

# 2022-2023 Bay City Band Policies and Procedures

## MISSION STATEMENT

Welcome to the Bay City High School Band! Band is a group activity that emphasizes teamwork and cooperation. Each individual must strive to work for the success of the group. Even though you are a part of a large group, each individual's participation is needed in order to make our group goals a reality. Our band should be seen as a source of pride for our school and community. Each time you wear our uniform or participate with our group you are carrying on a tradition that stretches back many decades. **Every student that joins our program assumes the responsibility of upholding and making an effort to improve the high standards responsible for our future success.** It is up to all of us to continue the traditions that will last long after we have left.

## BAND EXPECTATIONS

There are five general rules governing expected behavior for band members.

1. Be respectful.
2. Be quiet and attentive during all functions.
3. Be prepared and on time, with all necessary materials.
4. Keep all rehearsal and performance areas clean and respect your instrument and uniform.
5. Do not bring food or drinks into the band hall.

Insubordination toward directors, drum majors, section leaders, or chaperones will not be tolerated. This will require a conference with the band director and may result in a referral to an Assistant Principal. The student will not be allowed to participate again until a conference occurs with the parents and band director.

Any further violation will result in permanent removal from the band program.

## GRADING

Your grade in band will be determined as follows:

### Daily work

1. Attitude, behavior, and contribution during rehearsal and performances
2. Inspections - proper dress at all rehearsals(ex. Tennis shoes at morning rehearsal, instrument in playing condition)
3. Having all equipment - music, lyre, flip folder, reeds, mouthpiece, etc.
4. Attendance at practices and sectionals

## TESTS

1. Playing tests
2. Marching tests
3. Written tests
4. Attendance at performances(games)
5. Monday Night Rehearsals

**\*\*\*If you do not attend Monday Night Rehearsal, you will not be allowed to participate in that Friday night game and an alternate assignment will be given unless consent is given by Mr. Longoria.\*\*\***

**\*\*\*If you do not take your required playing test, the band directors may not allow you to participate in Friday night games and an alternate assignment will be given to you.\*\*\***

### Six weeks test (if given)

1. Concert, performance, written, playing, or marching tests

All students are required to attend every practice, sectional, and performance. Your grade is largely dependent on your attendance. **Work related absences are not excused.** Plan ahead!!!! A schedule of events will be provided to you-- check it! The director is not responsible for determining your excuse. You must keep him/her informed well ahead of time if a conflict cannot be avoided. (The day or week of a contest or performance is too late! Major points will be deducted if this occurs). If some emergency arises and you cannot attend, you must notify the director as soon as possible ahead of time and BRING A NOTE SIGNED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN. You will be given an alternate assignment to complete your grade for that event in case of emergency only.

Please note: Should our team advance to playoffs during football season, we will attend the games. All students are required to attend the playoff games. As soon as the Band Directors know any information on playoff games, we will send it out to parents as soon as possible.

## ELIGIBILITY

Students are expected to pass all classes so that they are eligible for all band events. If you are having trouble in a class, seek help through the teacher or a band student, attend tutorials, and make up tests. **Students that continue to fail two years in a row and are not eligible to participate in UIL events will be removed from the band program.**

In the spring semester, students who are having difficulty with grades may be moved between bands.

## FEEES

Band Fee:

**ALL Band MEMBERS will pay a band fee of \$40.00.** This will cover uniform maintenance, and band shirt. Checks for band fees should be made out to **BCHS Band Activity.**

**Students are also responsible for bringing a 24 pack of bottled water for the games.**

New students including new color guard members will need to purchase uniform **band shoes**. The cost will be **\$40.00**. These checks will also be made out to **BCHS Band Activity.**

Rental Fee:

**Instrument Rental Fee: \$50.00 for the year**  
**Percussion Rental Fee: \$30.00 for the year**

Students will be expected to pay for damage caused to instruments due to neglect and misuse. The school will pay for routine maintenance. Report any damage immediately to the director. Checks will be made out to **BCHS Band Activity.**

**STUDENTS THAT CANNOT TAKE PROPER CARE OF A SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENT MAY LOSE THE PRIVILEGE OF USING THAT INSTRUMENT.**

## **BAND BOOSTERS**

The band boosters are an organization dedicated to furthering the goals of our band. All parents are members of the boosters. This group helps out by providing chaperones for band trips, cleaning the uniforms, helping with the band at football games and contests, and providing snacks and meals as needed throughout the year. The boosters also provide opportunities for students to raise money for band trips. Scholarships are awarded to senior band members each year by the booster club.

