

Introduction

This handbook outlines the policies, procedures, and expectations of our organization. Please take the time to read and familiarize yourself with its contents. While we have done our best to provide the most comprehensive overview of our program and our expectations, please know that it is impossible to address every single detail. If you have questions not addressed in this handbook, please email us, and we would be happy to answer them.

About Us

With over 185 students, the Rogers Middle School Band is the largest student organization on campus. The band program is phenomenally successful, having earned "Best in Class" at the 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, & 2026 Shadow Creek Showcase of Sound and earning consistent superior ratings at contests and festivals. More than 110 band students have earned a "First Division" at our annual beginner solo contest, while more than 30 students have earned an "Outstanding Soloist Award." The Rogers Middle School Band is the direct feeder program for the Berry Miller Junior High Band which is also extraordinarily successful, **having earned numerous local, state, and national honors.**

Philosophy

Our goal as music educators is to help our students develop a life-long love and appreciation of music. We accomplish this through performance — teaching students to perform at their highest level. We know that not every student will pursue music as a career; however, it is our hope that by holding themselves to a high standard in music our students will develop other valuable life-skills such as self-discipline, time management, collaboration, accountability, perseverance, and much more.

[Click on this link to read more about the benefits of arts education.](#)

Parental Support

Parental support is a fundamental component of student success inside and outside the classroom. Furthermore, it is also a vital part of any successful school organization. We rely on parents to reinforce good habits in our students and to help with the band program directly. There will be several opportunities throughout the year for parents to volunteer, chaperone, help at concerts, etc. If you are interested in being a chaperone on a trip, please register as a volunteer with Pearland ISD.

[Click on this link to access the district's volunteer page.](#)

Communication

Email is the best way to contact us!

Since we work at more than one campus, we will not always be available by phone. Furthermore, when we are at school, we are *always actively teaching*. If needed, you may email us arrange a time speak by phone. Our emails are listed below.

Chris Bennett

Director of Bands

bennettc@pearlandisd.org

Matthew Hogan

Assistant Director of Bands

hoganj@pearlandisd.org

Abigail Roalson

Assistant Director of Bands

roalsona@pearlandisd.org

Josh Hartwell

Director of Percussion – Dawson High School Band Cluster

hartwellj@pearlandisd.org

Student Communication

We believe that teachers and parents have a responsibility to help students develop their professional communication skills so that they can become effective communicators as adults. As such, we highly encourage students to advocate for themselves by contacting their teachers **directly through Canvas** if they have questions regarding their courses and assignments.

BAND App (iPhone or Android)

The band program will be using the BAND App as the primary means of parent communication. Please download the app, create a profile, and sign up for a class using the class code provided by your band director.

Braces for Wind Players

Any routine orthodontic work such as braces can pose some challenges in learning a brass or woodwind instrument. *Students can get braces and still be successful* on their instruments; however, we ask that you be mindful of the timing. For students who started learning an instrument without braces, it usually takes a few weeks to get adjusted to playing with braces. Likewise, when braces are removed, time is required to adapt to “a new face.”

*For this reason, we ask that you consider **not** getting braces nor removing them prior to important performances, contests, or auditions.* Please keep us informed of your plans concerning any orthodontic work. For band students, there is never a “good” time to get braces. Your band director can help you plan important events to help your child be as successful as they can be.

Governing Bodies

The policies and procedures of the Rogers Middle School Band program are subject to the following governing bodies:

- [Pearland Independent School District \(Pearland ISD\)](#)
- [Texas Education Agency \(TEA\)](#)
- [University Interscholastic League \(UIL\)](#)
- [Texas Music Educators Association](#)

Curricular vs. Extracurricular

[The fine arts are defined as part of the “required curriculum” in state law.](#) The law distinguishes between “foundation curriculum” and “enrichment curriculum.” Foundation curriculum includes English language arts, math, science, and social studies. Enrichment curriculum includes physical education, the fine arts, and others. As part of the required curriculum, we must cover 100% of the [Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills \(TEKS\)](#) for music. As such, band is a curricular course. However, band students do participate in extracurricular activities that are associated with the course. Here is a summary of which activities are considered curricular and which ones are extracurricular.

