



BLACKMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL FLAMES BAND Handbook & Program Policies (2021-2022)

ATTENDANCE & BEHAVIOR

Attending all band classes, required rehearsals, and performances is a must for membership in the band. All performances are counted as major test grades. Any missed classes or performances may require make-up work. Excessive tardiness will not be tolerated. Not having a ride or having practices of any kind (e.g., league ball, dance, piano, etc.) will not be considered an excused absence. Performances should take precedence over practices. It is our sincere belief that dedication and sacrifice are needed to have success in any good organization. If there is a conflict, please notify us immediately and we will work with you as best we can.

All 7th and 8th grade band members should plan on attending scheduled ballgames. There will be 4 football game performances, and everyone should be present for each game. Students will always stay after school and be fed for all four football games. There will be 3 basketball game performances. We only need about 60 students for each of these. If you must miss one, please contact us well in advance to discuss. Rosters will go out a week before the scheduled game.

Band students must exhibit exceptional behavior to remain in the program. Students with multiple ISS or any OSS infractions may be removed from the band program at the directors' discretion. Infractions in ANY class that result in ISS or OSS are considered applicable to this policy. Parents will be contacted if the need arises. Students that have multiple discipline infractions will be placed on contract. The contract will state the conditions that must be met in order for the student to remain in the band. Contracts must be signed by a parent or legal guardian and may be issued at any point in the year.

AS A MEMBER OF THE FLAMES BAND, YOU MUST:

BE A LISTENER: listen to what is being said during rehearsals

BE RESPECTFUL: show respect for directors, guests, peers, and others property

BE PUNCTUAL: on time to classes and performances (early is on time, on time is late)

BE PREPARED: always have the right supplies and materials for your task

BE CLEAN: water only in the band room and clean up messes (leave it better than you found it)

At all times, you are a representative of Blackman Middle School and the Blackman Community. These expectations are set for you to enjoy your experience in band and so it may be enjoyable for everyone else too. We expect you to give your best and participate in all rehearsals. Failing to meet these expectations affects comes with the following consequences

1st: Warning

2nd: Move seat/lose part or chair placement

3rd: Written assignment and call to parents

4th: Write up, detention, and call to parents

5th: Conference with parents and directors

6th: Dismissal from the band program

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

- Use the restroom before class
- Walk, don't run, down the music hallway
- Rinse your mouth if needed (if you ate lunch or snack before class)
- Be inside the classroom before the tardy bell
- Enter the band room and get your instrument and music out quickly and quietly
- Find your seat, shared music stand, and any other materials you may need

7th & 8th Grade

- If you need music or supplies, ask the directors after you have gotten your instrument out
- Raise your hand for questions and stay in your seat during rehearsals
- At the end of rehearsal, put everything away in its proper place
- Pick up trash and loose items and take all of your things with you
- Class is dismissed by the teacher, not the bell, and we will honor your time
- Return to your seat to be dismissed so we don't crowd the doorway

BEING PREPARED AND HAVING SELF-DISCIPLINE ARE ESSENTIAL TO YOUR SUCCESS AS A MUSICIAN

GRADING POLICY

All band student grades will be averaged from the following categories

- Daily Grade: 40% (classroom conduct, preparation, materials)
- Objectives: 40% (playing assignments on smart music or flipgrid)
- Performance: 20% (performances in and outside of class, written tests)

All forms that are sent home are required to be returned signed by a parent or guardian as part of the student's daily grade. Any student earning an "F" in band class will be on membership probation for one nine-week period. The second instance may result in dismissal from the band.

INSTRUMENT PRACTICE

Outside of class practice is essential to every band member's progress. Students will be expected to perform regularly both in and outside of class for a grade. These performance evaluations will be given a grade based upon music accuracy and technique. Practice is critical to having successful playing evaluations throughout the school year.

LESSONS

Private lesson teachers visit our school and give lessons during band class time as scheduled. The cost involved is decided between the private instructor and the student's parents. Lesson money is paid by the parents to BMS and BMS pays the instructor. **Band students are strongly encouraged to take private lessons on a regular basis as this can improve their ability and the quality of our band.** Students trying out for Mid-State or other honor bands should take lessons. The following is a list of teachers available during the school day for lessons; additional lessons teachers not available during the school day are located on the Blackman Middle School Band website.

