



Band Notes - Week of September 14

2026-2027 School Year - Belton MS Band

Welcome!

General information that applies to all students and parents can be found towards the **top** of every newsletter, while information specific to your child's ensemble can be found in that particular section by **scrolling all the way down**.

Feel free to contact a director if you have any questions and our contact information is at the bottom of this newsletter. Thanks for reading!



General Information for All

InstaRaise Fundraiser Starts Monday

This week, we are starting our annual fundraiser for our program and all students benefit! Potential donor lists were due last Friday (see below), but your student can still turn theirs in on Monday when we create our campaigns during class.

InstaRaise

We keep 80% of the funds we raise that go into your student's account to be used for activities such as the Spring Trip, uniform shirts, instrument usage fees, as well as social events like our Band Social at Spare Time in November.

Please see the handout below to fill in 10-20 prospective donors with email addresses and phone numbers. After our campaign ends in 2 weeks, the Top 3 earners will win CASH: 1st Place earns \$100, 2nd Place earns \$75, and 3rd Place earns \$50. Participation is optional and we appreciate your support of the Belton MS Band!



InstaRaise Letter.pdf

Download

595.0 KB

<https://instaraise.com/beltonmiddleschoolband/support2026>

instaraise.com



MS Band Night Information - 8th Grade Only

Please read the document below detailing information about this week's performance, including the rehearsal on Wednesday.

First and foremost: [Please Click Here to Fill Out the Dismissal Form](#) telling us what your student plans to do after the game so

we can facilitate reconnecting them with you after Halftime on Friday. *We need all responses no later than this Wednesday, September 16 in order to make the appropriate plans in time.*

Secondly, [Click Here to see an updated map of Tiger Field](#) to see the locations of where everything is happening inside the stadium. This picture below displays the exit gate where parents will go to meet their student if they are leaving after Halftime and NOT staying for the rest of the game.

Lastly, we could use 5 more approved chaperones to serve on Friday by helping us transport instruments, distribute water, escort students to the restroom, etc. Please sign up in CutTime if you are available and you can get into the game for free!



MS Band Night Information 2026.pdf

Download

388.3 KB



List of Band Events

[Please click here to see all of the Band Events](#) for this new school year in order to plan your family's activities. Remember, performances are a required part of our curriculum, so please contact a director ASAP for any conflicts.



OCTOBER 2026

- 11 Thursday - Beginner's Ensemble Sit-In Concert Performance at BMS Cafeteria @ 6:30-7:15pm (required for all Beginners)

NOVEMBER 2026

- 2 Monday - All Region Gran Jam at BMS @ 4:00-8:00pm (required for All Region)
- 6 Friday - Fall Sections End
- 7 Saturday - All Region Auditions at College Station MS @ 6:00am-7:00pm (required for Wind Ensemble, strongly encouraged for Symphonic Band)
- 10 Thursday - VA Hospital Performance @ 10am (required for Jazz Band)
- 13 Friday - Performer Plus 2 & 4 Hour (for school-owned instruments)
- 14 Saturday - All Region Clinic & Concert at Belton HS @ 8:30am-6:00pm (those selected for the All Region honor)
- 17 Thursday - Band Social at Spare Time @ 5:00-8:00pm (all band students invited)

DECEMBER 2026

- 15 Saturday - Christmas on Clasholm Trail Jazz Performance (Jazz Band only)
- 1 Monday & 8 Thursday - Beginner Group Rehearsals in BMS Band Hall @ 4-5pm
- 7 Monday - Jazz Band Rehearsal at Belton HS @ 9:00-11:00am (Jazz Band only)
- 8 Thursday - Jazz Concert at Belton HS PAC @ 6:30pm (Jazz Band only)
- 9 Wednesday & 10 Thursday - Elementary Tour (Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band)
- 15 Tuesday - Holiday Concert at Belton HS PAC @ 6:30pm (required for all students)

List of BMS Band Events 2026-2027

Changes in the calendar do happen as this is a living document. We will notify you via email of any changes as soon as we become aware of them, and the Google calendar can be found on the following website: tinyurl.com/beltonmsbandcalendar Many performances and contests require academic eligibil...

tinyurl.com



Our CutTime Program

CutTime is a program we use that allows you to **stay informed** without login hassles and **get reminded** without inbox clutter. Be on the lookout for a text message from CutTime from **844-385-8463**. The message will come to

your mobile device phone number we have on file for you (and your student) via a "Magic Link", which is a uniquely personalized to you and secure.

