

TOMBALL MEMORIAL



The Roarin' Blue Band

Tomball Memorial High School
The Roarin' Blue Band
2019 – 2020 Handbook

Foreword

CONGRATULATIONS on your decision to be a part of the Tomball Memorial High School Roarin' Blue Band! This Handbook is designed to be a guide for parents and students through the many aspects of the Band Program. For more specific information, please contact Andy Easton, TMHS Director of Bands, at 281-357-3230 X1108. Additionally, please frequently check our web site, www.tmhsband.com, and visit the Band Calendar on *CutTime*.

Mission Statement

Together, as the unified family of the Tomball Memorial High School Roarin' Blue Band, we dedicate ourselves to build upon our firm foundation of excellence in music and motion through integrity, discipline, and teamwork. By consistently giving our personal and collective best, we will continually raise the standards of each performer, thereby maximizing the total potential of the group and achieving a sense of success regardless of competitive result.

What is Band really about?

As we begin this year together, it is important to discuss and understand the effect that band can have on your life and the scope in which band can have an impact. Of course, as a body of musicians, we desire to produce beautiful music together, but as you already know, band is so much more than just a music class. As you identify and evaluate members of our community, you would be pleased to find that leaders in every field received their start, and often times credit their success, to the time they spent in their high school band programs. Band is a unique experience that allows us to learn not only music, but also the traits sought after by employers, universities, and your future spouses! Band teaches discipline, work ethic, responsibility, punctuality, communication skills, and leadership. If you were to poll recruiters at any major university, you would find that most, if not all, would tell you that being in band sets you apart from the rest. Recruiters seek out high achieving students who have given their time and energy to band because they know that these students will succeed amongst the rigors of university life.

So, "WHAT DOES THAT MEAN TO ME," you ask? It means that if you can make it here, you can make it anywhere! Your hard work and dedication to our program makes you extremely desirable to potential employers and major universities. Above all else, band is designed to teach you the life leadership skills that will allow you to be successful in your future endeavors while having fun and building lifelong relationships!

The Roarin' Blue Band Staff Educational Philosophy

The Tomball Memorial High School Roarin' Blue Band Staff's educational philosophy can be summarized in three short, but very powerful words: **WE TEACH KIDS**. The medium through which we teach the kids is, of course, Band. We work to help all

students in our Band Program become well-rounded productive members of society. Personal responsibility, teamwork, leadership, work ethic, and appreciation of all art forms are the skills at the core of our educational goals for your child. We also believe that our students will not grow as people if they are not having fun and building positive relationships with those around them. Our “Band-related” goals include helping each student become a better individual musician and performer, exhibiting the highest quality at every performance, fostering a familial atmosphere in all Band activities, and helping our students to become life-long supporters and advocates of music.

Do I (and my parents) really need to read this handbook?

In a word, YES! The information in this document guides our program and protects you and The Roarin’ Blue Band. It is in your best interest to be familiar with the policies and procedures the next several pages, as they detail the operation and decision-making processes of the Band Program. By signing the Handbook Receipt Page, both you and your parents agree to adhere to all aspects included in the handbook. Like any binding document, it is important to read and understand it before you sign.

Three Basic Rules of The Roarin’ Blue Band

1. DO THINGS THE RIGHT WAY

2. BE PROFESSIONAL IN ALL THAT YOU DO

**3. EVERYTHING YOU DO REFLECTS ON YOU,
YOUR FAMILY, YOUR SCHOOL, YOUR
COMMUNITY, AND *THE ROARIN’ BLUE
BAND***

The Roarin' Blue Band Staff

Andy Easton	Director of Bands	andreweaston@tomballisd.net	281-357-3230 X1108
Dusty Brown	Assistant Director	johnbrown@tomballisd.net	281-357-3230 X1113
Tabatha Cooper	Assistant Director	tabathacooper@tomballisd.net	281-357-3230 X1199
Chris King	Percussion Director / Assistant Director	christopherking@tomballisd.net	281-357-3230 X1109
Brittany Shepherd	Color Guard Director	brittanyshepherd@tomballisd.net	

Organizational Chart

We know from time to time parents and students may have questions or concerns in regard to the Band Program. To assist you in resolving these issues, please follow the organizational chart below.

