

FORESTWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL FALCON BAND

2810 Morriss Rd * Flower Mound, Texas 75028 * forestwoodband.com



Falcon Beginning Band Handbook

Your Commitment to Artistry Begins Here...

Forestwood Middle School
Falcon Band
2810 Morriss Rd
Flower Mound, TX 75028
469.713.5972

Dear Students & Parents,

The Forestwood Middle School & Flower Mound High School music staffs along with our administration have put together a set of Music Program Guidelines to provide band students and parents as much information as possible about our Band program. Required guidelines published in this handbook provide general information about our program which we hope you will find helpful.

Students, who begin our band program in the sixth grade, can look forward to a comprehensive, sequential music education that will take them through the twelfth grade. Our sixth grade and early middle school band programs emphasize a thorough foundation in individual performance fundamentals. In the later middle school years, students have the opportunity to perform in full bands with emphasis placed on developing ensemble concepts and furthering individual skills. Once your student reaches the high school level, they will have the opportunity to participate in a wider range of performing ensembles including marching band, as well as individual, community, and national performances.

We are proud of the tradition of excellence that our band program enjoys. With your help and support, we look forward to continuing this tradition of educational excellence in music.

If you have questions regarding the Forestwood Middle School guidelines and information contained in this band handbook, please call the band office at 469.713.5972.

Sincerely,

Ms. Jennifer Hawes
Principal, Forestwood Middle School
hawesj@lisd.net

Ms. Amanda Drinkwater
Director of Fine Arts, Lewisville ISD
972.350.4714

Mr. Michael Roberts
Director of Bands
469.713.5972

Ms. Tamaki Ueno
Assistant Director of Bands
469.713.597

PHILOSOPHY OF THE FALCON BAND

The success of the Forestwood Middle School Band centers on pride, commitment to task and the willingness to work hard to achieve a common goal. We do not expect every student in the program to become a virtuoso musician. We do expect every student to establish both short and long term goals for improvement on their instrument, to exhibit mature, responsible attitudes and actions at all times, and be willing to contribute to lots of hard work for the benefit of all.

The band program exists to provide an excellent music education for the students. This is achieved through individual study and varied performances in many venues, supporting a curriculum which places an emphasis on comprehensive musicianship. Performance opportunities include large ensembles, chamber ensembles and solos. The skills that band students acquire in these activities are directly related to skills necessary for auditions, presentations and interviews in other career fields.

Opportunities are also provided for those who wish to develop their leadership skills. There is an extensive student leadership program, and student leaders are relied upon to help achieve organizational goals. These opportunities are provided through the Band Leadership Team, Band Aides, and Section Leaders.

Social skills are also developed. Participation in band enables the students to form close friendships within the school through their collaborative efforts and the opportunity to work with their peers as part of a team. As a member of the Falcon Band program, students make long-lasting friendships and develop a sense of camaraderie that is unique to our organization. Organizational goals are clearly established, and the students depend heavily on each other to achieve them. As a result, the concepts of responsibility, teamwork and good citizenship will develop as each student experiences the world of music.

The ultimate goal of the program is to produce students who are knowledgeable about music, can perform successfully with confidence, can operate within a structured framework, and can work to develop the skills necessary to continually become a strong person.

Band activities are group events that require the commitment of ALL STUDENTS. All group performances require mandatory attendance from each student. We ask each Falcon Band Family to make a strong commitment to the Band Calendar. Please communicate with the director if you foresee any conflicts. All students are required to attend the events pertaining to their particular band. Band events may sometimes conflict with another FMS school event. In that case, the director will work with the student to see that their best interests are met. Non-school related activities never take priority over a Forestwood Middle School related event, no matter the expense, location, or contract with the non-school activity. Students will face consequences for non-compliance with this policy. ***Keep in mind that performance is priority over a "practice" of any activity.***

Every year is a new challenge – new combinations of personalities and talent, new audiences, new music, new members, and new leadership from section leaders, and officers. By accepting membership in the Forestwood Middle School Band, students agree to perform to the best of their abilities and work together with the band staff to make this year's band the finest musical organization that our combined efforts can produce.