Read the attachment below for instructions on how to add your Magic Link to your smartphone's home screen. Once you receive the message, 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 we don't have your contact information, [please fill out this Contact Information Update Form](#) ASAP. If you missed or can't find your CutTime Magic Link, [go to this link to resend it to your device](#) on file.

Feel free to take 3 minutes to [watch this introduction video](#) and see what's in store, and feel free to send us a message if you have any other questions or feedback.



Add MagicLink to Android or iPhone.pdf

Download
618.8 KB

Developing Healthy Practice Habits



Parent Chaperone Sign-Up

Click on this link to sign up to become a district volunteer and complete the background check. Even if you have done this before, this process must be repeated every school year: [Parent Chaperone Sign-Up](#). Please sign up for volunteer opportunities on your [CutTime MagicLink](#).

CHAPERONES NEEDED!

Check Out Our Socials!

We want to interact with you on social media, so be sure to **Like, Follow, and Subscribe** on all of the following platforms you use:

- [YouTube Channel](#)
- [Parent Square Group](#)
- [Facebook Page](#)
- [Instagram Account](#)
- [Band Website](#)
- [Google Photos Album](#)
- [SoundCloud Channel](#)
- [Smore Newsletters](#)



THE TEACHER PROVIDES:



THE STUDENT PRODUCES:



Teacher & Student Shared Responsibilities

In the Belton MS Band, we form a partnership between teacher and student where *both* share responsibility in their musical development. Our team of teachers include middle school directors, private lesson instructors, high school directors, and even hired clinicians, masterclass teachers, and adjudicators. We also strive to communicate and produce strong partnerships with parents since their support is vital in their student's growth.

To that end, we as the teaching team provide Introduction, Comprehension, and Demonstration to students for their instruction. However, **each student has a responsibility as well to facilitate Repetition in the form of practicing daily for at least 25 minutes, 5 days per week.**

This means that **instruments go home everyday** to practice the concepts, patterns, and music that we go over daily in class. This leads to student Mastery of their music and ultimately of their instrument. Students have homework everyday in Band as they practice their instrument in preparation for performances and to continue their musical growth. Reach out to a director if you would like more information on how to better help and support the musical growth of your student.

Instruments Come Home Daily!

Students should take their instruments home daily and we expect them to practice 5 days a week for at least 25 minutes. Parents, we implore you to help set up a consistent practice routine at

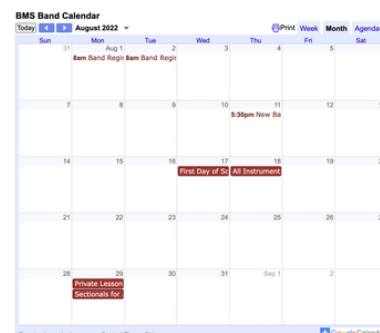
home for your student. **Students will not improve their musical skills on their instrument without practice outside of regular class time.** The directors, we will teach your student *what* and *how* to practice, but we need your help in establishing *when* and *how much* they practice. The more they practice, the better they will get faster. Please review the How To Practice and Weekly XP Chart attached

Weekly 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)

Band Calendar

[Click here to see the Calendar page of our website](#) to find **all** of the current events, including special rehearsals, contests, and performances for the whole school year. We provide this so you can plan your family's activities. Remember, performances are a required part of our curriculum, so please contact a director ASAP for any conflicts. Be sure to view the [List of Band Events](#) that can be found clicking on the link.



Beginner's Ensemble

What Are We Learning About?

Beginners are now making their first sounds on their instrument! **Students should be taking their instruments home and brought back to school daily.** Our expectation is they should practice 25 minutes a day, 5 days a week in order to keep improving over time.



