

# Iowa Park Hawk Band



## Band Handbook

Fall 2024-Spring 2025

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# **Welcome to the Iowa Park Hawk Band!**

The Hawk Band program is excited to have you join the Iowa Park Band family! The fun experiences you will have in band will be unlike any other school organization! The band directing staff looks forward to a great school year and fantastic music making! Welcome to the Iowa Park Mighty Hawk Band!

## **Band Directors**

Dr. Charlie Bradberry - Director of Bands / Fine Arts Chair

Mr. Jonathan Fortson – Head Middle School Director

Ms. Caroline Deitch - Assistant Director

## **Philosophy of Music**

Every aspect of music is important and will be emphasized at various stages in a student's development. The Iowa Park music department stresses the advancement of the student's abilities to function in both the large and small ensemble setting. Music offers a unique opportunity to challenge each student cognitively, affectively, and physically. It provides for emotional expression, intrinsic worth, and has a positive impact on individuals, families, communities, and cultures.

## Uniforms

All MGM2 members will need to purchase the following items:

- Show Top for performances – Purchase from Boosters (keep when season is over)
- Black Marching Shoes - Purchase from Director
- Band hat - Purchase from Director
- Black pullover with name – Purchase from Vinyl Designs
- Black pants – Purchase from Vinyl Designs
- Green band shirt – Purchase from Vinyl Designs
- Khaki Shorts – school appropriate Purchase on your own
- Long Black socks No Logos Purchase on your own (several pair)

Directors will take your students sizes and send them to Vinyl Designs. For items bought from the school please make checks payable to IPHS Band.

For concert season, students need an all-black outfit which will be discussed in class. The uniform attire will be addressed before each performance throughout the year.

## Auditions

Typically, auditions for chair tests are held when needed. Specific requirements and procedures will be posted and discussed in the band hall in advance.

## Equipment Needs

Each learner must bring to class everyday: music, a sharpened pencil, their instrument in good working condition, assigned music, and a good attitude. A student is required to purchase their own reeds, cork grease, oil, grease, etc. These items can be purchased at the Horn Drive, online, or at general music stores such as Sam Gibbs in Wichita Falls or through the band.

## Transportation Policy

It is the policy of the Iowa Park School District that all band members must ride school transportation to away events. Students may ride home with parents/guardians providing they sign out with their chaperone before they leave. Students may not leave with anyone who is not a designated parent or guardian without a note signed by the administration 24 hours in advance.

# Instrument Lockers

Band students will be issued a band locker (and lock if requested) in which to store their instrument and band music. This is not a place to put clothes, school books or anything that is not band related. All non-band items will be discarded at the discretion of the director.

## Grading Policy

A. Class Participation: Each student will receive a weekly grade in band based upon his or her participation, supply checks, written work, and memorization exercises. Students who are unable to participate because they have forgotten their horns, do not have proper supplies, or who have been asked to put their horns away for the day for any reason, will be given a zero for that day or week.

B. Public Performance Grade: Every band student is required to participate in all performances including but not limited to; football games and pep rallies, Christmas and Spring Concerts, Marching Contests, Pre UIL and UIL Concert and Sight - Reading, and Music Festivals. An unexcused absence from a performance may result in the student failing band for that six weeks. Performances are MANDATORY and will count as a test grade in the grade book.

C. Test Grades: Include but not limited to: Playing tests, practice sheets, pop quizzes, written work, after school rehearsals, and public performances.

D. Daily Grades: Include but not limited to: Class Participation, Supply Checks, Written Work, Work Habit.

# Absences

As a member of the Iowa Park Band Program, you are expected and required to be at all band rehearsals, performances or any other scheduled events deemed necessary by the band directors. – Examples of excused absences - School activities, death in the family. - Examples of NON - Excused absences - Including but not limited to: Dr. appointments (non - emergency), birthdays, birthday parties (yours or a family member's), family in town, homecoming at another school (college or high school), DMV appointments for driver license, ACT or SAT test not taken during school day, college days, family vacations, having to babysit, and “not having a ride”, or a concert of your favorite band. Please note that although admirable, church trips and events are not excused absences.

Please plan carefully so you do not double book yourself. Other than our Christmas and Spring concerts, we will never have activities on Sundays. Check your calendar carefully before you schedule a church outing or youth event. - Dr. Bradberry will have the final say on what is an excused or unexcused absence.

Make sure you clear your work and vacation calendars so you can attend ALL scheduled band activities including, but not limited to, football games, contests, concerts, scheduled night rehearsals and all performances. - We will work with those who have a conflict with another school activity (football, volleyball, etc.)

## **Consequences for missing after school rehearsals:**

- 1st Unexcused absence - Loss of spot (students have the opportunity to earn spot back through challenges but no guarantees).
- 2nd Unexcused absence - Conference with parents, loss of spot in marching show for the season.
- 3rd Unexcused Absence - Conference with parent, dismissal from all marching show duties and all travel with band.
- 4th Unexcused Absence - Dismissal from band program at semester. - Dr. Bradberry will have the final say on what is an excused or unexcused absence.

**Any Unexcused Absences from a Football Game and or Marching Contest will result in loss of spot for the remainder of the season.**

# Discipline Policy

In order to maintain an orderly educational environment, the following discipline policy will be implemented.

