



NIMITZ MIDDLE SCHOOL

ADMIRAL BAND

2026 – 2027 HANDBOOK

Nimitz Middle School • Ector County ISD

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome.....	3
Contact Information.....	3
Goals and Objectives.....	4
Conduct Expectations.....	5
Detention.....	5
Digital Citizenship.....	5
Financial Obligations.....	6
Fundraising.....	6
Cut Time Privacy Notice.....	7
The NMS Bands.....	8
Band Placement.....	8
Care of Facilities.....	8
Attendance.....	10
Daily Supplies.....	11
Grading Guidelines.....	12
Weekly Practice Sheets.....	12
Assignment Recordings.....	13
Eligibility.....	13
District-Owned Instruments.....	14
Instrument Storage and Identification.....	14
Section Rehearsals.....	14
Private Lesson Program.....	15
Braces and Dental Work.....	15
Uniform Guidelines.....	16
Concerts / Performances.....	16
Concert Behavior Expectations.....	16
UIL and Competitions.....	17
Travel Guidelines.....	18
Trip Criteria.....	18
Student Leadership.....	19
All-City / All-Region Band Guidelines.....	19
Solo and Ensemble.....	19
Safety.....	19
Band Hall Hours.....	20
Parent Drop-Off and Pick-Up.....	20
Band Parent Volunteers.....	20

WELCOME

Welcome to the Nimitz Middle School Band Program! It is with great enthusiasm that we introduce our program to you in detail. The NMS band program has established a wonderful tradition of excellence, and we are glad you have chosen to be part of it.

Band participation benefits students in many ways. Band students are engaged daily in a highly creative performing art that stimulates growth in areas of the brain that no other discipline can, and that growth transfers directly into academic life. Along the way, students develop teamwork, responsibility, dedication, self-discipline, social skills, confidence, leadership, and dependability — building a sense of accomplishment, pride, and respect as they grow musically and personally.

This handbook outlines the guidelines and expectations for a successful year, and serves as a resource for students and parents.

Both students and parents should read this handbook thoroughly. Once you have finished, the contract distributed via Cognito Forms must be signed by both parent and student and submitted, confirming your understanding of these guidelines.

Enrolling in band is a full-year course. Students who enroll are expected to commit for the entire academic school year.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The directors encourage positive communication and are happy to discuss any aspect of a student's progress in band with parents.

Note: The best and fastest way to reach a director is through the Band App or email.

Director	Email	Phone
Jordan Freeman, Band Director	jordan.freeman@ectorcountyisd.org	(432) 456-2940
Taryn McMillan, Band Director	taryn.mcmillan@ectorcountyisd.org	(432) 456-2953
Channing Freeman, Band Director	channing.freeman@ectorcountyisd.org	(432) 456-2940

Conference Periods

All three directors hold their conference period during 9th period. Please schedule an appointment with the respective director if you would like to meet.

Our Communication Priority

Communication with parents is a very high priority for us. We want to address concerns and make every situation the best possible for each student — please contact us for clarification before a concern becomes a bigger issue.

Note: Due to sectionals and student help sessions, it can be difficult to reach us before or after school. When we are working with students, please understand they are our highest priority and deserve our complete attention.

Email and Band App Policy

Updates and communications go home throughout the year via the Band App and email. Because email can lead to misunderstandings, any major concern should be addressed through a conference or phone call rather than email alone.

Student Communication

Students are also encouraged to raise concerns with directors in person, at an appropriate time, before they become larger issues. Please check calendars often and let us know of conflicts as early as possible — the sooner we know, the more options we have to help.

www.nimitzmsband.com

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Through the band program, students will develop the following skills and qualities:

● Organizational skills ● Practice techniques ● Mental and physical discipline ● Citizenship through group endeavors ● Cultural growth ● Value judgments ● Music theory ● Proper instrumental technique	● Life lessons ● Creative self-expression ● Aural skills ● Teamwork and social skills ● Performance skills ● Music appreciation ● Responsibility ● Accountability
---	---

CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

Band members will observe all procedures set by Ector County ISD, in addition to the following, as they apply to the instrumental music setting:

- Any behavior that is not representative of good citizenship, as perceived by the band staff, may result in dismissal from the activity at hand as well as from the band program. This also applies to the actions of student leaders in both public and private events.
- All students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the Nimitz Band Operating Principles at all times. Individual behavior during a band function reflects on the whole group.
- Students will follow directors' instructions.
- Students will be in their assigned rehearsal area with all necessary equipment at the beginning of rehearsal time.
- Students will keep their hands and feet to themselves.
- Students will not use or play equipment they do not own without a director's permission.
- Students will not touch, handle, borrow, or use anyone else's instrument, uniform, or personal belongings.
- Students should request permission to speak by raising a hand and waiting to be acknowledged. Rehearsals are expected to be extremely quiet so time is used as wisely and efficiently as possible.
- When in the band hall before or after school, students will not disturb any rehearsal in progress.
- Students will respect others' property and return equipment to its proper storage place when not in use, keeping their storage area clean and neat. Students who have difficulty with this may lose the privilege of a storage area in the band hall.
- Students will not deface or mark music stands, chairs, walls, etc.
- Students will not write on dry-erase boards without a director's permission, and will not make contact with any dry-erase board, bulletin board, or mirror hanging in a practice room.
- Students will use their assigned storage slot/locker for instrument cases during rehearsals. Cases should not be brought into rehearsals unless requested by a director (exceptions: flute, clarinet, and oboe).

DETENTION

Detention is held after school in the band hall on Fridays from 4:30–5:00 PM. Students assigned detention are expected to serve it that week. If there is a conflict, the student and parent should let a director know, and the detention will be rescheduled to the following week. A student who misses detention without a valid excuse will receive an additional detention.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

Maintaining a high standard of conduct extends to students' online presence. The internet is a worldwide, publicly accessible form of communication — any post on Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter/X, Facebook, text, email, or similar platforms is considered public, even if marked private. Members are responsible for their own posts as well as posting on other students' pages.

Inappropriate content includes, but is not limited to: profane, foul, or disrespectful language (including abbreviations or implications), suggestive images or poses, references to alcohol, drugs, or tobacco, and any post that could be seen

as threatening or negative toward ECISD staff or band members, or that reflects poor sportsmanship toward other bands. Such incidents will be reviewed by the principal (or designee) and may lead to probation or dismissal from the band.

Consequences for Violations

1. First violation — the student will be asked to remove the offensive content and provide an apology and a plan of action to the principal, directors, and band members. Parents/guardians will be contacted.
2. Second violation — the same steps as above, plus suspension from all band activities for a period of 3 days to 3 weeks.
3. Third violation — removal from band.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

It is the philosophy of the Nimitz Middle School Band that no student should be denied the privilege of band membership due to financial hardship. For options in meeting financial obligations, please contact a director.

FUNDRAISING

Several fundraisers are planned for the school year. Participation is encouraged but not required. Fundraising proceeds help defray student fees and trip expenses; any additional funds raised go toward materials and equipment for the NMS Band Program. If fundraising goals are not met, remaining expenses become the responsibility of the family.

Item	Estimated Cost
Band Fee	\$125 (Honor/Symphonic/Concert) • \$100 (Beginners)
Instrument Rental Fee	\$75/semester or \$150/year (1-2 installments)
Spring Trip Fee	\$200 – \$300

A portion of fundraiser profit (usually 10%) goes toward operating expenses not covered by the ECISD budget — extra concert music, guest clinicians, supplies, technology, sound equipment, commissioned music, instrument accessories, and honor band/competition fees.

Fundraising proceeds belong to NMS and ECISD and cannot be refunded to a student. If a student raises money and is unable to attend a trip, those funds become property of the NMS Booster Club account. Per ECISD policy, funds are valid only for the current academic year and are not transferable between years. If a student leaves the band program, all raised funds remain in the general NMS account and are not reimbursed.

Donations to the program are welcome and are used for expenses beyond student fees and trip costs — including instrument repair, equipment replacement, and helping families in need. All donations are greatly appreciated!

CUT TIME PRIVACY NOTICE

Cut Time is the online platform we use to keep members informed about events, practices, and other updates. Depending on the access level set by a director, the site may display contact information, directory information, and confidential details such as payments, account balances, uniforms, grades, and practice logs. Users and administrators agree to protect the privacy of this information and to use it only for program-related purposes.

THE NMS BANDS

Honor Band

Selection is by audition, director recommendation, and demonstrated academic proficiency. Honor Band gives numerous performances on and off campus and is designated the “Varsity” band in UIL activities. Members participate in the Region Band process, Solo & Ensemble Contest, honor concerts, and the UIL Concert & Sight-Reading Evaluation, with one section rehearsal or hearing outside the school day each week.

