

PARKER ELEMENTARY

BAND



PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK

2007-2008

THIS HANDBOOK IS PROVIDED TO HELP STUDENTS AND PARENTS UNDERSTAND THE RESPONSIBILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH MEMBERSHIP IN THE BAND PROGRAM.

Welcome To The Parker Elementary Band!

This Handbook has been designed to help students and parents gain a better understanding of the entire band program. As the director I know that the first introduction to the band program can be very confusing. Time, sports, and academics are all big concerns. Here are some commonly asked questions.

Q: Can you do band and Choir?

A: Yes, but you must be extremely well organized and responsible. The band and choir programs need to know WELL IN ADVANCE of conflicts. Students who are athletes and musicians must split practice time evenly, and are expected to attend all band performances. There is room for academics, athletics, and music, as long as you plan carefully.

Q: Will my grades suffer from doing band? Will I have time to study?

A: Definitely not! Many band members take Advanced classes , Odyssey of the Mind ,sports etc...classes and perform excellently on there TAKS scores. There is far less time to procrastinate during Band season. This teaches students how to manage their time, and most band members' grades are higher in the fall.

Q: Why does band rehearse so much? Will I have time to be with my friends and family?

A: The band actually spends less time rehearsing in school and after, than most sports teams practice after school alone. But we strive for excellence, and being the best at what we do takes practice. Performances are only fun if they are successful. And in the case of many students, after a few weeks in band, you will find that time spent at rehearsal *is* time spent with your friends.

I hope that you find this handbook useful and a good reference. For many Parker graduates band activities created some of their favourite moments in school. When you step onto the stage for your first performance, and get the adrenaline rush from playing music with your friends, you will understand why we work so hard. Congratulations on your decision to play in the Parker Elementary Band. I am thrilled to have you as a part of our team!

Lloyd Hughes

Kristell Nelson

Al Campbell – Band Directors

Pre-Band

Students enrolled in this class attend a group class once a week during the school day. They purchase a recorder (plastic flutophone). Each student receives instruction in basic elements of music as well as instruction on the recorder.

Rhythm Band

Students enrolled in this class attend a small group (10 to 15 students) lesson once a week during the school day. They play rhythm band instruments and study basic elements of music. These students will be candidates for Pre-Band the following year. Parents are not required to attend these classes.

Beginner Band

Band students enrolled in this class attend a small group section class once a week during the school day. Parents are not required to attend these classes. The beginning band meets each afternoon from 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Advanced Band

Band students enrolled in this class attend a small group section class once a week during the school day. Parents are not required to attend these classes. The Advanced Band meets each afternoon from 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Jazz Band

Students enrolled in this class attend a small group class once a week and after school class from 4- 4:40 on scheduled Tuesday afternoons.

Parents: We need your help!

The Parker Band Parents are the lifeblood of this band. It is because of parental involvement that we can do everything we want, for every season. Interested parents are needed to work in the following areas:

Instrument Check Out - Beginning Band - Ms. Nelson will need 2 parent volunteers starting this Friday, September 7 and possibly Monday and Tuesday of the next week during magnet to help check out and assign instruments. Please contact me if you are available. .

Crowd Control - Have you ever tried to walk near the music hall at 2:55 p.m.? It's absolute chaos. We need a few parents for about a week to stand outside the band rooms to try to stop the kids from running, and throwing their backpacks and instruments around. This will only be for a week or so, until they learn the routine.

Webmaster - We have a new website that is going to be available to keep us all informed on band news!. It is www.parkerelementaryband.com We need someone to assist in maintaining the web site. That includes uploading pictures, updating information, and making any changes that are necessary. The website will also have all of the needed practice sheets and supply lists and a calendar of upcoming events.

Music Librarian - Initially I will need one or two parents to help out with cleaning, organizing, and cataloguing the music in the band room. Then someone to help distribute music throughout the year.

Audio/Visual Technician - We need someone to record the band performances. Mr. Hughes has the equipment on hand, and can show you how and what needs to be done.

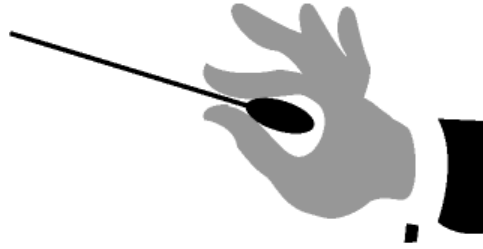
Open House - The Magnet Open House is Tuesday Sept. 18th. We will need help to set up and sell packets.

Chaperone - We will need parent volunteers to chaperone for performances and trips.

Band Parties - We would like to give the kids a holiday party and an end of the year party. We will need snacks and chaperones for these.