Curricular

All students are required to participate in the following activities even if they may be ineligible. Furthermore, a lack of participation in band will adversely affect their band grade and could jeopardize their eligibility for extracurricular opportunities associated with band and other activities.

- Daily Band Classes
- Any course work associated with band class
- Before or After-School Rehearsals
- Band Concerts
- Solo Contest

Extracurricular

The following activities are considered extracurricular. As such, all students must be eligible as defined by the [TEA & UIL Side-by-Side](#) to participate in the following activities.

- Band festivals such as Shadow Creek Showcase of Sound

Academic Eligibility (No Pass No Play)

The TEA & UIL Side-by-Side states:

A student who receives, at the end of any grading period (after the first six weeks of the school year), a grade *below 70 in any class* (other than an identified class eligible for exemption) or a student with disabilities who fails to meet the standards in the Individual Education Plan (IEP) may not participate in extracurricular activities for three school weeks. *An ineligible student may practice or rehearse, however.* The student regains eligibility after the seven-calendar day waiting period has ended following a grading period

or the three-school week evaluation period when the principal and teachers determine that he or she has earned a passing grade (70 or above) in all classes, other than those that are exempted. (p. 3)

Special Note: This only applies to band festivals. Concerts and Solo Contest are an extension of the band classroom and are considered curricular. Please visit the Pearland ISD website to view the official eligibility calendar for this school year.

About the Course

Description of Band Classes

The band classes at Rogers are structured to maximize students' musical growth. Students begin their first year of band in a *homogeneous class setting* — that is, all students in one band class play the same instrument. Homogenous beginner classes are necessary to give students a solid foundation on their instrument and enable them to become independent players. We offer the following instrument classes at Rogers.

- Flute
- Oboe
- Bassoon
- Clarinet
- Saxophone
- Trumpet
- Horn
- Trombone
- Euphonium
- Tuba
- Percussion

After their first year, students continue their band experience at Berry Miller Junior High in mixed-instrument classes based on ability level. This allows us to differentiate instruction and maximize each student's musical growth.

At the end of their 6th grade year, students will audition for placement into one of the four performing bands at Berry Miller Junior High. Audition music will be made available to students on a certain date (usually the beginning of May). Students will have a designated amount of time to prepare for their audition.

Band Placement

Band placement is determined not only by audition results but also work ethic, reliability, attendance, citizenship, and other factors. Once posted, band placements are considered final. Students may not re-audition.

Students keep their band placement for the entire year. On occasion during the school year, it becomes apparent during that another band class is more suitable for the student. In this situation, the band directors will communicate with the counselors to discuss a schedule change. Please keep in mind that factors outside the band program may also influence the possibility of a schedule change.

Required Supplies

Band Binder

Band members receive a large amount of sheet music throughout the year. Being organized is crucial to success in band class; therefore, all band students are required to have a band binder whose components are:

- A black 1.5 or 2 inch three-ring binder with pockets
- Pencil bag with three rings
- 5 sharpened pencils
- Highlighter
- Blank notebook paper, at least 10 sheets
- One set of 5-tab dividers (label them as follow):
 - Fundamentals
 - Scales and Technique
 - Daily Drill
 - Music
 - Private Lesson Material

Students will be given more details on how to organize their binder in band class. Students are expected to keep their binder always organized. We will conduct binder checks every nine weeks.

Tuner/Metronome

All students must have a tuner/metronome. *We highly recommend the Tonal Energy App!* The app costs \$6.99 (most mechanical tuner/metronome combos can cost up to \$40) and is available for iOS, Android, and Amazon Apps. Not only is the app a less expensive option, but it also has features and capabilities that no other tuner/metronome has — such as sound generation and waveform analysis. [Click here to learn more about the app and its features.](#)

Personal Instrument

Students who play *flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, or trombone* must provide their own instrument. These can be rented from a local vendor such as Music & Arts. We highly recommend renting instead of purchasing as instruments are covered under a Liability Damage Waiver (LDW) during the rental term.