Symphonic Band

Symphonic Band is designated the “Non-Varsity” ensemble in UIL activities. Selection is based on audition, director recommendation, and academic eligibility. This ensemble focuses on continuing to develop individual musicianship, refining technical skills, and building ensemble precision to prepare students for advancement to Honor Band the following year. Members perform at campus concerts, Solo & Ensemble Contest, and the UIL Concert & Sight-Reading Evaluation. Participation in the Region Band audition process is optional, but strongly encouraged for personal growth. Outside-of-school requirements include mandatory sectionals once a week and one full-band rehearsal after school during the spring semester.

Concert Band

Concert Band serves as an intermediate performance ensemble dedicated to building strong fundamental music skills and dynamic ensemble playing. Selection is based on audition and director recommendation. The primary goal of Concert Band is to foster individual musical confidence, technique, and sight-reading proficiency to prepare students to advance to Symphonic or Honor Band in subsequent years. Members participate in on-campus concerts, festival evaluations, and optional Solo & Ensemble events. Region Band participation is optional, but strongly encouraged. Outside-of-school requirements include mandatory sectionals once a week.

All students are placed into a concert ensemble by audition at the end of the school year, along with observation throughout the year.

BAND PLACEMENT

Yearly placement, and any occasional changes, are based on:

- Instrument needs and limitations
- Eligibility status
- Overall performance and consistent progress throughout the year
- Attendance at all band functions
- Attitude and behavior
- Audition

Note: A student must pass band and receive a director's recommendation to enroll in the next level. If a student does not pass their beginning year, they will be placed back in beginning band, to avoid being overwhelmed in a higher level.

CARE OF FACILITIES

- No gum, food, or drinks are allowed in the band hall except when authorized by directors.

- All trash should go in the wastebaskets provided.
- Vandalism or willful misuse of school property will be addressed severely — every band member is expected to help directors monitor the facility and prevent vandalism.
- Students may not enter the sheet music library, percussion room, or upstairs rooms without permission.
- Practice and ensemble rooms are for practicing, not social gatherings — no more than 3 students per practice room (larger ensemble rooms may hold more at a director's discretion).
- Please knock on office doors and wait to be invited in; offices are otherwise off-limits, and students may not use directors' phones without permission.
- Students should never sit at a teacher's desk.

ATTENDANCE

A high-quality band program depends on every member's attendance. The NMS band follows all school and district policies, plus the additional guidelines below, which also apply to activities held outside the school day.

Excused Absence

Absences during the school day are excused per district guidelines. Absences from outside-of-school activities are excused at the director's discretion — appointments and tutorials do not count as excuses. Personal illness requiring medical attention, a death in the family, or other director-approved circumstances may be excused; students who are frequently ill may be asked for a doctor's note. Some excused absences may still result in removal from a performance, contest, or trip, and an excused absence from a sectional may still require a make-up sectional at the director's discretion.

Unexcused Absence

An unexcused absence from a required band activity results in a zero in the gradebook. Rehearsals, concerts, contests, and competitions cannot be made up. A student with an unexcused absence from a section rehearsal may be required to schedule a make-up within one week.

Concerts and Performances

Concerts are a core part of the band curriculum and are mandatory for each concert ensemble. Consult the band calendar for dates and times, as schedules may occasionally change. A concert has three parts — warm-up, performance, and listening — and begins for the student at warm-up, so punctuality is essential. If a performance causes a student to miss class, the student is responsible for making up all missed work.

7th/8th Grade Performances (typical, subject to change)

- Lawn Concert
- MOJO Night at the Permian football game
- Fall Concert
- All-Region Band Auditions, Phase 1 and 2 (required for Honor and Symphonic Band)
- Christmas Parade
- Winter Concert
- Solo and Ensemble Contest
- Cabaret Concert
- Pre-UIL Contest
- UIL Contest
- Spring Trip Concert
- Other events as scheduled

6th Grade Performances (typical, subject to change)

- Beginner Demonstration Concert
- Winter Concert
- Spring Concert
- Solo and Ensemble Contest

- End-of-Year Band Festival
- Other events as scheduled

A student with an unexcused absence from school, or in alternative placement on the day of a concert, contest, or competition, may not participate and will receive a grade of 0.

DAILY SUPPLIES

Every day, students should bring the following to rehearsal and performances (directors may add items at their discretion):

- All issued music
- Pencils and highlighters
- Instrument (with a name tag on the case)
- All supplies relevant to their instrument
- Black band binder with labeled dividers (provided)
- Korg TM-40 or TM-50 metronome/tuner
- Korg contact microphone pickup
- Other equipment as needed

For instrument-specific supply lists, visit www.nimitzmsband.com.

