

Wester Band Parent Meeting

2019-2020

Welcome to the Wester Band Program

- Brad Smith- Brass / Wind Ensemble / Concert Band
- Allison Jadvani - Woodwinds / Symphonic Band/ Concert Band
- Chad Wallace - Centennial Cluster Percussion Director
- Garrett Tucker- Centennial Percussion Assistant Director
- Arjun Jeetan- Student Teacher

Booster Club Report

Most Important Things to know

- www.westerwildcatband.com
 - Calendar - Official one is on the website - hard copy in all student binders
 - Important announcements
 - Itineraries
 - Band handbook
 - Forms and fees due by Aug. 30th

More Important things

- Canvas
 - Assignments will be posted in Canvas
 - Practice Records - now in Canvas
 - Recorded assignments in Canvas
 - Syllabus for each class
- Charms - www.charmsoffice.com
 - ALL CONTACT COMES THROUGH CHARMS
 - Update your information today.

Required Supplies

- Instrument - obviously
- Pencil - It is needed everyday. (Pencil pouch in every binder)
- Music- students will keep their binder organized
 - Band Librarians will assist in helping students replace copies
- Metronome/Tuner with pick up mic - Korg TM - 60

Beginners

We will begin with instruments tomorrow. Yeah!

- It will take a few days for instruments to go home
 - Instrument care and maintenance
 - How to make First sounds
- Once instruments go home there will be daily assignments
 - All “homework” for band should last 30 minutes in the beginning.
 - Alphabet All Stars
 - Rhythms Rockers
 - Tone production
 - Greater Experience = More time playing
 - Learning to Read Music

Beginners

Grades in Beginner classes

- Some assignments in Canvas
- Performance quiz/test in class each week
- Weekly Practice Record

Later in the year

- Performances/Concerts

7th and 8th grade

Different requirements for each class:

See the Syllabus for each class to learn more about what your child will work on.

All will participate in the following:

- Practice Records
- Canvas Quizzes
- In Class Performances/quizzes
- Concerts and Contests
- Solo and Ensemble Performances

7th and 8th grade

Performance Expectations

- In class
- All Region (more advanced students)
- UIL
- Concert Festivals

Student Leadership

Band Leadership Team

- Group of 8th graders chosen by the directors
- Leadership training
- Jobs to benefit the program
 - Greet and assist other students
 - Librarians
 - Quartermasters (equipment crew)
 - Band Aides (Student Leaders in Beginner Classes)

Practice Records

Daily practice is necessary for:

- Greater success
- Greater literacy (music reading) - transfers to other classes
- Almost all tests are performances - preparation comes through practice

Practicing teaches students how to be successful in all parts of life

- “Successful People are not gifted; they just work hard, then Succeed on Purpose” - GK Nelson

Practice records

- Filled out daily
 - Grade is based on time and number of days combined
 - More time spread over more days earns a higher grade
 - Details are in the band handbook
- Practicing student must go in with a plan
 - We will train them on how to plan their practice time
 - Daily routine builds muscle, technique, and connections in the brain

Grading

Major Grades

- Performances, tests, concerts, weekly skills demonstrations

Minor Grades

- Practice Records, quizzes, sectional rehearsals, daily assignments

Band is more than a “special”

- Band is more than a “Special.” It is a 7 year program designed to prepare your child for life after Frisco ISD through Instrumental Music Education.
- Individual responsibility is a major expectation in band.
 - you will see this in all band programs across the district.
- Working towards total Mastery of skills rather than general understanding.
 - Passing is not good enough
 - Everything we do has a purpose
- We must follow TEKS - State Mandated Curriculum

Private Lessons

Lessons are NOT TUTORIALS. More like an apprenticeship

If a student needs individual tutorial help from a band director, they can set up an appointment.

Lessons are an extension of the classroom that help all musicians grow.

Private Lesson Staff

- All are degreed/professional musicians
- This is their career and their calling
- They all passed a background check and are approved by the district
- Lessons are not required/ but highly encouraged
- Cost is \$20 per 30 minute lesson
- Scholarships are available - fill out the form and return to Mrs. Jadvani

Success in Middle School

Simple

- Turn in all work on time (late work policy is nice, but true success comes through individual accountability and responsibility)
- Get help when you need it.
 - Tutorials
 - BLT - These kids are awesome!
 - Ask your Band Director - we can help you find the right people

Academic Eligibility

Grades matter

- No Pass / No Play
- Grades are checked every three weeks (IPR)
- Every 9 weeks is the Report Card grade
- Special eligibility check at the 6th week (football rule)

If a student is academically ineligible, they cannot participate in extracurricular activities until they become eligible again.

Students still must participate in curricular activities (graded)

So.... What's the point?

What are we trying to teach?

- It all starts with the Music - we are here to build great musicians
- Self Discipline, Responsibility, Dedication, and the ability to finish a task
- Future Ready Learning! - This is Music Education
- <https://www.friscoisd.org/departments/curriculum-instruction/future-ready-learner-profile>
- College Prep
 - GPA - Important, but not the biggest part of the puzzle anymore
 - Collaboration
 - Innovation
 - Problem solving skills

Band is how your child can succeed!

You can help them!

1. Encourage Daily practice
2. Help them as they struggle through the hard times
3. Remind them - “Don’t Give Up! Keep Going”
4. Hard work is hard, but success after hard work is fulfilling.

“We can do hard things!”

Find out where they are....

And help them grow from there.

This is what we do.

We are not expecting these kids to become professional musicians.

We are teaching them out to succeed in Middle School, High School and Beyond, through music education.

They are the future, and we as teachers and parents are here to prepare them for that future.