

**B. McDaniel  
Intermediate School**

**Beginner Band Handbook**

**2022 - 2023**



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# **Band Philosophy**

The Instrumental Music Program in our Intermediate School is the first phase of a seven-year program of instruction. It is our hope that participation in the band program will foster better understanding and appreciation of music and help students carry with them the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will help them throughout their academic career.

While it is the individual student's achievement in music that is our primary goal, it is the commitment of all band members to each other that has allowed our program to achieve its unique position.

By signing the forms at the end of this handbook, you will be making a commitment that includes the following:

1. You will be a member of the band for the entire school year.
2. You will give your best effort to improve as a musician.
3. You will maintain a positive attitude toward band and school throughout the year.

# General Band Procedures

The Beginner Band Handbook will spell out several expectations that are necessary to have for a successful band program. However, there are some general guidelines that will apply to all situations.

1. Attendance at all rehearsals and events called by directors is expected.
2. *To be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late, and to be late is to be very sorry.*
3. Respect the property of the school and of others.
4. Respect other band members and directors in your words and actions.
5. Always project a positive attitude.
6. Be at the right place at the right time.
7. Do your best at all times.
8. Represent your school and community with pride.
9. For security reasons, only band students are allowed in the band hall, ensemble rooms, etc.
10. Always have the required materials, including: Instrument in working order, all necessary accessories (valve oil, at least three reeds, etc.), music, black one-inch binder, and a pencil.
11. *No food or drink (other than bottled water) is allowed in any part of the Fine Arts facilities at B. McDaniel Intermediate School at any time unless stated otherwise by a director. Gum is not allowed at any band function.*

# Band Classes

All members of the band program are assigned to a period of Beginner Band based on their instrument and these classes meet as academic classes. Balanced instrumentation within each Band is an integral part of the selection process.

## **6<sup>th</sup> Period Beginner Band**

- Trumpet-Mrs. Boyett
- Flute-Mrs. Searcy

## **9<sup>th</sup> Period Beginner Band**

- Clarinet-Mr. Cummins
- French Horn-Mrs. Searcy
- Percussion-Mrs. Mann

## **10<sup>th</sup> Period Beginner Band**

- Double Reeds-Mr. Cummins
- Low Brass-Mrs. Searcy
- Percussion-Mrs. Mann

## **12<sup>th</sup> Period Beginner Band**

- Saxophone-Mr. Cummins
- Low Brass-Mrs. Searcy

# Charms

Charms is an organizational system that the band program uses. This will include mailing letters home, emailing, texting reminders, and other forms of convenient communication. You will also have access to the Calendar, your student's finances, and inventory that is checked out to your student. Please verify that all information on your student's Charms account is up to date by logging in.

## Instructions for Logging in Charms:

- Go to <https://www.charmsoffice.com/>
- Click 'LOGIN' (Upper Right Hand Corner)
- Scroll to 'PARENTS/STUDENTS/MEMBERS' Area
- Please Enter Your School Code: **ScottMSBand**
- Enter Student Area Password – This would be the password that you chose when we registered for Charms in the Spring. If you cannot remember the password, email me, and I will reset the password for you back to the Student ID with 'D' in front of it to make it six digits long. Example: D12345.

# Facebook

Please like the Scott Middle School Band Facebook Page (@**ScottMSBand**) to stay updated with publicity from our B. McDaniel Intermediate School and Scott Middle School Band Programs! The Denison High School Band (@**denisonhsband**) also has a Facebook Page. Please like our Facebook Pages and help us promote and publicize these programs!