Parker Music now stocks band supplies. They are on sale on Mondays and Fridays from 7:45 to 8:10 am in Rm. 42 (Mrs. Branch's room). A list of supplies that are available for purchase was sent home with all band students last Friday. Please check their backpacks and folders for this list. The supply list will also be posted on Mrs. Branch's door and of course both of the band rooms.

Parker Elementary Advanced Band



Advanced Band Calendar 2007 – 2008

September 20		Uniform check day
September 29		Westbury's homecoming parade
November 8		All City Band Auditions
November 15		Pops Concert Band Dads
November		Tentative HSPVA Performance
December 10	1:30pm	Band Rehearsal
December 11	2:00pm	Advanced band/ Pre Band Concert
	6:30pm	Advanced Band Concert
January 15, 17, 22, & 24		All City Band Rehearsals at Lovett Elementary
January 26		All City Band Concert at Westside High School
February	8:30am	Jazz and Poetry Concert
March 1		HISD Solo and Ensemble Contest
April 5		Waltrip Band Festival
	TBA	Jazz Band Aramco Services Concert
May 14	1:30pm	Band Rehearsal
May 15	2:00pm	Advanced Band/ Pre Band Concert
	6:30pm	Advanced Band / Jazz Band Concert

STUDENT'S MUSICAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The primary focus of any band is music. The quality of the group is dependent on the quality of the individuals. Improvement for us all happens in only two ways: *instruction and practice*. The band directors and the staff work hard to make this experience educational and enjoyable. Therefore, all students are required to practice on their own time. **Group rehearsal isn't enough to make a great band!**

STUDENTS MUST TAKE THEIR INSTRUMENTS HOME FOR ADDITIONAL PRACTICE.

It is the students' responsibility to protect and care for their instrument. All instruments must be stored in appropriate instrument cases.

WHAT STUDENTS NEED FOR EVERY REHEARSAL:

1. Instrument, music and a positive attitude.
2. mouthpiece, valve oil, reeds, drum sticks, mallets, etc. for their instrument
3. all music, even if it's memorized
4. pencil

Students are responsible for the purchase of their own reeds, Valve oil, cork grease, mallets, drumsticks, etc.

Band Member Rehearsal & Performance Responsibilities

ALL STUDENTS SHOULD BE READY AT THE START OF ALL REHEARSALS.

Attendance is **mandatory** for band. Students are expected to be at all rehearsals and performances on time and ready to begin at or before the designated start time for an individual activity.

**VERY IMPORTANT! PLEASE NOTE:
ALL SCHEDULING CONFLICTS INVOLVING BAND EVENTS (BOTH REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES) MUST BE BROUGHT TO Director's ATTENTION PLEASE MAKE ALL EFFORTS TO AVOID CONFLICTS.**

PERFORMANCES

All members are required to attend all performances. The band director will provide a list of all performances far in advance of the season's start. All conflicts must be reported to the director **prior to the performance**.

LOCKERS:

The band room is equipped with many instrument lockers of varying sizes. All members of the Parker Elementary Band are entitled to use them and will be assigned a slot for his or her instrument. This will prevent instrument damage and theft of personal property.

UNIFORMS

"Full Uniform" is defined as: pants, black socks, shoes, and Parker Red shirt"

ADVANCED BAND SUPPLY LIST

1. The Advanced Band Uniform will be **Black Slacks, Red Parker Polo shirt, black dress shoes, and Black socks.**

2. Black one inch binder with twenty sheet protectors for sale at **"Parker Elementary Band Room for \$3.00."**

Rubank Intermediate Method Book for their instrument (Oboe, Saxophone, clarinet, etc...)an Master Theory Book 1



Oboe

Cleaning swab reed holder 2 med reeds

Flute

Small cloth for cleaning

Clarinet, Alto Clarinet & Bass Clarinet

4 reeds, reed holder, cork grease, & small cloth for cleaning (All reeds should be size 2 ½)

Alto & Tenor Saxophone

4 reeds, reed holder, cork grease, & small cloth for cleaning

French Horn

Rotor oil (Valve Oil), small cloth for cleaning

Trumpet & Cornet

Valve oil, Tuning Slide grease, & small cloth for cleaning

Trombone

Super Slick Side grease or Slide Oil & small cloth for cleaning

Tuba

Valve Oil & small cloth for cleaning

Percussion

Drum sticks size 2A or 2 B, practice pad
& Bell mallets

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Local Music Stores (supplies and repairs)

Broughton's Horn Shop 10813 South Post Oak South Post Oak @ Willow Bend next to Annie's Hamburgers Ph. 713 723 2230 Fax 713 723 3255

Murphy Road Music 12240-D Murphy Rd. Stafford, Texas 77477 PH. 281 933 9790

Music & Arts Center 8600 Jameel Road, Suite 100 Houston, TX 77040 (713) 996-7993

Holze Music 6767 Portwest Dr. Houston, Texas 77024
www.holzemusic.com

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

FACT: PARENTAL PARTICIPATION ENHANCES EVERY STUDENT'S BAND EXPERIENCE.

