



***McBee High School  
Band & Chorus***

***Student Handbook***

***2019 - 2020***

# Ten Core Beliefs

## 1) Music is our passion; excellence is our habit.

As we repeat an activity over and over, it starts to become a habit. Almost anything can become a habit. One of the greatest gifts in life is the ability to choose what habits we develop. While many choose to develop poor habits, our choice must always be to choose excellence. Excellence in our art, excellence in our relationships, excellence in all we do.

*"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then is not an act but a habit." - Aristotle*

## 2) Time is limited; use it well.

Time is the one commodity we cannot bank. We can't save it...we either spend it or lose it. It is the one factor that "evens the game board of life." We all have 24 hours a day.

Our goal is to spend our time devoted to our art, our mission, our passion, family, and our contribution to this world so that our lives make a positive difference.

*"Success has nothing to do with what you gain in life; it's measured by what you do for others."—Danny Thomas*

## 3) Accept "what is".

Being frustrated or upset by "what is" demonstrates our unwillingness to accept what life brings our way. "Happiness is not getting what we want; happiness is wanting what we get."

It's always interesting when people say, "That shouldn't have happened!" Well, in truth, it must have "should have happened" because it did happen. Rather than waste time, effort, and energy being at odds with this realization, it would be more advantageous to accept "what is" and move forward accordingly.

*"The pessimist sees the challenge in every opportunity; the optimist sees the opportunity in every challenge." —Winston Churchill*

## 4) Attitude is everything.

At every moment, we are either appreciating or deprecating our environment; there is no neutral stance. Knowing this, we always have the opportunity to make things better, contribute more, share with others, advance the cause by presenting a positive attitude to all within our reach. We can always upgrade our attitude and see every situation in a more worthy light.

*"When we change the way we look at things, the things we look at change." —Wayne Dyer*

## 5) Be proactive, not reactive.

If we take the time to "choose to understand before being understood", we could gain so much. Master teachers have the talent to "get behind the eyes of others." Before jumping to conclusions, they always look for the answer that will bring consensus and calm to the environment. While it is certainly not 100% true, proactive tends to be POSITIVE and reactive tends to be NEGATIVE.

*"The proactive approach to a mistake is to acknowledge it instantly, correct and learn from it."—Stephen Covey*

## 6) Explore every opportunity.

Instead of always "playing it safe," choosing the pathway of least resistance, avoiding the opportunity to break through self-doubt, we know that the best learning, growing, becoming is always the result of pushing oneself beyond the known comfort zone— embracing new challenges, not being held back by fear, but tapping into the endless imagination of taking action by asking, "What if?"

*"The garden of the world has no limits, except in your mind." —Rumi*

## 7) Improvement is constant and ongoing.

Instead of being satisfied with "how it's always been," there is the opportunity to improve on "even the best." If we settle for less than excellence, we will get less than we are willing to settle for in the first place. The quest for improvement is a learned habit: The way we do anything is the way we do everything; the key is to improve ALL THINGS.

*"Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence." —Vince Lombardi*

## 8) Give more; take less.

The ultimate self-gift is to give to others. After we attain all those benchmarks we have worked diligently to achieve, we come to the realization that the true value was in the journey, not the destination.

*"The things you do for yourself are gone when you are gone, but the things you do for others remain as your legacy." —Kalu Kalu*

## 9) Always do more than is required.

Meeting the standards is a worthy accomplishment. Setting the standards is the mark of a master. We are part of the most valued natural resource on the planet: HUMAN POTENTIAL. For those who make the most of life, "good enough" is never good enough. We must be inspired to be all we can be—and more.

*"Doing what's expected of you can make you good, but it's the time you spend going above and beyond what is required that makes you great!" —Josh S. Hinds*

## 10) Be there.

Band is more than just a group or team. The relationship transcends traditional social and professional organizations and operates more as a family with each member doing his or her part for the betterment of the group. Every individual who becomes a part of this family is important and enhances the experience of all.

*"If our net product – our performance – were arrived at by individual competition, victory or defeat, then each of us would not be so important. But if our product is arrived at by common effort, understanding, and devotion, then all of us are diminished by the absence or weakness of each of us." - Robert Shaw*

Students and Parents:

WELCOME to one of the most exciting experiences of which you can become a part – THE BAND! Now, more than ever, we have information to justify why we do these demanding, yet rewarding, activities. Experts have concluded that the study of music helps with spatial reasoning, test taking and overall quality of life! Factor in social skills, emotional development, leadership training, group interaction, aesthetic perception, music making, and the discipline of being in a successful music program, I don't know why anyone would not want to be in a successful music program like the one we've built at McBee High School! The ultimate goal is a lifelong understanding and appreciation for quality music and music making!

EVERYONE SHOULD READ THE INFORMATION IN THE HANDBOOK, even veterans. Some of the information has changed, so make sure you're informed. For new folks, this is the "band and chorus bible" that keeps us running smoothly and efficiently. Most questions can be answered by consulting THE HANDBOOK and policies will be adjusted from year to year as the need arises to clarify issues within the program. It is my hope that the information contained in the handbook will be both information and inspiration! The advocacy article, "How Parents Can Help," is designed to give guidance to parents; read them carefully and with insight! Students need to know that we think that what they do is important. You will quickly find that the music program is truly a FAMILY in and of itself!

