

Dear Highlander Band Students,

Welcome to the Eastern Hills Highlander Band program. By accepting membership in the Highlander Band, you agree to join in a partnership with a common goal of excellence. Our band has already established a great tradition of excellence, and it is my goal to not only maintain this tradition, but to ascend to an even higher level. As we move forward, I would like to state my vision of discipline, teamwork, and musicianship, for the whole of our band. From the Symphonic Band, Marching Band, Jazz Band, and all of the groups within, these three fundamental concepts will be the driving force behind all band endeavors.

Discipline in its ideal, is actually the expectation that students are trusted with self-discipline, and honor their participation in band by always doing what is right. Students need to understand that we are the most visible organization on our campus, and all of our actions are seen and judged and critiqued.

Teamwork is the ability to get along with all people in all of their capacities in band. Disrespect towards directors, parents, fellow band members, other bands, and other organizations will not be tolerated. An environment which warrants focus and maturity at all times will be established and maintained. Band students need to understand that trust and cooperation will build the types of relationships necessary to be a successful partnership. In addition, EHHS band students will be expected to be the best citizens at Eastern Hills High School.

Musicianship is the ultimate goal of our program. The focus of our repertoire, curriculum, and performances, will be on developing the self-discipline and skills necessary to become better musicians. Students will be expected to strive to continually improve musicianship at all levels.

The Eastern Hills Band finds itself at the most competitive level of band, which is 4A, in the most competitive region in the state of Texas. We must accept this challenge and strive to meet this high level of competition. I feel strong that the EHHS band students have what it takes to excel at the highest level. With the continued support of our outstanding parents, and high expectations from our administration, we can achieve anything.

Please be sure to read the entire handbook, as it contains vital information necessary for a successful band program. This handbook is designed to help you understand the rules, policies, complexities, and expectations of the Highlander Band. We hope it can be used to answer questions and define the boundaries that are important in making our band an efficient, effective, and proud organization. If utilized properly, the concepts of discipline, teamwork, and musicianship will develop. If you need information that does not appear here, please ask.

I look forward to a great year and a wonderful and exciting time for our band.

Please contact me through email if you have any questions: kathy.bernal@fwisd.org or cell phone (817) 308-4413

Musically yours,
Kathy S. Bernal
Director of Bands
Eastern Hills High School
www.ehhsmusic.org

**Eastern Hills High School Highlander Band
Student Handbook
2010-2011**

Participation in the Eastern Hills HS Band is dependent upon effort and a true desire to succeed. The rules stated in this handbook are easy to understand. The band director and administration feel these rules are fair, just, and are in the best interest of the overall Eastern Hills High School Band, school and each individual who participates. The final decision is yours. There is no place for weakness and complacency in this band! An organization is only as strong as its weakest link.

My Philosophy

To teach an appreciation and understanding of the performing arts and how music influences and reflects history and culture.

To teach the importance of self-discipline, cooperation, loyalty and respect for others, as well as the importance of responsibility

To create in students a desire and appreciation for excellence in performance of any endeavor.

To teach students how to set individual goals in life, and how to accomplish these goals.

To teach students the skills and tools needed to perform to the best of their ability.

Rehearsals and Performances

Participation at sectionals, rehearsals and performances is required and will be integrated in to the student's grade in accordance with TEA/UII/FWISD guidelines.

A schedule of activities and events will be provided to students and parents in August. Supplemental schedules are provided as needed to students and parents allowing a minimum of one week's notice of a new or updated activity or event.

In addition to local performances, special performance ensembles make numerous other appearances during the year.

Performances courses in Band involve outside of school rehearsals and performances. Students who are members of principal performing groups are expected to fully participate in all performance activities including approved travel.

Band Members Responsibility

Be regular in attendance and account for all absences – Early on Time – On Time is Late

Become responsible for and expect to assume the consequences of his/her actions

Be personal clean, neat and dressed appropriately

Have the proper respect for authority

Be personally responsible for all information regarding the band, rehearsals, events, schedules, and be responsible relaying such information to parents and/or guardians

Be honest and fair with others concerning equipment, music, and school life in general.

Cooperate with fellow band members and share with them the responsibilities and privileges that are part of the band program.

Make a real effort to learn and improve daily, to read and play music with insight and expression.

Know the Eastern Hills HS Mission Statement and demonstrate, by your actions, what it stands for.

Mission Statement

We, the Members of the Eastern Hills High School Band, In order to become a more successful organization, shall strive to our very best to become a group that will not settle for second best.

We are a group with honesty, dignity, strength and pride.

Only through hard work shall we achieve our dreams!!!

Band Member Rules

Be prepared for rehearsal on time (with instrument, music, pencil, etc)

Be prepared for performances on time (with all necessary items)

Eating, drinking or chewing gum is not allowed in the band hall at any time.

Play your own instrument and no one else's unless with director approval.

Instrument, case, music, books, etc., should be kept in their proper place before, during and after rehearsals.

Give 100% effort during all rehearsals and performances. Do not disrupt or disturb rehearsal with inappropriate activities.

Play your instrument in the right way, time and place.

Always conduct yourself with honor and integrity.

Horseplay and pranks are activities which are not allowed

Always strive, persevere and maintain a positive attitude toward achieving your goals as a band member during the tough times as well as the good times. Participate with cooperation, enthusiasm and diligence at rehearsals and performances

Treat the band facilities and equipment with respect and care

Maintain a respectful and cooperative attitude at all times with band staff, parents, and volunteers

Demonstrate the highest level of character and bandsman-ship at all times

Represent our band, school, family, and community in the best way possible

Practice diligently and purposefully at home as often as possible

Improve daily

Have fun making music!!

No one is expected to be perfect....but everyone is expected to give their all!!!

