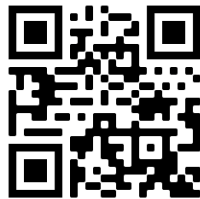


## Belton Middle School Band Handbook 2025-2026

[beltonmsband.org](http://beltonmsband.org)



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## Band Calendar

Changes in the calendar do happen as this is a living document. We will notify you of changes via email as soon as we become aware of them, and the most up-to-date calendar can always be found on the following websites: [beltonmsband.org/calendar](http://beltonmsband.org/calendar) or [tinyurl.com/beltonmsbandevents](http://tinyurl.com/beltonmsbandevents). Most performances and events require academic eligibility to participate.





## The 5 Guidelines of Success of the Belton MS Band

Every member of the Belton MS Band is expected to display **exemplary** behavior at all times. As a band member, students constantly represent Belton Middle School, Belton ISD, and the City of Belton. Consequently, members should be certain that their actions, language, and attitude displayed are of the most professional character. With this in mind, the Belton MS Band has established five Guidelines of Success to govern our actions and dictate daily procedure:

1. **Be Punctual** requires students to be on time for class each day, as well as any scheduled events. “On Time” is defined as being seated appropriately with all required materials *before* the director starts rehearsal.
2. **Be Prepared** requires that students have all necessary materials for each and every rehearsal and performance. Necessary materials include a binder with all music, pencils, working instrument, reeds, valve oil, etc. In addition, “Be Prepared” also requires students to have assigned material learned *before* each and every rehearsal and performance. This can only be attained through **daily practice**.
3. **Be Disciplined** requires students to observe all rules set forth in the Belton ISD Student Code of Conduct upon entering the Band Hall. In addition, “Be Disciplined” refers to the personal discipline required to master a musical instrument. Again, this can only be attained through daily practice.
4. **Be Relentless** refers specifically to the mental toughness, concentration, and focus necessary to accomplish the goals set forth each day of performing music at a high level of precision and artistry. It is expected that every student of the Belton MS Band program be mentally tough and never give up on themselves or other members.
5. **Be Superior** is the term associated with an award of First Division at UIL evaluation. Here at BMS, however, it means much more. It is our belief that those students who adhere to the previous 4 guidelines will achieve “superiority” regardless of their rating. Furthermore, it serves as a reminder for our members to always hold themselves accountable to a higher level.

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## Attributes That Do Not Require Talent

The following highly desirable attributes that require ZERO talent. These attributes set students apart from their peers and make them quite successful not only in Band and school, but also in life.

1. **Arriving Early:** Students who arrive early to class, to a performance, or other event are generally more prepared than those who do not. They experience less stress and have a more relaxed and confident approach to doing what is required of them.

2. **Being Prepared:** Students who have everything ready to go are more prosperous than those who do not. They progress much more quickly because they don't lose any information during instruction.
  3. **Positive Attitude:** Students are more productive in dealing with other people, such as their peers, teachers, and adults, when they think the best of everything and are willing to interact in a positive manner.
  4. **High Work Ethic:** Hard work surpasses talent every single time! Teachers and adults are far more willing to go the extra mile for students who work hard consistently in everything they do.
  5. **Full Energy:** This attribute is highly contagious and contributes significantly to the learning environment for all students.
  6. **100% Effort:** Some students may not be as talented as others, but those who are willing to give 100% effort always learn more and are more enjoyable to teach. Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard.
  7. **Respectful Body Language:** Students always show what they are thinking or feeling in their body language, which speaks louder than words. Make sure your body language is always sending the right message.
  8. **Being Moldable/Teachable/Coachable:** Students will learn more if they are willing to try new things, especially if they have never attempted certain tasks before. Be a follower first so you can learn to be a leader second.
  9. **Enthusiasm and Passion:** "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm" (Ralph Waldo Emerson). Find what drives your passion and do it to the best of your ability.
  10. **Going Beyond the Extra Mile:** The deeper the sacrifice, the more the gain. Students who do more than what is asked will always rank among the best. How badly you want something dictates how hard you'll work at it.
- 

*"The goal is not to be perfect by the end. The goal is to be better than today!"*  
~Simon Sinek

