

# LEE HIGH SCHOOL

## MIGHTY REBEL BAND

2020-2021  
Student Handbook



3500 Neely Ave • Midland, Texas 79707

[www.mightyrebelband.com](http://www.mightyrebelband.com)

## FORWARD

The band program at Lee and Lee Freshman High Schools offers a unique educational experience in which you may gain not only musical skills and a lifelong appreciation of music but discipline, self-confidence and a sense of accomplishment by working with others toward the common goal of excellence. As a member of the Mighty Rebel Band, you are expected to be a credit to your band, your school, and your community. Because we are committed to excellence we must have a common high standard. The purpose of this handbook is to define that standard. The Mighty Rebel Marching Band, Honor Band, Symphonic Band, Concert Band and Freshman Symphonic Band are competitive ensembles requiring travel and participation in UIL/TMEA competitions.

## GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

1. Participation in any extracurricular activity is a privilege, not a right. The students of the Mighty Rebel Band represent the band program, our school, and the community of Midland; and expectations for behavior will be held to a higher standard.
2. Students are expected to follow the standards of behavior as defined by the MISD Student Code of conduct while at school or when traveling on school events/trips. Extracurricular standards of behavior may take into consideration conduct that occurs at any time, on or off school property, both during and outside of school events.
3. Be on time for all rehearsals and public performances prepared to give your best.
4. Be a responsible member - bring your instrument, music, all required supplies (including pencil, coordinate sheets, flip folder, lyre, required attire, water jugs, etc...), keep your music in order, and know your music.
5. A student may be removed from participation in extracurricular activities (including a spring trip without refund) for violation of extracurricular standards outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.
6. Please note that any disciplinary action taken by the band directors regarding behavior violations may be in addition to independent disciplinary actions by Lee High School, Lee Freshman HS, and Midland ISD.
7. It is the responsibility of the student and the parent to be aware of all scheduled rehearsals and performances. All students will be provided with a calendar of performances and all parents will have the opportunity to receive a calendar at one of our required orientation meetings. All performances will also be listed on band social media.
8. You must have an instrument to participate in the band. Our instruments fall into two categories:
  - a. School Provided Instruments
    - i. These instruments include Oboe, Bassoon, Tenor Sax, Bari Sax, Bass Clarinet, Auxiliary Woodwinds, Horn/Mellophone, Euphonium/Baritone, Tuba/Sousaphone, & Percussion Instruments.
    - ii. Please note that students are expected to pay the fee and provide the mouthpiece, reeds, & sticks for school provided instruments.
  - b. Student Provided Instruments
    - i. These instruments include Flute, Clarinet, Alto Sax, Trumpet/Cornet, & Percussion (sticks).
    - ii. The school does not provide these instruments.
9. Maintain respect for the band hall, the instruments, and the equipment. This includes your music and folder. Keep the room clean and orderly. The instruments, percussion equipment, and sound system are not toys. Do not use any of the equipment unless you have received permission from the directors.

10. Remember once again that your actions and attitude reflect on you, your band, your school, and your community.
11. Pay all of your applicable band fees/assessments.
12. Take pride in your personal appearance.

## **DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP**

Maintaining a higher standard of conduct will also include ensuring that band member websites and social media posts are appropriate. The internet is a worldwide, publicly accessible form of communication. Any communication such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Groupme, photo sharing, emailing, or texting, etc., appearing on the internet is public domain, even if it is marked private. Members are responsible for their personal websites and postings, as well as posting on other websites and social media. The areas of appropriateness will include but are not limited to profane, foul, or disrespectful language (abbreviated or alluding to), pictures, suggestive poses, clothing, references to alcohol, drugs, and/or tobacco, and postings (either verbal or photos) that could be interpreted as being negative or threatening towards other Midland ISD teaching staff or band members, or that demonstrate poor sportsmanship or a disrespectful attitude towards other bands. Any such incident will result in review by the principal (or designee) and may lead to probation or dismissal from the band.

## **ATTENDANCE**

In order to have and maintain a high quality band program, attendance from all members is essential. While the Mighty Rebel Band follows all school and district policies and procedures, the following additional guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies for the Midland Lee Band. These attendance guidelines also apply to activities held outside of the school day. Failure to participate in either rehearsals or performances may result in student removal from the organization at the discretion of the band directors.