Start here and work down	Lead teacher of your child's class
2 nd	Andy Easton TMHS Director of Bands
3 rd	Your child's Assistant Principal
4 th	Dr. Mike Metz TMHS Principal
5 th	JD Janda TISD Director of Fine Arts
6 th	Dr. Steven Gutierrez TISD Chief Operating Officer
7 th	Dr. Martha Salazar-Zamora TISD Superintendent

Band Organizations

Band is a **full year course** consisting of two distinct semesters or seasons. The fall semester is primarily considered Marching Season, while the spring semester is considered Concert Season and Winter Guard Season. The following is a description of the various groups associated with the Tomball Memorial High School Band Program:

The TMHS **Marching Band**, *The Roarin' Blue Band*, performs at all TMHS varsity football games, all TMHS pep rallies, marching contests, and various other school and community events. All Marching Band rehearsals and performances are required, including Summer Band.

Membership in the Marching Band is required of all Band students. In extremely rare and severe cases, a student's involvement Marching Band may be individually structured. These cases must be approved by Andy Easton, TMHS Director of Bands, no later than the end of the previous school year.

The TMHS Band Program is split into four ability based **Concert Bands**. All students must audition for their class placement near the end of each semester. In addition to the performed audition; previous events, work ethic, attitude, and scheduling conflicts may be factored into the audition and taken into account in class placement.

The **Wind Symphony**, under the direction of Andy Easton, is the premier musical ensemble at TMHS. The Band performs a wide range of literature primarily from the high school varsity level and into the college level. Students in the Wind Symphony are required to prepare and audition by way of the TMEA All-State Band process. Woodwind and brass players are required to perform in the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest. Members of the Wind Symphony are expected to take private lessons (*conflicts will be handled by the Director on a case by case basis*). These students are quite serious about improving their musical abilities; therefore, most of these students have invested in professional quality musical instruments. The Wind Symphony performs at the UIL Concert and Sight Reading Evaluation as well as other concerts throughout the year. The Wind Symphony has sectionals and full band rehearsals throughout the spring semester and the month of December.

The **Symphonic Band**, under the direction of Dusty Brown, is the second band at TMHS. The Band performs literature primarily from the high school varsity and non-varsity repertoire. Students in the Symphonic Band are encouraged to audition for the All-Region Band. Woodwind and brass players are required to perform in the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest. Members of the Symphonic Band are highly encouraged to take private lessons. The Symphonic Band performs at the UIL Concert and Sight Reading Evaluation as well as other concerts throughout the year. The Symphonic Band has sectionals and full band rehearsals throughout the spring semester and the month of December.

The **Concert Band I**, under the direction of Tabatha Cooper, is the third band at TMHS. The Band performs literature primarily from the high school non-varsity repertoire. Woodwind and brass players in the Concert Band I are required to perform in the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest. Members of the Concert Band I are encouraged to take private lessons. The Concert Band I performs at the UIL Concert and Sight Reading Evaluation as well as other concerts throughout the year. Concert Band I has sectionals and full band rehearsals throughout the spring semester and the month of December.

The **Concert Band II**, under the direction of Andy Easton, is the fourth band at TMHS. The Band performs literature primarily from the high school non-varsity repertoire. Woodwind and brass players in the Concert Band II are required to perform in the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest. Members of the Concert Band II are encouraged to take private lessons. The Concert Band II performs at the UIL Concert and Sight Reading Evaluation as well as other concerts throughout the year. Concert Band II has very few after school rehearsals. These rehearsals usually occur in December.

