

Jourdanton High School Band Handbook

Purpose

Every successful organization has a set of rules that it must follow. If it does not, it is likely success will not be forthcoming. The following rules and regulations apply to everyone in band, and are simply to ensure that the Jourdanton Indian Band remains one of the best bands in the state of Texas.

Criteria for Success

1. ATTENDANCE

There is no more important criterion for success than **ATTENDANCE**. Any absence, for whatever reason, results in the student missing the learning that takes place. Therefore, there is no “excused” or “unexcused” absence, as such. Absences are to be communicated in advance as a function of courtesy to fellow band member and teachers. Except in case of an emergency, all absences are to be communicated via phone or email **PRIOR** to the absence. When considering opportunities for leadership, advancement, and any other privilege or honor in the Jourdanton High School Band, the first consideration is **ATTENDANCE**.

2. ATTITUDE

Students who are positive and enthusiastic learn more and get more out of the experience. Remember, you’ll find whatever you’re looking for. If you look for heat, sweat, fatigue, frustration and excuses, you’ll find them! Those things are found at the surface of any experience that combines the athleticism and artistry found in the Jourdanton High School band. If you look for teamwork, commitment, passion, excellence and teamwork you’ll find those, too. It’s all about what you are looking for to get out of your band experience. Attitude is an important criterion for success, but the best **ATTITUDE** is not good to the group with good **ATTENDANCE**.

3. INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT

This is not how “smart” someone is. Intellectual development comes from being an *intentional learner*. An intentional learner makes changes when corrected and looks for more than just what is offered. An intentional learner pays close attention to how his teachers get their students to achieve so he can apply those same strategies to his own individual practice. Simply put, intellectual development comes from thinking about what you do. Of course, intellectual development is only possible with good **ATTENDANCE** and a positive **ATTITUDE**.

4. PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Physical ability is simply how well someone marches or plays his instrument. We start by figuring out how good we are and then by imagining how good we want to be. Getting better is what makes it fun, but you can’t get better without effort. You have to invest the time and physical energy to achieve on a high level. **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT** results from good **ATTENDANCE**, a positive **ATTITUDE**, and **INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT**. In short, if you show up with a great attitude and think about what you do, you’ll develop your skills. This is at the heart of a fun and rewarding experience.

Jourdanton Indian Band

The Jourdanton High School Band is a competing organization, offered as part of the curriculum of Jourdanton High School. Band is a full-year course. There are currently no audition requirements to be a member of the band, however a student MUST have participated in band the prior year in order to enroll in the class.

PERFORMANCES

The main reason for all of our hard work is performance. Any group that performs poorly cannot be considered one of the best in the state, no matter how large they may be. **YOU ARE EXPECTED TO BE ON TIME FOR EVERY PERFORMANCE**. Missing a performance will result in severe penalties. If a student works, they are expected to adjust their work schedule in order to attend the performance. Transportation difficulties will not be considered as an excuse, and should be taken care of by the student.

LAB REHEARSALS

At Jourdanton High School, we make a concerted effort to keep extra rehearsals to a minimum, but BAND WILL INCLUDE TUESDAY AND THURSDAY NIGHT LAB. They are necessary in order to accomplish our goals. These rehearsals are REQUIRED, and are part of your grade. Making arrangements to get to rehearsals are the responsibility of the student. Roll will be checked at rehearsals.

FOOTBALL GAMES

1. Attendance at football games is required.
2. Drinks are permitted in the stands.
3. Food is NOT permitted in the stands. This applies to percussion and guard as well.
4. Non-band members are not allowed to sit in the band area.
5. Students will sit with their section.
6. You should be ready to play at all times.
7. NO GUM.

GENERAL CLASSROOM CONDUCT / DISCIPLINE

1. Behavior that interferes with what we are trying to accomplish will not be tolerated. **Talking is not allowed when it interferes with your responsibility, or interferes with another person's responsibility to the music or show.** Socializing should take place before and after rehearsals.
2. Gum is NEVER allowed. It is not possible to play your instrument properly with gum in your mouth. The sugars and acids in gum will ruin your instrument. Place gum **IN THE TRASH CAN** before class begins.
3. Do not touch property or instruments of others. This includes all percussion equipment. If you are seen touching it, you become responsible for anything that might happen to it later.
4. Always have the equipment necessary to fulfill your responsibility. That includes instrument, music, drill charts and markers (marching season only).
5. You may do homework in band ONLY when told to bring something to study. Any other time is inappropriate.
6. All rules and regulations for the JHS Handbook apply to students in band, just like other classes.

