



STALEY MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND, FRISCO ISD

CHAD WOOD, DIRECTOR OF BANDS ▲ 469.633.4521 ▲ Woodc@friscoisd.org

SHAUN M. GRAY, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BANDS ▲ 469.633.4520 ▲ Grays@friscoisd.org

6927 STADIUM LN. ▲ FRISCO, TX 75034 ▲ FAX 469.633.4550 ▲ SCHOOL 469.633.4500

WWW.STALEYBAND.COM

---

---

Dear Beginning Band Parents,

We are very proud of our band program here at Staley Middle School and are very glad that your student has decided to be part of it!! We would like to let you know about an important part of beginning band that is 25% of the six weeks grade. We require all beginning band students to keep weekly practice records. We ask that they practice at least 20 minutes a day, six days a week for a weekly total of 120 minutes. At the end of the week, we ask you to sign your **last name** in the parent signature box to verify your students practicing. These records are checked every Monday and the student is assigned a grade according to the following scale:

More than 130 - 100
120 minutes - 95
100 - 119 - 85
80 - 99 - 75
Less than 80 - 65
No parent signature - 0

We realize that sometimes things come up that will hinder your students practice time such as being sick (**S**); if their instrument is in the shop for repair (**IS**), in which case you must send us a note; or if you are called out of town (**OT**) and your student can't take their instrument because of its' size or length of the trip. For any of these three situations your student's grade **will not** be lowered, but will be adjusted to a higher grade depending on the situation. In the event a student has to take more than one free day in a week, he/she may practice extra on other days to increase their weekly practice time. However, this is to be done only once per six weeks and we will **deduct** points from a student's grade if we regularly see more than one free day (**FD**) being taken and more time being spent practicing on fewer days. We are trying to build a regular, methodic approach to practicing.

We ask that you sign your students practice record on either Saturday or Sunday once they have finished their six days of practice. We will check these on Monday in class. All practice reports are due on Monday. If a practice report is not turned in during class there will be a 30 point deduction. If a student does not turn in a practice report during Tuesday's class time students will receive a 0 for the week. If your student would like to raise their 0 to a 50 they can set up a make up time with a band director. Practice records are kept for the **entire** year!! Occasionally on long holidays we will allow extra free days and be sensitive to family travel plans. We will notify students in advance in such cases.

Students should have a quiet place to practice and it is helpful if they have a wire stand and a metronome. If students cannot practice at home or find a way to get their instrument home they may sign up for a practice room either before or after school. The sign up list will always be posted in the band hall bulletin board. We ask for your cooperation in encouraging and motivating your child to practice and signing their record to validate their practice time. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you have question over our grading policy, practice techniques, or anything else. Thank You!

**Please refer to the beginning band handbook for further details about practice reports and techniques. If you do not have the copy of the handbook that was passed out at the beginning of the year you can download one on the forms page of our website.**

[www.staleyband.org](http://www.staleyband.org)

Mr. Wood and Mr. Gray, SMS Band Directors