# Website

[www.denisonbands.org](http://www.denisonbands.org)

## Contact Information

**Mrs. Jordonn Searcy**

Assistant Band Director  
B. McDaniel Intermediate School  
jsearcy@denisonisd.net  
(903) 462 - 7320

**Mrs. Tiffany Boyett**

Assistant Band Director  
Scott Middle School  
tboyett@denisonisd.net  
(903) 462 - 7254

**Mr. Preston Cummins**

Director of Bands  
Scott Middle School  
pcummins@denisonisd.net  
(903) 462 - 7238

**Mrs. Shanna Mann**

Percussion Director  
Denison High School  
smann@denisonisd.net  
(903) 462 - 7192

**Mr. Austin Armstrong**

Assistant Band Director  
Denison High School  
[adarmstrong@denisonisd.net](mailto:adarmstrong@denisonisd.net)  
(903) 462 - 7983

**Mrs. Melissa Lewis**

Director of Bands  
Denison High School  
Coordinator of Instrumental Studies  
[mhlewis@denisonisd.net](mailto:mhlewis@denisonisd.net)  
(903) 462 - 7177

# Calendar

The calendar for the B. McDaniel Intermediate School Beginner Band Program will be managed and maintained through Charms. All dates and times are as accurate as possible. We will give sufficient notice if a date or time changes. All performances are required and graded unless labeled 'Optional.'

## Sync Charms Calendar for iPhones:

1. Go into the Settings app
2. Touch "Accounts & Passwords"
3. On the Accounts & Passwords screen, touch "Add Account"
4. On the Add Account screen, touch "Other"
5. Under Calendars, touch "Add Subscribed Calendar"
6. For the Server value, enter the URL for the teacher calendar:  
<https://www.charmsoffice.com/charms/calsynct.asp?s=ScottMSBand>
7. Touch "Next" in the upper right corner.
8. It will verify the server then show a subscription page. Change the description if you like.
9. Touch "Save" to save the subscription.

## Sync Charms Calendar for Android Phones:

To sync with Android devices, you will need to use your Google account and have a Google calendar created.

In your Google calendar on a real computer:

1. Under "Other Calendars" click the Add link.
2. Select "Add by URL"
3. Enter the following URL:  
<https://www.charmsoffice.com/charms/calsynct.asp?s=ScottMSBand>
4. Click "Add Calendar"
5. Google will begin to sync your calendar, and it will appear on the screen.
6. Click "Settings"
7. Change the long name of the new calendar to something you will remember such as "Charms Calendar"
8. Your phone should automatically be set to sync with your Google calendar.
9. On your phone: Click on "Calendar", then bring up the settings for the calendar. Click on Calendar Sync. You should see your google account listed already. Make sure Auto-Sync is checked.



## **Attendance**

All non-school related activities must not interfere with the rehearsal and performance schedules that are given at the beginning of the school year. An unexcused absence from a rehearsal or performance will result in a zero for. Excuses are only accepted in the event of absence from school or with a doctor's note. Exception requests should be emailed to the band director.

# Grades

The grading system is based on points earned over the course of the term in each of the weighted categories. If you have concerns about your student's grades, please contact your director through the school email or phone number on the contact information page.

In determining the band grade each nine week grading period, two areas comprise the average:

1. Major Grades (60%) – Performances and test grades
2. Minor Grades (40%) – Theory worksheets

# Performance Grading Rubric

	Poor	Below Average	Average	Excellent	Superior
<p><b>Concert and Stage Etiquette</b></p> <p>Chapter 117. Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts Subchapter B, Section 209 &amp; 210. Music, Middle School, Adopted 2013 c5A</p> <p>The student is expected to be in attendance at correct times and locations, have all appropriate materials for the performance, dress in proper attire, and demonstrate appropriate concert and stage etiquette as an informed, actively involved listener and performer during live and recorded performances in a variety of settings.</p>	<p>0 Points</p> <p>The student did not meet any expectations / did not attend.</p>	<p>10 Points</p> <p>The student met few expectations.</p>	<p>20 Points</p> <p>The student met some expectations.</p>	<p>30 Points</p> <p>The student met most expectations.</p>	<p>40 Points</p> <p>The student successfully met all expectations.</p>
<p><b>Performance</b></p> <p>Chapter 117. Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts Subchapter B, Section 209 &amp; 210. Music, Middle School, Adopted 2013 c1B, c1C, c1E, c2A, c2D, c3A, c3B, c3C, c3D, c3F, c4</p> <p>c1 - Foundations: music literacy. The student describes and analyzes music and musical sound.</p> <p>The student is expected to fully participate and execute the performance to the best of their ability based on the guidelines set by the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts and the Band Directors.</p>	<p>0 Points</p> <p>The student did not meet any expectations / did not attend.</p>	<p>15 Points</p> <p>The student met few expectations.</p>	<p>30 Points</p> <p>The student met some expectations.</p>	<p>45 Points</p> <p>The student met most expectations.</p>	<p>60 Points</p> <p>The student successfully met all expectations.</p>

