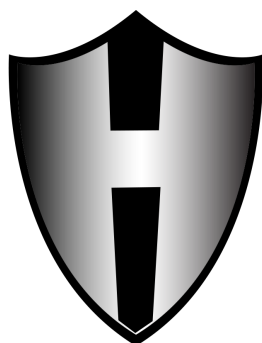


Hanks High School Band Parent Information Handbook



WELCOME FROM THE DIRECTORS

The Hanks High School Band Family is blessed with an amazing group of students and parents. As we grow our band program the successes we will achieve over the years are directly attributed to the complete effort by everyone.

What characterizes us and sets up apart and provides an environment of growth and development as musicians and as individuals? We believe that the success and growth of our program will hinge on three elements: **purpose**, **unity** and **focus**.

Our **purpose** is to provide our students with the most positive and supportive environment for which they can develop their musical skill and to provide many educational opportunities for them to witness and experience. This will provide each student with the tools to be a life-long learner and connoisseur of the musical arts.

We believe that as members of the Hanks Band, **unity** will make us stronger and enable us to achieve heights beyond our own expectations. We truly know that T.E.A.M. means Together Everyone Achieves More! As a team we will learn together, improve together and grow together as a band program.

Our students will develop the ability to **focus** on a goal or task so they can complete it with excellence. We believe that our students will develop pride in our program and themselves through the structure of focused attention and the reward of completing a task at the highest level.

With these attributes, we know that our students will be successful in region band auditions, marching contests, concerts, half-time shows, music festivals, UIL Solo & Ensemble, UIL Concert & Sight-reading, and the numerous other activities in which the students will participate. But more importantly, we know the Hanks Band students will continue their success into the rest of their lives and whatever endeavors they chose to pursue.

We wish for all the success possible for your child in the Hanks Band.

Horacio Gomez
Doug Brown
Cassie Hammond
Calvin Edwards
Band Directors
Hanks High School

COMMON QUESTIONS/COMMON ANSWERS

1. Can a student be in band for only one semester a year?

No. Students must sign up for both semesters to receive full credit, to cover the state-mandated “Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for High School Band”, and to receive a P.E. credit. Further, all of the concepts introduced and taught during the fall semester are prerequisites to the information taught in the spring semester.

2. Do all students participate in marching band?

All of the band classes combine together to form the marching band. In order to receive P.E. credit, a student must complete the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for High School Band that pertains to marching band. All band students, therefore, are members of the marching band. Because of contemporary drill design, potential sickness, injury, loss of eligibility and other factors, not every student is guaranteed a performance position. The students are also placed in a performance band for class purposes and skill levels. The 3 bands are – Honor Band, Symphonic Band and Concert Band.

3. Does the No-Pass / No-Play rule affect a student’s participation in band?

Band students must pass all classes to participate in the extra-curricular activities of the band, such as contests, competitions and football games, and trips. The class time instruction and all after school rehearsals are considered curricular; therefore, students are expected to participate in these regardless of academic eligibility.

4. Are there expenses associated with the band?

Yes, details are provided later in the handbook. See page 16 for details.

5. What after school rehearsal time is expected of a band student?

During marching season (approximately the first twelve weeks of the school year), the band rehearses five days per week before school. These rehearsals are 1 hour each. Evening rehearsals will be Tuesday evening, usually 2 hours long. The rehearsal schedule will be posted and updated on the band calendar which will be on the band website. Check the band calendar for practice times. During concert season the bands each rehearse at least an hour before or after school.

6. Can a student participate in athletics, other school activities, and band?

Yes. Students should be prepared to rehearse everyday before school within University Interscholastic League (UIL) guidelines. See www.uil.utexas.edu for more information. It is not always easy, and does require some advance planning, but most conflicts are worked out with good communication between the student, parent, coach/sponsor, and band director.

7. What kind of contests/competitions does the band participate in?

In a typical year the band participates in at least three marching contests, two concert and sight-reading contests, and an invitational concert festival. Also, individual students are encouraged to participate in region band, orchestra auditions, solo and ensemble competitions.

8. Who provides the band uniforms?

The Ysleta Independent School District purchases the marching band uniforms.

