

# JOURDANTON INDIAN BAND HANDBOOK



## 2020-2021

***The mission of JISD shall be to provide a high quality educational environment that promotes excellence; builds responsibility; and creates life-long learners; so that all students are prepared to be contributing adults in a diverse and ever-changing society.***

It is the policy of the Jourdanton Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of sex, handicap, race, color, age, or national origin and to take steps to assure that the lack of English language skills will not be a barrier in its educational and career and technology programs, services, activities or employment as required by Title IX, Section 504 and Title VI.

Es la política del distrito independiente de la escuela de Jourdanton a no discriminar sobre la base del sexo, desventaja, raza, color, edad, u origen nacional y para no tomar medidas para asegurar que la carencia de las habilidades de lengua inglesa no será una barrera en sus programas educativos y de la carrera y de la tecnología, los servicios, las actividades o el empleo según los requisitos del título IX, la sección 504 y el título VI.

\*\*\*INTRODUCTION\*\*\*

Today more than ever, educators and taxpayers examine the worthiness of every course in the curriculum. They ask if the course fulfills the objectives of education.

The Jouranton Independent School District and community recognize the purpose of education is more than just a means for making a living and is placing an increasing emphasis on music in general and bands in particular as a means of shaping and molding the character of future contributing members of society.

Music is the most widely used art - just about everyone listens to music on TV, radio, movies, and computers or CDs. Central to the appreciation and understanding of music is music performance. A student who has learned to play an instrument will always enjoy music more than if he had not. A good band performs superior music, in order to give its members a worthwhile musical heritage.

The band's purpose is not only to serve the school and community through marching at football games and playing in concerts, thus providing entertainment and enhancing school and community spirit, but also to furnish the student with an invaluable experience. Discipline within a good marching band is similar to that acquired in athletics. Both develop coordination, cooperation, teamwork, and self-discipline to a degree not possible in academic subjects. It demands and develops concentration so essential to success in any field of endeavor. A superior band helps to develop character, good behavior, leadership and provide students with an ideal outlet for their energies.

In addition to the rewards from discipline and hard work, one also belongs to a band because it is fun. The band gives each student a place to hang her or his hat. Everybody needs something of this kind for good mental health and happiness. There is a genuine exhilaration in making music, playing a beautiful concert, being part of a thrilling half-time show, leading a parade down Main Street, and in wearing the uniform of a band.

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## TO THE STUDENTS

In cooperation with the school and the community, our band has a unique function. Our obligations both during and outside of school hours are many, but our rewards are also many.

In a typical classroom, the students' major purpose is to learn what they can and earn as high a grade as possible for themselves. In the band program, you gain much personally, but you also have an important function to perform for others that is most significant. You are now in the limelight at school and in public as you have never been before. This is both exciting and demanding, but it is the way every band director and every good band member wants it to be. This is why being a good band member is a most worthwhile endeavor.

The intense concentration required to perform in the band is the very kind of training that produces success in every field. The players not only has to play their instrument, but read increasingly difficult music, and while they are doing these two complex tasks, they must also keep a watchful eye on the conductor's baton or the drum major's hands. This requires 100% attention to the task at hand – a task which does not permit the mind to wander for a second. This develops coordination and mental discipline and explains why bands invariably have such a high percent of the top students in their organizations. Top scholarship and top musicianship go hand in hand. One helps the other.

If some of the regulations herein seem strict, especially when your band director insists that they are followed exactly, bear in mind that this is essential to your development and to the success of the band. It is not possible to have a good band without the full cooperation of all its members at all times. So if you find the discipline of being a band member more demanding than those of other classes, remember that this is “par for the course” and is intended for your good as well as that of the band. In a regular class, if your work is not good, you hurt only yourself. In the band, you hurt the whole group.

### **Your obligations are demanding, but the rewards are many!**

#### THE JOURDANTON MIGHTY INDIAN BAND PROGRAM GOALS

Goals can be tangible or intangible. Goals are not always about winning but gaining. We believe that through the process of making our goals now, we will work harder to accomplish them. The following are general program goals:

- To develop high quality and independent student musicians.
- To encourage musical curiosity and growth from both individuals and the program as a whole.
- To maintain high standards for the whole program throughout the entire year.
- To breed integrity, responsibility, teamwork, discipline, and kindness within every member that passes through our doors.

## 1. Band Courses & Performing Ensembles

*Note: All Students must be enrolled in both semesters of band each year in order to be eligible for any awards including letterman jackets, as well attend the band banquet.*

### Marching Band – Fall Semester Only

- Summer Band – As per UIL rules, marching bands cannot begin learning drill to their competitive show for the school year until August 1<sup>st</sup>. However, bands are allowed to go over marching technique, music fundamentals, and the show music before then. Given the volume of material to cover and intricate details that go into learning the show, we will begin Summer Band in late July. Attendance will greatly improve your chance at acquiring a spot in the competitive show.
- Fall Semester/Football Season – During the school year, band will meet during their traditional concert band class period. The full marching band will meet before and after school for the duration of the marching season. The marching band performs at all football games, marching contests, parades, pep rallies, and other events.
  - In order to be a member of the marching band, a student must be enrolled in the band class for the full year, attend summer band rehearsals and attend all rehearsals and performances during marching season.
    - *This will not necessarily assure a student of an active position in the marching band, but will help determine who is most qualified to play and march in the competing group.*

Please refer to the operation policies as well as the summer band schedules, and the fall semester/football schedule. Most of our performances are in the evenings or on weekends. There may be some changes to the schedule as we get closer to contest. If a student misses rehearsals, a performance, or is frequently tardy, that student may be removed from the contest show. All band members must pass all of their classes to be eligible to participate with the marching band in any capacity.

*\*\*\*It is ultimately the student's responsibility to convey all information about band practices, performances, and any other information given to the students to their parents or guardians\*\*\**

*\*\*\*There may be some schedule changes as we get closer to contest\*\*\**

### Color Guard – Fall Semester: Marching Band; Spring Semester: Winter Guard

The Guard class will perform with the marching band in the fall and participate in winter guard in the spring. Only students who are enrolled in the class for the full year and cleared by the director can participate with this group. Only under extreme circumstances, to be determined by the directors, will a student who is not enrolled in this class be allowed to participate.

- Instrumentalists may participate with the Guard provided that they have the director's permission.
- Guard members will be required to purchase additional supplies and costs will vary year to year.

