



McLean 6th Grade Beginning Band SYLLABUS



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Band Room# 817-814-5761

www.mcleanmsband.com

Please see the full Band Handbook or website for more details!

Course Overview

The Beginning Band is the beginning performing group and is made up of first year band student musicians at McLean. These students will concentrate on fundamental aspects of their instruments as well as advancing technique. With a goal of comprehensive musicianship, the year will cover basic music theory, music literacy for the students chosen instrument, and performances throughout the school year. It is the responsibility of the student and parent to check the band calendar and incorporate the scheduled events into their family calendar. To maintain a high level of performance, beginning band students should practice daily and study privately with an approved professional lesson teacher.

Course Objectives

- Correct posture and body balance
- Eastman counting system along with beat and pulse
- Music literacy (notes and rhythms)
- Music terminology (dynamic, style, tempo markings)
- Knowledge of selected instrument pedagogy
- Audience etiquette
- Preparedness for middle school band and beyond
- Roles and careers in music
- Relationships between band and other content areas

Grading Policy

It is important to realize that high expectations go hand-in-hand with a fine performing organization and students who do the necessary work to be a contributing member will receive a high grade.

*Daily/Team (30%)

Class participation and having equipment.

*Practice Journals/Objective Sheets/Weekly Work (30%)

Practice Journals and Objective Sheets will be assigned on an as needed basis by six weeks. Practice reports are one per week. Objective sheets are one per six weeks. Assigned written work & recordings will also be part of this grade. Assignments will be worked on both in class and home

*Performance Grade (40%)

Playing and written tests over pre-assigned material
Performances/Rehearsals

Supplies for the Instrument and Class

Supply lists for all instruments can be found at <http://www.mcleanmsband.com/supply-lists.html> Students will also need a band binder, zipper pencil pouch, and pencils.

Band Dues & Fees

Band Dues: Our optional band dues are \$40 per year, and cover your t-shirt, food and drinks for the year, cost of trips, contest entries, and other items such as new music. It may be paid \$40 at once or \$20 per semester. Contact your director for information on a payment plan. We ask that all band students pay this due if possible. For more information, please go to <https://www.mcleanmsband.com/band-dues-and-fees.html>

Instrument Rental Fee: If you choose to rent your instrument from the school district, the cost is \$80 per year. It may be paid \$80 at once or \$40 per semester. Instrument rental fees may be paid in person with cash. Contact your director for information on a payment plan. See below to find out if this applies to you. Families in need of financial attendance may contact Mrs. Traugher for a district waiver.

MUST Rent from FWISD (\$80/year):

- *Oboe
- *Bassoon
- *French horn
- *Euphonium
- *Tuba

Encourage to rent through music store, but have limited quantities available to rent through the school

- *Flute
- *Clarinet
- *Alto Saxophone
- *Trumpet
- *Trombone
- *Percussion

Private Lessons

The single most important factor in the development of a quality band program is the development of the individual player. There are many opportunities in the metroplex area for student musicians to study privately with professionals. There will also be private teaching specialists, on as many instruments as possible, teaching at McLean 6th Grade. Private lesson instructors will teach as many students as possible. Lessons are 30 minutes once a week and cost the student \$20.00 per lesson. All students are encouraged to take private lessons and can find information on our website: <http://www.mcleanmsband.com/private-lessons.html> WE OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS!!! Please contact Mrs. Traugher if you would like to apply for a scholarship.

Home Practice

It is important to develop consistent practice habits. Parent support and guidance are the key factors in establishing a regular practice schedule. The most effective home practice is based on the following:

1. 20-30 minutes of QUALITY practice time daily.
2. Parent/student MUTUALLY agreed daily practice time.
3. Parent/student MUTUALLY agreed special practice area in your home.
4. Positive reinforcement from parents and siblings.

Home practice is expected and required. The physical demands and muscle memory of producing a QUALITY sound, playing with clean technical accuracy, and the reading of music notation will be strengthened over time ONLY through CONSISTENT, DAILY PRACTICE. No instrument is to spend the night in the band hall.

Band Communication and Learning Platforms

- Google Classroom
- Music First
- Music Professor
- CHARMS

- YouTube
- Remind
- FlipGrid
- Google Site & Band Website

Boom Cards