

# Beginning of Year Newsletter for Beginning Bands

We are looking forward to a great year!

## Instrument FAQ:

- **1<sup>st</sup> Day with Instruments:** We are asking the students to bring their instruments the **2<sup>nd</sup> week of school.** We will let the students know the exact date.
- **Labeling Instruments:** Using tape and a marker, we are asking students to please put their name on their case in 3 places.
- **Band Hall Lockers:** Students will be issued a band hall locker & a band hall lock during class.
- **Materials Needed:** Please label these; deadline is Sept 13<sup>th</sup>
  - Band Binder - 1 ½ inch preferred
  - Essential Elements for Band (instrument specific)
  - Pencil(s)
- **Email Handouts** – Your child’s information has been put into a band database called Charms. Charms is a secure web-based program that will assist us in communicating and organization of the Briscoe Band program. To update your child’s profile in the Charms system and to add/delete email addresses, you have 2 options:
  - 1) **Website - <https://www.charmsoffice.com>**
    - a) Type **BriscoeMSBand** in the Parent/Student Login in the right hand side
    - b) Type your **Student ID #** and log in into your individual child’s account
    - c) Information can be viewed and updated.
  - 2) **App on Google Play or iOS store is called = Charms Blue / Student App**
    - a) Same directions as above
- **Fees & Handbook** – (back page) We will cover this next week in class. Handbook Acknowledgment & Band Fees due by September 7<sup>th</sup>.
- **2019 – 2020 Band Calendar** – Calendar will be on our website ([bengalband.org](http://bengalband.org)) this week.

We are looking forward to a great year!

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



# F.A.Q's for Beginning Band members

**Is there a Beginning Band Summer Camp?** – There is no before school band event scheduled for beginners. We will start together the first day of school!

**My child has not selected or had a tryout for an instrument?** – We will test out instruments for students who have not tried out instruments during the first 2 weeks of school.

**What does my child need the 1st week of school in Band?** – Students will only need their 1 1/2 inch band binder and a pencil. We will cover music theory and finalize all student placements. We will also be covering band rules & assigning band lockers.

**What does my child need the 2nd week of school in Band?** – Students will need their instruments the second week of school. We will give advance notice to students on the exact date.

**Does my child need a lock for their band locker?** – Students do not need to purchase a lock. A lock will be provided by the band.

**Are there any band fees?** – Yes, the band fee is \$80. This covers a polo shirt, spirit shirt, masterclass and other educational expenses. They are due the Sept 6th. Fees can be paid in full or in installments.

**I already have a shirt from my sister/brother etc** – We keep the same style of shirts every year to keep costs down. If you own a Band spirit shirt (\$10) or a Band polo shirt (\$20), you can subtract that amount from the band fee.

**Is this used instrument a good deal?** – If you are purchasing a used instrument from a private seller, it is always a good idea to get it professionally looked at before purchase. We recommend High School Music in Alamo Ranch.

**Where are the area music stores?** – Area stores can be on our website ([www.BengalBand.org](http://www.BengalBand.org))

**Is there a calendar of events?** – Yes there is but dates have not been finalized. You will be able to find them on our website on the first day of school.

**Can I chaperone for events?** – We'd love for you to! In fact, some events cannot be done without parental volunteers. The link can be **found** on our website. *Note: If you work for Northside ISD, you already have your background check completed.*

**How do you communicate with parents?** – We send out handouts with students, email parents a PDF copy and put a copy on our website. We currently are configuring our database (called Charms).

# Beginner Band Fee List

## I. STUDENT NAME:

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Band Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_

## II. CONSENT & AGREEMENT for BAND HANDBOOK:

We have read and understand the Briscoe Band Member Handbook, particularly all the rules and requirements and the Band Discipline Plan, and, as a condition of the Student's participation in the Briscoe Band, consent to and agree to comply with all rules and requirements therein.

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print legibly)

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This copy of the consent and agreement must be signed and dated, as indicated, and returned to the Band director before the student may participate in any Band function. A copy of the Band Handbook can be found on [www.BengalBand.org](http://www.BengalBand.org).

## III. BAND FEE:

**\$80** This fee includes polo shirt, fun shirt, master classes & misc fees

size \_\_\_\_\_ Briscoe MS Band Polo Shirt

size \_\_\_\_\_ Briscoe MS Band Fun Shirt

**OR**

If a payment plan is needed, please notate plan → \_\_\_\_\_.

Turn in this form ASAP, so shirts may be ordered.

**\*\*\* Please make checks payable to BENGAL BAND BOOSTERS \*\*\***

Thank you,

Ray Flores, Bethany Hirota, Chris Esparza & Josh Barker