social activities throughout the year. All parents are encouraged to be active supporters through the booster organization.

Letter Awards

A Student will be considered for a UIL Letter award if he/she completes three years of participation in Varsity Band. This includes participation at football games, concerts and UIL events.

Exception: If a student in Band competes at the state level of competition (TMEA/ATSSB All-State Band or the UIL Texas State Solo & Ensemble Competition) in his/her first or second year, a letter will be considered.

SHALLOWATER HIGH SCHOOL BAND PERFORMANCE AND GAME PROCEDURE

The impression that the band makes at football games and public appearances is very important. You can make the Mustang Band's part of the game an outstanding one. Many people from outside of Shallowater will see the Mustang Band only once at a game or concert. The impression that they receive has a great deal to do with the spirit, pride, and reputation of the band and the community. The Mustang Band, student body, and cheerleaders reflect the image of Shallowater High School. Help make ours a favorable image at all times.

1. Meet at the band hall at the designated time for all performances. **BE ON TIME !!!**
2. Each person is responsible for his or her own equipment at all times. Bring cases into the stadium with you. Remember a case will protect the instrument only if it is inside the case.
3. **BE PROPERLY UNIFORMED AT ALL TIMES.** Stay in Uniform or director approved garments until you can change out of the entire uniform. Do not change in public. This includes removing earrings, both men and ladies and being well groomed, hair neat, out of the eyes and not distracting.
4. Take your place in the stands as quickly as possible after performance.
5. Stay with your section throughout the game.
6. Do not take any unauthorized refreshments during the game from parents or friends. After the half time performance, the band will provide you with a coke or water. Please refrain from eating anything when in uniform. Do not remove any part of the uniform unless given permission by the director.
7. During cold weather you may bring coats, blankets, and hats. Thermal underwear is appropriate.
9. No one but Band personnel and special guests are allowed in the band section.
10. Watch the director at all times when he is standing in front of the band. Get music up rapidly when it is called. Watch closely for cutoffs in the music as play resumes.
11. File orderly from the stands to the formation before the halftime show. Do not play instrument, if it is cold, blow warm air through instrument to warm up. **GET QUICKLY INTO ENTRY FORMATION, COME TO ATTENTION AND REMAIN QUIET!!!!**
12. **TREAT VISITORS, OTHER DIRECTORS AND GUESTS POLITELY AT ALL TIMES.**
13. When we travel everyone is to use school transportation. If you have special circumstances that prevents this, you must clear it with Mr. Summersgill **PRIOR** to the activity(Athletes, Cheerleaders and others involved in school activities please remind me even though I probably should remember). I would like to go over the procedure for taking students after a game or other functions.

A. Students may be released to their Parent or guardian after the Game. Please do not come get them a few minutes before the game is over, it is inconsiderate.

B. If you wish to have your child released to another adult you must make this arrangement with administration. I will not accept just a note. No exceptions will be made.

Please help me with this situation. These rules are a protection for your children. Being responsible for over 100 students is an awesome task. Any time special arrangements are made it's just one more thing for the directors to have to remember. We will try to be flexible with the students; however, we must have strict rules when it comes to keeping track of your child.

14. Show your spirit and pride by participating with the cheerleaders. Show good sportsmanship toward the opposing team and officials throughout the course of the game.

15. Be aware that playoff games are a very real possibility. Part of our responsibility is to participate at EACH football game. Should the team succeed in making the playoffs, the band will be expected to be present and YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO BE WITH THE BAND. Please do not schedule conflicting activities until you are sure the season is over.