Flute: Rebecca Murphy - flutelady50@yahoo.com

Clarinet: Tonya Lawson - tjlawson@bellsouth.net

Saxophone & Double Reed: Wilson Sharpe - (615) 427-2638

Trumpet & Horn: Mike George - (615) 631-5694 - mikegeorgemusic@gmail.com

Trombone, Baritone & Tuba: Billy Pickus - pickusbilly@gmail.com

Percussion: Keith Dudek - (615) 869-8951 - kgdudek@hotmail.com

Tim Hale - timmy.hale@yahoo.com

MATERIALS & SUPPLIES

All band students are expected to have all of the materials needed for a successful class every day. These materials include, but are not limited to:

- Instrument
- Binder and pencil (with band book(s), sheet music, warm-ups, scale sheets, rhythm sheets, etc.)
- Oil or grease for your instrument
- Extra reeds, neck straps
- Sticks/practice pad
- Flip folder/lyre

7th & 8th Grade

Performance Dress: ALL band students will need to purchase a band t-shirt and concert polo (order form is online at our website). In addition, ALL band members must own black dress shoes, and black dress pants or skirt to go with their band polo for concert performances. This is our uniform.

Band books, sheet music and other personal items must have your initials or name on them. Materials checks will occur frequently and will be included in the daily grade (-3 points per missing item). Students who forget their instrument will be given work to do such as definitions, etc., for the entire period and have 5 points deducted from their daily grade. Students are required to keep up with materials and may be charged 25 cents for replacement copies of music.

Band Method Books:

6th Grade - Essential Elements Book 1 (yellow and white)

7th Grade - Essential Elements Book 2 (red and white), Foundations for Superior Performance (dark blue)

8th Grade - Foundations for Superior Performance (dark blue)

Required Instrument Specific Supplies for All Band Members:

- Flutes: cleaning cloth and cleaning rod, flip folder and lyre (7/8th grade)
- Clarinet & Saxes: Cleaning swab, box of reeds (size 2.5), reed guard, flip folder and lyre (7/8th grade)
- Brass: Valve/slide oil, slide grease, mouthpiece brush, cleaning snake and cloth, flip folder and lyre (7/8th grade)
- Percussion: pair of drumsticks (IP-LD preferred; Vic Firth SD 1, 5B and 2B sizes are also allowed), pair of mallets (IP-F7 or IP-F8), flip folder and lyre (7/8th grade), stick bag is optional

Other optional supplies:

Complete care/cleaning kit, wire music stand, Korg MA 30 Digital Metronome or metronome app, tuner or tuner app

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT PURCHASING EQUIPMENT OR SUPPLIES

MONEY

Band instruction is offered free of charge by this school, but students are responsible for owning or renting an instrument for use in class and for the upkeep of that instrument. Books, shirts, extra equipment, and field trip or festival fees are the student's responsibility also unless notified. If any student has any financial difficulties in these areas, they should contact the directors to see about getting assistance. Fee waivers apply in some cases. Parents should check with the directors. **The easiest and preferred method of payment** is with School Cash Online. Please go to blm.rcschools.net to set up your School Cash Online account. Check or cash is also acceptable but must be placed in a sealed envelope with the child's name on it.

THERE WILL BE A \$11 FEE TO COVER MEALS FOR FOOTBALL GAMES, AND CLINICIAN INSTRUCTION.