The MHS music program has seen great strides over the last decade. We support many full ensembles which are competitive at all levels across the state. The music program at McBee is one of the most successful in South Carolina winning many awards and championships. The amount of work we put into our program as a community is *crucial* to reaching these continued goals.

This handbook is designed to answer any question you might have concerning the program. Please read all of the information and sign the forms. I am honored to be your band and chorus director and am looking forward to a great year!!

Musically yours,



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***"If Better Is Possible, Then Good Is Not Enough!"***

# **Student Handbook**

**2019 - 2020**

## **A Statement of Policy**

In order to assist band and chorus members and parents in understanding areas of responsibility, a statement of policy is herein set forth. Becoming familiar with this policy will enable each individual to make the most of the great opportunity to be a member of the McBee High School music program, becoming a better person and a better musician.

We firmly believe that the student should improve through regular practice. In the McBee High School music program we feel that when the student has lost the will to improve him/herself or make a better contribution to the program, he/she is wasting the time and efforts of his/her fellow members and the community by continuing in the program. The HAPPIEST student is the one who is improving through regular habits of practice and daily progress. She/he must not only know right from wrong, but must be able to stand for principles. She/he must develop a high sense of purpose toward which she/he is willing to work. RESPONSIBILITY is the focus behind any level of achievement within this program. We intend to conduct ourselves in a manner that will facilitate all students in learning and bettering themselves.

Finally, it is required by SCBDA (The South Carolina Band Directors Association) and McBee High School that all students wishing to become part of any instrumental performing ensemble be enrolled in a band class, for credit.

## **Objectives of the Music Program**

- To teach music through its actual performance
- To develop performance skills of the various wind and percussion instruments as well as voice
- To provide for the musical needs of the school and community
- To develop discrimination with the regards to the selection of music
- To acquaint the students with Music Theory / History and how history and musical composition relate to students' current life and social experience
- To develop the ability to function as a responsible member of a group, enhance interaction, and develop Esprit de Corps
- To foster learning skills within each student

***You'll never achieve 100% if 99% is good enough.***

***- Will Smith***

## *Did You Know . . .*

*... over 80% of today's musicians developed their musical skills while attending school. Clearly, choosing to add music to a child's daily curriculum is greatly influenced by parents. In the beginning stages of music study, the parents play a pivotal role in encouraging their child to explore the various avenues of music making.*

- Tim Lautzenheiser, Band Expert

### **General Calendar Of Events**

July:	New Marching Member Camp Band Camp	January:	Region Auditions All-State Auditions
August:	School Begins Football Season	February:	SCMEA Convention Region/USC
September:	Football Season	March:	All-State Band Concert Festival
October:	Football Season	April:	Auditions Spring Break Possible Chamber Concert Solo & Ensemble Festival
November:	Concert Season All-County Band	May:	Spring Concert; Band Banquet
December:	Winter Concert District Band Auditions	June:	Graduation

*"Music Makes the Difference!"*

## Music Curriculum in Brief

### Beginning Band

Arguably the one of the most important parts of any band program. The Beginning Band serves as the first step to the McBee High School Band. Beginning Band is open to 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. Musical fundamentals such as producing a great sound, music literacy, and excellent playing habits (proper breathing and good posture) are stressed in this course.

### Intermediate Band

Intermediate Band is open to all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students with at least one year playing experience. Musical fundamentals are continued to be stressed while time is set aside for more challenging music. Students may audition for region band and the Junior Honor Band.

### Wind Ensemble

Open by audition to all 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade band members, the Wind Ensemble is the primary concert performing ensemble. Students are exposed to more challenging music and prepared for performance at the SCMEA concert festival.

### Advanced Band (Band I, II, III, or IV & Concert Band I, II, III, & IV)

Advance band is open to all students in grade 9 – 12. This ensemble is the main focus out of which all other ensembles are formed (i.e.: Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble.) **To be a part of any other ensemble, students must enroll in concert band every year.**

### The Spirit of McBee High School Marching Band

Membership in the marching band requires strenuous physical exercise and the ability to play the difficult literature encountered in the activity. All 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders are required to be in marching band. Membership is open to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders by audition only.

### Pep Band

The Pep Band performs at football games and other school activities to assist in establishing school spirit.

### Jazz Ensemble

Students may elect to audition for jazz ensemble. The jazz ensemble plays for community events and performs throughout the spring. Jazz ensemble is held in the spring semester only.

### Chamber Ensembles

During the fall and spring, chamber ensembles will be formed. ALL band members will be encouraged to perform in a chamber ensemble. Possible groups would be Woodwind Quintet, Brass Quintet, Saxophone Quartet, Horn Ensemble, Trombone Quartet, Low Brass Ensemble, Flute Choir, Clarinet Choir, Percussion Ensemble as well as additional small groups. Pending sufficient instrumentation, a chamber concert may be scheduled in the spring and students will have the opportunity to perform for adjudication at Solo and Ensemble festival.