Attendance

The Band is dependent on ALL of its members. Unlike most other classes where individuals are accountable only for their own success or failure, Band students' success is, in large part, dependent on the full participation of all those who have made the commitment to be a part.

Absences should be reported in advance, in writing, to be excused. Notification of absence after an event is only excused under extreme circumstances. Excessive absences are unacceptable and will result in failing grades and/or students being denied attendance at performances.

Absences from rehearsal or performance will be excused ONLY in the event of illness or a serious family emergency. School definitions of documented and excused absences are in affect for before, during, and after school rehearsals/performances. If the student is well enough to attend school, he/she is well enough to attend and participate in all band activities.

Parents or student must call the director in advance of an absence and send a written note when the student returns to school in order for it to be excused. In case of an emergency, please call as soon as possible and also send a note. An unexcused absence from a rehearsal may result in the student losing their marching position.

Continued unexcused absences from rehearsals or any unexcused absence from a performance could result in the removal of the student from the EHHS Band program.

EXCUSES ARE ACCEPTED ONLY IN THE EVENT OF ILLNESS OR SERIOUS FAMILY EMERGENCY. DURING MARCHING SEASON THE FIRST UNEXCUSED ABSENCE FROM A REHEARSAL OR PERFORMANCE WILL RESULT IN THAT STUDENTS' GRADE BEING DEDUCTED FIVE POINTS AND NOT BEING ALLOWED TO ATTEND THE NEXT PERFORMANCE. SECOND UNEXCUSED WILL RESULT IN FIVE MORE POINTS BEING DEDUCTED FROM GRADE AND NOT BEING ALLOWED TO ATTEND THE NEXT TWO PERFORMANCES. THE THIRD UNEXCUSED ABSENCES WILL RESULT IN TEN POINTS BEING DEDUTED FROM GRADE AND REMOVAL FROM ALL FUTURE MARCHING CO-CURRICULAR PERFORMANCES.

Work Schedules and other activities must not interfere with the rehearsal and performance schedule that you are given at the beginning of the school year. Students who enroll in other school activities such as athletics, choir, drama, link crew, etc, need to plan ahead to avoid conflicts that cannot be resolved. Ask to receive a complete semester calendar from all your activities so that you can have the maximum amount of time to work out potential schedule conflicts. The Band Director will work together with the other teachers, coaches and directors of various activities to give each student every opportunity to be a part of other groups. However, other groups, organizations, or businesses that may change schedules or make demands of students on short notice will not be allowed to interfere with long scheduled rehearsals or performances of the Band. Students who find themselves involved in such activities in addition to Band may have to make a choice to drop one or the other if such conflicts continually arise. **NON-SCHOOL SPONSORED ACTIVITIES, TEAMS, ORGANIZATIONS OR JOBS MUST NOT CONFLICT IN ANY WAY WITH THE PRACTICE OR PERFORMANCES SCHEDULE OF THE BAND.**

Punctuality

“To be early is to be on time; to be on time is to be late; and to be late is unacceptable.” Students are expected to be in their assigned position/chair when the tardy bell rings (when the whistle blows for marching band) with all required equipment.

Grades

In determining the band grade each six weeks, three areas comprise the average:

1. Performance Grade – includes punctuality and attendance at performances, behavior as a performer and as an audience at performances, correct uniform and equipment at performances, taped music playoffs and the quality of the actual performance itself.
2. Playing and Written Exams – includes class playing assignments, written theory tests, music history tests, chair tests, and proper marking of music during rehearsals.
3. Participation Grades – each student will earn a weekly participation grade based on the following criteria:
 - a. Correct equipment in rehearsal: instrument, music, pencil, coordinates book, etc.
 - b. Care and maintenance of personal and school instruments/equipment. This includes the proper storage in the instrument slot and storage of chair and music stand at the end of rehearsal.
 - c. Punctuality and attendance at rehearsals and performances.
 - d. Positive and active participation in rehearsals. Students who are off-task in will lose 5 points each day per off-task incidence. Students who miss rehearsal time in class for personal or unnecessary reasons will lose points for times missed.
 - e. Instruments and music taken home on a regular basis. The student’s weekly grade will be lowered if instrument and/or music are left at school often.
4. Extra credit may be earned by participation in a non-required band performance or competition, All-Region Band auditions, and UIL Solo and Ensemble contest.

Music Playoff

During class, each student will be given the opportunity to play off excerpts of their marching music to the band director, drum major or make a tape recording of themselves performing their music. A minimum grade of 80 will be required on each excerpt for the student to maintain their marching position throughout the season. Each student will be given several opportunities to improve their grade throughout the 6 weeks. The average of all excerpt grades will determine the music playoff grade for that grading period.

Expect Behavior

The best discipline is self-discipline: each individual does the right thing for the right reason even when no one else is watching. The only way for the band to succeed is for the individuals to take personal responsibility for the group and to put the band's needs above their own. We all must keep in mind our goals and what we want the Eastern Hills Band to accomplish when choosing our actions. Exemplary behavior is expected of all band members at all times. **Discipline is a quality that must come from within the individual.** Because of this fact, each student is responsible for his or her own actions as a member of the EHHS Band. Remember, you are a representative of your band, your band is a representative of your school, and your school is a representative of your community.

Common sense must prevail. The Band Director reserves the right to exercise the authority to make the final decision regarding disciplinary action/removal from the band program. The following infractions are some of the more obvious that qualify for disciplinary action, and or immediate removal from the program.

Any disrespectful behavior such as foul or abusive language to students or teachers

Excessive tardiness or absences at rehearsal or performances

Any misuse or abuse of school property, or property of others

Alcohol, smoking or drug use at any school function at any time.

Any action which dishonors or disgraces the Eastern Hills High School band or the school in any way

Repeated disregard of Band Member Rules

The following policies will be in effect for marching band. Students who have a chronic problem with any of these behaviors could lose their position in the band.