Check the yearlong band schedule for dates and times of rehearsals, concerts, and competitions. Guard is required to attend all rehearsals, parades, performances, and competitions pertaining to them throughout the year.

### **Wind Ensemble – Fall and Spring Semesters**

The Wind Ensemble is the advanced performing and competing group at Jourdanton High School. Students in this group are expected to set the example for the students in Symphonic band during marching season regarding preparedness of music. Students in this group are also required to participate in the All-Region auditions at the end of the fall semester and Solo and Ensemble in the spring— failure to do so will result in being moved to the Symphonic band. The chair placement in this ensemble may be determined by Region results. All band students must be enrolled in band class for the fall and spring semesters. This band performs at school functions, concerts, band festivals, and UIL Concert & Sight-Reading Contest. Members of this group must attend all of the spring semester sectionals, performances, and competitions. All members must pass all of their classes to be eligible to participate with this group.

### **Symphonic Band – Fall and Spring Semesters**

The Symphonic Band is the second performing and competing group at Jourdanton High School. Students in this group are held to the same standards as the Wind Ensemble regarding responsibility and dependability. All-Region auditions are not required but are highly encouraged, provided the student has passed the screening process prior to the auditions. Participation in the region process, as well as Solo and Ensemble demonstrates to the band directors the student's desire to improve and willingness to put effort into their instrument. It may also determine chair placements. All band students must be enrolled in band class for the fall and spring semesters. This band performs at selected school functions, concerts, band festivals, and UIL Concert & Sight-Reading Contest. Members of this group must attend all of the spring semester sectionals, performances, and competitions. All members must pass all their classes to be eligible to participate with this group.

### **Jazz Band – Fall and Spring Semesters**

The Jazz Band offers students the opportunity to play in the different styles of Swing, Latin, Funk, Fusion, and Rock. The Jazz Band performs for school functions, festivals, and other community events. This ensemble rehearses after marching season. The director will determine instrumentation in each section through auditions. All members must pass all their classes and must be enrolled in one of the two band classes to be eligible to participate with this group.

## **2. Grading Policies**

- **20% - Rehearsals**
- **50% - Assignments (Labeled Objectives in the Gradebook, and all students will have the opportunity to correct any objective that counts as an assignment grades. The director's will record the average of the two grades. Performances will not be allowed to be redone.)**
- **30% - Performances**

Examples of Rehearsal grades:

- After school marching rehearsals
- Before school marching rehearsals

➤ Sectionals

Rehearsal grades can be affected by attendance, bringing all supplies, and participation.

Examples of Assignment grades:

- Marching pass-offs
- Classroom recordings
- Music playing tests

Assignment grades are typically due at the end of each week. After that they count for no higher than a 70.

Examples of Performance grades:

- Football games/Parades
- Marching Competitions
- Winter/UII/Spring Concerts

Performance grades can be affected by attendance, bringing all supplies, and participation.

### 3. Rehearsals

The success of a band depends on how it rehearses. Band rehearsals depend on the positive conduct and cooperation of the students. Rehearsals are where learning takes place. Please be patient, attentive, and cooperative in observing these rehearsal rules.

#### Marching Band Procedures:

Appropriate clothing for summer in Texas is required for marching rehearsals. This includes:

- Lightweight, light-colored, comfortable clothing (example: cotton t-shirt and shorts)
- Tennis Shoes with socks. No sandals, flip flops, or skateboard tennis shoes.
- Hat or cap and sunglasses
- Any medication needed
- Sunscreen

Marching band is a class and therefore students must bring all necessary materials outside.

This includes:

- Instrument, music, and a pencil
- Water jug or Camelback
- Drill charts

A band is only as good as it rehearses. The following expectations are to ensure that everyone remains safe and that the program grows to its fullest potential throughout the season.

- Report to your spot in the fundamental block with all of your rehearsal items BEFORE rehearsal starts.
- Participate to your full capacity in warm up and stretch.
- Move quickly and quietly between activities or back to sets.
- Water breaks are for drinking water, not socializing.
- Ask before leaving rehearsal for any reason. The directors are responsible for you when you are in their care and need to know your whereabouts at all times.
- Raise your hand when you are addressed so that the directors know you can hear the instructions.
- When a director is speaking, you are quiet and listening carefully to instructions.
- Follow instructions exactly so that no one is hurt in the process.
- Parade rest is the position for listening to instructions so that nothing is missed.

- When you are called to attention move quickly so that the rehearsal pace does not bog down.
- If cellphones are seen during rehearsal they will be confiscated and returned at the end of class.
- When instruments are not being used they are to be stacked by section in a neat and orderly fashion along the sideline.
- There is no sitting on the field, the field is a place of work and should be treated as such.

### **Concert Band Procedures**

- Report to your spot in the concert setup with all of your rehearsal items BEFORE rehearsal starts. (Instrument, music, fundamental book, pencil reeds, grease, oil, etc.)
- Set up your own chair and stand BEFORE rehearsal starts. There is no sharing of stands or music.
- Do not leave your seat at ANY TIME during a rehearsal unless you have the director's permission or you have a personal emergency.
- Raise your hand to ask any questions.
- Band class is for band activities, NOT HOMEWORK.
- If cellphones are seen during rehearsal they will be confiscated and returned at the end of class.
- Keep your music and fundamental book together in a folder. You are responsible for keeping track of any music given to you.
- The rehearsal room will be kept orderly with music and instruments in their designated places. Keep all cases and all personal items in your locker.
- Chewing Gum, drinking, or eating of any kind is not permitted during rehearsals, performances, or any time that you are in uniform. Food, drinks, gum and candy will not be tolerated in the band hall, unless you have permission from the directors.

### **4. Fees**

Fees are calculated by the band director from year to year based on the allotted budget. The band cannot operate successfully on the district budget alone because of all the necessary equipment used by all members. The breakdown of what is covered by the fees can be found on the last page of the handbook. This includes both marching and concert uniform rental, show shirt, active wear and shorts for under the marching uniform, gloves, shoes, and meals throughout the marching season. Additionally, it covers the cost to repair school owned instruments, and additional uniform items for color guard and winter guard. Non-payment of these items will result in the fee being turned in to the school office. This can result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, prevention of taking finals, holding of class grades and prevention of participation in graduation activities. Please contact the band directors to discuss any problem with fee payments and to work out an extended payment plan, if necessary.