The **Jazz Ensemble**, under the direction of Tabatha Cooper, meets outside of the school day during the late fall semester and throughout the spring semester. The Jazz Ensemble is open to any Band Members who play a traditional jazz instrument in the fall. Auditions are held in December for the spring semester. At the directors' discretion, members of the rhythm section may come from outside the Band Program. The Jazz Ensemble performs at one or more festivals in the spring as well as concerts throughout the year. The Jazz Ensemble is totally separate from the Jazz Band Class during the school day. The Jazz Band Class is open to any TMHS student instrumentalist who can read music and desires to learn about jazz music.

The **Steel Band**, under the direction of Chris King, is a fully instrumented Caribbean steel drum ensemble. The Steel Band is open to all TMHS percussionists and meets during the late fall semester and throughout the spring semester. Membership is contingent on attendance, preparation, and work ethic. The Steel Band performs at various community events as well as concerts throughout the year.

Throughout the spring semester, there are several **Percussion Ensembles**, under the direction of Chris King. Selection for these ensembles is based on class placement, ability level, and instrumentation needs. The Percussion Ensembles perform on the Annual TMHS Night Of Percussion.

Members of the Band Program combine with members of the TMHS Orchestra Program to form the **Symphony Orchestra**, under the direction of Peter Jagdeo (TMHS Orchestra Director) and Andy Easton. Selection for this ensemble is based on competitive audition, ability level, and instrumentation needs. The Symphony Orchestra performs at the UIL Concert and Sight Reading Evaluation as well as other concerts throughout the year.

The **Color Guard**, under the direction of Brittany Shepherd, is a vital and integral part of the TMHS Band Program. All Color Guard members are part of the Marching Band in

the fall semester. After Marching Season, the Color Guard moves into **Winter Guard**. The THMS Winter Guard is competitive in both the TCGC and WGI circuits and performs an Annual Spring Show. All Color Guard members are encouraged to take private lessons, especially during solo and ensemble season. ***In addition to the items in this handbook, all Color Guard members are required to abide by the TMHS Color Guard Handbook and Code of Conduct.***

Rehearsals Outside of the School Day

TMHS Band rehearsals outside of the school day include the following:

Marching Band Rehearsals

Fall Morning Sectionals for woodwind and brass players

Winter Concert Rehearsals

Spring Sectionals and Full Band Rehearsals

Spring Percussion Ensemble Rehearsals

Winter Guard Rehearsals

Solo and Ensemble Help Sessions

**Jazz Ensemble, Steel Band, and Symphony Orchestra Rehearsals are not graded, but attendance does affect membership.*

All Band members received a calendar and the information is posted on CutTime. ALL rehearsals are REQUIRED for ALL students in the prescribed organization. Each student is important to the success of these many activities. We expect 100% attendance. Family commitments (weddings, graduations, etc.) must be cleared with a director at least **one month** ahead of time. Student job commitments and professional appointments (doctor, orthodontist, etc.) are NOT reasons for excused absences from Band rehearsals. If a family emergency occurs, please call your child's primary director ASAP to relay that information.

Parents, if your child is sick please notify the primary director of that affected ensemble prior to the start of the rehearsal.

In order for an absence to be excused, it must be communicated to the primary director of that affected ensemble at least **one month** prior to the absence. The director will then make the decision as to whether the absence is excused or unexcused.

It is the student's responsibility to communicate with all affected directors, coaches, and sponsors when conflicts arise with other TMHS activities. These conflicts should be resolved prior to the beginning of the season.

All rehearsals are part of our curriculum and, as such, are graded. Continued absences may result in the student moving to a lower band class, loss of performing privileges, or removal from the TMHS Band Program.

Performances

All performances are required of all students in the prescribed ensemble(s). In order for

an absence from a performance to be excused, it must be communicated to the primary director of that affected ensemble at least **two months** prior to the absence. The director will then make the decision as to whether the absence is excused or unexcused. Any unexcused absence from a performance may result in the student failing Band for the current grading period and removal from the Band Program.

Grading

The TMHS Band Program follows the grading guidelines set for by TISD. Daily Grades count as 30% of the student's average, while Major Grades are 70%. In accordance with TMHS policy, all students will receive at least one Daily Grade per week and at least three Major Grades per grading period. Make up assignments will be handled on a case-by-case basis at the director's discretion.

