2017-2018 Audition Information

When: Starting April 24

Where: During your band class

The process for auditioning into the Waxahachie High School Band program involves a live audition:

- 1. Tone and accuracy of notes are the most important factors in your performance.
- 2. A metronome will be used on all three sections of the audition; know your tempos ahead of time.
- 3. Play everything you are able, and you will be scored appropriately.
- 4. The Live Audition will be in front of band directors only (Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Bell or Ms. Melton).
- 5. Please feel free to email Mr. Bell with any questions regarding the audition at jbell@wisd.org.

The Live Audition:

- 1. The first portion of the audition is the performance of 8 major scales:
 - a. The scales included are **Bb**, **Eb**, **Ab**, **Db**, **F**, **C**, **G** and **D** (all concert pitch).
 - b. You must play by memory. Scale sheets will not be allowed.
 - c. Choose a tempo that you can perform accurately (ex: 60, 80, or 100)
 - i. All major scales should be performed at the same tempo.
 - ii. The pattern for the scale may change but the tempo may not (ex: 8th/16th or 1/4/8th)
- 2. The second portion of the audition is the performance of your **chromatic scale**:
 - a. You must play by memory. Scale sheets will not be allowed.
 - b. You should choose a tempo that you can perform accurately (ex: 60, 80, or 100)
- 3. The third portion of the audition is the performance of the **musical selections**:
 - a. Tone, accuracy of notes and correct rhythms are the most important factors in the performance.
 - b. Individual tempos should be chosen as close to the provided range as you are capable, paying special attention to **control**, **accuracy of notes and rhythms**, **style** and **musical phrasing** rather than speed.

The following will be considerations for ensemble placement:

- 1. at least one octave for all 9 scales; two octaves are encouraged for woodwinds
 - a. Students interested in placement in the Wind Ensemble or Symphonic Band are <u>highly</u> encouraged to perform scales full range where possible.
- 2. Characteristic tone quality for your instrument
- 3. Accuracy of notes and rhythms
- 4. Tempo of performance
- 5. Musicianship (i.e. style, dynamic shape, phrasing)
- 6. Academic/eligibility history
- 7. Past success in band
- 8. Priority of band in your schedule