Behavior

Consequence

Tardy to rehearsal

Fundamental marching block for 15 minutes after rehearsal.

2 tardies to rehearsals

Same, as 1st tardy

3 or more tardies to rehearsals

Same as 1st tardy, LOSS OF MARCHING POSITION, and discipline referral filed with principal

Tardy to a performance inspection:

Stay after dismissal and clean bleachers.

Tardy after 3rd quarter break during a game:

Loss of 3rd quarter break privilege for next game.

Lost or missing music:

Student will pay .25 per page up to \$5.00,

Tardy after a water break:

Run 3 laps after rehearsal.

Leave instrument/equipment at home or out of locker.

30 minute band detention

Forgotten drill charts/coordinate sheet:

Run 3 laps after rehearsal.

Lost drill charts/coordinate sheet:

\$1.00 per page to replace

Music/routine not passed off by memory by deadline:

March without instrument/flag at performances until passed off

Instrument not held up correctly:

Complete assigned number of pushups to strengthen arms.

Forgotten band polo shirt for pep rally:

Student will not perform at the pep rally.

Band shirt forgotten for game/contest:

Student will remain in full uniform for entire game.

Uniform worn and stored incorrectly:

Stay after and straighten/alphabetize uniform racks after performance, and 30 minute band detention.

Instrument/equipment/uniform not loaded on truck/bus:

Student will not be allowed to perform 1st offense – 30 minutes band detention, 2nd offense – 3 days of band detention

Instrument/equipment not unloaded and stored in band hall:

30 minute band detention

Inappropriate or rude language/behavior:

Donate money to the "language" jar or apologize to band.

Repeated incidences will result in discipline referral and parent contact

Talking during rehearsal (or "off task")

Run 3 laps after rehearsal

Food/drink/gum/candy in rehearsal/performance:

1 warning, then detention to clean up band hall, rooms and practice field

Gum in stadium

Run 3 laps after rehearsal

Food/drink/gum/candy on bus (or trash left on bus)

Clean bus and the individual or entire bus will run 3 laps on next rehearsal day.

These policies will be in effect for the Wind Symphony, Symphonic, Concert, and Jazz Bands:

1. A student who is not in their seat when the tardy bell rings will be recorded "tardy".
2. Upon the 2nd tardy of the semester, the student will receive a warning.
3. Upon the 3rd tardy of the semester (and other tardies there-after, a tardy discipline referral will be filed with a principal.
4. Tardies to before/after school rehearsals or performances will result in a loss of points on that rehearsal grade. Continued tardies will result in loss of points from grade.

Equipment Needed

Marching Band – Instrument

Woodwind – mouthpiece, reeds, ligature, neck strap, cork grease,

Brass – mouthpiece, valve oil, slide oil, cleaning cloth

Percussion – Snare sticks, timpani mallets, keyboard mallets, stick bag

Music in a spiral notebook with page protectors

Formal Uniform

Hat, Band T-shirt, Black Marching Shoes, Black Calf High Socks, Rain

Poncho

Informal Uniform

Black Band T-shirt, Khaki Shorts, Black Socks, Black Marching Shoes, Band Cap

Symphonic Band – Instrument

Woodwind – mouthpiece, reeds, ligature, neck strap, cork grease,

Brass – mouthpiece, valve oil, slide oil, cleaning cloth

Percussion – Snare sticks, timpani mallets, keyboard mallets, stick bag

Music Folder

Formal Uniform

Ladies – Long Black Shirt, short sleeve black top, black hose, black dress shoes

Gentleman – Black Suit, White dress shirt, black socks, black dress shoes.

Informal Uniform

Dress clothes – Ladies – Dress or nice slack and top, Gentleman – dress pants, polo style shirt (At no time, throughout the year, do you wear blue jeans, t-shirt or athletic shoes to a concert or performance)

Band Hall Rules

We are fortunate to have a newly remodeled rehearsal facility. Band members are to keep the band hall clean and neat. Keep chairs and music stands in place and use the wastebasket for items to be thrown away. Use all equipment such as chairs and stands as they are intended to be used. Leave all food and beverage outside of the band hall and do not bring chewing gum into band hall, practice room, or office areas.

Restrooms are not to be used without permission.

Stay out of office, practice rooms, and instrument storage rooms without permission.

Music stands are provided for music; Do Not use as a table; Do Not lean on or play with stands

No food or drink in the band hall, offices, instrument storage room, music library, rehearsal room, dressing rooms or auditorium.

Do not run or play in the band hall and at all times have respect for equipment and property.

Do not play any instrument other than your own unless it has been approved by the director.

Be in your proper seat with instrument and music and any other items needed for the rehearsal when the tardy bell sounds.

Pay close attention in class and do not talk without permission. When the director stops the band it is not a time for talking or discussion.

Students will remove hats inside the band hall and building during the school day.

Students will turn all cell phones off during rehearsals/performances; according to school rules, if it is seen or heard, it will be taken up and turned in to the school office.

Personal electronic devices will not be allowed during rehearsals and performances. They may be used on bus trips with headphones.

Students will leave other homework, books, or other distractions of any kind outside of rehearsal unless you have received specific permission from the director.

Close your case properly and put your instrument in the proper slot in the storage room.

Keep up with your own music and supplies. It is your responsibility to come to class with your own music and supplies. Be sure you check your instrument for playing condition before rehearsal.

Get necessary supplies before rehearsal begins.

Do not write or draw on the chalkboard, dry erase board or bulletin board without permission.

Do not get out of your seat or leave rehearsal without permission.

Get a drink of water and go to the bathroom before rehearsal begins.

Most importantly, give the director your total attention at all times.

Band Rehearsal Guidelines

Be seated with instrument, music, pencil and supplies when the tardy bell rings

Show good rehearsal etiquette by being a good team player – study your part quietly while the director works with another section.