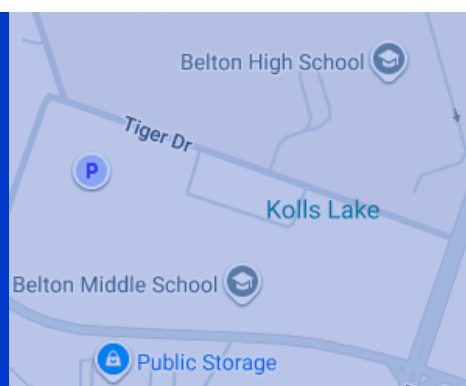
So far, students have learned how to count, TAH, play on mini-instruments, assemble their instrument, sit in correct posture, display correct hand position, and tone production. **Please encourage your student to set up a daily schedule of practicing and STICK TO IT so they can continue to improve and have more fun!**

Event Information

Beginner Sit-In Concert Performance

Come join us for our **FIRST BAND PERFORMANCE!** All Woodwinds and Brass will be performing in the Cafeteria alongside their families, while Percussion performs in the Band Hall.

When?



Thursday, Oct 15, 2026, 06:30 PM

Where?

Belton Middle School, Sparta Road, Belton, TX, USA

Belton Nazarene Church

Open maps

Symphonic Band

Event Information

MS Band Night Rehearsal - 8th Graders Only

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE: This year only 8th graders will be performing at this event, so 7th graders will have to wait until next year! Both 7th and 8th graders will prepare stand tunes to perform at BMS pep rallies and other events.

When?

Wednesday, Sep 16, 2026, 05:00 PM

Where?

Belton Middle School, Sparta Road, Belton, TX, USA

Event Information

MS Band Night Performance - 8th Graders Only

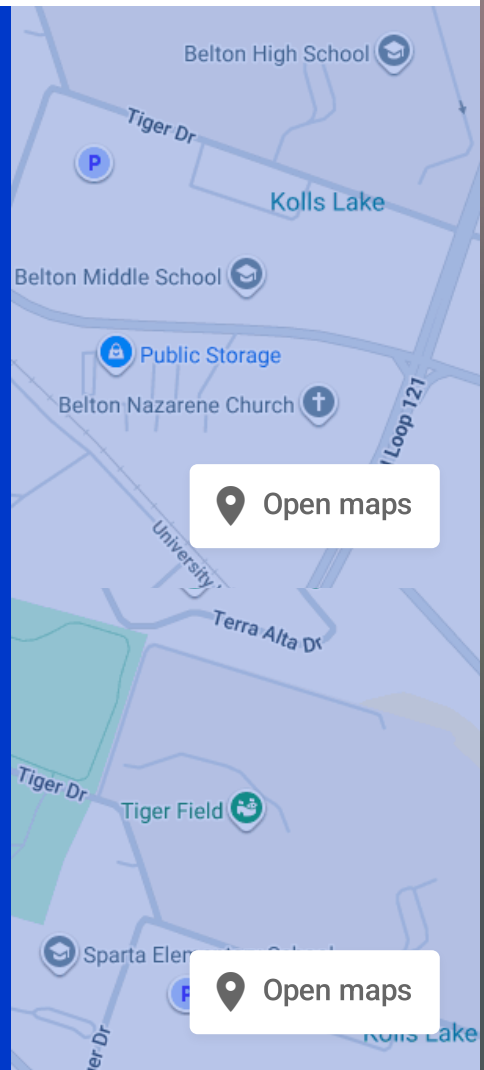
WE NEED PARENT CHAPERONES FOR THIS EVENT! Please sign up under **Events** in CutTime to sign up!

When?

Friday, Sep 18, 2026, 05:30 PM

Where?

Tiger Field, Lake Road, Belton, TX, USA



Pass-Offs Due Every Week for Major Grade

All students participate in after school sectionals to complete weekly pass-offs for a major grade. Upon successfully passing off a section of music to a director or lessons teacher, they receive a grade of 100 for that major grade. Pass-Offs are scheduled with specific due dates to meet these benchmarks. The benchmarks differ between the All-Region Track and the Non-Region Track to align with each student's current musical skill level. The primary objective of the All-Region process and these pass-offs is to foster growth in all students, regardless of their current skill level.