Clarinet and saxophone players are expected to buy their own reeds and have a set of three working reeds at their disposal at any given time.

Pearland ISD does not provide insurance for personal property. See your homeowner's insurance policy for possible coverage. You may also consider a company that specializes in musical instruments such as [Anderson Musical Instrument Insurance Solutions, LLC](#). Students are assigned individual band lockers for use during the school day. It is the student's responsibility to keep their instrument in their assigned locker. We recommended labeling the instrument case with your student's name. (Luggage tags work great for this!)

All personal instruments must go home every day! This is to ensure the safety of your personal property.

School-owned Instrument

Pearland ISD provides instruments for students who play *oboe, bassoon, horn, euphonium, or tuba* for an annual rental fee of \$120 payable by semester. This fee covers the cost of routine maintenance and cleaning. Students are responsible for any maintenance costs incurred due to misuse.

Oboe and bassoon players are expected to buy their own reeds (you should purchase these from your private lessons teacher) and have a set of three working reeds at their disposal at any time.

Brass players must furnish their own mouthpiece.

*Important note. **Per district policy, students who play school-owned instruments are required to be enrolled in private lessons.***

Percussion

Percussion students must provide their own sticks, mallets, and practice pad and rent a practice marimba. Since percussionists also utilize school equipment, a \$60 rental fee is assessed in the spring semester **and are expected to be enrolled in private lessons.**

Instrument Maintenance

Students are expected to perform minor routine maintenance to keep their instruments in working condition as appropriate for their instrument. For brass players, this includes oiling valves and applying slide grease. For woodwinds, this includes (as appropriate) swabbing and applying cork grease.

Personal Instrument Maintenance:

If an instrument appears to malfunction, contact a band director immediately. *Do not attempt to fix the instrument on your own.* If a director cannot solve the problem, then we will recommend a local instrument repair shop. (This is usually the same place that you are renting the instrument from. Your rental contract should cover the repair at no charge to you.) Our local vendors usually visit our school once a week. We can have them take the instrument with them and they will call you before making any repairs. If the repair is urgent — for example, your child has a performance or audition in the next few days — we recommend taking the instrument directly to the repair shop on your own.

School-owned Instrument Maintenance:

As stated above, if an instrument appears to malfunction, *do not attempt to fix on your own.* Notify a band director immediately and we will handle the repair process for school-owned instruments.

Local Music Stores/Repair Shops

Below are a few local music stores/repair shops that we recommend.

Music & Arts — Webster

19335 Gulf Freeway 10

Webster, TX 77598

(281) 316-1724

<https://stores.musicarts.com/webster>

Music & Arts — Alvin

2101 SH-35 S

Unit 103

Alvin, TX 77511

(281) 585-6731

<https://stores.musicarts.com/alvin>

Required Fees

Band Fee. All band students must pay \$20 course fee. This fee is set by Pearland ISD and covers expenses such as clinicians, music, supplies, and band shirts. This fee must be paid via Skyward.

Instrument Rental Fee. As mentioned above, students who play school-owned instruments must pay an annual fee of \$120. This fee must be paid via Skyward.

Uniform

All band students are required to have a formal uniform for concerts/performances and an informal uniform for band trips and other less formal events.

Formal Concert Uniform

The formal concert uniform is what one might wear to a wedding, funeral, or other important events where you would dress more formally.

Boys

- Dress pants
- Belt
- Dress shoes
- Dress socks
- Button-down collared shirt with full length sleeves
- *Plain* white undershirt

Girls

- A skirt/dress of appropriate length or dress pants with a blouse
- Closed-toed shoes

Informal Uniform

The informal uniform is the Rogers Middle School Band shirt. Every year, we purchase new shirts for the students. The band cost of the band shirt is covered by your band course fee.