### Color Guard & Winter Guard (Class for 9-12 – Color Guard I, II, III, IV)

This non-musical section of the band is open to all students from 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade through an audition process that takes place later in the Spring. During the Fall, the Color Guard performs alongside the Spirit of McBee Marching Band, providing the visual elements of the show through flag, rifle, and movement. Heavy emphasis is placed on increasing member performance ability and confidence. During the late Fall and throughout the Winter semester, the Spirit of McBee Winter Guard performs independently in a basketball arena setting to pre-recorded music. This program puts high emphasis on movement and stylistic abilities as well as developing each member individually as a performer.

### Percussion Ensemble

Students learn the basic fundamentals on all the percussion instruments and will explore many styles and genres.

### Leadership Workshop

The leadership workshop prepares students to become effective leaders within the band program and beyond. Students who wish to become student leaders (drum major, captains, etc.) must attend the leadership workshop.

### Summer Instruction

There are many nationally known summer institutes for instrumental instruction. Some of the best are Brevard Music Center, Sewanne, Interlochen Arts Camp, Aspen Summer Music Program, Kinhaven, Keystone Brass Institute, Tanglewood, and Masterworks. There are also regional summer music camps at several local universities.

### Private Lessons

As one might expect, private lessons on a musical instrument or voice are the best way to improve performance skills. The one-on-one approach allows the student to benefit from the individual attention as opposed to a teacher monitoring a class of over fifty. A recent survey of students in the All-State Band revealed that approximately 80% of the students in the band studied privately. Students are generally more inclined to practice diligently for a weekly music assignment and this discipline increases the student's enjoyment with their instrument. The McBee High School Band & Chorus Director will be more than happy to assist you in the selection of a private teacher.

### All-State, Region, Eastern District, and All-County Band

Members of the band program are eligible to audition for the South Carolina All-State and Region Bands. Region auditions are held in January with "finals" auditions two weeks later. The Region Band clinic is held at Cane Bay High School and the All-State clinic at Furman University.

### Chorus I, II, III, IV

The essential purpose of these classes is to develop musical knowledge and skills to learn and perform a variety of musical repertoires. Students will be required to participate in all concerts, performances, clinics, and competitions in which the chorus participates.

### Concert Chorus

The essential purpose of these classes is to develop musical knowledge and skills to learn and perform a variety of musical repertoires. Students will be required to participate in all concerts, performances, clinics, and competitions in which the chorus participates. Entrance is by audition and rehearsal is after-school. This group focuses on intermediate vocal music skills and will present on the winter and spring concerts.

### Music Theory

This course will provide an understanding of the music we study today. The class will provide students with a comprehensive and practical set of tools for a full understanding of music. This includes reading, writing, analyzing and playing/singing music. The students will understand how to read music in multiple clefs, understand how music is composed, and be able to analyze the rhythms, melodies and harmonies in both the book as well as in their own compositions.

## Discipline

It is the policy of the McBee High School music program to celebrate positive, constructive behavior. However, derogatory behavior that detracts from learning and the programs tradition of excellence WILL NOT be tolerated. Band and Chorus members are generally thought of as some of the best students at school; leaders. They are therefore expected to maintain a high level of self-discipline at all times – in the band room, on the field, in class, and at times when not at school.

Major discipline problems from a single student represent poorly on the entire program and will be resolved as needed.

### Example of Non-tolerate behavior

Excessive Talking in rehearsal

Tardiness to rehearsal

Unexcused missed rehearsal

Missing Materials/No Instrument

Conduct unbecoming of a band member

Missed Performance

### The Importance of Discipline

Because of the nature of this organization, band discipline must be strict! Band students and parents must believe in the ideals, principles, and philosophy of the organization. Each member must always be aware of good behavior and think for him/herself. Any misconduct casts a bad light on the school, community, and the band program. Unfortunately, certain situations arise where a student's unwise decision warrants a referral. Those situations will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Excessive misconduct is unacceptable and any individual who continually casts discredit to the organization by his/her actions in band, another class, or on a trip, shall be subject to dismissal from the band program or may lose a privilege within the program. This decision will be at the director's discretion. The Chesterfield County School District Student Code of Conduct shall apply at ALL band functions.

### The Band Commandments

1. Game balls are not allowed to be played with in the band room.
2. **NO FOOD OR DRINK (EXCEPT WATER) IS ALLOWED DURING REHEARSAL.**
3. CHEWING GUM IS NOT PERMITTED DURING REHEARSAL.
4. TENNIS SHOES AND SOCKS MUST BE WORN AT ALL MARCHING REHEARSALS.
5. A BAND MEMBER MUST RESPECT HIS/HER UNIFORM AND INSTRUMENT AT ALL TIMES.
6. **CELL PHONES ARE NOT TO BE USED DURING ANY REHEARSAL.**
7. THERE WILL BE NO 'INITIATIONS' OF ANY KIND.
8. BE IN YOUR SEAT, WARMED UP, AND READY TO BEGIN ON TIME.
9. RESPECT OTHER PEOPLE'S PROPERTY.
10. A BAND MEMBER MUST SHOW RESPECT TO ALL ADULTS AT ALL TIMES.