Individual Expectations

Beginning Band

Demonstrate proficiency on 7 major scales & minimum 1 octave chromatic scale
Percussionist are additionally proficient at 26 snare rudiments & perform a percussion ensemble
Demonstrate theory comprehension through 1st Semester written exam
Completion of Practice Records on time
Complete Objective Sheets on time
Performance of an instrument specific solo or etude
Performance of concert music as assigned by director
Attend all section rehearsals and/or full band rehearsals before/after school
Concert Performances each semester (Fall/Spring)
Students should study privately on their instrument
Should participate in Band Fundraisers

Conduct

- Any organization that has high performance standards must also have high disciplinary standards. The basic behavioral guidelines for students in music activities are taken from the LISD Student Code of Conduct, as well as the "LISD Extra Curricular Code of Conduct."
- Students enrolled in the band program are expected to display exemplary behavior at all times. At every performance as a band member, you represent your family, Forestwood Middle School, LISD and Flower Mound, Texas. Make sure that your actions prove that the FMS Bands are a "class act" in every way.
- Band students are allowed in the Band Hall only while a director is present. Do not disturb anyone if there is a class or section rehearsal in progress. Show every courtesy to the director and students involved.
- Students will not be permitted to use any rehearsal area or school equipment without the director's permission. The rehearsal areas include: Ensemble Room, Band Hall, Practice Rooms 1-4, Work Room, and Storage Room. The Band Hall is available for use anytime the directors are on campus.
- Students must have director approval to use the Band Office phone. Dial (#) and the 10 digit number.
- Students are not allowed in the Band Office unless a director is present.
- Only band members are allowed in the Band Hall facilities.
- Electronic devices should NOT accompany students off campus trips without director approval.
- Restrooms REQUIRE director permission prior to use. Have a routine to use facilities in your school day so you do not take away from band time since we are located on the perimeter of the campus.

Rehearsal/Class Guidelines

1. Be seated with instrument, music, pencil, and supplies when the tardy bell completes its ring.
2. Show good rehearsal etiquette by being a good team player – study your part quietly while the director works with another section. Remain on task at all times; do not talk or interrupt the focus of a rehearsal.
3. Maintain proper posture at all times, which is important for all players.
4. Be intent on improving your performance skills.
5. Raise your hand and ask questions if you need more individual help.
6. Follow director procedures in the placement of your instrument & supplies in the rehearsal areas.
7. Do not leave purses or other valuables unlocked in the band hall.
8. No food, gum or drink is allowed in the band hall or during other rehearsals. We all take pride in keeping our band hall clean and organized.
9. All instruments remain in cases with latches closed inside a locker when not in use.
10. Disorderly behavior and abusive language will not be tolerated.
11. Please be considerate of directors' requests for assistance and/or performance of tasks around the band hall.
12. All students will adhere to the LISD Code of Conduct Handbook.
13. Instruments must be well maintained and in good, working order at all times.

Digital Citizenship

Maintaining a higher standard of conduct will include ensuring that band member websites are appropriate. Any communication such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, photo sharing, email, text, etc. appearing on the internet is public domain, even if it is marked private. Members are responsible for their personal websites and postings, as well as posting from or on other students' technology. The areas of appropriateness will include, but are not limited to, profane, foul, or disrespectful language (abbreviated or alluding to), pictures, suggestive poses, clothing, references to alcohol, drugs, and/or tobacco, and postings (either verbal or photos) that could be interpreted as being negative or threatening towards other Forestwood Middle School Band members, teaching staff, or that demonstrate poor sportsmanship or a disrespectful attitude towards other bands. Any such incident will result in review by the principal (or designee) and may lead to probation or dismissal from the band program.

FMS Band Electronic Device Policy

In accordance with LISD policies, personal electronic devices should be turned OFF/power down, and in your band locker during band class. Any personal electronic device that is ON and in the eye sight of an adult or student may be addressed by an adult. The device could be turned over to the FMS Assistant Principal's Office for parents to retrieve. The retrieval process does incur a mandatory LISD \$15.00 fee. Dependent upon the nature of the event, when Off Campus as a FMS Band member, band members are not allowed personal electronic devices of any kind to be in their possession without prior director approval.