9. How much does the band travel?

The marching band attends all football games of the varsity football team and travels to all scheduled competitions.

10. Can a student take private lessons at the school?

Yes. The Hanks Band maintains a list of private lesson specialists on each instrument. Lessons need to be scheduled independently with these specialists. It

is each student's responsibility to contact the lesson teacher to set up the lesson schedule.

11. What extra music experiences can a band student participate in?

Band students can participate in district and region band, orchestra tryouts, solo and ensemble contests, District Honor Band performances.

12. Can a student borrow/check out an instrument from the school?

Certain instruments are available to borrow per semester, a usage fee is required by District. Instruments can be issued through the school on a limited basis. Please check with us for availability. Oboe, Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, Baritone Saxophone, French horn, Euphonium, Percussion, and Tuba are some of the instruments available.

13. Is there a Band Booster Organization?

Yes, an extremely active group of parents and boosters provide the band with crucial support. The Booster Club undertakes a great number of service projects and fundraisers to assist the students in the band program. Parents are strongly encouraged to participate in the functions of the Booster Club and thus foster a real family atmosphere in the Hanks Band.

HANKS HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Principal:

Gloria Spencer

Assistant Principals

Celina Munoz
Michelle Battalla
Hugo A Gonzalez
Benjamin Ortega
Robert Trejo

cmunoz3@yisd.net
mbatalla@yisd.net
hgonzalez4@yisd.net
bortega1@yisd.net
rtrejo1@yisd.net

HANKS BAND STAFF

Director of Bands: Horacio Gomez, Douglas Brown, Cassie Hammond

Percussion Director: Calvin Edwards

Renaissance Dance Team Director: Jackie Lopez

STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM (SLT)

President:

Vice President:

Secretary:

Woodwind Section Leaders:

Brass Section Leaders:

Percussion Section Leaders:

Front Ensemble Section Leaders:

Uniform Crew:

Load Crew:

Historians:

Drum Major: Roy Molina

Drum Major: Nikki Melendez

Drum Major: Vivian Rodriguez

HANKS BAND CONDUCT GUIDELINES

GOALS AND EXPECTATIONS

The goal of the Hanks High School Hanks Band is to achieve excellence in performance while maintaining the highest level of integrity. In order to reach this goal, students are expected to show strong character and disciplined habits during band class, rehearsals, performances, all trips off campus, during free time in the Band Hall, and any time while representing the Hanks Band. Pride, self-discipline, teamwork, and respect are the foundation of every great organization.

CONDUCT GUIDELINES FOR BAND MEMBERS

Note: Parents are expected to be aware of these guidelines and help reinforce them at all times.

1. Students will follow all rules and policies stated in the YISD Student Handbook and Code of Conduct-, as well as in the Hanks High School Student Handbook.
2. Students will show respect for:
 - all fellow students, directors, and volunteers.
 - all property of the Hanks Band, as well as that of fellow band students.
3. Students will follow instructions from directors, student leaders, and designated band chaperones.
 - Instructions will be followed the FIRST time they are given.
 - Students will not disrupt instruction at any time.
4. Students will be on time (which means early!) for all rehearsals, performances, and activities.
5. Students will have appropriate equipment and supplies at all times.
6. Students will be prepared to contribute to band rehearsals and performances by fulfilling individual practice obligations and working to improve their musical skills.
7. Students will have a positive attitude.
8. Students will use appropriate language at all times.
9. Students will refrain from inappropriate public displays of affection as defined in YISD's Student Handbook and Code of Conduct.
10. Students will not lie, cheat, steal, or tolerate anyone who does.
11. Students will not eat or drink in the Hanks Band Hall. Food, drink, and gum are not allowed in any rehearsal or performance area.

12. Students will follow all bus riding rules and travel policies set forth by Ysleta ISD, as well as the Hanks Band.

SEVERE INFRACTIONS

Students who demonstrate severe violations of the guidelines as stated above will be subject to discipline by the administration of Hanks High School. Punishment may include permanent removal from the Hanks Band program.

HANKS BAND COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Though not required, it is strongly recommended that students have studied privately (private lessons) with a specialist on his/her instrument, and will continue to study with a private instructor to achieve greater technical ability and individual improvement to facilitate performance of the advanced literature (musical selections) required.