## Attendance Policy

THE ONLY EXCUSABLE ABSENCES ARE PRE-ARRANGED\* SCHOOL CONFLICTS AND THOSE THAT WOULD BE EXCUSED BY THE SCHOOL FOR ATTENDANCE RECORDS, I.E. ILLNESS, DEATH IN THE FAMILY, RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY.

\* Individual needs will be addressed as they occur. This system is subject to modification by the director.

Barring extreme circumstance, student will be removed from the program upon missing a performance!

For ALL absences, the following procedure must be followed by the student and parent:

- If possible, the director must be notified in advance.
- For illness, a parent note or doctor's excuse must be submitted.

## Conflicts with Band & Chorus

Please understand that conflicts with band and chorus should be kept to a minimum. Haircuts, dentist appointments, and doctor's visits can be scheduled around musical activities. Work is not an excuse for missing any activity.

## Grading Policy

Grades are assigned for the band and chorus class and performances, which are co-curricular.

Class Participation:	25%	Students must have their instruments every day, a pencil at every rehearsal, and show maximum effort to earn the best grade.
Performances:	35%	
Classwork:	15%	
Test:	25%	

## Required Materials

The following is a list of supplies that students will need for band for the 2018 - 2019 school year. If you already have any of these supplies, it will not be necessary to buy them again. Most of these items can be used through high school and in most instances, on into college. Finally, all students need to label their instrument case/stick bag, music books, and binder with their full name.

- Instrument in good playing condition
- Care Kit for your instrument
- Method Book (Provided as part of the band fee.)
- Wire music stand for home practice
- **A PENCIL** (keep it in your case)
- Metronome and Tuner (Stand alone options can be purchased. However, there are free smartphone/tablet apps and websites that can be used.)

## Practicing

Students are required and expected to practice their instrument at home. We ask that all students practice a total of 60 minutes (1 hour) each week at home. This may be done in 10 minute increments 6 days a week. Please do not attempt to cram all your practice time into 1 or 2 days. The brain retains information and works better when a task is spread over several days and in smaller doses.

## Duties of the Band and Chorus Member

- Be on time to all rehearsals and performances. EARLY IS ON TIME – ON TIME IS LATE.
- Upon entering the rehearsal setting, acquire your instrument and go directly to your seat.
- When the director or staff member steps on the podium or ask for your attention, all talking should cease.
- Come to rehearsal with a GOOD ATTITUDE.
- There is no excess playing (i.e. horsing around on the instrument); only good solid material.
- Make a real effort to improve on a daily basis and establish a good practice routine.
- At the end of rehearsal, put all materials in their proper place.
- Maintain a strong academic standing in all course work.
- Become responsible for and assume responsibility for your own actions. Admit when you are wrong.
- Have a proper respect for yourself and those in authority.
- Read and play music with insight – have musical expectations.

## The Importance of Attitude

The greatest single factor that will determine the success of any individual or organization is **attitude**. The kind of person that you are is an individual choice and how we feel about something, which involves attitude, is one of the few actual independent choices we have in life. It takes intense dedication to reach goals. Students should learn to discipline themselves to daily practice on fundamentals. The “right attitude” must be present along with sincerity, concentration, and dedication as the basic foundation. Such an attitude makes an artistic performance inevitable and is the difference between a winning organization and a mediocre group. The music program can do much for you. Make the most of it in every rehearsal and performance.

*“The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company...a church...a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice everyday regarding the attitude we embrace for that day. We cannot change our past...we cannot change the fact that people act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude... I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you... we are in charge of our ATTITUDES.”*

- Chuck Swindol

## Classroom Procedures

Upon entering the band room, you must acquire your chair, stand, instrument, and accessories. You must be in your seat when the bell rings. A downbeat will be given three minutes after the bell rings and students should be prepared to play. During the three minutes, you must assemble your instrument, set up your playing area, and warm-up. Announcements will be made at the beginning or end of class.

Talking will not be permitted during rehearsal.

The purpose of rehearsal is for you to learn the parts of others and how they relate to yours, not to learn your individual music.

If you must leave your seat for any reason, please ask. Restroom breaks should be taken between classes.

## **Parents' Responsibility to the Program**

It is the responsibility of every parent and guardian to see that the policies outlined in the handbook are followed and that the form in the back is signed and returned. This states that you understand the policies as set within, and that any questions are to be directed to the director. Each parent is responsible for the attendance of his/her child at all music functions. It is the responsibility of each parent to see that their child practices his/her instrument daily. The hands of the director are tied without the help of parents.