*"It isn't failure that holds you back. It's the emotional baggage you carry afterward. Self-doubt, regret, disappointment, and embarrassment are instruction manuals for learning. The goal isn't to dwell on what went wrong yesterday. It's to discover what you can do better today."*  
~Adam Grant

## Ensemble Descriptions

### Beginner's Ensemble (Beginning Band)

This ensemble consists of first-year instrument players, and is made up of mainly 6th graders, though 7th and 8th graders may be placed in this ensemble as well. This is the **most important year** for band members because students will learn 90% of the fundamentals necessary to be successful in playing an instrument. This ensemble is split into homogenous like-instrument classes during the school day, and come together for group rehearsals and concert performances during the school year.

These members will participate in group rehearsals, concerts, contests, and may be eligible for the Spring Trip. End-of-Year Auditions will be held in late April for placement in either the Symphonic Band or Wind Ensemble for the following year. The audition material will be announced a month prior in order to adequately prepare for the audition. Students who do not pass their audition will be retained in the Beginner's Ensemble the following school year.

**Beginner's Ensemble students should always keep in mind this is a preparatory course designed to prepare them for participation in Band for the next 6 years, not just in middle school.**

### Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble (Advanced Ensembles)

These performing ensembles consist of woodwind, brass, and percussion students, and perform music from various repertoires. Performances include concerts, pep rallies, contests, auditions, etc., and may be eligible for the Spring Trip. Band students in the 6th and 7th grades will audition for Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble in late April for the upcoming school year. Eighth grade students will be able to audition for the Belton High School Marching Hundred (M100) in the spring semester.

### Jazz Band (Advanced Ensemble)

This ensemble meets daily during the school day, and includes 7th and 8th grade students who play the following instruments: saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, guitar, bass, vibraphone, auxiliary percussion, and drum set. Jazz history, appreciation, and listening will be studied, as well as performance practices, including improvisation.

Students are required to use one of their elective choices for Jazz Band, **and be concurrently enrolled** in either Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble or Intermediate/Advanced Orchestra. The only exception to this rule are rhythm section instruments (piano, guitar, bass, and drum set) who may be allowed to join only after passing an audition with the director. Not all students who audition will be placed in this elite ensemble.

**Parents**, you and the directors have the important responsibility to encourage and support your child. They can achieve what is dreamed of, and our mutual desire is to help your child enjoy the good times and learn from the tough times.

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## Performance Attendance

**It is not possible to make up for a missed performance.**

Attendance at all performances is **mandatory**. The directors must approve all absences in advance, and only conflicts of a serious or emergency nature will be considered. Performances are the centerpiece and focus of our program and when missed, the students do not get to experience the fruits of their labor.

If your child has to miss due to illness or a family emergency, contact their director **at least 24 hours PRIOR** to the missed event. It is **imperative** that students learn personal accountability. **Students will never just not show up.**

If you absolutely must miss an activity due to an unavoidable conflict, a written request or email by the parent or guardian will be needed **at least 3 days BEFORE** the performance or event. Requests will be reviewed and excused at the directors' discretion. **Students who repeatedly miss performances (excused or unexcused) will be subject to removal from the band program.**

*Every member of our Band is important.  
One missing member is like a missing link in a chain. **You** are important!*

### Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts (TEKS)

- C. Knowledge and Skills: Creative expression. The student demonstrates musical artistry by singing or playing an instrument, alone and in groups, performing a variety of unison, homophonic, and polyphonic repertoire. The student makes music at an appropriate level of difficulty and performs in a variety of genres from notation and by memory:
- (C) perform independently and expressively, with accurate intonation and rhythm, developing fundamental skills and appropriate solo, small ensemble, and large ensemble performance techniques;
  - (D) perform independently and expressively a varied repertoire of music representing various styles and cultures;
  - (E) sight-read independently and expressively, with accurate intonation and rhythm, demonstrating fundamental skills and appropriate solo, small ensemble, and large ensemble techniques in known keys and rhythms

The success of our program is directly proportional to the overall attendance rate throughout the year.

