

Hello Future Hays High Percussionist,

In the next few months the Jack C Hays Drumline and Front Ensemble will begin preparations for the 2022 season and we would like to inform you of some important information as well as some activity dates to put on your calendar. These upcoming rehearsals are very important and provide a vital opportunity for students to get acquainted with the audition material that will be used for assessment and placement as well as gain a clear understanding of the expectations for the Hays Drumline.

For the first two audition dates we will focus primarily on introducing the audition material as well as committing a large amount of time focusing on technique development and fundamentals. The goal will be to move very slowly and introduce everyone to the audition material as well as other fundamental playing expectations to best prepare students for their next steps with the Hays Drumline.

In the next 3-4 rehearsals we will begin placing students on actual marching and front ensemble instruments by first allowing students to choose whatever instrument that they would like to play. We will then give them individual feedback on the skills necessary to best perform on that instrument. Over time we will move students around to find the instrument that best fits their skill level while also observing and evaluating all member's individual performance to best determine the overall needs of the group.

Instead of a one time "audition" for placement within the group, we will utilize an observation, feedback and evaluation method. Placement within the Hays Drumline and Front Ensemble will be based on the following factors:

Individual Skill

Needs of the Ensemble

Observed Improvement

Physical size and potential ability to manage a particular instruments requirements

Attitude, acceptance and application of feedback

Attendance and commitment to the rehearsal schedule

As you can see, there are many factors that go into determining the best placement for each student in the ensemble. With that said, the best advice that we can provide is that students come to as many rehearsals as possible, listen and absorb as much feedback in rehearsals and take that information home and work in between each week. The most successful students are those that consistently show up ready to demonstrate confidence with the material and evidence of preparation.

Below are some important rehearsal dates for the upcoming season. At initial glance this schedule might look like a great deal of time and involve some lengthy rehearsals. Truth be told, marching band DOES require a considerable commitment of both time and effort. These rehearsals are intended to prepare students for the material that they will need to be prepared for with the instrument placement process. This schedule will also give the staff the opportunity

to evaluate students over time, provide feedback as well as assess improvement. A significant component of the instrument placement process will be growth and ability to take information and apply it to the student's practice regimen. The more rehearsals that a student attends the better the opportunity for them to be exposed to the performance and evaluation environment.

Below are the Spring Training dates for the Hays Drumline. Please pay close attention to start and stop times, as it is in every student's best interest to be present for the entire rehearsal. It is quite common that in the wrap up we provide necessary information or "things to focus on" that students might miss if they leave early.

Feb 18th	5:30-7:30	All Percussionist
Feb 25th	5:30-7:30	All Percussionist
March 4th	5:30-7:30	All Percussionist
March 11th	5:30-7:30	All Percussionist
March 25th	5:30-7:30	All Percussionist
April 1st	5:30-7:30	All Percussionist
April 8th	5:00-9:00	Final Evaluation

The following drumline and band camp dates for the Jack C Hays HAWK BAND will need to be cross-examined with your individual, family and travel schedule. ALL POTENTIAL ABSENCES with these summer band dates need to be communicated to Mr. Pridgen at William.pridgen@hayscisd.net PRIOR to the final audition date and instrument placement.

ANY STUDENT THAT FAILS TO ADEQUATELY PRE-COMMUNICATE PRE-PLANNED ABSENCES OF ANY KIND DURING SUMMER CAMP DATES WILL BE SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE INSTRUMENT REASSIGNMENT AT THE DESCRETION OF THE DIRECTORS.

Monday April 11th	Drum Camp	5-8
Tuesday April 19th	Drum Camp	5-8
Monday April 25th	Drum Camp	5-8
Monday May 2nd	Spring Camp	5-8
Monday May 3rd	Spring Camp	5-8
Monday May 5th	Spring Camp	5-8
Monday May 6th	Spring Camp	5-8
Monday May 9th	Spring Practice	4:45-7:30
Monday May 16th	Spring Practice	4:45-7:30
Monday May 23rd	Spring Practice	4:45-7:30

Monday July 18th	Drum Camp	8-5
Tuesday July 19th	Drum Camp	8-5
Wednesday July 20th	Drum Camp	8-5
Thursday July 21st	Drum Camp	8-5
Mon-Fri July 21st -25th	Music Camp	7:30-5:30
Mon-Sat Aug 1st-6th	Band Camp	7:30-5:30
Mon- Thur. Aug 9th-14th	Band Camp	4-8
Mon-Thurs. 16th-18th	Rehearsal	4-8

Once school begins we will rehearse primarily on Mondays 4:30-6:30, Tuesdays 4:30-7:30, Thursday morning from 7:00-8:15 and Friday Mornings from 7:00-8:15. There will be football games primarily on Friday nights but on occasion could be on Thursday or Saturdays. Additionally, there will be competitions on Saturdays from mid-September until early November. Students will need to be available for the full day for Saturdays.

Included in this packet is a student information sheet on the front and a rehearsal schedule conflict form on the back. We ask that each student's parent/guardian complete the front and sign the back of the form and return it prior to the last audition date and prior to instrument assignment. In doing so, we are asking for you to provide a best guess or "worse-case scenario" forecast in regard to ANY potential conflicts with the rehearsal schedule as well as any performance dates. We fully understand that emergencies, at times, do arise, as well as big "life events" that absolutely should be celebrated and may require missing some rehearsal time. However, last minute, surprise or special events that do not meet a standard of necessity that impact student participation should be avoided and if so, **MUST** be communicated as early as possible. This form allows staff to be informed early on of any conflicts that will happen during the season so that we can plan accordingly.