



# **2024 Handbook**

## **Staff**

Mr. Ryan McAllister - Director - [ryan.mcallister@oldham.kyschools.us](mailto:ryan.mcallister@oldham.kyschools.us)

Mrs. Mitsuko Martinez - Assistant Director - [mitsuko.martinez@oldham.kyschools.us](mailto:mitsuko.martinez@oldham.kyschools.us)

Mrs. Amanda Croak - Colorguard Director

Mr. Daniel Schmitt - Percussion Director

Mr. Seth Perkins - Percussion Director

Mrs. Piper Fasoldt - Visual Instructor

Other staff TBA

## **Communication**

The Remind app will be our main form of communication. **It is very important that all students and parents join the Reminder group!** We will use this to send out important announcements and schedule updates.

2024 Student Remind Group (**students only**) - text @soband24 to 81010 or use this qr code:



2024 Parent Remind Group (**parents only**) - text @24soparent to 81010 or use this qr code:



Parents are also encouraged to join the SOHS Band Boosters private Facebook group as another source of information.

Students and parents are encouraged to follow the SOHS Band Facebook page

Website - [sohsband.com](http://sohsband.com)

- Members only section password - 2024dragonband

## **Rehearsal and Performance Attendance**

The calendar for the entire season including all rehearsals, performances and competitions is available on the South Oldham Band Website - [sohsband.com](http://sohsband.com)

- We utilize Google Calendar.
- You can sync it to your phone to always have the most up to date information!
- Look for the +Google Icon in the corner of the calendar.
- Click the plus sign and log in with your google account.
- Download the Google Calendar app to your phone. Now everytime the calendar is updated, it will automatically sync to your phone!

All marching band rehearsals and performances are mandatory. These rehearsals and performances include:

- ALL rehearsals during band camp
- ALL rehearsals during the regular season
- ALL performances
  - Saturday competitions
  - Friday night football games
  - Parades

The South Oldham Band reserves the right to add or adjust dates as things come up or unforeseen events happen. Whenever possible, the directors/staff will communicate at least 2 weeks notice for these dates. This is not common but does happen from time to time. The attendance policy applies to these dates as well. Simply put, band rehearsals and performances are mandatory!

**Please note - any request for an exception must be submitted online via google form and approved by the director one week in advance of the conflicting date.** This form can be found on the band website [sohsband.com](http://sohsband.com) or using this QR code:



## **Excused Absences**

- Death in the family
- Serious personal illness/injury
- Other issues handled on an individual basis via online requests

Please note - text message, email or verbal communication will not be sufficient for absence notification; the google form online request must be submitted for an absence to be considered excused.

By state policy, students absent from school for any reason are not allowed to participate in rehearsals after school that day. Students must be present in at least 3 full periods of the day in order to be eligible for any after school activities.

### **Unexcused Absences**

- Dentist/doctor/orthodontist/hair/nail/chiropractor/etc appointments (these must be scheduled around band dates)
- Homework
- Concert/sporting event or any other recreational event
- Work
- Birthday
- Punishment
- Senior pictures
- Trips/Vacations (these must be scheduled around band dates)
- No ride (let someone know...arrangements can be made)

### **Attendance Policy**

Good attendance is the single most important quality of a successful band. An entire rehearsal can become wasted time if band members are missing. We must function as a team. Wednesdays will always be off - please schedule doctor and other appointments on this day.

Students are responsible for arriving at each rehearsal and performance on time with all required materials. On time means at least 15 minutes early. It takes several minutes to get equipment moved and instruments ready for rehearsal. Rehearsal start times are the time we plan to begin rehearsal.

### **Unexcused absence at rehearsal**

- 1st offense – discussion/verbal warning
- 2nd offense - loss of privilege to perform in next competition
- 3rd offense – dismissal from the program

Other extenuating circumstances deemed unexcused MUST be submitted via the online google form to the director 1 week prior to conflict. It will then be determined whether the absence is to be excused or unexcused. Again, text message, email or a verbal conversation will not be considered a request for an excused absence.

### **Unexcused absence at performance event**

- 1st offense – dismissal from the season

### **Excused absences**

The director reserves the right to keep the student (with excused absences) from participating in the next performance event. This would NOT be a punishment, but as a way of providing the performer more time to prepare and get caught up. This will also protect the other band students from potential injury and allow the program to flourish from all members who were in full attendance and received all pertinent information.

### **Tardies – rehearsals and performances**

A tardy that is more than half of the scheduled rehearsal/performance time will result in an unexcused absence. This includes leaving rehearsal/performance early as well as arriving late.

Three unexcused tardies throughout the season will result in an unexcused absence.

