

2021

2022



MEMBERSHIP GUIDE

FOR NEW AND RETURNING BAND MEMBERS



WELCOME TO THE HAYS BAND

Welcome to one of the most exciting experiences in which you can be a part - The Jack C. Hays Band! The Hays HS Band Directors believe music is an art like no other and that music studies and performing arts should be a part of every student's well-rounded education. Now, more than ever, we have information to justify why students should participate in this demanding, yet rewarding, activity. Experts have concluded that the study of music helps students with spatial reasoning, test taking, and overall quality of life! Factor in the social skills, emotional development, leadership training, group interaction, aesthetic perception, and discipline gained from being in our band program, and we don't know why anyone would not want to be involved in a successful band program like the one at Hays High School. The ultimate goal is a lifelong understanding and appreciation for high-quality music and music-making! Through your partnership and dedication to the arts, we can achieve great things together for our students over the next four years!

GENERAL INFO

Communication is key for making your transition into high school band as smooth as possible! To stay updated with upcoming new member events and reminders, join our new member Remind -

Text @hb2122 to 81010

Subscribe to our HHS Band Weekly Newsletter: www.haysbands.org - Click Newsletter

Follow us on Instagram: @haysbands

Follow us on Twitter: @haysbands

Like us on Facebook: @haysbands

WHY SHOULD MY STUDENT TAKE BAND / COLOR GUARD IN HIGH SCHOOL?

Band and guard promote academic accountability, time management skills, exercise, friendships, leadership skills, creative expression, teamwork skills, a sense of accomplishment, and the increased opportunity for college scholarships.

HOW CAN I MAKE SURE MY STUDENT IS ENROLLED IN BAND / GUARD?

If your student has completed their choice sheet and selected "Band" or "Color Guard" they will be enrolled in band for the full academic year. If your student didn't select "Band" or "Color Guard" on their choice sheet, please let Mr. Rauschuber know immediately so that he may assist you in getting the student enrolled. It is important to know that band is a year round activity in which a student must be involved in both the marching and concert season. Parents will need to fill out the Band Registration Form online at www.haysbands.org.

CAN MY STUDENT PARTICIPATE IN THE HAYS BAND AND OTHER EVENTS AT HAYS HS?

Absolutely!!! We have several students who participate in band or guard who are also involved in many other activities here at HHS. These activities include, but are not limited to: football, high steppers, student council, ROTC, NHS, speech and debate, baseball, tennis, basketball, golf, cross country, track and many more. There is typically always a way to work around any schedule conflict. We ask that you please just communicate with Mr. Rauschuber so that he can discuss possible solutions. Do not let anyone (counselor, coach, teacher, other guardian, etc.) tell you it can't be done. Always talk with a Hays HS Band Staff member first!

STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO THE BAND PROGRAM AT HHS:

As a member of this organization, you have a great deal of responsibility. These expectations coordinate with the privileges, rewards, and duties of the band program. To ourselves, you have the primary responsibility of developing your own abilities. The benefits of a good instrument and private instruction can never be overestimated. What you put into it is what you will get out of it. The directors are always available for your guidance and encouragement - just ask! The school district provides us with the amazing resources for rehearsals, performances, and equipment. The Band Boosters also provide a support network financially, logically, and emotionally. In the Hays Band, we have the responsibility to provide the best possible services to our school, to our families, and to our community.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

MEMBERSHIP FEES

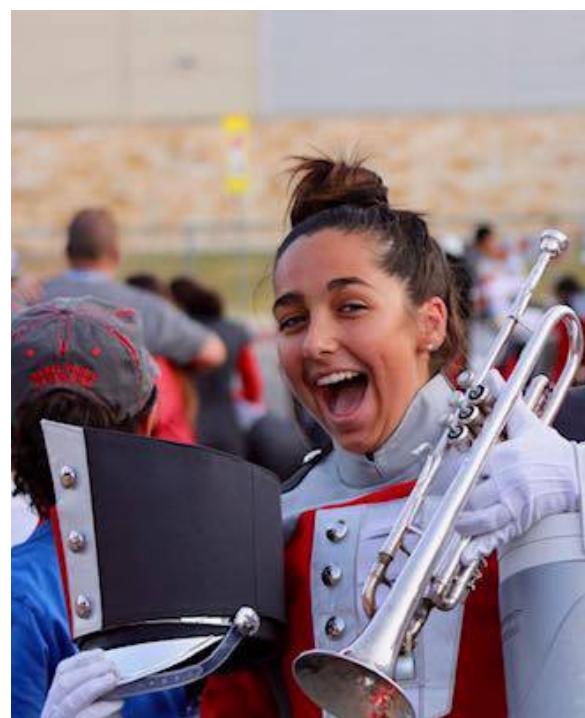
A band membership fee and color guard membership fee will be required by all Hays Band members and will be used to cover a variety of expenses encountered by the band program that are not funded by the Hays CISD. Such expenses may include (but are not limited to) marching drill design, marching music arrangements, certain contest fees, specialized instruction, supplemental supplies, shirts, flip-folders, water jugs, uniform accessories, etc. An additional \$125 instrument rental / maintenance fee will be assessed to those students who use school owned instruments.