## Rules

- A. Students must be in their chairs with their horns, music, a pencil and all necessary supplies at the start of class.
- B. Students may not leave their seat during class except for an emergency - and then - only with permission from the director.
- C. When the director is on the podium, a student may only speak after raising their hand and getting permission from the director.
- D. Absolutely no food, drink, or gum is allowed in the Band Hall at any time.
- E. Do not touch or play any instrument that does not belong to you. This includes all percussion equipment. Anyone tampering with the percussion equipment will be dismissed from the band hall immediately.
- F. Absolutely no horseplay will be tolerated in the band hall.
- G. Band students will always be respectful of the directors, other students and themselves.

Repeated violations of the band hall rules may result in assignment to lunch detention, after school detention, or being sent to the assistant principal. Students who repeatedly disrupt band class, performances, or rehearsals may be permanently removed from Band at the discretion of the Band Directors.

Acts of theft, vandalism, violence, disrespect of any other serious discipline infractions, as deemed by the Directors, may result in immediate, permanent removal from band at the discretion of the Band Directors.

## Severe Discipline Clause

In the event a student blatantly and/or maliciously causes a serious classroom disruption, the severe disciplinary clause will take effect and the student will immediately be taken to the principal's office.

## **Discipline for Trips and Concerts**

- Students will be expected to follow all IPCISD School rules of conduct for all band activities on and off campus.
- If a student's behavior causes them to be a danger to himself or others, or the student repeatedly refuses to respond to a director's instructions, the student will be sent home at the parent/guardian's expense.

## **Spring Trip/Travel**

Eligibility to participate/attend trips with the band depend on the following: students must have paid (whenever payment is necessary), made arrangements to pay, be academically eligible to participate for the current 6 weeks, and may not have been placed in ISS for any class or subject 6 weeks prior to the trip. Students who lose their eligibility due to academic or disciplinary reasons or choose to not participate after paying will not be given a refund of their trip money. Any placement in AEP may render the student ineligible for any band trip that year at the discretion of the Directors.

All students leaving from a performance must sign out with a director or sponsor and must leave with a parent or guardian. No student will be allowed to ride home with someone other than a parent or guardian without follow the procedure listed on pg 3. Failure to do so will constitute a major disciplinary infraction.

**Only parents/guardians may sign a student out from an activity.**

## **After School Practices and Sectional Rehearsals**

Throughout the course of the year, students may be required to come before or after school for practice. In the event of after school practice, ample notice will be given through written communication via a student handout, Facebook (Iowa Park HS Band), Band App, or email. All after school practices are required and grades are given.

# After School Transportation

It is the responsibility of the Parent/Guardian to pick up their student no later than 15 minutes after they are dismissed, e.g. rehearsals, away games, sectionals, Monday night practice or any trip.

**Any student who is late being picked up twice will lose their travel privileges.**

## Instruments

### School Horns

**Use of a school horn is a privilege - not a right.** Any band director may withdraw that privilege at his or her discretion and the student will forfeit any and all fees paid to date.

- Students who play school horns are responsible for securing and protecting the horn from theft or damage. If they fail to do so, they and their parents/guardians are responsible for the repair or placement of the horn.
- Not having an instrument to play will be grounds for removal from the band program.
- Students will bring their horns (in good repair) to class every day and to all performances. If a student does not have a horn with them, a director may assign them other duties or assignments and/or lower their grade for that day or performance.

**Under no circumstance will an instrument from a large distribution center be accepted in the IPCISD and band program. This means we will not accept any instruments from Wal Mart, Sam's Club, e-bay, etc...**

Instruments bought at these stores cannot and will not be repaired by our vendors or reputable instrument repairman. All instruments owned by individuals must pass directors approval in order to be used in the IPCISD school band program. If a horn is deemed by the director as unfit for the program that instrument may not be used in class or at an outside school function/performance.



## **Individually Owned Instruments**

- Students who are not assigned a school instrument are expected to supply their own horn through private means. This may include the option of buying, renting from a music store, or borrowing an instrument.
- If repairs are needed, please let a director see the horn before sending it into the shop! If the horn needs to go to the repair shop, a maximum of 2 weeks is allowed for the repair. The band director must know which shop is working on the instrument so that we can monitor the progress of the repair.
- All instruments owned by individuals must pass directors approval in order to be used in the IPCISD school band program. If a horn is deemed by the director as unfit for the program that instrument may not be used in class or at an outside school function/ performance.

### **\*\*\*\*\*RENTAL RETURN POLICY\*\*\*\*\***

IPCISD and its employees will not be held responsible for the return of any instrument back to the music company from which the instrument is being purchased or rented.

The band staff may be able to pass along the instrument that needs to be returned as long as prior arrangements have been made with the directors and the music company.

**The ability and option of such arrangements are strictly and solely at the discretion of the Iowa Park Director of Bands.**

## **School Owned and Privately-Owned Instruments**

By signing the band handbook acknowledgement form, I agree I will not hold the IPCISD Band Directors or anyone affiliated with IPCISD responsible if my child's instrument should be damaged, lost or stolen while being transported to a vendor or being held for a vendor to pick up for repairs or service, or repaired by a director.