



Band Notes - Week of October 13

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

Fundraising Recap

Thanks to your support, we were able to fund raise over \$18,000! We made 77% of our goal and each student's account has been updated in CutTime with the amount of credit that is available.

You can now check your student's account in CutTime to pay for things such as: School-Owned Instrument Usage Fees, Jazz Band Hoodies (ordering soon!), Uniform Shirts, and the Spring Trip to Typhoon Texas. These funds will also pay for fun social events, such as dinner at our Band Social at Spare Time, student medals and ribbons, and student award plaques.

\$23,164.18 Raised 77% of goal

Goal **\$30,000**

Time remaining

0
days

0
hours

0
minutes

0
seconds

Top students

1	Alexa Polak	\$850	6	Elayna Foskett	\$450
2	Zoe Machado	\$642.47	7	Leonardo Gallegos	\$450
3	Cadence Harris	\$600	8	Abbey Erskine	\$450
4	Rayne Meyer	\$515	9	Wren Kehoe	\$405
5	Mollie Tomlinson	\$480	10	Jedson Miller	\$400



Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent Conference Sign-Ups

District-Wide Parent-Teacher Conferences are coming up on **Friday, October 30** and you can [use this link to sign up](#) for a 15-minute time slot in the Band Hall with a director.

Band Council Named

The following 7th and 8th graders were nominated and elected to the newly-formed Band Council by their peers. These students will give input and serve as advisors to the directors on fun social events and other student interests:

- Liam Henderson
- River Pierce
- Ava Smith
- Elayna Foskett
- Micah Stewart
- Asher Besst
- Micah Franklin



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.

Belton MS Band List of 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 eligibility to participate.

These dates are updated as of October 9, 2026 and are subject to frequent changes.

AUGUST 2026

- 3 Monday - Band Registration at BMS Band Hall @ 9:00am-6:00pm (come and go)
- 10 Monday - New Parent Meeting at BMS Band Hall @ 4:00-5:00pm
- 14 Friday - All instruments, supplies, & materials due (required for all students)
- 22 Saturday - All-Region Bootcamp at BMS @ 10:00am-3:00pm (required for Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble students)
- 24 Monday - Fall Sectionals Start for Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble (after school)

SEPTEMBER 2026

- 11 Friday - All Payments Due (for instruments, uniform shirts, and auto decals)
- 14 Monday - Fundraiser Starts

List of BMS Band Events 2026-2027

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tinyurl.com

CHAPERONES
NEEDED!

Parent Chaperone Sign-Up

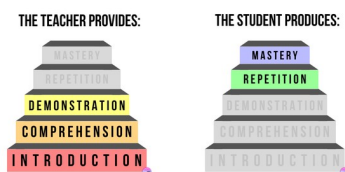
Click on this link to sign up to become a district volunteer and complete the background check. Even if you have done this before, this process must be repeated every school year: [Parent Chaperone Sign-Up](#). Please sign up for volunteer opportunities on your [CutTime MagicLink](#).

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](#)





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)



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

First Performance - Beginner Sit-In Concert

We are quickly approaching your child's very first band concert! Join us for our Beginner Sit-In Concert **this Thursday, October 15**. A "sit-in" concert allows students to sit next to their family members rather than performing on stage, ensuring their initial concert experience is as comfortable and stress-free as possible.



Concert Logistics & Schedule

All students must arrive at BMS by 6:15pm and report directly to the Band Hall. **Everyone must be seated and ready by 6:25pm**, as the concert will begin promptly at 6:30pm. Instrument setup procedures are as follows:

- Woodwinds (flutes, oboes, bassoons, clarinets, & saxophones): Bring cases directly to the Cafeteria and assemble instruments there.
- Brass (trumpets, horns, trombones, euphoniums, & tubas): Uncase and assemble instruments in the Band Hall, place cases in band lockers, and bring binders to the Cafeteria.
- Percussion: Set up and perform in the main Band Hall.