These school owned instruments include the following:

- Piccolos
- Oboes
- Bassoons
- Bass Clarinets
- Tenor Saxes
- Bari-Saxes
- Bass Trombones
- Baritones / Euphoniums
- Marching Horns / Concert Horns
- Sousaphones / Tubas
- All Percussion (Drum Line and Front Ensemble)

All band and color guard fees will need to be paid by the official summer band check-in date of July 17th, 2021. If a family is unable to fulfill full membership fees by this date, they should email Mr. Rauschuber prior to the July 17th check-in date so that arrangements may be made. It is important to recognize that no student will be gifted their letterman jacket or be allowed to receive their HHS diploma until all HHS outstanding fees are paid for, including band fees. In addition, students will not be able to exempt final exams should they have any outstanding balances.

All band fees will need to be paid online through the district Revtrak portal. No cash or check payments are accepted by the HHS band program. You can access the Revtrak portal by visiting the band website: www.haysbands.org. More information on how to use Revtrak can be found on the next page.



HELPFUL PAYMENT INFO

Important Payment Guidelines:

All Hays Band students should have a deposit of \$150 paid in full by May 7th, 2021. Student deposits collected on or before May 7th will help directors determine show numbers for the fall production. Those students who do not have their membership deposits paid on May 7th will be at risk of not being included in the show design. Should a conflict arise and payment can not be made in a timely manner, please contact Mr. Rauschuber. The absolute latest deadline for all remaining balances to be paid off is July 17th, 2021.

Payment Options for Winds & Percussion:

Option 1: All fees paid on May 7th, 2021

-\$275.00 Membership Fee
-\$100.00 Uniform Fee
-\$125.00 Instrument Fee (if applicable)

\$375.00 Total w/o instrument fee

\$500.00 Total with instrument fee

Payment Options for Winds & Percussion:

Option 2: Suggested payment schedule

May 7th - \$150 Membership Deposit
June 7th - \$100 Balance Payment
July 17th - \$125 Balance Payment

Total Balance Paid: \$375.00 (w/o instrument fee)

July 17th - \$125 Balance Payment (if needed)

Total Balance Paid: \$500 (with instrument fee)

Payment Options for Color Guard:

Option 1: All fees paid on May 7th, 2021

-\$275.00 Membership Fee
Uniform Fee - TBD
Equipment Fee - TBD

Total fees to be determined - awaiting costuming and equipment prices for fall 2021 production.

Payment Options for Color Guard:

Option 2: Suggested payment schedule.

May 7th - \$150 Membership Deposit
June 7th - \$125 Balance Payment
July 17th - Balance Payment TBD

MAKING PAYMENTS

As mentioned, all payments will need to be processed online using the Revtrak portal. There are two ways to access the Revtrak portal:

1. Visit the band website - www.haysbands.org - on the home page click "Pay Fees"
2. Visit the direct Revtrak link - <https://hayscisd.revtrak.net/>

Once on Revtrak you will need to create an account if you do not already have one from previous district payments. If you have used Revtrak in the past, you can use the same account. To pay fees, you will need to enter the desired amount in which you wish to pay. Please note that the payment schedule listed above is simply a suggested payment plan. You may log-in to Revtrak at any point and pay any amount towards the students outstanding balance.

SPRING CAMPS 2021



Our spring camps are designed to help acclimate our new members and their families into the Hays Band program. Each day, new members will focus on learning rehearsal etiquette and expectations as well as marching, visual, and music fundamentals that are essential to one's success in high school marching band. Students will be working with Hays Bands faculty as well as outside clinicians and techs to develop these skills. The spring camp is crucial for all potential Hays Bands members and will aid new members in developing the skills needed to assist in securing a marching spot in the fall production. Hays Band leadership will also focus on team building and helping our new members feel excited and welcomed into the Hays Band family!