Extra Credit may be gained by attending a high school, college, or professional band or orchestra concert (*i.e. Houston Symphony, U of H Wind Ensemble, Houston Ballet, Houston Grand Opera, Texas Music Festival Jazz Project, etc.*). Students may also receive extra credit by attending any TMHS Fine Arts event in which they are not directly involved. Turn in a program from the performance/event to your director the next school day.

Daily Grades are given weekly. Morning and after school rehearsal attendance and Ensemble Rehearsal Skills are all factored into Daily Grades (called ERS# in the grade book).

ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL SKILLS LEVEL:

You will be evaluated on your ensemble rehearsal skills at every rehearsal, including rehearsals outside of the school day as well as those during the regular school day. You will receive a grade each week. Ensemble rehearsal skills include:

- Attending all rehearsals, unless excused IN ADVANCE
- Being in place at the time the rehearsal is scheduled to begin.
- Having all of your own music, a pencil, your instrument in optimal condition, all supplies needed to maintain the condition of your instrument, all accessories required by the music (mutes, mallets, etc) with you in place at the start of rehearsal.
- Listening to all instructions and announcements.
- Maintaining your attention on the rehearsal (not allowing yourself to be distracted or distracting others from the rehearsal.
- Having your individual part prepared for each rehearsal. (Able to play notes rhythms, articulations, and dynamics accurately).
- Knowing where you are in the music at all times, ESPECIALLY when you are not playing, whether you are not playing because you have a rest or because others are working without you.
- Maintaining regular visual contact with the conductor.
- Understanding your part within the context of the music (melody, harmony, accompaniment)
- Listening to and adjusting how you sound within the context of the ensemble (blend, balance, tuning, quality of tone, etc.)
- Understanding the form of the music.
- Leadership in the ensemble by your own understanding and performing

The areas itemized above are not a checklist, but they are listed in approximate hierarchy of skills.

The student's Ensemble Rehearsal Skill level is determined through director observation and evaluation. The list of infractions and grade results below are then applied to the student's score if applicable. The final result is posted in the grade book as the weekly ERS grade.

Infraction	Grade Result
Unexcused Tardy to Rehearsal	5 point deduction
Unexcused Absence from Rehearsal	25 point deduction
Unexcused Leaving Rehearsal Early	5 point deduction
Not having instrument or equipment	10 point deduction

Major Grades are given as assigned and include all playing and performing tests. (Playing and performing tests may be retaken until the end of the grading period. The highest grade will be recorded.)

All Spring Sectionals and Percussion Ensemble Rehearsals are major grades as well.

Solo and Ensemble Help Sessions and Performances are Major Grades. Since the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest is extracurricular, an alternate performance will be provided for ineligible students.

Preparation and audition byway of the TMEA All-State Band process is a Major Grade for members of the Wind Symphony. Since these auditions are extracurricular, an alternate performance will be provided for ineligible students.

All curricular performances (concerts and the Tomball Holiday Parade) are Major Grades and will count at least twice in the grade book.

Private Lessons

All TMHS Band members are encouraged to take private lessons. We have an outstanding lesson staff of professional musicians on every instrument and color guard. Private lessons are the best way to improve as an individual musician. The one on one instruction in a lesson setting is invaluable in a student's musical progress. Most of our teachers have lesson times during Band classes, however not all students will fit into those time slots. Scheduling will be based on instructor availability and seniority within the instructor's studio. Mr. Brown is the TMHS Band private lesson coordinator.

Band Hall and Fine Arts Facilities

Our Fine Arts Facility is one of the nicest in the area. It is the responsibility of all Band members to keep it looking this way, especially the Band Hall area. Food and drinks are not allowed in the Band Hall areas without director's permission. No one is allowed in

the Percussion Room, Instrument Storage Room, Color Guard Room, Ensemble Room, Library, or Uniform Room without expressed permission from a director. Students may use Practice Rooms before and after school.