PERFORMING ENSEMBLES

1. Daily class attendance:
 - a. punctuality
 - b. proper rehearsal deportment
 - c. preparation for class
 1. instrument
 2. music
 3. accessories (mutes, reeds, oil, etc.)
 - d. performance (daily and playing tests)
2. Attendance and participation in all marching band rehearsals, sectionals, and performances including marching competitions. All other activities must be scheduled at times other than rehearsals (i.e. lessons, drivers ed, etc.).
3. Students who are academically ineligible must attend rehearsals and sectionals, but may not attend performances at football games or marching competition. Students involved in a HHS fall sport must contact the director to determine schedule to avoid conflicts in fulfilling this requirement.
4. Attendance and participation in all scheduled sectionals, after school rehearsals, and clinics.
5. Attendance and participation at all concert performances:
 - a. Holiday Concert
 - b. Spring Concert
 - c. Pre- UIL Concert
 - d. UIL Concert and Sight-reading Competition*
 - e. Spring Trip Music Festival/Approved School Trip **
6. Perform at HHS Graduation Ceremonies. (Honor & Symphonic Bands)
Participation in UIL Region Solo and Ensemble Contest **
 - a. Student must perform a solo and in a small ensemble or
 - b. Student must perform in two (2) small ensembles
7. All freshmen students will compete in the Freshman All-Region Band Auditions/or enter High School All-Region Auditions.
8. High School All-District/All-Region Band Auditions**

Each student will perform at this first round of All-Region auditions. Those placing high enough will continue in the process.

*Students who are academically ineligible will be given alternative study assignments to fulfill these requirements.

**Requires fees to be paid by the student.

Failure to fulfill course requirements will be reflected in student's grade and the student may be assigned out of the band class. Students with excessive tardiness, absences, and/or unsatisfactory conduct may be assigned to another class.

Note: Students may be reassigned to another band for the Spring Semester. This is dependent upon the student's attendance, rehearsal deportment, performance grades, and academic standing throughout the fall semester.

GRADING POLICY

Each band member's grade will be based on preparation and performance. The percentage of the preparation grade will vary throughout the school year.

The preparation grade will be a result of the student's participation in rehearsals and sectionals, attendance at rehearsals and sectionals, punctuality, uniform appearance, attitude, and cooperation in all band activities.

The performance grade will be a result of actual playing test scores. Points may be added to the overall grade average by:

1. Correct playing of major or chromatic scales by memory in All-Region configuration.
2. Individual playing of marching or concert music for director outside rehearsal time.
3. Earning a position in the All-Region, All-Area, All-State, Band/Orchestra.
4. Earning a Division I rating on a solo or an ensemble at UIL
5. Earning a Division I rating at UIL Marching, Concert, and/or Sight-reading Contests.

ELIGIBILITY – NO PASS, NO PLAY

1. All band members must pass every class (subject) in order to be eligible for extra-curricular activities. This includes all football games, music contests, and performances. If a band member fails one (1) subject (below 70) he/she is ineligible for the following three weeks reporting period. (See YISD policy below for exempt classes.) This causes frustration, disappointment, and tends to lead toward discouragement in other areas. Please keep a close check on all grades and strive to maintain a good academic standing in all subject areas. **Students must be passing all classes at the end of the next three weeks to regain eligibility and may participate at the end of the fourth week.**
2. Activities not affected by eligibility rule include sectionals, rehearsals, and public performances not related to competitive events. **ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT THESE ACTIVITIES!**
3. A band member desiring to tryout for drum major, or student leadership team must have and maintain an "S" in conduct in all classes. Failure to do so may result in loss of leadership position.

THE YISD POLICY FOR NO PASS, NO PLAY

A student may **NOT** participate in any extracurricular activity if a grade lower than 70 is earned in any class at the end of the six-weeks reporting period. This student may continue to participate in all practices and preparations as determined necessary by the coach, director, or sponsor of the organization during this time of ineligibility. This student may regain full eligibility status to participate in the extracurricular activity if at the end of the designated 3 weeks period all grades in all classes are equal or greater than 70.

Exception: Advanced high school courses identified by the Texas Education Agency are exempted from this policy.

