



**OAK GROVE
BANDS**

High School Band Handbook

2024-2025

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Welcome Warriors!

Please allow me to take this opportunity to welcome you to our family of musicians. We are delighted that you have chosen to be a part of the band program.

This handbook should serve as a guide to all members of our team this year. While it is not equipped with every answer you might seek, it will provide a basic understanding of how our high school band program must function in order to be successful. Please read through it thoroughly and carefully and sign the pages at the end to serve as an agreement between you, as our student, and us, as your directors, to adhere to these guidelines.

For the returning members, welcome back, and thank you for choosing to return to band this year. Your commitment and leadership are vital to our success. For the new members, you are about to embark on a whole new journey of musical excellence. The standards will be set high and the goals will be many. To reach them, we must learn, work, and grow as a team in all musical, physical, and social skills required. Band will not just be about music; you will learn many real world lessons and have truly memorable life experiences in band this year. It is up to you to choose the greatness of these experiences and lessons, for they will not always be learned easily or quickly. To be successful, you must choose to work diligently, consistently, intentionally, and as a team (Together Each Accomplishes More). We want to have individuals who strive for their personal best, are not afraid of adversity, and will give of themselves for the good of the band.

We all have a choice in how we act at every moment, and I expect the band to choose the continuous improvement approach. We will seek to set higher standards along our journey, and it begins here, with you. You must now choose to be a member of our team and accept the policies presented herein. They are expected in the band's best interest and are absolutely vital to our progress. We follow 3 main guidelines:

1. Be A Good Person
2. Trust The Process
3. Do The Work

Thank you for choosing to be here; we look forward to working with you this season and in seasons to come. So now, turn the page, and read this handbook carefully so that you will be a well informed member of our organization.

GO WARRIORS!!!

Paul P. Rouse, Jr.
Director of Bands
Oak Grove Band Program

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Band Policy

In order to understand what is expected of students in the Oak Grove Band Program this statement of band policy should be familiar to all students and parents in the program. This will allow each student in the program to make the most of their membership while growing as a person of good character and musician.

The band directors firmly believe that all students should improve through regular practice. When students lose the drive to improve or to make a better contribution to the group, they are wasting the time and effort of their fellow members and the community by continuing in the program. The happiest students in the program are the ones who improve through regular habits of practice and daily progress during rehearsals and at home. Students must not only know right from wrong but must be able to stand for principles and develop a high sense of purpose toward which they are willing to work. Responsibility is the focus behind any level of achievement within the Oak Grove Band Program. Our expectation is for all people associated with our organization, including teachers, students, and parents; to act in a manner that facilitates learning and success in every possible way.

Objectives of the Band Program

- To teach music and physical expression through performance.
- To develop performance skills on various wind and percussion instruments and through movement in color guard.
- To provide for the musical needs of the school and community.
- To refine and develop the skills to determine musical quality.
- To familiarize students with elements of music theory and history and how the understanding of those elements relate to student's musical experiences and lives.
- To provide all students with the opportunity for worthy use of their time, a means for self-expression, and a healthy social experience.
- To develop the ability to function as a responsible member of a group, enhance social interaction, and develop *esprit de corps*.
- To foster leadership skills within each student.

In the Oak Grove Band Program, we strive to instill the following key elements to any successful team endeavor:

1. Be A Good Person (responsible, reliable, consistent, prepared, good natured)
2. Trust The Process (even though you may not understand at times)
3. Do The Work (the secret is in the doing)

~And it takes all three~

Band Curriculum

Note: Band is considered a year-long course, and every parent and student should speak to their counselor and directors about how to chart out their schedules to include 4 years of full band. There is not a “half-band” option.

CONCERT ENSEMBLES

Band is a class that focuses on the development and refinement of musicianship. The concert ensemble is the core component of a successful and thriving band program. All students that play an instrument are expected to perform as part of a concert ensemble during the spring semester.

Wind Ensemble

The Wind Ensemble is the principal performing ensemble in the band program during the spring semester. Membership is by audition only. The Wind Ensemble will be made up of students with the performing ability to play upper level concert repertoire.

Symphonic Band

The Symphonic Band is available to students through audition only. Students in the Symphonic Band are expected to have the ability to perform intermediate level concert band repertoire.

Concert Band

The Concert Band is available to students through audition only. The Concert Band will concentrate on refining fundamental musical skills to improve individual student musicianship in the band program. The Concert Band will introduce students to concert repertoire that is appropriate for musicians at a fundamental level of performance.

MARCHING ENSEMBLES

Marching Band

The marching band is composed of woodwind, brass, percussion, and color guard students. Membership in the marching band requires strenuous physical exercise and the ability to perform the music that is encountered in the activity. All instrumental students in the band program are expected to participate in marching band in the fall semester. The marching band performs throughout the Fall semester and is by far the most visible component of our program within our community.

Winter Guard

Students who are members of the color guard in the Fall are required to participate in the winter guard program in the spring. The winter guard performs as part of a regional color guard circuit and Winter Guard International in the Spring semester. No student with owed fees will be allowed to participate in this group.

Indoor Percussion

Students who are members of the Marching Band are eligible to audition for the Oak Grove Indoor Percussion Ensemble. Students outside of the percussion section are eligible to audition for any section other than primary battery instruments. The indoor percussion ensemble performs as part of a regional circuit and Winter Guard International in the Spring semester. No student with owed fees will be allowed to participate in this group.

JAZZ BAND

Students have the opportunity to join Jazz Band during the Fall and Spring Semesters. Fall Jazz Band will meet on designated Wednesdays once a month from 4 p.m.-5 p.m. until the conclusion of Marching Band rehearsals. Following the conclusion of marching rehearsals Jazz Band will meet every Wednesday from 4-5 p.m. Students have the possibility to be in two jazz ensembles in the Spring semester. Auditions for a smaller touring ensemble will be held in early January. Rehearsals for the smaller ensemble will be TBD. More information about the audition process will be posted at a later date. No student with owed fees will be allowed to participate in this group.