See both the All-Region and NON-Region Track Pass-Offs due date schedule below. The All-Region Track is designed for students who aspire to audition for our most competitive event of the year: the TMEA All-Region Auditions at College Station Middle School. *These students must commit to attending the auditions all day on Saturday, November 7, and if selected, the All-Region Clinic & Concert at Belton High School on the following Saturday, November 14.*

The Non-Region Track is for students who won't be attending the All-Region Auditions, but still benefit from this process and remain accountable for their musical growth by meeting appropriate benchmarks through their pass-offs. They have the same number of pass-offs as the All-Region Track and are still held accountable for achieving these grades, but at a less rigorous level.



All-Region Pass-Off Due Dates.pdf

[Download](#)

46.5 KB



NON-Region Pass-Off Due Dates.pdf

[Download](#)

46.0 KB

Wind Ensemble

Event Information

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Where?

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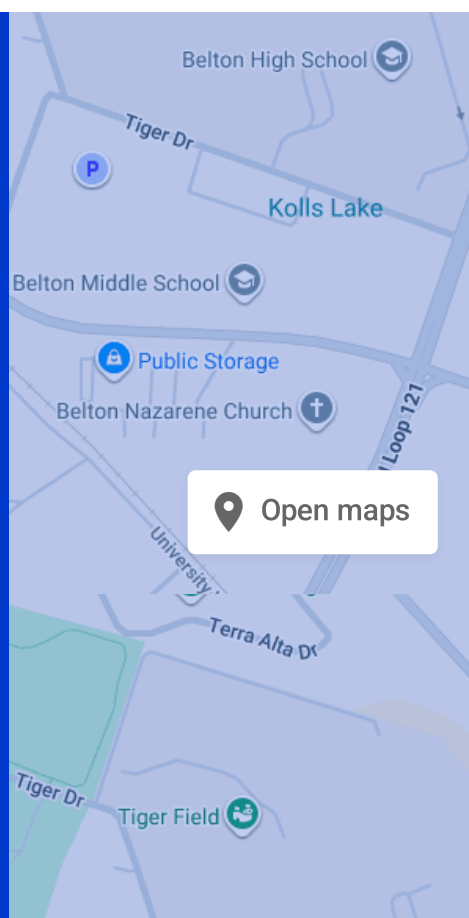
Event Information

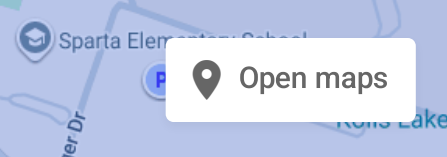
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When?

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**All-Region Pass-Off Due Dates.pdf****Download**

46.5 KB

**NON-Region Pass-Off Due Dates.pdf****Download**

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Jazz Band

First Performance Date Change

Our Jazz Band has been invited to perform for a Veteran's Day ceremony on **Tuesday, November 10**. Please note this is a change from our original calendar and list of events and all friends and family are invited to attend. We will share more details when they become available.



We need parent chaperones to help with this event so please sign up in CutTime (under Events) if you can help out. We'll even feed you lunch for free!

Band Meme of the Week

The more you
PRACTICE,

the
EASIER
it gets.

About the Directors



Mr. Pulley

- Director of Bands
- Wind Ensemble
- Jazz Band
- Brass Specialist (trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, & tuba)
- chris.pulley@bisd.net



Mr. Trahan

- Assistant Band Director
- Symphonic Band
- Woodwind Specialist (flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, & saxophone)
- patrick.trahan@bisd.net



Mr. Smith

- Assistant Band Director
- Percussion Specialist (keyboards, drums, & accessories)
- ian.smith@bisd.net

Contact Us



Email: beltonmsband@gmail.com

Website: beltonmsband.org

Call/Text: [254-262-3050](tel:254-262-3050)

Address: [1704 Sparta Road, Belton, TX, USA](#)

Facebook: facebook.com/beltonmsband

YouTube: youtube.com/beltonmsband

Instagram: instagram.com/beltonmsband



Belton MS Band

beltonmsband.org

Contact

Subscribe



This is for the Belton Middle School Band (Belton ISD) in Belton, Texas.