NEW MEMBER CLINIC

April 19th - April 20th

4/19 - 5:00-8:00pm - HHS Music Building

4/20 - 5:00-8:00pm - HHS Music Building

HHS SPRING BAND CAMP - ALL MEMBERS

May 3rd - May 7th

Brass / Woodwind / Percussion & Color Guard Members:

5/3 - 5:00-8:00pm (All members)- HHS Music Building

5/4 - 5:00-8:00pm (All members)- HHS Music Building

5/5 - 5:00-8:00pm (All members)- HHS Music Building

5/6 - 5:00-8:00pm (All members)- HHS Music Building

5/7 - 5:00-8:00pm (All members)- HHS Music Building

5/7 - 6:00-7:00pm (Parent Orientation - All Parents) - Location TBA

5/7 - 7:30-8:00pm (Parent Showcase) - Location TBA

During these camp dates, students should wear light colored athletic clothing with athletic (closed-toed shoes) and bring the following items:

- Instrument / mouthpiece and all accessories
- Percussion players bring stick bag with all mallets and sticks
- Water jug filled with water
- Sunscreen
- Pencil
- Binder to hold music (not applicable to Guard)

Should you have a conflict with any of the dates, please notify Mr. Rauschuber ASAP. We understand that the spring semester can be a busy time for many individuals! With this said, we are willing to help accommodate students' schedules as long as conflicts have been communicated.

SUMMER BAND 2021

Wednesday, July 14th - Friday, July 16th

HHS Band - BLT Leadership Camp

Members of Band Leadership Team Only

HRB Official Check-In Day (Saturday, July 17th)

HHS Music Building

New members must bring a completed health physical on this date. Physicals must be dated after June 1st, 2021. Any physical dated earlier than June 1st will not be accepted. A copy of the physical form can be found online at www.haysbands.org.

Percussion Camp (Monday, July 19th - Friday, July 23rd)

HHS Music Building

Percussion Students Only

Color Guard Camp (Monday, July 19th - Friday, July 23rd)

HHS Music Building / Gym

Color Guard Members Only

Monday, July 26th - August 20th

HHS Band Full Band Camp

All Hays Band members

Please note that the above schedule is tentative and may change. We try our best to not alter dates and times once posted! Should a date or time be changed, we will notify parents and students via email and remind text. Always resort to the official band calendar for the most accurate and up-to-date schedule.

WHAT TO EXPECT

During the duration of summer band camp, students will be rehearsing inside and outside. We can't stress enough how important it is for students to stay hydrated in the weeks leading up to summer band. Students should also begin spending time outdoors acclimating to the weather so that they are more prepared for the extended duration that happens during summer band and fall rehearsals. Students should take their daily diet into consideration as well. Should a student become sick due to dehydration / heat, that student will be monitored and appropriate measures will be taken. Should a student's sickness last an extended amount of time, that student may be asked to return home for the day. If a student is continually developing the same symptoms each day, a conference may need to be had with a parent or guardian to discuss the student's diet and daily routine. We provide students with ample water breaks, cooling towels, and additional water to assist with hydration and overheating issues.

Students should wear the following items each day:

Light colored t-shirt, athletic shorts, athletic shoes (no open toed footwear), hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen

Students should bring the following items each day:

Instrument and supplies, lyre and flip folder, binder and pencil, water jug, cell-phone for UDB, and lunch (if the student did not purchase the meal plan)

FALL 2021

The fall semester is a busy time for ALL HHS Band members and it is important that students stay organized and in touch with all Hays Band communication throughout the season. The busiest months in the fall are always September and October. PLEASE avoid scheduling family vacations, major appointments, etc during these months. October is jam-packed with marching band performances, football games and rehearsals. It is important to emphasize that attendance at ALL performances is mandatory and failure to attend any rehearsal, game or contest will negatively impact a student's grade and may revoke their position in the marching band. There are always students willing to step-in and fill a marching spot! The important thing for all students to remember is that organization and communication are KEY to successfully getting through the fall marching season. While it may feel a bit overwhelming, know that it is possible and that many individuals before you have made the same commitments and have been successful in doing so! When in doubt, seek the advice of an upperclassman or director in how to best stay organized! We are here for you!

Tentative Fall 2021 Rehearsal Schedule:

Mondays - 5:00-8:00pm

Tuesdays - 5:00-7:00pm

Wednesdays - NO REHEARSAL (students should attend tutorials)

Thursdays - 6:50-8:20am

Fridays - 6:50-8:20am

*The schedule above is strictly tentative and may change due to facility availability.

Students should wear the following items each rehearsal:

Light colored t-shirt, athletic shorts, athletic shoes (no open toed footwear), hat, sunglasses and sunscreen
In the colder weather, students should wear gloves, beanies, underarmour, sweatpants, and any other items that will keep them warm and protected from cold temperatures.

Students should bring the following items each day:

Instrument and supplies, lyre and flip folder, binder and pencil, and water jug.

Football Games / Contests:

Students do not leave campus after school on game days. Students will either have a rehearsal or will eat dinner immediately following the school day. Should the schedule call for dinner immediately after school, they should report directly to the HHS cafeteria. After eating, students are to report to the band hall to change into uniform and prepare for uniform inspection. During the games, students play stand tunes in the bleachers and perform their marching show on the football field during half-time. Game days are NOT optional and students will not be dismissed from a game early. Failure to attend a game day performance will negatively impact a student's overall grade and jeopardize their marching spot.

