



2025-2026

Band Handbook

Directors

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Miguel Pimentel:
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Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the South Garland Titan Band! As a member of the Titan Band, you are committing yourself to a music program which is dedicated to maintaining traditions of outstanding musicianship and school pride! Over 50 years, the Titan Band has accumulated countless awards in all areas of the music program from marching band and concert band to jazz band and color guard. The continued success of the South Garland Band will depend on the loyalty, cooperation, and dedication of each and every member.

The band program's main focus is to provide a comprehensive music education for all students. It is our goal to equip tomorrow's musical consumers with the tools they need to enjoy a lifetime of music no matter their ultimate career choice. Although we understand that not everyone will make music their profession, we do expect every student to establish goals for improvement, to always act responsibly and to always give their best effort for the good of the organization.

We are excited to be entering the year and are grateful to all former band members and their families for the wonderful organization they helped to create. By accepting membership in the South Garland Band, students agree to do their part to keep the tradition of excellence alive, take ownership in the band and always be a proud and contributing member!

This handbook contains important information and guidelines which will hopefully assist you throughout the year. Please keep it handy as you will likely refer to it often. UPON COMPLETION OF REVIEW BY STUDENT AND PARENT, PLEASE PRINT, SIGN AND DATE THE VERIFICATION PAGE. If you have questions or need assistance, the band directors are here for you!

South Garland Band Staff

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Holley Horak- Marching Band, Colorguard, Winterguard 972-926-2700,
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We look forward to celebrating another year of excellence with you and your family!

Sincerely,

Mr. Lewis, Ms. Simmons, Mr. Pimentel, Ms. Horak

Bands

The performing ensembles of South Garland High School are designed for the students who demonstrate a high level of academic achievement, a superior attitude, and competency as an instrumentalist. Instrumentation in each ensemble is limited and selection is made by competitive audition.

Marching Band

Prerequisite: Audition/Approval by Directors

Every member of the SGHS Band is a member of the marching band. Although auditions are held for the competitive show, every member participates at football games, pep rallies and parades.

Wind Ensemble

Prerequisite: Audition/Approval by Directors – Double Blocked Class

The Wind Ensemble is the top performing organization at SGHS. Students will have the opportunity to continue their musical development at the most advanced levels. Performances will be given periodically throughout the year at school, community and UIL events. In addition, every member will be required to audition for All-Region Band and perform in the Solo & Ensemble Contest. Attendance at all out-of-school rehearsals and performances is required.

Symphonic Band

Prerequisite: Audition/Approval by Directors – Double Blocked Class

The Symphonic Band allows the student the opportunity to continue their musical development at an advanced level. The Symphonic Band will perform with the members of the other bands at all pep rallies, football games, parades, and marching competitions. Performances will be given throughout the year at school and UIL events. In addition, every member will perform at the Solo and Ensemble Contest, and higher achieving members will be asked to audition for All-Region Band. Attendance at all out-of-school rehearsals and performances is required.

Jazz Band

Prerequisite: Audition by Directors. Instrumentation requirements. Single Blocked Class

The jazz band meets as a class during the regular school day and is open to anyone interested in learning jazz. Students will be responsible for individual parts and can expect to build a large repertoire throughout the school year. Emphasis will be placed on the study of improvisation, jazz theory, and the styles of swing, ballad, rock, Latin, and fusion. The band will perform at concerts, festivals, and special events throughout the year. Attendance at all out-of-school rehearsals and performances is required.

Color Guard / Winter Guard

Prerequisite: Competitive Audition. Equipment requirements. FULL YEAR – SINGLE BLOCKED

The winter guard allows our students the opportunity to continue developing their skills past the marching season. Auditions and rehearsals are all extra-curricular and begin in November.

Performances and competitions begin in January and last through March. Students can expect to pay a fee for participation to cover certain expenses. The winter guard competes in the North Texas Color Guard Association and the Winter Guard International circuits. More information will be available at the end of marching season.

