HAMSHIRE-FANNETT

MUSIC DEPARTMENT HANDBOOK

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE……..……..3

ELIGIBILITY……..……...3

NOTIFICATION……..……3

REQUIREMENTS……...……...……3

GRADING POLICY……4

CALENDAR……...……...4

UNIFORMS……..……....4

REPLACEMENT COST FOR UNIFORM PARTS……...…….……..5

REHEARSAL……..……5

PUBLIC APPEARANCES……...6

MARCHING BAND……...……...6

FOOTBALL GAMES……..……..6

BAND LETTER JACKET / HONOR CORD REQUIREMENTS…….……...……....7

LEADERSHIP AND AUXILIARIES PROCEDURES……..……...……...…..7

QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS……..……..8

CONTRACT OF AGREEMENT……..……...……...9

PERMISSION TO TRAVEL……..……..…..10

PREFACE

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the HF Longhorn Music Department!

This handbook is intended to provide you with information about the rules and regulations we have in our organization. These rules and regulations are set up to help us achieve our goal of providing the students with the best music education we can provide. We want to help protect and grow your investment in our music program here at Hamshire-Fannett ISD. This handbook helps provide what is expected of our members.

The most important part of this organization are the students and their willingness to work to uphold the high standards and high ideals of the Hamshire-Fannett Longhorn Music Department.

In order to be a successful ensemble member, you must develop self discipline, dedication, hard work, cooperation, pride and spirit. Through these, you will be able to demonstrate your ability to learn and perform music and the willingness to work and get along with the other members of the organization. Our Goal is to teach you characteristics that will make you successful in life after high school. Music is the tool that we use to teach these characteristics.

It is hoped that the information in this handbook will be useful to you and that your membership in the Hamshire-Fannett Music Program will be enjoyable and rewarding.

ELIGIBILITY

No student shall take part in any extracurricular activities that is not passing all of their classes at the end of each grading period with a grade of at least a 70. (Students wanting to try out for a leadership position or auxiliaries should read through the Leadership and Auxiliaries section of the band handbook.)

Students placed in the Alternative Education Program are prohibited from participating in UIL and extracurricular activities.

NOTIFICATION

Students, who cannot attend a performance or practice outside of school time, must notify the Directors in advance. Students are asked to check the Calendar and note the required performances and rehearsals. All students must attend all performances unless approved by the Directors.

REQUIREMENTS

6th Grade Beginner Band/Choir - Students must attend both Christmas and Spring Concerts in order to be eligible for the end of the year trip.

MS Wind Ensemble - Students must attend the UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest. ATSSB All-Region tryouts and Solo and Ensemble participation is optional. Students must attend both Christmas and Spring Concerts in order to be eligible for the end of the year trip. Participation in all public performances is required.

MS Concert Band - Students must attend the UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest if entered. ATSSB All-Region tryouts and Solo and Ensemble participation is optional. Students must attend both Christmas and Spring Concerts in order to be eligible for the end of the year trip. Participation in all public performances is required.

MS Choir - Students must participate in UIL Concert & Sightreading Contest and must do either All-Region Choir or Solo & Ensemble Contest. Students must attend both Christmas and Spring Concerts in order to be eligible for the end of the year trip.

HS Wind Ensemble - Students must attend the UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest. ATSSB All-Region tryouts and Solo and Ensemble participation is optional. Participation in all public performances is required.

HS Varsity Treble Choir - Students must attend All Region and UIL Concert & Sightreading Contest. Solo and Ensemble participation is optional. Participation in all public performances is required.

HS Concert Chorale - Students must attend Solo & Ensemble Contest and UIL Concert & Sightreading if entered. All Region participation is optional. Participation in all public performances is required.

GRADING POLICY

Daily Grades will be 40% of your grade. We will have a Weekly Rehearsal Grade and a Weekly After/before School Rehearsal Grade. Everyone starts the week off with a 100 and points will be deducted for tardiness, absences and lack of supplies needed for rehearsal.