After games, students return to the HHS Band Hall, whether that be an away game or home game. At away games, the marching band are typically the last people to leave the stadium. Following the game, members must load the semi-trailer and then their respective buses. No bus will leave the stadium until all band students are accounted for. This process typically takes about 30 minutes post game. We will send out remind texts with travel updates and an ETA back at HHS. Once your student returns to HHS, they will be expected to unload the trucks and complete their uniform inspection with their section leader. This process can also take up to 20-30 minutes. We ask that parents / guardians please be patient as their student goes through these game day and contest procedures.

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

A detailed and constantly updated schedule can always be found online on our band website: www.haysbands.org - you will see a link to access our band calendar on the home page. We suggest that all parents and students sync the band calendar to their devices so that they will always have the most up-to-date schedules at their convenience.

The band competes and performs as a unit. If individuals are not present at rehearsals or performances, the entire group is affected. Because the schedule is given to the students prior to the completion of Summer Band, students are aware of the band schedule well in advance. Students are expected to make arrangements to attend ALL performances and rehearsals. (This includes summer and after/before-school rehearsals.)

A schedule for the next school year will be posted for students/families in the summer and a finalized schedule posted online during the first week of school. In the event a change is made in a scheduled performance or rehearsal, students are expected to make every effort to adapt to that change. If ample notice of the change is not possible, the policy on absence will be adjusted accordingly.

An excused absence will only be granted with prior notification in writing via the Absence Request Form. Emergencies require a phone call as soon as possible. The number to Mr. Rauschuber is: 512-268-2911 x46227. Parents or students need to leave a voicemail message if there is no answer. Please note that this number is only accessed through school hours. In the event of an emergency absence, the student should bring written documentation upon his/her return to school in order for an absence to be excused.

Students that are absent from school must email/call the band director BEFORE the end of the school day in order to be excused from an after-school practice or performance. Acceptable excused absences are as follows: severe personal illness, death in the family, school related performances, or a "once in a lifetime event." Absences that a student wishes to be considered as a "once in a lifetime event" must be submitted at least 2 weeks in advance of the projected absence. Absences from a contest must be requested at least 30 days in advance. The Director of Bands will make the decision whether or not to excuse the absence in a case-by-case manner. Work, dentist appointments (non-serious nature), orthodontist appointments, outside-of-school organizational activities, club meetings (school or otherwise), and non-serious family member illnesses will not be excused and will result in the proper grade reduction. Dental emergencies (ie. severe toothache, tooth knocked out, abscess, etc.) will be covered by the "severe personal illness" excuse. If a student is found to have an attendance problem, regardless of the nature, the student may be excluded from special activities or removed from band. There are additional grade penalties for those students who are either late or who miss a required rehearsal, performance or event. Please see the grading policy below.

Note that if we advance into the play-offs, students are expected to be at all play-off games at the end of the regular season. If a student misses a play-off game, his/her grade will be adversely affected.

In the concert season, students may be required to attend additional concert band rehearsals and/or sectionals. These times will be provided by each ensemble's Director and times for each week will be provided in the weekly newsletter. It is important that both students and parents are aware of when all football games, marching contest, band concerts, and contests are held. These are major grades for all students and attendance is mandatory for all of these events. It is the student's responsibility to communicate these dates and times with their employers should they need to request off for work.



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COMMUNICATION

Communication is key in such a large organization such as the Hays Band. The band has so many moving parts and staying up-to-date and in-the-know are fundamental to ones success in our band program. There are several communication methods the directors and boosters will use to send out important information. Should a student have issues with accessing any of our communication portals, please have the student notify a director so that we are able to assist with making sure the student is able to receive our notifications.

Remind 101 Text Messages:

Due to new policies from the Remind 101 company, students will now need to add any additional parent / guardian that wishes to receive remind texts from the HHS Band. We suggest taking a few seconds to sit down with your student and make sure they add you to their remind 101 plan. Remind 101 tends to be the primary communication method for many updates.

Weekly Newsletter:

Mr. Collins will send out a detailed weekly newsletter. This newlsetter contains upcoming events and important information that all students and families should know. To subscribe to the newsletter, please visit our band website. Those students and family members who are registered on charms will be automatically added to our newsletter. You may opt out of the newsletter at any point.

Band Website:

www.haysbands.org

The band website is a great place to find director contact info, booster registration info, booster store, band calendar, band handbook and much more.

Social Media:

Facebook - facebook.com/haysbands

Twitter - @haysbands

Instagram - @haysbands

HHS BAND Private Instruction

Private Instruction is **HIGHLY** recommended but not required.