Course Requirements

Practice Logs

Learning an instrument requires daily and consistent practice. For this reason, students will be submitting daily and weekly Practice Logs. Detailed rubrics will be made available and posted in Canvas. Students will be notified when they must begin logging and submitting practice minutes.

Concerts

According to the [Music TEKS](#), students are expected to “demonstrate appropriate concert and stage etiquette as an informed, actively involved listener and performer during live and recorded performances in a variety of settings.” Concerts represent the culmination of our students’ hard work — the goal that we’ve all been working toward in a grading period. In many ways, this is analogous to a major exam on a particular unit in a math course. As such, *concert attendance is required for all band students and comprises a major portion of their grade.*

After-School Rehearsals

In preparation for our two combined band concerts, it is necessary to rehearse as an ensemble. This also gives students a preview of what band will be like in junior high. Rehearsals are considered an extension of the classroom and will be graded as such. Parents will be given sufficient notice for any required rehearsals.

Solo Contest

Part of the [Music TEKS](#) require that students perform alone and independently. To meet these requirements, we host an annual Solo Contest for all Rogers Band students. Students are required to pay an accompanist fee of \$30 directly to their pianist. More information about this event can be found [here](#).

Grading Policy

Daily Grades

Daily grades comprise 60% of the student’s final grade.

Major Grades

Major grades comprise 40% of the student’s final grade.

Students should expect to have at least one major grade each week once we begin instruction.

Typical Grades Taken Each Week Band Class:

- Weekly Practice Log (Daily Grade)
- Locker Checks (Daily Grade)
- Binder & Supply checks – includes daily pencil check (Daily Grade)
- Individual Student Participation & Preparation (Daily Grade)
- Playing tests or quizzes (Major Grade)

From time to time, the following grades are taken:

- Written Theory Assignments (Daily Grade)
- Concerts (Major Grade)
- Concert Rehearsals
- Solo Contest (Major Grade)
- Shadow Creek Showcase of Sound Festival (Major Grade)
- Specific projects (Major Grade)

Missing/Late Assignments/Corrections

All missing/late assignments must be turned in by the end of each grading period. While we will not deduct points for late work, no assignments will be accepted after the grading period has ended. The only exception for this policy is if a student has an unexcused absence from a graded event.

Attendance Policy

The success of any ensemble is directly dependent on the contributions and efforts of its members. Band is a collaborative effort; therefore, any student's absence negatively affects their peers. As such, the following guidelines are put in place regarding activities outside the classroom where attendance is required.

Excused Absences

If a student must miss a scheduled rehearsal, parents should notify a band director immediately via email. Absences may be excused at the discretion of the band directors under the following circumstances.

- Personal illness (student must have been absent from school that day)
- Family emergency
- Death in the family
- Medical appointments (documentation must be provided to be excused)
- Other reasons of a serious nature deemed appropriate by the band director

Documentation for the absence is required to be excused. (This can be a parent email.)

In the rare circumstance that a student must miss a scheduled performance, band directors should be notified immediately via email. Students will be given an alternative assignment.

Unexcused Absence

An absence will be considered unexcused unless a student obtains prior approval from a band director. Additionally, the following reasons are not valid excuses for missing a scheduled sectional, listening, or rehearsal. These may be made up for partial credit (70) using an alternative written assignment.

- Any appointments without documentation
- Tutorials
- Club meetings or extracurricular activities
- Missing the scheduled event

Private Lessons

We are extremely fortunate to have an outstanding private lesson program at Rogers Middle School. Many of our teachers hold advanced degrees in music performance and are experts on their instruments. Some of our teachers even perform with professional orchestras such as the Houston Symphony! Private lessons are highly encouraged for all students regardless of their band placement. As mentioned above, *students who play school-owned instruments are required to take private lessons per district policy.*

[Click here for information about our private lesson staff and how to enroll.](#)

Student Expectations

Above all, a Rogers Middle School band student should exhibit the highest standards of character, honesty, and integrity in everything that they do. Students are expected to follow all rules, policies, and procedures in the [Pearland ISD Student Handbook](#), the [Pearland ISD Student Code of Conduct](#), and here, in the Band Handbook.