## **How Parents Can Help**

When a "band question" arises, it is important that you get factual information before discussing it with others. We do more harm to ourselves, the band & chorus family, when we talk about things that contain one or more "falsehoods" but consider them facts. If questions arise, it is important to remember this axiom: If it is a performance issue or anything dealing with the program proper, contact Mr. Crawley.

- Show an interest in the music study of your child.
- Arrange a regular time for your child to practice.
- Find a quiet place where he/she can practice without interruption.
- Listen to performances of practiced material.
- Help the student keep a daily record of practicing.
- Come up with a reward system for daily practice.
- Keep the instrument in good repair and keep at least three reeds in the case (woodwinds).
- Get a metronome.
- Be extra-careful with school-owned instruments. Repair costs are high!
- Teach your child to be prepared and on time to each rehearsal or lesson.
- Look into private lessons.
- Make faithful attendance at all band and chorus activities important.
- Keep the Handbook in a safe place and refer to it often.
- Notify the teacher if the student is to be absent from rehearsal or lessons.
- Double-check behind the student to make sure that they have their instrument.
- Visit rehearsals occasionally.
- Attend booster meetings, concerts, games, and contest.
- Turn in fundraising money on time.

## **Band and Chorus Booster Organization**

The McBee High School Band and Chorus Booster Organization provides an invaluable service in helping to organize, finance, and transport the band and chorus. All parents are encouraged to attend booster meetings and become involved in the organization. In addition, parents are always encouraged to attend rehearsals, events and competitions. Generally, meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm.

## **Students' Responsibility to the Program**

As members of this organization, you have a great deal of responsibility. It is essential to any program that if certain expectations are to be met that they coordinate with the privileges, rewards, and duties of the music program.

### **To Ourselves**

You have the primary responsibility of developing your own abilities. The benefits of a good instrument and private instruction can never be underestimated. What you put in is what you will get out of it. The director is always available for guidance and encouragement – just ask!

### **To The School**

The Chesterfield County School District provides us with the resources for rehearsals, performances, and equipment. The Band and Chorus Booster Club also provides a support network, both financially and philosophically. WE have the responsibility to provide the best possible services to our community.

### **To Music**

Music has always been a part of our culture. We must take what we have and use it for the betterment of that culture. No one expects virtuoso musicians, only your very best! The great composer Gustav Mahler once said that only 10% of a piece of music is on the page. If that is the case, then we as musicians have the duty of creating and producing the other 90%. The joy of music is not in everything that is apparent. It must be discovered and created.

### **To Each Other**

We must always do what is best for the welfare of the group. There can be no selfish acts solely for the benefit of the individual, but for all. Respect each other. If there are conflicts, find a way to resolve them. Never insult another member's integrity. The word "band" means that we are banded together and that there is no separation.

### **Care of Instruments**

- Handle with care! Your instrument is made of breakable parts, so be careful handling it. Do not let younger siblings handle your instrument.
- Always store your instrument safely in the case when you are not playing it.
- Before you pick up your case, make sure the latches are closed.
- Do not let the instrument get too hot or too cold. For example, avoid leaving it in the car for an extended period on an extremely hot or cold day.
- Do not drink (except water) or eat right before playing your instrument. If you do eat or drink something other than water, brush your teeth before playing. This will keep sugar and other crud from building up in your instrument.
- Flutes and reed instruments:
  - Swab your instrument out after each time you play it.
  - Clarinets should remove their reed after each playing and place it back in the reed case.
- Brass:
  - Check valves and slides each day for proper oiling and greasing (Oil valves once a week).
  - Using a mouthpiece brush, clean the mouthpiece out weekly.

## Financial Obligations

The music program is expensive to operate. While we do receive limited support from the State, sadly these allocations do not begin to provide the funding necessary for the program to operate. The following fee structure is used to aid the department in providing quality serviced to our students.

### All Band & Chorus students in grades 7-12 (except marching band members)

Band Fee        \$35 per year (due August 30, 2019)        Includes method book, folder, and band shirt.

Other items that will be needed:

- Instrument (you can rent these through a music company or purchase independently. Please see the list of approved instruments in this handbook.)
- Formal Attire for Concerts (for 2019/20, we are hoping to provide an inexpensive, standard option for this).
  - Grades 9-12 – Formal dress for ladies, tuxedo for boys.
  - Grades 7-8 – Band Polo shirt; khaki pants or skirt; black, closed toe shoes.

Numerous fundraising activities will be planned throughout the school year to help cover most costs (however, state law does not let us use these funds for the purchase of a personal instrument.)

## **FOR MARCHING BAND MEMBERS ONLY**

### ***What is FairShare?***

The music program requires a large budget to operate each year. Unfortunately, support from the State only covers a small portion of the amount needed to continue operations. To meet the needs of the program, the program must engage in numerous fundraising activities.

In an effort to help share the burden of fundraising, a FairShare system was adopted by the McBee High Music program several years ago. This program has been successful in helping meet the needs of an active program. Being the most expensive portion of the music program, FairShare only applies to Marching Band members. However, marching band members are exempt from the standard \$35 band fee.

