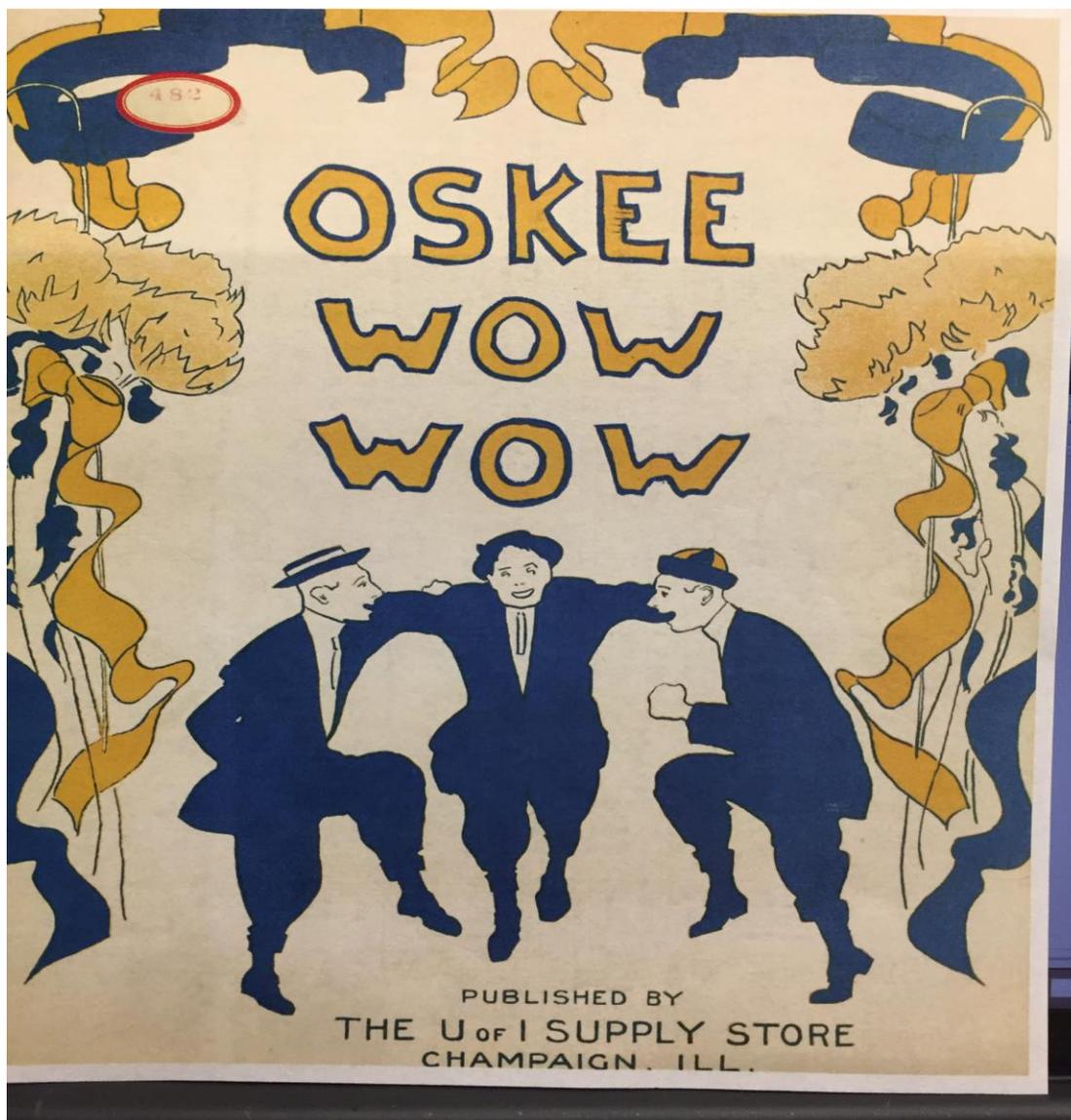


Mighty Maroon Band Handbook



Director
Chuck Miller

Preface

This handbook has been written for the Mighty Maroon Band. The purpose of this handbook is to provide information, guidelines and explanations that students and parents might find helpful in achieving a successful band experience. Students are responsible for knowing all guidelines and policies outlined in the handbook and will be expected to follow them.

