

POLICIES FOR MCLEAN BAND

1. The student is a representative of McLean Middle School, FWISD, and the band program. The student should act with maturity, show respect for people and property, and be a team player at all times.
2. Student musicians will develop essential life skills such as accountability, goal setting, timeliness, communication, discipline, leadership, and teamwork through the process of developing musical skills as both an individual and as an ensemble. These skills directly impact academic performance and test scores, creates students that will grow into employable and coachable adults, and prepare students for success in college, career, and community leadership.
3. Student musicians will need to practice, attend sectionals (when applicable), pass off music, and attend performances, contests, and auditions.
4. **Excused absences:** Excused absences must be accompanied by a written note stating the reason for the absence (sickness, Dr.'s appointment, early dismissal, etc.). Performance absences must be communicated a minimum of 2 weeks in advance. Sectional absences must be communicated a minimum of 24 hours in advance. Please try to schedule appointments around sectionals if possible or try to come to at least part of the sectional.
5. **Unexcused absences:** Unexcused absences from performances may jeopardize the student's participation in future social events, trips, or performances. Unexcused absences from outside of class rehearsals or sectionals may result in the student missing a chair/playing test, or being suspended from competitive performances (UIL, Benchmark, All Region, etc).
6. **Eligibility:** Stay eligible—attend every class and pass. If you find yourself behind in a class, tell us immediately and we will help you get into tutoring. Students who are not passing **all** of their classes (not just band) may result in the student being suspended from competitive performances (UIL, Benchmark, All Region, etc.) or social events/trips/travel.
7. **Supplies:** Bring all your supplies to rehearsal with you, including your band binder, instrument, reeds/valve oil/etc., pencil, and tuner/metronome. Students may drop off their instrument at the band hall before school starting at 7:45 a.m. Please see our website for a detailed list of supplies.
8. **Band Fee:** There is a \$90 band fee associated with all band classes, which includes all of our contest entry fees, field trips/social events, food and drink, band binder, locker and instrument name tags, band t-shirt, and masterclass/clinicians. Please speak to a director for more information on financial aid.
9. **Instrument Fee:** For all students who use a school owned instrument, including percussionists, there is an \$80 rental fee to cover repair and yearly maintenance on all of our instruments. Please speak to a director for more information on financial aid.
10. **Total Fees:** Both the \$90 band fee and \$80 instrument fee (if applicable) may be paid by cash or check to the lockbox outside the band director's offices, or on our website. Students who do not pay their band and/or instrument fees in full OR do not speak to a director about financial aid may not be allowed to attend our additional field trips or reward trip.
11. **Concert Uniform:** All students must wear solid black dress pants, solid black dress shirt (tucked in, no tank tops/short sleeves), and black dress shoes. Gentlemen should wear long black socks with their black dress shoes. If a student's religious beliefs prevent them from performing certain music or wearing our concert uniform, an alternate assignment or dress code will be given by the director. Please communicate this information to the director so that accommodations may be made.
12. **Transportation:** All musicians must ride the bus to and from the band event, except as otherwise permitted by administrative regulations (FMG Board Policy – Local). If this is not possible, the parent must sign a release form and have it turned in to the band directors at least 24 hours in advance (not including weekends) for administrative approval before riding home with a parent. Failure to do so could result in the musician not participating in the following competition or event.

13. **Communication:** McLean Band communicates via Remind, Charms, Facebook, and Instagram. If you do not currently receive emails from McLean Band, please email Mrs. Chance at sarah.chance@fwisd.org to be added to our email list. **Email is the BEST way to stay informed.** Facebook and Instagram can be found @mcleanbands. Remind codes are listed below (text to 81010):

McLean Band (ALL STUDENTS): @mcleanband00
Wind Ensemble: @mcleanWE19
Symphonic Band: @mcleanSB19
Concert Band: @mcleanCB19
Instrumental Methods: @mcleanIM19
Jazz Band: @mcleanJB19

14. **Band Placement:** We have 4 performance-based levels of band at McLean. Students will be placed into bands at the end of the previous year through an audition process that includes their solo music & scales. Directors also heavily take into account the student's involvement in the band program, including but not limited to: completing music assignments, sectional/rehearsal/concert attendance, solo & ensemble/All District/All Region/Benchmark/UIL participation, rehearsal etiquette, eligibility, leadership, and overall musical development throughout the year. ALL students who are concurrently enrolled in band may enroll in Jazz Band.
15. **Parent Conferences:** Parents should feel welcomed to schedule a time with the band directors if they wish to talk to them. However, we do ask that parents wait at least 24 hours after a chair test/audition/performance/band placement to schedule an appointment with a director. If you have questions concerning band placement, audition results, or a chair test, please have the musician talk to their director first. If that does not satisfy your concern, email the band director to set up an appointment. In addition, please follow our chain of command when voicing concerns. We ask that you reach out the lead teacher of your band first, followed by the head band director, and then our administrator over fine arts. All information can be found below.
16. **School/District Policies:** Any student caught stealing, hazing, bullying, cheating, vaping, consuming, or in possession of anything illegal, etc. could be dismissed from competitive and social events for the remainder of the year, including the Lock In, UIL, Benchmark, or All Region/All District.
17. **Social Media:** Please be careful what you post on websites as that can be seen by others for a long time. Anything inappropriate could result in consequences up to and/or including removal from competitive and social events for the remainder of the year, including the Lock In, UIL, Benchmark, or All Region/All District.
18. ANY DISRESPECT TOWARD ANY ADULT, DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATOR, OR BAND STUDENT, OR FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE RULES, THE DIRECTIONS GIVEN BY THE DIRECTORS OR AN ADMINISTRATOR, COULD RESULT IN SUSPENSION FROM FUTURE BAND ACTIVITIES.

By signing below, both student and parent agree to all of the McLean Band policies as listed in the Band Handbook. I understand that we may reference these policies as well as the full Band Handbook online at www.mcleanmsband.com for an in depth explanation of all the 2019-2020 band policies. Please return this **entire page** to your band director no later than **Friday, August 23.**

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Head Band Director: Sarah Chance, sarah.chance@fwisd.org

Assistant Band Director: Cassandra Reinhart, cassandra.saucedo@fwisd.org

Administrator (Fine Arts): Barbara Ozuna, barbara.ozuna@fwisd.org