



Dan F. Long Middle School Falcon Band

Spring Newsletter

Student achievement at the highest level is our number one priority.

Vol. XIV, No. 2

December 15, 2004

Dear parents and students,

Welcome to the start of a new semester. Your hard work will begin to payoff as we begin preparing for our spring competitions. Eligibility is an important issue for performing organizations. Everyone needs to work on passing every class, otherwise performances at the upcoming competitions will be seriously affected.

This semester the concert, and symphonic bands will dress-up for various performances. Note the performance attire requirements on page 4. The first performance in uniform will be March 10 for concert band and March 7 for symphonic. Cadet band will dress band shirts for performances.

Enclosed you'll find lots of valuable information concerning spring semester activities. On the following pages, you'll find:

- p. 2 Spring semester calendar.
- p. 3 Sectional schedule for symphonic and concert bands.
- p. 4 Grading policy for spring semester/performance attire.
- p. 5-6 Solo and ensemble contest information.
- p. 7 Six Flags contest information.
- p. 10 Balance due information regarding Six Flags contest and any unpaid items.

If you have Internet access, remember to visit the band web site for continuing updates (www.DFLBAND.com).

Sincerely,

John Black blackj@cfbisd.edu
Jeremy Lindquist lindquistj@cfbisd.edu
Band Directors 972-662-4120

www.DFLBAND.com

Band Calendar ~ Spring 2005

Date	Activity	Time	Where meet
Jan. 4, Tues.	Classes resume		
Jan. 10, Mon.	Sectionals begin (different schedule from fall)		Band Hall
Jan. 24, 25, 27	Symphonic Ensembles perform for Honor Receptions (tentative)		Cafeteria
Jan. 28, Fri.	* Solo & Ensemble ENTRY FORMS & FEES DUE.		
Jan. 28, Fri.	Trip balance must be \$50 or less. Kickoff Spring Fundraiser (coffee/tea)		
Feb. 14, Mon.	Fundraiser Orders DUE!		
Feb. 17, Thur.	* Pep Rally (all bands)	during school	Gym
Feb. 24, Thur.	* Symphonic performs for 5 th grade classes	1 st /2 nd periods	Long Cafetorium
Feb. 26, Sat.	Drumline Concert (Mr. Murphy's students)	3:30pm	Newman Smith Theater
Feb. 25, Fri.	Trip balance must be \$25 or less.		
Mar. 2, Wed.	Concert UIL Rehearsal	4:25-5:25pm	Long Band Hall
Mar. 5, Sat.	* Solo & Ensemble Contest Pickup fundraiser products March 5 at Solo/Ensemble contest	individual times scheduled	Dan F. Long MS
CFBISD Pre-UIL Middle School Band Concerts			
Mar. 7, Mon.	→ Symphonic Band	Times: TBA	Ranchview HS
Mar. 9, Wed.	→ Concert UIL Rehearsal	4:25-5:25pm	Long Band Hall
Mar. 10, Thur.	→ Concert Band	Times: TBA	Polk MS
Mar. 11, Fri.	End of 3 rd Nine Weeks (UIL eligibility)		
Mar. 21-25	Spring Break		
Mar. 30, Wed.	Concert UIL Rehearsal	4:25-5:25pm	Long Band Hall
Mar. 30, Wed.	Symphonic UIL Rehearsal	4:25-5:25pm	Long Band Hall
Apr. 1, Fri.	Trip balance must be \$0.		
Apr. 5, Tues.	Symphonic UIL Rehearsal	4:25-5:25pm	Long Band Hall
Apr. 6, Wed.	Symphonic UIL Rehearsal	4:25-5:25pm	Long Band Hall
Apr. 5 or 6	* Concert Band at UIL Concert & Sightreading Contest (rehearse on 5 th if not UIL)		RLTurner HS
Apr. 7 or 8	* Symphonic Band at UIL Concert & Sightreading Contest		Hebron HS
Apr. 16, Wed.	End of 5 th Six Weeks (Six Flags eligibility)		
May 4, Wed.	Concert UIL Rehearsal	4:25-5:25pm	Long Band Hall
May 5, Thur.	Concert UIL Rehearsal	4:25-5:25pm	Long Band Hall
May 6, Fri.	* Bands compete at DC Festivals Lonestar Showcase of Music with visit to Six Flags (Itinerary to follow)	all day/evening (est. meet time: 7:45AM) Concert performs 9:45am Symphonic performs 10:30am	Long Band Hall (Performance site: Eisemann Center)
May 11, Wed.	Concert UIL Rehearsal	4:25-5:25pm	Long Band Hall
May 16, Mon.	Spring Concert (w/sixth grade)	7:30PM	Long Competition Gym
May 16-18	Check-in school owned instruments for inventory.		
May 17, Tues.	Audition tapes due from 6 th & 7 th graders		
May 20, Fri.	End of year pool party for Band/Choir/Orchestra members and families (only)	6:00-8:00PM	Rosemeade Pool
May 26, Thur	School instruments available for summer ck-out	3:00-6:00pm	Band Hall