CHAMBER ENSEMBLES

During the Fall and Spring, chamber ensembles will be formed. All students are encouraged to participate in a chamber ensemble of some kind. Most ensembles will be student led and include: woodwind quintet, brass quintet, saxophone quartet, horn ensemble, trombone quartet, low brass ensemble, flute choir, clarinet choir, and percussion ensemble. There will be a chamber concert in the spring semester and there will be opportunities to perform at solo and ensemble festivals in our area.

IMPROVING ON YOUR INSTRUMENT

Private Lessons

The students in our program that study privately are typically the students that sit near the top of their section, place well in clinic auditions, and gain membership to the All-State Concert Band or MS All-State Lions Band. The best way to improve on your instrument is to study privately with a specialist on your instrument. There are several options available to you within the program at Oak Grove High School including studying with another student (on approval from a director), a band director, or with a local private studio teacher. We encourage ALL students in the band program to seek out private instruction.

Band Clinics

The process for preparing for a clinic audition is a valuable opportunity to improve as an individual musician. Band clinics are events that bring together students from across the state and region to engage in intensive rehearsal preparation (2-3 days) for a concert presentation under a nationally known guest conductor.

Clinics occur at the MS Bandmasters Association Clinic (Natchez), The Southeast Mississippi Band Directors Association Clinic, and at various universities and colleges throughout the state and region. The processes for participating in the clinics vary from

submitting student's names to be chosen from a list (by band directors) or by submitting an audition recording to the university's applied music faculty. There will always be some kind of audition process involved in any type of clinic that you participate in.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Only those who intend to attend a clinic are allowed to participate in auditions. No student is allowed to pull out of a clinic once committed for any reason other than a family emergency.

Lions Band/All-State Band

The preparation that is required to audition for Lions Band and, in turn, All-State Concert Band is extensive. Students must prepare two advanced etudes (lyrical and technical), memorize the twelve major scales and chromatic scale, and sight-read over a two-round audition process. The musical growth that occurs through this process, when approached in the correct manner, is invaluable. Each year we have between fifteen and twenty students who participate in auditions and many of them are selected for the band. The students who are most successful in this process are enrolled in private lessons throughout the year. The Lions Band is also open to color guard and dance students.

Band Policies, Procedures, and Rules

Attendance Policy

Attendance in band should be thought of in the same way as any other team sport. When one team member misses, the team also misses something. The only excusable absences are prearranged school engagements and those that would be excused by the school for regular attendance records (e.g., illness, a death in the family). Individual needs will be addressed as they occur. All rehearsals and performances are Mandatory (including Spirit Week). Students that miss or do not attend Spirit Week will be assigned a position as an alternate unless prior arrangements with Mr. Rousse have been made. It is essential that we have 100% attendance at all rehearsals because of the amount of work that is put into learning the marching show. Any and all absences, regardless of excuse status, may affect a student's ability to perform with the band.

Absence Reporting Procedure

For ALL absences, the student and the parent (woodwinds, brass, percussion, and guard) must observe the following procedure:

1. The director must be notified in advance by email or phone
 - a. paul.rousse@lamarcountyschools.org (General Band, Color Guard)
 - b. daniel.johnson@lamarcountyschools.org (Brass)
 - c. kelcey.becnel@lamarcountyschools.org (Woodwinds)
 - d. david.louviere@lamarcountyschools.org (Percussion)
 - e. courtney.wells@lamarcountyschools.org (Woodwinds, Jazz)
 - f. Band Office Phone: 601-264-7232 ext. 6174
2. The band director must pre-approve absences due to vacations, weddings, family reunions, etc. well in advance (one month or more), if an event is on the schedule students are expected to be there.

- a. Communication is key...you should not assume that an absence is excused.
- b. Generally students will not be allowed to leave an event early without consequence.
3. For illness, a parental note or doctor's excuse must be submitted.
4. Although you may have notified the school office, notify the band director as well.
5. **Parents should communicate to Directors**, while students should communicate to Section Leaders.

Absence from a Performance

The student will receive one letter grade lower on his or her report card for the nine weeks in which the absence occurs.

Tardiness or Unexcused Absence from Rehearsal

Tardiness/Absences to class during school will follow the policy in the LCSD Student Handbook.

Skipping class will result in an office referral and consequences according to the LCSD Student Handbook.

Students that are tardy to an after school rehearsal will need to make up the missed time at the end of rehearsal.

Conflicts with Band and other School Activities

Resolving conflicts between band and other activities or events is the responsibility of the student. Rehearsal and performance schedules are given out in advance so that arrangements can be made. Students should not become involved with activities that are in direct conflict with band performances and rehearsal schedules. When outside activities create hardships concerning band, unless it is a one-time occurrence, the student will need to consult the director about possible alternatives. Students should maintain a calendar and be aware of all band dates well ahead of schedule. It is the policy of the band director to assist students when conflicts occur within the scope of the band policy. Students are reminded that band is a very demanding activity and that involvement in outside activities should be limited to those that are compatible to the band schedule. All conflicts with performances must be resolved in favor of band participation. *Work is not an excuse for missing any band activity.*

Grading Policy

Grades will be based on: Daily Participation, Supplies, Attendance, various forms of Performance Assessments, as well as any Google Classroom assignments.

Participation

This includes class, after school rehearsals on the schedule and any time we are in a class or performance environment (games, contests, trips). Students are expected to show maximum effort and have their necessary supplies and equipment each day.