The goal of the Mighty Maroon Band is to be exemplary representatives of our school and community, from the performances in our community to those across the state. We pledge to always set our standards high, whether it is with our music, conduct or academic achievement. Our goal as a band will be to maintain these traditions and expectations throughout the year.

Courses

The De Leon High School Band consists of the Marching Band and Concert Band. The class will meet every day. In an effort to avoid afternoon or extra-unscheduled rehearsals, the Band will meet at 6:30 PM Monday evenings, during the Marching Seasons (unless otherwise instructed).

Marching Band: The Band will have required rehearsals on Monday evenings until the conclusion of Football season. If a student must miss any rehearsal due to illness, they will be required to practice after school for the same amount of time. UIL Marching Contest will be on Saturday, October 19, 2019 in Mineral Wells, Texas. The Band will also compete in a pre-UIL Marching Festival on Saturday, October 12, 2019, in preparation for the UIL Contest.

Marching band attire will be the school band uniform issued to the student. The students will be responsible for black socks, and solid black shoes with black soles. During all marching contest no jewelry will be allowed. During all performances all hair will be off the collar either tucked in your hat or pony tailed and placed in your jacket. The uniforms are machine washable and students can wash them when they choose. The uniforms will be washed by the school prior to issuing, prior to the October contests, and when they are turned in at the end of football season.

Since Band students receive a credit for Physical Education during the Fall Semester, students will be expected to demonstrate their physical ability in the form of Marching. There is a certain amount of flexibility, strength and stamina required to perform a 10-minute Marching Show, so students should be prepared to incorporate physical activities in rehearsals.

Band Physicals: Starting August 1, 2019 any student participating in the Marching Band must complete a physical examination. For convenience physicals will be offered to all band students at the same time as athletic physical each year.

Concert Band: The Band will begin rehearsing for Concert Band during the Third Six-Weeks. Emphasis will be placed on the individual playing ability as well as ensemble playing. Grades will be based on performance and participation, including live and recorded playing evaluations.

Concert band attire is dress black. All gentlemen must wear a long sleeve solid black shirt, black slacks, black socks, and black shoes. All ladies have the option to wear what the gentlemen wear or they may wear a concert black dress accompanied by black dress shoes. The dress must be school dress code approved and may have short sleeves. There will be no jewelry allowed on stage and all hair will be pulled off the collar for all performances.

Region, Area and All State bands are based on individual effort. Students are not required but are encouraged to participate in these tryouts and concerts. Region band Tryouts will be December 7, 2019 in Graham. Area Band will be held at Argyle High School, January 11, 2020. The All-State Band will be held in San Antonio in conjunction with the Texas Music Educators Music Convention, February 12, 13, 14, and 15, 2020.

UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest will be during the Fourth Six-Weeks; however, any student interested in participating may choose their music at any time during the Fall Semester. Selections should be made before the Christmas break, in order to adequately prepare the music.

The Concert Band will compete in the UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contest on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at Hamilton High School. Preparations will begin at the beginning of January.

General Band Rules

All members of the band represent the school and the district at all times. Each member must conduct him or her self in an exemplary manner at all times, whether during school, at a performance, or during leisure and social activities. The behavior, character, and personal appearance of each member should set a positive example for

others at all times. Band members should never be seen smoking, drinking alcohol, using any kind of illegal drug or other illegal substance, or engaging in any unlawful or prohibited activity. Inappropriate pictures or comments posted on the Internet are also prohibited.