### ***How is FairShare administered?***

Charges will post on your child's Charms account on the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month for the duration of the term. Statements will be emailed and set home within one business day of posting. Balances are generally due at the end of the month. While there are no late fees, any balances for Seniors that aren't taken care of by March 29, 2019 will become fees and are required to be turned over to the McBee High School administrative offices.

### ***How much is FairShare for 2019/20?***

The total FairShare will be \$350 for each student in marching band.

### ***How do I take care of my child's FairShare?***

Each student's "Fair Share" obligation can be met any of the following ways:

Fund raising: The preferred method, profits from fundraising activities will be credited towards each student's "fair share". The amount of credit will be different per fundraiser but is usually half of the profits from each event.

Pay outright: As always, everyone has the option to pay their “FairShare” outright.

Please check Charms to monitor or make payments to your child’s band account.

***What is the schedule for FairShare?***

***AS ALWAYS, THE MUSIC PROGRAM WILL WORK WITH YOU ON THIS!***

	Due Date	Payment Due
Drill Deposit	6/13/19	\$50.00
Payment 1	8/30/19	\$150.00
Payment 2	9/30/19	\$150.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$350.00</b>

***What are some examples of fundraising credits?***

For the BBQ fundraiser held in September, students receive about \$3.50 credit per ticket sold.

For the Sandhills Classic held on September 21, any marching band member whose family volunteers that day receives a percentage of the total profits.

Each fundraiser will have a different formula for FairShare credit. That information will be shared with each fundraiser.

***Policy on Fundraising Credits***

Regular fundraisers are those that are set up specifically to fund the operation of the music department.

Students receive 100% of profits from Regular Fundraisers until their band obligations have been fulfilled. After all fees are paid, 12.5% of profits from Regular Fundraisers will be applied to students accounts for future use. Extra credit will roll over from year to year.

Special Fundraisers are those that have a specific purpose. These will most often be used to help students raise money for band trips.

***What if we run in to problems fulfilling our FairShare obligation?***

Financial obligations are to encourage everyone to help keep the music program operational - they are not meant to be prohibitive. If you are having trouble with financial obligations, talk to the band director privately. We will find a way to make it work. If you don't let the department know that there is an issue, a way can't be found to help and unpaid obligations are required to be turned over to the school on March 31, 2020 (Fee Day). No child will ever be denied participation in the music program due to financial obligations. Again, talk to the band director if you need help.

***What if I have questions?***

Feel free to contact the band room if you have any questions.

## Uniforms

At all music functions, all band and chorus members will be in uniform.

### **Marching Band, Summer Uniform**

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Current Black Band T-Shirt	\$15
Red Band Shorts	\$25
Black Socks (ankle length)	approx. \$5 (get on your own)
Tennis Shoes	Get on your own

### **Marching Band, Full Uniform**

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Current Black Band T-Shirt	Same as above
Red Band Shorts	Same as above
Black Band Shoes	\$30
Formal Coat	Provided by Band
Bibbers	Provided by Band
Shako	Provided by Band
Black Socks (crew length or longer)	approx. \$5 (get on your own)

***For Formal Ensembles, the following uniform specification have been adopted for 2018/19.***

***For standardization and financial discount for bulk orders, we will be working with a company to order most of these items.***

### **7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band**

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Black Band Polo Shirt	Provided by Band
Khaki Pants or Skirt	Get on your own
Black Socks	Get on your own
Black (closed toe) Dress Shoes	Get on your own

### **Wind Ensemble & Chorus, Boys**

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Black Slacks  
White Tux Shirt (with studs and cufflinks)  
Black, Single Breasted Dress Coat  
Vest  
Bow-Tie  
Black Socks  
Black Dress Shoes

### **Wind Ensemble, & Chorus, Girls**

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Black dress, ankle length  
Black, closed toe dress shoes

## Supplies

Band supplies can be ordered directly from the music company. For your convenience, an order form will be provided for these items.

Some examples:

Lyre & Flip Folder for Marching Band  
Reeds for Woodwind Instruments

Gloves for Marching Band  
Valve Oil, Slide Cream for Brass Instruments

## Approved Instruments

**Flute** – Jupiter, Yamaha, Armstrong, Artley, Bundy, Gemeinhardt, Accent

**Clarinet** – Jupiter, Yamaha, Bundy, Noblet, Normandy, Selmer, Buffet, Vito, Leblanc, Accent

**Saxophone** – Jupiter, Yamaha, Bundy, Selmer, King, Conn, Accent

**Trumpet** – Jupiter, Yamaha, Bach, Getzen, Conn, King, Eastman, Accent

**Trombone** – Jupiter, Yamaha, Bach, Getzen, King, Eastman, Accent, Olds

**Euphonium** – Jupiter, Yamaha, Eastman

**Tuba** – Jupiter, Yamaha, St. Petersburg, Tuba Exchange

**Percussion Kits** – Jupiter, Yamaha, Pearl, Selmer, Mapex, Ludwig, Accent

Percussion kits must include a bell kit and practice pad or snare drum

Percussionist also need to have:

Snare drum sticks (usually included in the above kits)

Medium-Hard Bell/Xylophone Mallets (usually included in the above kits)

Timpani Mallets (T1 General)

Stick bag

## School-Owned Instrument Policy

Instruments owned by McBee HS are provided to adequately equip the various band programs and to provide the best possible instruments to selected students at minimal cost to them. The **\$50** user fee (not charged for FairShare students) provides only a portion of the cost of yearly chemical cleaning and routine adjustments to instruments that are well cared for. This fee does not provide for repairs due to neglect or carelessness.