Performance

(Pass-Offs, Individual Contribution to the Group, Performance Attendance, etc.) Students are responsible for turning in all assignments, preparing music for pass-off, and attending scheduled events while acting in a way that makes the best possible impact on the group's success.

Duties of a Band/Color Guard Member

1. Be on time to all rehearsals and performances. Early is on time – on time is late.
2. When you come into the band hall, get changed, get your instrument, read the board for instructions, and go directly to your warm-up area (No playing). Everyone must be in his or her warm-up area by 8:20.
3. When a director, staff member, or student leader asks for your attention, all talking should stop.
4. Come to rehearsal with a good attitude and prepared to work everyday. Your attitude will determine if we succeed or fail.
5. Play your instrument when given instruction to do so. Do not randomly play on your instrument.
6. Make a good effort to improve on a daily basis and establish a good individual practice routine.
7. Put all of your equipment away after rehearsal and leave the band hall clean. Clothing, books, paper, etc. that is stored in your band locker is subject to be purged at any time.
8. ***Maintain a strong academic standing in all of your classes.***
9. Become responsible for your own actions; be able to admit when you are wrong.
10. Have respect for yourself, your classmates, and the adults that you encounter everyday.
11. Read and play music with understanding – have high musical expectations.

General Classroom Procedures

1. You should be seated or in the warm-up arc outside at 8:20 with your instrument, music stand/lyre, music, coordinate/drill book, and a pencil. Instructions for the day will be on the board and announcements will be made before and after class. You may begin an individual warm-up once you are in place for rehearsal.
2. Talking will not be tolerated in rehearsal.
3. The purpose of rehearsal is to rehearse as an ensemble and understand how individual parts work within the ensemble. This is not the time to learn your individual music/choreography.
4. If you need to leave rehearsal, please ask. Restroom breaks should be taken between classes or during specified times.
5. Your individual warm-up should include long tones, lip slurs, and scales only.

6. *The Band Hall should be considered a reverent space, quiet in nature, to promote the educational atmosphere.*
7. **Only water is allowed to be open in the band hall. There is to be no eating or drinking of anything but water inside that space. Throw all food trash outside of the band hall. The trash is not emptied enough for the whole band to use the garbage cans in the band hall for food and drinks.**

Materials

You will occasionally have a materials check. You will receive a grade of an “A” if you have everything on the list, your grade will be lowered by one letter for every item you are missing (you will have a two day grace period to bring in any missing items before your grade is final).

You should have the following everyday:

1. A sharpened pencil
2. Instrument (sticks, mallets)
3. Music and Binder (Flip folder and lyre for wind players during the Fall)
4. At least three reeds (clarinet, saxophone) *Plastic reeds during Fall*
5. At least two reeds (oboe, bassoon) and water canisters for soaking
6. Brass: valve oil, slide oil, slide grease; *BERP Mouthpiece attachment*
7. Flip Folder/Lyre with extra pages to outfit the stands band music

Rules and Expectations

1. Tennis shoes and socks must be worn at all times for outside practices. **See *Athletic Shoes* below**
2. Chewing gum is not permitted at any time inside or outside.
3. The band uniform must be worn properly at all times, even when it is hot or cold.
4. **No hats or sunglasses should be worn inside.**
5. Be in your spot, warmed up, and ready to begin on time.
6. Respect your teachers and other band members, including their personal property.
7. Jewelry is not allowed while you are in band uniform.
8. School dress code is to be followed at all times when not in uniform.
9. Drinking, drugs, tobacco, and vaping are prohibited at all times. All school district policies are in place any time that you are representing the band on campus or off. The director may dismiss students that violate this policy while they are on school grounds or at a school activity (outside of band) as well.
10. Students will be dismissed from band as a group during any band event or trip.
11. Students are responsible for the damage of any property due to negligence and/or willful destruction.
12. Students will ride on designated buses that are assigned by the band directors.
13. Forms, fees, and fundraising materials will be collected at a designated time. Be sure that you turn in these items in an envelope marked with your first and last name and what is inside the envelope.
14. Have your music everyday; do not rely on someone else.
15. Students may practice in the band hall after school as long as the space is available and there is a teacher there to supervise.

16. Do not place yourself in a compromising circumstance. All personal relationships (boyfriend, girlfriend) within the band should be above reproach. There will be no PDA or any other instances of questionable behavior at any time you are representing the band at school or otherwise. PDA is offensive and crude and any other circumstance where your integrity is compromised is a poor reflection of you and the band program. Individuals that do not meet the absolute highest standards of scrutiny in this regard will be dismissed from the program, no questions asked.

Required Apparel

Students are expected to have the following items purchased and secured for their marching season:

- Gray Practice Shirt(Rehearsals Only)-no rips, tears, or holes
- Gray Dreamcatcher Dri-Fit-no rips tears or holes
- Dri Fit Shorts-no rips tears or holes
- Band Polo
- DSI Marching Shoes-no alternates will be allowed
- Band Baseball Cap-OG Bands Monogram

These are REQUIRED items. Students who fail to have these items during rehearsal or performances will have their grade docked and can be removed from that week's performance at the discretion of the director. Students

Athletic Shoes

Students are required to wear athletic shoes for all marching-related activities. These can generally be thought of as tennis shoes. However, these shoes must have rubber soles, laces, and be “low-top” in nature. Due to risk of injury, no student will be allowed to participate in any open-toes, sandals, boots, crocs, high-tops, slippers, or converse shoes.