*Participation in band is open to all. Financial arrangements, if necessary, can be worked out with the directors.*

## 5. Marching Band – General Overview

### A. Operation Policies

#### ➤ Marching Spots

- a. The instrumentation of a marching band is critical when undergoing the judging process at contest. In general, a trumpet is louder than a flute and a tuba is louder than a saxophone. Therefore, it is imperative that the number of each instrument section fits the size of the whole band. Because of this there is a finite amount of each section that will have a permanent spot. Auditions will be held during summer band based off of marching and playing exercises learned during summer band. *The directors will have the ultimate decision in assigned spots based on what is good for the entire group.*
- b. Drill numbers will be assigned to everyone enrolled in marching band. Some spots will be assigned to two different students and those students will switch off marching in the main drill spot and marching the alternate spot. *The directors will decide who will march at contests before the first competition.*
- c. Attendance will greatly affect the acquisition and retention of a drill spot. Drill charts that make up the show are learned quickly and missing rehearsal will put you far behind. If you fall too far behind you could be in jeopardy of being moved to an alternate spot.
- d. Music pass-offs are a requirement for everyone in marching band. Being accountable for the memorization of music and how it fits into the drill is the only way for the band to operate successfully. This factor will determine who the directors choose for permanent and alternate spots.
  - i. The deadline for the music to be passed off when the date is given for the play-off.
  - ii. Students will be given two opportunities to pass off music each week while marking time.
  - iii. Students can arrange additional pass-off times with directors each week.
  - iv. If a student does not attempt or cannot pass off their music correctly in these two attempts they will not march that week at any show or contest.
  - v. Even if a student can pass off the music in a non-marching situation that does not mean they can perform the music while marching in the drill.
- e. Reasons for Losing a Marching Spot:
  1. Any band student not attending Summer Band Camp or missing part of Summer Band Camp.
  2. A student missing a regular rehearsal during the school year (see Attendance guidelines). An unexcused absence could result in having an alternate assigned to your spot and excessive unexcused absences will result in being replaced.
  3. Sometimes it is also necessary to remove students that do not have the maturity to discipline themselves to maintain the schedule and guidelines of the JHS Band. When this is a problem, the directors will make the decision whether to include or exclude the student.
  4. One of the directors will have final say about whether a student can march or not due to missing rehearsals.

## B. Game Day Procedures

### ➤ Home Games:

4:10 – Everyone in seats, quiet

4:15 – Release for food

- Eat in one of the two band halls ONLY; no hallways, nowhere outside.
- No one leaves the building.

5:15 – Change into under clothes, bibbers, socks, dinkles, and jackets

5:45 – Inspection (Affects participation grade – have all required materials)

- Everyone lined up by section and in alphabetical order, QUIET.
- Hat boxes open with gauntlets, gloves, music, lyres visible.
- Section leaders will use checklist for every person in their section and then turn in the inspection sheets to the band directors by 6:00.
- No one is to leave their section's designated area after inspection is complete.

6:15 – Release by section form parade block

6:30 – March around stadium to bleachers

\*\*\*You MUST be accompanied by a chaperone if you need to use the restroom. Do not wander around the bleachers or the stadium at any time. \*\*\*

\*\*\*After the game, return all uniforms and instruments to their proper place. Clean up after yourself. Do not leave clothes, bags, trash, or any other personal items lying around. \*\*\*

### ➤ Away Games:

4:10 – Everyone in seats, quiet

4:15 – Release for food

- Eat in one of the two band halls ONLY; no hallways, nowhere outside.
- No one leaves the building.

4:45 – Change into under clothes, bibbers, socks, and dinkles. Jackets in garment bags.

5:00 – Inspection (Affects participation grade – have all required materials)

- Everyone lined up by section and in alphabetical order, QUIET.
- Hat boxes open with gauntlets, gloves, music, lyres visible.
- Section leaders will use checklist for every person in their section and then turn in the inspection sheets to the band directors by 5:15.
- No one is to leave their section's designated area after inspection is complete.

5:30 – Release by section to load buses

### ➤ Away Game Arrival:

- Exit bus immediately.
- Sections who already have their instruments with them will group by section in score order. Miss Weller and a Drum Major will accompany them into the stadium – DM will help with seating. Move quickly.
- Sections who need to get their instruments off the trailer will wait with a Drum Major until the trailer had arrived. Then, they will meet Mr. Torch to grab instruments – DM will help get everyone back to the stands quickly.

\*\*\*You MUST be accompanied by a chaperone if you need to use the restroom. Do not wander around the bleachers or the stadium at any time. \*\*\*

### **Returning From Away Game:**

\*\*\*Everyone with an instrument/equipment on the trailer is responsible for unloading it\*\*\*

Flutes, Clarinets, Saxes – Check that the buses are clean.

Trumpets, Horns, Drum Majors – Clean up/Organize band hall.

Low Brass, Drums, Guard – Help unload trailer.

\*\*\*If everyone helps out with getting things done, it will go a lot faster and you can go home sooner\*\*\*

\*\*\*Return all uniforms and instruments to their proper place. Clean up after yourself. Do not leave clothes, bags, trash, or any other personal items lying around. \*\*\*

### **C. Contest Procedures**

Contests and Competitions are typically held on Saturdays and make up most of your performance grades. If the schedule for the day permits, we will have rehearsal before dressing and departing for any given competition. With schedule times to be determined closer to the date of the competition we will generally follow the schedule below.

Rehearsal – 1-2 hours

Meal time – 45 minutes – 1 hour

Dress time – 15 minutes

Inspection – 15 minutes

Travel time – Varies

Arrival/Unload – 45 minutes – 1 hour

Walk/Warm up time – 30 to 45 minutes

Performance time – 15 minutes

After this point, a number of things may happen. We will either have our next meal, watch other bands perform, or prepare for a finals performance. During this time all cell phones are to be left on the bus, safely stowed away. *Any cell phone found during another band's performance will be confiscated by a director and returned upon leaving the competition site\**. In case of emergency, contact one of the band directors.