Remain on task at all times; do not talk or interrupt the focus of a rehearsal.

Maintain proper posture at all times, which is important for all players.

Raise your hand and ask questions if you need more individual help.

Leave your instrument cases and backpacks in the designated place during rehearsals

Keep a lock on your band locker at all times.

Do not leave purse or other valuables unlocked in the band hall or hallway. No food, gum, or drink is allowed in the band hall and should not be kept in band lockers. We should all take pride in keeping our band hall clean and organized.

All instruments should remain in cases with latches closed when not in use.

Lockers will be kept neat and clean at all times. Marching clothes should be taken home periodically and washed!

Items other than music, books, and band supplies should not be kept in lockers.

Disorderly behavior and abusive language will not be tolerated.

Please be considerate of directors' requests for assistance and/or performance of little tasks around the band hall.

No talking during any rehearsal. We are here to learn and perform at the highest possible level. Talking interferes with the learning process and will not be tolerated.

Marching Band Rehearsal

Being a member of the marching band is a special and demanding responsibility. All members of the marching band are required to attend early morning rehearsals, Tuesday evening rehearsals, after school sectionals, several parades, ten district football games and several playoff games. In addition, each member will be required to participate in four marching competitions, district honor band auditions and region honor band auditions. **All members will wear shorts, light colored shirts, socks and tennis shoes to every rehearsal. It is suggested that all members also wear caps, sunglasses and sun block.** All morning marching band rehearsals will start at 7:30am. All evening marching band rehearsals will be on Tuesday and will start at 4:00pm. All sectionals will be at 7:30am on B Day and 3:50 – 5pm on A Day. All rehearsals will be conducted on the band marching field and/or band hall. Please check the band bulletin board daily for rehearsal schedule.

Morning Rehearsal

7:20am – Report to Band Hall and pick up instrument, drill and music

7:30am - Body Warm up – 4 step interval, fill in all spaces

7:40am – Block Band – 4 in a line / with instruments

8:00am – Music Warm-up – Contest Arc – Concert order left to right.
8:10am – Show Music Rehearsal – Show Music with Step outs
8:15am – Drill – learn set to set
9:30am – Return equipment to band hall and change clothes for school.

Evening Rehearsal

4:20pm – Report to Band Hall and pick up instrument, drill and music
4:30am - Body Warm up – 4 step interval, fill in all spaces
4:40am – Block Band – 4 in a line / with instruments
5:00am – Music Warm-up – Contest Arc – Concert order left to right.
5:10am – Show Music Rehearsal – Show Music with Step outs
5:20am – Drill – learn set to set
8:30am – Return equipment to band hall and wait for dismissal

Symphonic Band Rehearsal

The Symphonic Band is the varsity competing ensemble for the spring semester and the music performed is at a high degree of difficulty. This band will be every A Day for 8am until 10am. Performances will include three competitions, two concerts and several special events. There will be extra rehearsals after school thorough out the semester during competition time. A complete schedule will be given to you at the beginning of January.

A Day

8:00am – Warm up
8:15am – Playing Fundamentals – scales, rhythm exercises, interval studies
8:45am – Sight reading
9:00am – Theory exercise
9:15am – Contest or concert music

Band Uniform

Respect and pride in one's organization is reflected in the group's uniform and how it is worn. Each student is responsible for the condition of the uniform. Damage or loss of the uniform will result in the student paying for the repair or replacement. The student must have all pieces of the uniform, worn correctly, in order to perform.

Members of the Eastern Hills H.S Band will follow these rules and guidelines when wearing the uniform:

Black marching shoes and the band t-shirt will be worn with the uniform; these will be ordered through the band and paid for by the student.

The uniforms will be stored in the band hall between performances, and will be cleaned by the booster three times a year.

The band uniform began as a traditional military uniform. Like the American Flag and other patriotic symbols, it should be treated with respect at all times. The uniform is to be either on or off. It is never work halfway. Strap on bidder pants should be up at all times and the jacket should be zipped with collar button at all times.

Students will incur the following costs for missing or damaged items:

Marching Uniform Replacement Cost:

Coat: \$250

Pants: \$70

Shako: \$50

Gauntlets: \$30 (pair)

Breastplate: \$50

Hat Box: \$20

Plume: \$30

Garment Bag: \$25

Inspection

The director will conduct an inspection prior to each marching band performance. During the inspection, students will stand at SILENT attention in your assigned place until your section has finished inspection.

Students will be in full uniform, completely zipped/buttoned with hat on.

Instruments (except ones already loaded on the equipment truck) will have your case ready to show. The mouthpiece should be clean, reeds in good shape, slides lubricated, head joints adjusted, drums/cymbals clean and polished, and sticks/mallets in good playing condition.

3. Have your music folder with ALL music organized inside the pages, as well as your lyre. Have your name clearly marked on the music folder.

4. Band detention will be assigned for inadequate equipment or poor uniform/instrument condition.

Once inspection is complete, the band will be seated for announcements, and the band will be called to attention and dismissed to load the buses.

Each aspect of the uniform is covered below and each student must be in compliance before they can attend the performance. Each student will be given the opportunity to fix the problem so that they can attend the performance.

HAT BOX – The hat box will include: the hat, and a rain poncho. These items should be taken to every marching band performance. The rain poncho will be needed if the weather turns wet. It is the students' responsibility to have these items and see that they are dried off and stored properly after each use. Students may take things that fit into the hat box with them into the stands. Besides music folder and instrument, the hat box is the only other article that should be carried into the stands. Guard, Tubas and Pit will carry a small backpack with their rain poncho, music folder and other items they will need for the marching band performance.