# Participation Grading Rubric

	Poor	Below Average	Average	Excellent	Superior
<p><b>Concert and Stage Etiquette in Regard to Rehearsal</b></p> <p>Chapter 117. Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts Subchapter B, Section 209 &amp; 210. Music, Middle School, Adopted 2013</p> <p>The student is expected to be in attendance at correct times and locations, have all appropriate materials for the rehearsal, and demonstrate appropriate concert and stage etiquette in regard to rehearsal as an informed, actively involved listener and performer during live and recorded performances in a variety of settings.</p> <p><i>Outside of this Grading Rubric, students will be docked 2 points per minute that they are late.</i></p>	<p>0 Points</p> <p>(0 Points for Weekly Grade)</p> <p>The student did not meet any expectations / did not attend.</p>	<p>10 Points</p> <p>(2 Points for Weekly Grade)</p> <p>The student met few expectations.</p>	<p>20 Points</p> <p>(4 Points for Weekly Grade)</p> <p>The student met some expectations.</p>	<p>30 Points</p> <p>(6 Points for Weekly Grade)</p> <p>The student met most expectations.</p>	<p>40 Points</p> <p>(8 Points for Weekly Grade)</p> <p>The student successfully met all expectations.</p>
<p><b>Performance</b></p> <p>Chapter 117. Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts Subchapter B, Section 209 &amp; 210. Music, Middle School, Adopted 2013</p> <p>The student is expected to fully participate and execute all aspects of music in the rehearsal to the best of their ability based on the guidelines set by the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts and the Band Directors.</p>	<p>0 Points</p> <p>(0 Points for Weekly Grade)</p> <p>The student did not meet any expectations / did not attend.</p>	<p>15 Points</p> <p>(3 Points for Weekly Grade)</p> <p>The student met few expectations.</p>	<p>30 Points</p> <p>(6 Points for Weekly Grade)</p> <p>The student met some expectations.</p>	<p>45 Points</p> <p>(9 Points for Weekly Grade)</p> <p>The student met most expectations.</p>	<p>60 Points</p> <p>(12 Points for Weekly Grade)</p> <p>The student successfully met all expectations.</p>

## **Individual Competitions**

The ultimate goal of our program is the development of the individual musician to the limit of his or her potential. To assist in reaching this goal, we strongly recommend participation in the individual competitions and contests offered during the school year.

### **Solo Contest**

All students in the B. McDaniel Intermediate School Beginner Band Program are expected to participate in the annual Solo Contest in. This event will result in non-competitive ratings and medals. The solo contest will be in **January**.

## Sectionals

Sectionals are highly recommended, as it is extra time for the students to get extra feedback on their playing abilities. Some assessments may be completed during sectionals. It is the student's responsibility to arrange transportation. **Brass Sectionals** will be held **Tuesday morning from 7:30am-8:00am and after school from 3:30pm-4:00pm.** **Woodwind sectionals** will be held **Thursday morning from 7:30am-8:00am and after school from 3:30pm-4:00pm.** **Percussion** sectionals will start in the Spring semester. Sectionals will not start until the week of August 29<sup>th</sup>. If you are picking your child up after school on those days, you may use the 5<sup>th</sup> grade loop to do so.

## **Eligibility**

If a student happens to fail a class on their report card, they **MAY** attend the concert, as this is a graded event. If they fail the nine weeks that the Solo Contest happens or during our out of school competition, they **will not** be able to attend.

# Discipline

Discipline is a quality that must come from within the individual. As such, each student is responsible for his or her own actions as a member of the B. McDaniel Intermediate School Beginner Band. Any student who shows an inability to work effectively in class may be reassigned to another class at the discretion of the Band Director.

