



Leaman Junior High Band

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Leaman Junior High Charger Band **HAND BOOK**

Introduction

Welcome to the band program at Leaman Junior High School. The purpose of our program is to provide a strong background in instrumental performance through daily instruction and public performances. In addition to musical skills, each student develops skills in teamwork, citizenship, leadership, good sportsmanship, and accepting responsibility.

The L.C.I.S.D. bands are known for their accomplishments. This requires cooperation and dedication from all the people involved- students, parents, directors, and administration. We have prepared this handbook to inform all participants and parents of the procedures and activities of the Leaman Junior High School Charger Band. These procedures reflect those of the Lamar Consolidated Independent School District and Leaman Junior High School. All District and Campus rules apply to all band activities.

Please read all the information carefully and sign the statement of understanding included in the Travel Permission Form. **The Travel Permission Form needs to be completed, signed, and returned to the band hall as soon as possible.** An updated calendar will be given to you as soon as our dates are set. Put it in a conspicuous place for reference. You may also find the most up-to-date information at **www.chargerband.org/juniorhigh**. If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to email or call the band hall for assistance!

Mike Semmler, DLJHS Principal
Amy Bennett, DLJHS Band

DLJHS Office Phone Number: 832.223.5200
DLJHS Band Hall Number: 832.223.5239

WIND SYMPHONY

The Wind Symphony is a performance band at Leaman Junior High School. Membership placement in the band is based on the following criteria:

1. Past report card grades.
2. Behavior in band AND other classes.
3. Practice habits.
4. Audition.
5. UIL Prescribed Band Instrumentation

Students placed in the band can expect to participate in the following activities:

- Auditions for All Region Band
- Pep Rallies
- Concerts
- UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest
- Pre-UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest
- UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest
- Recruiting Performances
- Spring Trips and Competitions.

Students continue balanced instrumentation rehearsals in a performance oriented setting. Emphasis is on ensemble tone quality, intonation, technique advancement, and rhythmic accuracy. Students can expect to have weekly sectionals and/or listenings after school for individualized or small group instruction and assessment. Listenings are similar to mini private lessons. The Texas Education Agency supports this activity.

SYMPHONIC BAND

The Symphonic Band is a performance band at Leaman Junior High School. Membership placement in the band is based on the following criteria:

1. Past report card grades.
2. Behavior in band AND other classes.
3. Practice habits.
4. Audition.
5. UIL Prescribed Band Instrumentation

Students placed in the band can expect to participate in the following activities:

- Auditions for All Region Band
- Pep Rallies
- Concerts
- UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest
- Pre-UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest
- UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest
- Spring Trips and Competitions.

Students continue balanced instrumentation rehearsals in a performance oriented setting. Emphasis is on ensemble tone quality, intonation, technique advancement, and rhythmic accuracy. Students can expect to have weekly sectionals and/or listenings after school for individualized or small group instruction and assessment. Listenings are similar to mini private lessons. The Texas Education Agency supports this activity.

CONCERT BAND

The Concert Band is a performance band at Leaman Junior High School. Membership placement in the band is based on the following criteria:

1. Past report card grades.
2. Behavior in band AND other classes.
3. Practice habits.
4. Audition.
5. UIL Prescribed Band Instrumentation

Students placed in the band can expect to participate in the following activities:

- Auditions for All Region Band
- Pep Rallies
- Concerts
- UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest
- Pre-UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest
- UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest
- Spring Trips and Competitions.

Students continue balanced instrumentation rehearsals in a performance oriented setting. Emphasis is on ensemble tone quality, intonation, technique advancement, and rhythmic accuracy. Students can expect to have weekly sectionals and/or listenings after school for individualized or small group instruction and assessment. Listenings are similar to mini private lessons. The Texas Education Agency supports this activity.

BEGINNING BAND

The beginner band is generally for incoming 6th grade students. Membership in the band is based on the following criteria.

1. Attending one of the beginner selection nights OR
2. Contacting a director to select an instrument
3. UIL Prescribed Band Instrumentation

Beginner band members may participate in performance activities including:

- Concerts
- Spring Contest Band

Beginner band students begin the process of fundamental method-oriented studies in a balanced instrumentation environment, with emphasis on tone production, embouchure, breath support, fingerings, hand position, posture, scales, rhythm counting and basic music terminology. The focus of the beginning band is development of musical and social skills for students with no or very little band experience.

- Recommended instruments and required accessories lists were provided at the beginner band "Pick an Instrument" Drive and can also be located at chargerband.org/beginningband.

Private Instruction

Even though private study participation is not a requirement for participation in the musical organizations, we recommend that students and parents explore the private lesson program if at all possible. The teachers who participate in the private study program are highly qualified professionals who are approved by our own staff members. The fees for private study are consistent throughout the district. The advantages of a regular one-on-one learning experience are overwhelming.

Please visit **www.chargerband.org/privatelessons** for the most up-to-date list of our Private Instruction Staff!

UNIFORM

BAND MEMBERS PERFORMANCE PARTICIPATION

VERY IMPORTANT! READ THIS CAREFULLY!

All DLJH Bands performing in concert or contest settings are to be in uniform.

All students are to wear the following:

- White formal dress (tuxedo) shirts with wing collars *(We can get a good price on this.)*
- Cummerbund & bowtie *(We will provide these.)*
- Black Slacks
- Black Dress Shoes *(canvas and other athletic type shoes are not acceptable footwear)*

Please see your director if this requirement creates a hardship for your family. We will try to help you.

Band t-shirts and jeans will be the performance dress for all beginning band members.