Audition Information

All GISD Bands require full year participation and involve outside of school rehearsals and performances. Students are required to audition for select performance ensembles. Members will audition for Spring semester placement late in the Fall semester, and all students will audition for next years' placement in the Spring. The Head Director will determine the audition requirements as well as notify the students of audition dates, requirements, and results in a timely fashion. Directors will be the evaluators during auditions and students can be reevaluated and moved to another band at the director's discretion. Auditions may be live or recorded and the material will reflect the anticipated performance level for the students and will be based on prior learning.

Auditions for drum major, section leader, drum line, and color guard, will take place in May. SGHS band staff will evaluate the section leader, drum line, and colorguard auditions while outside judges may be used for the drum majors.

Rehearsal and Performance Attendance

Attendance is required at all performances and all arranged rehearsals. An excused absence from any band function must follow the same format as an excused absence from school; that is, personal illness or a family emergency.

Absences will only be excused with a note or email from a parent prior to the required event. Any time

missed due to an excused absence must be made up or a grade of "o" will result.

Unexcused absences and/or habitual tardiness from rehearsals may result in chair reassignment, placement in a different band, making one an alternate in the marching show, or in severe cases, grounds to deny future enrollment in the band program. An unexcused absence from a performance will result in a grade of "o" and is sufficient reason for suspension or dismissal from the band program.

All students should understand that with the privilege of representing both the band program and the school at all events comes the responsibility of additional rehearsals. After marching season, each director will post their respective sectional schedule for concert season. The frequency of extra rehearsals and time allotted may increase as major performances draws near. Both students and parents will hopefully understand the additional responsibilities of band members and should realize that the actions of one student can ultimately have an effect on the entire ensemble.

In scheduling band events for the year, we attempt to avoid as many conflicts as possible. Some of our dates are set by the school district, some by South Garland High School, some by the region, and a few we set on our own. A calendar of events can be found at the end of this handbook in the hopes that you will be able to work around our established schedule. Any changes and/or updates will be made known to parents and students as soon as they become available.

Attendance Process

ROLL CHECK – Roll will be checked and documented **PROMPTLY** at the start of rehearsal.

TARDINESS – Students not in their designated area at the appropriate time will be marked tardy. Those students will report to a Drum Major if tardy. Excessive excused or unexcused tardies may result in the following as deemed by the Directors:

- Additional post-rehearsal physical exercise
- Performance Suspension
- Permanent Loss of Marching Privileges
- Parent notification and/or conference

ABSENCE – Any student not present at the appropriate time will be marked absent.

EXCUSED ABSENCES – Absences will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Appointments, parent/doctor documented (email and/or notes) illnesses, death in family, or other extenuating circumstances (approved by the directors) may be considered for an excused status. Students whose physical status prevents prolonged contributions **MUST BE** accompanied by parent and doctor's note.

We ask that all non-band related appointments and prolonged tutorials be attended on Wednesdays after school.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES – Students who have unexcused absences may be subject to one or more of the following consequences at the discretion of the directors.

- Make up missed time
- Performance suspension
- Loss of marching privileges
- Concert band demotion
- Conference with band directors regarding future enrollment in the band program

Unexcused absences include:

- Appointments
- Transportation issues
- Independent choice
- Work schedules
- Babysitting
- Etc. (director discretion)

Tutorial Process

We ask all students conclude with tutorials by 3:25. If the teacher keeps students past 3:25, we ask that teachers send AN EMAIL to the directors confirm your attendance status. A note will not be acceptable. During Marching season, Wednesdays are designated tutorial days.

SUMMER REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students and parents will receive a calendar for Summer Rehearsal prior to Summer Band Activities.

The Calendar may be accessed through the band Cuttime, google, and/or hard copy. Students are required to attend all scheduled rehearsals unless notified with the following excused reasons:

- Family Emergencies
- Illness and/or injury

Unexcused Absences include:

- Doctor's Appointments
- Senior Pictures
- Work related absences
- Transportation
- Taking Siblings to College
- VACATIONS!!
- Babysitting
- Driver's School or Tests
- Lack of schedule or calendar awareness

Please schedule all conflicts around band rehearsals to avoid consequences listed.