**A note about dental appointments and braces:** Please check the Band Calendar ([beltonmsband.org/calendar](http://beltonmsband.org/calendar)) for all events *before* scheduling these kinds of appointments. Students work very hard in preparation for these events, and sometimes they cannot participate after dental or orthodontic work has been done. **Please make every effort to schedule medical, dental, or other appointments around band activities and class time.**

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## Rehearsal Participation

Students receive daily grades for participating in rehearsals. If a student is ill or has been advised by a medical professional to not play their instrument during class, they are required to bring a doctor or parent note in order to be excused from playing their instrument. Please limit excused absences to the least number of days possible, and students are **always** required to assemble their instrument and “finger-along” during class. Every student is required to participate in rehearsal every day to their best.

If a student must stay home from school because of an illness, they are automatically excused from practicing their instrument for that particular day. In order to avoid reinfection, students should sanitize their mouthpiece, ligature, and reeds with rubbing alcohol.

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## Band Events Defined

TMEA All-Region Band Auditions (required for Wind Ensemble and encouraged for Symphonic Band. All-Region Jazz is required of Jazz Band members): Students from nearby school districts participate in these auditions, which consist of 5 memorized major scales, a memorized chromatic scale, and 2 prepared etudes (not memorized) for wind players. Percussionists audition on 3 etudes, one each for snare drum, mallets, and timpani. Students are judged by a panel of 3-5 music professionals who sit behind a partition to listen to each student perform their music. This process protects student anonymity and the integrity of the audition process, which is taken very seriously. Students must be \*academically eligible\* to participate. A similar process is observed for the All-Region Jazz Auditions, though the material is only 2 prepared etudes, with additional material for drummers.

Top students are selected from these blind auditions and receive the honor of participating in the All-Region Band Clinic and Concert. Selection to the All-Region Band is the **highest honor** a middle school band member can achieve. The rehearsals and performance are led by a notable music educator. Our philosophy emphasizes the improvement each student experiences as a result of participating in the All-Region Band process.

After School Sectional/Rehearsal: A special rehearsal held outside of normal school hours. Times and locations will be announced well in advance. After School Sectionals are required for members of the Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble, and are taken for a grade. These take place in order to prepare for All-Region Auditions (in the Fall) and the UIL Concert & Sightreading Evaluation (in the Spring).

Beginners will have After School Rehearsals a few days before a performance in order to combine all of the separated classes into one ensemble called the Beginner’s Ensemble.

Concert: A concert is a non-competitive public performance with no admission charge. Family members and friends are strongly encouraged to attend. Concerts are a major part of our curriculum (major grade) and attendance is **required** of all students in the participating groups. All students are eligible to participate in concerts as academic eligibility is not required for these performances.

Contest/Festival/Invitational/Evaluation: These are competitive performances that are judged, and students must be \*academically eligible\* to participate due to its competitive nature.

Solo Contest: All Belton MS Band students who are \*academically eligible\* will be required to participate in this contest, usually in February for Beginners and in April for Advanced students. Student performers are judged according to a musical standard by area music educators.

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### **\*Academic Eligibility\***

As mandated by the Texas Education Agency (TEA), a grade below 70 on a 9-Week report card will deny a student competitive performance privileges for a 3-Week period. Because of the adverse effect this problem can have on an individual and the group as a whole, the directors monitor all student grades on a regular basis.

Parents, we ask that you supervise your child and communicate with their teachers if any grade questions should arise. Students should understand their grades have a direct influence on other students, as well as themselves. Every individual in the Belton MS Band plays a vital role as a link in our chain.

Outline of UIL Academic Requirements (known as No Pass, No Play):

- If a student receives a grade below 70 in any subject, that student will become ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities (including Athletics) starting on the Friday following the end of the grading period in which the failing grade was received.
  - A student can regain eligibility on the Friday following the 3-Week grading period if the student is passing all classes and receives no remarks of “currently failing” on their 3-Week progress report.
- 

### **Grading**

**Daily Grades: 40%** includes, but are not limited to: class materials, pass-offs, playing assignments, written work, and weekly sectional attendance for Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble.

For Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble, Sectional Attendance constitutes a large portion of a student's band grade because they take place weekly in both the Fall and Spring semesters. This keeps students accountable for learning their part of the music in order to help make their whole ensemble successful.

**Major Grades: 60%** includes, but is not limited to: performances, pass-offs, written tests, and playing tests. Different grading rubrics will be used for playing assignments/tests, chair tests, playoffs, and auditions.

