



Shoal River Mustang Band Handbook



2023-2024

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Welcome!

Welcome back to another year at school! I hope this year in band teaches each student more than just notes and rhythms. I am looking forward to inspiring every student to grow musically, socially, and intellectually, all while making beautiful music together.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to email me, Remind message me, or call my office phone.

Sincerely,

Emilia Tenoré
Band Director

Personal Instruments

Personal instruments are defined as instruments which belong to individual students and not to Shoal River Middle School. The individual is responsible for maintaining their instrument and for providing the necessary supplies. (i.e., reeds, valve oil, slide cream, swabs, neck straps, etc.). The student's name must be on their instrument case.

School Instruments

School instruments are defined as those instruments which belong to Shoal River Middle School and the Okaloosa County School District. Once assigned a school instrument, it is the student's responsibility to provide the necessary supplies for that instrument (i.e., valve oil, reeds, etc.). These instruments are issued in working order. Each student and parent will sign an instrument check out form at the beginning of the school year, which states that the student will care for the instrument as if it were their own, including personal responsibility for any needed repair of the instrument during the school year. The student must notify the director of any needed repair to the instrument. Students playing these instruments will pay a nonrefundable user fee of \$120 for the school year. If desired, parents may opt to break up the payments into smaller chunks. This payment is used to offset the cost of routine maintenance and cleaning; thus, it does not cover repair work.

Instrument Storage

Each band student will have access to a cubby or shelf where their instrument may be stored during the school day. The band room is continuously monitored during the school day and therefore, the instruments remain safe. Students should NOT use school lockers to store instruments. Students are expected to take their instruments home and practice regularly.



Class and Instrument Supply List

Required in Class Every Day:

1. Instrument
2. Band Method Book (listed below)
3. Band Folder or Binder with the student's name clearly visible on the front
4. Pencil
5. Concert/Symphonic Band Only: Flip Folder and Lyre with Extra Pages for Football Band
6. All necessary materials needed for their instrument:
 - Clarinet/Oboe/Bassoon/Saxophone: reed case, at least 3 working reeds, cork grease
 - Trumpet/Euphonium/Tuba: valve oil
 - Trombone: slide cream, water spray bottle
 - Symphonic/Concert Band Percussion: Vic Firth Intermediate Education Pack

Required at home:

1. Wire Music Stand

Method Books:

- Beginning Band-
Tradition of Excellence – Book 1 (for YOUR instrument)
- Concert/Symphonic Band-
Tradition of Excellence – Book 2 (for YOUR instrument)
If student finishes Book 2: *Tradition of Excellence – Book 3 (for YOUR instrument)*

Uniform Information:

Football Band//Concert Band/Beginning Band:

- Shoal River Band Shirts -
 - Blue Polo Shirt - \$20 – sizes YL, S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL
 - Blue Tie-Dye T-Shirt - \$20 – sizes YL, S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL
 - Shirt sizes are first come first served because we must order them far in advance.
 - If we run out of your size, we will have to instead give you the closest size we have.
- Black Pants - No rips/holes; Must be plain black
- Black Socks - Must be plain black
- Black Sneakers - We do not want to see other colors, so please find plain black shoes. We have a limited supply for purchase if needed.

Symphonic Band Concert Attire:

- The Band has Symphonic Band uniforms in inventory. Students will be fitted in January, and then they will be assigned a uniform to use for performances the rest of the year.
- The student and the student's parent/guardian are responsible for keeping the uniform in good condition and returning it to the band after the last performance of the year (Spring Concert).



Instrument Care and Maintenance

All instruments must receive regular maintenance. Just as we humans must regularly shower, brush our teeth, and apply deodorant (hopefully!), we must all maintain the health of our instruments. The basics are provided below:

Woodwinds	<p>All Woodwinds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Swab after EACH playing session (to avoid MOLD), wipe keys and body clean with a soft cotton cloth <p>Flute:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Periodically check position of the tuning cork and swab after use <p>Clarinet/Saxophone:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rinse mouthpiece regularly with warm water. Do NOT use mouthpiece brushes. ▪ Always have at least 5 reeds in your case: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rotate them so that they are all broken in and ready to play.
Brass	<p>All Brass:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wipe off all fingerprints after each use. ▪ Use tuning slide grease on all tuning slides. ▪ Periodically check corks on water keys to make sure that they are sealing properly. ▪ Run lukewarm water through the instrument at least once a semester. ▪ Give it a bath at least once a year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Do NOT use hot water or leave the valves in the instrument while washing it. ▪ NEVER use brass or other metal polish on brass lacquer finished (shiny gold) instruments. ▪ Occasionally vacuum your case. <p>Piston Valve Instruments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use valve oil as needed. ▪ Be sure fingers remain curved while playing so that the valve action is straight up and down. This will avoid wear on the pistons (sticky valves!!!). <p>Trombones:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use slide cream and a spray bottle of water on the slide.
Percussion	<p>All Percussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Avoid damage to heads by using proper sticks for each instrument. ▪ Only perform on the proper surface(s) as indicated by the Band Director or the composer. ▪ Buy and use a metronome!