How to get a head start on success at Hays High School:

Each instrument has special needs and tendencies. We partner with some of the finest trained professionals in their fields. There is no substitute for taking lessons with an individual who performs or specializes on a specific instrument, and we work to find the best fit for each of our band members. Many think that "private lessons" or "tutoring" are only needed for kids who are struggling with their instrument. While it is great for "extra help" as it suggests, those students who are excelling on their instruments benefit equally and usually excel to a whole new level of performance. It is virtually impossible to achieve success in the TMEA All-State process without coaching from a private lessons instructor.

Even if your band member will not pursue music as a career, taking lessons teaches responsibility, goal setting, and commitment to a craft or process. The art of learning to commit and work toward excellence extends far beyond learning to play an instrument.

How do I know who to take lessons from?

Although there are many instructors in the San Marcos/Austin area, the list below represents a collection of individuals who we have worked with in the past and have proven extremely knowledgeable and trustworthy. They are masters at their craft, and trusted by our staff to further your band member's love for music and achieve success at TMEA and All State Auditions. If you do not currently study with one of our recommended instructors, we highly encourage you to explore taking a sample lesson with them to see what you think!

Additional Benefits:

We value our approach to teaching music comprehensively in a tailored approach to help each individual student perform their instrument well. The one-to-one time with a musician and music teacher can be a great asset for a student in a school music program. We want our students to excel and consistently aim to inspire students to reach their greatest potential. Thus, we can also be a great role model for students.

Learning music is a process, a long one, however a good one. Students who invest in themselves, and parents who support such an endeavor, really see the fruits of their labor once students start performing and playing great standard and popular repertoire.

Students can perform as soloists, weekly, with their music teacher, and receive feedback instantly on their music playing. Students in school music classes and bands are usually playing only with other student musicians. Private lessons give students a chance to be a soloist and receive individualized attention.

Students can focus on and learn music theory, additional performance techniques, new repertoire, and set specific musical goals that compliment and enhance a school instrumental music program. School Band and Orchestral teachers should encourage students and parents to study privately. It only helps students play better, which in turn helps their school program sound better.

How to enroll in private lessons:

To begin the process of enrolling in private lessons, please visit our band website at www.haysbands.org. On our website you will find a complete list of our recommended lesson faculty who are approved to teach in the Hays district. You can also find their bios and contact information. We suggest reaching out and contacting them directly to discuss availability and costs.



PARENT GUIDE TO THE HAYS BAND

PRESENTED BY HAYS BAND BOOSTERS, 2021-2022

Welcome to the HAYS BAND FAMILY and the fun, fast-paced world of the HHS Band! The Band Booster organization is run entirely by volunteers that give their time and energy for ALL of our kids. We exist to support the band program and try very hard to always do what is best for the students, directors, and future of this amazing organization! The next few pages will hopefully provide information that will help you keep up with life in the Band. If you have questions, our veteran band parents are here to help!

Some of the duties of the Boosters include the following:

- *Financial support through fundraising
- *Assisting band directors as requested
- *Chaperoning trips
- *Spirit items aka Hays Band Gear for sale
- *Uniform assistance
- *Communicating Booster activities and events
- *Spirit activities and events
- *Meal plans for summer and marching season
- *Marching prop construction and/or assembly
- *Helping with loading/unloading of equipment
- *Organizing and hosting band activities and events

Band Booster Meetings



Booster meetings will be held at 6:30 PM on the first Tuesday of each month from September-May (except December). Meetings are generally held in the HHS band hall, and are approximately one hour. We are all band parents, so everyone is invited and encouraged to attend meetings- no membership is required to attend meetings give input, suggestions, ideas, or to volunteer. Attending Booster meetings is the best way to stay informed and contribute to band activities. Membership is required in order to vote and for your senior to be allowed to apply for a band booster scholarship. There is no requirement placed upon members to volunteer.

A very important aspect of the Hays Band Booster Organization is to fund raise for the band programs.

- Membership drive - \$25 individual membership / \$40 family membership (Memberships fund our scholarships, and families must be members for students to be eligible for the booster scholarship.)
- Summer Band Meal Plan
- Football Game Meal Plan
- Competition Day Meal Plan
- Spirit items aka HHS Band gear sales
- Concession sales - at various events
- Specialty Events: Mistletoe Market, Mulch Sales, Restaurant Spirit Nights, etc.
- Sponsorships

We are always exploring more opportunities... feel free to give us new fundraising ideas! In order to support and continue the Hays Band's history of excellence, the Boosters need as many people to participate as possible. If you can only volunteer one time - Great! If you can volunteer regularly - Great! If you can share event information with friends and family via word of mouth or social media - Fantastic! Support the kids! Support the program! Please don't hesitate to contact any Booster officer for more information, to share ideas or suggestions, or anything else that you can think of!