Checking out a MHS owned instrument contractually implies a financial responsibility on the part of the student and his/her parents to handle costs incurred beyond what the director feels is normal wear. In order for the band to continue to provide high quality instruments, it is important that this equipment is cared for in a most responsible manner. Failure to do so will result in loss of the equipment not only for that student, but for future MHS students as well.

## Instrument Storage Security

Every effort is made to provide a safe and orderly environment for the storing of instruments and equipment, both privately owned and school owned. Please be advised, however, that belongings kept in the band room and related facilities are there at your own risk. Neither the School nor District has insurance coverage for private possessions stored in our facilities. Even though we do not anticipate problems, we can avoid these if students will lock their cases, and monitor persons entering storage areas, reporting unusual activity to the director.

## Travel on Busses

District policy concerning bus travel will apply on all field trips. While traveling, remain in your seat at all times. The bus driver and chaperones have final authority on bus matters. If necessary, seats will be assigned.

The Band Parents may supply a cooler for extended trips. Electronic items are allowed, but may be brought at the student's own risk. Students using these must remove them when requested to do so in order to receive instructions or information. Neither the District, School, nor Music Program are responsible for lost items.



## **McBee High School Band & Chorus Service Certificate**

Membership in the McBee High School Band requires self-discipline, loyalty, hard work and sacrifice. In order to build a tradition of excellence, every McBee Band member must show personal commitment to the highest standards of conduct and musicianship. Show pride in your band and make the band proud of having you as a member.

A band member should attend all rehearsals and performances, and participate in many musical activities in order to receive a MHS Band & Chorus service certificate.

## **McBee High School Band Student Leadership**

The MHS Band Student Leadership will be made up of certain students selected for special leadership positions. Student Leadership includes position such as Drum Major, Band Captain, Section Leaders, etc.

In order to be considered for Student Leadership, you should start showing you leadership qualities NOW.

An application and interview are required.

## **Scholarships**

There are a wide variety of scholarships available for both music majors and non-music majors on the collegiate level. Many universities grant partial scholarships or a one-time scholarship to students who simply agree to play or sing in an ensemble, and some will waive out-of-state tuition. Information varies at each school. Ask the director and I will do all I can to help you in your future endeavors.

## **Band Agreement Form**

Students and parents are required to fill out and return the Band Agreement form at the beginning of each year upon becoming a member of the McBee High School Band. This form tells us, as Directors, that both the parent and student have read, understood, and agree to the rules, guidelines, etc. outlined in the Band Handbook.

## **Summary**

As is evident by the material in this booklet, we set very high standards for membership in the McBee High School music program. In return for meeting these standards, students and parents become involved with an organization in which they may take a great deal of pride.