**Grading Policy:**

- Daily Preparation and Participation: 20%
 - Students will bring their required supplies and will participate in rehearsal.
 - The student's daily grade begins at 100/100 and drops with repeated cases of missing required equipment or failing to participate in rehearsal.
 - If a student is unable to meet these requirements for an excusable reason (due to instrument in shop, injury, dental work, etc.), the parent must email the director before the affected class(es).
 - Performances and After-School Rehearsals: 30%
 - Band is a performing arts class, and that is why students join—to perform! Therefore, all after-school rehearsals and performances are co-curricular as to supplement and enhance the students' music and performing-arts educational curriculum.
 - To avoid conflicts, consult the band calendar on our band's Charms page.
 - See detailed absences section below.
 - Pass-offs and Assessments: 50%
 - Students will be assigned excerpts from class material to perform individually.
 - Grading criteria are based on the lesson focus and the needs of the music excerpt.
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Class Conflicts:

Naturally, conflicts will occur from time to time. In these instances:

- School activities must take precedence over non-school activities.
 - If a student is involved in more than one school activity, the faculty members in charge will help the parents and students work out an acceptable solution.
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Band Calendar:

All performances and rehearsals require mandatory attendance. Extra effort will be made by the Band Director to give students and parents advance of all events. Therefore, we ask that all appointments be scheduled so that they do NOT conflict with band events. All members of our team are needed so that the Mustang Band can be the best it can be. Please refer to the Band Calendar linked to our website. Information on the calendar is subject to change (although every effort will be made to avoid this) at the discretion of the Band Director as the year itself may fluctuate. Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding!

www.SRMSMustangBand.com/Calendar



Absences from a performance or a rehearsal:

- The following are considered excused absences:
 - Personal Illness
 - Death in the family
 - Family emergency
 - Should a situation arise where written notice is impractical (ex: sudden illness resulting in checking out of school day-of), it is still your responsibility to email the band director before reporting time. Do not rely on another student/parent.
 - Unexcused performances and/or rehearsals result in a grade reduction.
 - If a student's absence is excused, the student will be responsible for completing an alternative assignment, to be assigned and graded in the performance's place.
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Forms

Both forms can be found on our website under the "Forms/Files" tab.

- Band Contact Form
 - Allows us to contact parents for clear and open communication
- Image Release Form
 - Allows us to take photos of your student for our Band Website, Facebook Page, etc.
- On/Off Campus Form
 - Allows your student to travel off campus for various band events. This form must be notarized.

www.SRMSMustangBand.com/Forms

Behavior Expectations

1. Attend all classes, rehearsals, and performances ON TIME (early is on time).
 2. Be prepared for rehearsals and performances with all necessary materials.
 3. Maintain your instrument(s) and keep it/them in performance condition.
 4. Practice regularly at home.
 5. Keep the band room neat and clean; do not bring food into the classroom.
 6. Be responsible for your music/instrument/equipment.
 7. If you borrow something, put it back.
 8. Participate daily and be present physically and mentally.
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Funding of the Band

Operating a top-quality band program requires revenue. Expenses include specialists, buses, music purchases, instrument purchase and repair, festival assessments, instructional accessories (i.e. metronomes, tuners, drum heads, etc.), and others. Therefore, the SRMS band will participate in fundraising activities to raise revenue. Fundraising is voluntary; however, if we do not have the needed financial support, then we will not be able to maintain a quality program.



Remind App Sign-Up Codes

Beginning Band:

Text @SRMSBB2324 to 81010

Concert Band:

Text @SRMSCB2324 to 81010

Symphonic Band:

Text @SRMSSB2324 to 81010

Jazz Band:

Text @SRMSJB2324 to 81010

Parent Volunteers:

Text @SRMSPV2324 to 81010



2023 – 2024 SRMS Band Handbook Agreement Form

Student Name (print neatly): _____ Class Period: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (print neatly): _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN: I understand the requirements and responsibilities for membership in the Shoal River Middle School Band program. I have read and understand the special policies concerning expectations, grading, attendance, attire, instrument maintenance, and behavior. I realize that my son/daughter is enrolled in a performance-based curriculum for academic credit, and I agree not to use suspension of his or her participation in rehearsals or performances as a disciplinary tool. I understand that type of punishment affects the entire band program and is not fair or appropriate.

X _____
(PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE)

STUDENT: I have read and agree to abide by the principles, ideals, procedures, and guidelines set forth in the 2022-2023 Band Handbook and I also understand the consequences for non-compliance.

X _____
(STUDENT SIGNATURE)

Please sign and return no later than Monday, August 21st, 2023.