BAND SECTIONAL SCHEDULE (Spring 2005)

MONDAYS-----

4:20 – 5:20 PM	<i>Symphonic</i> Trombone, Euphonium, Bassoon, Tuba, Contrabass Clarinet, Bass Clarinet (Albert Ong)
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TUESDAYS-----

7:30 – 8:30 AM	<i>Symphonic</i> Flute, Oboe, 1 st Clarinet, 2 nd & 3 rd Clarinet
7:45 – 8:30 AM	Concert Flute, Oboe, 1 st Clarinet

4:20 – 5:20 PM	Concert Trumpet
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WEDNESDAYS-----

7:45 – 8:30 AM	Concert 2 nd & 3 rd Clarinet (Ricky Edwards)
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4:20 – 5:20 PM	<i>Symphonic</i> Trumpet (Steven Hankins, Daniel Rostro)
4:20 – 5:20 PM	Concert French Horn, Alto Saxophone

THURSDAYS-----

4:20 – 5:20 PM	<i>Symphonic</i> French Horn, Alto Saxophone
4:20 – 5:20 PM	Concert Trombone, Euphonium, Bassoon

FRIDAYS-----

4:20 – 5:20 PM	Concert Band Tuba, Bass Clarinet
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There will be a limited number of sectionals. Please note the start and stop time for your sectional. Students must attend these sectionals/rehearsals in order to be eligible for UIL/Six Flags contests. If you have Dan F. Long athletics practice at the same time as a sectional, you must arrange a makeup time with Mr. Black/Mr. Lindquist **PRIOR** to the sectional.

REMINDER (No makeups allowed):

SYMPHONIC UIL CLINIC DATES ARE: Mar. 30, Apr. 5, Apr. 6

SYMPHONIC PERFORMANCES/DRESS REHEARSALS: Feb. 24, Mar. 7, Apr. 7 or 8, May 6 & 16

CONCERT UIL CLINIC DATES ARE: Mar. 2, Mar. 9, Mar. 30, Apr. 5, May 4, May 5, May 11

CONCERT PERFORMANCE/DRESS REHEARSALS: Mar. 10, Apr. 5 or 6, May 6, May 16

SYMPHONIC/CONCERT/CADET BAND

SPRING SEMESTER 2005 GRADING POLICY

1. **SECTION REHEARSALS OR FULL GROUP REHEARSALS:** Sectionals are scheduled, after school, one day per week. If a student misses a sectional and does NOT make it up, a zero will be recorded (which average to approximately 20 points per absence of the nine weeks grade). ALL absences can be made-up. EXCUSED absences (i.e., doctor's appointment, family emergency, and illness) must have a written note from the student's parent/guardian and make-up completed within one week of return. UNEXCUSED absences are made-up twice. A schedule for make-ups will need to be arranged by the student with a band director. Full group rehearsals cannot be made-up.
2. **TAPE TESTING:** Tape testing may be utilized during the semester. Daily tape testing will be done at school; weekly testing will be done by the student at home. If the student does not have access to a cassette recorder, he may use one at the school. Tapes will be graded 90-100. Anything less than 90 will be retaped. If a tape assignment is less than 90, the student should tape the assignment again (or as many times as necessary until passed). Any assignment which is not passed by the end of the nine weeks (or turned-in) will be recorded as a zero. Once a test is passed, credit (90-100) will be given. (Remember, all tests must be passed by the end of the nine weeks in order to receive credit.)
3. **HONOR BAND MEMBERS:** are attentive without talking, not disruptive, play on instruments at proper times, always have horn (working properly), music, pencil, extra good reeds, sticks (percussion), mouthpieces and are never tardy.
4. **ABSENCE FROM PERFORMANCE:** Performances count 25% of the six weeks average. Absences can be excused with no penalty if the absence is due to a family emergency or serious illness. Other excuses cannot be accepted. The student will also be removed from the band on a temporary (or possibly permanent) basis. This is the most serious infraction since a band depends upon every individual to carry his portion of the load and support the entire group. (Absence due to No Pass/No Play is excused. HOWEVER, students who fail a subject at the nine weeks should always check with the Band Director to see if he is eligible----restrictions do NOT apply in all cases.)
5. **SOLO/ENSEMBLE CONTEST:** All students are expected to prepare a solo. Students have the option of performing at the Solo/Ensemble Contest for a medal or performing in class. Ineligible students must perform in class.

PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

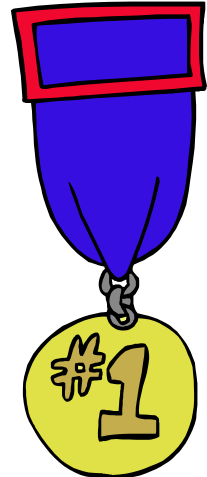
- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black bow tie (provided by school) | <input type="checkbox"/> Dark <u>dress shoes</u> (no tennis shoes) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black cummerbund (provided by school) | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Black socks/hose</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Black pants</u> (no jeans) | <input type="checkbox"/> Belt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>White dress shirt</u> (LONG SLEEVE) | <input type="checkbox"/> Men: no ear rings |
- (If you wear an undershirt, it MUST be completely white with no designs.)*

- PERFORMANCE DATES:**
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| February 24 (Symphonic - no uniform!) | |
| March 10 (Concert) | in uniform |
| March 7 (Symphonic) | |
| April 5 or 6 (Concert) | |
| April 7 or 8 (Symphonic) | |
| May 6 (Concert & Symphonic) | |
| May 16 (Symphonic, Concert, Cadet) | |

SOLO & ENSEMBLE CONTEST

A Solo & Ensemble Contest will be held for all Dan F. Long band members on Saturday, Mar. 5. This year's contest will be held at Dan F. Long. Students will perform their solo/ensemble entries in a room before one judge. The judge then rates each performance on the following scale:

RATING	DESCRIPTION	AWARD
Division I	Superior performance	Medal award
Division II	Excellent performance	Medal award
Division III	Good performance	Criticism sheet
Division IV	Fair performance	Criticism sheet
Division V	Poor performance	Criticism sheet



There is an entry fee for each solo/ensemble. The fees are:

one event	\$5.00
two events	\$10.00

Cash or checks payable to DFLBC are acceptable. These fees are due Friday, Jan. 28. These fees pay for judges' salaries, medals and forms necessary for the contest.

Students have been (or will be) looking at various pieces of music and will make their decision about which piece to play.

All Band members are expected to perform in a solo or ensemble even if they cannot enter the contest. Those unable to enter the contest will perform their music in class. This can be a fun and exciting opportunity to perform. It will greatly increase a student's playing proficiency, as well as give those competing in the contest, a chance to earn a medal.

The contest is normally run according to UIL rules with some slight modifications. Some details are being worked out at this time and more information may follow when necessary. Each entry is normally categorized by level of difficulty as set in the UIL Prescribed Music List. The most difficult pieces are Class 1, then Class 2 and finally Class 3. We will accept solos not in the PML if selected by private lesson instructors. These solos many times have been listed in previous years.

Class 1, 2, 3 solos generally are written with piano accompaniments and must be played with piano (which could include recordings), otherwise the entry will be classified differently. Ensembles rarely have piano accompaniments. Students earning a Division I rating will be awarded a gold medal with a blue ribbon and a Division II will earn a silver medal with a red ribbon.

We will have a piano accompanist available, but you'll need to request one. I believe the charge will be \$25 per solo. Likewise, you may wish to ask around for an accompanist. You may find one who would do it for free or charge as much as \$40. Please use your discretion. I recommend only adults play accompaniments since it is much harder to play accompaniments than it is to simply play piano. ****Students who failed their 2nd Nine Weeks Report Card must pass all classes on either Progress Report 3A or 3B. Students who pass all classes on the 2nd Nine Weeks Report Card are definitely eligible for the Solo/Ensemble Contest.

