

Yellville-Summit High School

# BAND Information



2017-2018

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Band Expectations

Goals of the Band Program

Band Opportunities

Attendance

Duties of the Band Member

Parents' Responsibility to the Band

Group Communication

Rules and Procedures

Uniforms

Contract of Mutual Consent

*“Music takes us out of the actual and whispers to us dim secrets that startle our wonder as to who we are, and for what, whence, and whereto.”* –Ralph Waldo Emerson

# BAND STUDENT INFORMATION

## Statement of Band Expectations

The information outlined in this packet is intended to assist band members and parents/guardians in understanding areas of responsibility to the band program in the Yellville-Summit school district. Familiarity with this information will allow each individual to cultivate personal responsibility, become a better musician, and make the most of this outstanding opportunity to be a member of the Yellville-Summit band program.

Each student should commit to growth as a musician through regular personal practice. When the student has lost the will to improve or make a better contribution to the band, he or she is wasting the time and effort of fellow members and the community by continuing in the program. The happiest, most successful student is the one who improves through regular habits of practice and daily progress. This student does not only know right from wrong, but stands for principles and disciplines him- or herself to work toward goals. Responsibility is crucial for achievement within this program. The director and support staff (guard/majorette sponsors and instructors) are committed to conducting themselves in a manner that will facilitate the learning of all students.

## Goals of the Band Program

- To teach music through rehearsal and performance
- To establish and develop skills on the various wind and percussion instruments
- To provide for the musical needs of the school and the community
- To develop skills related to the selection of music
- To introduce the students to music theory/history and how history and musical composition relate to students' lives and musical experiences
- To provide all students with the opportunity for worthy use of their time, a means for self-expression, and a healthy social experience
- To develop the ability to function as a responsible member of a group and enhance social interaction
- To foster leadership skills within each student

*"I believe that every right implies a responsibility; every opportunity, an obligation; every possession, a duty."* –John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

# **Band Opportunities**

## **Marching Band**

The marching band is comprised of ninth through twelfth grade students. Membership in the marching band requires extreme dedication and the ability to play the music encountered in the activity. **Attendance at Monday evening rehearsals during the fall semester is mandatory.** All students enrolled in the band program are required to be a member in the marching band. The marching band performs at football games, contests, and assessments throughout the fall semester.

## **Concert Band**

The concert band is comprised of ninth through twelfth grade students. Membership in the concert band requires a commitment to personal practice. The concert band will give one concert in December, a pre-contest concert in March, participate in the region concert assessment, and give the final concert of the year in May.

## **Color Guard**

Students who are interested in dance, choreography, and movement may choose to audition for the color guard. Membership on the color guard requires extra time commitments throughout the school year and summer and some extra monetary investments. Auditions will be held in the spring and the results are ultimately at the discretion of the director. Color guard members are expected to attend Frontlines Auxiliary Camp in June.

## **Majorettes**

Students who are interested in dance, choreography, and movement may choose to audition for majorette. The position of majorette requires extra time commitments and some extra monetary investments. Auditions will be held in the spring and results are ultimately at the discretion of the director. Majorettes are expected to attend Frontlines Auxiliary Camp in June.

## **Drum Major**

Students interested in leadership and basic conducting will have the opportunity to audition for the position of drum major. The role of drum major requires extra time commitments throughout the school year and summer. Auditions will be held in the spring and results are ultimately at the discretion of the director. Drum Majors are expected to attend Frontlines Auxiliary Camp in June.

## **Section Leaders**

Students interested in leadership will have the opportunity to be appointed to the position of section leader. This position requires extra time commitments throughout the school year. Appointments will be made late spring/early summer and are ultimately at the discretion of the director.

### **All-Region and All-State Bands**

Members of the band program are eligible to audition for all-region concert and jazz bands. Tenth through twelfth grade students who make the top region band and score high enough in their auditions are also eligible to audition for the all-state band. The all-region band clinic is held in Bentonville in January. The all-state band clinic is held in Hot Springs in February.

### **Attendance**

*The only excusable absences are prearranged school conflicts and those that would be excused by the school for regular attendance records, e.g., illness, a death in the family, or a religious holiday.* Individual needs will be addressed as they occur. This system is subject to modification by the director.

*Performance no shows:* The student will receive a **zero** for the performance grade (usually 100 points).

For absences from band events, the following procedure must be followed by the student and parent: The director must be notified in advance, preferably in writing.