As a school group, band members are governed by school and school board policies any time they are together for any band function whether it involves all students or only one. **The Handbook Agreement Form you sign at the end of this handbook will be in effect throughout the year for trips related to band.**

Any student who violates school rules while with the B. McDaniel Intermediate School Beginner Band will be subject to all usual school disciplinary procedures. In addition, those students will be subject to dismissal and will not continue to perform or travel with the band. Also, students who receive assignment to the Alternative School or ISS for disciplinary action outside of band activities will not perform with the Band in any extracurricular functions for the remainder of the school year. This includes the competition that we attend in April.

If you have any questions about discipline or our contest trip, please contact Mrs. Lewis. Her email is [Mhlewis@denisonisd.net](mailto:Mhlewis@denisonisd.net)

## Fees

**\$35 Beginner Band Fee (All)** – The Beginner Band Fee will be used toward this year’s shirt, awards, programs, pictures, and classroom materials. Classroom materials cover a three ring binder, dividers, pencil bag, pencils, and music for all students as well as any necessary classroom books.

**\$10 Solo Contest Fee (All)** – All students in the Beginner Band Program will participate in the annual Solo Contest held in May. The \$25 Solo Contest Fee goes toward the cost of music, awards, adjudicators, accompanists, and logistics to host the contest.

**\$50 Percussion Fee (Percussionists)** – The Percussion Fee will be used toward the cost of maintaining and replacing instruments, equipment, and supplies provided to percussion students.

### **\$30 Pride of Texas Music Festival Fee (All)**

All fees are due by **Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>**, but we highly encourage you to take care of these fees ahead of time during the summer before the cost of going back to school sets in during August and September. You may pay online through Charms or in the BMC Band Office via cash and checks made out to ‘Touch of Gold.’ If you need assistance with payments, we can set up payment plans with you (send requests via email to [mhlewis@denisonisd.net](mailto:mhlewis@denisonisd.net)).

### **Paying on Charms Via Credit / Debit Card**

- Log in to Charms
- Click on the ‘Finances’ Icon (First Option on Second Row)
- Check the ‘AffiniPay’ Box Under ‘Paid By’ by one of the Fixed Payments
- Click on ‘Pay Fixed Payments’
- Enter Payment Information

Students also have the option of using their Miscellaneous Ledger to pay for items in Charms. Think of the Miscellaneous Ledger as a piggy bank. Money is placed in there after it is deposited, or after money is earned from a Middle School or High School Fundraiser.

The SMS Band Fees are set up as Fix Payments. Fixed Payments must be paid in full. If you have enough money in the Miscellaneous Ledger to pay the Band Fee in full, then that option is outlined below.



### **Paying on Charms Via FULL Miscellaneous Ledger**

- Log in to Charms
- Click on the 'Finances' Icon (First Option on Second Row)
- Click the 'TRANSFER REQUEST' Tab (Second Tab at the Top Above 'EXIT CHARMS')
- Check the Fixed Payment Box
- Click 'Send Request'
- Dr. Wilson will Approve Your Request

The Beginner Band Fees are set up as Fix Payments. Fixed Payments must be paid in full. If you do not have enough money in the Miscellaneous Ledger to pay the Band Fee in full, but you still wish to use what is in the Miscellaneous Ledger, instructions to do so are outlined below as well.

### **Paying on Charms Via PARTIAL Miscellaneous Ledger**

- Log in to Charms
- Click on the 'Finances' Icon (First Option on Second Row)
- By 'Student Miscellaneous Ledger Detail', Click on 'Make Miscellaneous Payment'
- Enter Necessary Amount to Increase Miscellaneous Payment
- Click 'Start Payment'
- Complete Using Instructions Above for 'Paying on Charms Via Full Miscellaneous Ledger'

## **Fundraiser Information**

Fundraisers are a necessity to help cover the costs of a successful Band Program. The B. McDaniel Intermediate School Beginner Band Program may participate in several various fundraisers throughout the year. The money in a student's Charms account belongs to the Touch of Gold Booster Club and may only be applied to a student's band expenses. If a student quits or is removed from the Band Program, then the money is absorbed in the Touch of Gold Booster Club.

