

ALVORD HIGH SCHOOL

BAND HANDBOOK



2017-2018

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the Bulldog Band! We are looking forward to a productive and exciting year! As with any organization, we have certain guidelines and procedures for everyone to follow in order to ensure the safety, well-being, education and success of all students.

Read the handbook carefully and refer to it frequently in order to understand how the band program operates. Please be sure to sign and return all forms no later than August 18, 2017. All forms must be turned in before students may participate in football games and other performances.

We are looking forward to working with you this year. Please contact us if you have any questions. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Mr. Wesley Peart, M.M.
Alvord ISD
Head Director of Bands
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(940)-427-9643 ext. 3128

Mr. Aaron Kline, M.M.
Alvord ISD
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ALVORD HIGH SCHOOL BAND POLICIES

The Alvord High School Band includes students in grades 9-12. All students who are members of the band must participate in all marching band and concert band activities. Students are also required to participate in solo and ensemble contest, and may be assigned to participate in all-region auditions or other activities.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The attendance policy will be strictly enforced! Attendance at rehearsals during the regular school day will be subject to the school attendance policy as outlined in the student handbook. *All before school, after school and summer rehearsals* will be subject to the following guidelines:

All absences will be considered either **UNEXCUSED** or **EXCUSED**.

Unexcused absences will count against the course grade.

Excused absences will be eligible to be made up on an hour-to-hour basis at the band directors' convenience. It is the student's responsibility to schedule this make-up time. Excused absences that are not made up will count against the course grade.

Excessive absences may also result in the following:

Loss of Halftime Performance Privilege

Loss of 3rd Quarter Break

Loss of Band Travel Privileges

Removal from the Band Program (Extreme Situations Only)

If you are sick or will absent from rehearsal, please contact the band directors at (940)-427-9643 ext. 3128. Leave a detailed message explaining the reason that you will be absent. Excused absences will be granted on a case-by-case basis at the director's discretion, but only with advance notice.

TARDY POLICY

The tardy policy will be strictly enforced! Tardies at rehearsals during the regular school day will be subject to the school tardy policy as outlined in the student handbook. *All before school, after school and summer rehearsals* will be subject to the following guidelines:

Students are expected to be in their assigned location, with all materials, ready to rehearse at the assigned time.

Tardies in excess of 15 minutes will be counted as an absence. No exceptions.

Students will be allowed one tardy per week of less than 15 minutes. A second tardy will result in loss of the 3rd quarter break. A third tardy will result in loss of halftime performance privileges.

Students should report to block locations as assigned for each call time. Failure to be in the rehearsal block will be counted as a tardy or absence, in accordance with the policies above.

GRADING POLICY

Band grading is based upon attendance and participation at all rehearsals and performances. Students will receive a grade for each *before school*, *after school* and *summer rehearsal/performance*.

Students may also be assigned lower grades for the following reasons: (Exact point deductions are situational.)

Failure to arrive, on time, with all required materials

Behavior which is disruptive to the rehearsal

Failure to Participate Fully

Failure to arrive, on time, in the proper uniform to any performance

Failure to fully prepare and/or passoff music by required deadlines

During some 6-weeks periods, grading may be based on an "objective sheet" listing certain criteria which students must perform during the grading period. Each objective will be graded on a pass/fail basis.

USE OF BAND HALL FACILITIES

ONLY band students are allowed in the band hall. Students must ask their friends who are not in band to wait for them either in the school hallway or outside.

FOOTBALL GAME POLICY

School policy dictates that band students will ride to, and return from all off-campus performances as a group, using transportation provided by the district. If a student rides home with their parent after a game, the student and parent will see Mr. Peart in advance to sign a release. This protects both the parents and the school. The student is to take everything with them. (i.e. all parts of the uniform, garment bag, hanger, instrument, music, clothes, food, etc...)

Football games are fun, and we are there to support the team. However, we must maintain a class act at all times. Band members should stand up to YELL and SCREAM in support of the team throughout the game, but should always remain in his/her "spot." It is important to remain alert concerning all of the expensive equipment around you as well as the need to be ready to play at a moment's notice. **Only band students are allowed in the band section.**

Do not use your cell phone or other electronic devices during the game. Cell phones will be taken up if they are out or being used and will be returned to the student after the game.

