



Band Notes - Week of September 28

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. Our contact information is at the bottom of this newsletter. Thanks for reading!

General Information for All

Uniform Shirts Will Be Arriving Soon!

Eligibility Grade Check

Friday the 25th marked the conclusion of Progress Report 2 (PR-2 in Skyward) and the first grade check to determine eligibility for UIL activities, including Athletics like Football and Volleyball.



As stipulated by TEA (and detailed on pages 8-9 of our Band Handbook), all students must be passing all classes with a grade of 70 or higher to remain eligible for a 3-week period. During this period, students will be ineligible for games, tournaments, meets/matches, contests, and

performances that require them to leave campus, such as jazz band. However, this policy does not apply to regular concerts, pep rallies, and social events.

Eligibility can be restored after the subsequent 3-week grading period if the student passes all classes at that time. For this cycle, students must pass all classes by Wednesday, October 7 (First 9 Weeks Reporting Period) to regain eligibility on Wednesday, October 14th at 4:25 pm.

To ensure your student's continued eligibility, **we strongly recommend monitoring their grades** to confirm they are passing all classes with a 70 or above. This is particularly crucial for Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble students given our 4 pass-offs (all major grades) that are due to be completed every week.

If you have any questions about your student's grade in Band, please message a director in ParentSquare.

Fundraiser Update

Thank you for your support of our fundraiser! Currently, we are at 68% of our goal of \$30,000. We keep 80% of what students raise and this goes directly into each student's band account that you can see in CutTime after we finish. Remember the 1st Place Winner receives \$100 in CASH, 2nd Place \$75, and 3rd Place \$50. Please continue to spread the word so we can reach it in only 9 days!

Join now at <https://instaraise.com/beltonmiddleschoolband/support2026>

\$20,464.18 Raised

68% of goal

Goal

\$30,000

Time remaining

9

days

11

hours

55

minutes

35

seconds

Top students

1

Alexa Polak

\$735

2

Zoe Machado

\$612.47

3

Cadence Harris

\$600

4

Rayne Meyer

\$515

5

Mollie Tomlinson

\$480

6

Leonardo Gallegos

\$450

7

Elayna Foskett

\$450

8

Abbey Erskine

\$450

9

Wren Kehoe

\$405

10

Jedson Miller

\$400

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

instaraise.com

Band Council Voting This Week!



For the first time in recent history, we are establishing the **Belton MS Band Council**! The list 7th & 8th graders below were nominated by at least 3 of their peers to appear on the ballot that all band students will be voting on this week.

The Band Council will advise the directors on student affairs, fun social activities, and become the unified student voice for what they would like to see as part of their band program. Positions are in effect for the remainder of this school year, and will consist of

four 8th graders and three 7th graders. **Every band student will get to vote** and each student's vote will count only one time.

Election posters are appearing in the Band Hall, voting will wrap up this Thursday, and the winners of the election will be announced this Friday. Here is the list of nominees:

8th Graders (4 total selected).

1. Liam H.
2. River P.
3. Ryder L.
4. Antonio C.-M.
5. Maddie B.
6. Ava S.
7. Elayna F.
8. Nicolas D.
9. Leo G.
10. Paiton M.
11. Preston K.
12. Camden T.
13. Anthony A.

7th Graders (3 total selected).

1. Asher B.
2. Micah S.
3. Micah F.
4. Izzie B.
5. Edith B.
6. John Allen A.
7. Hunter B.
8. Noah R.
9. Tony B.
10. Ethan H.
11. Drake P.
12. Jocelyn M.

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
• 1 Monday - All Region Grand Jam at BMS @ 4:00-8:00pm (required for All-Region)
• 6 Friday - Fall Sectionals End
• 27 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 - Parents' Plan 3 & 4 Day (for school-owned instruments)
• 14 Saturday - All-Region Clinic & Concert at Belton HS @ 8:30am-6:00pm (those selected for the All-Region house)
• 17 Thursday - Band Social at Spare Time @ 5:00-8:00pm (all band students invited)
DECEMBER 2026
• 13 Saturday - Christmas on Chisholm Trail Jazz Performance (Jazz Band only)
• 7 Monday & 8 Tuesday - 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 Tuesday - Jazz Concert at Belton HS PAC @ 6:00pm (Jazz Band only)
• 19 Wednesday & 10 Thursday - Elementary Tour (Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band)
• 21 Thursday - Holiday Concert at Belton HS PAC @ 6:30pm (invited 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

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)	
PERF	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)	

© 2018 Band Director's Office



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?

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.



Currently, we are preparing for our first performance! Information about this concert is below while students are also continuing to improve their music literacy skills by learning music theory from Mr. Chilton!

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

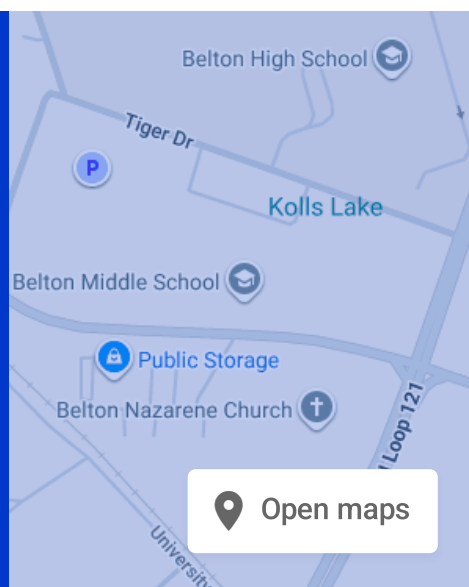
Come join us for our FIRST BAND PERFORMANCE! All Woodwinds and Brass will be performing in the Cafeteria alongside their families, while Percussion performs in the Band Hall.

