

# 2022-2023 Hamlin Elementary Band Handbook

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## Foreword

The success of any organization is dependent upon the spirit, pride, leadership, teamwork, dedication, and cooperation of its members. Certain rules, policies, and procedures are necessary so that the overall goals of the group are met and the welfare of each individual member is best served.

By participating in beginner band, you are agreeing to perform to the best of your abilities and work together with the band staff in making this year's band the finest musical organization that our combined efforts can produce. In order for this to occur, students will need to be responsible, attentive, and respectful, have a positive attitude, and follow the HCISD Student Code of Conduct. The director will do his best to ensure that every student will be provided the opportunity to be successful.

The Marching Green Band Director (Mr. Strebeck) has developed this handbook to familiarize each band member with general operation and procedures of beginning

band. The handbook is not intended to be all-inclusive, as every possible situation and question cannot be predicted in advance; however, a thorough knowledge of these materials is essential to the smooth operation and success of the band this year.

## Communication

The director encourages positive communication and is willing to discuss any aspect of a student's progress in band with his/her parents. Mr. Strebeck's email address is [jstrebeck@hamlin.esc14.net](mailto:jstrebeck@hamlin.esc14.net). My office number is (325) 576-3025.

## Basic Band Hall Rules

1. Always be ON TIME!
2. NO gum, food, or drink of any kind (except water).
3. If it is not yours, DO NOT TOUCH IT!
4. DO NOT talk, pass notes, do homework, text or call during rehearsals.
5. Do not disrupt rehearsals through talking, poor choice of behavior, or cell phone use. Disruptions caused by cell phones will result in the phone being taken away from the student.
6. There will be absolutely NO destruction of property in the band hall at any time. If you are caught destroying or defacing anything in the band hall, you will be appropriately disciplined according to the code of student conduct.

## Rehearsal Procedures and Regulations

1. The primary rule for all rehearsals is to be there, be on time, and have all related equipment and instruments ready to play. Rehearsals will begin at exactly the time specified and will always, with very few exceptions, end at the time stated. Please tell your parents that they may rely on this and to pick you up on time.

2. All cases and personal items are to be left on the shelves in the instrument area. They are not to be left by your chair (except flute, and clarinet).

3. Please help us keep the band hall neat and clean. If you see paper on the floor, pick it up. Put all equipment and music folders away properly at the end of rehearsal and keep chairs and stands in order.

## Daily Supplies

The following list is what each student should plan to bring to the appropriate rehearsal and/or performance. Other items may be added at the discretion of the director.

- All issued music
- Pencil
- Instrument
- All supplies relative to their instrument

In addition, a metronome and tuner should be part of a band member's tools for home practice.

The following list for each instrument is comprised of preferred or highly recommended supplies and equipment.

### Flutes

- Tuning and cleaning rods
- Cleaning cloth
- Key oil
- Approved type instrument

### Clarinets

- Three good playable reeds. Vandoren Blue Box, and V-12's are the approved reeds.
- Reed guard (plastic, with rubber bands to hold reed in the guard are preferred)
- Ligature (Bonade, Inverted strongly recommended)
- Proper mouthpiece with cap (Vandoren 5 RV Lyre)

- Cleaning swab (silk handkerchief style, with covered weight)
- Approved type instrument
- Cork grease

#### Saxes /Bass Clarinet as applicable

- Three good playable reeds. Vandoren is the approved reed.
- Reed guard
- Ligature
- Proper mouthpiece (Selmer C star)
- Neck Strap (Bass Clarinet players included)
- Pad and neck saver
- Approved type instrument

#### Trumpet

- Valve oil (Al Cass)
- Polishing cloth
- Mouthpiece (Bach 3c or 5c)
- Approved type instrument

#### French Horn

- Valve/Rotary oil - (Al Cass - Marching Horn) (Holton Rotary - Concert Horn)
- Polishing cloth
- Approved mouthpiece
- Approved type instrument

#### Trombone

- Slide cream
- Spray Water Bottle
- Polishing Cloth
- Mouthpiece (Bach 5G or 51D)
- Approved type instrument

#### Baritone/Euphonium

- Valve oil (Al Cass)
- Mouthpiece (Bach 5G or 51D)

- Polishing cloth
- Approved type instrument

#### Tuba

- Valve/Rotary oil - (Al Cass –Sousa Valves /Holton – Concert Rotors)
- Mouthpiece (Bach 24 AW, Helleberg, or Miraphone Rose Model)
- Polishing cloth
- Approved type instrument (provided by district)

#### Percussion

- Snare sticks - Vic Firth SD1 General
- Xylophone mallets (Innovative Percussion-IP902, Vic Firth M141)
- Vibes/Marimba mallet (Innovative Percussion-IP240, Vic Firth M212)
- Timpani mallets (Firth T1 General)
- Stick bag

## District-Owned Instruments

Students are expected to keep their instruments clean and in good working order. Students should keep, with their instrument at all times, appropriate oils, grease, reeds and polishing cloths. Any damage of an instrument due to abuse or a student's negligence will be repaired at the expense of the student responsible for said damage.

Hamlin CISD has instruments available to students unable to provide their own instruments. The student is responsible for any damage an instrument receives while that instrument is in his or her care, and that student will be charged for the repair of that instrument.

## Grading Guidelines

Students receiving grades below 75 should realize that their performance is well below the standard expected in the Hamlin beginner band. A grade level of 85 means the student is doing well, but not as well as he or she could. A grade of 90 to 95 means a student is doing very well and working close to his or her potential. A grade level above 95 is reserved only for those students who put forth more effort than is expected of them.

Band students are also graded for each performance. Students will also be graded by how well they maintain their instruments. Instruments, whether privately or school owned, are expensive and will be cleaned and maintained by the students using those instruments. Daily classroom participation grades are derived from playing quizzes, and participation in daily rehearsals. Students will receive test grades from playing tests and performances. Daily grades weigh for 50% of a student's grade, Tests are the other 50%.

## Performance/Rehearsal Requirements for Concert Ensembles

Concerts and performances are an integral component of the band curriculum. Students should consult their schedules for dates and times. Periodically, the schedule may change and updates will be communicated. Concerts are considered to have three parts: warm-up, performance, and listening. The concert begins for the student at the warm-up. Punctuality is essential. A concert concludes when the last group performs and directors have given permission for students to be dismissed. A general report time will be given for all students.

- All concerts are a group effort, thus, attendance is required.
- All concerts are an extension of the classroom and will be graded accordingly.
- Students should be punctual and prepared for each performance/concert.
- Students are expected to stay the entire concert.
- Students are expected to help move equipment and "stack-n-rack" chairs and stands when needed.

# Hamlin Elementary School Band Agreement

This statement must be signed by you and your parents or guardians, and returned to the director.

*Students Name* (print please) \_\_\_\_\_

### STATEMENT OF STUDENT

I hereby certify that I have read and understand the Alpine Buck Band Handbook in its entirety. I agree to abide by all rules, policies, and procedures described therein.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### STATEMENT OF PARENT/GUARDIAN

I hereby certify that I have read and understand the Hamlin Band Handbook in its entirety. I give my son/daughter permission to participate in band activities, and I agree to be supportive of all band rules, policies, and procedures.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date