Grading Policy

Major Grades

Individual/Group Performances (sectionals are considered a performance)
Objective Sheets
Written Exams
Recorded Assignments
*Student/Parent responsible for technology access.
Additional grades at discretion of director

Minor Grades

Practice Records
Pass Offs
Objective Sheets
Recorded Assignments
*Student/Parent responsible for technology access.
Individual Expectations
*Materials, Uniform, Rehearsal/Clinic, Chair Test, Engaged during Class/Clinic/Rehearsals
Written Quizzes
Additional grades at discretion of director

FMS Late Work Policy will take effect should an assignment be turned in late.

Attendance The quality of our program is in direct proportion to our attendance. You cannot learn if you are not present. Being absent hurts everyone around you. In band, every person plays a vital role as a link in our chain; consequently, when a link is missing the chain breaks.

Conflicts with school activities will happen and will be worked out providing both compromises to make the situation work for the student. Medical and dental appointments are to be scheduled around band events whenever possible. **Clubs, organizations, tutorials and make up exams are to be done outside of band rehearsals, classes, performances, or events.**

Due to the participatory nature of band, attendance is required for all rehearsals and performances. All absences must be approved in advanced (minimum 24 hours for a rehearsal/class; **two weeks** for a performance/competition).

To be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late. As always, parents are free to make the choices they feel are in their student's best interest. However, the band program cannot always excuse these absences. Early communication is key.

Unexcused Absences – An unexcused absence from a required performance/rehearsal/clinic/sectional may result in the suspension of that student from band activities the remainder of the year, removal from the performing ensemble, &/or demotion within the section. The student's band grade would also be affected for concerts and section rehearsals missed.

Unexcused = No prior notification, or notification less than 24 hours prior to an absence.

Unexcused = Reason for absence is not approved by director prior to absence.

Unexcused = Notification of reason for absence AFTER absence has occurred.

If a student's religious beliefs prevent them from performing certain music, an alternate assignment will be given by the director. Please communicate this information to the director at the start of each semester when possible, so that accommodations may be made for the student.

Due Process

All FMS students are entitled due process in accordance with the Lewisville Independent School District Policy. Contact the campus principal for inquiries concerning due process procedures. We will work with you to resolve issues. We are here to provide a quality music education for all our students.

Band is NOT considered an extra-curricular course by the state of Texas. Events that require student attendance/participation outside of the school day(sectionals, clinics, rehearsals, performances, etc.) are a curricular element of the course. Consequences aligned with the LISD Code of Conduct will be enforced for any infractions.

Eligibility

All music organizations adhere to the eligibility rules and regulations as stated by TEA and LISD. A student is suspended or “ineligible” from participation in all *competitive* activities sponsored or sanctioned by the school district during the nine-week period following a grade reporting period in which the **student receives a grade lower than a 70 in ANY class on their report card**. This suspension or “ineligibility” begins seven days after the end of the nine-week period. If at the end of each third week, an ineligible student is passing with a 70 or above in all classes they become eligible again 7 days after the third week. If at the end of each third week an ineligible student is failing any class, they will remain ineligible for the remainder of the nine-week period.

SHORT VERSION: *You can GAIN OR LOSE eligibility on a Report Card. You can ONLY GAIN eligibility (if ineligible) on a Progress Report. You cannot lose eligibility on a Progress Report if your status is eligible at the time of the Progress Report.*

Events affected by Ineligibility would include: Any band contest where ratings/rankings are awarded, both individual &/or group, any band performance associated with an event where an admission is charged, any performance that is not *curricular*.

Ineligibility does NOT affect: Winter Concert, Awards Concert, Daily Participation in Class, Practice Records, Pass Offs, Private Lessons, or written assignments.