Only Band members are allowed in the Band Hall. Orchestra students may walk through the Band Hall before school to get to the Orchestra Room. All others must wait outside the Band Hall.

No one may hang out in the hallways of the Fine Arts Facility before school.

School Owned Instruments

Tomball ISD provides selected woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments for students to use at TMHS. These instruments are very expensive and must be treated as such. We expect the instrument to be returned in the same condition in which it was issued. Repair of any damage, even minor, will be the financial responsibility of the student who was issued the instrument. Do not take a school owned instrument to the shop without contacting a director first. We only use certain repair shops and need to be sure the work is done correctly. Most of the time, the directors will send the instrument to the shop and give the student or parent the invoice for the repair cost. The invoice must be paid in full before the student may receive the instrument back.

Conduct

All TMHS Band members are expected to exhibit conduct above reproach at all times, both in and out of Band settings. By the time a student reaches high school, he/she should know how to behave appropriately. The high standards set by The Roarin' Blue Band will be strictly enforced. Poor behavior is a sign of a lack of pride and a lack of concern for the Band Program. Members who continually display inappropriate conduct and/or violate school policies may receive consequences in the Band Program as well as through the TMHS Administration. These consequences may include loss of performing privileges and/or removal from the Band Program.

TMHS Fine Arts Department Vaping Policy

Below is the TMHS Fine Arts Vaping Policy.

1st Offense

-If a student is caught vaping (or with vaping paraphernalia) at school, they will receive the "standard" school consequences. 3 days of ISS and loss of exam exemptions for that school year. (This is the policy for all students at TMHS.)

-If a student is caught vaping (or with vaping paraphernalia) on a TMHS Fine Arts Program trip off campus (spring trip, football games, contests, Thespian Convention,

VASE, etc.), they will receive the following consequences (These will be the same consequences for a student sent home from a trip for any reason. i.e. alcohol, PDA, curfew violations, etc.):

- 1 - Immediately sent home at the parents' expense
- 2 - Suspended from ALL Fine Arts extra-curricular participation for the remainder of that semester (i.e. If a student is vaping on a Band spring trip, they cannot dance in the Silver Stars Spring Show later that semester.)
- 3 – Not allowed to travel on the next spring trip or Thespian Convention trip
- 4 – During the semester following their infraction, the student may only participate in extracurricular events if the parent provides transportation and attends all events (in their entirety) with the student. If the parent cannot provide transportation to all events, the Director of the organization has the discretion to prohibit partial participation.
- 5 - Students may still participate in all curricular and classroom activities.

2nd Offense

-Any Fine Arts student caught vaping (or with vaping paraphernalia) at school or on an off campus trip will immediately be removed from all Fine Arts extracurricular programs.

Letter Jackets

Below is the TISD Bands Letter Jacket Policy. Band letter jackets will only be ordered at the last measuring session of each semester. The official record of student points earned is kept in Mr. Easton's office. All points and jacket awards are subject to director approval.

TOMBALL ISD BANDS LETTER JACKET POINTS

Band: To qualify for a Jacket before your senior year you must earn 16 points. Band Members who are seniors and have been involved in performing THS/TMHS Bands for all 3 previous years may be awarded a jacket at the beginning of their first semester as a senior.

I. Band Contests

UIL Region Marching Contest	1 point
UIL Area Marching Contest	1 point
UIL State Marching Contest	2 points
UIL Region Concert & Sight-Reading Contest	1 point

II. TMEA

All-Region level (Jazz, Orchestra, Band)	5 points
All-Area level (Jazz, Orchestra, Band)	8 points
All-State	16 points

III. UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest

<u>UIL</u> (Class I and II)	
1st Division for Class I Ensemble	1 point (more possible at state)
1st Division for Class II Solo	1 point (does not advance to state)
1st Division for Class I Solo	2 points (more possible at state)
<u>Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest</u>	