\*Note: Contest time is educational time; we get better as performers by watching performances of others groups. This policy is in compliance with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Music at the high school Levels I, II, III, and IV – it states:

- a. Critical evaluation and response. The student responds to and evaluates written music and musical performance in formal and informal settings. The student is expected to:
  - i. A. exhibit informed concert etiquette as a performer and an audience member during live and recorded performances in a variety of settings;
  - ii. B. create and apply specific criteria for evaluating performances of various musical styles;
  - iii. C. create and apply specific criteria for offering constructive feedback using a variety of musical performances;
  - iv. D. develop processes for self-evaluation and select tools for personal artistic improvement; and
  - v. E. evaluate musical performances and compositions by comparing them to similar or exemplary models and offering constructive suggestions for improvement.

Source: The provisions of this §117.313 adopted to be effective July 28, 2013, 38 TexReg 4575.

#### **D. Eligibility**

The UIL “No Pass-No Play” eligibility schedule states that only the first 6 week grading period can cause a student to lose eligibility. After then, the 3 week and 6 week grading periods can only reinstate you for participation. All 6 week grading periods can cause both loss and gain of eligibility depending on if and how your grades changed.

If at any point you become ineligible, you are barred from all marching band activities including football games, competitions, pep rallies, and parades until the next eligibility gaining date occurs and you are passing all classes. This will also apply to the second 6 week grading period when All-Region Band auditions occur. Remember: If you do not participate in Region auditions, you will not be considered for Wind Ensemble in the spring semester.

AP waivers only apply to AP classes (not Pre-AP). It is the student’s responsibility to turn in all waivers BEFORE the suspension period begins.

### **6. Concert Band – General Overview**

#### ➤ **Ensembles**

The instrumentation of an ensemble is critical when undergoing the judging process at contest. In general, a trumpet is louder than a flute and a tuba is louder than a saxophone. Therefore, it is imperative that the number of each instrument section fits the size of the whole band. Because of this there is a finite amount of each section that will be in each ensemble. Auditions will be held at the end of April of the pervious semester. *The directors will have the ultimate decision in ensemble placement based on what is good for the entire group.*

#### ➤ **Concerts**

All concerts are both graded and required performances. This includes the Winter Concert in December, Pre UIL and UIL, and the Spring Concert in May. Failure to attend these performances will result in a **zero** in the grade book for that performance grade. Dates and times can be found on the calendar for the respective semester in which the concerts are held.

#### ➤ **Eligibility**

The semester concerts are not affected by eligibility. However, if you are failing you cannot participate in any UIL affiliated or sanctioned activities. If a student becomes ineligible for the Pre-UIL and UIL concerts, they will receive an alternate assignment for those performance grades.

- All-Region/Area/State Auditions:
  - Suspension periods begin and end at varying times during the audition and performance process. The directors will keep record of what activities in which a student can and cannot participate based on eligibility rules.
- Solo and Ensemble:
  - If a student was ineligible at the 6 week mark in December then they have until end of the 6 week grading period to become eligible for participation in Solo and Ensemble. If they are not passing before that time, they cannot participate in the contest.

## 7. Attendance Policies/Communication Policies

It benefits everyone if you show up at least 10 minutes before the scheduled time. If you are not in your warm up position with all necessary equipment and materials or assigned position at the appropriate time, you are tardy.

### A. Excused Tardy

- a. The directors will decide if any other tardy is valid.
- b. *For the tardy to be excused, the student must have a note. Communicate!*

### B. Unexcused Tardy

- a. An unexcused tardy will be documented in either the school's attendance record or as reference for that rehearsal's participation grade depending on when the tardy occurs.
- b. Examples of an unexcused tardy are:
  - Forgetting about rehearsal
  - Homework
  - Work
  - Shopping
  - Parties
  - Inability to find transportation (there is always someone willing to help!)

### C. Leaving Early from Rehearsal – Communication is key!

- a. The student must bring a note signed by one of their parents and show it to the directors **before** the rehearsal begins.
- b. Leaving rehearsal early will count as an excused absence or tardy if you bring an acceptable note **prior** to the rehearsal.
- c. If you do not bring a note, it will count as unexcused.

### D. Absences from Rehearsal

- a. Excused and unexcused absences from rehearsals will be handled the same as tardies. The only difference is that an unexcused absence will result in an automatic zero for participation in that rehearsal

### E. Absence from a Performance

- a. **Excused** absences would include national college exams, a death in the family, and illness (not allergies, actual illness with a doctor's note).
- b. **Unexcused** absences would be the same as unexcused tardies/absences from rehearsal.
- c. Tardiness for a performance must be in a note form and a valid reason.
  - You must come straight to the directors and tell them why you are tardy and action will be taken from there.
- d. An unexcused absence from a performance will result in a **zero** as a performance grade.

### F. Other

- a. If a student is absent from 2 weekly rehearsals without a valid excuse, they will not be allowed to march at that week's game. However, they must still attend the game as it is a graded requirement. Failure to attend under these circumstances will result in a **zero** for that performance.

- b. At this point, the student will be in jeopardy of losing their marching spot. This decision will be made by the directors.
- c. If a student misses a contest without a valid excuse, they will receive a **zero** for a performance grade and will be automatically moved to an alternate spot.

#### **G. Concert Season Sectionals**

- a. Unexcused tardies from your weekly sectional will result in a rehearsal grade deduction.
- b. Unexcused absences from your weekly sectional will result in a zero for that rehearsal grade.
- c. You have four other days of the week to attend tutorials and/or make up work. This will not be a valid reason for missing or being late to a sectional.

### **8. Public Appearances and Decorum**

A public appearance is the single greatest factor influencing the community and school's perception of our organization. In order to present the best possible image to our community and school, Jourdanton High School Band members are required to observe the following rules:

1. All members must attend all public appearances performed by the band, therefore ensuring the entire band is represented and not just a portion.
2. Represent JHS and Jourdanton ISD to the best of your ability; perform well and follow instructions in an organized manner. Any horseplay, foul language, or PDA will translate into an automatic referral.
3. All rules described in the student code of conduct, and student travel agreement will be enforced. All school and district policies as stated in the JISD Student Code of Conduct manual will be followed in the event of other violations.
4. Tobacco in any form, alcoholic beverages, or drugs are prohibited on all band functions. If a student is found to be in possession of any of these items, they will be dealt with according to JISD policy.

### **9. Travel Policies**

The Jourdanton Band members travel not only to out-of-town football games, but also other trips throughout the year. These policies are in place for your safety and for ease of transport.