When?

Thursday, Oct 15, 2026, 06:30 PM

Where?

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



Symphonic Band

Pep Rally Performance This Friday

All Symphonic Band students will participate in our first Pep Rally of the year! This event is for students only and we will not wear uniforms due to it being the same day as School Picture Day. Students will be dismissed at the start of 7th period to set up, warm up, and get ready to perform in the Competition Gym. Loading Crew members will most likely be dismissed during 6th period Fierce Focus in order to set up the equipment needed.



We will be performing the following stand tunes:

1. Land of 1,000 Dances
2. Good Time
3. Belton MS Alma Mater (School Song)
4. Belton MS Fight Song (Notre Dame Victory March)

Event Information

All-Region Cram Jam

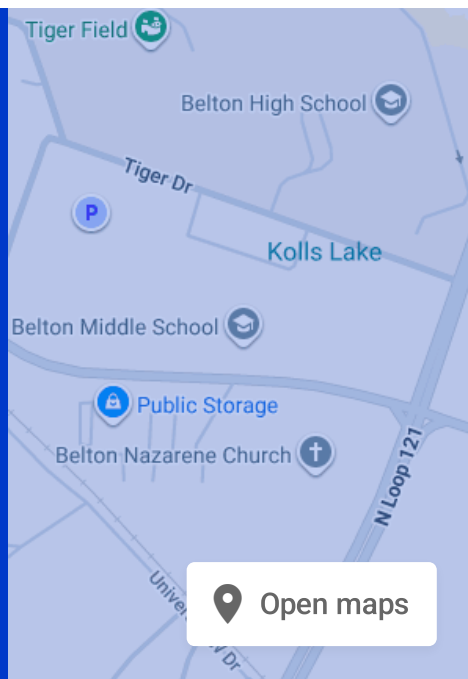
Students who are on the All-Region Track will attend this Cram Jam session (4-8pm, dinner provided) in order to refine their preparation for the TMEA All-Region Auditions on Saturday, November 7 in College Station. We have hired professional music educators to help our students be successful and get the most out of this experience!

When?

Monday, Nov 2, 2026, 04:00 PM

Where?

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



MS Band Night 2026 · Sep 16 – 19 📅

Shared album · Tap to view!

[📷 photos.app.goo.gl](https://photos.app.goo.gl)

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

Pep Rally Performance This Friday

All Symphonic Band students will participate in our first Pep Rally of the year! This event is for students only and we will not wear uniforms due to it being the same day as School Picture Day. Students will be dismissed at the start of 7th period to set up, warm up, and get ready to perform in the Competition Gym. Loading Crew members will most likely be dismissed during 6th period Fierce Focus in order to set up the equipment needed.



We will be performing the following stand tunes:

1. Land of 1,000 Dances
2. Good Time

3. Belton MS Alma Mater (School Song)
4. Belton MS Fight Song (Notre Dame Victory March)

Event Information

All-Region Cram Jam

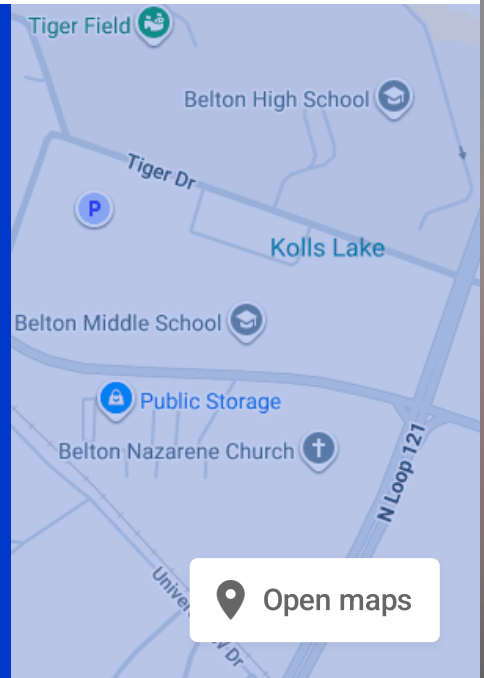
Students who are on the All-Region Track will attend this Cram Jam session (4-8pm, dinner provided) in order to refine their preparation for the TMEA All-Region Auditions on Saturday, November 7 in College Station. We have hired professional music educators to help our students be successful and get the most out of this experience!

When?

Monday, Nov 2, 2026, 04:00 PM

Where?

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



MS Band Night 2026 · Sep 16 – 19 📷

Shared album · Tap to view!

photos.app.goo.gl

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

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 secret is there is no secret.

Consistency over intensity.

Progress over perfection.

Fundamentals over fads.

Over and over again.

About the Directors



Mr. Pulley



Mr. Trahan

- Assistant Band Director



Mr. Smith

- Assistant Band Director

- Director of Bands
 - Wind Ensemble
 - Jazz Band
 - Brass Specialist (trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, & tuba)
 - chris.pulley@bisd.net
 - Symphonic Band
 - Woodwind Specialist (flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, & saxophone)
 - patrick.trahan@bisd.net
 - 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.