1st Division for Class I Ensemble, State	2 points
2nd Division for Class I Solo, State	2 points
1st Division for Class I Solo, State	4 points

IV. Other

Member of top concert band through Concert Season	1 point
Member of Jazz Ensemble through Festival Season	1 point
Member of Steel Band through Spring Semester	1 point
Member of Symphony Orchestra through Spring Semester	1 point
Service Duty	1 point per event
Student Leadership Team	1 point per position

Guard: To qualify for a Jacket before your senior year you must earn 12 points. Members who are seniors and have been involved in performing THS/TMHS Bands for at least 2 years may be awarded a Jacket at the beginning of their first semester as a senior.

I. Band Contests

UIL Region Marching Contest	1 point
UIL Area Marching Contest	1 point
UIL State Marching Contest	2 points

II. Winter Guard

TCGC Winter Guard Championships	1 point
WGI Regional	1 point
WGI Nationals	2 points
WGI Nationals Finalist	4 points
Solo and Ensemble Superior Rating	1 point
Solo and Ensemble Medalist	1 point
State Solo and Ensemble Finalist	2 points
State Solo and Ensemble Medalist	5 points

III. Other

Service Duty	1 point per event
Guard Officer	1 point

Students who move into the program shall be considered on an individual basis at the discretion of the directors.

Travel Policy

TMHS Band policy states that all students are to ride to and return from all off campus event as a group via TISD transportation. On rare occasions an emergency, family commitment, or other TMHS event necessitates that a parent provide transportation to and/or from the TMHS Band event. In these instances, three steps must be followed.

1. The director must be notified of the transportation plan at least **3 school days** before the event.
2. The director must receive a signed written note (not email) from the parent(s) involved prior to the Band's departure for the event. The note must state exactly who is picking up the child and must include the date of the event.
3. If a parent is picking up a student, a director must see the parent take the student from the event. *OR...* If a parent is dropping off a student, the parent must walk the student to a director at the event.

This policy protects the TMHS Band Program, TMHS, TISD, the parent, and most

importantly the student.

**Parents are responsible for their student's transportation to and from Region Jazz Auditions, Freshman Region Band Auditions, Region Orchestra Auditions, any All-Region Clinic and Concert, and Solo and Ensemble.*

Football Games

Football games are a lot of fun and we are there to support the team and perform our very best. Band members can stand up, cheer, and dance in support of the team throughout the game, but should always remain in his/her "spot". It is important to always be alert of the expensive equipment around you and the need to be ready to play at a moment's notice.

Only Band members are allowed in the Band area at football games. No exceptions!

No food, or drinks are allowed in the Band area other than your Roarin' Blue Band water jug (filled with water only) and the Gatorade provided by the chaperones after half time. Specific medical conditions must be discussed with the director well in advance.

Students should use the restroom before and after the game and avoid going during the game. If an emergency arises during the game, it should be brought to the attention of the Woodwind Captain, Brass Captain, Percussion Captain, or Color Guard Captain.

Band Uniforms

It is a privilege to wear any uniform of the Tomball Memorial High School Band Program. Whether it is a marching band uniform, concert attire, or color guard costume, the same standards apply. Be sure you have all parts of your uniform for all performances. All uniforms parts must be worn correctly or not at all. If you have any issues with your uniform, please see a Uniform Officer or Color Guard Officer asap. Never attempt to alter or "fix" your uniform on your own. If your uniform does not meet the high standard required in the TMHS Band Program, you may be removed from a performance and not allowed to travel with the Band.

All uniforms must be checked out for each performance and neatly checked in after each performance.

The TMHS Band Shirt or Show Shirt must be worn under the **Marching Band Uniform** as announced by the director. Solid black calf-length tube socks and approved marching shoes must be worn at all times with the uniform. Only thin shorts (thin running shorts, thin soccer shorts, spandex, etc.) should be worn under marching pants. Baggy or bulky shorts or jeans are never appropriate under the uniform. No jewelry of any kind may be visible while wearing the TMHS Marching Band Uniform. This includes watches, rings (including class rings), earrings, necklaces, etc.

When wearing the TMHS Band **Concert Attire**, all students should look like they belong

on a professional concert stage. Boys must wear a plain white t-shirt under the tuxedo shirt, solid black calf-length tube socks, and black dress shoes (clean marching shoes are acceptable if you do not own black dress shoes). Girls should wear black dress shoes with their dress. High heels are not permitted. Appropriateness of shoes will be at the director's discretion. Shorts or jeans are never permitted under the dresses. Jewelry must be kept to a minimum while wearing the concert attire. Girls may only wear small stud earrings and small tasteful necklaces. Tasteful watches, bracelets, and rings may be permitted at the discretion of the director.

Ms. Shepherd will address all **Color Guard Costume** guidelines. All hair, makeup, and "body wear" accessories will be the responsibility of the individual member.

Student Leadership Team

The TMHS Band Student Leadership Team is comprised of Band members who have sought out and earned a leadership role in the Band Program. These students put in several extra hours of work outside of the "regular" Band schedule. They act as liaisons between the Band Staff and students and help teach, inform, and organize the members of the Band. All Band members are to immediately and respectfully follow the instructions given by the Student Leadership Team members. The Student Leadership Team is auditioned, elected, and selected in the late spring for the following year.

TMHS Band Student Leadership Team members are held to a higher standard than other students. Any violation of Band, School, or TISD rules or policies may result in immediate removal from any leadership position. Any conduct unbecoming of a Student Leadership Team member, as determined by the Director, may also result in immediate removal from any leadership position.

TMHS Fine Arts Department

All TMHS Band members are expected to be leaders and model students throughout the TMHS Fine Arts Department and the entire school. Students are to be supportive of other Fine Arts students and their work, as well as courteous and helpful to all TMHS Fine Arts Staff Members.

Band Registration

Early each June, the TMHS Band will hold its annual Band Registration night. This is the time to order supplies, pay fees, and sign up for volunteer opportunities. The Band Staff fully understands that financial situations may arise and we will work with you. However, students will not receive ordered items until they have been paid for in full. Each Band family is asked to sign up for four volunteer shifts. With the current state of educational funding in the State Legislature, these fees and volunteer hours are of the utmost importance. Our Band Program does not function without them.

A specific list of fees, required items, prices, and volunteer opportunities will be provided to parents before Band Registration.

Overnight Trips

Any overnight trips are governed by TISD policies concerning approval, administration supervision, eligibility, and absences. All students and parents will sign a *Student Code of Conduct While on a TMHS Band Trip* form before leaving on the trip. This form outlines all conduct, punctuality, and discipline policies and expectations. Mr. King is the coordinator of the TMHS Band Spring trip.

CutTime

Student data is maintained on a secure web-based utility called *CutTime*. This is the database from which all parent communication originates. Please make sure your contact information is always current. The status of fees, payments, forms, and instrument issue may be checked on *CutTime* as well.

CutTime also houses the official TMHS Band Calendar. Parents and students may sync the calendar (via Google Calendar) to their smart phone to constantly stay up to date on the calendar.

www.tmhsband.com

WWW.TMHSBAND.COM is the home of The Roarin' Blue Band on the web. Parents and students should check the web site frequently for updated information, upcoming events, and pictures of the band in action.

Conclusion

This document is meant to guide the decision-making process of students, parents, and directors of The Roarin' Blue Band. It is not, however, designed to be an all-inclusive list of rules and regulations. It is impossible to discuss each and every scenario that could face our band. The directors will use their best judgment to evaluate and interpret each situation and make decisions that are in the best interest of The Roarin' Blue Band and its membership. By signing the Handbook Receipt Page, you agree to uphold the rules and responsibilities of a Roarin' Blue Band member to the best of your ability. Please remember that the purpose of a handbook is to provide information and create a framework within which important decisions can be made. Diligent adherence to these ideals will allow our program to continue to prosper. Thank you in advance for your dedication to the program.