1. Boys and girls will travel on separate buses, no exceptions. You will sign up for one of two buses that are designated for your gender. This will be the bus you ride for the whole year, no switching.
2. Chaperones are volunteering their time to help you. Be polite and respectful at all times. Say thank you.
3. Under **NO** circumstances shall a band member extend any part of their body and/or any objects through the bus windows or doors.
4. Remain in your seat at all times while the bus is in motion.
5. Do not sit on the backrest of the seats.
6. All trash goes in a trash bag, not the floor of the bus and not out the windows/doors of the bus.
7. No foul or abusive language will be permitted on the buses.
8. Music that has foul, abusive, or blatantly suggestive language will not be allowed at band events or on trips.

9. All band members are expected to travel with the band for all events and performances. Once the band has completed the performance, a band member, upon approval of the band director, may be released to his or her parents/guardians.
10. All rules described in the student code of conduct, and student travel agreement will be enforced. All school and district policies as stated in the JISD Student Code of Conduct manual will be followed in the event of other violations.
11. Tobacco in any form, alcoholic beverages, or drugs are prohibited on all band functions. If a student is found to be in possession of any of these items, they will be dealt with according to JISD policy.

## **10. Band Hall/Practice Room Rules**

There are tens of thousands of dollars' worth of equipment in the band hall, orchestra room, tuba room, percussion room, instrument room, and color guard room. These rules are in place for your safety and the protection of our investments.

### Band Hall Rules:

1. No running, horseplay, or object throwing.
2. No food, drinks, or gum in the band hall **ESPECIALLY WHEN PLAYING INSTRUMENTS**. The percussion equipment is not a table for your use. Only water will be allowed.
3. If you are touching equipment or an instrument that is not yours, you are wrong.
4. You are not allowed to be in the band hall if there is not a director or an authorized adult in the room.
5. Section specific rooms are for people who play that instrument only i.e. percussion room, tuba room, guard room.
6. No "hanging out" in the instrument room, library, small ensemble room or any other side room that cannot be supervised at all times.
7. No changing in any band hall rooms. Use the restrooms.
8. If you are not enrolled in a class that meets at lunch time you will not be allowed in the band hall during that time. The only exception is if you are wanting to practice, in which case you will need a director's permission.
9. To be in the band hall before school you must be participating in sectionals. After school is jazz/color guard rehearsal. Any other reason for being in the band hall during these times requires director's approval and supervision.
10. Only band/orchestra students allowed in the band hall.

### Practice Room Rules:

1. Practice rooms are for practicing. Not homework, not eating, not chatting.
2. All doors to practice rooms are to remain locked and closed at all times. Students needing to use the practice room must have the director unlock the door upon entering and lock the door when the student is finished.
3. No student pairs are allowed in the practice rooms. Only individuals, groups of three or more, and teachers working with students are allowed in the practice rooms.

## **11. School Owned Instruments**

Students who do not own their own instrument will be required to pay a non-refundable annual usage fee for using a Jourdanton ISD school owned instrument. This fee is used for maintenance and extra parts but does not cover theft or extensive damage to an instrument. Students

who choose to rent from an outside source do not have to pay this fee. The amount is found on the band supply list. The following is expected for school owned instruments.

- Students using school owned instruments are responsible for keeping them cleaned, oiled and polished. Oil valves at least three times a week and clean the inside of your brass instrument once a week during the year.
- Students are responsible for the care and maintenance of all accessories issued with the instrument and listed on the band instrument loan agreement card.
- Repairs needed due to damages to an instrument from carelessness or lack of maintenance will be the financial responsibility of the student and the student may lose the privilege of using the instrument.
- Cases must be taken care of and no stickers or writing are permitted on them. Again, any damages to the case will be the student's responsibility.
- Students who have checked out a school owned instrument must return the instrument in proper condition at the end of the school year. The directors will determine what is considered proper condition for each instrument.
- Some band instruments may be checked out over the summer vacation, at the director's discretion only.
- Students are not allowed to switch an instrument with another student, unless the approval of the director has been granted.
- Students will be required to purchase their own mouthpieces for brass and woodwind instruments and all reeds, valve oil, and other materials needed to ensure the instrument's proper care and maintenance.
- The Band Rental agreement on Instruments signed by the student and the parent is a binding contract between Jourdanton High School, the band student, and the parent/guardian. This agreement will be the final authority on all band instruments on loan to students, and the student and the parent/guardian who signs the card are responsible for the repair or replacement of each item listed therein.

## **12. Uniforms/Uniform Care**

The marching uniforms are extremely expensive and are valued at over \$350.00 each. Any part of the uniform garments that is destroyed or damaged in any way must be replaced by the student to whom the uniform is issued. The uniform fees are for cleaning and altering the marching and concert uniforms. Both marching and concert band uniforms are to be treated with proper care and attention. These uniforms must always be hung properly on the provided hanger inside the garment bag. Shoes must not be placed inside the garment bag at any time.

### **Each band member must furnish the following parts of the uniform:**

**MARCHING:** Black Dinkles marching shoes, band polo shirt, band t-shirt, black socks, dress code appropriate, lose-fitting, black athletic "under" shorts, and gloves. A band supply list with current pricing and payment information for these items is located at the back of this handbook.

**CONCERT:** Young men will need their own long sleeve white dress shirt, black dress shoes and black socks. Ladies will need to buy black dress shoes. There is a concert uniform yearly rental fee.

**GUARD:** Uniforms and equipment may vary from year to year, and members may be asked to furnish their uniform. A band polo shirt, a band t-shirt and any other item the director requests.

The following rules will be observed when in uniform:

- Band members will wear the complete uniform for all performances unless indicated by the director.
- You will be responsible for the proper care of your uniform. You are liable for any damages that occur to your uniform while in your possession.
- Upon qualification to the band, members will be fitted and assigned a uniform.
- NEVER cut material from a band uniform. Adjustments to the uniform will be made during the fitting day and as needed by the band staff.
- Do not place anything other than your uniform in the garment bag. It will tear and you will have to pay for the damages.
- Eating or drinking while in uniform is not allowed unless otherwise indicated by a director.
- While a band member is in uniform, they are not to behave in a manner as to disgrace themselves, the band, or the school by unsportsmanlike conduct, display of affection, or foul language of any kind.
- Band members are expected to maintain a neat appearance at all performances. Have a clean and stain-free uniform.
  