## **TARDINESS**

Students not in their designated area at the appropriate time will be marked tardy. A tardy will be converted to a mark of absent 10 minutes after the rehearsal begins.

### Excused Tardiness

Tardiness may be excused at the discretion of the directors. Tutorials, appointments etc. will not be an excuse for tardiness unless prior arrangements, with written documentation, are made and approved by a director.

### Unexcused Tardiness

Students who have more than one unexcused tardy shall make up missed time at a time to be arranged by the director and may be subject to one of the following consequences at the discretion of the band directors:

1. Loss of spot as a primary marcher
2. Loss of marching privilege at a football game
3. Requirement to stay after rehearsal or report early to next rehearsal to make up lost time
4. Requirement to make up 15 minutes of fundamental marching with his/her section leader

## ABSENCES

Band is a performance-based class and each student's contribution is crucial to rehearsals and concerts. One student's absence can upset the balance of a rehearsal or the success of a concert. Never lose sight of the importance of your individual contribution to the band. If there is a conflict with another school-sponsored group or organization, let Mr. Dojahn know at least 2 weeks in advance. School conflicts can almost always be worked out. Students are expected to keep a calendar, check their email and related social media regularly, and inform the director in advance (a minimum of a week's notice) of any conflicts. The key phrase is in advance! i.e. Weeks or months in advance – Not days! Communication is the key!

1. Attendance will be checked and documented promptly at the start of every rehearsal.
2. To report an absence, go online and complete the absence request form

### Excused Absence

Absences will be excused at the discretion of the directors. If a student attends school during the day, they will be expected to attend that day's after school rehearsal. Appointments will not be an excuse for absence. Absence due to personal illness requiring medical attention, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances (approved by the director) may be considered for excused status. Students who are continually ill may be required to provide a doctor's note releasing them from participation to ensure the well-being of the child and to reduce concerns of the band directors. If in doubt, an absence should be checked with a director.

Absence resulting from illness, serious illness in the family, or bereavement. An email from the parent must be submitted to the director well in advance for review and consultation with the student. In the case of an excused absence, a parent email should accompany the student's return. It is the parent's/student's responsibility to clear the absence.

### Unexcused Absence

Students who have an unexcused absence may be subject to one or more of the following consequences at the discretion of the directors:

1. Make up missed time.
2. Loss of spot as a primary marcher.
3. Loss of marching privilege for one game.
4. Loss of attendance privilege at one game.
5. Loss of concert band assignment. Assigned to another band class.
6. Removal from the marching band and loss of physical education credit.
7. Conference with parents and the student to decide continuation or dismissal from the program.
8. ANY OF THE ABOVE CONSEQUENCES MAY ALSO BE USED IN A DISCIPLINARY CAPACITY.

## CARE OF BAND FACILITIES

1. Refreshments: No gum, food or drinks are allowed in the building except when authorized by the directors.
2. Litter: All trash (paper, broken reeds/drum sticks, etc.) is to be deposited in the wastebaskets provided.

3. Vandalism: Acts of vandalism or the willful misuse of school property will be dealt with firmly and appropriately. Every band member is responsible for helping the director's monitor the facility and control vandalism, which includes writing or carving on walls, destroying music, or breaking school property.
4. Band Library: Absolutely no student is allowed in the band library without permission. The copy machine is off limits without permission!
5. Practice & Ensemble Rooms: Are designed for practicing, not social gatherings.
6. Offices: Please knock, and if you are invited in, you may enter. Otherwise, they are off-limits to students. Students may not use the director's phone without permission.

## FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

It is the philosophy of the Midland Lee High School Band that no student should be denied the privilege of band membership due to financial hardship. For options in meeting financial obligations, parents should contact the director. There are several fundraisers available throughout the school year through the band booster club to help students.

## GENERAL BAND ASSESSMENT

All Mighty Rebel Band members will be responsible for this annual fee. The purpose of the assessment fee is to help with the various expenses that are necessary to run a quality band program, but are not covered by the school district. These include but are not limited to such items as clinicians, contest entry fees, general supplies, marching band design coordination, marching props, sheet music, uniform care, football game day meals, contest day meals, local charter bus rentals, social activities, and more as voted on by the Band Boosters Club.