General Health and Required Physicals

All band students are required each year to get an updated, current, and “Cleared-status” physical. This ensures the student is in the most basic quality of health to participate in band. Aside from the physical, students are required to have water at every outside rehearsal; the water cooler purchased through Mission Celebrate is the preferred water container (please label with the student’s name on a surface that is least touched). On mornings, students are expected to have had a quality breakfast to reduce the risk of lightheadedness. Please plan for these mornings in advance. These days include: Spirit Week, 1st block class in the Fall, Saturday rehearsal/contest days, and any other morning activities.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Each band member is charged on the budgeted needs of the band for that year. There will be some incidental costs throughout the year, but these will be kept to a minimum. Out of state travel and trips will be assessed outside of the normal band and color guard fees. Each member is expected to meet the financial obligations for the year. **Members that have a balance due after the last day of the spring semester will not be placed in the halftime show for the following school year.** While it is most desirable that you follow

the payment schedule below in order for the band to have the necessary cash flow during the year, alternate arrangements can be made.

**If you are experiencing difficulty in meeting your financial obligations to the band, please contact Mr. Rouse through email (paul.rousse@lamarcountyschools.org) or by phone (601)-264-7406 ext. 6174. Additionally, you can reach out to the Band Booster President: ogbandms@gmail.com*

Band Expenses

Band expenses will vary from year to year depending on individual needs of the student based on the costs associated with the marching show and the necessary supplies and materials that you will need. Some years you may need all of the materials listed below, other years you will only need to pay for a few items.

Explanation of Fees

The amount that your family owes for band varies according to the ensembles that your child participates in and with the type of instrument that they play. The following is an explanation of the components that make up the charges that are assessed.

Band Financials

A 7A competition band requires various funds to operate some of the costs that the band incurs annually include:

Fall Semester

Halftime Show Music
Music for the Stands
Choreography
Drill Design
Summer Uniforms
Instructional staff

Rehearsal T-shirts
Halftime Show T-Shirt
Travel (In State)
MHSAA Student Fees
Marching Competition Fees
Competition uniform top

Spring Semester

Concert Music
Adjunct Staff (Sectional Teachers)

MHSAA Fees
Festival Site Fees
Travel

Other Expenses (Vary through the year)

We try to keep these at a minimum throughout the year. There will be other expenses associated with band throughout the year. Some examples of these include: meals for away games and competitions, the cost of personal items (socks, etc.), travel expenses during the postseason for football (charter buses, etc).

Travel

Any trips are not included in the normal costs of band and will be handled separately through the OGHS Band Boosters.

School Owned Instruments

All students who use a school-owned instrument are required to pay an instrument maintenance fee. This includes all percussionists as some wind players. Any repair cost that is the result of misuse or neglect will be charged to the family of the student that caused the damage (even if they do not play the instrument).

Color Guard/Winter Guard Fees

The color guard requires specialized instruction, equipment, uniforms, and accessories beyond that of the wind and percussion sections and as a result the cost for participation in the color guard and winter guard is greater. A payment schedule for each semester has already been distributed via handbook. Those who want to return in the Fall for Color Guard must participate in Winterguard.

Indoor Percussion:

Indoor percussion is a percussion-based ensemble that rehearses and performs in the Spring. All students are welcome to audition regardless of instrument. Indoor Percussion costs are separate from those in this handbook. Exact details will be released in the Fall in an Indoor Percussion handbook.

Drum Major Fees

Students that are chosen to serve as drum majors may be required to purchase their own uniform coat, hat, plume, and baton. These items must be purchased by Spirit Week.

Payment Schedules

All payments should be paid on or before the scheduled dates below:

Winds and Percussion Fees:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Paid To:</u>
6.3.24	\$ 250.00	Apparel	<i>Mission Celebrate</i>
6.28.24	\$ 100.00	Adjunct Staff	Band Boosters
7.8.24	\$ 135.00	Comp top/prop	Band Boosters
8.7.24	\$ 150.00	Transportation	My School Bucks
9.6.24	\$ 125.00	Design Expense	Band Boosters
10.8.24	\$100.00	<i>SchoolOwned*</i>	Band Boosters
11.8.24	\$ 110.00	Operating Cost	Band Boosters
1.8.25	\$ 150.00	Concert/Transp.	My School Bucks

** The School-owned instrument fee is for any student that is assigned an instrument from the school inventory, winds and percussion alike.*

Color Guard Fees:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Paid to:</u>
6.3.24	\$155	Spirit Uniform	Band Boosters
6.3.24	\$100	Show Flags	Band Boosters
6.3.24	\$200	New Member Apparel*	Mission Celebrate
6.28.24	\$200	Adjunct Staff	Band Boosters
7.8.24	\$200**	Competition Uniform	Band Boosters
7.11.23	\$50	Shoes	See Below
7.11.23	\$20	Gloves	See Below
8.10.23	\$150	Fall Transportation	MySchoolBucks
9.8.23	\$100	Design Expense	Band Boosters
11.8.24	\$110	Operating Cost	Band Boosters
1.8.25	\$500	Winter Guard Fee	Band Boosters
2.3.25	\$150	Spring Transportation Fee	My School Bucks

*New members/as-needed only

**We are looking at various options but will not exceed \$200

DSI Ever-Dri Fingerless Gloves (Skin Colored)

\$16.50 @ Fred J. Miller (<https://fjminc.com/products/ever-dri-fingerless-gloves>)

DSI Ever-Jazz Shoe (Black)

\$39.75 @ Fred J. Miller (<https://fjminc.com/products/ever-jazz-shoe>)

Mission Celebrate Order Site - missioncelebrate.com/oakgrovebands

My School Bucks

To make payments via My School Bucks, follow these instructions:

- Go to www.MySchoolBucks.com and register for a free account.
- Add your students using their school name and student ID (you can find the student ID on Active parent under demographics).
- Make purchases with your credit/debit card or electronic check. A program fee may apply. You will have the opportunity to review any fees and cancel if you choose, before you are charged.
- If you have any questions, contact Oak Grove High School at 601-264-7232

Important Note:

If you are unable to meet the financial requirements for band membership, please contact Mr. Rousse (paul.rousse@lamarcountyschools.org) to arrange a payment plan. Payment plans are made on a case-by-case basis with Mr. Rousse. All financial obligations to the band must be met no later than the close of the semester - sooner rather than later is preferred. 100% participation in band fundraisers is expected in cases where payments cannot be made as scheduled.

Fundraising and Concessions

The band program is engaged in fundraising efforts throughout the year in order to keep the costs of fees down. Fundraisers designed for the benefit of the whole program are mandatory, with an optional buy-out (varies by fundraiser). Please keep in mind that we must pay for everything in which the band takes part. Please always make your best effort

to ensure fundraising success. A major source of revenue outside of band fees is the concession stands during football season. The concession stands are open during all home football games from August-November. We will need volunteers to work during the football games. Information on how to volunteer will be distributed by the Band Boosters

Fall Uniforms

The following items are the first items in the payment schedule. Items marked with an asterisk can be kept at the end of the season for future years (no need to repurchase unless lost, damaged, or outgrown):

1. Summer uniform (dri-fit shirt and shorts)*
2. Band Polo*
3. Rehearsal T-shirts (3)*
4. Marching Show Shirt*
5. Cooler*
6. Band Shoes*
7. Gloves: 2 pair (wind players only)*
8. Band Ball Cap*
9. Competition Performance Top (student provided; Separate Purchase through Boosters)
10. Student provides crew length (or longer), solid black socks
11. OGHS Band Provides- Bibbers
12. OGHS Band Provides-Coat (Football Games and Parades ONLY)
13. OGHS Band Provides-Hat and plume/Headgear
14. Jacket (optional)

*All member gear (with the exception of the Competition Top) can be purchased through the month of June only (deadline is Monday, June 5th) through Mission Celebrate: <https://missioncelebrate.com/oakgrovebands/>

For convenience, there has been created a “New Member Bundle” that includes all required items. You will also have the opportunity to purchase additional items should you choose.

Concert Uniforms

For all concert performances, students will wear “Dress Black” (Student Provided). This simply means all solid black from neck to toe:

- Solid Black Dress Pants with belt (no Denim)
- Long-sleeved, Buttoned, and Collared Shirt (tucked in)
- Solid Black Shoes (Marching Shoes are acceptable)
- Crew length (or longer) Solid Black Socks

For Ladies who would want to wear a dress, the requirements are:

- Long Black Dress (to the foot; non negotiable)
- Tall Black Socks (knee length) or Black leggings (no skin showing)
- Closed-toed shoes (non negotiable)
- Shoulders covered

Uniform Decorum

When wearing any apparel with the Oak Grove Bands logo, and specifically while in uniform for events, the utmost respect and care is expected of members with regard to appearance and behavior. Students are required to have shirts tucked in, so belts should be considered. A band student is expected to carry themselves in a professional manner at all times, and should assume that they are being evaluated in every situation. At no time within the band context should a student behave in a manner unbecoming of the organization. Any such behavior may put that student's membership in the organization in jeopardy.

Student Appearance

A uniform appearance is of paramount importance in the program. As such please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Facial hair may be worn, but must be trimmed, outlined in nature, with the non-outlined portion of the face shaved for performances.
- Hair must be a natural color for performances, and approved hairstyles for events are at the discretion of the director.
- Students who may have tattoos, must have them completely non-visible while with the band at all times.
- All piercing and jewelry are to be removed for performances.

Festivals, Competitions, and Evaluations

Festivals, competitions, and evaluations are special events in which we get to perform for a "band knowledgeable" audience and very competent judges. *We participate in these events to do our best – not to win. If we do our best, everything else will take care of itself.* Specific information is given prior to competitions regarding directions to the performance site, departure time, and projected return time. All parents are encouraged to attend the performances and support the band. Students may use the band office phone to call following a trip. Parents are expected to pick up their students within 30 minutes of the buses returning to the school.

Concert Band Auditions

In October/November auditions to determine chair order and band placement in ensembles for fall and spring will take place. Auditions will be announced well in advance of the audition date. Auditions will consist of scales, prepared etudes, and sight-reading. Additionally, students will be evaluated for tone quality, musicianship, and interpretation. Placement in ensembles will be determined by instrumentation needs and a natural break in scores. All students that are presently enrolled in a concert ensemble are required to complete the audition process.

Spring Semester After School Practices

Concert ensemble directors will schedule after school practices for sections and/or full ensemble rehearsals. Spring sectional rehearsal schedules will be released in the Fall. Indoor Percussion and Winter Guard rehearsals will be held in the evenings after 6:00.

Detailed rehearsal information for indoor ensembles will be released following tryouts in the fall.

Forms and Sign-Ups

DRAGONFLY: (All Members)

ALL REQUIRED SCHOOL FORMS WILL BE FILED AND SUBMITTED THROUGH DRAGONFLY. FOLLOW THESE STEPS BELOW:

- Download the DragonFly MAX app from the App Store or Google Play.
- Tap **Get Started** and **Sign Up for Free** then follow the prompts to create your Parent account with your own email address.
- Verify your account with the verification ID sent to your email address.
- Tap **Connect to your school** to select **Parent** as your role and search for your child's school.
- After selecting your child's school, tap **Join** to request access. An administrator at your school will approve your request.
- Tap **Set up your children** and follow the prompts to add your kid(s) and fill out their participation forms.
- If needed, Oak Grove's School Code is: **VZH454**

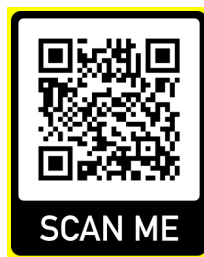
If you already have an account, you must still update your information and records.

MEDICAL FORM: (All Members)

The band retains a binder of medical information on all students in the case of an emergency while students are taking part in a Band function. Please complete and return this information ASAP.

CHARMS: (New Members Only)

The Oak Grove Bands uses a database called CHARMS to handle the large amount of data required to operate a group the size of a 7A High School Band. Scan the QR Code below to access the Google Form that will allow us to create your Student's account.



THESE FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED/TURNED IN BY FRIDAY, May 19, 2023!

CONTACT AND SOCIAL MEDIA INFO

- Band Hall Phone Number: 601.264.7106 ext. 6174
- Google Classroom Codes:
 - Winds: p2etjdu
 - Percussion: vgqwpv6
 - Guard: q2cbkne
- Band Website: <https://www.oakgrovebands.org>
- Public Facebook: Oak Grove Bands
- Booster Facebook (Closed Group)
Oak Grove Band Boosters (OGHS Hattiesburg, MS)
- Instagram: ogwarriorband

Oak Grove High School Bands
2024-2025 Calendar
 Booster Meetings TBA

2024

May:

- 6-** Freshmen Orientation Registration 6p (PAC)
- 13-** Parent Meeting/Contracts/Show Reveal (PAC)
- 17-** Contracts/Cookie Dough Orders and Money Due

June: (Purchase all Member gear by June 3, 2024)

- 3-** Member Wear purchase - Through Mission Celebrate (\$250)
- 28-** Booster Payment Due (\$100 for Adjunct Staff)

July:

- 1-3-** Leadership/Freshman/Color Guard Camp 9a-5p
- 5-6-** Percussion Camp 8a-5p
- 8-** Booster Payment Due (\$135 for Competition Top)
- 8-12-** Spirit Week 8a-8p
- 15-16-** Spirit Week continued 8a-8p
- 17-19-** Full Band 1p-9p
- 22-** Rehearsal 1p-7p,
- 22-** Family/Alumni/Community Performance 7p
- 29-** **Full Band Rehearsals begin 4p-6p**

August: *1- Winds 4p-6p/ Perc:Guard 6p-8:30p

***3- Full Band-4p-6p**

**This Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday Schedule is our routine schedule of rehearsals to be expected every week till the beginning of November, with obvious adjustments for holidays. Rehearse-A-Thon Days are notated in October below.*

(Expect and prepare for a Friday Football game each week till the beginning of December)

** Routine Schedule of Rehearsals Every Week (M,T,R) with Friday Games*

** Meet The Warriors (TBA)*

7- My School Bucks Payment #1 Due (\$150 for Transportation)

September:

** Routine Schedule of Rehearsals Every Week (M,T,R) with Friday Games- Please see attached Varsity Football Schedule.*

6-Booster Payment Due (\$125 for Design Costs)

13- Middle School Mass Band Night @ Football Game

28- Gulf Coast Invitational / Biloxi, MS

October:

** Routine Schedule of Rehearsals Every Week (M,T,R) w/ Friday Games, & Saturday Contests*

3&4- Fall Break Rehearsal 8a-5p

5- US Bands Competition Central LaFourche High School / Raceland, LA

October cont:

- 8- Booster Payment Due (\$100 for School-owned inst. fee)**
- 10&11- Fall Break Rehearsal 8a-5p**
- 12- MHSAA 7A State Marching Band Evaluations (Region V)**
- 19- Gary Graves Invitational / Petal High School**
- 22- Rehearse-A-Thon 4p-8p**
- 25 - *Final Home Game Performance of the 2024 Production!***
- 26- Rehearse-A-Thon 8a-8p**
- 29-Rehearse-A-Thon 4p-8p**

November:

- Rehearsal Schedule TBD Pending Playoff Schedule
- * *Winterguard & Percussion Information Meetings TBA*
- 1- State Championship Send Off Performance 7p (Rehearse 4p-6p)**
- 2- MHSAA 7A State Marching Band Championships / @ NWR**
- 4- OGHS Arts Night (TBD)**
- 8- Booster Payment Due (\$110 for Operating Expenses)**
- 8- Veterans Day Parade / During School (Friday)**

December:

- 6-7- State Football Championship**
- 5-Winter Concert**

Spring 2025 Tentative:

Wind Ensemble/Symphonic Band Sectionals TBA; WE Full rehearsals- Tuesdays 4pm-6pm
Indoor Percussion/Winter Guard TBA During the Fall

January:

- 8- My School Bucks Payment Due (\$150 for Concert/transportation Costs)-final payment**
- ??-Band Parent Meeting (PAC)**

February:

- 20- LCSD Concert Band Pre-Fest**

March:

TBD

April:

- 7-10- MHSAA State Concert Band Evaluations**
- Leadership and Drum Major Auditions TBD**
- Pops Concert TBD**
- Solo and Ensemble Festival TBD**
- Spring Trainings**

May:

- Spring Trainings
- 1- Spring Concert**
- Band Banquet TBD**
- Sr.Signing TBD**

Parent Checklist:

All Members (Old and New):

- _____ Member Gear Purchase (*Mission Celebrate pg. 12*)
- _____ Dragonfly (*online, see instructions on pg. 16*)
- _____ Parent Agreement (*turn in attached form*)
- _____ Medical Form (*turn in attached form*)
- _____ Student Physical “Cleared” Status (Hard Copy to Director)
- _____ Calendar Scheduled events and payments
- _____ Work with counselor on 4-year plan for band
- _____ Sign up for Volunteer Opportunities (we need everyone)

New Members Only:

- _____ Charms Google Form- *please assist your student, pg 16*
- _____ Band Booster Facebook Group *pg 17*
- _____ Band Booster Google Form (*see attached*)*TBD*
- _____ Visit and Bookmark the Band Website *pg 17*

Student Checklist:

- _____ Student Agreement Form (*turn in attached form*)
- _____ Google Classroom *pg 17*

Band Fee Checklist

Please tear this page out and post for reference

Payment Schedules

All payments should be paid on or before the scheduled dates below:

Winds and Percussion Fees:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Paid To:</u>
____ 6.3.24	\$ 250.00	Apparel	<i>Mission Celebrate</i>
____ 6.28.24	\$ 100.00	Adjunct Staff	Band Boosters
____ 7.8.24	\$ 135.00	Comp top/prop	Band Boosters
____ 8.7.24	\$ 150.00	Transportation	My School Bucks
____ 9.6.24	\$ 125.00	Design Expense	Band Boosters
____ 10.8.24	\$100.00	<i>SchoolOwned*</i>	Band Boosters
____ 11.8.24	\$ 110.00	Operating Cost	Band Boosters
____ 1.8.25	\$ 150.00	Concert/Transp.	My School Bucks

** The School-owned instrument fee is for any student that is assigned an instrument from the school inventory, winds and percussion alike.*

Color Guard Fees:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Paid to:</u>
____ 6.3.24	\$155	Spirit Uniform	Band Boosters
____ 6.3.24	\$100	Show Flags	Band Boosters
____ 6.3.24	\$200	<i>New Member Apparel*</i>	Mission Celebrate
____ 6.28.24	\$200	Adjunct Staff	Band Boosters
____ 7.8.24	\$200**	<i>Competition Uniform</i>	<i>Band Boosters</i>
____ 7.11.23	\$50	<i>Shoes</i>	<i>See Below</i>
____ 7.11.23	\$20	<i>Gloves</i>	<i>See Below</i>
____ 8.10.23	\$150	Fall Transportation	MySchoolBucks
____ 9.8.23	\$100	Design Expense	Band Boosters
____ 11.8.24	\$110	Operating Cost	Band Boosters
____ 1.8.25	\$500	Winter Guard Fee	Band Boosters
____ 2.3.25	\$150	Spring Transportation Fee	My School Bucks



OAK GROVE BANDS

Student Agreement:

The band student and parent must initial each blank, then both parent/guardian and student should sign and date at the bottom. This agreement must be returned no later than 5.17.24.

_____ I have read and understand the expectations laid out in the 2024-2025 OGHS Band Handbook (given by 5.13.24).

_____ I understand the rehearsal and performance schedule outlined in the handbook.

_____ I understand that attendance is mandatory at all events, with the appropriate supplies and equipment.

_____ I understand that any conflict with the calendar must be communicated with the Director of bands as soon as it is known.

_____ I understand that any emergency absence should be reported by a parent as soon as possible via an E-mail to the Director of Bands.

_____ I understand that any absence may affect my ability to perform with the band.

_____ I understand that my attendance, preparation, and performance each day affects the entire band program.

_____ I understand that the band is in the public eye very often and that my attitude and actions reflect on myself, the OGHS Band, Oak Grove High School, and the Oak Grove High School community.

_____ I understand that band is a year-long course and will communicate with a director about how to map out my schedule in a way that allows for me to remain in band while being a part of the activities and classes that are important to me.

_____ I acknowledge that at all times with the band, I must adhere to all Lamar County School District Policies, Oak Grove High School, as well as those laid out in the band handbook.

By signing below, I agree to the policies and expectations laid out in the 2024-2025 OGHS Band Handbook:

Printed Student Name

Student Signature

Date

Printed Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date



OAK GROVE BANDS

Parent/ Guardian Agreement:

A legal parent/guardian must initial in each blank and then sign and date at the bottom of the page. This agreement should be returned no later than 5.17.24

_____ I have read the 2024-2025 handbook (given by 5.13.24) and understand the expectations of an OGHS Band Student. This includes supplies, attendance, and behavioral expectations.

_____ I acknowledge the rehearsal and performance calendar and understand that all events require mandatory attendance. I understand that this calendar is presented to assist in the planning of appointments and family trips. I have outlined any known conflicts on the back of this agreement (see reverse side).

_____ I understand that any emergency absences should be communicated via an E-mail to the director of bands as soon as possible.

_____ I understand that any absence (excused or unexcused) may affect my student’s ability to perform with the band depending on the nature of the absence and the manner in which it was handled. This decision is at the discretion of the Director of Bands.

_____ I understand that any band financials not paid from the 23-24 school year will prevent my student from being eligible for a performing spot in the Fall Production and from scheduling band as a class.

_____ I acknowledge the financial responsibility and payment schedule outlined in the handbook, and will communicate any potential issues to the Director of Bands immediately to discuss options so as to not affect my student’s performance in band.

_____ I understand that once committed to the band, finances cannot be reversed (non-refundable), as the band must submit numbers and fees early in the season based on members in the band. All members, once committed agree to pay all fees.

_____ I understand that by being the parent/guardian of an OGHS Band Student, I am automatically a member of the OGHS Band Boosters. I understand that I may be contacted by a representative of the executive board for volunteer efforts crucial to the sustainability and success of the Oak Grove High School Band Program.

_____ I understand all Lamar County School District policies apply at all times while taking part in any band activity and all matters are subject to LCSD disciplinary action for infractions.

_____ I understand that band is a year-long course, and will communicate with a director about how to map out my student’s schedule in a manner that allows them to remain in band while being a part of the other activities and classes in which my student is interested. Specifically, I understand that there is no “half band” option.