- Have clean, Dinkles (marching shoes) at all times.
- The band t- shirt and black “under “shorts are to be worn under the uniform to protect it from perspiration. Do not wear tank tops or an undershirt.
- You will need long black socks (no ankle socks).
- When wearing the marching band uniform the following rules apply:
  - Girls must pin up their hair or, if it is too long, keep it under the collar.
  - Boys must maintain a hair length that matches the school Code. The hair should be kept well-groomed and neat in appearance. Facial hair is not permitted.
  - Jewelry and makeup are not allowed to be worn during any performance unless pre-approved by the band director.
  - Colored hair, Mohawks, and any inappropriate hair styles will not be allowed. The directors will decide what is appropriate.
  
- Garment Bags are to only be used for the issued Marching Band uniform
  - No shoes, dirty socks, towels, deodorant, any type of spray or food is to be kept in any part of the garment bag.
  - You may place your Dinkles in the back pocket of garment bag only for the day of the performance.
  - Please keep all clean extra socks, and clean t-shirts in rear pocket of garment bag.
  
- Gauntlets and gloves are to be kept in hat box (only hat, Gauntlets & Gloves in box).
  
- Uniforms must be hung properly (facing correctly with curve of hanger) to maintain creases, avoid wrinkles, and to avoid damage to the shoulders.

Coats and bibbers are made of 100% Polyester. Under NO circumstances are they to be ironed or pressed. This WILL cause permanent damage to the fabric. NO alterations are allowed to be made to the uniforms.

- Coats and bibbers are to be machine washed separately and alone in cold gentle cycle.
- A GENTLE laundry detergent must be used (ex: Tide Free, Drift, or Woo lite).
  - Do NOT use any type of color safe bleach, bleaching agent, spot cleaning chemicals or fabric softener with any of the uniform. This may cause damage to the fabric or threading.
- A single fabric softener sheet can be used in the dryer.
- Stains on the coats or bibbers should be removed immediately with water or mild detergents such as Woo lite.
- Dry the coats and bibbers on a cool setting in the dryer. They must be put onto the hanger immediately to avoid wrinkling and to keep the permanent creases where required. Coats must be hung properly to avoid damage or movement of the shoulder pads (facing correctly with curve of hanger).

Gauntlets are only to be hand washed in cold water & laid flat to dry. Do NOT put gauntlets in the washing machine. Make sure Velcro is kept away from other fabrics to avoid snagging and pulling.

Hats, if needed, can be washed lightly with warm water, mild soap and soft wash cloth. Do NOT bleach. Do NOT use anti-bacterial wipes to clean the inside or outside of the hat or the hat box. If needed, please use alcohol antiseptic pads.

If Dry Cleaning is required, please advise them of the following: (please remember – you the student/parent are responsible for this uniform if there is any damage to the uniform).

1. Nanionic and anionic detergents are to be used. Do not use cationic detergents.
2. Do not use any type of detergent additives. They will contribute to bleed-off and subsequent staining of fabric.
3. Uniform should not be ironed or pressed. A steam press will be required.

Do not store uniform in “closed/zippered” bag if there is any moisture. This will cause possible mildew damage and the uniform to have a bad odor

Concert uniforms will be dry cleaned.

### **13. Leadership**

Student leadership plays a pivotal role in our program. Without leaders we would not be able to operate smoothly and it would be much more difficult to reach our goals. Leadership positions are not to be taken lightly and come with many duties and responsibilities. If at any point you find yourself unwilling or incapable of carrying out the tasks required of you, you will be removed from your leadership role.

The following Leadership positions are acquired by audition and interview, and ultimately decided upon by the band directors each year:

- Drum Majors
- Section Leaders
- Librarian/Assistant Librarian
- Quartermaster/Assistant Quartermaster

- Loading Crew Captain(s)

The following Officer positions are acquired through election by the band members:

- President
- Vice President
- Historian
- Chaplin

Note: The directors reserve the right to remove an elected officer from their position if they do not demonstrate the maturity or ability to carry out the duties of their position.

More information regarding the try-out/election process will be made available to those who express interest after UIL contest in the spring.

## 14. Awards

### Jourdanton High School Band Letterman Jacket Policy:

Letterman jackets will be earned through a points-based system. You must earn 32 points to be rewarded a jacket in band. Points will be awarded for completing the following tasks:

- 1 point – Each football game attended (10 total points for attending all games).
- 2 points – Each marching contest attended (8 total points for attending all contests).
  - 2 extra points for each round of advancement in the stages of UIL marching i.e. Area, and State.
- 3 points – Each concert attended (12 total points for attending the winter, pre UIL, UIL, and spring concerts).
- 3 points – For making a chair in either All-Region Band.
- 4 points – For advancing to Area auditions.
- 5 points – For advancing to All-State.
- 2 points – 1<sup>st</sup> division, class three solo
- 2 points – 1<sup>st</sup> division, class two solo
- 3 points – 2<sup>nd</sup> division, class one solo.
- 4 points – 1<sup>st</sup> division, class one solo.
- 5 points – Attending State Solo and Ensemble.

### Guard point equivalence to Region Band and Solo and Ensemble

- 1 point – Family night performance
- 1 point – Each 6 weeks performances (4 total for attending all non-regional performances)
- 2 points – Each regional performance (6 total for WGI and TECA regionals)
- 3 points – Regional championships
- 4 points – TECA State Championships

Near the end of the school year at the band banquet, the following plaque awards will be presented to the deserving students who best represent the spirit of the award.

John Philip Sousa Band Award – The John Philip Sousa Award is an optional award a high school band director may award to one of their students. It is restricted to one per school per year. The award recognizes superior musicianship, dependability, loyalty, and cooperation.

Patrick S. Gilmore Band Award – The Patrick S. Gilmore Award, named for the American bandleader of the Civil War, it is presented annually to the runner-up to the Sousa Award.

Louis Armstrong Jazz Award – The Louis Armstrong Award is the top senior jazz award. It is given out by high schools nationwide in the United States in recognition of outstanding musical achievement and an incredible dedication to the program.

Woody Hermann Jazz Award – The Woody Herman Jazz Award® was created in 1988, shortly after Herman's death, to honor outstanding jazz students.

Director's Award for Band – Established in 2000 at ELCO High School, the Director's Award is presented to a graduating senior band member demonstrating dedication, loyalty, discipline, and leadership in the band program. The recipient of the Director's Award is selected by the band director.