## DISTRICT OWNED INSTRUMENTS

Midland ISD will provide a limited number of instruments for student use. There is a \$75 dollar "School Provided Instrument Fee" that helps to cover the cost of repair for all school-owned instruments. All students that use a school-owned instrument (including percussion students) will be required to pay this fee for the use of all school provided instruments throughout the year. These instruments include highly expensive instruments such as the bassoon, oboe, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, french horn, euphonium, tuba and general percussion equipment. This equipment is generally purchased by the school district for student use because of its extremely high expense. Thus, all district owned equipment must be handled with optimum care. Students failing to take proper care of their school-issued instrument may lose the privilege to use such instruments. The following is a list of general procedures for district-owned instruments:

- Order of distribution will be done based on chair order.
- Midland ISD does not provide insurance for individually owned or district-owned equipment. Students will be held responsible for all district-owned instruments issued to them. This responsibility will include fire, theft, accidental damage, abuse and general maintenance not incurred through normal use. Repairs of any damage resulting in accidents, carelessness, or lack of proper upkeep will be at the responsibility of the student and his/her parent(s).
- Each instrument will be issued in good playing condition. Each issued instrument will be checked and cleaned prior to issue. The care and maintenance of the assigned instrument is the responsibility of the student to who it is assigned. Normal wear will be allowed and fixed by the school district.

- The school provided instrument fee does not include valve oil, reeds, mouthpieces, etc. as these are the student's responsibility to provide.
- The band member is financially responsible for all equipment and/or materials checked out to him or her.
- All equipment and materials must be kept in their proper storage location when not in use.

Special Note: District-owned instruments are not to be treated as "free" instruments. Basic supplies must still be purchased and repairs must still be made just like personally owned instruments. Please strive to treat these instruments as if they were your own. Most district-owned instruments exceed \$2,000 in value.

## FUNDRAISERS

The Midland Lee High School Band and Band Booster Club engage in fundraising activities throughout the year. The monies raised from fundraising activities will be credited to an account held by the Booster Club and is subject to all state laws. This money will be used only for the direct benefit of the band program. If a student chooses to participate in fundraising, he/she becomes responsible for all items checked out until the money for those items, or the items themselves, have been returned. Many unsold items may be returned; however, if items are not returned, payment for those items is due from the student. All money fundraised will be applied in the following order: outstanding assessment, instrument rental fee (if applicable), and then spring trip.

## IN GOOD STANDING

To be a band or colorguard member in "good standing", a student must:

1. positively contribute to the band program in attitude and work ethic.
2. have no unexcused absences.
3. maintain academic eligibility for all grading periods.
  - a. Academic eligibility is defined by UIL and Midland ISD. A student must be passing (or regain eligibility) in all classes to participate in Marching Contest/Festivals, Parades, TMEA auditions, 9th Grade Region, Solo Contest, Pre UIL Concerts, UIL Concert & Sight Reading, and trips that would take a student out of classes.

## ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

All Midland ISD Bands adhere to the eligibility rules and regulations as stated by UIL, TEA and Midland ISD. A student must be passing (or regain eligibility) in ALL classes to participate in Marching Contests/Festivals, Parades, TMEA auditions, Solo Contests, Pre UIL Concerts, UIL Concert & Sight Reading, and trips that would take a student out of classes. Some band activities are designated as extra-curricular. Students participating in these activities are governed by eligibility requirements. A student shall be suspended from participation in all extra-curricular activities sponsored or sanctioned by the school district during the six week period following a grade reporting period in which the student received a grade lower than seventy. Loss of eligibility does not take effect until seven days after the end of the reporting period.

Activities that are considered curricular components of any course are not affected by the eligibility law. Examples of these activities are all rehearsals and performances that take place as a regular extension of classroom instruction.

1. Ineligible students are NOT suspended from practices, sectionals, rehearsals, or band concerts (Summer Band Concert, Holiday Concert, Mid-Winter Concert, or Spring Concert).
2. Ineligible students are NOT suspended from participation in band during the period in which school is recessed for the summer or any other vacation time during the school year.

Students may regain eligibility under certain circumstances. If a student has been suspended as a result of failing, he/she may regain eligibility by passing ALL courses in the third week of the affected grading period. Reinstatement of eligibility would occur seven days after the three week progress report period (see TEA/UII Side by Side). Eligibility is solely based on the Midland ISD computer-generated "failure lists" and "progress reports".