Pillars of the Rogers Middle School Band

- Be on time
- Be kind
- Be dependable
- Be prepared
- Be engaged
- Be polite
- Be coachable
- Be honest
- Be exceptional
- Be accountable
- Be proud but never satisfied – get better EVERY single day!

Rules

1. Be polite and respectful to all students, staff, and visitors.
2. Follow any instructions or directives the first time they are given.
3. Only touch/handle equipment you are authorized to use.
4. Only band students are allowed in the band rooms.
5. You are only allowed to be in YOUR band room (where you have class/case stored).
6. Obtain permission before entering a director's office.
7. No food, drink, or gum in the band hall.

Facilities and Equipment

We are extremely fortunate to have outstanding facilities and equipment. We want to keep everything in the best condition possible; therefore...

1. Band halls and instrument lockers are to be kept clean at all times.
2. Band lockers are for instruments only!
3. Keep instruments in cases with latches closed and locked in assigned lockers when not in use.
4. All instruments must go home every day! (Except for students who have a school-owned instrument assigned for home use.)
5. For those who do not rent a school-owned instrument, it is recommended that you keep a record of the serial number, make, and model at home.
6. Do not leave any instrument unattended outside of its locker.

Classroom Procedures

The following procedures will help you understand how class runs daily. Except for very infrequent/special occasions, we will be playing/rehearsing every day.

Entering the Room/Before Rehearsal

1. Students will be walked down to the band rooms by their classroom teachers.
2. Line up against the wall outside the band room and wait silently until a band director instructs you to enter the room.
3. Enter the classroom in a silent and orderly fashion and then silently go to your locker.
4. Gather your required materials and close and latch the locker door.
5. Quickly and silently find your seat using the aisles of the set up.

During Rehearsal

"10-10 Rule"

- **NO** students will be allowed to exit the classroom during the first 10 and last 10 minutes of a class period. This is so students will be able to hear the director's formal opening and overview of the class that day, and so students do not miss any reminders about homework and their director's formal close occurring at the end of the class period.

Restroom

- Students are encouraged to use the restroom during their passing period to maximize instructional time.
- Within the middle 30 minutes of a class period, a student may ask to use the restroom. Only **ONE** student is allowed out of the room at a time. Band directors do reserve the right to ask a student to wait until a better moment in the instructional period, i.e., student is asked to wait until explanation about an assignment, pertinent topic, or wait until the director is not working with your student's section, to use the restroom.
- Students must obtain a pass from the front of the band room and must have the pass visible in the hallway during class periods.

Perform the music to the best of your ability.

1. Sit with correct posture (on the edge of the chair, feet flat on the floor, neutral spine, sloped shoulders, head high).
2. Hold your instrument properly.

Demonstrate proper rehearsal etiquette.

1. Bring all required supplies to rehearsal daily including band binder, instrument, maintenance supplies, mutes (brass, if required), or any other items deemed necessary by a director.
2. Follow all instructions given by any director without hesitation including — marking music, getting instrument ready, and playing when asked.
3. Be ready to play when the director is prepared to start the ensemble. (This means that your instrument should be in playing position with your embouchure set.)
4. Students are not permitted to talk during rehearsal unless given permission by a director.
5. Raise your hand and wait for permission to speak if you have a question.
6. Minimize any extraneous noise. (Our medium is sound; therefore, any extra noise is a distraction from our hard work. Eliminate any unnecessary movement not needed for performing your instrument).
7. Transition efficiently. (Get out new music as quickly and silently as possible.)