1. Meetings will be held at the HS Band Hall. We will let you know when these meetings will occur.
2. A constitution is used to judge and control the purposes of the group.
3. Officers are elected annually to provide leadership in the group.

## **BAND TRIPS**

You will be informed of any trips that we take throughout the year as information becomes available. Students will know well in advance if they will need to pay a fee. Opportunities for fundraising for the trip are made available through the band boosters during concession stand at home football games and through the band.

## **REHEARSAL INSTRUCTIONS**

A successful organization generally runs by specific organizational rules. Our achievement depends on following the procedures.

1. All students are to be in their seat (or designated place) at the beginning of rehearsal. Otherwise, they are considered tardy. We know marching practice is early, but we can only get our job accomplished if everyone is on time and ready to go each morning.
2. Each student is responsible for having the proper equipment for each rehearsal. This includes:
  - A. Instrument in good playing condition
  - B. Music
  - C. Pencil
  - D. Equipment (i.e.: reeds, drum sticks, valve oil, etc.)
3. While the director is on the podium (or giving instruction while off the podium), students are to remain quiet.
4. All students need to use proper posture while playing their instrument. Points will be deducted from your daily grade for frequent infractions.
5. No student is to have candy, chew gum, eat, or drink during rehearsal. Only water is allowed.
6. All students are to remain in their seats during class. (i.e. no going to the bathroom, getting a drink, etc. without a director's permission)

7. All students are responsible for putting away their instrument, equipment, and music properly when practice is finished. Failure to follow these instructions will result in a lowering of your weekly grade.

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR BUS TRIPS**

In the Band Hall prior to the event:

1. All students are to sit as instructed by drum majors or directors.
2. Band members will be dismissed by “section of the week” and grade level.

On the Bus:

1. All students are to ride on the bus they are assigned.
2. The director and/or designated chaperones are in charge of the bus. Please be respectful of these people and follow their instructions when first given.
3. All students must remain in their seats at all times and keep their head and hands inside the bus.
  4. While traveling through cities noise level is to be kept to a minimum. Proper level will be determined by directors, chaperones, and bus drivers.
5. On trips at night, boys and girls may not sit together in a seat.
6. Students are permitted to bring portable stereos on bus trips provided they are equipped with headphones. **NO STEREOS WITH SPEAKERS WILL BE ALLOWED.**
7. All students are responsible for keeping the bus clean. Make sure all trash is picked up prior to arrival at our destination.
8. No food or drinks are allowed on the bus. This is a district policy! Arrival at

the Event:

1. Only designated personnel (i.e. directors, drum majors, loading crew, designated flag members) are to leave the bus upon arrival at our destination.

All others are to wait until a director, drum major, or chaperone instructs them to get off the bus.
2. When dismissed from the bus, students are to:
  1. Find their instrument
  2. Return the case to the place designated by the loading crew
  3. Form in the spot designated by the director or drum major and await further instruction
  4. Put on uniform (if instructed to)

Leaving the event:

Each student is to:

1. Properly hang up uniform

2. Quickly find your instrument case
3. Securely put away your instrument
4. Return it to the load crew for storage
5. After this is completed all students will get on the proper bus and prepare for departure.
6. If you are a HAG. (**H**ome **A**fter **G**ame with parents) you must:
  1. Bring a note to the director the Thursday before the game. No later than Friday morning at the end of band rehearsal. This will include a daytime phone in case your parents need to be contacted.
  2. You may not go home with anyone other than your parents. (If you want to go home with someone else, you must fill out an alternate travel form from Student Services. It must be turned in as it requires a principal signature.)
  3. Check out with the designated "hag master" (band director) by the Equipment Trailer with your parents.
  4. Take your instrument and uniform with you, or find a friend to bring it back to the band hall for you and unload it.
  5. Parents, we will tell students to call you when we are close. Please make every effort to be waiting for your child as we will be getting home late.
  7. Upon arrival at the school all students are responsible for making sure the bus is clean.
  8. All students are responsible for removing their own instrument from the truck and taking it to the band hall.

Any abuse of these privileges will result in lowering of grade, permanent bus seat assignment by the director, and/or loss of marching position or dismissal from the band program.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR FOOTBALL GAMES

You are a representative of your school at every game. Conduct yourself in a proud manner.