SHAKO – The hat should be worn straight on top of the head. It should be kept clean and in good repair. All fingerprints should be wiped off the brim with a damp cloth prior to inspection. When off the head, it should be carried over the fist, or cradled inside the bend of the elbow. NOT SWINGING FROM THE STRAP LIKE BUCKET!

PLUME – Before each performance, each student will be given an 8" Marabou Fountain Plume with Mylar. These plume are used complete the uniform appearance and are very delicate and each one cost \$30. When handling the plume, make special effort to never touch the feather or mylar. The plume should be carried from the copper attachment at the bottom of the plume. While holding the attachment, press firmly straight down into receptacle on the top of the hat. The plume should be kept in the plastic bag in a plume cylinder located in the plume bag. Every student will be required to place the plume in the plastic bag and place back into the plume bag after each performance.

JACKET – The jacket should be work completely zipped and fastened at all times in public. Exception: In extremely hot weather you may be instructed to unzip the jacket or take it off as a group when in the stands or on the bus. This decision will be made only by the director.

BREASTPLATE - The new uniforms have removable breastplates that can be rearranged to create three distinct styles. Breastplates will only be worn during competitions, parades or special events.

SUMMER SHIRTS - The new uniforms have a summer shirt that will be worn during the hot weather games and performances. As mentioned under jacket, the summer shirt should be worn completely zipped and fastened at all times in public unless directed by the director.

PANTS – Pants should have a dress fit and not allowed to sag in the back. The pant legs should be long enough to touch the top of the shoes without breaking the crease. All alternations will be done by the director or designated booster parent. While wearing the uniform pants, students should never sit on dirty or wet surfaces or climb anything that could damage the pants.

GAUNTLET – Before each performance, each student will be given a uniform gauntlet. The gauntlet should be worn on each arm around each wrist. Before lining up the Velcro fastener, each student must pull up sleeve and fasten Velcro around wrist. It works much easier if each student helps place the gauntlet on. Once the student leave the performance field, students are responsible for return the gauntlet to the storage box.

SHOES – Shoes must be ordered thru the band. They must be kept clean and spotless. Black socks must be worn and provided by the student; they must be at least calf length. Make every effort to shine your shoes - there should be no excess polish on the shoes that will rub off on the uniform. New shoes must be ordered each unless last year's shoes are OK'ed by director for another year's use.

UNDERNEATH – The Band T-Shirt should be worn underneath the uniform to facilitate speedy dressing and comfort during bus rides. JEANS OR OTHER LONG PANTS SHOULD NOT BE WORK UNDER THE UNIFORM. Only lite shorts should be worn under the uniform pants.

GUARD – The Color Guard will wear warm up pants and guard shirt to all football game and will change during 2nd quarter. For all marching band competitions, the guard will be in uniform at all times. Members of the guard will wear the designated uniform the same as dictated by the director and will follow the protocol as the rest of the band with regard to other aspects of dress.

PERSONAL GROOMING – All students will conform to standards set forth in the Eastern Hills High School Dress Code. In addition, no jewelry is to be worn except for watches and senior rings worn by seniors. Long hair must be put up into hats so that it does not lay over the back of the uniform. Girls should not wear excessive makeup. The night of Homecoming, Corsages may be worn into the stadium but must be removed and store during the halftime performance.

Stadium Rules

The appearance that the band makes at football games is very important. All members of the band **MUST** participate in the activity to make the band's contribution to the game an outstanding one. Many people from outside of Fort Worth will see our group and the impression they receive has a great deal to do with the building of spirit and reputation of the band. Band members that do not participate with the following guidelines can expect to be disciplined for no participation or for wrong equipment, wrong place or wrong time.

The Eastern Hills Band, our Student Body, the Lassies and the Cheerleaders reflect the image of Eastern Hills High School. Let's make that image a powerful, favorable one. At the half-time, remember your presence, relaxation, and balance and most of all **TONE**.

Each person is responsible for his or her equipment at all times.

Students will quickly assemble and retrieve equipment from the truck; fall in at the designated entrance block position as quickly as possible. Percussion and Tubas cases will be left by the side of the truck.

Once we march into the stands, get into your place in the stands as quickly as possible and continue holding your equipment and marching until the drum major bring you to a halt. Bring nothing into the stands besides your hat box, instrument and music (front ensemble, tubas and guard will bring in backpack).

Be properly uniformed at all times. Do not make adjustments to your uniform. Do not wear anything in addition to your uniform.

Sit in your assigned seat and **DO NOT MOVE AROUND** during the game.

The band is always on stage and you must always uphold the reputation of the EHHS Band as s group. Do not draw attention to yourself by signaling or calling to friends. Never lean or throw anything over the side or back.

No "noodling or pecking" (blowing on instruments or drumming) or playing unrehearsed music at any time the band is not playing as a group. The percussion section is to play only with the full band or as a section with cadences and grooves.

Do not take unauthorized refreshments into the stands during the game. After halftime show refreshments are not authorized and cannot be taken back into the stands. No one but **BAND PERSONNEL** are allowed in the band section. Graduated band students or special visitors are sometimes exceptions but only with **SPECIAL PERMISSION** from the director.

Always be prepared to play. Watch whoever is directing at all times when they are standing in front of the band. Get music up rapidly when it's called. Watch cutoffs in the music since the band might stop when play resumes on the field.

File in an orderly manner from the stands to the formation before the half time show. **DO NOT PLAY YOUR INSTRUMENTS UNTIL DIRECTED**. If it is cold, blow air through your horn to warm it up. Quickly get into warm-up arc with hats in practice formation - ready to warm-up and rehearse.

Cheer with the cheerleaders but avoid adding to the yells. Treat visitors and other directors and guests politely at all times. Stay with the group.