### **Grades/Eligibility**

School policy dictates that students must maintain the following in order to participate:

- have and maintain a 2.0 (or better) GPA each grading term based on an unweighted 4.0 grading scale,
- be passing a minimum of 5 out of 7 classes each term, and
- be at their proper grade level

### **Band Camp**

- Pre-Camp - July 8-12
  - Winds 9 am - 12 pm
  - Percussion 9 am - 5 pm
  - Colorguard 1 pm - 9 pm
- Week 1 - July 15-19
  - M, W, F - 9 am - 5 pm (all sections)
  - T, Th - 9 am - 9 pm (all sections)
- Week 2 - July 22-26
  - M, W, F - 9 am - 5 pm (all sections)
  - T, Th - 9 am - 9 pm (all sections)

Attendance at band camp is mandatory for all students.

- Students are responsible for providing their own lunch on all camp days. Dinner will be provided by the band boosters on 9-9 days during Band Camp Week 1 and Band Camp Week 2.
- For safety, all students must remain at school during meals and will not be allowed to leave unless a parent signs them out with Mr. McAllister.
- Wear loose comfortable clothing (clothing must be appropriate and modest)

- Gym Shoes are required for all marching rehearsals. Sandals, flip-flops, and other types of open footwear are not permitted during marching rehearsals. Canvas shoes are also discouraged as they are not good for marching.

Items needed for Band Camp:

- **Sunscreen!** Please bring and wear appropriate sunscreen! We will be out in the sun a lot for three weeks. It is important that you protect yourself from the sun. A bad sunburn should not be an excuse for missing practice. This can be prevented. Be smart!
- **Personal Water Cooler with your name clearly marked on it.** Recommend ½ gallon size with handle. We will have water available at every practice, but students should bring their own water with them as well.
- **3 ring binder with clear page protectors** to keep your music in (guard does not need this).

### **Understudy Program**

We will utilize your talents where we feel you will be able to perform your best. All members of the band may not be in the entire production of the competitive show. For instance, a student recovering from injury may be written to enter the show during the ballad from the props or front sideline. We want every student to learn and grow; at times, marching an entire show is not the best if they are not ready. All students will be in the drill in the closer, but we may layer them in and out of the drill more like a Broadway production.

### **Fees**

\$100 Due May 15

\$550 Due July 8

\$650 Total Fee

If you are unable to pay by the due dates you may contact Mr. McAllister to arrange a plan to pay in installments.

If fees are a barrier to participation please contact Mr. McAllister. We will work with you - we don't want any student to not participate because they cannot afford the fees!

### **Forms**

The forms packet must be turned in prior to Band Camp. Forms can be found at [www.sohsband.com](http://www.sohsband.com) or from Mr. McAllister.

**NOTE:** According to OCBE policy any student participating in an extra-curricular activity must have health insurance. Inexpensive insurance that covers a student only while at school or while participating in school activities is available through the school. Contact the school office if you are in need of this.

## **Uniforms**

Parade/early season uniform (all members):

- Green marching band t-shirt (new members will be given one of these during band camp)
- Solid black shorts (students will need to provide these)

All Wind and Percussion students will need the following items for performances in uniform:

- Black short sleeve compression shirt or tight fitting t-shirt
- LONG solid black socks

Uniform hair:

- Students with long hair will be required to wear their hair in a bun. Students will need to provide their own hair ties, bobby pins, and hair spray for this.
- All students are required to have their hair in a natural color. If a student's hair is dyed in an unnatural hair color, they may use a temporary hair coloring spray for performances. Students are responsible for providing their own hair coloring spray if necessary.

Colorguard:

- Colorguard uniforms are show specific each year. As such, colorguard students will be given a list of items needed for performance at a later date.

No jewelry or nail polish should be worn when in uniform.

## **Competitions**

- Schedules for competitions will be sent out on Remind us soon as they are available (usually a week or two in advance).
- Students should block off the entire day competitions are scheduled. These are full day events - we usually rehearse beforehand, then have to load equipment, travel to the site, warm-up, perform, load equipment, watch other bands, attend awards, and then travel home.
- All students need to help unload equipment when we arrive back at SOHS and should not leave until dismissed by Mr. McAllister.
- Parents may sign their student out after a competition performance. Students can only be signed out to their parents. If possible students should still come back to school to help unload equipment.

## **General Band Rules**

- Always be on time to all rehearsals and meetings!
- Listen to and follow all directions that are given to you.
- Respect and cooperate with all staff members.
- No use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, or vapes.
- Use appropriate language at all times.

- Represent yourself and the band well with all online/ social media posts and text messages.

## **Parents**

We need great parental support in order to be successful!

### Band Boosters

- Meet the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm in the band room
- All band parents are band boosters and are encouraged to attend!