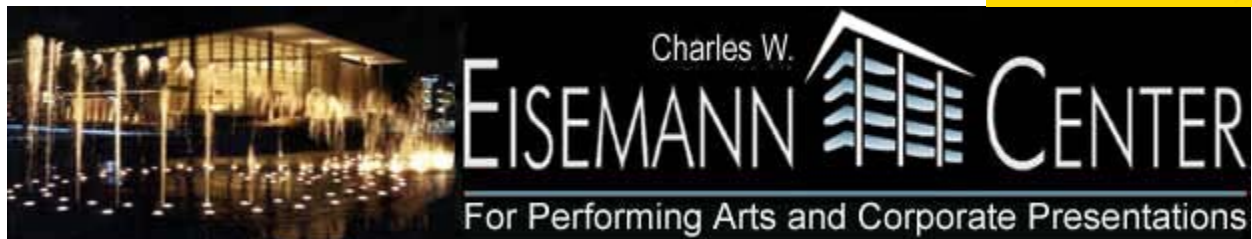
BROOK MAYS MUSIC COMPANY

Brook Mays Music Company has a store in Lewisville at I-35 and Hwy. 121 in the Lakeland Plaza. Their telephone number is 972-434-2286. Greg Riley comes to Long twice a week to service this account (generally Tuesday and Friday afternoons). Discounts are offered on all supplies and reeds. Feel free to make use of this opportunity to save you travel time as well as money. Music is the only item not discounted. Likewise, if you are considering a new instrument, be sure to call Greg for a price.



www.brookmays.com

Greg Riley: voice mail 214-224-2933



IMPORTANT PARENT INFORMATION CONCERNING BAND TRIP/CONTEST TO SIX FLAGS OVER TEXAS

1. WHEN? The Dan F. Long Symphonic & Concert Bands will compete at the Director's Choice Lone Star Showcase of Music in conjunction with Six Flags Over Texas on Friday, May 6, 2005.
2. WHERE? The contest site is planned for the Eisemann Center in Richardson (www.eisemanncenter.com)
The remainder of the time will be spent at Six Flags.
3. REQUIRED? The competition, yes.

4. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

In order to be eligible students must do one of the following: (1) pass all classes on the 3rd Nine Weeks Report Card (March 11) or (2) fail one or more classes on the 3rd Nine Weeks Report Card AND pass ALL classes on Progress Report 4A (April 8). Students who receive an Incomplete (I) in any subject will be ineligible until the "I" is replaced with a passing grade (but must be done within two weeks of the end of a nine week cycle).

Symphonic, Concert, and Cadet Band members must attend all scheduled practices, performances, and a trip meeting during the semester.

5. SHOULD INELIGIBLE STUDENTS PAY FOR THE TRIP?

Yes. If an ineligible student becomes eligible, he will have to pay anyway. If a student becomes ineligible and has paid part or all of their trip, a refund will be issued. Fund raising profit will not be refunded to ineligible students.

6. WHAT IS NOT PAID ON THE TRIP?

Lunch, supper, snacks.

7. HOW MUCH DOES THE TRIP COST AND HOW MUCH IS OWED?

All Symphonic, Concert, and Cadet Band members pay \$75.
Payment schedule: \$25 by Dec. 15, Jan. 28, and Feb. 25 (or April 1).

Please pay any balance due as soon as possible. A complete itinerary and details of the trip will be available for you in early April.

BALANCE DUE INFORMATION AS OF Tuesday, December 14, 2004

SAMPLE FORM...MAILED VERSION WILL INCLUDE UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

SIX FLAGS CONTEST TRIP BALANCE

Cost of trip: \$ 7 5 . 0 0
(\$75 for Six Flags) _____

Profit from fundraiser: _____

Cash paid to date (12/14/04): _____

Other credits: _____
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TOTAL TRIP BALANCE DUE:
(please pay as soon as possible)
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****IF YOU HAVE A 2005 SEASON PASS TO SIX FLAGS, DEDUCT \$20.00.
(Or if you purchase a season pass between now and April, let me know and I'll refund you accordingly.)

FALL SEMESTER UNPAID ITEMS

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TOTAL UNPAID ITEMS: _____
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Checks should be made payable to DFLBC.

DO NOT RETURN THIS PAGE...THIS IS FOR YOUR RECORDS ONLY.