HELP US GIVE YOUR CHILD THE BEST EXPERIENCE HE OR SHE CAN HAVE. GET INVOLVED!

Parental involvement is critical for the success of the band program. All parents are urged to become active members of the **Band Parents** and assist in the organization's efforts. The main goals of the Band Parents Association are:

1. Raise funds to support the band program and actively participate in all programs and events.
2. Encourage the students and their program in a positive, supportive way.
3. Provide support and assistance as chaperones and role models.

Parents with specific talents or contacts that may enhance the band program are encouraged to discuss them with the director. Parents are needed for quartermaster duties (uniform maintenance and distribution), chaperones, construction, etc. Those seeking extra involvement are encouraged to run for office in the organization or attend steering committee meetings.

Parents are invited and encouraged to attend Parker Elementary Band Performances! It's good for parents to see how rehearsals run, and gives them a chance to see the staff and students in action. Parents are also strongly encouraged to attend all performances and competitions in which the band participates. This encouragement is valued by your sons and daughters, even if they don't show it!

PARENTAL SUPPORT NEEDED FOR ON-SITE PERFORMANCES

- prior to performance with equipment set up
- Chaperones for crowd control
- Drum Equipment Set up
- Beverage parents: water or as temperature dictates

PARENTAL SUPPORT NEEDED FOR AWAY PERFORMANCES

Communication

Communication between parents and the band is an important priority. In order to facilitate open communication lines, it is imperative that the association be provided with current phone numbers and e-mail addresses of both students and parents. During the years that your student is a member of the band, it is important that you advise us of any change of address, phone or e-mail. Please refer to the listing at the end of this handbook for e-mail and phone numbers.

The Band director may be contacted at the music department office. The phone number is (713) 726 3679. A voice messaging system is available at this number 24 hours a day.



PARKER ELEMENTARY BAND MEMBER ATTENDANCE CONTRACT

In order for the Parker Elementary Band and all performing groups to achieve the highest level of musical excellence, attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory. Any potential conflicts with rehearsals or performances must be submitted in writing prior to the conflict. It is equally important for students to be on time and ready to begin (instruments, music, and equipment on person, dressed appropriately) at the designated starting time. It is important to note: in order to start on time, the student must arrive a few minutes prior to rehearsal.

Specific consequences for lateness and unexcused absences will be outlined in the rule book. Consequences for lateness, absence or inappropriate behavior will be set and enforced by the staff and director. .

The acceptable excuses for missing rehearsals or performances are:

- documented illness, with a doctor's note
- calendar religious holiday
- death in the family

This emphasis on attendance is for the good of the entire band. Without full attendance, we cannot function as a proper whole. Our team is harmed by inconsistent effort. Success will only come with consistent attendance at rehearsals by all members of the Band.

I, _____, accept the terms of attendance for the Parker Elementary Band. I understand that if I violate this contract, my course grade will be affected.

Signed

Date

I have discussed the attendance policy of the band with my child and will support the band Policies regarding attendance.

Signed (parent/guardian)

Date

Signed (parent/guardian)

Date

Parents - Tell Us About Yourself

My name is _____

I am the mother of _____

I can do: (check all that apply)

Carpentry	
Painting	
Sewing	
Graphic Arts	
Web Design	
Cook and Bake	
I have a truck	
Yes, my employer will match my tax deductible donations. (matching contributions program)	
Yes, I work locally and I can offer my services as a daytime band chaperone.	
Yes, I am interested in volunteering my services to the Band Parents Committees	
Yes, I have local contacts with the news media	
Yes, I can approach my corporation or business to ask for support for the band	



My name is _____

I am the father of _____

I can do: (check all that apply)

Carpentry	
Painting	
Sewing	
Graphic Arts	
Web Design	
Cook and Bake	
I have a truck	
Yes, my employer will match my tax deductible donations. (matching contributions program)	
Yes, I work locally and I can offer my services as a daytime band chaperone.	
Yes, I am interested in volunteering my services to the Band Parents Committees	
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Important Contact information

Web site www.Parkerelementaryband.com

Lloyd Hughes lhughes@houstonisd.org

Kristell Nelson KNELSON4@houstonisd.org

Al Campbell LCAMPBE3@houstonisd.org

Courtney Fowler-Cotton courtney.cotton@sbcglobal.net

Parker Elementary Band takes *Pride* in Music:

Professionalism

Respect

Integrity

Dedication

Excellence