



Richardson West Junior High

BRONCO BAND

BEGINNER HANDBOOK

**Arapaho Classical Magnet | Dover Elementary
Math Science Technology Magnet | Richardson Heights Elementary**

WELCOME TO BAND!

Being a part of band is an investment in your child's future. In Texas alone there are 6 times more scholarships given for music than all of athletics combined. Music teaches students responsibility, teamwork, a new skill, and how to succeed. These skills are important not just for elementary school or even high school, but for your child's life. Band can be one of the most rewarding experiences of your child's educational experience - it is a multi-year process, not a one-year fad. 6th grade band is a one year commitment. Students will not be allowed to withdraw from band at any point during the school year. Students and parents need to consider personal schedules and family commitments through the coming years as you begin this musical commitment. While we eagerly anticipate seeing these students perform their first demonstration concert this fall, we also envision them as members of the bands that perform in the newly renovated RHS Auditorium, at contests and concerts, and on the football field on Friday nights!

The West Bronco Band is a positive force in our community and an encouraging environment for our students. The band is the largest school organization at West Junior High and Richardson High School. Your student's self-confidence and social aptitude will increase significantly as they learn to play an instrument and learn to work hard to master a new skill.

A NEW SKILL

Band is a level playing field; almost no one has played before. Learning this skill can reap many benefits, including scholarships throughout your student's school career.

LEARN TO SUCCEED

We demand responsibility, student ownership, and teach students how to practice "smarter, not harder." We teach students to problem-solve before they get to junior high.

WORK AS A TEAM

There is no bench in band - everyone plays, all the time. This promotes a sense of student ownership. We show how rewarding teamwork can be through performances.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How do I make sure my student is enrolled in band?

A: The band directors will take care of contacting the sixth grade teachers and counselors to ensure that your student is enrolled in band. Students who do not have supplies by the end of the first week of school will be removed from band class, as they will fall behind quickly.

Q: When does band class occur?

A: Band class meets during the school day. All schools meet at different times.

Q: Where will my student keep their instrument at school?

A: All of our schools have special shelving for our students' instruments to be placed before school begins. Students will be taking their instrument back and forth to school every day; we do suggest luggage carts for some students who walk to school and have larger instruments. We do not have "extra" home instruments to distribute.

Q: Does band require a lot of time outside of school?

A: In sixth grade, we do not require consistent time after school. See our Beginner Band Calendar for detailed information on events.

Q: What if my student can't attend an event?

A: We hope that by providing the calendar, we can be notified of potential absences with much notice. Band is a team sport, and when a student is absent, it truly makes a difference! When students miss rehearsals or master classes, they miss information and may feel as if they are behind their peers. We completely understand that students are involved in many activities and want to work with them to be engaged in all of those activities. To begin to teach students about real life expectations, we ask that if a student must miss an event, they bring a note from a parent or have their parent e-mail a band director at least a week in advance. Social events are optional and do not require a note.

Q: How does my student pay for social events, instrument rental, and other expenses?

A: Students need to return money and applicable forms together and on time. All checks can be made out to RABC (Richardson Area Band Club) and cash and money orders are accepted. We cannot accept credit or debit cards at this time. When students bring money to school, we provide them an envelope to fill out and hand to us for bookkeeping purposes.

Q: How is my student graded in band?

A: Band is a curricular class, and as such is attached to a grade that will appear on their report cards. Concerts, concert rehearsals, and playing tests are major grades, and signed weekly syllabi, written theory work, and participation in class are a daily grade. Students who show up, turn in their syllabi, and have their supplies will receive a "4" (the highest they can receive) in band.

MASTER CLASSES

Beginner master classes are a **vital** part of our beginning band study program. In our daily band class, we see all instrument sections together in a heterogeneous setting. Beginner master classes give us the opportunity to separate students into their like-instrument sections. These classes are extremely important to your students' musical development. We are paying professionals to teach our students as much as they can in this short time.

Beginner master classes have been communicated since your student tried out their instrument in April and are a required part of band class.

ADEC members - on Tuesdays, attend ADEC, NOT master classes! We understand this musical honor and commitment, and we have communicated with Mrs. Perez.

The master class schedule is as follows. As with any event, if a student can not attend, we request advance notice by a parent in writing or e-mail. If a student can attend even part of a master class, we appreciate the effort!

***All Master Classes will be 5:00 PM - 6:15 PM**

SET 1: AUGUST 27TH - 29TH

@ WESTWOOD JUNIOR HIGH - 7630 ARAPAHO RD., DALLAS, TX

SET 2: SEPTEMBER 10TH - 12TH

@ WESTWOOD JUNIOR HIGH - 7630 ARAPAHO RD., DALLAS, TX

SET 3: NOVEMBER 19TH - 21ST

@ WESTWOOD JUNIOR HIGH - 7630 ARAPAHO RD., DALLAS, TX

SET 4: FEBRUARY 25TH - 27TH

@ WEST JUNIOR HIGH - 1309 HOLLY DR., RICHARDSON, TX

DRUM CLUB

Drum Club is part of the Richardson High School area percussion curriculum. All beginning percussionists rehearse once a week at Richardson High School where they will work on percussion-specific skills to help supplement their everyday band class. They will also work toward other performance opportunities beyond that of the beginning band.

WHO: All 6th grade percussionists

WHEN: Wednesdays, 4:30 - 5:30 PM

WHERE: Richardson High School Percussion Room

WHAT TO BRING: Practice pad, stick bag, band binder, Five-Minute Drill book, a pencil, and a great attitude!