Band t-shirts will be available for purchase this year. Band members need them for pep rallies, and other informal performances. **Band t-shirts and jeans will be the performance dress for all beginning band members.**

Performing musical organizations often are required to have rehearsals and performances outside of regular school hours. You will be notified of these functions well in advance. As a member of our band, you are expected to attend all band activities. Absences can be excused only if notification is given to the directors BEFORE the event.

The Texas Education Agency considers all on-campus band activities except competitions and contests co-curricular. TEA considers activities of a curricular nature that take place outside the school day as an integral part of a high quality instructional program. The "No Pass, No Play" ruling does not affect co-curricular activities. Co-curricular activities help determine your band grade.

TESTS and GRADES

Students should BE PREPARED TO PLAY ALONE IN CLASS OR AT THEIR SECTIONALS FOR CHAIRS AND/OR A GRADE EVERY DAY.

Grading is based upon the following criteria:

EFFORT: Cooperation in class, proper performance etiquette, preparedness, instrument & music taken home daily, promptness, willingness to accept constructive criticism, practice cards turned in on time, and a well-maintained instrument are indications of a good effort.

PERFORMANCE: Preparation of assignments, participation in performances, sectional practices, listenings, and competitive events (i.e. contests, challenges, etc.).

Each performance of your group is considered a Major Test!

We would suggest NO BRACES be tightened the week of any performance or major audition.

Before School/After School Sectionals

Sectionals are held between 7:15am and 8:00am or 3:45pm and 4:30pm. Please make arrangements to be dropped off or picked up ahead of time. If the directors are aware of transportation or other problems beforehand we will work together to come up with a solution. Conflicts between sectionals and other school activities (athletics, tutorials, etc.) can be avoided if the sponsors and your band director are aware of the problem in advance. **It is your responsibility to anticipate any conflicts and to tell the band director.**

Instruments and music must be taken home and used daily. Do not leave equipment in a classroom or in the band hall overnight.

What is NO PASS, NO PLAY?

If you earn a grade of 69 or less in any subject on your six weeks report card, you are not allowed to participate in any activity that involves competition, out-of-district travel, or missing an academic class. This restriction remains in place for three weeks. At this time ALL GRADES are checked. If you are passing all subjects at this time, you will again become eligible. If you are not passing at this time, you will remain ineligible until the end of that grading period. At this time all grades are checked again and the process is repeated. This is a state law. This rule goes into effect one week after grades are checked.

Performance Eligibility

In addition to passing all classes in accordance with the "No Pass, No Play" rule, student behavior and preparation may also be taken into consideration when determining whether or not a student is eligible to participate in a performance or a trip. For example, students may become ineligible for a performance or trip if they have been placed in In-School-Suspension. Students may also become ineligible for a performance or trip if the director finds the student has not sufficiently prepared for the performance or trip in question.

EQUIPMENT

Equipment includes instrument (in playing condition), music, pencil, reeds, and mutes. Students are expected to furnish their own instruments and personal supplies. The following exceptions are possible: oboe, tenor saxophone, bassoon, baritone saxophone, bass clarinet, french horn, euphonium (baritone), and tuba. These instruments are available through the band department and will necessitate the purchase of a mouthpiece. Large percussion equipment is provided, but students must provide their own sticks (They need to have a bell set & snare drum at home). A list of required percussion sticks, mallets, and accessories are listed below. The school district is not responsible for your personal instrument or supplies. Keep them in a safe place- either your backpack or your locker for supplies- instruments belong in an assigned place in the band hall. **IF your instrument is not playing properly, show it to your director before taking it to an instrument repair facility.** We can fix minor things, saving you time and money. TAKE THEM HOME EACH DAY.

Students and parents must sign a liability statement on the Instrument Check-Out Form when assuming responsibility for a school instrument. As a rule of thumb, you are not responsible for repairs of school instruments caused by normal wear and tear. Damage caused by negligence or misuse is not considered normal wear and tear. The Instrument Check-Out Form must be signed and returned before the instrument will be released to you. It is the responsibility of the student to keep this instrument in top condition by regular maintenance. Notify your director immediately if the instrument has problems. Poor care (negligence) will result in paying for repairs and losing the privilege of using the instrument.

NAMES SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED ON INSTRUMENT CASES!

We recommend students own a music stand, metronome/tuner for the proper playing and practicing habits.

All Students will be issued sheet music and supplemental materials for which they are responsible. You are expected to put your name on each item issued. Books will be valued at their replacement cost.

Students are encouraged to purchase supplies from a music store. Personal supplies may be purchased through the band hall office before or after school.

Percussion Stick/Mallet Requirement

Percussionists in the Charger Bands are required to provide their own selection of sticks and mallets to use during class and performances. Do not allow others to use your equipment. **Mark each item clearly and keep them in your backpack or locker.** Specialty sticks are provided by LCISD. Brands are listed for reference only.

Beginning Band

Below is the recommended equipment and required accessories.

- Marimba (practice marimba)
- Remo 8" Tuneable Practice Pad (Model # RT- 0008-00)
- Remo Practice Pad Stand (Model # ST-1000-10)
- Stick/Mallet Bag
- Snare Sticks: Salyers Percussion Fulcurm Finders (Model # PCS1FF)
- Marimba Mallets: Salyers Percussion Etude Series Medium Marimba Mallets (Model # E20)
- Rubber Mallets: Salyers Percussion Etude Series Hard Rubber Xylophone Mallets Model # E70)
- Timpani Mallets: Salyers Percussion EGT30 Etude Series Hard Timpani Mallets (Model # EGT30)

DLJH 7th & 8th grade Percussionists

- 1 pair of snare sticks
- 1 pair of Marimba Mallets
- 1 pair of Timpani Mallets

7th & 8th grade percussionists may continue to use any of the equipment that they were required to get at their previous schools.