GRADE OF INCOMPLETE

A student with an "Incomplete" grade at the end of a grading period is ineligible at the end of the seven-day grace period unless the "Incomplete" was replaced with a passing grade prior to the end of the seven day grace period.

EXTRA CREDIT WORK

Extra credit work, or work (including re-test) turned in after the grading period or evaluation has ended **MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED** when determining a student's eligibility for extracurricular activities except in the case of an "Incomplete" grade as noted above.

HANKS BAND COURSE CREDIT

Members of the Hanks High School Band earn P.E. credit during the fall semester for marching band, and fine arts credit in the spring semester for concert band. The Texas Education Agency requires 24 credits for graduation from a Texas Public High School, including credits in both P.E. and Fine Arts. Students in band for four years at Hanks High School will earn two credits of P.E. and two credits of fine arts. Students enrolled in electives other than band have to find room in the schedule for P.E. and fine arts courses. On the other hand, students in the band will have room in their schedules for additional advanced courses of their own choice. One can easily see that those students in band who plan to attend college have a real advantage over those students not in band.

SUMMER BAND

The Hanks Band holds rehearsals each summer before the beginning of the fall semester. The purpose of the rehearsals is to allow the band to adequately prepare for the upcoming marching season. This is also an important time for the students in the band to meet and greet each other. In a group as large as the Hanks Band, students need to have time to establish bonds of friendship and a strong work ethic. Students build a true "esprit de corps" during summer rehearsals. This relationship with each other and the group as a whole makes summer band the most important time of the year for the Hanks Band. No grades are assigned during summer band; however, attendance is checked and marching positions in the contest/competition band are assigned based on attendance, work habits and development of skills taught during the summer rehearsals.

Students who miss all or part of summer band are immediately behind the rest of the group, and may battle the rest of the season just to “catch up” instead of striving to excel. In addition, they will likely not receive a performance position at the start of the marching band season. Generally, summer band begins on August 1, regardless of the date for the beginning of the YISD school year. Parents wishing to see their child excel in the Hanks Band should make travel and vacation plans with this schedule in mind.

FOOTBALL GAMES

The Hanks Band performs at **ALL** Hanks High School Varsity football games (except scrimmages) The band not only performs its halftime show with pride and spirit, but also carries on the tradition of that pride and spirit in the stands.

HOME GAMES

Game Day Procedures

AWAY GAMES

These are treated essentially the same as home games. The only difference is the time in which the student is to report to the HHS band hall. This assembly will vary depending upon the length of the trip to the game site. An itinerary will be issued prior to game day, which will give the assembly time and approximate time of return.

PARENTS, PLEASE BE ON TIME TO PICK UP YOUR CHILDREN. WE ARE SELDOM MORE THAN 10 MINUTES LATER THAN THE APPROXIMATE TIME OF ARRIVAL AS STATED ON THE ITINERARY. MANY TIMES WE ARE EVEN EARLY.

We do not have control over the number of timeouts or penalties incurred during the football game. The directors feel very uncomfortable and cannot leave any student unattended at the band hall after everyone else has gone home. PLEASE help us out by being there to get your son/daughter as soon as possible.

IN THE STANDS

All band members are to play their instruments while in the stands. (Exception: drum majors) This means everyone MUST have their own instrument and music.

1. Because we are the largest spirit body present at the games, each member is to demonstrate school spirit and pride by cheering with the cheerleaders and being prepared to play pep tunes (fight song, etc.) when called on by the director.
2. Each student is to stay in his/her seating location with his or her instrument section.
3. All restroom duties are to be taken care of prior to the band's entrance into the stands. You will not be allowed to leave during the game except in case of extreme emergency.
4. NO foods or drinks are permitted in the stands except for the drinks provided after the halftime performance by the chaperones. Your parents or siblings may not bring food or drinks to you during the game.
5. As you cheer and play your instrument, please be considerate of other's property. Instruments must be watched carefully so they are not damaged.

Any and all band directors, drum majors and student bandleaders will enforce the above guidelines and have the authority to take appropriate disciplinary actions.

TRAVEL GUIDELINES

BUS RULES

For each performance, the Hanks Band moves over 160 students, their instruments, and equipment. It is necessary that each student understands and abides by the rules to facilitate this enormous task.