*The mere notification of an absence does not guarantee that the student's grade will not be lowered. Special circumstances will be up to the discretion of the director.*

### **Conflicts with Band**

Resolving conflicts between band and other activities or events is the responsibility of the student. Rehearsal and performance schedules are given out in advance so that arrangements can be made. When outside activities create hardships concerning band, unless it is a situation that should only happen once, the student will need to consult with the director about possible alternatives. Students should have a calendar and be aware of band dates well ahead of schedule. It is the practice of the band director to assist students when conflicts occur within the scope of the band guidelines and expectations. School-related conflicts will be resolved with the sponsor/coach of the other activity. **Work is not an excuse for missing any band activity. Students are expected to communicate the schedule of required events to their places of employment as soon as they receive it.**

### **Marching Band Evening Rehearsals**

There will be marching band rehearsals Monday evenings during football/marching season. **Evening rehearsals will begin Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, and continue weekly throughout the season. Each rehearsal will last from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm.** The bulk of drill instruction and cleaning happens at these rehearsals. It is imperative that each student attend.

## **Duties of the Band Member**

- Be on time to all rehearsals and performances. **Early is on time—on time is late.**
- Upon entering the rehearsal setting, get your instrument and other required materials, and go directly to your seat (outside during marching season).
- Come to rehearsal with a good attitude.
- Make a real effort to improve on a daily basis and establish a good practice routine.
- At the end of the rehearsal, put all materials in their proper place.
- Maintain a strong academic standing in all course work.
- Become responsible for and assume responsibility for your own actions. Admit when you are wrong.
- Demonstrate proper respect for yourself and those in authority.
- Read and play music with insight—have musical expectations.

### **The Importance of Discipline**

Band students and parents must believe in the ideals, principles, and philosophy of the organization. Each member must always be aware of good behavior and think for him- or herself. Any misconduct casts a bad light on the school, community, and band program. Any member who discredits the organization by his or her conduct or actions in band, in another class, or on a trip shall be subject to a loss of privileges within the program or, in extreme cases, dismissal from the band program. This decision will be at the director's discretion.

## **Parents' Responsibility to the Band**

It is the responsibility of every parent and guardian to see that the guidelines outlined in the packet are followed and that the supplemental forms are signed and returned. These state that you understand the expectations set within the information and that any questions are to be directed to the band director. Each parent is responsible for the attendance of his or her student at all band functions.

The Yellville-Summit Band Booster organization assists the band students throughout the school year in many different ways. Having a student in band automatically enrolls a parent/guardian as a "band booster." The boosters are responsible for staffing football and basketball concession stands as a fundraiser for the organization and all band parents/guardians are encouraged to volunteer for at least one concession evening per school year.

## **Group Communication**

Remind, a mass-communication system that allows teachers to send announcements and reminders via text message and email to students and parents, will be used again by the Y-S band program this year. Parents may sign up to receive text message or email notifications from Mrs. Stoops prior to events by following the instructions outlined on the information sheet. Standard text message rates apply.

## Rules and Procedures

- Athletic or marching shoes and socks must be worn at all times for outside practices.
- Chewing gum is not permitted during a rehearsal or in the band room.
- Be in your seat, warmed up, with the proper materials, and ready to begin on time.
- Respect authority and others, including their personal property.
- All school rules will be enforced.
- Students are required to remain with the band after games and will be dismissed as a group.
- If you share a folder and are absent, make sure the folder gets to school.
- Students may practice in the band room before and after school.

## Uniforms

### The band program will provide the following:

- Coat and accessories
- Bibbers
- Hat
- Plume

### The student will provide the following:

- Hot Weather Uniform:
  - Band T-Shirt (ordered through the band program)
  - Khaki Shorts (length must be in compliance with school dress code regulations)
  - Blue Jeans (can be substituted for khaki shorts if weather permits)
  - White Socks
  - Athletic Shoes
- Marching Band Uniform:
  - Black Shoes
  - Black Socks (should be LONG enough for no skin to show between pants and socks—ankle socks are NOT PERMITTED)
- Concert Attire
  - Males
    - Black Dress Shirt
    - Black Slacks
    - Black Socks
    - Black Dress Shoes
  - Females
    - Black Blouse
    - Black Slacks, Dress or Skirt (skirts must cover the knee WHEN SITTING DOWN and dresses should not be low-cut)

The following page contains a contract of mutual consent. By signing this form, both students and parents agree to the guidelines and expectations explained in this information. This document will be used for reference as situations arise throughout the school year.

Parents are encouraged to contact Mrs. Stoops with any questions and may do so via phone or email. Contact information is as follows:

Phone:

870-449-4066

Email:

[katy.stoops@yellvillesummitschools.com](mailto:katy.stoops@yellvillesummitschools.com)

**Please detach the following form and send it back to school by August 18, 2017.**

## **Contract of Mutual Consent**

I, the undersigned student, accept membership in the Yellville-Summit High School Band and understand I am responsible for all guidelines and expectations as set forth in the band information document. I fully agree to carry out my responsibilities to the very best of my ability.

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Student signature

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Date

I, the undersigned parent or guardian, have read and understand the guidelines and expectations as set forth in the band information document. I also grant full permission for my child to be an active member of the Yellville-Summit High School Band. I have received the 2017-2018 calendar of events, and my child has full permission to attend all band functions.

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Parent/Guardian signature

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Date