Timberland High School
Band Program

2019-2020
Band Handbook

Welcome to the
Timberland High School Band Program

We are excited you have decided to be a part of this great organization! We have many opportunities to explore this year and we need everyone's best efforts to mature and grow as individuals and as a unit.

With the commitment of band staff, students, parents, and the community, the Timberland High School Band Program will continue to be successful. Our expectations are high as we desire to develop musically, mentally, emotionally, and socially.

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents, administrators, staff, and directors as a source of information regarding the various aspects of the band program. Please read the contents of this handbook carefully as it contains information necessary to be a successful member of this organization. All members will be expected to understand and abide by all the guidelines set forth in this handbook.

We are looking forward to continuing our Tradition of Excellence with the Timberland High School Bands!

Respectfully,

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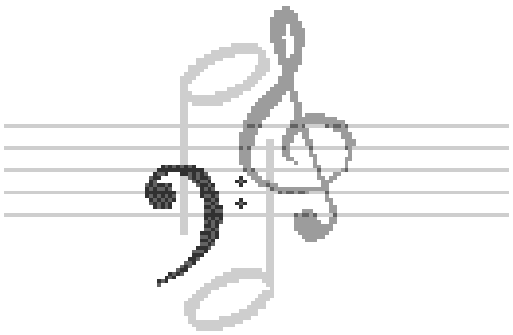

THS BAND PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY:

- Promotion of school spirit to the highest degree in representation of Timberland High School and its community, through music performance.
- Continually set a good example and be a role model in regards to following expectations and dedication towards our Tradition of Excellence.
- Promote friendship, cooperation and team effort, knowing that this will improve the ensemble and accomplish unified goals.
- The importance of attendance at all rehearsals, sectionals, and performances.
- Complete leadership demonstrated by Directors, Instructional Staff, Drum Majors, and the Student Leadership Team to ensure the learning of music, drill, and guard choreography, and to promote a positive morale.
- Recognition of the importance of participation in music and the life-long learning of music.
- Self-esteem is achieved through hard work and effort in the accomplishment of ensemble goals.
- Complete support from all areas of the music program, school, and community are important to the success of this organization.

BENEFITS OF INVOLVEMENT IN THIS PROGRAM

Music is one of the seven intelligences identified in the brain and the only one that utilizes all seven intelligences simultaneously. Therefore, students who participate in music courses exercise more of their brain than in any other course they take in school.

"The musician is continually making decisions on tempo, tone, intonation, style, rhythm, balance, phrasing, and feeling—training the brain to become incredibly good at organizing and conducting numerous activities at once. Dedicated practice of this orchestration can have a great payoff for lifelong attentional skills, intelligence, and the ability for self-knowledge and expression."

– Ratey John J., MD. A User's Guide to the Brain, New York: Pantheon Books, 2001.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

The Timberland High School Band Program is set under the guidelines of the Missouri State High School Activities Association. In order to actively participate, each student must pass **six** classes per semester (equivalent to 3.0 credit hours) and be currently enrolled as a full-time student.

Any member of the Symphonic Band, who becomes ineligible for the spring semester, will become a member of the Concert Band.

ATTENDANCE RESPONSIBILITY

THE STUDENT WHO FULFILLS HIS/HER RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATING WITH THE DIRECTORS WILL RARELY HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THE ATTENDANCE POLICIES OF THE BAND PROGRAM.

TIMBERLAND BAND OFFICE – 327-3988 ext. 27289

Band is a unique course. It has both curricular and extra-curricular requirements. The strength of the program is the consolidation of these requirements into one performance based, academic course of study. The level of commitment, from each individual, is the driving force behind the organization and is reflected in the level of achievement reached by the individual and the program.

Band is a learning activity. Rehearsals, whether before/after or during school, are the means by which students learn, and cannot be reproduced or made-up. Therefore, it is imperative that students be present at all times.

Performances are viewed as major tests: a performance is a learning experience that cannot be duplicated in a rehearsal hall or practice room.

Attendance at ALL rehearsals and performances is mandatory
and will be reflected in the student's grade.

Absences from performances are only excused in the event of an extreme emergency: SERIOUS illness or hospitalization of the student, a death in the family, religious holiday observed by the student's family, or other reasons deemed excusable by the directors. Family vacations are not excused as advanced notice has been given in regards to required rehearsal and performance dates.

All Absences must be approved in advance ("Approved" is not the same as "Excused.")
An unexcused absence will result in the lowering of the student's grade one letter.

If a student has a critical conflict (another school activity), he/she should not wait until a day or two before the performance to contact the directors. The earlier the conflict is known, the better the chances of an absence being excused. **It is important to remember that an absence not only affects the individual, but affects all members of the band. We are only as strong as our weakest link. This is a commitment that has been made; therefore, it is essential to uphold it for the sake of the entire program.**

Once the school year begins, we will rehearse before school at 6:30 am daily. On Late Start Mondays, rehearsal will begin at 8:45 am. In addition, the rehearsals on Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 8:30 pm provide us with the opportunity to get a better vantage point as we use the stadium football field. Weekly drum major, brass, woodwind, percussion, and color guard sectionals will be established by the directors and will begin the Week of August 19th. **Students are expected to be at the Thursday evening and morning's rehearsal that precedes a halftime performance, competition, or concert. Unexcused absences will result in the student being unable to perform that day or weekend.**

In addition, we will have weekly sectionals during concert season. These rehearsals will begin in late January and continue through April. Prior notice will be given on the exact day each section will rehearse and sectionals will begin promptly at 6:30 am.

No other discipline in education requires the high level of achievement from all participants as does musical performance. Through the level of commitment required, we hope to better prepare our students for the responsibilities encountered throughout their lives.

BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

All school and board policies are in effect during all band functions on and off school property. Any inappropriate behavior will NOT be tolerated. Disciplinary action will be taken and may result in dismissal from the Timberland High School Band Program.

All band members are expected to follow the instructions of any teacher, staff member, or chaperone, without question, unless said instruction is a violation of civil or moral standards. In such a case, it should be immediately brought to the attention of the directors.

All students will travel to off-campus activities on district transportation. If you wish to ride home from an event with your parents, you must be checked out by them IN PERSON through the DIRECTORS. For your safety, "notes" will not be sufficient.

Never leave the group and venture out on your own. Every member of the band is to stay in designated areas. *During home football games, band members will stand in their assigned sections. There should be no leaving of the stadium area or band room until the entire band is dismissed to go home.*

It is important to present the image of Class, Discipline, and Pride at all times. Food and drink are NOT allowed in the stands at football games. Band members ONLY in the band section of the stadium during games and pep rallies. Students are expected to remain in their sections and be ready to play. The band plays only as a group when directed. There should be no individual, indiscriminate playing at any time. *If third quarter is designated as time off, band members are expected to remain in complete uniform and return to their section, in the bleachers, with two minutes remaining on the third quarter clock.*

When the THS Band "sets" to march to or from any location, there is absolutely no talking. When we march in formation, we are observed by the public and by other bands. We are performing whenever we are in public. Members are expected to follow the instructions of any authorized adult left in charge of the band.

Following any football game or competition, it is the band members' responsibility to ensure that all equipment is put away correctly. Non-band members, family, and others should remain out of the way, or they will be asked to leave.

BAND MEMBER EXPECTATIONS/ETIQUETTE

***Self-Discipline* –** A quality that must come from within the individual. Therefore, each student is responsible for his or her own actions as a member of the Timberland Band Program. All band members are expected to work positively and effectively at all times.

General Guidelines:

- All school rules apply at all times.
- No one is allowed in the band room area without a director present!
- No food or drink is allowed in the band room.
- No disruptive behavior at any time or place (running, yelling, horseplay, piggy-back riding)
- Put all equipment away after every rehearsal and performance.
- Make sure you clean your area before you leave – rehearsal areas, instrument storage rooms, guard room, and practice rooms – keep the band room clean!
- **Do not touch or mess with any equipment/instrument that is not yours!**
- If something gets broken, notify a director immediately.

Care of the Facility:

The appearances of our rehearsal and performance facilities affect the quality of the work accomplished and the image of the THS Band Program.
PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL!

Rehearsal Etiquette:

- Be prepared with instrument, pencil, music, coordinate sheet/lanyard, and the necessary equipment.
- When the director stops – NO TALKING OR ADDITIONAL PLAYING!
- Please give the instructional staff your attention at all times – EYE CONTACT!
- Get a drink of water and use the restroom before rehearsal begins.
- Check your equipment before rehearsal – make adjustments then.
- Do not ask for reeds, valve oil, slide grease, or additional items during class.
- Be prepared and think ahead!
- Be in your assigned seat, with all equipment, ON TIME for rehearsal. Do not be tardy for the downbeat.
  - This is each individual's responsibility – To be EARLY is to be ON TIME!
- No cell phones, cameras, or electronic devices allowed during rehearsals or performances.
- Be respectful of directors, instructors, peers, parents, and guest clinicians.

Performance Etiquette:

- Be ON TIME and ready for designated warm-up.
- Conduct yourself in a professional and mature manner.
- Be prepared with music, instrument, and appropriate attire.
- NO TALKING during the performance – whether performing or a member of the audience.
- No cell phone, camera, or electronic devices allowed.
- Remember that our performance begins before we take the field or enter the stage!
- Each individual's actions affect the THS Band Program – we must work together to present a positive image!

SENIOR NIGHT EXPECTATIONS

Senior Night Recognition for all fall sports/activities will be at the Home Football Game on Friday, October 18th, 2019. **All Senior Band Members will be expected to dress in full marching band uniform the entire evening.** Senior Band Members will be recognized, with their parents, following the band's half-time performance. **No alterations to the uniform will be allowed**. Failure to comply with the expectations will result in the student being dismissed from the football game, without recognition, and the student will be suspended from the next performance.

Our organization wants to recognize the leadership and contribution of our Senior Band Members in an appropriate way; however, it is important to remember that a unified ensemble is stronger than any one member.

CONTESTS AND FESTIVALS

Contests, festivals, and other activities are important features of the THS Band Program. It is through these activities that we obtain feedback about our progress as individuals and as a unit. Although we never "live or die" by any one judge's or panel's opinion of our performance, it is important that we learn the value of giving maximum effort and standing by the results as our best possible effort that day.

Competitive performances are filled with emotion. Along with these emotions goes a high level of tension, which often causes students to react immaturely. We learn to avoid these normal pitfalls and to channel our energy and attention toward the goal of performance excellence and the ultimate success that will follow.

We show our appreciation and respect for those who have earned the right to score ahead of us and accept our own successes gracefully. Do not equate coming in first with winning. **Winning is the state of every individual having endured the hardships, taking the chance of competing, and doing their personal best in the pursuit of excellence.**

BUS TRAVEL GUIDELINES

Traveling as a part of the BAND PROGRAM is a privilege and carries with it certain responsibilities. You will be expected and required to behave as you load, ride, unload, and conduct yourself in a proper manner at all times. **All THS rules and policies apply in our off-campus performances and events.**

- Always show proper respect and cooperation to all chaperones and bus drivers!
- Listen (be quiet) when instructions are given and during roll call.
- No changing of buses.
- Remain in your seat while the bus is in motion.
- Keep all body parts and objects inside the bus – no hanging or tossing items out of the windows.
- No public display of affection (be courteous and respectful to those around you).
- Talk at a moderate level – directors and chaperones will determine if it is too loud.
- No yelling, throwing of objects, or playing your instrument on the bus.
- Keep the bus clean – put all your trash in the supplied trash bags. Student Leadership Team will be in charge of making sure the bus is clean after our travels.
  This does not mean that they clean the bus by themselves.
- Always use good judgment and common sense.

MARCHING FESTIVAL ATTIRE

The THS Band's image is based on each individual. Our public reputation is based upon our appearance, our actions, and our projection of pride and organization in our pursuit of achieving excellence. *When not in uniform, it is expected that band members will dress as prescribed by the directors. Students will be expected to wear their band show shirt tucked in, jeans, tennis shoes, and socks. The jeans must be full length and devoid of holes. Khaki shorts or capris will be worn with the show shirt on warmer days. Jean shorts and other pant types will not be acceptable.* It is the responsibility of each band member to ensure that we present the best possible image at all times.

MARCHING BAND UNIFORMS

When you are in uniform, you are no longer just an individual, but a representation of the THS Band Program, school, and community. When in public, the uniform is to be complete at all times. Jewelry, nail polish, and student selected accessories are not permitted. The only headgear worn with the uniform is that provided by the band. Any lost or damaged uniform items will be paid for by the student to whom they are issued.

For Uniformity:

Males: Hair must be off the collar in back, off the eyebrows in front, and at least halfway up the sides of the ears. If this cannot be done, hair should be rolled up or pinned up under the hat. Hair should be a natural color (please avoid such colors as, but not limited to, pink, purple, green, blue, etc).

Females: Hair that falls below the collar must be pulled back into a tight bun. Hair should be a natural color (please avoid such colors as, but not limited to, pink, purple, green, blue, etc). **No headbands will be allowed. Additional hair pieces need to be secured with hairspray and/or bobby pins.**

Under the uniform, students are expected to wear the following:

Black Logo Shirt
Black Sliders (when traveling, black athletic shorts must be worn over the sliders)

REPLACEMENT COST FOR UNIFORM PARTS IS AS FOLLOWS:

Jacket	250.00	Garment Bag	15.00
Slacks	175.00	Shako Box	30.00
Gauntlets	35.00	Tuxedo Coat	85.00
Shako (hat)	60.00	Studs/Cuff Links	8.00
Plume	25.00	Earrings/Necklace	15.00

Students must provide their own calf length black socks. Black marching shoes must be purchased, through the band, for reasons of uniformity. If marching shoes are lost, the student will pay to replace them. Band members will be provided with a band motto shirt that is to be worn as part of the uniform. Each student will be provided with two pair of black gloves for the season. If a student needs additional gloves, he/she may purchase a pair for $5.00. It is the student's responsibility to keep these personal items clean and in order. Do not expect to store these items in the band room.

The way we wear our uniform reflects the pride we have in our band program. Our uniform projects an image of pride and quality. At **NO** time will the uniform be worn in part. All zippers, fasteners, and snaps must be fastened at all times. If any part of the uniform is removed, it must all be removed. It is everyone's responsibility to see that all band members respect and care for the uniform and that the uniform is worn properly at all times. Any damage to the uniform, due to neglect, will be the responsibility of the student.

CONCERT SEASON ENSEMBLES

Auditions for Symphonic and Concert Bands will take place the Week of October 28th. At the conclusion of marching season, both ensembles will meet first hour for the remainder of first semester. During second semester, Symphonic Band will rehearse first hour and Concert Band will rehearse second hour. Placement is based on musicianship level and needs of each ensemble.

CONCERT AND CONTEST ATTIRE

Our public reputation extends past marching festivals and carries throughout the year. Hair should be a natural color (please avoid such colors as, but not limited to, pink, purple, green, blue, etc).

Male Concert Attire: Tuxedo shirt, Tuxedo pants, Black satin vest, Bow tie, Cuff links, Studs, Calf length black socks, and Black dress shoes

Female Concert Attire: Black formal dress with skin colored hosiery, black dress shoes, and designated necklace and earrings
(The shoes must have a closed toe and a back strap.)

INSTRUMENT CARE

Each student is responsible for the proper function and maintenance of his or her instrument at all times. Any major repair that might place the instrument out of use for any length of time (loss of class or rehearsal time) must be brought to the attention of the directors in advance.

School-owned instruments become the responsibility of the student to whom they are issued. Any damage will be repaired at the student's expense. Percussion and guard equipment are included in this policy.

Be careful with your instrument and NEVER play anyone else's. The THS Band Program will not be held responsible for private instruments left unattended. YOU are responsible for your instrument at all times.

Woodwind Instruments – No lipstick on reeds, instrument free of dust and dirt under the keys. Lacquered and silver horns must be shiny and free of fingerprints. No deposits inside the mouthpiece.

Brass Instruments – Check valves and slides, instrument should be clean and spotless. No deposits inside the mouthpiece.

Percussion and Guard Equipment – Inspected by the instructors as needed.

INSTRUMENT LOCKER USAGE

Students will have the opportunity to check-out a locker to store their INSTRUMENT AND MUSIC ONLY. No food, drink, clothes, books, or other personal belongings are allowed in the lockers. A jacket and shoes may be kept in the storage room during marching season. Foot powder must accompany the shoes to avoid unpleasant odors. Those who choose to use an instrument locker must supply their own lock and locker combinations must be given to the directors upon check-out. Any damage to the assigned locker will be the responsibility of the student.

It is very important that all instruments and equipment are returned and stored daily, in their proper location, for the purposes of maintaining inventory, security, and care of the instrument/equipment.

GRADING POLICY

1st – 4th Quarters

The following Grading Policy will be in effect for the entire year. Rehearsals and performances are similarly weighted as they are both important! Playing tests will be given throughout the year and give the directors opportunities to assess the progress of students' learning objectives on an individual basis.

Performances	40%
Rehearsals	40%
Playing Tests	20%

BAND LETTERING POLICY

Included in this handbook is the Band Lettering Policy. In order to letter, one must go above and beyond the designated requirements of this course to achieve a total of **2650 points**. Those reaching this goal for the first time will receive a Varsity Letter. Once the letter has been obtained, a bar will be given.
Lettering Policies are due in the Band Office by 3:00 pm on Friday, April 17th, 2020.

NO Lettering Policies will be accepted after the due date since awards have to be ordered prior to the Annual Band Banquet!

PRIVATE LESSONS

Individual instruction is the best method in becoming an outstanding musician. It is strongly encouraged for all students. Many people around the area, at local music stores, and at the local colleges/universities are available for lessons. Please see one of the directors for contact information.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR OFFERINGS

Being a member of the band program allows many additional musical and color guard opportunities.