Any student assigned AEP (Alternative Education Placement) or In School Suspension (ISS) for any reason is required to be separated from the rest of the student body beginning on the first day of the placement and ending at midnight of the last day of the placement. This means that the student may not participate in ANY activities, including both graded and non-graded band rehearsals and events. This includes after school activities on the day when the student is assigned to AEP. If the placement spans a weekend, the student may not participate in band activities over the weekend. For information about graded events missed due to AEP, refer to the LISD Grading Policy. The district provides a list of courses that are exempt from the eligibility requirements. The Forestwood MS Band will enforce all eligibility rules and regulations. Students who are ineligible will continue to rehearse during their band class and rehearsals and participate in curricular performances to earn their band grade. Ineligible students may not travel with the band or participate in performances that require fees.

Instruments & Band Lockers

Personal Instruments:

It is strongly recommended that personal instruments be insured through your homeowner’s policy or private company. The school district will not assume liability for maintenance, loss, repair, or damage of personal instruments, supplies, or personal items. If you own it PUT YOUR NAME ON IT. Instruments should NOT be in the Band Hall overnight. ***Band Instruments/Binders remain in the band locker during the school day.**

School Owned Instruments:

Forestwood Middle School furnishes the following instruments for students use: Oboe, Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, French Horn, Euphonium, Tuba, and all concert Percussion instruments – THIS DOES NOT include sticks/mallets. If you are considered responsible for a school instrument. LISD will assess an annual fee of \$100 for wind and percussion instrument use. Percussionists pay only in 7th & 8th grade. Students & Parents will sign a contract regarding the condition and repair of the school owned instrument annually.

Instrument Lockers:

All band students will be assigned an instrument locker for storage of their instrument. Students are to keep only their instrument and music in the locker. Students must not keep clothing, shoes, school books, binders, food, or drinks in the band hall. Directors can/will remove & discard any of these items and/or other belongings from your band locker at their discretion.

Band Locker privileges are revoked at the pleasure of the director. Students do not have a “right” to use a band locker for instrument storage. It is a privilege. Students will keep their instrument in the assigned locker during the school day. **It is required that every band student take their instrument home daily, over weekends, and school holidays.** LISD is NOT responsible for personal items/instruments. There are consequences for instruments left in the FMS Band Hall overnight.

Beginning Band Supplies

Band 1” Binder & Pencil (Provided by FMS Band as part of Activity Fee)

Rhythm Master Book I

Band Uniform (Band t-shirt/jeans) – new t-shirt each year

Metronome – free apps! Or external

Wire Music Stand (at home practice)

Nametag(all supplies/instrument must have student’s name CLEARLY LABELED)

Recommended Instrument and supplies (in good working order)

Recommended Instruments/Supplies: NO substitutions without Director Approval

Flute

Yamaha 262 or 362 with Offset G

Cleaning Rod/Silk cloth/handkerchief

Tuning Rod

Bb Clarinet

Buffet Crampon Ell

Buffet Crampon R13

Vandoren M30 or M13 Mouthpiece

Bonade Bb Clarinet Inverted Ligature

Vandoren Strength 3 reeds (traditional/blue box)

Silk Clarinet Swab

Reed Guard (4 minimum)

Oboe/Bassoon (LISD \$100)

School Provides Instrument

Reed Case (3 reed minimum)

Neotech Seat Strap (Bassoon only)

Silk Cleaning Swab

3 Reeds Eastman Medium Soft (oboe)

3 Reeds Jones Medium Soft (bassoon)

Alto Sax

Yamaha YAS 26 Alto Sax

Vandoren AL 3 Optimum Mouthpiece

Bonade Ligature/Inverted

Vandoren #3 reeds (traditional/blue box)

Neotech Neckstrap

Reed guard (4 minimum) & Silk Alto Sax Swab

Trumpet

Yamaha 2335

Yamaha 4335

Bach 300

Bach 5B Mouthpiece

Blue Juice Valve Oil

Mouthpiece Brush

Polishing Cloth

French Horn (LISD \$100)

School Provides Instrument

Schilke 31 mouthpiece

Rotor oil (Hetman)

Mouthpiece brush

Polishing Cloth

Trombone

King 606, Yamaha YSL 354

Slide O’ Mix Lubricant (black cap)

Schilke 51D Mouthpiece

Mouthpiece brush

H2O Bottle & Polishing Cloth

Euphonium(LISD \$100)

School Provides Instrument (\$100)