Students will receive a break during the third quarter at each football game. During the third quarter, students may visit concession stands and use electronic devices. Students must be back in their places in the stands by the end of the third quarter. Students who are not on time for the fourth quarter will lose their third quarter break at the next game. Students should finish all food and drink prior to 4th quarter and wind players should rinse their mouth with water prior to playing.

In the event of late starts to the 3rd quarter break (homecoming, etc), the directors may specify an alternate return time. All other policies will still apply.

Students are not allowed to have food or drinks in the bleachers **EXCEPT** for water.

All students will help to unload the bus and/or trailer at the end of any off-campus event as determined by the directors and the loading crew manager. Failure to help unload may result in a lower course grade and/or reassignment.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Student leaders are appointed by the band directors each Spring, based on an application process and a holistic overview of the student's musical and leadership skills. The following positions will be held during the 2017-2018 school year:

Drum Majors
Section Leaders (Woodwind, Brass, Battery, Pit)
Uniform Manager
Loading/Unloading Manager
Metronome Manager
Water Crew

It is expected that all student leaders will display exemplary conduct in all band activities. Failure to perform the expected duties of your position may result in reassignment of your leadership role.

BAND UNIFORMS

During Summer band, each student will be checked out a band uniform, including pants, jacket and hat. Students will be required to purchase a band t-shirt, marching shoes, black socks and black gloves. The prices for these items are listed on the order form at the end of this document. Band shirts are always worn tucked-in.

Students should wear the band T-shirt and a pair of shorts under the uniform.

Here are some Do's and Don'ts about your uniform:

DO: remember your band t-shirt, shorts, full length plain **black** socks, and marching shoes (Tennis shoes or dress shoes are not acceptable) each time you will be wearing your uniform.

DO NOT: remove any material from the uniform if alterations are necessary.

DO: Take your uniform to the dry cleaners periodically – not just before UIL and at the end of the season.

DO NOT: Attempt to wash and/or dry your uniform at home.

DO: Transport your uniform in a garment bag and your hat in the hat box.

DO NOT: Store your uniform in the garment bag. This will cause it to mildew. This odor will never leave the garment.

DO: Take extra time when hanging up your uniform. Pants hang folded on the crease, not the seat.

DO: Always store your hat in its hat box.

All students will report, in full-uniform, for inspection by their section leader and/or uniform manager prior to each home game and prior to departure for all away games.

Additional jackets and layers may be worn in the stands at the discretion of the director, but must be either solid black or the official band hoodie.

Pep Rally Attire is khaki shorts and the band T-shirt. The only exception to this is if you are dressed according to the pep rally theme.

OFF-CAMPUS TRAVEL POLICIES

Students who represent Alvord ISD on off-campus trips are expected to maintain very high standards of conduct at all times. They are expected to attend and be on time for all sessions and activities scheduled for them. In the event of overnight trips, they are expected to be in their rooms at the times designated by their sponsors.

Each student will be responsible to one or more faculty sponsors who will supervise the activities of the student for the trip. Negligence in attending sessions, in meeting curfew requirements, or in failing to maintain our standards of conduct may make it necessary for the sponsor to send the student home at the parent or guardian's expense.

Student conduct on school-related trips: Self-discipline is the key element for a pleasant experience for both the sponsor and the student when the student is on a school-related trip. Students who are involved in a serious disciplinary offense on a school-related trip, such as the use, possession of, or being under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol, stealing, fighting, going in the room of a member of the opposite sex, or some other serious offense will face disciplinary action which may include one or more of the following:

1. The student will be sent home from the trip at the parents' expense.
2. The student will be held liable for damages to property.
3. The student may be removed from this school activity.
4. The student may be referred to campus administration for further disciplinary action.

Students' attire during school activities outside the school day should be in good taste and conform to the student code of conduct. If there is any question of taste, the director's decision is final.