Quincy Jones Musicianship Award – The Quincy Jones Musicianship Award honors outstanding students for their creativity and musicianship.

National School Marching Award - The National School Marching Award recognizes outstanding contributions on the field. It honors the musical contributions and dedication of student leaders whose example inspires others.

**Jourdanton High School Band**  
**Medical Information Form**  
**School Year \_\_\_\_\_**

*please print legibly*

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ ID# \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth (month/day/year) \_\_\_\_\_ Circle Grade: 9 10 11 12  
Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Email \_\_\_\_\_

Student participate in (circle all that apply):

Marching Band      Concert Band      Winter Guard      Winter Percussion      Jazz Band

Parent/Guardian #1 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Employment \_\_\_\_\_ Work number \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian #2 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Employment \_\_\_\_\_ Work number \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_  
Physician's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Preferred Hospital \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_  
Medical Insurance Company \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Insured \_\_\_\_\_  
Policy Number \_\_\_\_\_ Group Number \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*PLEASE COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE\*\*\*\*\*

IF ANY MEDICATION IS BEING TAKEN, PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

Name of / reason for medication(s) \_\_\_\_\_

LIST ALL FOOD ALLERGIES \_\_\_\_\_

LIST ALL MEDICATION ALLERGIES \_\_\_\_\_

LIST ANY KNOWN MEDICAL CONDITIONS \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE READ AND SIGN:**

STUDENT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, give permission for him/her to participate in the designated JHS band activities for the 2019-2020 school year which include, but are not limited to, home and away football games, parades, and competitions. I do hereby grant permission for emergency medical assistance to be administered by a licensed physician or a hospital should such an emergency occur, and I cannot be notified. I also agree to pay the cost and expense so incurred, including ambulance transportation if necessary.

Parent/Guardian Name PRINTED \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**PHOTO RELEASE WAIVER**  
**JOURDANTON HIGH SCHOOL INDIAN BAND**

The Jourdanton Indian High School takes many photographs that are often shared on the band web site and forwarded to the local newspapers for publication. Please indicate whether or not you give permission for your child to have his/her picture taken and shared in either an individual or group photo on the band web site or in the newspapers.

STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_  
SCHOOL YEAR: 20 \_\_\_\_ /20 \_\_\_\_\_

**IDO** allow my child's picture to be taken and shared on the band web site and in the newspapers.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name Printed \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

**IDO NOT** allow my child's picture to be taken and shared on the band web site and in the newspapers.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name Printed \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Jourdanton High School Band Information Form

Please print legibly. Complete one form for each student.

\***Name of Student:** (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last)

\_\_\_\_\_

\* ID \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of Birth: (Month) \_\_\_\_\_ (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Year) \_\_\_\_\_ \*Grade: 9 10 11 12

\*Address: \_\_\_\_\_ \*City & ZIP

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Student's Cell Phone Number:

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Student's Email Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\***Father's/Guardian's Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Place of Employment:

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Work Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Cell Phone Number:

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Father's Email Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\***Mother's/Guardian's Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Place of Employment:

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Work Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Cell Phone Number:

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Mother's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Band Website**

**Consent to Publish Student Photos on Band Website or Paper**

**I/We give the Indian Band Booster Club of Jourdanton High School permission to publish group or individual photos of my child on the Indian Band Web site and /or newspaper. I understand that only my child's first initial and his/her last name might appear on the Web site.**

**Parent and/or Guardian Signature(s)**

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**Volunteer Opportunities**

**Parental involvement in the Jourdanton Band program is encouraged and vital to our students' success. Your involvement will help ensure that all of our students will have the opportunity to share in valuable and enriching experiences. There are too many jobs for just a handful of parents, no matter how dedicated, to do alone. Please select at least two jobs you would be willing to help with this year.**

**I/We would like to help with the following activities: (Circle all that applies to you)**

<b>Membership</b>	<b>Scholarship</b>	<b>Publicity</b>	<b>Alumni Assoc.</b>
<b>Business Donations</b>	<b>Band Banquet</b>	<b>Travel</b>	<b>Concessions</b>
<b>Webmaster</b>	<b>Notary Public</b>	<b>Pit Crew</b>	<b>Fundraising</b>
<b>Scrip</b>	<b>Uniforms</b>	<b>Guard</b>	<b>Historian</b>
<b>Chaperone</b>	<b>Middle School Rep</b>	<b>Student Meal Plan</b>	<b>Hospitality</b>
<b>Annual Turkey Dinner</b>	<b>Water/Drinks</b>	<b>Other</b> _____	

**Name(s) of volunteers** \_\_\_\_\_

**I am/we are available to help: During the School Day    Evenings    After School/ Weekends**

**I/We can provide assistance (skills, experience, or connections) to the band program in the following areas if the opportunity or need arises: (Circle all that apply)**

<b>Electrical</b>	<b>Welding</b>	<b>Carpentry</b>	<b>Computers/Technical</b>
<b>Video/Audio</b>	<b>Sewing</b>	<b>Painting</b>	<b>Catering</b>
<b>Photography</b>	<b>Printing</b>	<b>Cooking</b>	<b>Advertising</b> (Radio, TV, Newspaper)

**Other (Please specify)** \_\_\_\_\_

**I/We can pull the Booster concession trailer for summer activities, if needed.    YES    NO    (Circle one)**

**PARENT TRAVEL CONSENT FORM**

This form consents participation in school-sanctioned activities during the 2019-2020 school year as a member of the **Jourdanton High School Band**.

Faculty Sponsors: **Mr. David Torch, Mrs. Eryn O’Sullivan, and Mr. John DeLeon**

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level: FR SO JR SR (circle one)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternative Adult: \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

The above-named student has my consent to travel to and/or from each event participated in by this organization during this school year including all errands and activities related to duties of and assignments made to members enrolled in the **Jourdanton High School Band**. The mode of transportation may be JISD or commercial bus, or a school vehicle driven by school personnel,

I understand that the students, even though off-campus, are still subject to all school rules and regulations when participating in **Jourdanton high School Band** activities. I understand that any student who does not conduct himself/herself properly may be (i) sent home at the parent’s expense, (ii) prohibited from participating in future activities of this organization, and (iii) subjected to other appropriate disciplinary measures.

I agree to, and hereby, release Jourdanton Independent School District and its trustees, employees, sponsors and volunteers from all legal responsibility from liability resulting from any activities of this organization, including liability caused by or related to the negligence of any such party.