Blue Juice Valve Oil

Schilke 51D Mouthpiece

Mouthpiece brush

Polishing Cloth

Tuba(LISD \$100)

School Provides Instrument (\$100)

Blue Juice Valve Oil (6th grade)

Hetman Rotary Oil (7-8 Grade)

Conn-Helleberg 7B Mouthpiece

Mouthpiece brush

Polishing Cloth

Percussion

Practice Marimba w/ Stand

Innovative Percussion RP-1R Pad

Concert Snare Stand

IP-LD or IP-1 Snare Sticks (1 Pair)

IP2003 Med Hard Yarn Mallets (1 Pair)

Simple Steps to Successful Percussion (Wylie)

Metronome (Boss TU 80)

WeiMeet Drum Pad Storage Bags (amazon.com)

STEP UP INSTRUMENTS

<u>Instrument</u>	<u>Brand/Model</u>
Flute	Yamaha Prof. 677H
Trumpet	Yamaha Xeno 335 OR Bach Stradivarius
Trombone	Bach 42BO Stradivarius F-Attachment
Trombone	Yamaha YSL-448G Intermediate
Alto Saxophone	YAS 82ZII Custom Z
Alto Saxophone	YAS 62III Professional
Alto Saxophone	Selmer Series II Model 52

*Step Up Instruments should be discussed with a director/lesson instructor prior to purchase at the END of beginner year.

FMS Building Procedures

Drop Off/Pick Up

AM ARRIVAL:

1. Every band student should arrive to school with an instrument daily.
2. Students must be dropped off at the front of FMS Main Campus Entrance.
3. Students may immediately drop off their and instrument in the band hall.
4. Only Band students report to the Band Hall to put instruments away.
 1. NO friends or siblings allowed
 2. NO waiting for friends, etc. is allowed
5. Put instruments away & leave immediately to go directly to the cafeteria/gym before 1st period.

PM DEPARTURE:

1. When school is dismissed, EVERY band student reports to the Band Hall to pick up instruments.
2. All students are required to take their instrument/binder home daily.
3. Only Band students are allowed in Band Hall. **(NO friends or siblings)**
4. If you are not staying for lessons, students must exit the building immediately.

Private Lessons

1. Be early for your start time and student pick up.
2. Students will may stay after school until their lesson begins.
3. Students waiting for lessons should wait in the band hall – do homework, practice.
4. Upon the conclusion of the lesson, students should exit the rear entry (08) of the band hall. Take your instrument home!

Failure to follow these procedures set forth by the administration may result in disciplinary actions and/or before/after school privileges being revoked.

Transportation

Itineraries will be distributed for all Falcon Band events electronically. Electronic Signatures on your FMS Band Field Trip Forms serve as official acceptance/compliance of all protocols for individual each events, as well as commitment to the BAND GOOGLE CALENDAR. LISD requires all parents complete the “Field Trip Permission Form” (electronic version preferred) by director designated due dates for a student to participate in individual trips. Parents, please pick up your band members at the itineraries scheduled time. **Failure to do so will result in local police being called to deal with “abandoned students.”** Directors will NOT stay any longer than 15 minutes with students. After that time, parents and law enforcement are responsible for the supervision of the student. When picking up a student, use the front of the school, staff parking lot. This will ensure that our buses can park and off-load band members quickly and safely using the main two lane drive way. As specified by the itinerary, Falcon Band members travel together to events by bus. Under special circumstances, parents who need to take their student home must provide advance written notification. Have a transportation plan prior to an event. Traveling as a FMS Band member is a PRIVILEGE, and not a right. Students may lose the privilege of traveling with the FMS Band at director discretion in accordance with LISD Code of Conduct and FMS Band Handbook policies.

A student may only be released to their own parent or guardian. Relatives, siblings, neighbors, etc. may not take your son or daughter home from an off campus activity.

Pursuant to LISD Board Policy, parents or guardians should be able to show a photo ID to the band director before a student is released, and will be asked to “sign out” the student.