1. Each band student must ride on the transportation provided by YISD to all band activities. A student may ride home with his/her parent/guardian provided that student has submitted a signed permission slip and is checked out from the band activity by that parent/guardian. A written permission slip must be submitted **PRIOR TO** trip departure. (This enables us to mark the bus lists and facilitates roll check for the return trip.) Alternate Travel Forms are available on the website at www.HanksBand.com.
2. Follow all YISD bus rules posted at front of each bus.
3. Upon arrival at destination remain seated until the director has given instructions.
4. Directors, drivers, and chaperones have the authority to assign seating to any of the students on the bus in the event of disciplinary problems or failure to abide by bus rules by any individual(s).
5. Leave all buses clean of trash and personal belongings upon return. Each bus will have an assigned bus captain. The captain will check to see if the bus has been cleared of all trash.
6. All windows are to be returned to their closed position upon return.
7. CD players, iPods, and DVD players must be played with headphones on trips. (Out of town trips only) The district, school, directors, and band boosters are not responsible in the event of loss or theft. The Director must approve movies brought by students.
8. Cell phones may be brought for parent communication. (out of town only) Any violation for excess use of cell phones will be dealt with on an individual basis.
9. Any misconduct will be referred to the directors.

SPRING TRIP

Each Hanks Band member is encouraged to attend this educational group event outside the El Paso area. This is an overnight trip usually consisting of multiple nights. Each band student is excused from classes for one (1 or 2) school day(s). Each academically eligible student (See no pass, no play for eligibility rules.) is encouraged to participate on this trip since it is a music competition. **Any student will forfeit payments if not eligible or decides he/she is not going after payments have been made.** Prior to the trip, an itinerary is made available to all band members and parents, which will give all pertinent information concerning the trip. Portions of the fundraising done throughout the year will be used to help offset the cost of trips. The cost of the trip is determined on a yearly basis.

The following is the Band Trip Regulations for overnight trips taken by musical organizations. We will comply and enforce these regulations, as they are approved by HHS Administration.

1. There will be no boys in girls' rooms or girls in boys' rooms for any reason, unless in the presence of a band director or principal. **Any student violating this rule will be sent home.**

2. Students are not to be outside of their rooms after curfew unless accompanied by an adult chaperone. Students will be given a chaperone's telephone number to call in case of emergency. **Any student in violation of this policy will be sent home.**
3. The possession or use of any tobacco products, alcohol products, drugs, chemicals, inhalants or any other intoxicants or mood-altering drugs is prohibited. **Any student violating this policy will be sent home and referred to his/her campus administrator.**
4. Students will turn in all medications to designated chaperone and/or nurse. No medications will be carried by students unless approved, according to YISD Student Code of Conduct.
5. Any property damage will be paid for by the student(s) involved.
6. Students are not to leave an assigned area for any reason or get into any vehicle other than school designated transportation.
7. Any student in violation of local or state laws will be turned over to the local law enforcement authorities. **If the student is returned to the organization, he/she will be sent home.**
8. **Any student, who excessively violates trip guidelines, will be sent home.**
9. Students will follow all policies set forth in the HHS Handbook and follow common sense and good judgment guidelines. **A student may be sent home for failure to use good judgment.**
10. Violation of any of the rules listed above may result in permanent removal from the HHS Band.
11. If a student must be sent home for any reason, the parent/guardian of the student agrees to pay the full cost of the student's return trip to El Paso, Texas. The parent/guardian of a student in violation of trip rules will provide appropriate information (credit card number, etc) to the school district personnel in order that appropriate return transportation may be purchased.
12. Hanks High School, the employees of Ysleta ISD and the Hanks HS Band Boosters are not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

PROCEDURES FOR SENDING A STUDENT HOME FROM A TRIP

1. Director will call to obtain the schedule and cost for common carrier transportation (bus, airplane, etc.).
2. Student will make a collect call home to the parent or guardian. Prior to the student conversing with the parent/guardian, the director will inform the parent/guardian of their child's offense and that they are to be sent home.
3. Parent/guardian will be asked on which common carrier they would prefer their child to be placed for the trip home.
4. Parent/guardian will be informed of the time schedule and cost of the common carrier, which they will pay.
5. Parent/guardian may have the option of coming to pick up their child if they do not want their child to be sent home by common carrier.
6. Student will be immediately separated from the rest of the organization.