## **TRAVEL EXPECTATIONS**

The Mighty Rebel Band will frequently travel on either school buses or commercial buses. Student conduct is expected to be at the highest level on any trip. Students must travel to events and return from events on the bus. Students must have all necessary forms (Medical/Travel Release) completed and on file with the band office to travel on any trip with the band. While on the bus students will:

- Remain seated
- Sit properly in a forward position
- Keep the bus clear of food, drinks, and debris (At times it may be necessary to eat on the bus. Every effort should be made to keep your area clean.)
- Keep all body parts inside the bus
- Use only approved type/headset radios (no amplified devices)
- Remain silent when addressed by person in charge on the bus
- Refrain from loud, boisterous talking, singing, screaming, whistling, inappropriate jokes, etc
- No public displays of affection
- Remain silent from the time they step onto the bus until otherwise instructed

Students are reminded that all performances start and conclude at the band hall. As a member of the band, you are a representative of your school. Always be on your best behavior. If you are in doubt about an action, do not do it! Your conduct at all times should be considered a good reflection on our school, our band, your home, yourself and the community. Adult chaperones are a great asset for the band program. Students will treat them as an extension of the band staff. Proper respect will be shown to all adults always.

## **TRIP CHANGE FORM**

Any student wishing to leave with his/her parents or guardians must submit a completed Midland ISD Trip Change Form with parent signature, prior to the event. Trip change forms require the signature of a principal. Permission will be granted or denied based on the circumstances of the occasion. Students are always expected to travel with the band to and from events when the band is traveling as a group.

## **REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS**

The success of our band depends on how it rehearses. How it rehearses depends on the conduct and cooperation of the student. Rehearsals are the place to correct mistakes. The fewer the mistakes and the fewer individual distractions, the greater your contribution is to the band. Be patient, attentive, careful, and cooperative in observing these rehearsal expectations. When the directors have to discipline and control

rather than direct, the rehearsal and eventually the bands are headed for failure. Good behavior, attitude, and self-discipline are essential to producing a great band. If you are successful, the band is successful.

1. Extra rehearsals are called for all competitive bands (honor, symphonic, & freshman) before major performances. It is the directors' wish to keep these rehearsals to a minimum. Refer to your calendar for these rehearsals & be alert to rehearsals announced in class, email, and related social media. Keeping a calendar and checking your email is a must!
2. Each band member is required to attend his or her respective section rehearsal which may meet one to two times a week before/after school or another agreed-upon time. This schedule varies depending on the particular contest or concert.
3. Summer Band Camp is a requirement for all band members and usually begins the last week in July and continues up through the start of school. Approximately 60% of the entire year's marching rehearsal will take place during the summer band camp. Any student that misses all or a majority of summer band rehearsals will result in one or more of the following consequences:
  - a. loss of marching spot, loss of participation in the Mighty Rebel Marching Band, and/or dismissal from the program. Summer band is just as much a part of being a member of the band as two-a-days is a part of being a member of the Rebel football team. Summer band is an absolute requirement of all band members and any students that have a conflict with part or all will need to discuss those with Mr. Dojahn.
4. The Mighty Rebel Marching Band will meet between 4-8 hours of outside the school day rehearsals per week. The schedule will be announced during summer band camp. Adjustments to the weekly schedule will happen and communication about these adjustments will be made in advance and placed on the band calendar as well as related social media.
5. Spring Semester competitive ensembles (including Honor Band, Symphonic Band, and Freshman Band) will meet for a weekly rehearsal during contest season. (Contest season begins in January - see calendar and reserve these evenings).
6. Spring Semester competitive ensembles will have a weekly sectional schedule that will be set at the beginning of the contest season.
7. All rehearsals and concerts are required unless excused in advance by the director.
8. Additional Expectations:
  - a. Be on time to all rehearsals, sectionals, and performances. Cell phones silenced/put away, instruments in hand, pencils sharpened, music in hand, in your place by the time the bell rings or the time the rehearsal is to begin. \*\*\*\*LHS and LFHS tardy policy is enforced. \*\*\*\*
  - b. Always have your music, instrument, and required materials.
  - c. All students must be in Midland ISD Dress Code attire for every rehearsal (unless approved by the director).
  - d. Please take care of restroom breaks before the rehearsal begins (notify the teacher of health concerns related to frequent bathroom breaks).
  - e. No gum, food, or drinks other than water!
  - f. Be conscious of good posture at all times.
  - g. Keep your eyes on the conductor during rehearsal.
  - h. Listen to the conductor at all times. Talking while the conductor is rehearsing or giving instructions is never appropriate.
  - i. The use of cell phones is not allowed at rehearsals or concerts.
  - j. Take a mature attitude toward correction. Don't be a "know it all".
  - k. Rehearsals are not over until the director dismisses the band. Don't begin to put your music away until instructed to do so.
  - l. Stay involved in the rehearsal from start to finish. Rehearsals are not for personal grooming, catching up on the latest gossip, or doing homework.
  - m. Approach rehearsals as well as performances with optimism, enthusiasm, determination, and your whole-hearted attention.