Uniform

Beginning Students

Casual Uniform (band t/jeans)

1. Band T-shirt (new each year – purchased online link provided by FMS Band)
2. Blue jeans – no holes, appropriate fit
3. Belt – as needed
4. Tennis Shoes – (no sandals, flip-flops, opened toed shoes)

The Uniform will be required when representing our school and at concerts/contests. Our bands are evaluated on uniformity of dress. It is essential for all students to be dressed appropriately. Each student is responsible for acquiring the uniform components.

Uniform Guidelines:

1. Long solid black socks/hose required with black formal pants – socks must reach mid-calf.
2. Uniforms must be pressed/ironed –all uniform parts are stored on a hanger.
3. No jewelry will be worn with the uniforms. No earrings, watches, long hair to be worn up, etc.
4. No colored undergarments will be allowed. (Black, flesh colored preferred)
5. Band Shirt/Formal Top will be tucked in AT ALL TIMES, an untucked shirt constitutes “out of uniform.”
6. Black jeans, no holes in jeans, leather or vinyl pants/skirts, or skate shoes of any kind are not appropriate.
7. Anyone not in correct uniform will not perform/participate in the event and may receive a failing grade.
8. No athletic clothing is allowed as a substitute – this includes socks.

Finances

All Falcon Band Students are strongly encouraged to participate in fundraisers, as well as any FBB or PTA fundraising programs for Forestwood Middle School.

These funds will defer the expenses of Falcon Band contest fees, supplies, incentives, clinicians, band camp/lesson scholarships, transportation, parties, concerts, and other activities.

- There are no refunds granted from fundraiser money. All monies raised during fundraising activities belong to the organization.
- All monies collected from students will be receipted electronically.
- Electronic Payments & Monies placed in the “ENVELOPE BOX” cannot be refunded.
- Exact change is required for ALL transactions, fees, etc.
- Regardless of the time of a returned check, money and processing fees will be the responsibility of the parties indicated on the check. You will receive a collection letter from FBB regarding procedures for remitting payment.

Individual Financial Responsibilities

1. Annual Band Activity Fee – in lieu of large fall fundraising events, we ask students pay a small annual fee. Any financial hardship should be communicated to a director to make arrangements for adjusted payments.
2. Uniform
3. Instrument & required instrument supplies
4. Private Lessons (\$22 per half hour lesson). Optional, but STRONGLY encouraged!
5. See GOOGLE Band Calendar for any “pay as we go” events.
6. School Owned Instruments (Oboe, Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, Horn, Euphonium, Tuba, & Percussion) will be assessed the LISD Instrument Use Fee annually. Wind and Percussionist pay \$100, make checks payable to FMS BAND. LISD will adjust the fee for students under appropriate circumstances. **Contact the Head Director for approval of fee adjustment/payments.**

Methods of Payment

1. Electronic Payments via PayPal are the preferred method.
 2. Band Envelope Box is for cash/check payments. Students must complete the outside of the envelope and place payment inside the FMS BAND ENVELOPE located in the Band Hall. Then place the completed envelope with enclosed payment inside the Box.
-

Home Practice

It is important to develop consistent practice habits. Parent support and guidance are the key factors in establishing a regular practice schedule. The most effective home practice is based on the following:

1. Set daily, weekly & monthly GOALS.
2. 20-30 minutes of QUALITY practice time daily.
3. Parent/student MUTUALLY agreed daily practice time.
4. Parent/student MUTUALLY agreed special practice area in your home.
5. Positive reinforcement from parents and siblings.

Home practice is expected and required. The physical demands and muscle memory of producing a QUALITY sound, playing with clean technical accuracy, and the reading of music notation will be strengthened over time ONLY through CONSISTENT, DAILY PRACTICE. **No instrument is to spend the night in the band hall.** Objectives/Recordings must be completed. Objective Sheets are to be completed, signed by parent/guardian, and returned by the indicated deadlines. FMS Late Work Policy is enforced.