INSTRUMENT INFORMATION

PERSONAL INSTRUMENTS

It is highly recommended that the parent's homeowner's cover all instruments or renter's insurance. If scheduling of the instrument on the policy proves to be cost prohibitive, there is specific instrument insurance available for a very reasonable premium. Please contact a director for information.

EXPENSES TO EXPECT/ITEMS REQUIRED BY THE HANKS BAND

As with most extra-curricular activities, there will be some expenses incurred with the Hanks Band. Ysleta ISD provides much of the funding for the Hanks Band, as does the Band Booster Organization. However, there is a limit to these funds. Thus, there are a number of items that students/parents will be expected to provide for successful participation in the Hanks Band. The following are some of the expenses that apply to everyone.

Group Fall:

ITEM	USE/DESCRIPTION	APPROXIMATE AMOUNT	PAID THRU
Black (MTX) Marching Shoes	Worn with marching uniform (lace up with solid black soles)	\$36.95	ON YOUR OWN
Black Socks (3 pair) – not navy, green, or brown	Worn with marching uniform and concert uniforms	\$10	ON YOUR OWN
Gloves	Worn by students with Marching Uniform	\$2.50-3.50	ON YOUR OWN
Fall Student Sponsorship	Fee that helps pay for drill, music, Flags, Marching band equipment not covered by school budget. Additional help, color guard and instrument teachers. This is the bulk of expense. Group Contest fees etc.	\$250	PAID TO HANKS BAND BOOSTERS
Lyre and Flip Folder	For Stand Tunes, with extra sheets	\$10-15	ON YOUR OWN
Uniform Under Gear	Compression shirt, Shorts,	\$10-20	Ordered thru Band Boosters

Individual:

CONTEST	APPROXIMATE AMOUNT	WHEN	PAID THRU
Region Band	\$10 Entry fee	Fall Semester	PAID TO HANKS BANDBOOSTERS, then boosters pays merchant.
Band Solo/Ensemble Contest	\$10 per person, per event	Spring Semester	PAID TO HANKS BAND BOOSTERS, then boosters pays merchant.
Accompanist - Piano performer that may be required to accompany your student	\$25 - \$50	Spring Semester	PAID TO HANKS BAND BOOSTERS, then boosters pays merchant.
Spring Trip- OPTIONAL	Dependent on number of days and destination.	Usually in May	PAID TO travel agency thru Band Boosters.

CONCERT SEASON ATTIRE

During concert season students will need concert attire. Male students will need a tuxedo and females will need a long black dress. Tuxedos and dresses are not provided by the school district. The following items will need to be provided by the students.

Male Students	
White tuxedo shirt	Purchased individually by parent
Black bow tie	Purchased individually by parent
Black Suit Coat	Purchased individually by parent
Black dress shoes (not marching)	Purchased individually by parent
Black socks	Purchased individually by parent
Female Students	
Black Hose	Purchased individually by parents
Black dress shoes (closed toe)	Purchased individually by parents
Honor Band Dress	Purchased individually by parents

HONOR ORGANIZATIONS AND SOLO & ENSEMBLE CONTESTS

The directors of the Hanks Band believe that all students should have the opportunity for many and varied enrichment activities. The Texas Music Educators Association sponsors a series of tryouts for students to participate in, which culminate in the naming of several "All-State" organizations. Tryouts begin on a "district" level, then move to "region", "area", and finally "state". Each year, three etudes (a short musical composition designed to provide practice in a particular technical skill in the performance of a solo instrument) are selected to be played by all the students statewide on a particular instrument. The music is distributed in early August. The audition process for the All-Region Band and Orchestra usually begin in November, and run in a progressive manner until early January. The highest placing students at each audition advance to the next tryout. Region 22 (Hanks High School's region) also sponsors a 9th Grade All-Region Band for freshman students entering the audition process for the first time. The reward for earning a position in any of the bands is the opportunity to perform in concert with all the other students named to the group. Students will be instructed and conducted by some of the world's best-known and most respected music educators. Further, many colleges and universities base scholarship awards on a student's participation in All-Region and All-State organizations. TMEA also sponsors a region and state jazz band. The selection and advancement through levels is very similar to the process used for band and orchestra. Students in the Hanks Band are strongly encouraged to audition for these organizations. Generally, the students most successful in the audition process are those who take private instruction. The directors of the Hanks Band are available on a limited basis to assist students in preparation for the audition. The ultimate responsibility for adequate preparation clearly rests with the student. All of the auditions have an entry fee of \$10 to \$20.