- Custodial Duties
- Extra Fundamental Training
- Physical Exercise
- ALTERED MARCHING STATUS

Excessive Absences will lead to withdrawal from the band program after consultation with the staff, student and parent.

COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY!! Please email the directors for any absences.

Other Activities

We understand that many of our students are involved in other activities, both in school and out-of-school. This is great! However, schedule conflicts may arise. The following system will be used to determine whether an absence will be excused or not:

- 1.) School activities will always take precedence over non-school activities. 2.) Any performance/game/competition will take priority over practices.
- 3.) If there is a conflict with Athletics, or any other school related practice/event, the directors will resolve it with the coaches/sponsors of that event.
- 4.) The calendar is attached and in BandApp, so please reference it when scheduling any doctor/dentist appointments or tutorials.

We love the opportunities SGHS gives its students, and we support our students both inside and outside of the band hall. If any “gray area” conflicts arise, please contact us ASAP. Parents should notify the directors, in writing, at least a week ahead of any conflict.

SUMMER HEAT GUIDELINES

Students should come to rehearsal prepared to handle the heat. Rehearsal dress includes shorts, light colored t-shirt, hat, sun glasses, low cut tennis shoes and socks. For safety reasons, students will not be allowed to rehearse in any other footwear. In addition, every student should have their own water jug labeled with their name and sunscreen. Water breaks are given every 15-25 minutes, but if a student chooses to wear their water bottle, they may have water at anytime. As the temperature drops, water breaks will become less frequent. Students are closely monitored and should sit down immediately if dizzy or faint. All students should consider their diet and water intake, especially during marching season! Be sure to eat healthy foods and drink plenty of fluids throughout the day. Here's a good rule of thumb: every time you pass a water fountain, take a drink!

Transportation

School transportation is provided for all football games, festivals and competitions. Parents will be asked to complete the Travel Form during band registration which will suffice for permission throughout the school year. Parents are asked to provide transportation to certain after school events such as concerts. Parents are encouraged to come to any and all performances, but if a conflict is to arise, students should be picked up in a timely manner.

TO PARENTS OF STUDENTS WHO DO NOT DRIVE: Please be on time to pick up your child from school. After away games, students are generally back at school between 10:30 and 11:00pm depending on how far we travel. After in town games, students may be picked up from school at approximately 10:30pm.

After school rehearsals: Students should be picked up in a timely manner. They will not be permitted to “hang out” after school hours. The school administration is cracking down on this problem for the safety of

the students. For the most part, students who “hang out” are unsupervised and could either be put in a dangerous situation or be the cause of a dangerous situation.

ALL STUDENTS SHOULD BE **OFF CAMPUS WITHIN 30 MINUTES FROM THE END OF EVERY REHEARSAL**. PARENTS SHOULD PARK IN A PARKING SPACE WHEN PICKING UP THEIR STUDENT. WAITING IN THE FIRE LANE IS AGAINST THE LAW AND CAUSES MAJOR TRAFFIC BACK UP.

Grading Policy

In determining your band grade, the following areas will be considered:

- Performing progress on your instrument, including improvement and maintenance of music skills.
- Attendance at rehearsals and performances.
- Responsibility for individual musical part and equipment.
- General musical knowledge and aptitude.
- Play-off assignments and exams.
- Attitude and effort.
- Practice methods.
- Specific requirements for each band as outlined in the “Description of Bands” section.

Contrary to popular belief, band is not an “easy A.” Grades are distributed according to the above criteria, are kept on record, and available to you at any time to keep track of your progress. The “A” student will:

- Be PUNCTUAL and be PREPARED for rehearsals.
- Have parts memorized and/or prepared as assigned.
- Have all equipment (uniform, instrument, coordinate sheet, etc.) in order.
- Meet or exceed director’s expectations in the areas outlined above.

INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE

Practice is ALWAYS NECESSARY! Your playing improves only by experience gained on your instrument. One gains experience by the amount of time spent with “horn to face” or “sticks on drums.” The best way to make practice more enjoyable is to have a set routine that you will follow everyday. Your goal should be to practice AT LEAST six days a week for one hour. Always look for improvement and focus on strengthening your weaknesses. Practice the more difficult passages and refrain from going over the parts you do know over and over again. Concentrate on getting a GOOD CHARACTERISTIC SOUND at all times. It makes no difference how loud, high, or fast you can play if the tone is not enjoyable to listen to. Never sacrifice accuracy for speed. When your playing improves, then all the time spent practicing will have been worthwhile.

Daily home practice is expected and required. Instruments and music folders left at school overnight, especially on weekends, will affect the six-week’s average (not to mention the effect it will have on the band as a whole)! Your goal as a musician is to add to the band’s sound, not detract from it. Practice to be perfect.

Band Equipment and Uniforms

In the majority of cases, students are expected to furnish their own instrument. The following instruments are available: oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, baritone sax, French horn, marching French horn, euphonium, marching baritone, tuba, sousaphone and percussion. Students using school- owned instruments are required to fill out the proper forms and pay the \$75 maintenance fee. Many school-owned instruments are in new or exceptional condition. These instruments need to last us well beyond your years of use, therefore, treat them like gold!

If a student habitually mistreats an instrument, the band director reserves the right to take the instrument away. In addition, if damage to the instrument is caused by careless actions or negligence, the student will be expected to pay for the repair.

All reed and double reed players will be required to have a swab, cork grease, and at least three playable reeds at all rehearsals and performances. Flutes should have a tuning rod, swab and a lyre. Brass players should have valve/slide oil, slide grease, a lyre, and any mutes required by the music.

Percussionists should keep a stick bag with all mallets and sticks appropriate to the instruments they play. See the percussion instructor for specifics.

It is strongly suggested that parents insure their child's instrument. Most problems with missing instruments can be avoided if the student will leave their instrument in the band room during the day and not carry the instrument with them from class to class or leave it in their locker. Students should also label all personal equipment. The district does not carry insurance for personal property and neither the school district nor its employees can be held responsible for loss or damage to an instrument. It would also be a good idea to record the serial number of the instrument and keep it in a safe place at home.

Chairs, Stands, and Gear

Chairs are for sitting only. Please do not stand or lean back in the chairs. Stands are for music only. Never rest your instrument on a stand, and do not lean on or write on the stands. If you need to use band hall technology, please ask a director. Never place any liquids on any equipment (Computers, keyboards, percussion instruments.) If you are not in percussion, do not touch the equipment. Students and parents are responsible for replacing any equipment that is damaged or broken in their possession.

Uniforms

Each student will be issued a uniform for marching band and boys will be issued a tux for concert band. In addition, every member of the marching band will be required to purchase black gloves, black marching shoes, and black socks.

For the concert tuxedo, the gentlemen shall be required to furnish black socks, black shoes (the marching shoes are acceptable), a white tuxedo shirt and a bow tie. Tuxedos will be issued to students and are to be returned dry cleaned with a receipt.

The ladies of the band will be issued a black concert dress, but must provide appropriate black, closed toed shoes.

The uniforms will be cleaned three/four times during the marching season to ensure their best look and condition. Concert tuxes will also be checked out at school and returned immediately after a performance.

Classroom Expectations

- 1.) **Respect the directors, your classmates, and yourself. We are all a team in band class.** There will be ZERO TOLERANCE for theft, profanity, fighting, bullying, or vandalism. This includes negative remarks about the ensemble, directors, or individuals. We want this to be a positive and friendly environment!
- 2.) **Do not talk while a director is talking or while others are playing.** In order to have efficient and effective rehearsals, it is important that students remain silent during rehearsal.
- 3.) **Be on time and be prepared.** Students should be in the band hall by the time the bell rings. They will have 90 seconds after the bell to set up their instrument and to find their seat. Students are expected to have their instrument, music binder with pencil, at least 2 working reeds each day (for woodwinds), and tuner with microphone clip.
- 4.) **Communicate to the director if there are any issues or questions by raising your hand.** Please do not hesitate to let a band director know if there is a concern or appropriate questions. Students can make appointments with the director, if they need.
- 5.) **Do not chew gum or eat in the band hall.** The only beverage allowed is water. Keeping food out of the band hall will keep our facilities nice and bug free. You should never eat, chew gum, or drink anything other than water while playing.
- 6.) **No Cell Phones allowed in class.** Due to the most recent State Legislature, the law states that no cell phones are allowed at all during the instructional day. This includes restroom breaks, hallway time, lunches, etc. Phones should remain off and stored away in a backpack, not on your person at all. If caught, cell phones will be confiscated and submitted to the front office. Cell phones will be allowed for after school activities, and are expected to be used during marching band for the UDB app.

GISD Extracurricular Expectations

Any organization that has high performance standards must also have high behavioral standards. The basic behavioral guidelines for students in music activities are taken from the GISD Student Code of Conduct Handbook.

With the approval of the Principal and Superintendent, sponsors and coaches of extracurricular activities may develop and enforce standards of behavior that are higher than the District developed Student Code of Conduct. Adherence to these standards may condition membership or participation in the activity.

Extracurricular standards of behavior may take into consideration conduct that occurs at any time, on or off school property. No provision of an extracurricular behavioral standard shall have the effect of discrimination on the basis of sex, race, disability, religion, or ethnicity. Students shall be informed of any extracurricular

behavioral standards at the beginning of each school year.

Students and their parents shall sign and return to the director an acknowledgement of the behavioral standards as a condition of participation in the activity.

A student may be removed from membership or participation in extracurricular activity or may be excluded from school honors for violation of organizational standards of behavior or for violations of the Student Code of Conduct. A student who has engaged in conduct punishable as a Title 5 Felony offense as defined by the Texas Penal Code or is charged with aggravated robbery or possession of a deadly weapon during the current school year shall be suspended from competition or performance in extracurricular activities for the remainder of the current school year.

Eligibility

Academic

Students must pass all classes with a grade of 70 or above in order to be able to participate in the band's activities. Failing grades will keep a child out of region, UIL contests, the spring trip, and other activities. A failure during a six weeks period will place a student on academic probation and will require daily attendance to tutorials. Repeated failure may remove that student from a competing ensemble and place them in the non competition group (concert band). Regularly scheduled sectionals, rehearsals and concerts are curricular and have no academic eligibility requirements.

ANY STUDENTS IN ACADEMIC JEOPARDY AFTER REVIEW OF PROGRESS REPORTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND TUTORIALS. Students from the leadership may personally escort students to their tutorials to insure attendance. In addition maybe reduced to shared or A-line spot.

For further information on eligibility rules, please see the TEA/UIL Side by Side.

<https://www.uiltexas.org/files/policy/TEA UIL Side by Side.pdf>

Behavioral

If a student is in ISS or suspended, then they are ineligible for the day(s) they are not in class, as well as one additional day following their return. This includes any concerts, contests, or performances, but does not include rehearsals or sectionals.

GISD Guidelines for Extracurricular Students, Alcohol, and Illegal Drugs

Participation in band is unlike most other classes in that it is considered a privilege rather than a right. With that in mind, citizenship issues in relation to behavior, drugs, and alcohol of any kind will not be tolerated. The SGHS Band enforces all student codes of conduct represented in the SGHS student body handbook. Violating any school code of conduct can result in dismissal from the band program. General discipline problems can result in suspended band activities and/or reassignment to a different band and in cases of persistent disruptive behavior, the student will be denied future enrollment in band in the upcoming semester and/or school year. All members should enjoy participating in band while demonstrating respect and support for one another.

Due Process

All Garland ISD students are entitled to due process in accordance with GISD guidelines. Our goal as a staff is to ensure that all students are treated fairly. Please contact one of the directors if you have any concerns. We will work with you to resolve problems. We are here to provide a quality music education for all our students.