As parents, we are equally as fortunate as the kids to be part of the Hays Band program. We always want to maintain a culture of humility and professionalism, and we are all role models for this. We wanted to share these things for new families who join and as a reminder for our veteran families to help make the upcoming year smooth and successful. ff

BAND YEAR AT A GLANCE

Spring Band Camp is when new, incoming freshmen join the current high-schoolers after school and begin learning marching fundamentals. Students should bring instruments, water, a snack, and other items as directed by band staff. This is a fun but demanding activity that gives the new band members a good introduction as to what to expect during marching season. Boosters host a "Parent Orientation" in conjunction with Spring Camp.

Show Reveal is typically held at the end of the school year. It is a one night event where the band students and families gather to watch the reveal of our next marching show. Specific date, time, and location will be announced in all communication.

Summer Band is mandatory and begins three to four weeks prior to the start of school. Practice times may vary, depending upon teacher in-service schedules. Practice times may also be a bit different for drum line, color guard, etc. so check with your student regularly and be sure to plug into ALL the communication options: Remind, Newsletter, Facebook, Instagram and the Calendar on the website haysbands.org.

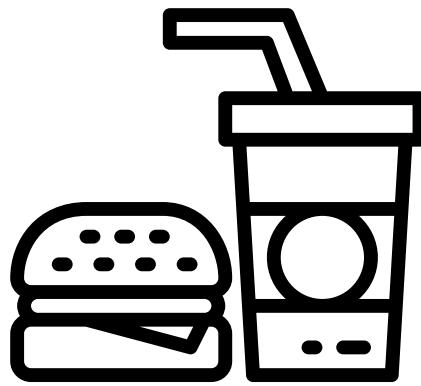
Summer Band is to review marching fundamentals and really get to work on the marching show. Be sure that your student has eaten well before practice. It's a great idea for them to bring a substantial snack, as well. Students will also need to make sure that they always have their water jugs filled with ice and water! They should wear sunscreen and dress in comfortable attire that meets the school dress code. Hats and sunglasses are a great idea, and comfortable shoes are a must! The directors do their best to have outside marching practice at the coolest parts of the day and indoor music rehearsal when it's the hottest.

Football Games are usually on Friday night, and occasionally on Thursday. During football season, the band attends all games to play stand tunes and perform their show at halftime. The games are a fantastic experience and the directors try to make it as fun for the kids as possible. Home games are hosted at Bob Shelton Stadium. Parents must purchase tickets to attend the home or away games, however, you don't have to attend the games; you can pick up your student afterward. For home games the pickup time is generally between 10:30-11:00 PM. Away game pick up times depend on where the game was played and how long it takes the bus to return to school. Students should bring their water jugs with them into the stands and they can refill as needed. Football games are mandatory performances.

Students are expected to remain at all football games for the entire game! In the case of away games, students are expected to ride the bus to and from the game. Parents must email Mr. Rauschuber at john.rauschuber@hayscisd.net the day prior to the game if they need to pick their student up from the game.

Marching Competitions are held from late-September to early-November on Saturdays. The Hays Band will usually attend 4-5 marching competitions during the season. After a late football game on Friday, Saturdays come early... Hang in there!!! Parents, family, and friends are welcomed and encouraged to attend the competitions and cheer on the Hays Band. The bands are judged on music and marching skills and are given artistic and accuracy points. The drum line and color guard are awarded points as well. We LOVE to see our Hays Band Parents sitting together in the stands so that we can cheer for our kids with one LOUD voice!

MEAL PLANS



Summer Meal Plan:

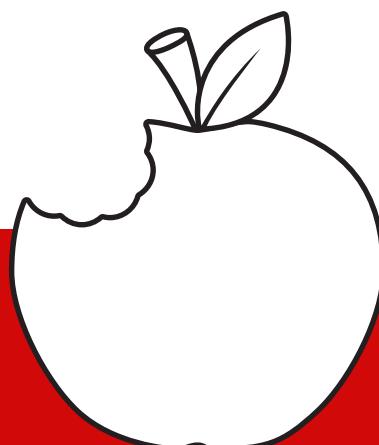
This meal plan is offered by the Boosters to provide lunches during Summer Band. This is optional and is a fundraiser. These meals are fast food, and are ordered and served by Booster parents each day. This meal plan will be available for purchase beginning in May on the website haysbands.org in the Booster Store. The last day to purchase this plan will be on Check-in Day. Again, this is optional so if you do not choose to purchase this meal plan, students will be responsible for their own lunch. Students are not allowed to leave campus during lunch break.

