

HENDRICK HAWK BAND

Frequently Asked Questions - 6th Grade Edition

How is Band different in 7th and 8th grade?

While our beginners are divided into like-instrument classes, our 7th and 8th graders meet everyday in performing bands. The bulk of our class time is spent preparing music for performances.

The bands at Hendrick are grouped by ability level determined by the end-of-year final evaluation, as well as other factors and data collected and considered throughout the school year. Our goal is to place each student where we feel they will be the most successful.

Both Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble maintain an active performing schedule. These bands participate in UIL Contests and individual events such as our Solo Contest. Morning section rehearsals are required once a week for Wind Ensemble members, and may be required periodically for Symphonic Band members.

Can I participate in Band AND Athletics?

YES! Students who participate in 7th and 8th grade Athletics comprise a great number of our band students. The coaches and band directors work together to make sure our students are not put in a position in which they have to choose between Athletics and Band.

Can I take part in other organizations or activities and still participate in Band?

YES! A large majority of our band members are involved in organizations like cheerleading, dance, theater, art, and other special-interest clubs.

What comes next?

Now that many of the basics and fundamentals of playing our instruments are in place, our students will notice that we will start picking up the pace as we move through the Spring Semester. We cover a great deal more music, start learning more advanced skills, and have more performances ahead.

In mid-to-late April/early May we will begin the final evaluation process for the year. While this evaluation (final exam) is required of all current students, it also serves as the audition material for next year's bands. The evaluation will consist of material covered in class and which is used as one component to help determine band placement for next Fall.

We truly believe that Band is a place for everyone. For those who may have doubts about their ability to contribute at a higher level, have no fear! We are only halfway through the year, and there is a LOT of growth and improvement that will take place in the coming months.

If you have any questions regarding bands at Hendrick, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are looking forward to continuing to work with you this year and well beyond!

Edgar Jaime, Director of Bands
edgar.jaime@pisd.edu

Lauren Pittner, Assistant Director of Bands
lauren.pittner@pisd.edu