Major Test Grades will be 60% of your grade. This will include music playoffs, scales, and chair tests. All public performances will count as a Major Test Grade.

CALENDAR

Please be sure to look over the calendar and begin to plan around our rehearsals and performances. All public performances and rehearsals are mandatory. In music we get one opportunity to give our audience the best we have anytime we perform as a group. We owe it to ourselves and our fellow ensemble members to make sure that our performance will be the best that we have to offer and strive to provide a meaningful and lasting impression on our audience. Every band/choir member is important and participation is essential for our programs to be successful.

UNIFORMS

6th Grade Band/Choir - Informal Uniform will be Band/Choir Shirt and jeans. Closed toe shoes with a back. Formal dress will be “Sunday Dress”. No shorts, jeans, t-shirts, tennis shoes or flip flops allowed.

MS Band - Informal Uniform will be Band Shirt and jeans. Closed toe shoes with a back. Formal dress will be all black dress clothes or also known as “Concert Black.” (ex. black pants and black buttoned down shirt.) Girls can wear dresses as long as they are black.

MS/HS Choir - Informal Uniform will be Choir Shirt and jeans. Black closed toe shoes with a back. Formal dress will be Choir Uniform, provided, and black closed toe dress shoes with a back.

HS Band - Informal Uniform will be Band Shirt and jeans. Closed toe shoes with a back. Formal Uniform will be marching uniform and black marching band shoes.

REPLACEMENT COST FOR UNIFORM PARTS

Students will be charged the following replacement fees for loss or damage to uniform parts caused by student neglect.

Marching Band Uniform

COAT	$135	PLUME	$40
PANTS	$100	SHAKO	$90

Choir Uniform

FORMAL DRESS	$75		
TUXEDO JACKET	$80	TUXEDO SHIRT	$20
TUXEDO PANTS	$30	BOW TIE/CUMMERBUND	$10

Take care of your uniform – It is very expensive not to do so!

REHEARSAL

Each rehearsal is carefully planned out to achieve the highest level of success for each and every ensemble member. We want to take advantage of every minute we have together so that we can reach this success as a family.

The following regulations are the foundation of our rehearsal procedures:

1. Have all supplies needed for rehearsal at your seat by the bell
2. Cases must be put away in lockers and kept off of the floor (Band)
3. No talking during rehearsal unless being spoken to
4. Always have a pencil and all music
5. Keep rehearsal room clean
6. No eating at any time in the rehearsal hall
7. Give your best at all times. "*The way you do anything is the way you will do everything."*

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Public performances are considered as an extension of the classroom and are a part of the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) requirements as put out by the Texas Education Agency for high school curriculum. All students are required to participate in **ALL** performances unless excused by the Directors. Illness or a death in the family will be the only accepted excuses, unless excused in advance by the Directors. Unexcused absences will have an adverse effect on the student's grade.

MARCHING BAND

The following procedures are used for the H-F Longhorn Marching Band:

1. Be early for rehearsal
2. Attendance at all rehearsals are required
3. Wear comfortable clothes (Shorts, t-shirts, and athletic shoes)
4. Flip Flops, Sandals and any kind of boot is not allowed
5. Everyone MUST have a reusable water bottle
6. Please bring sunglass, hat and any snacks you might need

FOOTBALL GAMES

The following regulations will be enforced at all football games:

1. Always check the "Band App" for updates on schedules
2. Band will always march into the stadium and will do so Pride-fully!
3. Remember "*To be on time is to be late, to be early is to be on time!"*
4. Everyone is to stay in their assigned seating at all times
5. Students are not permitted to go to the concession stand
6. There is to be no gum chewing at any time
7. Do not play on your instrument unless we do it as a band
8. Only band members, helpers, and sponsors are allowed in the band setup
9. Be ready to play when the Directors or Drum Majors are ready to go
10. Wear complete uniform at all times unless instructed by Directors
11. Treat guests with respect
12. Each student is responsible for his/her own instrument and music
13. Students are to be in dress code before and during all trips
14. The band is not dismissed until band hall is back in order after each game
15. Please have rides available immediately after every game
16. Parent/Guardian must sign out students with the Director before leaving from an away game. Note from Parent/Guardian is needed with prior approval from the principal before the game if riding home with someone else
17. All bus rules must be followed at all times