LETTER JACKETS

Letter jackets will be awarded at the discretion of the band directors. Minimum criteria for earning a letter jacket is as follows:

- At least three consecutive years in the High School Band (Fall and Spring Semesters)
- No unexcused absences from marching band rehearsals
- Ability to perform 12 major scales by memory
- Played a class 1 solo or ensemble at UIL contest

SCHOOL INSTRUMENTS

Alvord ISD provides school musical instruments for the low woodwind, low brass and percussion sections. These instruments are quite costly and are not normally owned by individuals. All of these instruments are sent to the repair shop and reconditioned during the summer.

Percussionists will be required to purchase their own sticks and stick bag.

Brass players who are using a school-owned instrument will need to own their own mouthpiece.

All other students will be expected to purchase or rent an instrument through a local music store. If the cost is an issue, the Alvord Band may be able to provide financial assistance.

A complete list of recommended instruments is on page 7. Instruments other than the ones listed will need to be approved by the band directors.

Any damage or normal adjustment during the year is the responsibility of the band student who has signed for the instrument.

We expect the instrument to be returned in the same condition as when issued. Dings, dents, and other damage will be repaired at the student's expense.

If the instrument is lost or stolen while checked out to a student, it is the **parent's/guardian's responsibility** to replace the instrument.

All students will be checked out a black music folio and a warm-up book. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that these items are returned in good condition.

SUPPLIES

It is imperative that band students be **prepared** for every rehearsal. All students are expected to have the following supplies at every rehearsal:

Instrument (in good working condition)

Mouthpiece, Reeds, Neckstrap, Ligature, Sticks (as applicable)

Pencil

Sheet Music

Drill/Coordinate Sheets, Flip Folder, Lyre (Marching Band Only)

Water Bottle (Marching Band Only)

Closed-Toed, Athletic Shoes

Shorts are Recommended for all Outdoor Marching Rehearsals

Rehearsal attire: Closed-Toed shoes are required for all marching rehearsals. **NO SANDALS OR FLIP-FLOPS!!!** Shorts are recommended.

As with any classroom, cell phones and other electronic devices are not to be used unless permission is obtained in advance.

Alvord ISD Bands

2017 – 2018 Required Materials List – High School

****All Instruments****

Pencil
Lyre and Flipfolder
Marching Gloves
Black Socks
Band T-Shirt
Marching Band Shoes
Tuner with Clip-On Attachment and Metronome

Flutes

Yamaha, Pearl, or Gemeinhardt Flute w/ Case – Open-Holed Flutes are Recommended
Tuning rod, Polishing cloth and Cleaning Cloth

Clarinets

Buffet, Leblanc or Yamaha Clarinet w/ Case – Wooden Clarinets are Recommended
Required mouthpiece: Vandoren M13
Reeds: Vandoren V12 Reeds, Strength 3
Reed Case: Vandoren ReedGuard
Swab and Cork Grease
Rovner Clarinet Ligature

Saxophones

Any: Yamaha or Selmer Alto Saxophone w/ Case
Required mouthpiece: Selmer C*
Reeds: Vandoren "Blue Box" Reeds, Strength 3
Reed Case: Vandoren or LaVoz ReedGuard
Swab and Cork Grease

Trumpets

Any: Bach, King, Conn, Yamaha, Jupiter, Blessing, Getzen
Required mouthpiece: Bach 7C
Valve Oil, Slide Grease and Cleaning Kit

French Horns

Bach or Yamaha Mouthpiece
Valve Oil, Slide Grease and Cleaning Kit

Trombones

Any: Bach, King, Conn, Yamaha, Jupiter Horns
Bach 6 ½ AL Small Shank Mouthpiece
Slide Oil, Slide Grease and Cleaning Kit

Baritones

Bach 6 ½ AL Small Shank Mouthpiece
Valve Oil, Slide Grease and Cleaning Kit

Tuba

24AW Mouthpiece
Valve Oil, Slide Grease and Cleaning Kit

Percussion

Stick bag containing: 2 Pair Drumsticks, 1 Pair Medium Marimba Mallets, 1 Pair Hard Bells/Xylo Mallets, 1 Pair Timpani Mallets
If you do not currently own sticks, we recommend the Vic Firth EP2 Stick Pack.