Competition Day Meal Plan:

This meal plan is offered by the Boosters to provide meals on competition days. This is optional and is a fundraiser. Of all the meal plans, this is the one that is most beneficial to parents/students. Depending on competition report times, we will likely provide one or two fast food meals. Competition days can be hectic; we don't often know our performance time or where the band will be situated on these days. You are welcome to send a sack lunch with your child or bring them a meal during mealtimes, but competitions run on a tight and variable schedule, so planning can very be difficult! Band directors do not allow students to go to concessions during their designated mealtime. Chaperones will help with meal service on competition days. This meal plan will be available for purchase beginning in May on the website haysbands.org in the Booster Store.

Football Game Day Meal Plan:

This meal plan is offered by the Boosters to provide students a pre-game meal. This is optional and is a fundraiser. This meal plan was specifically created to help keep game-day craziness to a minimum. Traffic, parking, and timing can all be rough on game days. The meal plan takes care of all football game day meals. The football game day meals are fast food from local restaurants. On football game days, meals are delivered to the HHS cafeteria. Parent volunteers will serve the meals and assist as needed. Students will receive their meals and have time to eat before going to the band hall to change into uniforms. Game days can be hectic, which is why we strongly encourage you to participate in the meal plan! ALL students are required to report to the cafeteria during meal times. If you choose not to purchase this plan, your student will need to bring a meal, or you may drop off a meal to your student after school in the cafeteria. Please do not drop off any food to the band hall. Students are not allowed to leave campus after school on game days to go purchase food. Students are not allowed to purchase food at the game concession stands. They are not allowed to bring food into the game or receive food from someone while at the game. This meal plan will be available for purchase beginning in May on the website haysbands.org in the Booster Store.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Safety Notice - Student Loading & Unloading:

Student drop off/pick up zone is the senior parking lot between the football stadium and the classroom buildings, not at the band hall or back lot. This policy must begin during Summer Band rehearsals as the band parking lot is the HHS Band practice field. There is no parking in the lot by the band hall for students or parents. This is very important on game/competition days as well when we have 9 buses and several large trucks needing access to maneuver in the back lot by the band hall.

Spirit Send-Off:

These events happen in front of the PAC on competition days. We get together to cheer and wave signs and pom-poms as the kids pass by on the buses. Feel free to get creative with your sign making. The kids love this show of support on competition days!

Pit Crew:

Our Pit Crew is comprised of hard working, amazing parents who help at every football game and competition to get equipment on and off the field. (Traditionally, the stationary percussion equipment on the side lines, in front of the band, has been called the pit, but its proper name is the front ensemble.) Volunteers are always needed to help with the pit crew.

The 'Band Sibling' Program:

The Band Sibling program is a band-run program set up and facilitated by the older band students in the SLT (Student Leadership Team). This tradition partners incoming freshmen with an upperclassman in the band program. The older student offers encouragement and advice on how to best navigate membership in the Hays HS Band. Usually, on game days or other special occasions, the "bigs" and "littles" exchange some type of small gift like an ice-cold drink, favorite candy, or other goody. This program will be introduced to your student during band rehearsals at the beginning of the school year.

Spirit Items aka Hays Band Gear:

These are various items created, ordered, sold, and distributed by the Boosters for sale to anyone (students, parents, friends) who want to show their support of the Hays Band! Items include car decals, yard signs, t-shirts, stadium bags, hats and more.

Please support the program and show your Hays Band spirit by ordering from these fundraisers. All items for purchase will be available on the band website in the Booster Store: www.haysbands.org

Payment Policy:

All payments made to the Hays Band Boosters for purchases (i.e., meal plans, Hays Band Gear, booster memberships, etc.) are paid through the Booster Store tab on the website www.haysbands.org. Checks will not be accepted for any purchase, but cards and cash are welcomed.

All payments made to the Hays Band (registration fees, instrument rental fees, band trip, etc.) are paid through Revtrak at the following link: <https://hayscisd.revtrak.net/>

BEYOND MARCHING SEASON

Hays High School Concert Season Bands include Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony, Symphonic Winds and Symphonic Band. Additionally, smaller ensembles such as Jazz Band, Instrumental Choirs and Percussion Ensembles are active. Each band and ensemble will have different out of school rehearsal hours as scheduled by the director. Other events such as Solo & Ensemble and region auditions take place in the concert setting as well.

Winter Guard members actively rehearse their competition routine and attend multiple competitions during the late fall and winter. Guard is a year-long class and we are excited to support them during their many competitions.

Winter Concerts occur in December. All high school bands perform a festive holiday concert at the PAC.

Solo & Ensemble Contest and Concession Sales are held at Hays High School. Students from several high schools around our region play their solos and/or ensembles for a judge who scores their performance. The Boosters host a concession stand as a major fundraiser and provide lunch for the judges.

UIL Concert and Sight Reading is usually held in April. Bands perform their UIL program for three judges who will give them a ranking. They will also attend a sight-reading session and perform a song they have never played, again for three judges who will rank their performance. This is a very significant competition!