GRADING GUIDELINES

ECISD band programs align with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for the grade level. Because band is an academic music class with extracurricular components attached, grades reflect achievement in both curricular and extracurricular areas.

6th Grade Band

Category	Weight	Includes
Major Grades	45%	Participation, instrument, music supplies, attitude, performance attendance, required rehearsals
Daily Grades	35%	Playing tests, pass-offs
Quizzes	20%	Practice records, in-class worksheets

Performing Groups (Honor / Symphonic / Concert Band)

Category	Weight	Includes
Major Grades	45%	Co-curricular events such as concerts and sectionals
Daily Grades	35%	Participation and supplies
Quizzes	20%	Playing assignments / pass-offs

Grades may be based on any of the following, with additional assignments possible at director discretion: attendance and focus at rehearsals/sectionals; being prepared with instrument, music, pencil, and supplies; playing tests, scale tests, and written tests; marking music and note-taking; improvement in individual and ensemble skills; posture, hand position, embouchure, air production, and articulation; historical knowledge of relevant literature; and performance during a grading period.

WEEKLY PRACTICE SHEETS (BEGINNERS ONLY)

Progress on an instrument is directly tied to hours invested in individual practice — set aside a designated time each day.

- Due every Thursday, or the first day back to school after a vacation or illness.
- 150 minutes of practice per week through October; 180 minutes per week for the rest of the year.
- Must be signed by a parent/guardian.
- May be turned in one day late for a 10-point deduction.
- May be emailed to the directors.
- Extra credit is available for time beyond the requirement.

ASSIGNMENT RECORDINGS

Students will submit recordings for assignments throughout the year, allowing directors to track individual development and address each student's needs. If technology or internet access is not available at home, please let the directors know — computer equipment is available before and after school.

ELIGIBILITY

All ECISD bands follow TEA and ECISD eligibility rules. Some band activities are extra-curricular and governed by these requirements: a student who receives a grade below 70 in any class is suspended from all extra-curricular activities during the nine-week period following that grading period. Loss of eligibility takes effect seven days after the reporting period ends. Ineligible students are not suspended from practice or rehearsal, nor during school breaks or summer.

A student may regain eligibility by passing all courses by the third week of the following grading period, with reinstatement seven days after the three-week progress report.

Eligibility rules do not affect curricular activities (regular rehearsals and performances that extend classroom instruction); competitive or ticketed performances are considered extra-curricular.

Note: *In addition to TEA/ECISD eligibility rules, students must pass the 3rd nine weeks and must not receive an in-school suspension during the spring semester in order to attend the spring trip.*

DISTRICT-OWNED INSTRUMENTS

ECISD provides a limited number of instruments — bassoon, oboe, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, horn, euphonium, tuba, and general percussion equipment — for student use due to their expense. All district-owned equipment must be handled with care; students who fail to do so may lose the privilege of using these instruments.

- Students who play large instruments and depend on ECISD buses may, where possible, be issued one instrument for home and one for school, at the directors' discretion based on availability and transportation needs.
- Students are responsible for damage to any district-owned instrument issued to them. Students and parents must sign an instrument checkout form before use.
- Each instrument is issued in good playing condition and should be maintained accordingly.
- The band member is financially responsible for all checked-out equipment and materials.
- All equipment must be kept in its proper storage location when not in use.
- A \$150 rental fee (\$75/semester) covers summer cleaning and maintenance of district-owned instruments.
- District-owned instruments should not be taken outside the United States.

Note: District-owned instruments are not “free” instruments — basic supplies must still be purchased and repairs still made. Please treat them as your own; most exceed \$3,000 in value.

INSTRUMENT STORAGE AND IDENTIFICATION

Instrument lockers are for instrument storage only. Each student is assigned a specific locker, which must be kept clean; locks will be provided. Instruments should be kept in their cases, latched, while in storage.

No instruments are to be kept in lockers overnight or over weekends. Sixth graders will begin consistently bringing instruments home as soon as their director instructs them to. For your security, always lock your locker!

Students take their instrument and band binder home every evening and are expected to practice regularly outside of class and private lessons.

Students are not allowed to leave their instrument unattended at any time. There will be consequences for any student whose instrument is brought to us by another student, teacher, etc. — whether found on or off school property.