Please contact David Schmuck with any questions - david.schmuck@risd.org

2019-2020 CALENDAR

August 28th	January 8th
September 4th	January 15th
September 11th	January 22nd
September 18th NO DRUM CLUB	January 29th
September 25th	February 5th
October 2nd	February 12th NO DRUM CLUB
October 9th	February 19th
October 16th NO DRUM CLUB	February 26th
October 23rd NO DRUM CLUB	March 4th NO DRUM CLUB
October 30th	March 11th
November 6th	March 18th NO DRUM CLUB
November 13th NO DRUM CLUB	March 25th
November 20th	April 1st NO DRUM CLUB
November 27th NO DRUM CLUB	April 8th
December 4th	April 15th
December 11th NO DRUM CLUB	April 30th- JH Percussion Auditions 4:30pm @ West JH Band Hall

PRIVATE LESSONS

The Supplemental Music Lesson Program in the Richardson Independent School District is a wonderful opportunity available for your child. Supplemental music lessons are a chance for students to receive one-on-one instruction with some of the finest professional teachers and players in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area.

With the large number of students in the Bronco Band program, we simply do not have enough time to spend with each individual student every day. Private Music Lessons offer the student a chance to go beyond the parameters of the classroom setting. Lessons are \$20.00 each and there are usually four lessons per month (one lesson per week.)

Lessons will be scheduled by communication with the private lesson teacher; they're great at working with your schedule. Our best students participate in private lessons! If you have difficulty communicating with a teacher, let a band director know and we will be glad to help you.

INSTRUMENT	INSTRUCTOR NAME	INSTRUCTOR PHONE	INSTRUCTOR E-MAIL
FLUTE	JAMIE MILLER	214-886-9936	jeb.miller@sbcglobal.net
OBOE	JORDAN PYLE	970-237-0490	jordanpyle@gmail.com
BASSOON	CAROLE LYONS	214-728-8479	cslyons@tx.rr.com
CLARINET	KANDYCE NELSON	972-238-1922	kandynelson@dcccd.edu
SAXOPHONE	QUAN GUO	940-435-5696	quanguo0625@gmail.com
FRENCH HORN	JOHN MCALESTER	405-923-5300	jbmac91@gmail.com
TRUMPET	SHAUN ABRAHAM	940-368-8931	sabraham30@yahoo.com
TROMBONE	SCOTT NGUYEN	972-832-3268	scottnguyen0@gmail.com
EUPHONIUM	COREY DURHAM	410-693-4356	c.durham.tuba@gmail.com
TUBA	COREY DURHAM	410-693-4356	c.durham.tuba@gmail.com
PERCUSSION	ROLAND MUZQUIZ	214-668-7558	roland.muzquiz@risd.org

INSTRUMENTS & SUPPLIES

Every instrument has a list of supplies that need to be purchased to accompany your instrument. These supplies ensure that your student can properly perform on and care for their instrument. Please see our band website for the supply lists for each instrument. **Students who do not have their instrument/supplies by the first master class will be withdrawn from band.**

FINANCIAL AID FOR INSTRUMENTS

For families who are in financial need, the band directors may be able to help you with obtaining an instrument or the required supplies. We do have a few instruments in our inventory that would normally be rented through a music store (flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, & trombone.) Contact your band director directly to discuss your options and possibilities. Finances should not prevent a student from being involved in the band program.

FLUTES, CLARINETS, SAXOPHONES, TRUMPETS, & TROMBONES

Students who are playing these instruments will need to obtain an instrument from Brook Mays, Williamson Music 1st, or another local music store. The instruments rented from the music store are recommended by the band staff. We as music educators take instrument selection very seriously and advise and encourage parents and students to follow the instrument selection guidelines. A student playing on an instrument that is not of proper quality will result in the student becoming frustrated with their lack of success. If your student is planning on using an instrument from a family member, found on Ebay, etc., please check with the directors so that we can ensure its quality will match that of your student.

OBOES, BASSOONS, FRENCH HORNS, EUPHONIUMS, & TUBAS

Students who are playing these instruments will obtain their instrument through RISD. These instruments in general are more expensive; therefore, they are provided by the district in order to make the rental process more affordable. These instruments are used, but are thoroughly cleaned and sanitized each summer before entering the hands of a student in the fall. In order for these instruments to be properly cleaned and repaired, you will be asked to pay a yearly rental/cleaning fee of \$100. If your students' instrument requires repair throughout the year, it will be sent to the music store for repair through the band directors.

MUSIC STORE CONTACT INFORMATION

BROOK MAYS MUSIC | www.brookmays.com | 972-233-9633

WILLIAMSON MUSIC 1st | www.wm1st.com | 972-516-1331

LONE STAR PERCUSSION | www.lonestarpercussion.com 866-792-01430

WEST BRONCO BAND BEGINNER HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

This handbook is provided for your information. Having the expectations and policies in handbook form is certain to help your band experience be educationally beneficial as well as enjoyable. You have the ability to become the best you can be.

The band program's main emphasis is on musicianship, performance and pride of accomplishment, followed closely by good citizenship, tradition, morale, spirit, loyalty and responsibility. The feeling of pride in a job well done and the accomplishments achieved make the sacrifices worthwhile. By arranging your schedule of activities (curricular and non-curricular) in a responsible manner, you can enjoy a successful band career and still maintain high scholastic standing.

Please sign the following statement and return it to the band office. All forms must be on file before the end of the first six weeks.

Student's Printed Name: _____

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ THE 2018 - 2019 RICHARDSON WEST BRONCO BAND BEGINNER HANDBOOK AND WILL OBSERVE ALL GUIDELINES FOUND THEREIN.

**THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK IS FOUND ON THE WEST BRONCO BAND WEBSITE:
WWW.WESTBRONCOBAND.COM**

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE

I HAVE RECEIVED AND READ THE 2018 - 2019 WEST BRONCO BAND BEGINNER HANDBOOK AND UNDERSTAND HOW IT APPLIES TO MY BAND STUDENT.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE