

ALVORD MIDDLE SCHOOL

BAND INFORMATION PACKET



2017-2018

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the Alvord Middle School Band! We are looking forward to a productive and exciting year!

Please be sure to sign and return all forms no later than Friday August 25th, 2017.

We are looking forward to working with you this year. Please contact us if you have any questions. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Mr. Wesley Peart, M.M.
Alvord ISD
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Alvord ISD
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ALVORD MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Alvord Middle School Band includes students in grades 6- 8. All students who are members of the band must participate in all middle school band activities. Students are also required to participate in solo and ensemble contest, and may be assigned to participate in all-region auditions or other activities. All school-wide attendance, tardy and behavior policies will be strictly enforced.

Students may not bring food, drinks or gum into the band hall. Cell phone use must comply with school policy and is always at the band director's discretion. All instruments should be cleaned and returned to cases following every class period. Cases should be fully closed and latched. Students will be assigned a storage cubby and should keep their assigned cubby neat and organized.

Students are encouraged to take their instruments home every day to practice.

GRADING POLICY

Band grading is based upon attendance and participation at all rehearsals and performances, as well as completion of Practice Log Assignments. During some 6-weeks periods, grading may be based on an "objective sheet", listing certain criteria which students must perform during the grading period. Each objective will be graded on a pass/fail basis. Students will receive a grade for each rehearsal and performance, except those which occur during the regular school day.

Students may be assigned lower grades for the following reasons:

Failure to arrive, on time, with all required materials

Behavior which is disruptive to the rehearsal

Failure to Participate Fully

Failure to arrive, on time, in the proper attire to any performance

Failure to fully prepare and/or passoff music by required deadlines

Incomplete Practice Logs or Objective Sheets

SCHOOL INSTRUMENTS

Alvord ISD provides school musical instruments for the low woodwind, low brass and percussion sections. These instruments are quite costly and are not normally owned by individuals. All of these instruments are sent to the repair shop and reconditioned during the summer.

Percussionists will be required to purchase their own sticks and stick bag.

Brass players who are using a school-owned instrument will need to own their own mouthpiece.

All other students will be expected to purchase or rent an instrument through a local music store. If the cost is an issue, the Alvord Band may be able to provide financial assistance.

A complete list of recommended instruments is included in this document. Instruments other than the ones listed will need to be approved by the band directors.

Any damage or normal adjustment during the year is the responsibility of the band student who has signed for the instrument.

We expect the instrument to be returned in the same condition as when issued. Dings, dents, and other damage will be repaired at the student's expense.

If the instrument is lost or stolen while checked out to a student, it is the **parent's/guardian's responsibility** to replace the instrument.

USE OF BAND HALL FACILITIES

ONLY band students are allowed in the band hall. Students must ask their friends who are not in band to wait for them either in the school hallway or outside.

REPAIRS

Instrument repairs may be needed during the semester. Students and parents are encouraged to take their instruments to the repair shop. If this is not possible, a representative from Tarpley music travels to the school each week to pick up and drop off repairs. Students will be charged for any repairs to student-owned instruments and to school-owned instruments not deemed not to be from regular wear and tear. **DO NOT**, under any circumstances, attempt to repair your own instrument!

SUPPLIES

It is imperative that band students be **prepared** for every rehearsal. All students are expected to have the following supplies at every rehearsal:

- Instrument
- Accessories (Reeds, Sticks, Mouthpiece, Valve Oil, etc.)
- Pencil
- Band Binder with Page Protectors
- Standard of Excellence Book 1 for your Instrument
- Foundations for Superior Performance book for your Instrument
- Tuner with Clip-On Attachment and Metronome

BINDERS

Band binders are a required material for this course. A binder will be provided to any student who does not have one. All music must be placed in page protectors and be readily accessible. Students must have their binder and all required books every day. Each student will have their own music and music stand. You **MAY NOT** share music. See the required materials list to determine which books will be required.

ATTIRE

All Alvord Middle School Band Students must own at least one Alvord Band "A" T-Shirt. This shirt will be worn at all band concerts and contests. Shirts will be ordered in September. The shirt order form is located at the end of this document and on the band website.

Students may also choose to order an Alvord Band "A" Hoodie. At the discretion of the directors, students may wear this over the "A" shirt at certain events.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Students in all grade levels will be offered the opportunity to take private lessons from qualified music instructors. Private lessons provide one-on-one focused instruction and are the best way to improve quickly. These lessons are available for \$15.00 per 30 minutes and will be taught at the high school band hall. If you are interested in private lessons but require financial assistance, scholarships may be available through the band booster program. Please indicate the need for financial assistance on the enrollment form.

After initial private lesson enrollment, students and parents will be expected to satisfy all financial obligations to their lesson teacher in a timely manner. Students will also be expected to communicate any scheduling conflicts or cancellations to their lesson teacher in accordance with the policies set forth by the teacher. Lesson schedules and cancellations *will not* be communicated by the band directors.

If you are interested in enrolling in private lessons, further information and an enrollment form can be found at the end of this document.

OFF-CAMPUS TRAVEL POLICIES

Students who represent Alvord ISD on off-campus trips are expected to maintain very high standards of conduct at all times. They are expected to attend and be on time for all sessions and activities scheduled for them. In the event of overnight trips, they are expected to be in their rooms at the times designated by their sponsors.

Each student will be responsible to one or more faculty sponsors who will supervise the activities of the student for the trip. Negligence in attending sessions, in meeting curfew requirements, or in failing to maintain our standards of conduct may make it necessary for the sponsor to send the student home at his/her own expense.

Student conduct on school-related trips: Self-discipline is the key element for a pleasant experience for both the sponsor and the student when the student is on a school-related trip. Students who are involved in a serious disciplinary offense on a school-related trip, such as the use, possession of, or being under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol, stealing, fighting, going in the room of a member of the opposite sex, or some other serious offense will face disciplinary action which may include one or more of the following:

1. The student will be sent home from the trip at the parents' expense.
2. The student will be held liable for damages to property.
3. The student may be removed from this school activity as well as other school co-curricular activities.
4. The student may be placed in In-School-Suspension (ISS), Off-Campus-Suspension, or Alternative Education Placement.

Students' attire during school activities outside the school day should be in good taste. If there is any question of taste, the director's decision is final.

Alvord Middle School Band

2017 – 2018 Required Materials List

****All Instruments****

Pencil
Band "A" T-Shirt (see attached order form)
Band Binder with Page Protectors
Standard of Excellence Book 1 for your Instrument
Foundations for Superior Performance for your Instrument
Tuner with Clip-On Attachment and Metronome

Flutes

Yamaha, Pearl, or Gemeinhardt Flute w/ Case – Open-Holed Flutes are Recommended
Tuning rod, Polishing cloth and Cleaning Cloth

Clarinets

Buffet, Leblanc or Yamaha Clarinet w/ Case – Wooden Clarinets are Recommended
Required mouthpiece: Vandoren M13
Reeds: Vandoren V12 Reeds, Strength 3
Reed Case: Vandoren ReedGuard
Swab and Cork Grease
Rovner Clarinet Ligature

Saxophones

Any: Yamaha or Selmer Alto Saxophone w/ Case
Required mouthpiece: Selmer C*
Reeds: Vandoren "Blue Box" Reeds, Strength 3
Reed Case: Vandoren or LaVoz ReedGuard
Swab and Cork Grease

Trumpets

Any: Bach, King, Conn, Yamaha, Jupiter, Blessing, Getzen
Required mouthpiece: Bach 7C
Valve Oil, Slide Grease and Cleaning Kit

French Horns

Bach or Yamaha Mouthpiece
Valve Oil, Slide Grease and Cleaning Kit

Trombones

Any: Bach, King, Conn, Yamaha, Jupiter Horns
Bach 6 ½ AL Small Shank Mouthpiece
Slide Oil, Slide Grease and Cleaning Kit

Baritones

Bach 6 ½ AL Small Shank Mouthpiece
Valve Oil, Slide Grease and Cleaning Kit

Tuba

24AW Mouthpiece
Valve Oil, Slide Grease and Cleaning Kit

Percussion

Stick bag containing: 2 Pair Drumsticks, 1 Pair Medium Marimba Mallets, 1 Pair Hard Bells/Xylo Mallets, 1 Pair Timpani Mallets
If you do not currently own sticks, we recommend the Vic Firth EP2 Stick Pack.

Alvord 6th Grade Band Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION	
August 21	First Day of School	N/A		
TBD October	Band Mid-Semester Fall Concert	Call Time: See Website	Alvord	REQUIRED
TBD December	Band Winter Concert	Call Time: See Website	Alvord	REQUIRED
TBD March	Band Pre-Festival Concert	Call Time: See Website	Alvord	REQUIRED
TBD April	Sandy Lake FunFest	Call Time: See Website	Carrollton, TX	REQUIRED
April 21	Decatur Solo and Ensemble Contest	Call Time: See Website	Decatur HS	REQUIRED
TBD April/May	Band Spring Concert	Call Time: See Website	Alvord	REQUIRED

Alvord ISD Bands Emergency Medical Release

As part of its educational program, the Alvord Independent School District ("AISD") has organized a variety of educational and learning activities and trips in which your child will have an opportunity to participate. These trips and activities are designed to benefit students by providing unique learning experiences and exposure to new and different people and places in a supervised setting. School personnel will keep you informed of the upcoming activities in which you child will have the opportunity to participate.

I, the undersigned, the parent and/or legal guardian of the student identified below, a minor, hereby acknowledge that said minor is presently under my care, custody and control. I hereby give the student identified below my express permission to travel with school personnel on the educational enrichment activities and trips the school has planned and to participate in all scheduled activities involved in the trip or activity.

In the event of an emergency necessitating **medical attention** to the student identified below, I hereby authorize that treatment be given by qualified and licensed medical personnel. I understand that this form will be given to the medical personnel to expedite the treatment. I understand that I will be notified as soon as possible and that all expenses incurred in treatment will be assumed either directly by me or by my insurance coverage as noted.

I acknowledge that liability of AISD, the AISD Board of Trustees, and any agents, employees, representatives, insurers, successors, and assignees of the entities just named, is narrowly defined and extremely limited by Texas law and local policy.

Student's Name: _____ Sex _____ Age _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____

Present Address: _____
Street # City State Zip

Parents or Legal Guardians: _____ Home Telephone: _____ Cell Phone#: _____

Other responsible party: _____ Home Telephone: _____ Cell Phone#: _____

Health Insurance Co.: _____ Policy Number: _____

Health Insurance Phone # _____

List ALL medical conditions: _____

List ALL Allergies: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date Signed: _____