- n. The success of the band is your individual responsibility.
- o. Before asking a question-- ALWAYS refer to your handbook.

## GRADING POLICY

Band is a co-curricular, performance-based class. Students earn grades by performing in rehearsals as well as concerts. Concerts and rehearsals cannot be “made up” because it is impossible to recreate that exact event with all students. Students will need access to their Midland ISD school email address because we will be utilizing our Google Classroom to turn in assignments. Students will video-tape and/or audio-tape themselves performing each assignment at home or at school for teaching and evaluating purposes. Students will be assigned grades into two different categories, 60% for major grades and 40% for minor grades. Students will earn grades in the following areas.

1. Playing Grades/Pass Offs
2. Attendance at Football Games, Contest/Festivals, Concerts, Rehearsals, & Sectionals.

## SCHEDULE CHANGE POLICY

Membership in the band is not only an honor but carries with it a responsibility to the entire Band. As a member of the band, the student makes a commitment to participate in all activities throughout the year. As the bands are auditioned and carefully balanced according to specific instrumentation, a student who does not complete the year affects the entire band. Therefore, if a student chooses not to fulfill his or her obligation and commitment, the following procedure will be observed in this order before any changes in schedule:

1. Required student/parent conference with Mr. Dojahn (LHS) OR Mrs. Marin (LFHS).
2. Required student/director/counselor conference.
3. School owned instruments & uniforms turned in.
4. Band fee and fundraising obligations cleared following the rules as stated on the Mighty Rebel Band Assessment Refund Policy.
5. Drop slip signed or emailed by Mr. Dojahn (LHS) or Mrs. Marin (LFHS).
6. Schedule change initiated.

## MARCHING BAND

1. All "academically eligible" band students (Freshmen & Senior High) participate in the Mighty Rebel Marching Band.
2. Students are required to attend all rehearsals including summer band camp, after school marching rehearsals, and any other scheduled rehearsals.
3. Any student that has an unexcused absence during the week will not be allowed to participate in the following football game. Any student that has a second unexcused absence during the course of the marching season, may not be allowed to participate for the rest of the season.
4. All marching band members are required to provide their own black DSI Crossover Marching Shoes, flip folder, lyre for their instrument, and mouthpiece. Students must have all of this equipment by the first day of school in order to participate in football games and other performances.
5. All marching band members are required to attend all football game performances (this includes any playoff games). Any unexcused absences may result in removal from the marching band. All football game performances are listed on the band calendar.

6. Events listed on the band calendar as “Contest” or “Concert” are considered major grades. Any unexcused absences from any of these performances will be grounds for dismissal from the band program.

## NUTRITION

It is important for all students to eat healthy and well-balanced meals every day. During summer band camp, students need to eat a healthy breakfast every morning and a healthy lunch every afternoon. We do not recommend fried foods, salty snacks, soft drinks, or sweets. Drink plenty of water. As the new school year begins, students should continue their healthy diet throughout the day. Continue to eat a healthy breakfast every morning. Eat a healthy lunch. Stay away from greasy foods such as pizza, chips, and candy during the school day. Lunch from the vending machines is not appropriate. Students should continue to drink plenty of water throughout the day to stay well-hydrated for afternoon rehearsals. Eating healthy meals and drinking plenty of water is essential so students can remain in good health.

## PRIMARY MARCHER

Students who earn a playing and marching position in the marching band will carry the designation of primary marcher. This position is placed upon the best players and marchers in the marching band. There are only a limited amount of primary marching spots available in each instrument section. A primary marcher is a student who:

1. Successfully completes summer band camp and any auditions, chair tests, etc. as required
2. Demonstrates high quality marching skills as determined by the directors
3. Demonstrates ability to memorize music and perform it at a high level as determined by the directors
4. Is punctual in report times
5. Is present at rehearsals and performances
6. Maintains academic eligibility
7. Represents the school, school district, band program and themselves with the highest possible decorum and behavioral standards
8. Follows all rules for the band program and all procedures for rehearsals

## PROP MARCHER

Students who are not as strong at playing and marching in the marching band have the opportunity to still contribute to the overall design and presentation of the marching production. These students will carry the distinction of prop marcher. On a rare occasion, prop marchers may have a different rehearsal schedule than primary marchers. This will be communicated through the band's Remind messages, email and social media sites. Prop marchers have the option to move into a primary spot by contacting a director. The director will work one on one with the student and observe his/her marching and playing technique. If the student has improved and is ready to become a primary marcher, the director will assign them to be a shadow marcher following a current primary marcher. A prop marcher is a student who:

1. Successfully completes summer band camp and any auditions, chair tests, etc. as required
2. Is punctual in report times
3. Is present at rehearsals and performances
4. Maintains academic eligibility
5. Represents the school, school district, band program and themselves with the highest possible decorum and behavioral standards
6. Follows all rules for the band program and all procedures for rehearsals

## ALTERNATE MARCHER

The band directors will keep the number of alternate marchers to a minimum; however, they are a necessary and vital aspect of our program due to the UIL “No Pass/No Play” rules and to prepare for possible substitutions due to injury, sustained illness, etc. Alternate marchers will meet the same attendance, rehearsal, memorization, academic, and performance requirements of primary and prop marchers. Specific drill may be written and music may be edited for those students who are not yet able to achieve the physical and musical demands required of varsity marchers. This will help improve their individual skill level and will prepare them for future performance opportunities. As a band staff, we are committed to providing performance opportunities for all students. However, the level of performance participation may be limited by eligibility and individual performance ability. There are many ingredients that are vital to a successful marching program and no one part is more valuable than any other.

## FOOTBALL PLAY-OFF GAMES

The Lee High School Football Team is an incredible organization with many appearances in the 6A playoffs. Playoff games are an exciting part of the fall semester because we get the opportunity to travel outside of our football district to places such as El Paso and Dallas/Fort Worth. These games are very exciting and it is very important that we have as many students as possible attend. Playoff game dates and times are decided one week before the game takes place. If a student has had an out of town vacation planned with their family on a scheduled playoff game day, the student will be excused from the game. Please complete the absence request online form to submit this absence. If the student is at home and no vacation was planned, they are expected to attend the game.

## JAZZ BAND

Students must be a part of the Mighty Rebel Band if they are wanting to participate in Jazz Band. At this time, the Rebel Jazz Band will only be offered to Senior High students. Only traditional jazz instruments are allowed into the ensemble unless there is a shortage of an instrument. If you are wanting to join the Jazz Band and do not play a traditional jazz instrument contact Mr. Gonzales and he will try his best to get you involved.

Instrumentation- Winds: Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Bari Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone  
Rhythm Section: Guitar, Bass Guitar, piano, drum set

Jazz Band will be a class during the school day this year and attendance is important. If you do not show up to class you will not be a part of any gigs or performances and your grade will reflect that.

Attire for concerts/ performances-

Men: Concert Black with a maroon Tie

Ladies: Concert Black with choice of adding a maroon accent accessory (scarfs, sweaters, ribbon etc.)

## SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA WINDS/PERCUSSION

Lee High School has a very strong Symphony Orchestra program that performs throughout the school year calendar. Wind and percussion members of the Full Symphony Orchestra are decided on by the Lee High School Director of Bands and the Lee High School Orchestra Director. Students must be members of the

Mighty Rebel Band during the fall and spring semesters in order to be considered for membership in the Symphony Orchestra. If a student is chosen as a member of the Symphony Orchestra but then does not fulfill their full-year membership in the Mighty Rebel Band, the student will be removed from the Symphony Orchestra.

## **REGION BAND AUDITIONS**

1. All Members of the Mighty Rebel Band are required to prepare and participate in the TMEA Texas All-State Audition process. This process includes advancement through the following auditions: Lee HS Auditions (takes place the week of November 18-22 at LHS), Phase 1 (9th-12th grade) Region Band Auditions (Monday, December 9), Phase 2 (9th-12th grade) Auditions (Saturday, December 14), 9th grade only Region Band Auditions (Saturday, December 14), and Area (9th-12th grade) Auditions (Saturday, January 11).
2. At any time through this process, the director reserves the right to remove a student from the audition process based on a lack of preparation or academic eligibility.
3. If a student advances to the next level, he/she is expected to attend the next level of competition.
4. If a student makes the Region Band, he/she is required to attend the Clinic/Concert. Any unexcused absences from these rehearsals or performances will be grounds for dismissal from the band program.
5. Attire is concert black (see rules for attire).
6. Please note that the spring semester concert band auditions are based on the LHS Auditions. This is for placement into the Honor Band, Symphonic Band, or Concert Band.
7. Please note that being selected to the (9th-12th grade) All-Region Band or the Freshman Only All-Region Band is an honor and comes with the responsibility of attending the corresponding clinic & concert. This will be considered a major performance. Any student that makes the Region Band and has an unexcused absence for the clinic/concert will be removed from a competitive ensemble and/or be dismissed from the program.

## **HOLIDAY CONCERT**

1. ALL band students from the competitive ensembles will participate.
2. Eligibility rules do not apply.
3. Attire is concert black (see rules for attire).
4. Admission is free.
5. Please note that the directors may remove from the performance any students that have missed rehearsals or who have been behavior problems leading up to this performance.

## **MID-WINTER CONCERT**

1. ALL band students from the competitive ensembles will participate.
2. Eligibility rules do not apply.
3. Attire is concert black (see rules for attire).
4. Admission is free.
5. Please note that the directors may remove from the performance any students that have missed rehearsals or who have been behavior problems leading up to this performance.

## **SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CONTEST**

All students will participate in solo and ensemble contest during the spring semester. Directors will help students choose appropriate music. The best performing students at this contest will be selected to advance to the next round called the concerto and chamber competition. This formal event will be held on one evening at a location to be determined. Students will each perform for an audience while judges will be assessing their performances. Awards will be announced at the end of the evening.

## **PRE-UIL CONCERT**

1. All concert bands will perform at a Pre-UIL Concert one to two weeks prior to the UIL Contest.
2. All "academically eligible" students are required to participate and perform in the annual Pre UIL Concert in preparation for the UIL Concert & Sight-Reading Contest.
3. Attire is concert black (see rules for attire).
4. Admission is free.
5. Please note that the directors may remove from the performance any students that have missed rehearsals or who have been behavior problems leading up to this performance. Any students that don't participate in the Pre-UIL concert may be removed for the UIL performance (please note that this may affect Lettering and Spring Trip participation).

## **UIL CONCERT AND SIGHT-READING EVALUATION**

1. All "academically eligible" students participating from competitive ensembles are required to perform at UIL Concert & Sight-Reading Evaluation.
2. Attire is concert black (see rules for attire).
3. UIL Concert & Sight-Reading Evaluation is a major performance. Any unexcused absences from any of this performance will be grounds for dismissal from the band program.

## **SPRING CONCERT**

1. All band students from the competitive ensembles will participate.
2. Eligibility rules do not apply.
3. Attire is "Sunday best".
4. Admission is free.
5. Please note that the directors may remove from the performance any students that have missed rehearsals or who have been behavior problems leading up to this performance.

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM**

The Midland Lee High School Band has many opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills. Students can audition and/or apply for both selected officer positions and elected officer positions. In this manner, students can not only serve their band program but also refine skills that they will be able to use in other school organizations, as well as in their future careers. Audition criteria is selected at the discretion of the directors and is communicated to the students. The directors evaluate all selected leadership candidates based on their performance both during the audition and during their performance during the current school year. Student leaders are held to higher standards of performance and behavior than a

general band student. They are expected to be positive role models for all band members at all times. The role of the leaders may be changed whenever the band directors assess new needs, expectations and requirements. Students who have issues with conduct, eligibility, attendance, or violate any expectations may be removed from a leadership position either temporarily or permanently. The band directors may also remove any student from a leadership position at any time.