Band Banquet is held at the end of the school year. The Boosters and student leadership team plan and host a big party to celebrate our seniors and a year of hard work! Senior students' meals are paid for by Boosters. All others attending must purchase a ticket to cover the cost of their meal and venue rental. Seniors are recognized, and the annual senior slide show is presented. This is not a fundraising event.

Graduation music is performed by the Wind Symphony and/or Wind Ensemble at the HHS Graduation Ceremonies.

Concert Attire is required for all concerts. All students will be assigned tuxedoes (pants, shirt, coat, cummerbund and bow tie) and dresses. Boys are required to wear solid black socks with solid black shoes. Girls are required to wear black hosiery (no bare ankles). Shoes and socks/hosiery are NOT assigned; students are required to supply these on their own.



ETIQUETTE REMINDERS



KEEPING IT PROFESSIONAL

Online Presence:

Our online communications are NOT a place for complaints, gripes, or negativity. If you have an issue, please privately talk to the person your issue is with or bring the issue to a board member or director. Please make sure that any photos or videos you post showcases our band members in the most professional and positive light- we don't want anything posted to be perceived incorrectly.

Marching Competition Behavior:

Be humble and kind! It's a simple phrase but very important. We are honored every year to compete alongside some of the best bands in Texas. The difference between the contest scores of the top bands can often be less than a one-point difference. If we win, be excited and humble. If we don't, be congratulatory to the winners and proud of our students and their hard work. Band kids across the region work incredibly hard themselves and are proud of their bands just as we are of ours. Be complementary, encouraging, and cheer for ALL bands - especially those bands from other Hays CISD High Schools. We are a family! During performances please do not do anything that obstructs the view of those around or behind you (ie: signs, umbrellas, camera/phones/ipads when held up high). Do not stand up, walk to and from your seat, or talk during performances. Keep your conversations positive and control your responses to negative chatter that you may hear around you.



Ambassador:

Be aware of when you or your child are wearing Hays Band attire around town, while on vacation, at a contest, or even at HEB. People recognize the Hays band name and it's important to remember that we are ambassadors for our program wherever we go.

Guiding your child:

Band is an incredible opportunity to help your child grow in responsibility and ownership. Encourage your child to ask the questions of their friends, section leaders, drum majors, or band directors. If they haven't had success with that route, then you can step-in to help. Encourage your child to take personal responsibility for where they need to be and what they need to bring. They will definitely forget something at some point during their time in band. Don't rush in to rescue them every time. Give them the opportunities to grow and learn. They will figure it out!!



Concert Season:

The behavior at an indoor concert is very similar to marching competitions. Please do not stand up or move to and from your seat during the actual performance (unless you need to remove a fussy child). Please do not talk, check your phones, or do anything to disturb others around you trying to enjoy their child's hard work.

HHS BAND MEMBERSHIP CHECKLIST

To ensure that your student is an eligible member of the 2021-2022 Hays Band, please make sure to complete the following task:

FEBRUARY 2021

Attend our 2021 New Member Meeting via Zoom (new member families only) on Monday, February 8th at 7:30pm.

Verify with the school counseling staff that your band member has been enrolled in the Hays Band course.

Complete the online registration form for each band member in your family. The registration form can be found on the homepage of our band website: www.haysbands.org. Deadline to submit registration form is May 7th, 2021.

APRIL 2021

Have students attend the new member marching clinics on April 19th and April 20th. This will introduce your band member to the basic marching and playing fundamentals needed to be successful come our official spring camp in May. These two days will begin the evaluation process for each student.

MAY 2021

Have students attend the official HHS Band Spring Marching Camp during the week of May 3rd-May 7th. These times may be found on the Hays Band Calendar online or listed on page 6 of this document.

Attend the HHS Band Parent Orientation on Friday, May 7th from 6:00-7:00pm. There will be a showcase performance by ALL band members following the meeting at 7:30pm . Location TBA

First fee payment of \$150 due by May 7th. Families may pay their fees in full by this day if they wish to do so. The final day to have ALL fee payments submitted is July 17th.

JUNE 2021

June 7th - Pay 2nd fee payment if using the suggested payment plan. If you paid your balance in full on May 7th, disregard this. Fees will be paid online through the Revtrak portal found on the band website.

JULY 2021

July 17th - Pay all remaining band fees. Fees will be paid online through the Revtrak portal found on the band website.

Attend the official band check-in day on Saturday, July 17th, 2021. Times will be posted in the newsletter as well as on the band website. All band fees must be paid in FULL by this date to permit student check-in.

Turn in health physical at band check-in day. No student will be able to participate in band activities without this physical.

Attend all summer band camp activities as listed on the official band calendar.



2021



2022

www.haysbands.org