Jazz Band

The THS Jazz Band is an auditioned ensemble that begins rehearsing at the beginning of November. Students selected are expected to be prepared and on time to rehearsals. Continuous tardies or absences will result in the dismissal from the Jazz Band. This ensemble will perform at school concerts and events.

THS Pep Band

The THS Pep Band plays at select Girls and Boys Varsity Basketball Games from December through February. All members of the THS Band Program will be expected to participate in at least four games. A schedule of performances will be given out closer to the start of the basketball season.

Color Guard

All Color Guard members are required to enroll in 1st Hour Band for the 1st Semester and attend all rehearsals, events, and performances throughout the marching season. Color Guard members who play an instrument will join the concert ensembles in November.

Winter Guard

Winter Guard clinics and auditions take place in November. Rehearsals begin in December and go through the beginning of April. The winter guard performs at four to five MCCGA Competitions during the winter and spring seasons.

Weighted Band
Weighted Band is open to all Senior Symphonic Band Members and is weighed on a 5.0 scale. Those enrolled are responsible for all requirements expected of all band members and additional requirements set forth by the district and secondary music faculty.

SPECIAL MUSIC EVENTS

St. Louis Suburban District Honor Band
Music students who are highly skilled and well practiced have the opportunity to audition for the SLSMEA District Honor Band on Monday, November 4th, 2019 at Ladue High School. Those selected for this prestigious ensemble have the opportunity to audition for the Missouri All-State Band in December. The audition music is the same for both ensembles; however, it is very difficult and must be practiced on a continuous basis in order to be successful at the audition. We encourage all students to take advantage of this opportunity and learn how to prepare for an audition.

Missouri All-State Band
All Missouri Band Students who have been selected to their respective District Honor Bands are eligible to audition for the Missouri All-State Band in December. This band is comprised of the top band students in the state and is one of the highest honors a high school musician can receive.

District Solo and Ensemble Festival
Band Members have the opportunity to participate in the District Solo and Ensemble Festival on Saturday, March 7th, 2020 on the campus of Fort Zumwalt East High School. In accordance with the Missouri State High School Activities Association, students can prepare a solo and up to two ensemble events to be adjudicated. Events receiving a "I" rating will advance to the State Solo and Ensemble Festival, on the campus of the University of Missouri-Columbia, on Saturday, May 2nd, 2020. This is a great opportunity for students to learn about and prepare chamber music.

State Large Ensemble Festival
Symphonic and Concert Bands will be attending this festival on Thursday, March 5th, 2020 at Holt High School. The bands will perform two prepared selections and one sight-reading selection for adjudication. The ratings will be combined to receive an Overall Rating. **All band students will be required to participate in this State Festival.**

TIMBERLAND BAND BOOSTER EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Mr. Cory Schulte	cschulteths@gmail.com
Vice President of Recruiting	Mr. Matt Bynum	mbynum@coca-cola.com
Vice President of Logistics	Mr. Dan Detchemendy	imdetch@yahoo.com
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Timberland Band Booster E-mail	timberlandband@gmail.com	
Timberland Band Website	www.thsbands.org	
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TIMBERLAND BAND HANDBOOK AGREEMENT FORM

To be returned to the Band Office by Friday, August 16th, 2019.

Dear Band Parent/Guardian:

We ask you to read this Band Handbook and let us know if you have any questions or comments concerning its content. It has been developed throughout our teaching experiences and with the assistance of people, like yourself, making contributions to its content.

We are assuming the responsibility of doing our best to instruct your child in the latest and most accepted methods and techniques in instrumental music, and to provide experiences that will challenge him or her in this area. We are seeking your support and cooperation in this endeavor and are hoping that you will encourage your child to participate in our band to the fullest extent of his or her ability.

Please sign your name below indicating that you are aware of the content and intent of this handbook.

Thank you for your cooperation and for your continued interest in and support of the Timberland High School Band Program.

_____ _____

(Signature of Parent or Guardian) (Date)

Dear Band Member:

In being a member of the THS Band Program, I agree to do my personal best to carry on the Tradition of Excellence and success both musically and personally. I realize that conscientious attendance and preparation for rehearsals and performances are essential for the THS Bands to operate successfully.

I have read the expectations and guidelines of this organization. I agree to follow these policies and procedures in order to become a successful member of the Timberland High School Band Program.

I fully understand the conditions and guidelines set forth in the Band Handbook and agree to abide by them.

_____ _____

(Signature of Student) (Date)