Alvord High School Band 2017 Fall Schedule

(Dates and Times are Subject to Change)

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
July 24-28	Leadership, Drumline	8:00 am – 3:00 pm	Band Hall, Practice Field
July 31 - August 4	Summer Band Rehearsal	8:00 am – 3:00 pm	Band Hall, Practice Field
August 7-8	Summer Band Rehearsal	8:00 am – 3:00 pm	Band Hall, Practice Field
August 9-11	Summer Band Rehearsal	12:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Band Hall, Practice Field
August 14-18	Summer Band Rehearsal	12:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Band Hall, Practice Field
August 21	First Day of School – Begin Regular Rehearsals	6:50 am – 7:40 am	Band Hall, Practice Field
August 25	Football Game	Call Time: TBA	
September 1	Football Game	Call Time: TBA	
September 8	Football Game	Call Time: TBA	
September 15	Football Game	Call Time: TBA	
September 22	Football Game	Call Time: TBA	
September 29	Football Game	Call Time: TBA	
October 6	Football Game	Call Time: TBA	
October 7	Contest	Call Time: TBA	
October 13	Football Game	Call Time: TBA	
October 14	Contest	Call Time: TBA	
October 20	Football Game	Call Time: TBA	
October 21	UIL Marching Contest	Call Time: TBA	
October 27	Football Game	Call Time: TBA	
November 3	Football Game	Call Time: TBA	

Additional dates may be added throughout the semester.

Supplies Order Form

Please place a number next to each item indicating the number and sizes you wish to order. Return this form along with cash or check for the total amount. Make checks payable to **Alvord ISD Band Boosters.**

All students must have at least one of each band t-shirt and one pair of marching shoes and gloves in good condition.

All orders must be received by **August 11, 2017.**

2017 Band Show T-Shirt – 15.00 ea.

Qty. _____

Size (adult sizes only) _____

Logo Band T-Shirt – 15.00 ea.

Qty. _____

Size (adult sizes only) _____

Marching Band Shoes – 34.00/pair

Qty. _____

Size _____

Marching Gloves – 3.00/pair.

Qty. _____

Size (S-M-L-XL) _____

Order Total: _____

Student Name: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Phone Number: _____

Method of Payment (Cash or Check): _____

Alvord ISD Bands Emergency Medical Release

As part of its educational program, the Alvord Independent School District ("AISD") has organized a variety of educational and learning activities and trips in which your child will have an opportunity to participate. These trips and activities are designed to benefit students by providing unique learning experiences and exposure to new and different people and places in a supervised setting. School personnel will keep you informed of the upcoming activities in which you child will have the opportunity to participate.

I, the undersigned, the parent and/or legal guardian of the student identified below, a minor, hereby acknowledge that said minor is presently under my care, custody and control. I hereby give the student identified below my express permission to travel with school personnel on the educational enrichment activities and trips the school has planned and to participate in all scheduled activities involved in the trip or activity.

In the event of an emergency necessitating **medical attention** to the student identified below, I hereby authorize that treatment be given by qualified and licensed medical personnel. I understand that this form will be given to the medical personnel to expedite the treatment. I understand that I will be notified as soon as possible and that all expenses incurred in treatment will be assumed either directly by me or by my insurance coverage as noted.

I acknowledge that liability of AISD, the AISD Board of Trustees, and any agents, employees, representatives, insurers, successors, and assignees of the entities just named, is narrowly defined and extremely limited by Texas law and local policy.

Student's Name: _____ Sex _____ Age _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____

Present Address: _____
Street # City State Zip

Parents or Legal Guardians: _____ Home Telephone: _____ Cell Phone#: _____

Other responsible party: _____ Home Telephone: _____ Cell Phone#: _____

Health Insurance Co.: _____ Policy Number: _____

Health Insurance Phone # _____

List ALL medical conditions: _____

List ALL Allergies: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date Signed: _____

Alvord High School Marching Band 2017-2018 Statement of Intent

- I declare my intent to become a member of the 2017-2018 Alvord High School Band, and I hereby authorize the band staff to reserve a position for me in the 2017 Marching Band Show. I am aware of the band calendar and I agree to participate in all aspects of this organization. I understand that band is a year-long course and I agree to participate in both Fall and Spring semesters. I also agree to all policies and procedures outlined in the 2017-2018 band handbook.

- I do not wish to participate in the Alvord High School Band, or do not agree to the terms and conditions of membership.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date