SECTION REHEARSALS

All Honor Band and Symphonic Band members have at least one weekly section rehearsal. Students are expected to be punctual and prepared; section rehearsals are an extension of the classroom and are graded accordingly.

Please do not schedule dentist, doctor, or other appointments during your child's sectional time — it causes them to fall behind the rest of the group.

- An excused absence may be made up with one hour of individual practice, or by attending a similar-instrument sectional with director approval.
- An unexcused absence may be made up with two hours of individual practice in the band hall; in some cases a like-instrument sectional is required before the next scheduled sectional, or the zero stays.

- Students have one week after returning to school to make up a missed sectional; after that, the absence becomes unexcused and a zero is recorded.

Unexcused absences result in student and parent notification. Three unexcused absences (regardless of makeup) result in removal from the competition group until all competitions are finished.

PRIVATE LESSON PROGRAM

This cluster-wide program enhances classroom instruction with individualized instruction from professional musicians in the Midland/Odessa area, most of whom hold advanced performance degrees.

- All students are strongly encouraged to take individualized private instruction.
- Teachers are screened and interviewed by the district.
- Lessons are given weekly during band classes, before, and after school.
- Before/after-school lessons are scheduled to avoid conflicts with sectionals or other activities where possible.

Visit the private lesson tab on the NMS Band website for more information.

BRACES AND DENTAL WORK

A student's participation (or inability to participate) can significantly affect the overall success of the ensemble. Please contact a director in advance and consider the band calendar and performance obligations — especially in spring (UIL Contest, Solo & Ensemble Contest, Festival performances) — when scheduling braces or dental work. The optimal time is the beginning of summer.

UNIFORM GUIDELINES

Formal Uniform — Honor / Symphonic / Concert Band

No jewelry is worn with this uniform; hair accessories must match hair color and should not distract from the uniform or performance.

	Provided by the School	Provided by the Family
Men	Long-sleeve black shirt, tuxedo pants, tuxedo jacket, black tie	Calf-high black socks, all-black shoes
Women	Black concert dress	Black socks/hose, closed-toe all-black shoes

Informal Uniform — Honor / Symphonic / Concert Band

The provided Nimitz Band shirt (tucked in) with standard khaki pants. Please purchase these items before the first concert.

Beginner Band Uniform

The provided Nimitz Band shirt (tucked in) with standard khaki pants. Shorts will not be allowed — please make sure your student owns a pair of khaki pants.

Hair — All Band Students

For uniformity at performances and competitions, members must wear a well-groomed, natural-colored hairstyle that does not cover the eyes. Students may not perform with any part of the head shaved (a fully shaved head is acceptable) or hair dyed an unnatural color (e.g., fluorescent or psychedelic shades).

CONCERTS / PERFORMANCES

Concerts are frequent across all bands — consult the calendar for dates and times, as schedules may change with notice sent home and posted on the NMS Band website.

- A concert has three parts: warm-up, performance, and listening. It begins for the student at warm-up — punctuality is essential.
- A concert concludes once the last group performs and directors dismiss students. A general report time will be given.
- Attendance is required at all concerts, which are graded as an extension of the classroom.
- If a performance causes a student to miss class, the student must make up all missed work.
- Appropriate dress for all concerts is the dress uniform (see Uniform Guidelines).

CONCERT BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Students are graded on their concert behavior, whether performing or in the audience — concert etiquette is part of the TEKS. The following rules apply to parents and students at all times:

- No talking on stage or in the audience during a performance.
- Do not distract the performing band in any way.
- Do not leave your seat during a performance — use the restroom beforehand, and if you must leave, do so quietly between songs.
- No food or drink on stage, backstage, or in the seating area, including water bottles and gum.
- Cell phones must be off (not vibrate or silent) and put away.
- Move between the seating area and stage in quiet, single-file lines; sit in your assigned seat and don't talk while entering or exiting.
- Support fellow band members with appropriate applause.
- Set a good example for the audience and other students.
- Students and guests are expected to stay for the entire concert; if a student must be picked up early, please do so promptly.

UIL AND COMPETITIONS

Participation in the UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Evaluation in April is mandatory for all Honor Band, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band students. Students in Solo & Ensemble, All-City/All-Region auditions, UIL evaluations, festivals/contests, and the spring trip must meet all TEA, UIL, and ECISD eligibility requirements.

TRAVEL GUIDELINES

The band frequently travels by school or commercial bus. Students are expected to conduct themselves at the highest level on any trip.