SCHOOL INSTRUMENTS & TRANSPORTATION

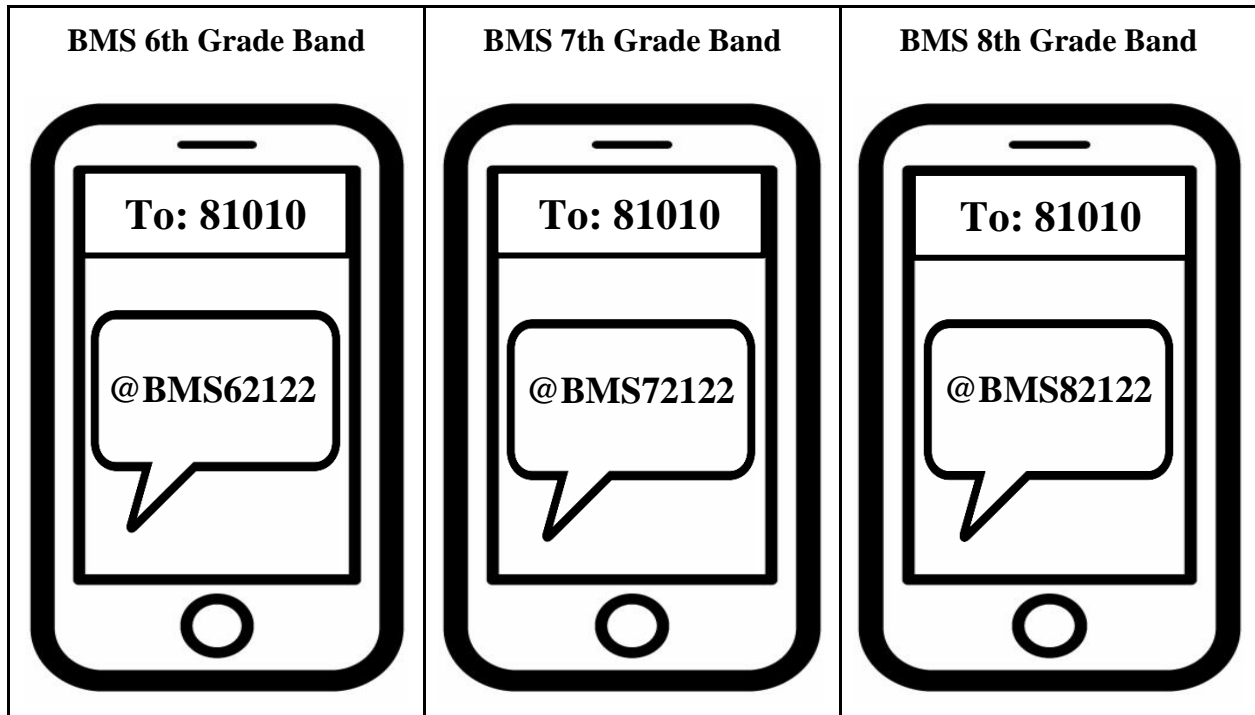
School owned instruments will be offered to those students who play instruments that are typically very expensive to own and are not typically rented out by music dealers including tuba, baritone, french horn, bass clarinet, oboe, tenor and bari saxophones. Students who use these instruments are required to make an Upkeep-and-Repair deposit. This \$75 deposit is due at the beginning of the semester/year the instrument is used. The directors will provide specific information and sign out sheets to those who need them. All students using school owned instruments for the majority of the year must own *their own mouthpiece* for the instrument *as well as straps, etc.*

Students in all bands who play large instruments must work out procedures for home practice with the directors. Bus drivers can be worked with if you will call them. If you have concerns about instruments on the bus, please call transportation at (615) 893-5815, ext. 22106.

CONFERENCES & COMMUNICATION

Parental support and open lines of communication are very important to the success of the band. If a problem arises we will contact you or set up a conference. We will make every effort to be available to speak with you anytime as our schedule allows. We encourage you to contact us anytime you have a question or comment. Information will appear on the band website, social media, through emails, and will be sent home frequently with students as well. Please make sure we have a good email address for you! Most memos are to be signed and returned for a grade. Please frequently check for band emails as well as with your child about memos and information.

We will be communicating to all of our band parents this year using the Remind App in addition to sending out emails. Downloading the app is not required for you to use this group messaging service. Below are the instructions to join the group for your child's band grade level.



Thank you for being a critical part of your child's education and supporting the Blackman Middle School Band program. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us at (615) 893-5815 ext. 29155 or at bmsband@rcschools.net. This will be an exciting year and we are looking forward to some great performances and great music!

David England & Thomas Chesnut
Blackman Middle School Band Directors



BLACKMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL FLAMES BAND

7TH & 8TH GRADE EVENTS CALENDAR (2021-2022)

AUGUST 2021

Tue, 17th	Football Game, stay after school, Pickup @ 8:00pm (<i>REQUIRED FOR ALL 7TH & 8TH BAND</i>) *
Thu, 26th	Band Information Meeting @ 5:30pm (<i>VERY IMPORTANT FOR ALL PARENTS</i>) & Start of Donation Drive
Tue, 31st	Football Game, stay after school, Pickup @ 8:00pm (<i>REQUIRED FOR ALL 7TH & 8TH BAND</i>) *

SEPTEMBER 2021

Thu, 2nd	Band Donation Drive Turn-In #1
Tue, 7th	Football Game, stay after school, Pickup @ 8:00pm (<i>REQUIRED FOR ALL 7TH & 8TH BAND</i>) *
Thu, 9th	Band Donation Drive Turn-In #2
Tue, 21st	Football Game, stay after school, Pickup @ 8:00pm (<i>REQUIRED FOR ALL 7TH & 8TH BAND</i>) *
Fri, 24th	BHS Football Band Night (<i>8TH GRADE ZONED FOR BHS</i>)