## **SPRING TRIP**

Members of the Mighty Rebel Band will have the opportunity to participate in a Spring Trip. The Spring Trip is not required of any students, but has some stipulations:

1. Students must be a member in good standing. This includes participation in all of the rehearsals and performances listed above. Any unexcused absence from the previously mentioned rehearsals/performances could be grounds for removal of the spring trip without reimbursement.
2. The student's trip must be paid in full.
3. Any and all band fees/assessments must be paid in full.
4. Students must be academically eligible.

Any students that fail to meet these requirements will be unable to participate in the Spring Trip and may forfeit all or a portion of their Spring Trip payment as outlined in the Spring Trip Contract.

## **BAND BANQUET**

A band banquet is held each spring near the end of the school year. This special evening brings the band together one last time to review the year and to wish the seniors a fond farewell. Tickets are sold to cover the cost of the dinner, decorations, DJ, etc. To buy a ticket a student must not have any past due fees or fundraisers.

## **CONCERT ATTIRE**

The Lee HS Band has two different concert attires:

1. Concert Black – This requires that everything being worn by the performer is solid black dress clothes. That includes black closed-toe dress shoes, long black socks, black dress shirt, black belt, black slacks or skirt at least knee-length, or a black dress at least knee-length. Denim is not allowed.
2. "Sunday Best" – This requires your best dress clothes. Coat and tie for the gentlemen and dress at least knee-length or pants suit for the ladies. Denim is not allowed.

## **LETTER JACKET POLICY**

A student must complete the following in one school year to qualify for a letter jacket from the Lee High School Mighty Rebel Band. If a student earns a letter jacket in band and another organization, the student must decide which group he or she will receive the jacket from. Students are only allowed to earn one letter jacket while they are at Lee High School. Once a student receives a jacket, subsequent awards will be given in the form of letters. Seniors in good standing and qualifying members in good standing will be fitted for a letter jacket in November. Students must be currently enrolled in the band to receive their award.

All Brass, Woodwind, Percussion, and Colorguard members must complete the following in one school year in order to receive a letter jacket:

1. Student must have no unexcused absences from rehearsals, sectionals, or performances.
2. Student must be a member in "good standing".

Additionally, Brass, Woodwind, and Percussion members must complete the following in one school year in order to receive a letter jacket:

1. Student must perform in the fall with the marching band at all contests and performances.
2. Student must be selected and participate in a TMEA All-Region Band Clinic and Concert.
3. Student must earn a Division One award at Solo & Ensemble Contest.
4. Student must perform in the spring with a concert band at UIL contest and all performances.

Additionally, Colorguard members must complete the following in one school year in order to receive a letter jacket:

1. Student must perform in the fall with the marching band at all contests and performances.
2. Student must perform in the spring with the winter guard at all contests and performances.
3. Student must earn a Division One award at a sanctioned winter guard solo contest event.

## **BAND BOOSTER CLUB**

The Mighty Rebel Band Booster Club exists to assist the band directors in reaching the band program goals. The booster club usually meets on the first Tuesday of every month. The meetings are open to the public and begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Midland Lee Senior High Band Hall. Support activities provided by the booster club include serving meals to students before games, providing chaperones for trips, providing chaperones for social events, financing of social events, providing parents to assist in various aspects of the marching band production, and numerous other activities. There is a place for every parent in this organization. Your service is not only encouraged, but also needed. For more information, please visit our website.

## **PRIVATE LESSONS**

The single most important factor in the development of a truly outstanding band program is the development of the individual players. Private lessons are the most valuable tool we can offer our students to aid in their progression through the program. All students are strongly encouraged to take private lessons. There are many opportunities in the area for student musicians to study privately with professional teachers. We prefer that students study with director approved teachers on their instrument and avoid lessons at music stores, churches, etc. where less qualified individuals may be teaching lessons on several instruments simply for financial gain. There will be at least one private teacher on each instrument who will be available to teach as many students as possible either during the school day or outside of school hours. Lessons are \$20 per 30 minute lesson, once a week. Information on how to enroll will be distributed during the first week of classes. A limited number of scholarships are available for those in need. Please talk to your band director to obtain the appropriate forms.