Private Lessons (Fee Assessed)

Private lessons are designed to benefit all band students – students having any difficulties with fundamentals receive the extra attention and tutoring needed to become successful. Students already proficient on basic concepts will gain great strength from the advanced pace and more challenging material the lesson instructor can provide. Students receive weekly “one on one” attention that is not always possible in a band class. They learn more about their instrument, are challenged further, and tend to gain immense self-confidence from the lesson experience. The following instruments are expected to study privately: oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, saxophone, horn, euphonium, tuba, percussion, and members of the FMS Honor Band. ½ Scholarships are available – visit the band website to apply (Check for Deadlines Each Year). You may sign up for lessons via the band website. Lessons Occur from Aug-May. Scholarships do not continue for summer lessons.

FMS Band Audition Procedures (End of Beginner Year)

- Students are required to audition for Honor/Symphonic Band.
- The Band Director determines audition requirements (usually consisting of prepared music, scales, and sight-reading).
- Directors will serve as evaluator during auditions.
- Student participation may be re-evaluated periodically in select performing bands.
- Auditions may be live or taped at the director’s discretion.
- Audition material will reflect the director’s anticipated performance level for the students and will be based on prior learning.
- There will be one audition in the spring semester for the Honor/Symphonic bands. Other chair tests may be held throughout the year, as well as a possible ‘re-audition’ in the beginning of the school year.
- A student may be moved to a different band/class based on attendance, participation, proficiency &/or attitude at the director’s discretion.
- Auditions for Jazz Band are at the director’s discretion and may not be necessary-not annually formed.

Annual Awards

- Overall Outstanding Beginning Band Member: This award is earned by consistently displaying superior musicianship, leadership, commitment to the band program, and academic excellence. A model band member in every aspect.
- Outstanding Musician & Most Improved Awards: These are individualized awards earned by students by their efforts/progress throughout the entire school year. Students are presented these awards at the annual Spring Awards Concert at the conclusion of the school year.

Summer Activities

- Tentative Band Calendar will be updated in BAND GOOGLE CALENDAR by June for the following school year. Changes to this calendar will be as few as possible and students are asked to plan accordingly in order to minimize scheduling conflicts. Any changes are made in REAL TIME. Check it frequently.
 - All students are strongly encouraged to attend band camp during the summer. Applications are available for scholarships at the conclusion of the spring semester. Please see a director for information regarding recommended summer band camp opportunities.
 - FMS Summer Band is held at the discretion of the director each year. The Falcon Band will be notified by June 1st of the Summer Band Schedule. It may consist of a 2 day percussion camp, 1 day of registration, and a minimum of 1 week of required rehearsals in preparation for the start of the school years performances/auditions.
-

How to access parent information

CHARMS

FORESTWOOD MS FALCON BAND

- Log on to www.charmsoffice.com (or www.forestwoodband.com)
- Locate the “PARENT/STUDENT LOGIN” section of the web page.
- Login to your school code account using the following login:

ForestwoodBand

- This will bring up the main page. This will allow you to look at the band’s **public calendar, event list, handouts, payment methods, and other files.**
 - Now enter your child’s **ID NUMBER (password)**. *You must “CHANGE PASSWORD.” We suggest keeping it as close to the student ID# as possible. Should you lose/forget your password contact a FMS BAND DIRECTOR to reset your password to the student ID#. Another more detailed screen appears with even more options to view your student’s personal information, financial records, forms and inventory.
 - Scroll Down and Select: **“Update Personal Info”**
Update the Student Profile AND “add adult” for a separate Parent Profile
 - Update your child’s **student information page**. Please complete all blank fields.
 - Do NOT complete: Locker, Primary Group, Instrument
 - Remember:
 1. Phone numbers must have hyphens/dashes
 2. Birthdates must have hyphens
 3. Type: 2-3 Letter Abbreviations for Elementary School
 4. Type: YL, S, M, L, XL, 2XL for Student’s Shirt Size
 5. Please complete the Occupation/Skills (parent)
 6. Complete all blank fields for example:
 1. Student Information
 2. Both Parent/Guardian Information
 3. Cell Phone Carrier
 4. Relationship
 5. Address/Phone/Email
 - We will NOT utilize the CHARMS Calendar as reference. However, the NEWS tab will have the most recent email that have been sent by directors for reference.
 - PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU MAINTAIN AN UP-TO-DATE EMAIL ADDRESS & CHECK SPAM/JUNK EMAIL FOLDERS JUST IN CASE.
-