BAND/CHOIR LETTER JACKET REQUIREMENTS

1. All band/choir students who have completed 3 years of band/choir and have signed up for a 4th year will earn a letter jacket.
2. Anyone who qualifies for Area will earn a letter jacket at the end of that year.
3. Anyone who qualifies for TSSEC will earn a letter jacket at the end of that year.
4. Anyone dropping Band/Choir at the end of the year will not receive a jacket.

BAND HONOR CORD REQUIREMENTS (WHITE)

1. Must have 4 years of HS Band.
2. Must be a full active member of the marching band and concert band.
3. Must maintain a minimum GPA of 4.0 in Band.
4. Must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 or higher in core classes.
5. Must attend either ATSSB All-Region competition or UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest for 3 years OR Qualify for State at least once in band during their 4 years.
6. Students receiving ISS or DAEP will automatically forfeit their right to earn honor cords.

LEADERSHIP AND AUXILIARIES PROCEDURES

Leadership and Auxiliaries include Drum Majors, Squad Leaders, Colorguard, Twirlers and elected offices.

Drum Majors, Colorguard and Twirlers: Will audition for a panel of judges. Students must meet the following requirements and regulations:

1. Students must complete the Tryout packet by the designated time.
2. Students must attend all of the audition camp the week of tryouts, NO EXCEPTIONS!!!
3. Students that get selected will have a substantial financial obligation including attending camps, uniform and practice attire as well.
4. Students may be removed from said group if they become ineligible, have excessive absences, tardies, or conduct issues. This will be at the Director's discretion.

Squad/Section Leaders: Will be chosen by the Directors. Students must meet the following requirements to be considered:

1. Students must complete a Squad/ Section Leader packet by the designated time.
2. Students may be removed from said group if they become ineligible, have excessive absences, tardies, or conduct issues. This will be at the Director's discretion.

Elected Officers: Will be elected by the band/choir students. Students elected must follow the regulations listed below:

1. Students will perform their elected duties with Pride
2. Students may be removed from office if they become ineligible, have excessive absences, tardies, or conduct issues. This will be at the Director's discretion.

QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Please feel free to contact us anytime about any questions and concerns you may have. We do not feel that any situation is impossible not to solve. Communication is a must in an organization like this. Let's make sure we communicate with each other. Our office door is always open. All of our contact information is listed below.

Jennifer Atkinson - HF Director of Bands

Email: jatkinson@hfhorns.net

Office: (409) 243 - 2131 ext 1139

Emaley Phillips - HF Director of Choirs

Email: ephillips@hfhorns.net

Office: (409) 243 - 2131

Adriana Avalos - HF MS Band Director/HS Band Assistant

Email: aavalos@hfhorns.net

Office: (409) 794 - 1502 ext 2122

MUSIC DEPARTMENT CONTRACT OF AGREEMENT

I have read the Music Department handbook and I understand that I will adhere to all expectations and guidelines in the handbook. I will be sure to refer back to this handbook before contacting the Director about any questions or concerns.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Music Department
Permission to Travel

I give my child permission to travel on all band/choir trips during the school year. I give permission to the director or sponsor in charge to seek and secure medical attention in the event of a medical emergency and will not hold the sponsors or school liable in that event.

Child's Full Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____Number: _____

Whom to call in case parent/guardian can not be reached

Name:_____Number: _____

Name:_____Number: _____

Allergies, medical conditions, or other information you would like us to know

_____

_____

_____

If my child is on a trip, I give the director or sponsors permission to administer the following OTC medicines as requested: (please check all that are allowed)

____ Tylenol (acetaminophen) ____ Pepto-bismol

____ Advil (ibuprofen)

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____