

Guidelines for Participation

Private lessons (supplemental music lessons) are offered as enrichment to classroom instruction and are designed to utilize the broad scope of characteristic literature available for band instruments or voice. Rather than stress the singular goal of competition preparation, the emphasis instead is on nurturing the independent thinking and individual skills critical to the development of the maturing performer or artist. The focus is on acquiring refined levels of proficiency in tandem with the attainment of an advanced sense of instinct and interpretation.

Participation

Private lessons are optional. For all students, private lessons can be a great asset to their artistic and performance ability. Private lessons are highly recommended for any student who wishes to make faster progress and gain more enjoyment from the arts.

Enrollment

A student who desires to participate in the private lesson program must complete the registration and parental approval form. Parents should make themselves aware of the district program guidelines.

Lesson Times and Location:

Upon completion of the registration form and turning in to their campus director, students will be assigned a private lesson instructor.

Please note:

The private lesson instructor will schedule lessons for with students who register for the program. The day to which a student is assigned depends upon the availability of the private lesson instructor. Lessons usually occur weekly.

Student's Responsibility to the Private Lesson Instructor

- Prepare for each lesson.
- Practice at least 30 minutes per day on their lesson assignment.
- Be warmed-up properly before the lesson begins
- Record the private lesson instructor's contact information (email/phone number).
- Follow attendance policy.
- Supply materials required by instructor. The materials are typically low cost and are the responsibility of the student. Such materials may include method books, specialized supplies, solos, etc.

Private Lesson Instructor's Responsibility to the Student

- Provide student a quality private lesson which contributes positively to the development and continual improvement of the student as a musician, performer, or artist.
- Instill an appreciation for the arts
- Exhibit professional characteristics and demeanor in attitude, appearance, behavior and responsibility in every activity germane to private lesson instruction.
- Provide students with contact information (email & cell phone #)

Financial Considerations

- Payment is to be made directly from the student to the private lesson instructor.
- Payment schedules and payment policies will be established by each private lesson instructor and communicated to the students they teach.
- Payments are to be made on the due date set by the private lesson instructors.
- Checks are to be made payable to the individual private lesson instructors.
- Lesson fee options are listed below.
- - _____ Full Lesson, \$17/lesson
 - _____ Full Lesson w/ Financial Aid, \$12 from student-\$5 from Boosters
 - _____ Shared Lesson with a partner, \$10/lesson (2 students per ½ hour lesson)
 - _____ Shared Lesson w/ Financial Aid, \$7.50 x 2 from students-\$5 from Boosters

Financial Assistance

The band boosters provide financial assistance for those students that need a little help. The boosters offer two plans and shown below. Financial assistance will be provided to those that qualify and complete all of the requirements listed below during the school year.

- _____ Full Lesson w/ Financial Aid, \$12 from student-\$5 from Boosters
- _____ Shared Lesson w/ Financial Aid, \$7.50 x 2 from students-\$5 from Boosters

Requirements to Receive Financial Assistance

1. Complete and return a financial assistance form to band director.
2. Students will agree to prepare & practice for lessons as teachers assign.
3. Students will agree to bring all necessary materials to all lessons.
4. Students will agree to be prompt, be properly warmed-up, and not miss lessons without properly notifying the private instructor before the lesson time.
5. Students will agree to enter and audition at All-Region Tryouts and to play a solo at UIL Solo-Ensemble. (Middle school - solo contest & ensemble contest.)
6. Students will remain academically eligible throughout the year.
7. Students will fulfill all regular rehearsal & performance requirements of the band throughout the year.
8. Middle school students on financial assistance are expected to participate in band at the high school level.
9. **Private lesson financial assistance is provided by the Waxahachie Band Boosters, therefore parents are expected to work at least one high school or two junior high concession stand shifts in the 2015-2016 football season or other booster events to help raise the necessary funds.**

Absences

- If, for any reason, the necessity for an absence occurs, the private lesson instructor must be notified at least 24 hours prior to the time of the lesson. This is so the private lesson instructor has an opportunity to adjust his/her schedule. This is the Private Lesson Instructor's livelihood.
- Every effort should be made to respect their time schedule and to provide communication of expected or unexpected absences (emergency) as early as possible.

- Failure to notify the private lesson instructor promptly may result in failure to rearrange the schedule and full payment for the lesson may be due. This is the reason to record the private lesson instructor's phone number and contact information. Please do not call the band/choir directors to leave messages for the instructors. It is the student or parent's responsibility to make direct contact with the instructor 24 hours in advance in order to avoid being charged!

Excused Absences:

- Student illness and emergencies of a serious nature (death or serious family illness)
- Other absences approved by the private lesson instructor in advance
- **Tardies:**
 - Students who are late to the scheduled lesson will only receive the remaining time allotted to him/her and will be charged for a full scheduled lesson.

Lesson Termination / Dropping

A private lesson instructor may drop a student for the following reasons:

- Failure to pay private lesson fees.
- Frequent unexcused absences.
- Other contributing factors as discussed by Instructor and campus director
- Parents may terminate private lessons at the end of the month with advance notice to the Private Lesson Instructor and campus director. The final lesson date should be discussed with the Instructors to accommodate for payments received.

Written Notice Required

Termination of lessons by the parent, private lesson instructor, or school program director will be accomplished by written notice only (email is acceptable). A 24 hour notice must be provided before the last lesson or payment may be expected.

Questions

Questions concerning assignment of private lesson instructors should be directed to your campus program director. Questions concerning lesson dates and times, or number of lessons taught, should be directed to your student's private lesson instructor.