Performance Grading Rubric

This performance is a required major grade. Directors will evaluate all students based on the following criteria:

- Be Punctual (25%): Arrive at 6:15pm and be in designated spots ready to perform by 6:25pm.
- Be Prepared - Materials (25%): Bring all required supplies, music binder, and a well-lubricated instrument.
- Be Prepared - Attire (25%): Arrive dressed in full band uniform - band shirt tucked into jeans, closed-toed shoes, and a belt for young men.
- Be Disciplined (25%): Demonstrate superior concert etiquette by remaining silent while someone is speaking or playing, staying seated, and applauding appropriately.

By demonstrating these standards, students align with the Belton MS Band *Guidelines of Success*: Punctual, Prepared, Disciplined, and Relentless - positioning them to be Superior!

We look forward to celebrating the 2026-2027 Beginner's Ensemble debut! Admission is free, so **please invite all family members** to support our musicians. Feel free to reach out to your child's director with any questions.

Symphonic Band AND Wind Ensemble

Sectionals Update

As we have finished the end of the First 9 Weeks, after school sectionals will now focus only on those students who are attending the All-Region Auditions in November.

All students are still required to complete Pass-Offs 6 & 7 each for a major grade, regardless of their individual All-Region or Non-Region Track. Those students requiring help completing these last 2 pass-offs can sign up for help before school or during 6th period Fierce Focus. Message a director if you have any questions.



Pep Rally - Fall 2026

[youtube.com](#)

All-Region Commitment Form - Due Friday, October 16

Parents of students who have met the qualifications to attend the TMEA All-Region Band Auditions received a message in CutTime last week to complete and turn in the All-Region Commitment Form attached below. This hard-copy form is due back no later than **this Friday, October 16 at 4pm** in order to be signed up for the auditions.



Key details for parents:

- **Free Entry:** The Belton MS Band program is registering your student and covering their full audition fee.
- **Unforgettable Experience:** If selected, your student will participate in a day of rehearsals and perform in a concert on Saturday, November 14 at Belton High School.
- **Event Schedule:**
 - **Auditions:** Saturday, November 7 at College Station Middle School.
 - **Rehearsals & Concert (if selected):** Saturday, November 14 at Belton High School.

Action Required: Ensure your student is available for both dates, both sign the attached form, and have your student return it to a director by **Friday, October 16 at 4:00pm**.



All-Region Band Auditions Commitment Form.pdf

Download

365.2 KB

Event Information

All-Region Cram Jam

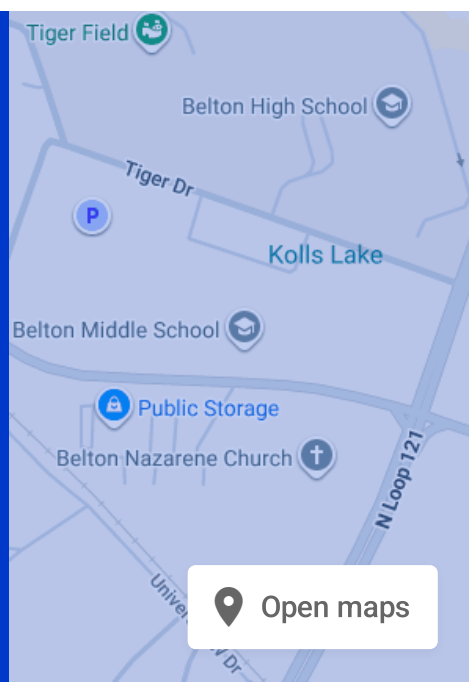
Students who are attending the All-Region Auditions will attend this Cram Jam session (4-8pm, dinner provided) in order to refine their preparation for the auditions on Saturday, November 7 in College Station. We have hired professional music educators to help our students be successful and get the most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

When?

Monday, Nov 2, 2026, 04:00 PM

Where?

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



How to Audition Successfully

[HOW TO AUDITION SUCCESSFULLY TMEA All-Region Auditions](#)

tinyurl.com

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 Jazz Performance

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



***DON'T FORGET
YOUR INSTRUMENT!***
THIS MESSAGE BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DUH

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www.ToneDeafComics.com

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.