Students subject to school-level discipline during the year may be deemed ineligible for non-UIL field trips at the director's or administration's discretion. Students must travel to and from events on the bus; a student wishing to travel with a parent must notify a director in writing (with parent signature) and complete a trip-change form signed by the principal, in advance.

Students must have all necessary forms (medical/travel release) on file with the band office before traveling on any trip.

While on the Bus, Students Will:

- Remain seated at all times, sitting properly in a forward position.
- Keep the bus clear of food, drinks, and debris.
- Keep all body parts inside the bus.
- Use only approved headsets (no audible speakers).
- Remain silent when addressed by an adult on the bus.
- Refrain from loud or boisterous talking, singing, screaming, whistling, or inappropriate jokes.
- Refrain from public displays of affection.

Special Note

As a band member, you represent your school at all times. If you are in doubt about an action, do not do it — your conduct reflects on the school, the band, your family, yourself, and the community.

Chaperones

Adult chaperones must be ECISD-approved volunteers and are treated as an extension of the band staff, deserving proper respect at all times. Parents interested in chaperoning should visit www.ectorcountyyisd.org.

TRIP CRITERIA

The band takes a trip each April/May to reward students for their hard work throughout the year. To participate, students must:

1. Pass the 3rd nine weeks with a 70 or higher in every class.
2. Turn in medical release forms and permission slips (submitted at the start of the school year).
3. Attend UIL Contest (Honor/Symphonic/Concert Band).
4. Attend all scheduled sectionals/practices.
5. Attend Solo & Ensemble Contest.
6. Perform all competition music at the designated metronome marking to a director at or above 90% — including correct notes, rhythms, intonation, and dynamics — by a scheduled date (music may need to be performed more than once).
7. Have no office referral from a band director during the semester in which the trip occurs.

8. Have no more than two office referrals from any teacher or administrator during that semester.
9. Avoid any serious discipline offense (including but not limited to ISS/suspension), which may result in exclusion from the trip.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

ECISD middle school band programs offer many opportunities for students to build leadership skills, through both selected and elected officer positions. This lets students serve their band program while refining skills useful in other organizations and future careers. Audition criteria are set at the directors' discretion and communicated to students; a student may not hold two positions. Directors evaluate all candidates based on audition performance and conduct throughout the year, and student leaders are expected to be positive role models at all times (see Conduct Expectations).

ALL-CITY / ALL-REGION BAND GUIDELINES

- All Honor Band and Symphonic Band members audition for All-Region Band Phase 1; those who advance try out for Phase 2.
- Students are graded on their preparation for this event.
- Anyone selected must attend all rehearsals and the All-Region Band performance — check the calendar for dates.

Note: *Being selected to the All-Region Band is a real honor — hundreds of students throughout the region audition. Even without selection, the preparation itself strengthens musical ability and education.*

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE

All band members prepare and perform a solo and an ensemble piece, unless other arrangements are approved. Grades are issued for preparation and participation; accompanists are provided by the band directors.

Participation in the Solo and Ensemble Contest does affect trip eligibility.

SAFETY

Due to heavy student traffic and the possibility of instrument theft, students not enrolled in the NMS band are not allowed in the band hall at any time. Friends of band members may wait outside the band hall to accompany them elsewhere.

BAND HALL HOURS

The band hall normally opens at 6:45 AM for section rehearsals and closes at 6:00 PM, except on Fridays or the day before a holiday, when it closes at 4:30 PM. It may also open for private lessons or sectionals as needed.

Sectionals run 7:00–8:00 AM before school and 4:15–5:15 PM after school. On days without sectionals, the band hall is open 8:00 AM–4:30 PM. Students in the band hall must be practicing or assisting a director.

PARENT DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

Parents must arrange transportation to and from section rehearsals, the band hall, trips, and special events — lack of transportation is not an accepted excuse for missing a band function.

For everyone's safety, students must go home after the band hall closes; please note the main office closes before sectionals end, so family transportation or carpools help ensure students get home safely and on time.

After school, students pick up their instrument at the band hall and proceed to the designated student pick-up area. A student who cannot be picked up right away may wait in the band hall without disturbing rehearsal. After 5:00 PM, students may be picked up from the back band hall door. Parents waiting in the parking lot should use a parking spot to keep traffic flowing.

BAND PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We welcome parent involvement with the Booster Club — there are many ways to help! All band volunteers must complete the ECISD district volunteer form and be approved by the district.

For more information, contact Heather Justis at bandinfo4900@gmail.com.