**This form must be signed and returned to the sponsor before the student will be permitted to participate in any off-campus activities of this organization.**

Signature of Parent: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**JOURDANTON HIGH SCHOOL BAND HANDBOOK  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

**By signing this form, both the students and the Parent/Guardian have read the hand book, understand all costs, and understand the overall operation of the Jourdanton High School Band Program.**

Also,

**For the student band member:**

By signing this form, I have reviewed the contents of this band handbook and understand the membership requirements, policies, regulations, and guidelines with not only with the hand book but with use of the uniform and the use of a school own instrument.

**For the band member's parent or guardian:**

As the legal parent/guardian of the named student, I can attest that I/we have reviewed the material in this handbook and understand the membership requirements, polices, regulations and guidelines. By signing this form I/we grant permission for our child to participate in the Jourdanton High School Band program and activities as outlined in the band handbook. I also understand that my student must maintain the instrument/s issue and take care of both uniforms as on a daily basis.

**STUDENT'S Name (print)** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT'S SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT'S/GUARDIAN'S NAME (print)** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT'S/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

## **A PARENT'S GUIDE TO BAND COMPETITION**

Texas is blessed with a tremendously strong curricular music program in the public school systems. For whatever reasons, our music programs have survived every curricular innovation, every scheduling impediment, and every budgetary crisis in the last 85 years. A large part of this longevity may be attributed to the well-organized and maintained competition system in Texas that is the model for the rest of the country. Band competition in Texas is sponsored by three very different organizations: the University Interscholastic League (UIL), the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA), and the Association of Texas Small Schools Bands (ATSSB). The UIL is an organization of schools. Schools may elect to be a part of the UIL each year and nearly all of the Texas public school systems choose to do so. TMEA and ATSSB are the organizations made of music teachers. This includes band, choir, orchestra, and classroom music teachers. Marching and concert competitions are sponsored by the UIL, while TMEA and ATSSB sponsors the competition that chooses the All-State performers each year and, in biennial cycles, selects the Honor Bands in each class through recordings that may or may not be from UIL competitions.

### **UIL MARCHING CONTEST**

#### Regional Level

This contest has been sponsored by the UIL for over half a century and takes place in the 28 different designated regions in the state in October each year. Bands march shows of no less than 5 minutes and no more than 8 minutes to be given a rating by each of three independent judges: 1=superior; 2=excellent; 3=good; 4=fair; 5=poor. The judges cannot confer about their ratings and the FINAL rating is a consensus of the three NOT an average. For instance, a I, I, V is a ONE. A V, V, I is a FIVE, etc. Theoretically, EVERY band can get a I=superior or a V= poor. The competition is NOT among the bands themselves but against a standard of excellence that has been established through the many decades of this competition. This contest was the primary competitive goal of Texas bands until 1979 when the State Marching Contest was founded. It is still the first of three parts of a "Sweepstakes" which includes Marching, Concert, and Sight-reading.

#### Area Level

This contest is held every two years in the "even" numbered years. The contest uses 5 judges: 3 music judges and 2 marching judges. Each judge ranks the bands from top to bottom and the total ranks are added for a "rank total." The lowest rank total is first place!

#### State Level

The contest has been held since 1979 to choose a State Champion in each class. It is now held every two years. The contest is similar to the Area Contest with five judges and the lowest total of "rank points" becomes first place.

### **UIL CONCERT/SIGHTREADING CONTEST**

This is the staple competition for UIL, occurring every year in the spring in all 28 regions of the state. Bands prepare a concert program of three pieces chosen from the Prescribed Music List and perform for a panel of three judges who rate the bands with one of five ratings, just as in regional marching competition. Again, the comparison is only with a standard of excellence, not with other bands in the contest. Theoretically, every band could earn a First Division or a Fifth Division! Immediately following the concert, bands move to another room to sight read a piece of music chosen to be read by all the bands within a class statewide! The music for sight reading is composed specifically for the contest and addresses certain fundamentals that are aligned with the curriculum for each classification. This is the musical equivalent of a statewide achievement test for Band.

## TMEA STATE HONOR BAND

TMEA also sponsors competition every two years in the "odd" numbered years for concert bands to be named "State Honor Band." Bands across the state choose to record as many as five different performances of their concert programs and submit the best of these for consideration at the region, area, and state levels. At each level, a panel of five adjudicators hears the recorded performances without knowing the school identification. The judges rank the performances from top to bottom, and the top 2 at each level advance to the next level. The performance with the lowest total rank points is first place at each level. Fourteen performances are heard at the final level to select the finalists and the State Honor Band in each class.

## UIL SOLO-ENSEMBLE CONTEST

The only "individual" competition that the UIL sponsors for instrumentalists is held in the winter, usually at the end of February or beginning of March each year. Students choose a solo and/or an ensemble from the Prescribed Music List for their instrument and begin work in November/December. Solos must be memorized so that students can earn advancement to the State level by making a First Division at the region level. Non-memorized solos cannot advance. Once again, judges are rating each performance compared to a statewide scale of excellence, not as a comparison of one student to another. Students earn medals for First Divisions as well as qualification to State.

## UIL STATE SOLO-ENSEMBLE CONTEST

The Texas State Solo-Ensemble Contest is held in Austin each year during the last weekend in May. Students who compete perform for judges with national and international experience, often major symphony performers and college educators. Students who earn a First Division receive a state gold medal and a few students are selected to be "Outstanding Performers" and receive State Champion medals for their work.

## TMEA and ATSSBA ALL-REGION/AREA/STATE

The Texas Music Educators Association as well as the Association of Texas Small Schools Bands sponsors individual competitions every fall that culminate in the selection of the All-State Bands, Choirs, and Orchestras that perform at the annual convention in February. The Texas regions hold the first level of competition and the top students advance to the Area level held in January. In each of the seven Areas, a designated number of the top students are selected to All-State. At each level of competition, students perform for a panel of 5 judges in a blind audition where judges are screened from sight and do not know which students are performing. Just as in other head-to-head competitions in Texas, each judge ranks each student in comparison with each other and the lowest total of rank points is first chair! The All-Region Bands perform in a concert in the middle of January each year, but the Area Band is for qualification purposes only. The All-State groups rehearse for 3 days in February prior to their performances with internationally acclaimed conductors and educators!