Disciplinary action for violation of these rules may include D-Halls, parent conversations, or removal from the show. Disciplinary action for continued or severe infractions could result in OCA, or complete removal from band.

GRADING POLICY

Breakdown: **60% Participation/Weekly Assignments**
 40% Performances (Assessment)

- A. Participation/Weekly Assignments grades will be derived from a variety of sources, including:
 - LABS-Tuesday & Thursday
 - Instrument and supply inspections
 - Binder/Music/Pencil Checks
 - Class Participation
 - Ensemble skills
- B. Performances (Assessment) grades will be derived from a variety of sources, including:
 - Playing assignments (**this includes rehearsals, play-offs, participation and performances**)
 - Written assignments (**Test, Essays, Midterm and 6 week final exams**)

BUS TRIPS

Moving 140 people, uniforms, and equipment is not as easy job. To make this easier, and to prevent accidentally leaving a student, we follow these guidelines:

Each bus will have a bus captain responsible for checking roll. This should be done every time the bus stops, and any students exit.

1. Each band member will be assigned to a bus. Once the rosters for the bus have been made you may not change.
2. Stay in your seat while the bus is moving. This is STATE LAW, and failure to follow it can result in serious injury.
3. Obscene language/music is not permitted
4. There are no limits on personal stereos with headphones, as long as the student understands they must leave them on the bus at events, and are not secure.
5. Everyone is responsible for cleaning the trash out of the busses.
6. For legal reasons, students who are non-band members may not ride the bus without parent or legal guardian written permission, as well as consent of the director AND principal.
7. ALL BAND MEMBERS MUST RIDE ON THE BUS TO AN EVENT. Any exceptions must be approved by the director.
8. You may ride back from an event with a parent, provided:
 - a. Your PARENT or LEGAL GUARDIAN brings a SIGN NOTE (please note this does not say boyfriend/girlfriend, brother/sister)
 - b. Other situations must be approved by the director AND principal.

Game Day Procedures

Members of the Indian Marching Band will be expected to adhere to the following game day guidelines. Remember to show your PRIDE in the Mighty Indian Band at all times while in uniform!

1. Each person is responsible for his/her equipment at all times.
2. Be in full uniform at all times. No jewelry, caps, glitter, face paint or other accessories are worn with the uniform. Bandages or other forms of concealment may not be used to hide earrings or other jewelry. Hair may not touch the jacket.
3. Sit in assigned seats and do not move about the band area during the game.
4. No food or gum is allowed in the stands.
5. All students must have music in a flip folder. Students who play any instrument other than flute, tuba, or percussion must use a lyre for their instrument.
6. Play your very best each time the group performs and do not play your instrument at any time the band is not playing.
7. Percussion is only to play with the full band or as a section on an organized cadence or feature.
8. No one except band personnel is allowed in the band section. Band alumni or special visitors are sometimes exceptions, but only by special permission from the director.
9. Watch the director at all times when he/she is standing in front of the band. Watch closely for cutoffs in the music, as the band will sometimes stop playing before the music is finished.
10. File orderly from the stands to the assembling point before the half-time show. Do not play instruments in transit.
11. Cell phones and other personal electronic devices may not be used in the stands at games or in any rehearsal. Per JHS policy, violators will have their devices confiscated and turned over to the school administration.
12. Do not make discourteous remarks to visiting bands, peers, and other students. Remember that you represent Jourdanton High School.
13. Upon arrival at Band Hall, students will return uniforms and put away their equipment.
14. All students must be picked up no later than 30 minutes after returning to campus.

Band Uniforms

Band uniforms for marching and concert seasons are provided by the JISD. Students will be charged for uniform maintenance and cleaning. Band uniforms will be dry cleaned only three times a year. It is the responsibility of the student to wash the band uniforms pants **ONCE A WEEK**.