Internet and Social Media Guidelines

Band Members are expected to maintain respectful and use appropriate language, photos and postings on any forms of social media outlets especially in consideration of the South Garland HS Band. Any offensive language, photos, or videos that are considered negative, profane, foul and/or threatening will be subject to administrative, director, and parental conference with consequences listed. Members are responsible for their personal websites and postings, as well as posting on other students' webpages and/or band related websites. Any such incident will result in review by the SGHS Administration and may lead to suspension or dismissal from the South Garland Band Program.

BAND MEMBERS that violate the above guidelines shall be subject to the following:

- Upon confirmation of a FIRST offense, the member will be asked to remove any offensive items from the website(s) and will be asked to provide a written apology and plan of action to deter this behavior to Administration, Band Directors, and Band Members. Parents/guardians will be contacted and made aware of the behavior. In addition, the student will be suspended from all Band activities for a given period of time – as set by the Administration and Directors.
- Upon confirmation of a second offense, the member will be removed from the SGHS Band.

Smartmusic and UDBpro Apps

These two apps are vital to our success. We use Smartmusic year round as a practice tool, solo accompaniment, and a way for students to hear the music they are playing at home. UDB (Ultimate Drill Book) is used specifically for Marching Band, and it allows students to see where they are supposed to go on the marching field, their pathways to their next set, and it even plays their music for them, so students can practice at home and visualize their movements. These apps will be on students personal devices as well as their district issued Chromebooks (smartmusic only), and students must register using some personal information (name, phone number, email address, and possibly birthdate or age verification stating they are over the age of 13). The district and band will cover any fee associated with these crucial apps. If any parent or guardian has any questions or objections to their student registering or utilizing these services on their personal devices, please contact a band director prior to August 1st (when we start using UDB for drill learning purposes).

Cell Phone and Electronic Devices

No Cell Phones allowed in class. Due to the most recent State Legislature, the law states that no cell phones are allowed at all during the instructional day. This includes restroom breaks, hallway time, lunches, etc. Phones should remain off and stored away in a backpack, not on your person at all. If caught, cell phones will be confiscated and submitted to the front office. Cell phones will be allowed for after school activities, and are expected to be used during marching band for the UDB app.

Solo and Ensemble

The UIL Solo and Ensemble contest will be held in late January or early February at Rowlett High School. The work of students on an individual basis on either solos or in small ensembles can provide the student with an excellent musical experience and is strongly encouraged. Assistance with finding appropriate music, finding an accompanist and preparation of your music is also available from the band directors. Performing a solo or an ensemble is a requirement for leadership auditions.

All-Region Band and All-Region Jazz Band

The Texas Music Educators Association sponsors a series of auditions to all eligible students in grades 9-12 for the purpose of selecting students for participation in region, area, and state honor bands. A list of required audition music will be available from the directors or the local music store by the end of July. Any student interested should see the director as soon as possible. The preparation for Region Band auditions will greatly improve your musical ability and the audition itself will provide valuable experience for future auditions. All Wind Symphony and Honors Band members are expected to prepare the Region Band audition. We will use this music as the mid-year auditions to determine band placement for Spring semester. The audition process is available for All- Region Jazz as well.

Financial Obligations

It is the philosophy of the South Garland Band that no student be denied the PRIVILEGE of band membership due to financial hardship. For options in meeting financial obligations, parents should contact the directors.

Band Operations Payment

All South Garland Band Members will be responsible for this annual payment. The purpose of the operations payment is to assist with the numerous expenses that are necessary to provide a high caliber music education and band program, but not covered by district funds. These expenses include:

- Clinicians
- Contest entry fees
- Instruments
- General supplies
- Marching show design

- Marching staff
- Social activities
- Band attire

Please refer to the Band Registration page to determine payment structure and due dates for all payments. If there are financial hardships, please contact the directors and Booster Treasurer to be placed on a different payment plan. Otherwise if students are not fully current with fees by March 1, they will not be able to participate in the Band Banquet and/or the Band Spring Trip. In addition, these students will be placed on the South Garland High School Loss of Privilege list. Upon consulting directors and boosters, we can allow limited exceptions.