The University Interscholastic League sponsors Solo and Ensemble Contests at both the region and state levels. Students can perform a solo and/or a small ensemble at varied degrees of difficulty for a professional music adjudicator. The students are given immediate constructive criticism concerning their performance. Ratings against a very high standard of excellence are awarded to all participants. The Region Solo and Ensemble Contest is held near the end of January or the beginning of February. Students earning a first division on a Class 1 event (the most difficult level) are eligible to perform at the State Solo and Ensemble Contest held each May at the University of Texas – Hanks. Students must perform Class 1 solos from memory at the region level to be eligible for the state competition. The entry fee for these events is between \$4 and \$10. In nearly all cases, solos must be accompanied by piano. Students performing solos pay an accompanist fee of \$35 - \$60. Hanks Band students are urged to participate in Solo and Ensemble contest. Playing ability improves with practice and preparation on any musical selection and the opportunity to get a critique from a professional should never be passed up.

S.A.T. / A.C.T. TESTING

The SAT and ACT College entrance exams are critical portions of a high school student's academic regiment. Much research has been done that proves that students studying music are much more successful at these exams than students not studying music. The testing agencies that administer these exams set the dates these tests will be given at least a year in advance and publicize these dates to allow students to plan. The band directors of Hanks High School understand the importance of these tests and encourage band students to take these exams. The directors plan rehearsals and performances throughout the school year to allow students to take these exams at least twice in the year without a band conflict. It is the responsibility of the student and parent to make sure to sign up for these exams only on the days that have no scheduled band event. There will always be at least two dates per test, per year to choose from.

HANKS BAND BOOSTER ORGANIZATION

Hanks High School Band Boosters, Inc. is a non-profit organization providing support for the Hanks Band through volunteer service and financial assistance. To achieve this goal, it takes many dedicated volunteers all working together as a team throughout the year. The help of each band member's family is needed to provide the necessary support for a successful band program. Financial assistance is needed to cover items not typically included in the Ysleta ISD budget. Each year (usually in May), the Booster Membership approves a budget which helps support such important items as:

- Clinicians who train the students in the finer details of using their instrument and assist in improving the band's marching and concert skills
- Fees associated with the drill writing
- Entry fees to contests
- Transportation to contests
- Purchase of special music
- Maintenance of equipment
- Purchase of new equipment
- Senior scholarship program
- An End-of-the-Year Celebration Banquet

HANKS BAND WEBSITE

www.HanksBand.com

The Hanks Band uses a website to keep parents and students informed of information and events. Please refer to it often. Some items found on the website include:

Announcements
Link to Band Calendar
Pictures
Email addresses for Directors and Booster Officers
Forms
Itineraries

BOOSTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016-2017

President – Elsa Luna	Elsa Luna
Vice-Presidents	Ruben Ramirez
Treasurer	Lucila Jimenez
Secretary	Mindy Gutierrez

BOOSTER JOB DESCRIPTIONS

(See Bylaws for complete duties of Board Members)

HANKS BAND PARENTS “DO’S” AND “DON’TS”