OCTOBER 2021

Oct 15th	Rockvale HS Football Band Night (<i>8TH GRADE ZONED FOR RVHS</i>)
Tue, 26th	Mid-State Help Clinic @ BMS (3:30 - 5:00 pm)

NOVEMBER 2021

Mon, 15th	Mid-State Help Clinic @ BMS (3:30 - 5:00 pm)
Mon, 15th	Basketball Game, arrive by 5:00pm, Pickup @ 8:00pm (<i>SELECTED 7TH & 8TH BAND</i>) *
Tue, 30th	7th & 8th Band Dress Rehearsal AFTER SCHOOL for Christmas Concert (<i>REQUIRED</i>)

DECEMBER 2021

Thu, 2nd	7th & 8th Grade Christmas Concert (<i>REQUIRED FOR 7TH & 8TH BAND</i>) 7th Grade @ 6:00pm, 8th Grade @ 7:00pm
Thu, 9th	Mid-State Help Clinic @ BMS (3:30 - 5:00 pm)
Sat, 11th	Mid-State Auditions @ Antioch High School (<i>ONLY STUDENTS WHO CHOOSE TO AUDITION</i>)
Mon, 13th	Basketball Game, arrive by 5:00pm, Pickup @ 8:00pm (<i>SELECTED 7TH & 8TH BAND</i>) *
Thu, 16th	Basketball Game, arrive by 5:00pm, Pickup @ 8:00 pm (<i>SELECTED 7TH & 8TH BAND</i>) *

JANUARY 2022

6th - 8th	Mid-State Concert Band Clinic @ MTSU (<i>SELECT STUDENTS</i>)
13th -15th	Mid-State Jazz Band Clinic @ BMS (<i>SELECT STUDENTS</i>)

FEBRUARY 2022

Thu, 10th	BHS/BMS Joint Concert, 7:00pm (<i>8TH GRADE BAND REQUIRED</i>)
24th-25st	7th & 8th Grade Rutherford County All-County Band, location TBA (<i>SELECT STUDENTS</i>)

APRIL 2022

Thu, 21st	Chamber Ensembles & Jazz Band Concert @ 6:00pm (<i>SELECT STUDENTS</i>)
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MAY 2022

Tue, 3th	7th & 8th Grade Band Dress Rehearsal AFTER SCHOOL (<i>REQUIRED</i>)
Thu 5th	7th & 8th Grade Spring Concert (<i>REQUIRED FOR 7TH & 8TH BAND</i>) 7th Grade @ 6:00pm, 8th Grade @ 7:00pm
Sat, 7th	Solo & Ensemble Festival @ Oakland Middle School (<i>SELECT STUDENTS</i>)
Sat, 7th	Murfreesboro Jazz Fest, details TBA (<i>Jazz Band only required</i>)
Mon, 9th	Percussion Ensemble Dress Rehearsal with BHS (<i>ALL PERCUSSIONISTS MUST ATTEND</i>)
Tue, 10th	Percussion Ensemble Concert with BHS (<i>ALL PERCUSSIONISTS MUST ATTEND</i>)

TENTATIVE/TBA DATES

Oct 23rd	Championship Football Game (tentative), details TBA
Dec 17th	Salvation Army Red Kettle Ensemble (student volunteers) @ Cason Lane Kroger
March 13th	Percussion Fest @ BMS (<i>ALL percussionists MUST attend</i>)
April 23rd	7th & 8th Grade Band Trip
TBA	Blackman Elementary, Broadmore, VA, and Other Community Performances

Blackman Middle School Band Policies and Expectations Agreement

Student Name _____ **Period** _____

I, the undersigned parent/guardian and student, have read and understand all policies, standards, and schedules set forth in the band packet for the 2021-22 academic year. I realize that we are responsible for all content included in the packet, particularly the grading policies and band calendar.

Both parent and student sign below:

parent/guardian signature

date

student signature

date

I also grant the Blackman Middle School Band to use my child's image and name on all print and internet publications associated with the band. YES or NO (please circle one)

Private Lessons Interest:

Lessons are a fantastic way for students of any level to improve, whether they're a beginner, advanced, struggling, or gifted musician. Private lessons consist of one-on-one instruction between your child and one of our professional, board-certified private teachers. Instructors teach during the school day, in-person and in some cases, lessons may be setup off-campus and outside of school hours.

If you are interested in your child taking private lessons, please complete the following:

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Class Period: _____

Instrument: _____

Parent Number: _____ Parent Email: _____