When we are the home team, the Band Council will visit the other bands at football games during the fourth quarter. When the leadership returns with members of the visiting band, everyone will take a seat and be polite and listen. Each member of the leadership team will say "Hi Band"; you will response by saying "Hi and their name" The officers will then say "Hey band this is?" You will response with two hand slaps to the legs, two hand claps and as you make a circular motion with your right hand, you will say "Hi and their name". You will repeat this for every visiting band members.

When using the restroom go in pairs. Obey bathroom pass rules – only two at a time. You must wait for students to return before asking to leave. Go directly to and from the bathroom. No concession stand visits are allowed. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in loss of all restroom privileges for the remainder of the football season.

Student language will be clean and respectable at all times. No foul or rude language/gestures will be tolerated: school disciplinary procedures will be followed for any violations.

At contests, students will sit in a group in the stadium to watch other bands. The uniform should either be completely on unless given specific directions otherwise by the directors. Students will remain quiet during another group's performance, and move/leave the stands only between bands.

Students will exhibit good sportsmanship towards other bands and their supporters at all times.

USE COMMON SENSE!!

Bus Conduct

Taking trips as a part of the EHHS Band is a privilege granted to you and carries with it certain responsibilities on your part. For your safety and the safety of others, you are expected and required to observe the following rules. Students who do not cooperate will be assigned band detention; severe or continued problems will be considered a serious discipline concern and will result in a school discipline referral.

All students will ride to and from events on the school bus. Parents may sign out their child after an event without prior arrangements, written note and a special reason. Percussion, Guard and Tubas must return to school to unload their instrument. Students will not be allowed to meet at an event without special permission through the directors and/or school principal in advance.

Students will load and unload quietly; stay seated on the bus once it is motion – do not move from your seat, do not sit on your knees, and do not sit facing the back of the bus. This is for your safety in case of a quick stop or accident.

Keep all body parts, equipment, uniforms, and trash INSIDE the bus at all times.

NO PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION! Keep your hands to yourself.

Conversations should be kept at a moderate volume level, and noise should not be annoying or distracting to the bus driver. Directors will determine what is “too loud” or distracting.

Do not throw anything for any reason.

Food and drink may not be taken on the bus without prior director approval.

Upon returning to the school, YOU are responsible for getting your uniform, equipment, and personal items off the bus and equipment truck immediately. The buses tend to leave quickly, so get everything out before going to the band hall. Take everything in the band hall or home. Leaving equipment or uniforms on the bus, truck, or outside will result in band detention.

Students will be in full uniform upon exiting the bus at a performance site unless instructed differently by a director/drum major. The loading crew/pit percussion/tubas will be allowed to exit the bus first.

During football season, students will sign up for a specific bus and will ride that bus each trip. There will be NO changing buses. Director and Chaperones have the authority to assign seats

Appropriate behavior should be conducted at all times on the bus between males and females. No public display of affection on bus, in stadium, in rehearsal, at performances or in band hall.

Pep Rallies

Pep Rallies are held on game days during football season, as well as special ones called during the year. Each pep rally is a required performance and grade for each member of the marching band.

Students will adhere to these guidelines and rules:

Students will wear the band t- shirt to all pep rallies. Students who do not wear the correct clothing will not be allowed to perform with the band and will lose points on their band grade from missing a performance.

Students will stay in their assigned place in their section during the pep rally. They will play their instruments only when instructed by a drum major, drum captain, or director (no “hacking”). The students will play their own instrument, not someone else’s.

All behavior will be positive and supportive of the team and Eastern Hills High School. No band student will exhibit poor sportsmanship towards another group of students in any way.

Eligibility

Marching Season – most of the activities associated with the EHHS Marching Band are “extra-curricular” including football games, pep rallies, parades, and contests. Rehearsals however are “co-curricular” and are required of each member regardless of eligibility status.

Concert Season – concerts, rehearsals, and private lessons are all considered “curricular” or “co-curricular”. All students may perform and participate in these events.

Events that ARE considered extra-curricular include: a competition, any event with paid admission, any event that is inter-school competitive, and any event that is held off campus and is controlled by a non-school organization. In order to be eligible for extra-curricular activities by TEA, UIL and FWISD requirements, students must pass ALL classes – Pre-AP, AP, Honors and Dual Credit courses are deemed exempt from the eligibility rule at this time. A tutorial program will be set up within the band to offer extra help to students by other band students.

Band Letter Jacket

A letter jacket will be presented to any band student the following year after they:

1. Auditions and earns a chair in the Region 7 Honor Band or Jazz Band
2. Participates in the EHHS Band for six consecutive semesters and
3. Participates in all performances for six consecutive semesters.

Individual Competitions

The ultimate goal of our program is the development of the individual musician to the limits of his/her potential. To assist in reaching this goal, we strongly recommend participation in the individual competitions during the year.

All-District Band tryouts involve the finest students from schools in our District and are the first step in advancement toward the All-State Band. All students who are academically eligible and who have prepared the audition music may audition. The music is available in August and auditions are in November. The audition is free but the student is responsible for notifying the director so that you are registered before the deadline.

All-Region Band tryouts involve the finest students from schools in our Region and are the second step in advancement toward the All-State Band. All students who are academically eligible and who have prepared the audition music may audition. The music is available in August; Jazz Band tryouts are in September, and Concert Band auditions are in December. The boosters will pay the audition fee by the entry deadline. Each student is responsible for notifying the director so that the required fee can be paid.

Area Band Auditions involve the finest students from schools in our Area and is the third step in advancement toward the All-State Band. Auditions are on January 8th

Solo and Ensemble contest takes place in the spring and results in ratings and medals. All students in grades 9-12 may participate if academically eligible and if they are prepared on the music. The music must be chosen out of the UIL Prescribed Music List and must be performed as outlined in the UIL Rule Book. Soloists hoping to advance to State Solo & Ensemble must perform a Class I solo by memory and receive a first division at the region level.