Band Boosters

It is our belief that ALL parents of band students are band boosters, as we are all wanting these children to succeed in band. However, our program does need more help! We invite all band parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and guardians to come to our monthly informational meetings to discuss just how everyone can get involved and help our program thrive. Throughout the year we will need help in planning and running fundraisers, providing snacks or meals to band students at events outside of the school day, assisting with moving equipment and props during marching season, and helping the directors in any capacity that they need. We will be looking for volunteers to not only assist this year, but to carry on our booster program for years to come. If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact one of our Booster members or a director.

Private Lessons

Music Enrichment Lessons are available at all of the secondary schools throughout Garland I.S.D. These one-on-one lessons are a great opportunity for our students to get extra help from professionals on their instrument. I hope parents will see the value of this program and sign your child up for GISD MEP lessons. These lessons are conveniently done right here at SGHS, often times during the child's band class and at a very reasonable rate of \$25 for a half hour lesson per week. Or, if your child has a friend who plays the same instrument, we do offer buddy lessons! Buddy lessons would divide the cost up between the two students, making it \$12.50 per student per lesson. Typically, lesson students will sit in the higher chairs within our bands, and they will have a much higher chance of competing at events such as All Region and Solo and Ensemble. While these lessons are completely optional, I hope you understand the value that they provide. Please consider enrolling your child in this great opportunity!

Awards and Band Banquet

Awards are given to deserving band students at the annual Band Banquet held in May. Awards are presented in several categories for outstanding improvement or achievement on a particular instrument or in a particular performing ensemble. **BAND BANQUET WILL ONLY BE ELIGIBLE FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILY WHO COMPLETE THE ENTIRE BAND SCHOOL YEAR. FOR EXAMPLE IF A STUDENT WITHDRAWS FROM BAND AT THE SEMESTER OR IS DISMISSED WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE BAND BANQUET.**

The Louis Armstrong Jazz Award and the John Philip Sousa Band Award are both nationally recognized awards of distinction presented each year to the overall most outstanding band members in the jazz and

concert band. These awards are generally given to a junior or a senior who have gone far above and beyond expectations and are not only exemplary musicians, but also exemplary human beings. All awards are given to recognize hard work and excellence in music, citizenship and service. So, GO FOR IT!

Colorguard/Winterguard

The color guard is a part of the marching band and is therefore governed by all the same rules and regulations as set forth by the band director. The purpose of the color guard is to enhance the performance of the band in a visual manner. It is the director's prerogative to restrict performance when and if he feels the performance unsuitable. **Alternates for color guard are subject to change based on attitude, attendance, and ability.

PLEASE NOTE GUARD IS FULL YEAR – SINGLE BLOCKED COMMITMENT! Thus guard will contribute to the Marching and Winter Guard for the entire academic year.

Members of band auxiliaries performing at school sponsored functions will meet the following criteria in order to be auditioned:

- Be a student at SGHS in grade 9-12.
- Be a student in good academic standing.
- Attend camps and workshops to prepare for the audition.
- Attendance at ALL rehearsals is required.
- Audition on the given date in the Spring.
- Be willing to register for band for the fall (if not already in band).
- Be willing to meet the added financial obligations of the organization in a timely manner. (Varies year to year)

Auditions and selections will be the responsibility of the band directors and a team of expert judges. Every color guard member, including officers, must audition each year. In the event that an instrumentalist enrolled in band and color guard decides to drop band from her schedule, she must sit out a full year before auditioning for color guard only. The number and types of auxiliary units may vary from year to year, depending on the size of the performing band and the availability of talent. Performances, frequency of performances, and uniforms will be determined by the band directors and color guard instructor.

Winter Guard members must follow all of the rules stated above. Rehearsals will be designated by the instructor in the Spring. Grades are not assigned to this organization. We highly encourage ALL guard students to participate in the Winter program for further development of fundamental guard concepts.



Student/Parent Agreement Page

By turning in this page you are acknowledging that you have received and read the South Garland Band Handbook. You are agreeing to uphold the SG Band policies, procedures, and expectations.

Printed Student Name

Student Signature

Date

Printed Parent Name

Parent Signature

Date