16. USE COMMON SENSE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

BAND UNIFORM REGULATIONS AND INSPECTION NOTES

1. Never Wash your uniform in a washing Machine. If it is necessary have it Dry Cleaned
2. Wash your hands before handling the uniform and uniform must be worn with the band shirt.
3. Shoes **MUST BE SOLID BLACK BAND SHOE (INCLUDING EYELETS AND EDGES OF SOLES)**. Long Black socks are required to be worn with the uniform. If you have any questions concerning which shoe to buy, see one of the directors. An order will be done at the end of the first week of school.
4. Special care should be taken when wearing the Uniform-- bright colors or patterns should not be worn underneath. We will have a Band Shirt to wear underneath the Uniform. When it is hot it will be at the directors discretion whether or not to take the coat off and just have the Band Shirt.

Students who do not have the proper attire may be asked to stay home from a performance.

YOU HAVE THE MOST ATTRACTIVE BAND UNIFORM IN EXISTENCE. TREAT IT AS SUCH! BE PROUD THAT YOU, TOO, HAVE A CHANCE TO BE A PART OF THE PROUDEST BAND IN TEXAS.

FINES

Students are responsible for school equipment and/or music issued to them during the year. Loss or damage (other than wear and tear) will result in a fine.

Music-----	\$10.00	Uniform Hanger-----	\$5.00
Flip Folder-----	\$10.00	School Instrument-----	list price
Lyre-----	\$15.00	School Mouthpiece-----	list price
Whole Uniform-----	\$525.00	COLOR GUARD/TWIRLER Props/UNIFORMS	
Uniform Trousers-----	\$150.00	-----	list price
Uniform Jacket-----	\$250.00	Percussion Equipment-----	list price
Uniform Hat-----	\$100.00		

**PARENT/STUDENT UIL MARCHING BAND
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM
(Green Form)**

No student may be required to attend practice for marching band for more than eight hours of rehearsal outside the academic school day per calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). This provision applies to students in all components of the marching band.

On performance days (football games, competitions and other public performances) bands may hold up to one additional hour of warm-up and practice beyond the scheduled warm-up time. Multiple performances on the same day do not allow for additional practice and/or warm-up time.

Examples Of Activities Subject To The UIL Marching Band Eight Hour Rule.

- Marching Band Rehearsal (Both Full Band And Components)
- Any Marching Band Group Instructional Activity
- Breaks
- Announcements
- Debriefing And Viewing Marching Band Videos
- Playing Off Marching Band Music
- Marching Band Sectionals (Both Director And Student Led)
- Clinics For The Marching Band Or Any Of Its Components

The Following Activities Are Not Included In The Eight Hour Time Allotment:

- Travel Time To And From Rehearsals And/Or Performances
- Rehearsal Set-Up Time
- Pep Rallies, Parades And Other Public Performances
- Instruction And Practice For Music Activities Other Than Marching Band And Its Components

NOTE: An extensive Q&A for the Eight Hour Rule for Marching Band can be found on the Music Page of the UIL Web Site at: www.uil.utexas.edu

“We have read and understand the Eight-Hour Rule for Marching Band as stated above and agree to abide by these regulations.”

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

This form is to be kept on file by the local school district.

Medical Release Form

(Yellow form)

_____ is my child, and is now under my control and in
(name of child)

my custody. I desire such child to go on any and all trips, and participate in any and all activities, along with other students from the Shallowater Independent School District during the 2016-2017 school year. I understand that the student will be chaperoned both en route to and while at these activities, and that normal precautions will be taken in the interest of their safety and well being. I hereby authorize officials of Shallowater Independent School District to authorize a physician or hospital to render medical treatment as may be deemed necessary in an emergency for my child in my absence. Furthermore, I will not hold Shallowater I.S.D. financially responsible for the emergency care of my child.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Address

Medical Insurance Co _____
Attach a copy of card if possible

Policy # _____

Allergies: _____

Insurance Phone #

Current Medications/Conditions (Information will be kept confidential) _____

Current Physician _____

Physician's Phone _____

Emergency Phone Numbers: List as many as Possible.

Home: _____ Mobile: _____ Pager: _____

Employer (Father) _____ (Mother) _____

Closest Relative (not at the same residence) Name _____ Phone _____