

LAGO VISTA HIGH SCHOOL BAND

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# HANDBOOK

## 2021-2022



Pieter DuPlooy  
**Director of Bands**

[Pieter\\_DuPlooy@lagovista.txed.net](mailto:Pieter_DuPlooy@lagovista.txed.net)

Adam Mothersole  
**Assistant Director of Bands**

[Adam\\_Mothersole@lagovista.txed.net](mailto:Adam_Mothersole@lagovista.txed.net)



The Lago Vista High School Viking Band is committed to building a tradition of excellence through hard work and effort of its members, staff, and parents. It is the job of each director and student member to see this tradition is built and improved upon each year. The success of the Viking Band will only be determined by the dedication, determination, discipline and pride displayed by its members and the collective staff, parents and community. It is important to remember that each member represents what is best about young people, our community, and involvement in a musical organization. The goal of the band staff is to provide students with the best music education possible while aiding students to develop their character to the fullest extent through hard work, goal setting, cooperation, and responsibility. **Excellence is a habit and should be exhibited at every band event.**

For our greatest goals we must be dedicated to our cause, determined to succeed, and have the discipline to work hard and make progress each day. With these words in mind, please read this handbook carefully and make sure you understand what is expected of you as a member of the Viking Band.

#### Estimated Band Expenses 2021-2022

Band Assessment Fee	\$40.00
The assessment fee (or lab fee) for band covers extraneous costs for students throughout the year. These may include uniform cleanings, visiting clinicians or accompanists, student parties, etc.... This money goes directly back to the students and is used for their benefit directly.	
Black Marching Shoes (if needing new pair or replacement pair)	\$40.00
Away Game Meal Deal (optional) ]	\$25.00
Flip Folder (if needing new or replacement)	\$15.00
Instrument Supplies (reeds, valve oil, slide grease, etc...)	Varies
“Foundations for Superior Performance” Blue Book (Students must have this purchased and in class by November 1 <sup>st</sup> . Available on Amazon or at Music and Arts music store in Cedar Park.)	\$8.00
Black 1” Binder (Students must purchase this on their own prior to the start of concert season.)	
White Button Up Dress Shirt (Male students and approved female students will need to wear this with their tuxedo jackets in the spring semester. Please purchase by February, 2022.)	
Black Dress Pants (Male students and approved females will need to wear this with their tuxedo jackets in the spring semester. Please purchase by February, 2022.)	

### *Membership*

Membership in the Viking Band consists of all students in the high school band program and select members from Lago Vista Middle School at the director's discretion. Students are required to have played an instrument for at least one year prior to attending Lago Vista High School in order to be a member of the Viking Band program.

### *Marching Band*

The marching band will perform at ALL football games, various competitive marching festivals, the UIL marching contests, and local parades and events as scheduled and requested. All performances are mandatory for each band member.

For the marching show, the band directors will assign each student a marching position. Marching assignments will be made during summer band and may change at any time during the season as the directors see fit. Students who do not march at any given performance are still an integral part of the performance and will assist the directors with field equipment and organizational needs.

### *Performance Spot/ Alternate Block (Z-Line)*

For the marching show, students will be assigned either a performance spot or a spot in the alternate block. All students will march at all performances per the schedule assigned by the directors. Alternate block members will not, however, perform at competitions and will assist the directors as needed on the day of competition. Due to unforeseen circumstances, such as eligibility issues, illness, or other various factors, it is a necessity that we march an alternate block in the event a spot needs to be filled in the competition show.

Students must maintain the quality of their work in order to retain their positions – both on and off the field. Positions will not be held open. It is, therefore, important that students attend all scheduled rehearsals in order to retain their marching spot.

It is the goal of the band staff to include all band students in all of our performances. We will make every effort to see this goal is met and that all students participate. However, each student is accountable for the quality of his or her own individual performance.

Performance is judged based on each individual's work and how it affects the overall body of performance of the entire band.

Some common reasons for removal from a permanent marching assignment:

1. Attendance issues
2. Grade issues in academic classes
3. Attitude
4. Responsibility (especially in learning your marching spots and music)
5. Dedication and Pride

### *Attendance*

Students are required to be at ALL rehearsals and performances. Rehearsal begins at the first call to attention. **The Lago Vista High School tardy and attendance policy will be strictly enforced at all band events, including morning rehearsals.**

Students will receive a weekly attendance grade and performance grade based on their participation. Failure to attend a rehearsal without prior communication will lower the student's attendance grade by 20 points. Tardies will lower the student's grade by 10 points. It is imperative that all students understand that attendance is mandatory and makes us a better band. If students need to miss a rehearsal or performance, they must communicate with the band directors AT LEAST TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE for it to be considered as an excused absence with no penalty and it will need to be an appropriate/valid excuse as to why they will be absent.

Students will receive either a 100 or a 0 for their performance grade depending on their attendance at the performance.

### *Involvement in Other School Activities*

The band staff actively promotes students to be involved in other activities on the LVHS campus, with the understanding that proper communication and understanding occurs between all parties, including the directors and other club sponsors, the student, and the student's parents or guardians. It is the STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY to communicate with the directors and the other club sponsors for the activity in which they are involved to come up with a viable plan that will work for both activities. Conflicts must be communicated with the band directors AT LEAST TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE of the conflict. Please be proactive in asking for schedules of all activities and clubs you are involved in to recognize any conflicts ahead of time.

The band staff is committed to working with the other LVHS teachers, coaches, and sponsors to give each student every opportunity to be a part of other organizations on the campus.

### *Communication*

**The most important aspect of our program is communication.** Due to the size and continued growth of our program, communication is extremely important to ensure mutual understanding.

The yearly schedule, announcements, and other pertinent information is available on our band website – [www.lagovistabands.com](http://www.lagovistabands.com). Also, announcements and information will be posted on our band "Facebook" page and sent out via e-mail. Please join our band Facebook page by searching "Lago Vista Band Boosters" and request to be added.

### *CHARMS*

Each student and parent of the Viking Band must have an active e-mail account and be registered with our CHARMS database system. Information sheets will be available on how to register for CHARMS at the Mandatory Band Meeting. In order to receive e-mails from the directors, updated information, and to check account balances with the Booster Club

and any trip and/or assessment fee payments, all students must have an active CHARMS account.

**A CHARMS account is REQUIRED by all members of the Viking Band and must include working email addresses for all students and parents.**

#### *Remind 101*

Each student (and parent) may sign up for a Remind 101 account. The free app is available for download for use to receive emergency text messages from the directors. Simply text “@8c98k7” to 81010.

## **MARCHING BAND**

#### *Marching Policies and Procedures*

Marching band activities include playing at all football games, community parades, marching festivals, UIL marching contests, and other events specified on the band calendar. With a student’s active involvement in marching band, students earn a 1/2 PE credit during the marching season.

#### *Student Responsibilities*

1. Marching fundamentals
2. Marching music (memorized and passed off by the directors)
3. Attendance at all rehearsals
4. Proper uniform care
5. Passing ALL of their classes
6. Making a conscientious effort to improve each day
7. Attend summer band
8. Turning in all required forms and documents (travel forms, handbook forms, etc...)
9. Exhibiting excellence and dedication at every rehearsal and performance
10. Communicating with the directors about all issues and conflicts that could affect their participation at any band eve

#### *Dress Code*

We often rehearse during the hottest part of the day during the summer. Clothing worn must remain in the guidelines of the school dress code. For example, no bare midriffs, sport bras, etc. Shirts must be worn at all times.

For your own safety, all students should bring the following to every outdoor rehearsal:

1. Hat
2. Sunglasses
3. Personal thermos with water or sports drink (no carbonated or energy drinks)

4. Tennis shoes only (no sandals, boots, or bare feet will be permitted)
5. Sunscreen

### *Football Games*

Students are expected to follow and uphold all rules, regulations, and guidelines set forth by Lago Vista ISD and the LVHS Student Code of Conduct.

In addition, students are responsible for the following:

1. Stay in your assigned seats at all times – do not move around during games.
2. Do not purchase or receive any unauthorized food or refreshments during the game – eating is NOT ALLOWED in the stands while in uniform.
3. Do not play your instrument unless the entire band is playing.
4. No one but band personnel is allowed in the band section or along the edges of the band during games. (Permission from the director is necessary for any exceptions.)
5. Watch the director/drum major at all times.
6. Watch closely for cut-offs during the game.
7. Stand and sit when you are assigned.
8. Listen to directions given by the director prior to halftime. File out in an orderly fashion for pre-show setup.
9. Treat other guests and directors politely at all times.
10. Restroom breaks will be given at appropriate times. Always check with a drum major before going to the restroom.

### *Uniform Guidelines*

1. Band uniforms will be issued during summer band. Band uniforms will be stored in the uniform room ONLY, not at home or in the locker room.
2. Students will be held financially responsible for the uniform and its components.
3. Students may not enter the uniform room to retrieve a uniform. Only a director or designated assistants may hand out a uniform.
4. All uniforms are to be transported in garment bags and hat boxes.

### *Wearing the Uniform*

All students in the Viking Band are expected to wear their marching uniforms with pride at all events. Students are expected to wear the school-issued marching uniform to all performances, unless otherwise specified. Section leaders will be in charge of uniform inspections prior to each performance and will notify directors of any students not in proper uniform. Students that are found to not be in proper uniform will not be permitted to perform with the band.

The marching band uniform consists of ALL of the following:

- Band shirt (issued at the beginning of the year)
- Bibbers (pants)

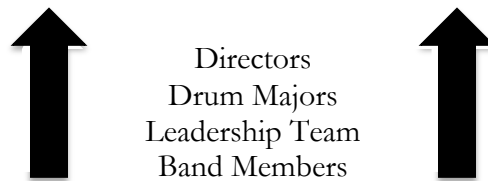
- Jacket
- Shako (hat)
- Black socks (calf-high only; no ankle socks and no other colors)
- Black approved marching shoes
- Gloves

Jewelry, hair ribbons, and bright colored nail polish, or any other distraction from the uniform will not be acceptable. These hinder the uniform and the overall appearance of the band.

Also, band students with long hair will be required to put it up neatly under their hat during performances. Any visible hair should be pinned under the hat. All artificial hair colors should be done in a professional and tasteful manner. **Remember, you are a reflection of the band program and Lago Vista High School.**

### *Chain of Command and Student Leadership Team*

Students are expected to be knowledgeable of the chain of command within the band program. In most cases, questions can be answered by peers and student leadership. The chain of command in the Viking Band is as follows, starting at the bottom and working up:



Student leadership for each marching season is selected by application process at the end of the spring semester of the previous school year. These positions are detailed in the “Student Leadership Positions Descriptions” page that is available when applications become available each spring.

Students may apply for one or more of the following leadership positions:

- Drum Major
- Leadership Team

### *Operations Team*

The Operations Team assists in the day-to-day operation of the band program. Although not considered student leadership, these positions are carefully selected by the directors based on an application process. These positions are extremely important in operating the band program.

The Operations Team positions include the following positions:

- Historian



- Uniform Captain
- Librarian
- Loading Crew

### *Band Council*

The Band Council consists of positions elected by the members of the Viking Band. The members of the council are responsible for planning and executing the annual band social events during the year, including the annual Band Banquet. The Executive Council positions (voting members) in Band Council are as follows:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- One representative of each class – freshman, sophomore, etc...

## CONCERT BAND

The official start to “concert season” begins immediately following the conclusion of the marching competition season. Although football playoffs may still be occurring, our focus as a band program shifts to concert season.

During the concert season, the Viking Band will perform a winter concert, as well as prepare for the spring’s UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest, spring band concert, and various community performances.

### *Concert Band Uniform*

Ladies will have a dress provided for them for use during UIL performances. Gentlemen will need to acquire a pair of black dress pants and a white button up shirt. A tie and jacket will be provided to them for use during the UIL performance. Gentlemen may wear their own black jacket if they so choose, but they are required to be in appropriate concert black attire.

Black dress shoes will need to be acquired by both ladies and gentlemen for the concert season.

### *Involvement in Other School Activities*

The band staff actively promotes students to be involved in other activities on the LVHS campus, with the understanding that proper communication and understanding occurs between all parties, including the directors and other club sponsors, the student, and the student’s parents or guardians. It is the STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITY to communicate with the directors and the other club sponsors for the activity in which they are involved to come up with a viable plan that will work for both activities. Conflicts must be communicated with the band directors AT LEAST TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE of the conflict. Please be proactive in asking for schedules of all activities and clubs you are involved in to recognize any conflicts ahead of time.

The band staff is committed to working with the other LVHS teachers, coaches, and sponsors to give each student every opportunity to be a part of other organizations on the campus.

**Lago Vista High School  
Viking Band Calendar  
FALL 2021**

**August**

2-4	Full Band Rehearsal	8:00am-11:30a/1:00p-4:00p
5	Full Band Rehearsal	8:00am-11:00a/5:00p-8:00p
9-11	Full Band Rehearsal	8:00am-11:30a/5:00p-8:00p
12	First Day of School	No Rehearsal
13	Normal Rehearsal Schedule Begins (See below)	
27	AWAY Football Game vs. Cameron Yoe	Details TBA

**September**

3	HOME Football Game vs. Teague	Call Time – 6:00pm, BH
6	NO SCHOOL	No Rehearsal
7	NO SCHOOL – Evening Rehearsal	6:00pm-8:30pm
8	School Resumes	No Morning Rehearsal Percussion Sectionals as Scheduled
9	Regular Morning Rehearsals Resume	7:15am-8:45am
10	AWAY Football Game vs. Smithville	Details TBA
17	HOME Football Game at Academy	Call Time – 6:00pm, BH
24	AWAY Football Game vs. LaGrange	Details TBA
21	All-Region HS Jazz Auditions	Johnson City – ALL DAY

**October**

1	HOME Football Game vs. LASA-Austin	Call Time – 6:00pm, BH
2	Brazos Valley Marching Contest	Caldwell HS (All Day)
8	HOME Football Game vs. Luling	Call Time – 6:00pm, BH
9	Comal Classic Marching Invitational	Comal HS (All Day)
11	NO SCHOOL	No Rehearsal
12	NO SCHOOL – Evening Rehearsal	6:00pm-8:30pm
15	AWAY Football Game vs. Llano	Details TBA
16	UIL Region Marching Contest	Burnet High School (All Day)
22	HOME Football Game vs. Comfort	Call Time – 6:00pm, BH
23	UIL Area Marching Contest	Robinson HS (All Day)
29	BYE WEEK	No Football Game

**November**

3	UIL State Marching Competition	San Antonio, TX
5	AWAY Football Game vs. Blanco	Details TBA
14	Region Jazz Clinic	Fredericksburg HS – Time
TBA		
18	Viking Band Thanksgiving Dinner	6:00pm – Band Hall
22-26	NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break	

**December**

TBD	Lago Vista Christmas Tree Lighting	Details TBA
4	ATSSB High School Region Auditions	Fredericksburg HS, ALL DAY
9	“Holidays with the Viking Band”	PAC, 6:00pm
17-Jan. 4	NO SCHOOL	Winter Brea

# **LAGO VISTA HIGH SCHOOL BAND**

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## **Handbook Contract**

By signing below, all parties agree that they have read, understand, and will comply with the 2021-2022 Viking Band Handbook and all of its policies and procedures.

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**Student Name**

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**Student Signature**

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**Parent Name**

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**Parent Signature**

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**Date**