Ensembles hoping to advance must perform a non-memorized Class I ensemble and receive a first division. The boosters will pay the entry fees by the entry deadline for the region and state contest, but the student is responsible for notifying the director to register. Most solos (except some percussion) require a piano accompaniment at the performance. Soloists are responsible for paying their piano accompanist if a recorded accompaniment cannot be found; the school will arrange for a qualified accompanist for the students.

Instrument Storage Lockers

Instrument storage lockers are provided for student use. Any damage that occurs beyond normal wear and tear to locker shelves, doors, hasps, or hinges are the responsibility of the student.

1. The school is not responsible for items stored in the lockers.
2. The student must provide a combination lock for the locker. Locker without locks will be emptied and not available to students
3. Lockers cannot be shared with other students. Non band or orchestra students are not allowed to use the lockers in the band hallway.
4. Instruments cannot be stored in these lockers. Music and accessories may be stored in the locker, but books and school equipment will not be allowed. Extra clothing for marching band may be stored in these lockers and should be cleaned out weekly.
5. Lockers will be kept CLEAN and free of trash, food and drink.

****The band directors are not responsible for lost or stolen items from the band hall, on trips, at performances, or any other band forum. Students are responsible for their own belongings and assigned equipment*****

School Owned Instruments

Certain schools owned instruments are available for student use. A \$30.00 per semester maintenance fee will be paid by the student to cover the normal repair and maintenance of the instrument (per student, NOT per instrument). The student must sign an instrument checkout form with a director. It is the responsibility of the student to inspect the instrument at checkout time for pre-existing damage and to notate that on the form. The student will be charged for any damage that occurs while in the student's care if the cost is over the paid maintenance fee.

If, in the opinion of a band director, a school owned instrument is not being properly maintained or cared for at anytime during the year, it is the director's prerogative to remove the instrument from the student's care.

Percussion Equipment

Non-percussion students must have SPECIAL permission from the directors in order to play on any percussion instruments (including the pianos). Each student is expected to respect the instruments that do not belong to him or her. Any student who plays on a percussion instrument without permission will lose 5 points on the participation grade. Repeated problems will result in a band detention and/or a discipline referral.

Student and Staff Leadership

Band Director (Kathy Bernal) – administers and supervises all aspects of the band program

Student leaders are selected by tryout or elected by the band members to fill certain roles necessary for the success of the band.

Leadership philosophy:

1. You lead by EXAMPLE,
2. You must lead YOURSELF before you can lead others,
3. You GET what you GIVE.

All students in leadership positions are expected to maintain the highest standards of the Eastern Hills Band not only in band, but also in the school and community.

Drum Major (Eddie Villa) – must be academically eligible the entire year and must maintain a grade average of 85 or better, demonstrated good discipline and responsibility throughout the year.

Their duties are:

*conduct field performances, stand and pep rally music, rehearsals, etc.

*responsible for director's p.a. systems, metronomes, mp3 player, speaker, yard line markers and drum major podiums at all rehearsals, as well as taking podiums to and from stadiums and equipment truck for performances.

- *assist teaching marching fundamentals and drill.
- *listen to music play-offs and supervise play-off records.
- *provide strong, positive leadership in band.
- *perform duties and activities as specified by the directors.

Field Captain (Demetria Wilson, Tyler Tarkington) - must be academically eligible for the entire year, maintain a grade average of 85 or better, demonstrated good discipline and responsibility throughout the year.

Duties include:

- *report attendance at rehearsals to the band president.
- *responsible for taking water bottles, and charts to and from the field.
- *responsible for working with individuals in their section on music and marching.
- *assist in teaching marching fundamentals and drill.
- *provide positive leadership and attitude.
- *perform duties and activities as specified by the directors.

Blue Crew Captain (Wallace Clark) – must be academically eligible for the entire year, maintain a grade average of 85 or better, demonstrated good discipline and responsibility throughout the year.

Duties include:

- * supervise the blue crew as they load and unload equipment being careful to maintain the condition of the equipment.
- *supervising the loading of director’s and drum major equipment needed for rehearsals/games/performances
- *supervising the loading and unloading of front ensemble equipment
- *supervising the filling of water coolers and water bottles and transporting them to rehearsals/games
- *inspection and maintenance of instruments and notifying director of abuse or misuse.
- *recording and checking needed equipment for each performance.
- *other duties as assigned by the directors.

Drum Line and Pit Percussion Captain (Derick Hall, Keaton Brewer) - must be academically eligible for the entire year, maintain a grade average of 85 or better, demonstrated good discipline and responsibility throughout the year.

Duties include:

- *report attendance at rehearsals to the band president.
- *responsible for loading and unloading all percussion equipment needed for rehearsals/games/performances
- *responsible for moving all percussion equipment to and from the field.
- *responsible for working with individuals in their section on music and marching.
- *assist in teaching marching fundamentals and drill.
- *provide positive leadership and attitude.
- *perform duties and activities as specified by the directors.

The Band Council

Each member of the band council must be academically eligible for the entire year and must attend ALL summer practices and meetings, provide positive leadership through example, promote the highest expectations for band members, and show zero tolerance for negative behavior.

Failure to uphold these requirements, failure to perform the duties as outlined below, or a discipline referral in ANY class will result in removal from office.

President (Morgan Garrett) – student representative for the band in public.

- *hosts and greets visiting bands/directors/clinicians.
- *assists directors with roll check at rehearsals.
- *coordinates band council duties, leadership meetings, and the Band Banquet alongside the directors.
- *represents the band at Band Booster Club meetings as needed.
- *performs duties and activities as specified by the directors.

Vice President (Ellie Rios) – assumes and assists all duties of the president when necessary.

- *organizes welcome or thank you cards/signs/gifts for visitors.