1. Marching uniforms will be stored in the band hall and issued before each performance. These uniforms will be returned after each performance prior to leaving the school.
2. Students must wear the appropriate black Under Armour shirt underneath their jackets. Students must purchase a Jourdanton black Under Armour shirt during summer band camp.
3. Only lightweight soccer-style shorts may be worn under bibs. They may not extend past the knee and they must be appropriate for wear in public when the bibs are removed. ABSO LUT E L Y NO JEANS OR CARGO SHORTS! In addition, students will provide their own black socks. No colored logo of any kind is acceptable. Socks must rise at least to the middle of the calf. No ankle socks.
4. Some marching uniforms may require minor alterations such as adjusting the hem of the pants. These alterations are the responsibility of each student. Make sure that the hem is simply raised or lowered, and that no material is removed from the garment.
5. Students are responsible for providing personal accessories for their uniform. These accessories include marching shoes, black socks, gloves, and a black Under Armour shirt. These accessories will be passed out during summer band camp.
6. Each student is responsible for replacing any uniform part that is damaged or lost. The replacement costs for marching uniforms and concert uniforms are listed as follows.

<u>Marching Uniform</u>	<u>Replacement Cost</u>
Jacket	\$195.00
Bibbers	\$45.00
Gauntlet	\$35.00
Plume	\$10.00
Tote Bag	\$30.00
Shako	\$55.00
Gloves	\$3.00
Shoes	\$32.00
Black Under Armour	\$10.00
Jourdanton Band Polo	\$10.00

LOADING/UNLOADING

Although it is typically the responsibility of band aides to load the equipment truck, everyone is expected to help. It is also EACH STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY, to load their own instrument. You should not depend on anyone else to load it for you. Due to the amount and size of the equipment we take, it is recommended that flutes and clarinets carry their instruments with them on the bus. Unloading is the responsibility of every student riding back with the band.

DRUGS / ALCOHOL

The use of illicit drugs or alcohol by members of the Jourdanton High School Band will not be tolerated. The following rules will be in effect:

1. Any student attempting to take drugs or alcohol onto school transportation will be left in Jourdanton and reported to the proper authorities.
2. Any instances of drug or alcohol use discovered during a trip may be handled by the school administration, OR law enforcement.
3. Possession of any of these items while representing the band will result in IMMEDIATE removal from the program. Other penalties will likely follow, in accordance with school policy and state law.

CELL PHONES

In accordance with school policy, cell phones are not permitted during class. Having a cell phone during band class will result in penalties laid out in our school policy. The cell phone will be confiscated, and will be returned to the High School Office at the director's discretion.

BAND HALL

We are fortunate to have a wonderful rehearsal facility. Students are expected to do their best to take care of it.

1. NO GUM! NO FOOD! NO BEVERAGES!
2. Pick up your trash at the end of rehearsal.
3. Put your instrument and music where it belongs at the end of rehearsal.
4. Keep trash out of the lockers.
5. No charging of ANY electrical devices.

LETTER JACKETS

Band students may receive a letter jacket by being eligible and attending four varsity UIL events. Band students that are a part of a state qualifying event can be awarded a Letter Jacket. Senior students, who have completed 8 semesters with the High School Band, can be awarded a letter jacket with director approval.

Please remember, that in signing up for band, you are making a commitment to contribute to the organization. The directors, as well as your fellow band members, trust YOU to follow through on your commitment.

Mr. Babatunde Onibudo	JISD Director of Bands
Mr. Ryan Lovell	JISD Assistant Band Director
Mr. Nicholas Flores	JISD Assistant Band Director
Mr. Nathan Flynt	JISD Color Guard Director

(Detach and Return this page after signing)

Jourdanton High School Band

Band Handbook Parent Signature Form

I have received a copy of the Jourdanton High School Band Handbook for 2014-2015. By enrolling my child in the Jourdanton High School Band, and by my signature below, I agree that my child shall be held accountable for the rules outlined and contained in the Band Handbook.

PRINT Student's Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Date: _____