



CONTEST SEASON

In band, many of our major performances and contests take place in the second semester. These events can be individual or group events. All dates listed are for both Symphonic and Honor Band members with the exception of the split UIL performances. Symphonic Band is the varsity performing group at Staley and Honor Band is the second, or non-varsity, group. Please review the dates and let your child's director know if you have any questions. Honor Band families should contact Ms. Hoffman at hoffmans@friscoisd.org and Symphonic Band families should contact Mr. Wood at woodc@friscoisd.org.

Band Contest Season 'At-a-Glance'

Please check that the following dates are on your calendar- see the back of this page for more details of events and what to do if you see a conflict.

- **SECTIONALS:** Sectionals are required and current times and days are available on the website.
- **Friday, 2/1-** Solo Contest @ Staley MS *Individual Times*
- **Tuesday, 2/5-** Clinic #1 @ Staley Middle School. (HB 4:00-5:30p, SB 6:00-7:30p)
- **Friday, 2/22-** Eligibility Check- **PASS ALL YOUR CLASSES!!!**
 - *Students who are ineligible for UIL will have an alternate assignment as they will not be allowed to attend the events leading up to UIL (marked below with an asterisk*). To ensure their success- they will be given class time to complete any work assigned.*
- **Friday, 2/22-** Band Luau @ SMS!!! Come celebrate
- **Tuesday, 2/26*-** Clinic #2 @ Staley Middle School (HB 4:00-5:30p, SB 6:00-7:30p)
- **Thursday 3/7*-** Clinic #3 @ FHS *Times TBA*
- **Thursday, 3/21*-** Pre-UIL Contest @ FHS *Times TBA*
- **Friday, 3/22*-** Reward Trip @ Urban Air Trampoline Park (only students who are passing their classes and have attended (or made up) all clinics and Pre-UIL will be allowed to attend.
- **Tues-Wed, 3/26-3/27*-** Non Varsity (Honor Band) UIL Contest @ Wakeland HS *Date/Times TBA*
- **Tues-Thurs, 4/3-4/4*-** Varsity (Symphonic Band) UIL Contest @ Independence HS *Date/Times TBA*
- **Thursday, 4/11-** Beginning Band Solo Contest (students who have worked up two solos or missed the contest on 2/1 will perform at this event. This is the final chance for soloists to perform)

Dress: For all performances (solo, pre-uil, & UIL) band members will wear their concert black attire (black dress pants, their black band polo, black shoes, and dark socks). For clinics and reward events (Luau & Urban Air) students can wear what they would normally wear to school- no need to dress up.

What are the requirements to attend?

- **Be eligible!** Only students who are passing ALL their classes are allowed to participate. The best way to know is to be PROACTIVE in your studies. If you need help please seek additional tutoring and stay on top of your assignments!
- Attend ALL required sectionals & pass off your music. *During contest season students can still attend tutorials for other classes, but will need to make up the 25 minutes they miss of their sectional.*

Conflicts/Absences

- For any absence students are expected to fill out the Band Absence Request Form found at www.staleyband.org/barf (hard copies are available in the band hall). *The sooner you let us know of a conflict the easier it is for us to plan ahead!*
 - Students who are absent from school are automatically excused from events. We will follow the guidelines stated in the band handbook regarding missed work.
 - Students can be excused only with **at least 24 hours** written notice as stated in our Band Handbook.
 - Band members are responsible for talking to their band director regarding making up any missed grade.
 - If a student has unexcused absences from two or more events (including sectionals) they jeopardize participation in future events including UIL, Urban Air, and Six Flags.
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Event Details

Required Events: All Clinics, sectionals, and performances are required events. Most of the events have the exact date and time on the calendar, but there are a few events that do not finalize the schedule until a week or two out from the event. We will update the calendar and required events if there are any changes in required events.

Solo and Ensemble: Students typically have 7-8 weeks to prepare their solo. This is an individual performance where the student plays for a judge who gives them comments and a rating. For this event the Staley Band staff gets to choose who we hire and we try to bring in positive and encouraging directors that will help all students have a positive experience.

Clinics: Our UIL clinic is similar to our daily rehearsals, but we bring in outside directors for more focused work. We hire our former mentors or retired band directors with a proven record of success tho not only help the students grow, but to help the directors get new tips and tricks too! There will be three outside of school clinics with two taking place at Staley and one taking place at FHS. Clinics are one of the most important events to help us prepare for contests as a group!

Pre-UIL: This event is a practice performance before UIL. Since UIL usually takes place during the school day this is the best opportunity for most parents to hear our music. After we perform on stage the bands will go to the band hall for sight-reading. Parents are encouraged to follow us into the sight-reading room!

UIL Concert and Sight Reading: UIL (University Interscholastic League) Concert and Sight Reading Contest is the band equivalent of the state STAAR test. Just like any standardized test, this is not a perfect indicator of our progress, but is one of the best ways for showcase our band's hard work. *This is an event that all parents and encouraged to attend even though this event usually takes place DURING the school day.*

'To Be Announced'- or TBA: There are many events during contest season that we do not receive the schedule until a week or two out form the event. We do have the days given in advance and will communicate the information we receive as soon as we get it. Thank you for your flexibility and letting us know well in advance if you see any potential problems or conflicts.

Braces/Dental Work: If possible please keep in mind our performance calendar during contest season. In many cases students who have major dental work will need a week or two (usually even longer) to get back to where they were. We do not want your student's hard work to be hindered by dental changes!