# Uniform

## Informal Uniform

- Band T-Shirt (untucked)
- Blue Jeans (No holes or rips)
- Athletic Socks / Close toed Shoes

## Private Lessons

One of the pitfalls of teaching a large class of musicians is the lack of individual attention needed for student growth. Private lessons aid in meeting this need, and the Denison ISD Instrumental Music Program offers each student a chance to study individually with the finest graduate and professional musicians in the Dallas area. These private lessons give students the opportunity to further their musical development in a one-on-one setting.

- Lessons are available before school, after school or during band class periods
- Lessons are held once per week for 30 minutes
- The option to have an hour-long lesson per week can be arranged if that is something you are interested in
  - If so, please complete the form at the back of the packet.
- Lessons cost \$20 per thirty-minute lesson and payment is due at the beginning of each month
- There is financial assistance available through the Thelma Braun Music Enrichment Program. This grant program provides a scholarship for half of the cost of private lessons. Please contact Mrs. Lewis if you are interested in applying for this scholarship
- Students with an outstanding balance for private lessons at the end of the year will not be allowed to register for lessons for the next school year until the balance is paid.

If you have any questions about private lessons, please email the Head of Instrumental Studies, Melissa Lewis at [mhlewis@denisonisd.net](mailto:mhlewis@denisonisd.net).

### Denison ISD Instrumental Music Program Private Lesson Staff

Flute	Stephanie Izaguirre	<a href="mailto:syizaguirre12@gmail.com">syizaguirre12@gmail.com</a>
Oboe	Jonathan Luna	<a href="mailto:jeluna@979@gmail.com">jeluna@979@gmail.com</a>
Bassoon	Alex Meaux	<a href="mailto:bassbassoon2009@gmail.com">bassbassoon2009@gmail.com</a>
Clarinet	Vanessa Futral	<a href="mailto:vanessafutral3@gmail.com">vanessafutral3@gmail.com</a>
Saxophone	Grace Frarey	<a href="mailto:gmfrarey@gmail.com">gmfrarey@gmail.com</a>
Trumpet	Miles Roth	<a href="mailto:milesroth.trumpet@gmail.com">milesroth.trumpet@gmail.com</a>
Trumpet	Brenton Wolfe	<a href="mailto:brnton.w.wolfe@gmail.com">brnton.w.wolfe@gmail.com</a>
French Horn	Mike Marsh	<a href="mailto:mgmarsh@pwhome.com">mgmarsh@pwhome.com</a>
Low Brass	Melissa Ewing	<a href="mailto:m_ewing@u.pacific.edu">m_ewing@u.pacific.edu</a>
Percussion	Eric Boyett	<a href="mailto:ericboyett@gmail.com">ericboyett@gmail.com</a>

**Private Lesson Interest Form**

**Student Name :** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to enroll in private lessons starting on August 15th

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to enroll in private lessons but please contact me via email before they begin

\_\_\_\_ Maybe, I am interested in private lessons and would like to be contacted with more information

\_\_\_\_ No, I would NOT like to enroll in private lessons

**If you indicated YES for private lessons, please answer the following:**

\_\_\_\_ 30 minute      OR      \_\_\_\_ 60 minute

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I am interested in applying for the Thelma Braun lesson scholarship. Please send an application home with my student.

**Parent Name (please print) :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date :** \_\_\_\_\_

## HANDBOOK AGREEMENT

"I have read the B. McDaniel Intermediate School Beginner Band Handbook and agree to abide by all policies stated. I realize that failure to follow policies or directions will result in disciplinary action that could lead to dismissal from the Band and Band classes."

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature Date "We have read the B. McDaniel Intermediate School Beginner Band Handbook and our student has permission to participate in band and all band activities within the guidelines as stated."

Parent / Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## CHARMS SYSTEM

Go to [charmsoffice.com](http://charmsoffice.com). Login as a student/parent by using ScottMSBand as the School Code. Your ID# is your child's school ID with the letter 'D' in front of it, or whatever has been set as the new password. Please contact a Band Director if you need your password reset. If your child's name does not show up, tell a band director! If your name does show up, click on the "student info" tab at the top. Then click on "personal information". Check and edit contact info then save the changes.

"We have reviewed our contact information on CHARMS and it is correct."

Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_