Prior to a band member being placed on probation or removed from the team, he or she will be notified in writing of the reasons for the action. A conference with the principal and sponsor will be offered to the parent and the student. The student will be given the opportunity to present his or her version of the events.

1. No Food or Drink allowed in the Band hall (except bottled water)
2. Gum is not allowed during ANY Band rehearsal or performance (inside or outside)
3. Be on time for all band functions.
4. Respect the property of the school, directors and other band members.
5. No student is to hold, play or otherwise operate another person's instrument. If it is not yours, don't touch it!
6. Do not engage in any behavior that may be disrespectful, distract the director from teaching or keep another student from learning.
7. Cell phones are not allowed during rehearsal or performance times!!!!
8. All performances are formal; students will wear uniforms or designated clothing.

All band members will be subject to the school drug testing program. The first drug test will be every student, after that the drug testing will be random and all band members will be subject to the random draw. If a band member fails a drug test the consequences will be as follows:

1. The first time failure, the student parents or guardians will be notified and the student will become ineligible for three-weeks. They will not be able to attend any performances with the band within that three-week period. The student must produce a clean drug test taken at a certified clinic to be reinstated after three weeks. A student may wait until the next testing cycle held at school but they will not be reinstated nor allowed to perform until a clean test is produced.
2. After a second time failure, the student parents or guardians will be notified and the student will become ineligible for six-weeks. They will not be able to attend any performances with the band within that six-week period. At the end of the six-weeks period, the student must produce a clean drug test taken at a certified clinic to be reinstated. A student may wait until the next testing cycle held at school but they will not be reinstated nor allowed to perform until a clean test is produced.
3. After a third failure, the student parents or guardians will be notified and the student will become ineligible for twelve-weeks. They will not be able to attend any performances with the band within that twelve-week period. At the end of the twelve-weeks period, the student must produce a clean drug test taken at a certified clinic to be reinstated. A student may wait until the next testing cycle held at school but they will not be reinstated nor allowed to perform until a clean test is produced.

4. If a student fails a drug test four times in a school year, the parents or guardians will be notified and the student will become ineligible for the remainder of the school year. The parents or guardians will also be notified that their student will not be allowed to enroll in the band for the following school year unless they can produce a clean drug test from a certified clinic between the fourth failure and the beginning of the next school year..

Attendance

The Mighty Maroon Band is dependent on all of its members. Unlike other classes where individuals are accountable for only their success or failure, the success of a band is in part dependent on the full participation of all of the organization's members. It is therefore vitally important that every student understand, respect and execute the following principles:

1. **Prioritize Band Commitments:** Work schedules, doctor appointments, family trips and other non-school related sponsored activities must not interfere with the rehearsal and performances that are scheduled on the band calendar.
2. **Organize Responsibly:** Students who are involved in other school activities **must** plan ahead responsibly. Proactive, advanced planning is essential and must take place. We want to avoid the occurrence of any type of conflict – and want to recognize and resolve any legitimate and justifiable conflict that will benefit all parties involved.
3. **Be proactive:** look at the band calendar and plan ahead to work out any schedule conflicts.
4. **Communicate Timely:** The band director will work together with other teachers, coaches and directors of various activities in order to give each student every opportunity to participate fully in all activities. You must do your part to communicate with coaches, teachers and other director as well.

Disciplinary Procedures

Any failure to follow the rules set forth in the handbook will result in disciplinary action. Any action will follow this procedure:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Band Detention
3. Parent Conference and additional Band Detention
4. Administrative Referral
5. Formal reevaluation of membership in the band will be considered.

Grading

We present two public Concerts each year- one at the conclusion of the fall semester and one at the end of the school year. Student performance and participation in these concerts is required as part of our curriculum requirements and will be a considered a major grade assignment. Additional grade assignments will be posted throughout the year on the weekly and monthly calendars. Grades will be based on individual performance assignments, rehearsal performance and participation, and mastered objectives that will be passed-off (for a resulting grade of 100). Performance grades will be given in several formats, such as video, 'in person' and computer recorded.