<u>DO</u>	Call them “plumes”.	<u>DON’T</u>	Call them feathers!
<u>DO</u>	Bring or make sure your student is early to rehearsals - - not just on time.	<u>DON’T</u>	Cause your student to do push-ups for being late unless you believe that they need the added exercise.
<u>DO</u>	Come early to watch a marching rehearsal	<u>DON’T</u>	Miss out on knowing the hard work lying beneath a winning performance.
<u>DO</u>	Interact with other parents - - find out what grade their child is in.... what instrument he or she plays....	<u>DON’T</u>	Stay to yourself and later complain that there are too many parent cliques .
<u>DO</u>	Attend Monthly Band Booster Meetings - - yes, there are meetings outside of marching season, and check the band website for changes .	<u>DON’T</u>	Assume that your student is going to remember to tell you everything that is going on, or <u>assume</u> that someone in the communications committee is going to call or e-mail you to give you the highlights of the meeting.
<u>DO</u>	Wear your band booster shirt – or school colors - - to the football games or competitions or other events where the band is appearing	<u>DON’T</u>	Wear green, purple, or PINK, colors - - ESPECIALLY when we are competing against them! !
<u>DO</u>	Come to the football games and find the other band parents and sit in the stadium with them.	<u>DON’T</u>	Stay at home watching 20/20 or Dateline on Friday nights. Set your VCR or DVR!
<u>DO</u>	Follow the band buses and equipment truck in a carpool caravan to an event	<u>DON’T</u>	Worry about being there “too early”. Warm-up and preparation is part of the fun.

<u>DO</u>	Volunteer for Band events, committees, fund-raisers, etc.	<u>DON'T</u>	Let a few carry the load. The more the merrier and the quicker the job.
<u>DO</u>	Holler and yell for the football team at games	<u>DON'T</u>	Sit quietly and frown at the fools hollering and yelling their heads off!
<u>DO</u>	Find out where your student is going after the football games. Get a group of parents together – go to the same place. Make an after-the-game wind-down part of your fun	<u>DON'T</u>	Go home and worry about where your student is and what time they will be home that night.
<u>DO</u>	Come and support your student and band directors at marching competitions	<u>DON'T</u>	Assume that the kids aren't nervous and don't need any moral support. They do! – in spite of what they might say.
<u>DO</u>	Stand up, yell and holler when the HANKS BAND is introduced	<u>DON'T</u>	Be embarrassed to show pride in your child's school and band, and what he or she is doing.
<u>DO</u>	Applaud politely for the other bands	<u>DON'T</u>	Boo and hiss and make snide remarks. Chances are another band parent is within hearing distance! !
<u>DO</u>	Pick up your student on time after rehearsals, games, competitions etc.	<u>DON'T</u>	Expect the Band Directors to stay any later than necessary – remember they've had a long day too and want to go home also.
<u>DO</u>	Ask your student to practice and play for you. Get them a reputable private instructor.	<u>DON'T</u>	Assume that the band sounds as good as it does just by practicing at school.
<u>DO</u>	Submit to the Band website your pictures, idea's and video.	<u>DON'T</u>	Be shy. We do not want any student to be upset if they are inadvertently left off of the website.
<u>DO</u>	Treat the other parents and all of the students as family – because that is what we are - - a Band Family.	<u>DON'T</u>	Miss out. Participate in all of our Family functions. – games, concerts, contests, fund raisers, and social events ! ! REMEMBER we are here for our kids and band and not to glorify ourselves.

BAND BOOSTER

FORMS

The following documents contain forms used to collect information and money and to acquire permission from parents for travel, medical, and publication, etc.

The following forms are included:

- YISD Medical Information Certificate
- YISD Medical Physical Form (This is a new requirement for **ALL** members of the band – This form **MUST** be on file prior to the first day of summer band camp. We will have a Physical Day set up at school.
- Hanks Band Booster Club Membership Form
- Individual Music Instruction Sign up Form
- UIL Marching Band Acknowledgement Form
- Student/Parent Profile Form
- Trip Permission Form
- Handbook & Policy Acknowledgement Form

All of these forms **MUST** be completed and turned on our band registration nights.

WELCOME!

On behalf of the Hanks High School Band Boosters, we extend a warm welcome to all Band Members. We want parents to be actively involved with the Hanks Band Boosters by attending meetings and helping with all Band fundraising events and when the band and color guard perform.

This handbook was compiled to help you through the process of understanding how the school and Hanks Band Boosters work together for a successful program.

Please sign and return the enclosed Acknowledgement form for this handbook.

“We have read and understand the rules as stated and agree to abide by these regulations.”

Parent Signature_____ **Date**_____

Cell phone #_____ **House #**_____

Student Signature_____ **Date**_____

Cell phone #_____