The following grading guidelines will be used for all out-of-class performances for all ensembles. Students should follow all guidelines to earn full credit:

1. Be Punctual and arrive *before* the call time stated by the director (25%)
2. Be Prepared with all materials, such as instrument, sticks/mallets, music binder, pencil, etc. (25%)
3. Be Prepared with the proper uniform attire worn appropriately, including shirts tucked in (25%)
4. Be Disciplined in your behavior (including concert etiquette) and have a great attitude (25%)

When all of the above standards are met by the student, they will earn a grade of 100 for the performance. When one or more categories are not met by the student, the above stated percentage points will be deducted from their major grade for each category standard not met.

## Helpful Tips for Success

1. PRACTICE does not equal perfect - practice makes better.

*"You have to apply yourself each day to become a little better. By applying yourself to the task of becoming a little bit better each and every day over a period of time, you become a **lot** better."*

-Coach John Wooden

Following a consistent, daily practice schedule is essential for a student to progress at an acceptable rate on their instrument. **Parents**, encourage your child to **adopt a schedule of 25 minutes per day, at least 5 days per week**. Students know that we expect them to practice outside of class time. Practicing is just as important as any assignment that must be turned in. You are the only ones that can carve out this time for your child. This can be difficult, but it matters just as much as any other academic support you can provide. Please know that in-class participation is not enough and cannot be the only time students play their instrument. Our goal is to support you in creating strong practice habits in your child, every day. We ask that you support your child by setting aside practice time at home.

1. Have goals when you practice.
2. Eliminate distractions.
3. Set up a daily schedule and stick to it.
4. **Always** use a metronome and music stand.

## Weekly Practice XP Chart

	DAYS PRACTICED	-	DAYS NOT PRACTICED	=	EXPERIENCE POINTS (XP)	
PRO	7	-	0	=	+7 (XP)	🏆
BEST	6	-	1	=	+5 (XP)	😊
BETTER	5	-	2	=	+3 (XP)	🙂
GOOD	4	-	3	=	+1 (XP)	🙂
	3	-	4	=	-1 (XP)	
	2	-	5	=	-3 (XP)	
	1	-	6	=	-5 (XP)	
	0	-	7	=	-7 (XP)	

## 2. ALWAYS BE PREPARED FOR CLASS

1. Instrument, mouthpiece, ligature, and all necessary reeds
2. One-inch 3-ring binder with student's name on the outside
3. Five notebook dividers and 2 highlighters
4. One dozen (12) mechanical pencils that go into...
5. Pencil bag or holder that goes into 3-ring binder

## 3. PRIVATE LESSONS

In addition to band classes, we have a fine roster of talented private teachers available from reputable institutions. Private lessons are required for oboe and bassoon players. Students that take this opportunity progress at a faster rate with an increased development of skill and have a deeper appreciation for musical achievement.

## 4. DENTAL APPOINTMENTS AND BRACES

Check the Band Calendar ([beltonmsband.org/calendar](http://beltonmsband.org/calendar)) for all events before scheduling these kinds of appointments. Students work very hard in preparation for these events and many times they cannot participate after dental/braces work has been done.

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### Class Materials & Instrument Repairs

All students have received a list of items needed with their instrument. All students must have a one-inch 3-ring binder for their book and music given out in class. If you think your personally-owned instrument is in need of repair, let a director look at it BEFORE it goes to the repair shop - it may save you time and money. The directors have experience with minor instrument repair. **Bring a parent note or email if your personal instrument is in the shop being repaired.** School-owned instruments that are in need of repair must be given to the band directors. Parents and students are not authorized to take school-owned instruments to the repair shop.

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### Band Hall & Practice Rooms

These rooms are to be used by students and lesson staff at times as determined by the directors. Show respect and pride by keeping them neat and clean:

1. No food, drinks, or **gum** allowed in the Band Hall or Ensemble/Practice Rooms.
2. Keep lockers clean and always keep your locker closed and latched when not in the Band Hall.
3. No writing on stands, chairs, walls, lockers, etc. This is called graffiti.
4. Only current Band students are allowed in the Band Hall and facilities at any time.