After Rehearsal/Exiting the Room

1. Perform the necessary preventative maintenance for your instrument.
2. Woodwinds: Swab your instrument to remove condensation that has built up during rehearsal.
3. Reed players: Always remove your reed from your mouthpiece and put it back in your reed guard. It is unsanitary to leave it attached to the mouthpiece.
4. Place your instrument back in its case correctly and return it to your locker quietly.
5. Exit the room in an orderly fashion. Do not run.

Before/After School

1. Listen to all Rogers staff members who are on duty in the morning or afternoon.
2. Students are expected to enter the band rooms and move quickly to their lockers, gather, or drop off their instrument, and leave the room.
3. Do not congregate or visit in the band rooms before or after school.
4. Do not touch anything besides your instrument and your locker.
5. Do not loiter in the band hall.
6. Students DO NOT have permission to be in the band rooms before or after school without a band director, private lesson teacher, or school administrator present.

Events Outside School

For any event associated with school, students are held to the same expectations outlined in the [Pearland ISD Student Handbook](#), the [Pearland ISD Student Code of Conduct](#), and in the Band Handbook. Students are subject to disciplinary action for any offense committed during an event associated with the school. Students are representing Rogers Middle School and Pearland ISD; therefore, we expect them to take this representation seriously and be the best representatives of our school and district. Students have additional expectations while traveling and during concert performances.

Travel

1. Demonstrate respect for bus driver and chaperones.
2. Follow any instructions given by bus driver or chaperones immediately.
3. Keep noise at reasonable level while traveling.
4. Leave your seat/area cleaner than you found it.
5. Thank the bus driver and chaperones when exiting the bus.

Performances

As a performer.

1. Follow all rules and procedures as you normally would during band class.
2. Show up to the warmup room early in designated uniform with instrument and music.
3. Transition from warm up room to stage silently.
4. Follow any directions given to you by a director.

As an audience member.

1. Be an attentive audience member.
2. Do not talk at all during a performance. (This includes whispering.)
3. Silence cell phone or any other devices.
4. Do not text during a performance.
5. Only clap when appropriate.
6. Do not shout or whistle.

Transportation/Travel

Bus Rules

The RMS Band is a large group to mobilize. Please consider all the RMS Band students, adult chaperones, and directors traveling to and from various events! It is necessary that each student understands and abides by the rules to facilitate this enormous task in the safest, most efficient way possible.

1. Follow all PISD bus rules posted at the front of each bus and use common sense (pick up all trash, do not sit in the aisles, do not stand while the bus is in motion, only sit two to a seat, etc.).
2. Upon arrival at destination remain seated until the director or designated adult chaperone has given instructions.
3. Directors, drivers, and chaperones have the authority to assign seating to any of the students on the bus in the event of disciplinary problems or failure to abide by bus rules by any individual(s). If needed, the entire bus

convoy will stop to address any misconduct by any student. Please do not be the student that the entire convoy stops for.

4. Leave all buses clean of trash and personal belongings upon return. Each bus will have an assigned bus captain (typically a section leader). The captain will check to see if the bus has been cleared of all trash. If not, the bus captain will select students to help clean the bus. If selected to assist in bus cleaning, students should work quickly and efficiently to maximize their time to complete the task successfully.
5. Personal Media Devices **must be played with headphones on**. If one person is allowed to play his or her music loudly, so is everyone else which becomes distracting to the rest of the bus. If needed, please plan ahead, and bring necessary splitters to share with the person next to you. The district, school, directors, and band boosters are not responsible in the event of loss or theft. The Band Director (not chaperone) will approve movies brought by students.
6. Any traveling misconduct will be referred to the Band Directors. Again, if needed, the entire bus convoy will stop to address any misconduct by any student. Please do not be the student that the entire convoy stops for.
7. Remember, have a positive attitude and we will always have a GREAT trip.
8. Students must ride the PISD provided transportation to and from a band event. Exceptions will be made at the discretion of the directors and must be accompanied with the **PISD Alternate Transportation Form**. This form must be turned into the directors **24 hours prior** to the departure of the trip to ensure that the proper administrators' signatures may be collected.