- * assists directors with roll check at rehearsals.
- *attends band council meetings and offers input.
- *performs duties and activities as specified by the directors.
- Secretary** (Eddie Villa) – takes minutes in all band council meetings and presents these to the directors for review.
- *organizes student correspondence.
- *writes thank you notes from the band.
- *types and posts weekly band announcements and updates the large calendar.
- *organizes social events for the band including transportation, refreshments, and publicity.
- *recognizes member birthdays.
- *organizes signing of and distribution of cards/flowers for special student needs with assistance from the treasurer.
- *attends band council meetings and offers input.
- *performs duties and activities as specified by the directors.

Historian (?) – coordinates the Band Banquet video.

- *takes still pictures of all events during the year.
- *organizes pictures and music for the video.
- *submits pictures and music to director 3 weeks in advance of the banquet for editing.
- *attends band council meetings and offers input.
- *performs duties and activities as specified by the directors.

Music Librarian (Tyler Tarkington) – responsible for distributing new and replacement music, organizing music library, filing music, maintaining computer music records, and other duties as assigned.

Uniform Manager (Taylor Lee) – responsible for organizing uniforms, hats, and uniform racks; distributing uniforms, and reporting uniform problems to directors.

The Band President and Vice President will serve on the Executive Band Council alongside the Drum Majors and Band Director. The Executive Band Council will meet to discuss issues concerning attendance, discipline, detention, and other critical areas as deemed necessary. Students with continual discipline, responsibility, or attendance problems will meet with the board for assistance in solving the problems.

The Executive Band Council will visit the other bands at football games during fourth quarter. All other band council members and seniors will take turns in rotation visiting in order not to deplete the performing group in the stands

Marching Rehearsal Basics

Each student will be given coordinate sheets in a spiral bound book. Each student will be required to bring this coordinate book to each rehearse. A student will not be allowed to rehearse without their assigned coordinate book. Each student will be required to highlight their coordinates for each set. This coordinate book will be turn in at the end of the six weeks for 25% of the student’s grade.

Each student will need to master the following basic marching fundamentals:

Band (“Band”) (“Yes Sir/Ma’am)

Extend left leg shoulder length, placed both hands right over left behind your back at the lower part of your back.

Attention (“Band Ten Hut”) Rehearsal (“Hills) Performance (“Eastern Hills”)

Yell Eastern Hills/Hills and

No instrument - bring your left leg in, bring both heels together, hands create the Power Triangle

Ankle should above the yard line or dot

With Instrument - bring your left leg in, bring both heels together, arms create Power Triangle (keeping elbows away from chest)

Position of Attention – (“Band assume the position of attention”)

Heels – together

Chest – Out

Shoulders – Back

Head – Up

Eyes – With Pride

Horn Carriage (“Band Horns Up”/”Band Horns Down”) (“Hit 234”)

On command, bring right fist into left hand and slowly bring fist to eye level and pop into playing position

Mouthpiece should be at eye level

Bells 10 degree above parallel

Forward March (“Forward Harsh”) (“Push and 1”) Nonverbal – 2 half, 2 quarter, 4 eighth notes click

Push down to the ground with the right foot

Left foot heel comes out

Toes up as high as possible

Minimal knee bend

Don’t lean into the step

Backward March (“Backward Harsh”)

1st step is larger

Straight Leg – No knee bend

March on Platform of foot

Ankles and toes line up – (snow skiing)

Heels do not touch the ground

Slides

Left slide (“Left Slide Harsh Hit”)

Left shoulder forward, right shoulder back

Center the instrument

Spiral staircase analogy

Feet are at 90 degrees

Hips are at 45 degrees

Shoulders are at 0 degrees

Right Slide (“Right Slide Harsh Hit”)

Right shoulder forward, left shoulder back

Center the instrument

Spiral staircase analogy (see above)

Adjusted Step Size

Forward

The smaller the step size the higher the toe

Halfway points

Equal size steps

Exercise – 16, 12, 10, 8, 6 to 5 down the field

Backward

Always on the platform

Halfway points

Equal size steps

Exercise – 16, 12, 10, 8, 6 to 5 down the field

Change of Direction

Forward to Back (touch step)

Plant on count 7 with left foot. All weight is on left foot

Prep on 8 with right foot

Freeze on count 1 (Strike a pose)

Prep on count 2 with right foot going backwards.

Straight leg

Backward to Forward (flip ee doo)

Prep on 8 with right platform
Flip left foot with heel down on count 1
Right heel touches on count 2 going forward

Learning Drill

Everyone must bring their coordinate book to rehearsal everyday
These books will be turned in at the end of the semester
All members are asked to decorate their books for easier recognition
If lost, replacement cost is \$25
All members must have a piece of chalk for every rehearsal
When marking spots, make them between the toes and make marking small.
The marking should be seen when standing on the designated spot.
Members will always hold instruments in playing position when learning drill, unless instructed otherwise by director
All members will count out loud when rehearsing sets

Drill Sequence

Find It - Each member will find their set
Mark It - Wait until INSTRUCTED to do so
Calculate Step Size
March It
 “Set”
 Dut Dut dut dut dut dut dut dut
 March without playing - 3 times
Link It (1 to 2, 2 to 3, 1 to 3, etc)
Play Segment Music standing still
March It with Music – 3 times

Rehearsing Drill

BAND – March Set/Sets
DM - CHECK
DM – ADJUST
DIRECTOR – Instruction
DM – Repeats Instructions
DM - SET
COUNT OFF Dut Dut dut dut dut dut dut dut

Each member should move with “energy and purpose”. We have a goal to achieve and it will take a team effort to achieve our goal.

*“You cannot be a leader, and ask other people to follow you, unless you know how to follow too.”
Sam Rayburn*

“Coming together is a beginning, Keeping together is progress, Working together is success.” Henry Ford

“Teamwork is the fuel that allows uncommon people to produce uncommon results”

Attitude is Everything!!!!!!