Eligibility

Texas law requires that students maintain passing grades (70 or above) in all classes to participate in UIL or other extra-curricular activities. A failing grade brings a three-week non-participation penalty, beginning one week after the grading period ends. The eligibility rules begin with the first 6-weeks grading period. To avoid any conflicts and questions about eligibility, just pass your classes! Do your homework and do not wait until the end of the 6-weeks to turn-in late work. Be respectful of your other teachers and take care of business.

Uniforms

1. Protect your uniform from the elements of nature by using the uniform bag provided.
2. Always hang your pants by the crease of the slack and hang both pant and jacket on a SUIT hangar – not the wire hangar from the cleaners.
3. Uniforms are to be hung back in the Uniform Room at the conclusion of each performance.
4. Uniforms will be cleaned every 3-4 wearing's.
5. No visible jewelry is to be worn with the uniform.
6. The uniform is to be worn completely at all times, including the jacket being zipped, unless otherwise specified. When the hat is being worn, it is never worn at a slant or backwards.
7. Band members will be accountable for all damaged or lost articles.
8. Students will be responsible for providing solid black shoes with black soles and black socks.

Letter Jackets

1. A letter jacket for band may be earned for participation in the high school band for 4 years.
2. A letter jacket for band may be earned for earning a chair in the Region Band.

3. A letter jacket for band may be earned for receiving a 1st division rating on a Solo or a 1st division rating in an Ensemble at UIL Solo and Ensemble contest.
4. A letter jacket for band may be earned for being a part of an ensemble that advances to an all-state level performance either in marching or concert.

Stadium Conduct

1. Stay in assigned place. A seating plan is designed for the best sound and visual appearance of the band.
2. Be ready to play stand tunes on short notice.
3. No one is allowed to leave the band area without a director's approval.
4. Students may take one storage bag into the stands. Cell phones and iPods must be stored in a safe place during performance.
5. Do not leave any valuables in the stands while the band is performing or away.
6. Do not walk anywhere by yourself at a visiting stadium.
7. Band members are not allowed to go to the concession stand during the game, unless permission is granted during 3rd quarter. In the event that the band does not 3rd quarter break, drinks and snacks will be provided.
8. In the event that the band receives a 3rd quarter break, ALL students shall be back in the assigned band area by the beginning of the 4th quarter. Failure to do so will result in a deduction of your performance grade and remaining in the stands for the next game(s).
9. The band will travel to the bleachers as a group at the beginning of each game.
10. If a band member is late at the beginning of the first quarter he/she will forfeit their third quarter break for that game.
11. All trash will be picked up from the band area before the band is dismissed.

Travel

When the band travels as a group, the following must be observed:

1. Conduct – school sponsored trips are an extension of the school day with school regulation in effect for the duration of the trip.
2. Bus procedures – All members will travel to and from each event by bus. If another arrangement is necessary, a written note must be provided to the director in advance. Students will not be released to anyone other than their parent or legal guardian.
3. Students will sign a seating chart for each trip. They are required to sit in that seat to and from the event. No student shall change busses or seats without the permission of the director.

4. There will be no standing or moving while the bus is in motion.
5. No loud music is permitted. Bring headphones and a splitter if you want to share your music with your neighbor.
6. All trash will be picked up on the bus before students will be allowed to leave.
7. Students need to notify or call for a ride in a timely manner.
8. All students will help unload the trailer upon arrival. Students that may leave the game early are responsible for their uniform and instrument.
9. THANK the Bus Driver!

RECEIPT OF THE BAND HANDBOOK

I _____ have received and read the
(student)
Mighty Maroon Band Handbook. I agree to follow all rules
and regulations set forth by the organization and pledge to be a good
member and represent my school and band in a positive and
respectful manner.

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____