By signing below, I agree to the policies and expectations laid out in the 2024-2025 OGHS Band Handbook, and thereby grant permission to my student to be a part of the Oak Grove High School Band Program:

Printed Parent Name

Printed Student Name

Parent Signature

Date

Potential Conflicts

Please detail below any date conflicts you foresee having. This includes summer rehearsals, regular school (first block & afternoon) rehearsals, and all performance dates.

Please be aware that full participation in the band is dependent upon rehearsal/performance attendance and the directors knowledge of this in advance. Any absence may affect the student's ability to perform with the band. This decision is at the discretion of the Director of Bands.

Student Name: _____

Conflicts (Please use the space below):

**LAMAR COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Oak Grove Bands
ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION
FORM**

Rev 7.13 2020

If it is necessary that a medication be given during school hours, the following requirements must be followed:

- The parent/guardian must bring the medication to school and register it with the school nurse.
- The medication must be in the original container with the appropriate label intact before it will be administered.
- Students are not to bring medications to the school.
- Additional parent/physician signed forms will be necessary if the medication dosage is changed or the medicine is discontinued.

Name of Student	DOB	Gender	Grade	School

Please check one of the following:

My child has permission to take over-the-counter medications administered by the Band Directors. If your child has any medications that he/she cannot take or has allergies to, please list below:

Medication Allergies: _____

Do not give my child the following medications: _____

Do not administer over the counter medications to my child while he/she is with band.

Parent Authorization and Indemnity Agreement/Medications Release

The undersigned parent(s) or guardian(s) of _____, a minor child, has requested personnel of the Lamar County School District to administer prescription and/or over the counter medication to this student. This request has been made for my/our convenience as a substitute for parental administration of this medicine. I authorize the school nurse to contact the physician, dentist, or pharmacist if necessary. In the absence of the school nurse, it is understood that unlicensed school personnel administering the medicine will have completed the Mississippi Board of Nursing Assisted Self Administration Curriculum.

I/We forever release, discharge, and covenant to hold harmless the school district, its personnel and board of trustees from any and all claims, demands, damages, expenses, loss of services and causes of action belonging to the minor child or to the undersigned arising out of or on account of any injury, sickness, disability, loss or damages of any kind resulting from the administration of the prescription medicine.

The undersigned agree to repay the school district, its personnel or trustees any sum of money, expenses, or attorney's fees that any of them may be compelled to pay in defense of any action or on account of any such injury to the minor child as a result of the administration of medicine. I have read the foregoing release and indemnity agreement and fully understand it.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Witness

Date

Lamar County School District
School Health Office

Rev 7.13.2020

Name of Student	DOB	Gender	Grade	School

Current Conditions and Insurance (Please check all that apply)					
Medical Conditions			Health Insurance		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asthma	<input type="checkbox"/>	Food Allergy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Private Health Insurance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Seizure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medications Allergy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medicaid
<input type="checkbox"/>	Diabetes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Allergy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chips
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Medical Conditions:			<input type="checkbox"/>	No Current Health Insurance
<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:

Current Medication (Please list all medications your child is currently taking and why)			
Medication	Dosage	Time Given	Reason

Allergy Information (Please list ALL of the student's allergies)			
Allergic to:	Reaction	Allergic to:	Reaction

Emergency Contacts			
Name	Relationship	Phone Number	Phone Number

Heath Office Notes:

**Lamar County School District
HOLD HARMLESS, RELEASE, WAIVER OF
LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT
FOR ALL SCHOOL RELATED ACTIVITIES INCLUDING BUT
NOT LIMITED TO MHSAA ACTIVITIES**

Student Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Name of School Student Attends: _____ Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell phone #: _____ Second phone# _____

In consideration for being permitted to participate in any way in school related extra-curriculum activities, including field trips, I agree to the following:

1. I know that activities may involve the risk of illness, injury or harm and I want _____ (name of student) to participate in extra-curriculum school related events and field trips. I specifically understand that participation in sports may result in injuries including paralysis or even death.
2. Participation is voluntary and by allowing my child to participate, I voluntarily assume the risk of injury or illness that may occur as part of my child's participation.
3. This agreement applies to travel to and from events and to any time that school employees are involved with the subject event.
4. I agree to allow the LCSD to disclose information about my child's participation in the subject events and to disclose personal information such as name, age, weight, honors, etc. and other similar information.
5. I understand that each student should comply with citizenship standards set by the school and if a participant does not abide by the school standards then the child is subject to suspension or other discipline as defined in school policy.
6. In the event of an injury to my child, I request that the LCSD employee present attempt to contact me at the phone numbers listed above. In the event they cannot reach me by phone immediately and an emergency exist, as determined by the school employee, then I hereby give the LCSD and its employees authority to obtain reasonable and necessary emergency medical care for my child and I agree to pay for those services.
7. I understand that the LCSD does not provide any insurance for medical expenses needed as described in Section 6 above.
8. Because of the risk of illness due to COVID-19, I agree not to allow my child to participate in any school related events if my child has any symptoms of having COVID-19 (symptoms include fever, being exposed to a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the prior 14 days and other symptoms as described by the CDC).
9. I hereby voluntarily COVENANT NOT TO SUE the Lamar County School District, it's employees, assigns, officers, insurer's or anyone associated in any way with any of them (RELEASEES) for any action or inaction of any of these parties in any event involving my child participating in an extra-curriculum event or field trip.
10. I hereby agree to DEFEND, INDEMNIFY AND SAVE AND HOLD HARMLESS the RELEASEES and each of them from any loss, liability, damage, or cost they may incur arising out of or related to any illness or death, whether caused by the negligence of the Releasees or otherwise.
11. This Agreement applies by my heirs, assigns and personal representatives.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

(For Students in High School)

I have read this Agreement and I agree to comply with the requirements listed above.

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____