## Instrument Storage

Each student will have a locker assigned for their instrument and band supplies. Lockers are for storage of instruments and music **only**. Please keep Chromebooks, hoodies/jackets, athletic wear, library books, etc., in other locations. Students may provide their own combination or key lock to keep their instrument secure by keeping their locker locked when they are not in the Band Hall. Please provide the combination or extra key to the directors.

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## Uniforms

### **Beginner's Ensemble**

This uniform consists of a band t-shirt, and purchasing will be done through Band Registration. The band shirt will be tucked into blue jeans (no overalls, please). Sleeves are not to be tied up at the shoulders. Please refrain from wearing necklaces, large earrings, and bracelets that would distract from the uniform appearance of the ensemble. A belt will be worn by gentlemen, and students will wear calf-length socks, NOT ankle socks. **All students should wear closed-toed shoes.**

### **Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble**

Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble members will wear a band polo shirt, and purchasing will be done through Band Registration.

These students have 2 uniforms that can be worn, based on the formality of the event. The Formal Uniform is to be worn at all public concerts, contests, and evaluations. This uniform includes the following:

Parents/Students will supply their own:

- Solid black pants. NO jeans and NO cargo pockets.
- Solid black **calf-length** socks. NO ankle socks.
- Solid black closed-toed dress shoes.
- Solid black belt for gentlemen.

The Casual Uniform is to be worn at pep rallies, elementary tours, and other informal events. This uniform includes the polo shirt tucked into blue jeans (no overalls, please). A belt will be worn by gentlemen, and students will wear calf-length socks, NOT ankle socks. Students should wear closed-toed shoes with this uniform.

Shirts will be tucked in for all performances. Sleeves are not to be tied up at the shoulders. Please refrain from wearing necklaces, large earrings, and bracelets that would distract from the uniform appearance of the ensemble.

## Jazz Band

Jazz Band members will wear a jazz band dress shirt, and purchasing will be done through Band Registration. Shirts will be tucked in for all performances. Sleeves are not to be tied up at the shoulders. Please refrain from wearing necklaces, large earrings, and bracelets that would distract from the uniform appearance of the ensemble.

Parents/Students will supply their own:

- Solid black pants. NO jeans and NO cargo pockets.
- Solid black **calf-length** socks. NO ankle socks.
- Solid black closed-toed dress shoes.
- Solid black belt for gentlemen.

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## Spring Trip

After Spring Break, each student will receive an individualized eligibility statement for our Spring Trip to Typhoon Texas (Austin) usually on the second Saturday in May (weather permitting). It will also include how much your student owes to attend the trip after applying credit from our fundraiser.

In order to be eligible for the Spring Trip, students must meet the following criteria:

1. Be academically eligible during the grading period of the trip. This is an extracurricular trip, therefore students must pass all classes with a 70 or above on their grade report.
2. Return a completed, signed permission slip.
3. Be present and perform at **all** major/formal performances. These performances are graded and participation is mandatory. A list of these performances can also be found on our Calendar and List of Band Events:
  - Major Performances include, but are not limited to:
    - M100 Showcase (All members) - September
    - Pep Rallies (Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble) - throughout the school year
    - Middle School Band Night (8th graders) - September/October
    - Beginner Sit-In Concert (Beginners) - October
    - Temple VA Hospital Performance (Jazz Band) - October
    - TMEA All-Region Band Auditions and Clinic/Concert (Wind Ensemble/Symphonic Band) - October/November
    - Christmas On the Chisholm Trail Performance (Jazz Band) - December
    - Jazz Holiday Concert (Jazz Band) - December
    - Holiday Concert (All members) - December
    - All-Region Jazz Band Auditions and Clinic/Concert (Jazz Band) - January/March
    - Pre-UIL Benchmark Concert (Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble) - February
    - Solo Contest (All members) - February (Beginners) and April (Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble)
    - UIL Concert & Sightreading Evaluation (Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble) - March