1. No leaving of assigned section during a game, unless given permission by a director.
2. No indiscriminate playing at any time.
3. Uniforms must be worn completely at all times while at a game unless permission is given by one of the director(s). This means you must have your band shirt on when jackets are off, or you will wear the complete uniform for the entire game.
4. No one but BAND PERSONNEL are allowed in the band section. Ex-Band students or special visitors are sometimes exceptions, but only by SPECIAL PERMISSION from the director.
5. Watch the director or drum major at all times when he/she is standing in front of the band. Get music up rapidly when it is called. Watch closely for cut-offs in the music as sometimes the band must stop playing due to the circumstances of the game. (i.e. when a player is injured)
6. CELL PHONES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BE USED AT SCHOOL. THIS APPLIES DURING FOOTBALL GAMES AND BAND REHEARSALS. WE ARE THERE TO DO A JOB, NOT TALK ON THE PHONE. You can use your phone during your break and on the bus to let your parents know you are approaching Bay City and will be ready to be picked up at the school.

## UNIFORMS

Our uniform is the symbol of our band. When you are seen in your uniform, you are not seen as an individual. You become a representative of your school and your community. You must conduct yourself in a manner that will reflect positively on both our band and the town of Bay City.

1. Black socks and approved band shoes are to be worn with the uniform. 2.

Uniforms are to remain zipped at all times.

3. Hats are to be worn properly, not backwards.

4. No earrings are allowed while in your uniform.

5. Face painting or hair coloring for football games is not allowed. This is to prevent stains on the uniform.

6. Proper care must be taken in the maintenance of your uniform. When you finish wearing it for the evening you must:

1. Hang uniform up properly so that it does not wrinkle.

2. Do not place hats and shoes in the uniform bag. They are not strong enough to handle the weight of these items.

3. Do not store the uniform in the bag if it is wet from rain or perspiration. Allow it to dry while hanging properly.

4. Do not use spot cleaners, bleaches, spray deodorants, perfumes, facial makeup, etc. on the uniform.

5. Do not wear it over jeans, coats, or other outer garments on the bus, in the stands, or during the performance. This causes strain on the seams, buttons, and zippers.

7. Put uniform away properly.

8. You are financially responsible for any part of the uniform that is lost or damaged. Keep track of all parts of the uniform.

### REPORT ANY PROBLEMS WITH YOUR UNIFORM TO THE UNIFORM MANAGERS.

At contests, you are graded on uniform fit. We will have periodic inspections to make sure that all pants are proper length, shoes are clean, etc. This will be part of your grade for the game. During games and on breaks, you will be expected to wear your uniform in a proper manner.

IF A STUDENT FAILS TO TAKE CARE OF THEIR UNIFORM PROPERLY, THE PRIVILEGE OF WEARING IT MAY BE TAKEN AWAY FROM THEM.



## **BAND AWARDS**

Letter jacket - You may earn a letter jacket by achieving one of these goals:

1. Make the ATSSB All-Region Band and advance to State Competition. (You must participate in both the region clinic and concert and the area tryout.)
2. Perform a class one solo by memory and advance to and participate in the State Solo and Ensemble contest and achieve a rating of “good” or better.
3. Must be a current Senior member of the Blackcat Band.

### Other Band Awards

Richard Longoria Scholarship, Debbie Clanton Scholarship, General Band Scholarship - Monetary awards given by booster club to senior applicants.

Directors Award - award at the Band Banquet to outstanding bandsman.

## **BAND SOCIAL MEDIA**

We will use several modes of communication and feature student success through pictures, videos, and announcements. These forms of communication include: district website & district social media, a band facebook page, remind.com for announcements and twitter. Mr. Longoria, Mr. Carrizales, Band Booster Officers, and Victoria Bragg BCISD Public Relations are the only people with access to post new information.

[www.facebook.com/bchsblackcatband](http://www.facebook.com/bchsblackcatband). All information regarding weekly announcements and band calendar will be posted on the school band website. [www.bcblackcats.net/band](http://www.bcblackcats.net/band)

## **EXPULSION FROM BAND**

It is important to follow all band rules set by the Directors and the social contract set by the students of The Blackcat Band. If rules are broken, then the Band Directors will have consequences by either lowering grades and/or a consequence such as push-ups or laps around the track during marching season. If a student continues to be non-compliant with the rules, then a possible removal from the band may occur.

Students must follow the Extracurricular Code of Conduct.

Band Leaders-If any leaders (current or future leaders) are sent to DAEP, they will no longer be in a leadership position.

Band members who spend time in DAEP may also be removed from the band. You are representing the Blackcat Band at ALL times on or off campus!