

Splendora ISD
Band Member Handbook
2021 - 2022



Band member name: _____

Purpose of Handbook:

This handbook describes the Splendor ISD Band Program and its policies, rules and regulations.

Band members are required to follow the policies set forth in the handbook at all times; that a member is directly or indirectly involved in any activity sponsored by or in the name of the Splendor ISD Band program. *Splendor ISD policies shall have priority over band policy in the event of any policy conflict.*

The band directors shall have authority to suspend or amend any band policy at any time deemed necessary in the best interest and safety of the overall band program.

To the Parents...

Welcome to one of the most exciting organizations available for your child!

The Splendor ISD Band program offers many varied performance opportunities and gives members the chance to learn with each other and grow closer to one another. We strive to offer the best available instruction and the widest array of events for our members.

We strongly believe that there is a place for everyone in the band. Our success depends largely on your support and dedication to our common goals. If you choose to participate, you can reap a variety of rewards and help support your child's education.

We hope that you share our excitement in creating these phenomenal opportunities for the students. We encourage parents to be active supporters of our efforts through booster club participation (**Splendor Band Boosters**), assistance in fundraising, and through volunteer work such as chaperones, equipment crew or as a parent leader. We also hope that you will be visible supporters of the students by attending as many performances as possible.

This handbook should help orientate you and your child to the many different aspects of the Splendor ISD Band program. We welcome your attendance at band parent meetings.

Feel free to call any director or elected band parent officer for help and remember to come to the meetings to get the latest information about each event. All Band Booster meetings are held in the high school band hall every second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm.

On behalf of all Splendor ISD Music Directors & Staff,

Brian Best

Director of Bands
Splendor High School
bbest@splendoraisd.org

Michael T. Lehew

Director of Bands
Splendor Junior High School
mlehew@splendoraisd.org

Ryan Meadows

Assistant Director
Splendor High School
rmeadows@splendoraisd.org

Pat Crofton

Assistant Director
Piney Woods/Timber Lakes Elem.
jcrofton@splendoraisd.org

Cliff Brown

Assistant Director
Greenleaf/Peach Creek Elem.
jbrown@splendoraisd.org

TRAVEL/TRIPS! ☺

The band takes a few bus trips throughout the year. You will be notified if spending money is needed for additional meals for longer trips. You will also receive itineraries with times, locations and phone numbers for all trips as needed, as well as, the student requirements for each trip. **All members must complete medical and travel update forms each year.**

On all trips, band members will follow all Splendora ISD student polices, Splendora band policies, such as, but not limited to:

Dress code, substance abuse, respect of all teachers and volunteers, professional representation of the school...

Abuse of these noted policies will result in immediate disciplinary action and removal from band!

ATTENDANCE AND GRADING POLICY

1. Your band grade is based on the work you do in class.
2. Unexcused absences will negatively affect grades.
3. You cannot learn and the band cannot function with missing members.
4. Students are required to have their instrument and materials in working conditions EVERY DAY! This too, factors into the grade.
5. **Missing music, instrument, mutes, reeds, supplies... will hurt your grade!**

Grades will be based on your performance in the following areas

Attendance at rehearsals & events

Music pass off tests (Scales, Books, etc.) (40%)

Practice Reports

Daily preparation, performance, and participation (60%)

Missing a concert/performance without proper documentation: Automatic letter grade drop and possible removal from band or band trip revoked!

Come to band + Respect your teachers and students + Work hard + Have fun = Get an A.

Missing Rehearsal

Appointments, work, and vacations should be scheduled around band rehearsals, performances, and activities. These are not valid excuses. **With proper planning, conflicts with other events can be avoided and need to be discussed in advance.** We will work with you, but you must talk with the band directors in advance.

The only **truly excusable** absences from band practice or performances are those recognized by Splendora ISD for normal attendance purposes (severe illness, death in immediate family, religious holiday, etc.). ***An absence request must be approved by the Directors in advance.***

Sports/Other Important Activities

As you are developing into a young adult, you should be allowed to pursue all things that interest you. However, it is also a time to learn time management. No student will be denied membership in the band program because of interest in other activities, **if** the student meets all requirements of the band program as well.

Get involved! But do not spread yourself too thin...

Practice Report Policy

Every week for a grade, students will be asked to turn in a practice report from their previous week of playing. Your child should have YOU, THE PARENT, SIGN AND RETURN IT! To receive full credit for practicing, arrangements need to be made to make sure your child takes their instrument home every day as well as weekend.

Remember... Practice makes perfect.... Consistent.

Success on your instrument means practicing at home, away from school. You can only have fun in a class or ensemble if you play well. Day to day, you must make progress. You can only do this by practicing at home. Each semester we must get better as young musicians!

Fundraising Opportunities

Fundraisers are an important part of our band program! They help the band program offset some of costs throughout the school year in addition to providing opportunities for students to offset some of their band fees. Some of the fundraisers directly help the band, some directly help the student, and some are split between the band and the student. It is important that we all pitch in and help one another to support the continuation of our program!

Cell Telephones/Electronic devices:

As per SISD policy, mobile phones are not allowed to be used during class or rehearsal. This is zero-tolerance school policy as well. Cell phones will be taken from you and sent to the appropriate Assistant Principal for later retrieval by your parent.

Taking care of the Band Room

We have outstanding band facilities at all campuses in Splendor ISD. The band halls' appearance will reflect the pride and spirit that the students have in the band program.

Remember always: **ONLY ENROLLED BAND STUDENTS ARE ALLOWED IN THE BAND ROOM.**

Do not eat, drink, or chew gum in the band room, hallways, or practice rooms.

Any violations of the above rules, or any acts of vandalism, will result in disciplinary action. Take care of your second home!

Please do not enter the Director's office unless he or she is present.

Do not "hang out" in the band hall if a director/teacher is not present. This is per Splendor ISD policy. **It is not the Director(s) or Principal's responsibility for student injury or other situations in the event a student was at the school/in the band hall when the Director was not present.**

The band hall will open 30 minutes before an official band activity or school day begins and will be closed 30 minutes after a rehearsal/event has ended.

DISMISSAL FROM BAND:

We understand that band may not be for everyone and that sometimes your educational curiosity leads elsewhere. If this does occur, the Band Directors must be notified before a schedule is changed. This is to ensure that all items have been returned to the Band department. All items must be returned, and debts cleared before a student's grades will be released. The SJH Counselors are aware of this protocol and follow through with our procedures.

If a student would like to be dismissed from the band program voluntarily, the following steps must be completed:

1. Student must notify the band director in writing via a Band Dismissal Email
2. Student and parent may be asked by director for a conference before dismissal is granted.
3. Student dismissal from band must be approved by the Principal.
4. Upon dismissal from the band program, students will not receive a refund of any funds that have been contributed, all school owned equipment must be returned to the band directors and student will no longer be permitted to enter the band hall or attend any band functions as a member of the band.

------(Cut Here)-----

Return this bottom portion with signature by the end of the week for a grade!

I have read the 2021-2022 Splendor ISD Band Handbook and understand the consequences that my son or daughter will be faced with if they choose to not want to participate in the Splendor Junior High School Band program.

(Parent Signature)

(Date)

I have read the 2021-2022 Splendor ISD Band Handbook and understand the consequences that I will deal with if I choose to not want to participate in the Splendor Junior High School Band program.

(Student Name, Print)

(Student Signature)