- Temple Jazz Festival (Jazz Band) - March
  - End-of-Year Auditions (All 6th & 7th graders) - April
  - Spring Jazz Concert (Jazz Band) - May
  - Temple College Band Invitational (Beginners) - May
  - Spring Concert (All members) - May
4. Have settled all financial obligations to the school district (including campus and its programs) no later than Turn-In Day in April. This includes (but is not limited to) instrument usage fees, reed charges, library/technology fines, cafeteria fees, and student ID fees.
  5. Have met **all** behavior standards:
    - Cannot have a combined total of 10 or more Lunch Detentions (D-Halls) in the spring semester
    - Cannot have a combined total of 4 or more days of ISS/OSS (In-School/Out-of-School Suspensions) in the current school year
    - Cannot be assigned to DAEP at any time during the current school year

If a music student loses trip privilege for any Belton MS organization on campus, he or she also loses trip privileges for the Belton MS Fine Arts Spring Trip. Ultimately, directors will determine who is eligible to attend the Spring Trip, and any students exhibiting disruptive and/or undisciplined behavior may be subject to exclusion from the trip.

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## Private Lesson Program

The Private Lesson program at Belton Middle School makes it possible for students to receive additional individual instruction at a reasonable cost to parents. Lessons are charged at a rate of \$25 per 25-minute lesson, and fees are paid directly to the lesson teachers. Students and parents may apply for a scholarship with the Belton Band Boosters that cuts that rate in half to \$12.50 per lesson, per week for a total of \$50 a month.

Students enrolled in private lessons are much more likely to make the TMEA All-Region Band, earn first division superior ratings on solos, sit at the top of their instrument section, and eventually make the Texas All-State Band in high school, which usually results in large scholarships to college. Private lessons are vital to any quality band program and are **strongly recommended** for all members.

Lessons are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis and available times vary according to each instructor's availability. There are slots offered during class time, and before/after school. The Belton MS Band program is very fortunate to have several professional musicians from around the state willing to teach our students. Therefore, in order to participate in the program, we encourage students and parents to participate on a per semester basis. Your commitment helps to ensure that each instructor's workload offsets the cost of travel.

We ask that parents pay for 4 lessons at a time, one month in advance. Simply put, payment is due at the first lesson of every month. Twenty-Four (24) hours advance notice must be given directly to the instructor to be considered an excused absence. Make-up lessons for excused absences are to be arranged between the instructor and the student/parent, not the band directors. If timely notice is not given and a

student misses a lesson, payment is still expected and a make-up session will be scheduled at the discretion of the lesson teacher.

Being on time to lessons is necessary in order to preserve the instructor's lesson schedule, and it's one of the guidelines of success of the Belton MS Band: Be Punctual. If a student is late to their lesson, they forfeit their scheduled lesson time to the next scheduled student, and the instructor will determine an alternate lesson time. Being on time to a lesson is defined as having all required materials in their possession and having completed their warm-up as assigned by their instructor **before** their scheduled lesson time. Please visit [beltonmsband.org/private-lessons](http://beltonmsband.org/private-lessons) to find contact information for our private lesson instructors.

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## Extracurricular Activity Restrictions & Code of Conduct

Before going on any activity with the Belton MS Band, please read and understand the **Extracurricular Activity Restrictions** and **Code of Conduct** as reprinted from the Texas Education Code found in the Belton ISD Student Handbook.

In alignment with Belton Middle School campus policy, a student who is placed in ISS/OSS (In-School/Out-of-School Suspensions) will also be suspended from all band events that occur both inside and outside of the school day during the length of their placement. The student will either need to make up the grade with an alternative assignment or will be marked as excused, based on the discretion of the directors.

If a student's ISS placement occurs during a day and time where they normally have private lessons scheduled, they will still be able to participate in their lesson during their normally scheduled lesson time as arranged by the lessons teacher and the directors. As stated in a section above, any student who is suspended for a combined total of 4 or more days during the current school year will not be eligible for the Spring Trip in May.

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## School Band Enrollment

If a student quits their participation or un-enrolls in Band, it will be at the discretion of the Director of Bands if the student will be allowed to re-enroll in either middle school or high school band at a later date in Belton ISD. Any band student who is placed in ISS, DAEP, and/or JJAEP, etc. is subject to the changing of ensemble or removal from the Belton Band program at the discretion of the Director of Bands.

To be eligible for membership in either the Belton High School Band or Lake Belton High School Band, students must have successfully completed band the previous year, and performed an audition for the high school band directors. If a student un-enrolls in the band program, it is the director's discretion whether or not they are allowed to re-enroll into the band program at a later date (in either middle school or high school).