Other Events

It is impossible to outline every conceivable situation. As such, students are expected to use their judgement to make safe, respectful, and responsible decisions knowing that they are representing more than themselves at any event outside of school.

Tardy Policy

Band students are to get to band class on time and move with purpose at the start of class. Students coming to band after the rest of their class must have a note from their teacher.

Students will have one minute after entering the classroom to be in their seat with all materials prepared for class. Failure to do this will result in necessary disciplinary action concerning classroom procedures.

Consequences for Breaking Expectations

For minor offenses, the following system will be used.

1. Warning (either verbal, written, or other type of redirection to student)
2. Alternate In-Class Assignment and parent contact via email or phone
3. First Band Director Assigned Office Referral assigned and parent contact requesting a student, parent, and teacher conference
4. Second Band Director Assigned Office Referral and parent contact requesting a student, teacher, parent, and administrator conference
5. Third Band Director Assigned Office Referral and permanent Removal from Band Program

Recurring and/or major offenses may result in an immediate office referral and/or permanent removal from the band program as appropriate.

Trip & Performance Privileges

Participation on any band sponsored trip or in a performance is a privilege reserved for students who exhibit good behavior, citizenship, and teamwork. It is at the director's discretion to remove a student from any band sponsored trip or performance who the directors believe could negatively impact the ensemble or detract from the overall experience of the trip or performance.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- excessive and/or continuous disruptions of band class
- excessive and/or continuous detentions (band and school-wide)
- excessive and/or continuous office referrals (band and school-wide)
- ISS during the time of the trip or performance (UIL policy)
- OSS during the time of the trip or performance (UIL policy)
- or if a campus administrator requests a student not attend the trip or performance.

If a student is removed from a trip due to disciplinary reasons, the family will receive a full refund for the cost of the trip via Skyward (provided the trip costs can be recouped from the vendors).

If a student is removed from a graded performance for disciplinary reasons, the student will receive an alternate assignment to earn full credit for the performance.

Description of Events

Band students participate in various events throughout the year. Descriptions of these events can be found below. A calendar of required events will be sent out via email.

Winter Concert

Every December we present our annual Winter Concert. This is the first major performance of the year for all Rogers Band students. *This performance is required for all band students* and comprises a major portion of the student's grade.

Dawson Cluster Percussion Concert

Every spring the Dawson Cluster Percussion program hosts a percussion ensemble concert. This concert highlights the entire percussion program from beginner band students to high school seniors.

Rogers Solo Contest

Performing music independently is one of the most important skills that we can develop in our students. It is also one of the TEKS for music. For this reason, we host an annual Solo Contest for all middle school band students. Students independently perform a piece of music alone — usually accompanied by piano — for a judge who gives them a rating based on the quality of their performance/preparation. *All band students are required to perform a solo. Students must also pay a \$30 fee to their accompanist for rehearsals and performance.*

Local Festivals

Every spring the Rogers Band participates in a local band festival such as the Shadow Creek Showcase of Sound. In addition to receiving a rating for their performance like at UIL, bands at the festival also compete against each other for “Best in Class” in their division. The Rogers Band and all the Berry Miller bands have earned this distinction at least once — often multiple times — in both schools’ history. Information about performance dates and times will be made at a later date.

Spring Concert

Our annual Spring Concert is usually the last major performance of the year for the Rogers Band. *This performance is required for all band students and comprises a major portion of their grade.*

Extra Fun Activities

We expect our band students to develop not only their musical skills, but also their social skills. For this reason, we organize several fun short trips and activities every year. To participate in these trips, students must be in good standing academically, behaviorally, and otherwise in all their classes — not just band.

Rogers Band Spring Trip

As a reward for their hard work and commitment all year long, we usually take one big trip every Spring. More information about this trip will be made available later including the destination, date, and trip fee.