## Belton Band Boosters

The Belton Band Boosters meet regularly at Belton High School. Information about this parent group is available at [beltonmarching100.com/boosters](http://beltonmarching100.com/boosters). Middle School Band parents are also invited to be a part of this very active and supportive organization.

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## Communication

The Belton MS Band website has the most up-to-date information: [beltonmsband.org](http://beltonmsband.org)

The directors encourage frequent, positive communication and are willing to discuss any aspect of a student's progress in Band with their parents/guardians:

Chris Pulley  
Beginning Brass  
Jazz Band  
Wind Ensemble  
Brass Specialist  
[chris.pulley@bisd.net](mailto:chris.pulley@bisd.net)

Patrick Trahan  
Beginning Woodwinds  
Symphonic Band  
Woodwind Specialist  
[patrick.trahan@bisd.net](mailto:patrick.trahan@bisd.net)

Ian Smith  
Beginning Percussion  
Percussion Specialist  
[ian.smith@bisd.net](mailto:ian.smith@bisd.net)

## CutTime

CutTime will replace our previous database Charms and will allow you to stay informed without login hassles and get reminded without inbox clutter. This program also replaces our Remind texting subscriptions we have previously used.

Be on the lookout for a text message from CutTime via +1-844-385-8463. The message will come to your mobile device phone number we have on file for you via a "Magic Link", which is uniquely personalized to you and secure. Once you receive the message with your CutTime Magic Link, you will gain access to your CutTime Portal Page where you can:

- View Announcements
- View and Subscribe to Events that involve you and your student
- View and Sign Up for Volunteer Opportunities within these events
- Check Account Balances

If you do not yet have a mobile phone number on file with us, please share this information with us ASAP. If you are unable to do this, please contact us with your email address so we ensure you can receive your Magic Link at [beltonmsband@gmail.com](mailto:beltonmsband@gmail.com).

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## Social Media & Mailing Address

We use the following social media sites to communicate to parents and students:

- **Smore** Newsletters: [smore.com/u/beltonmsband](https://smore.com/u/beltonmsband)
- **Facebook** Profile: [facebook.com/beltonmsband](https://facebook.com/beltonmsband)
- **YouTube** Channel - for viewing videos of performances: [youtube.com/beltonmsband](https://youtube.com/beltonmsband)
- **SoundCloud** - for hearing reference and recorded performances and accompaniments: [soundcloud.com/beltonmsband](https://soundcloud.com/beltonmsband)
- **Instagram** Profile - for sharing and tagging people in photos: [instagram.com/beltonmsband](https://instagram.com/beltonmsband)

Additionally, the following links are relevant to our program:

- Belton Middle School website: [www.bisd.net/bms](http://www.bisd.net/bms)
- Belton High School Marching 100 (M100) Band Website: [beltonmarching100.com](http://beltonmarching100.com)

Our mailing address is: Belton MS Band / 1704 Sparta Road / Belton, TX 76513

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## Band Handbook Acceptance Form

Please read and print/sign below as indicated:

PARENTS: I have read the Belton Middle School Band Handbook and understand that I am responsible for the policies and guidelines covered in it. I understand the requirements and needs for my child's ensemble as outlined in the document.

STUDENTS: I have read the Belton Middle School Band Handbook and understand the requirements for being a band member. I realize it takes full cooperation and dedication (100% from me) to help our Band meet its potential. I will do my best to uphold the high standards and guidelines of success of the Belton MS Band, and fulfill my commitment to the organization of which I am a part. I also realize that my failure to follow policies and directions could result in disciplinary action, which could lead to placement in another ensemble or dismissal from the Belton MS Band program altogether. I have received a copy of the band calendar, and am aware that a copy also exists on the band website.

As a member of the Belton Middle School Band, I acknowledge the following core principles as responsibilities I must fulfill if I wish to remain a member. I will strive to always:

- Be Punctual
- Be Prepared
- Be Disciplined
- Be Relentless
- Be Superior

By printing your name and signing below, I am acknowledging that I have read the Band Handbook and understand the guidelines I must follow:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_.

Print Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_.

Print Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_.

Sign Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_.

Sign Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_.