## Appendix A –Master Schedule, 2018 - 2019

Date	Time	Event	Location	Who
July 19	9:00 – 1:00	Leadership Camp	Nation Ford HS	Leadership Team
July 22 – 25	5:30 – 9:30p	Guard & Percussion Camp	MHS	Guard & Perc.
July 29 – Aug 9	9am – 9pm	Full Band Camp	MHS	Marching Band
Aug 19		First Day of School	MHS	Everyone
Aug 20	4:00pm	After-school band rehearsal begins	MHS	Marching Band
Aug 23	7:30pm	Away Game @ Andrew Jackson	Kershaw, SC	Marching Band
Aug 30	7:30pm	Away Game @ Chesterfield	Chesterfield, SC	Marching Band
Sept 6	7:30pm	Home Game vs. North Central	MHS	Marching Band
Sept 14	8am – 5pm	Saturday Band Camp	MHS	Marching Band
Sept 21	All Day	Sandhills Classic Band Tournament	MHS	Everyone
Sept 27	7:30pm	Home Game vs. Green Sea-Floyds	Green Sea, SC	Marching Band
Sept 28	All Day	Carolina Forest Competition	Myrtle Beach, SC	Marching Band
Sept 28 – 30	All Day	Beach Trip	Myrtle Beach, SC	Marching Band
Oct 4	7:30pm	Home Game vs. Lake View	MHS	Marching Band
Oct 5	All Day	St. James Tournament of Band	Murrells Inlet, SC	Marching Band
Oct 11	7:30pm	Home Game vs. Blacksburg	MHS	Marching Band
Oct 18	7:30pm	Home Game vs. Great Falls	MHS	Marching Band
Oct 19	All Day	Lower State Marching Band Semi-Finals	Westwood HS (Blythewood)	Marching Band
Oct 27	All Day	SCBDA Marching Band State Championship	Chapin, SC	Marching Band
Nov 1	7:30pm	Away Game @ Lamar	Lamar, SC	Marching Band
Nov 11	11:11am	Chesterfield Co. Veterans' Day Parade	Chesterfield, SC	Marching Band
Nov 14-15	All Day	All-County Band Clinic	MHS	8 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
TBD Nov	TBA	Society Hills Catfish Festival Parade	Society Hill, SC	Marching Band
TBD Dec	4:00pm	McBee Christmas Parade	McBee, SC	Everyone
TBD Dec	6:00pm	Chesterfield County Christmas Parade	Chesterfield, SC	Marching Band
Dec 2	Evening	District Band Auditions	TBD	8 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Dec 3	6:30pm	Winter Band Concert (with MES Chorus)	MHS	Everyone
TBD Dec	10:30am	Patrick Christmas Parade	Patrick, SC	Everyone
Dec 14	7p – 11p	McChristmas (Band Christmas Party)	MHS	Everyone
Jan 11	All Day	Region Band Auditions	West Florence HS	8 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Jan 25	All Day	All-State Band Auditions	Lexington HS	8 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Jan 31-Feb 1	All Day	District Band Clinic	Hartsville MS	8 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Feb 20-22	All Day	Region Band Clinic	Cane Bay HS	8 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Mar 17-19	All Day	Concert Performance Assessment	Myrtle Beach HS	9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Apr 24-25		Solo & Ensemble Festival	West Florence HS	Anyone
Week of May 11	6:30pm	Band Spring Concert	MHS	Everyone
May 16	5:30pm	12 <sup>th</sup> Annual Band Awards Banquet	MHS	Everyone

The spring concert date will be the week of May 11, 2020 depending on spring sports playoffs. Keep all week open.

All Dates are subject to change due to circumstances outside of the control of the MHS Music Department.

Both Concerts (Christmas and Spring) are **absolutely mandatory** and count for major grades for the class.

**Revised 5/15/19**

## **Appendix B – Summer Camp Dates (for marching band only)**

### **Leadership Camp** (Middleton & Crawley)

Friday, 7/19

8:00am – 1:00pm

*Drum Majors, Captains. Lunch provided.*

### **Percussion & Guard Camp** (Winburn & Gainey)

Monday, 7/22 – Thursday, 7/25

5:00pm – 9:30pm

*Percussion & Color Guard members. Dinner provided.*

### **Full Band Camp**

Monday, 7/29 – Friday, 8/2

9:00am – 9:00pm (We dismiss at noon on Friday)

*All marching band members. Lunch & Dinner provided.*

### **Full Band Camp**

Monday, 8/5 – Friday, 8/9

9:00am – 9:00pm

*All marching band members. Lunch & Dinner provided.*

## Appendix C – 2019/2020 Band Trips

There are two medium or large band trips planned for the 2019/2020 school year:

### Trip 1 – Beach Trip

What: Beach Trip  
Who: Marching Band  
Cost: \$125

#### Tentative Itinerary

Saturday, September 28 – Competition!

Early Morning - Depart MHS  
Mid-Afternoon- Compete at Carolina Forest Coastal Classic  
Evening - Awards Ceremony; Check into hotel

*(details for Saturday will be unclear until the competition schedule is released in September)*

Sunday, September 29 – Fun Day in Myrtle Beach

Morning - Breakfast at hotel. Time for reflection/religious observance.

Throughout the day - Varied activities will be planned

Monday, September 30 – Beach Morning, Travel Home

Morning - Beach time  
Noon - Lunch then depart for MHS  
4:00pm - Marching Band Rehearsal

### Trip 2 – Florida Trip

What: Florida Trip  
Who: Any Band Members  
Cost: \$682

#### Tentative Itinerary

Tuesday, March 24, 2020 – Travel

10:00pm - Depart MHS. Meet up with Central, Chesterfield, Cheraw HS on the way.

Wednesday, March 25 – Disney World!  
Fun day at Disney's Animal Kingdom and Hollywood Studios

Thursday, March 26 – Universal Day 1  
Fun Day at Universal Studios

Friday, March 27 – Universal Day 2  
Fun Day at Universal Studios

Saturday, March 28 – Travel  
Travel from Florida to MHS

## Appendix D – Equipment Needs

### Percussion Accessories

#### *Beginner*

The Beginner Percussion Kit includes all items required for beginning percussion.

- Snare Drum
- Orchestral Bells
- Stick and Mallets
- Stands
- Practice Pad
- Rolling Case

*Intermediate and Advance Percussionist should have the following materials:*

- A pair of marching sticks
- A pair of general snare sticks
- A pair of general timpani mallets or staccato mallets
- A pair of rubber xylophone mallets, Musser Blue or Musser Green
- A pair of yarn mallets, DS 16 or DS 18
- A triangle beater
- A pitch pipe, F-F or C-C
- A stick bag

***“At McBee High, we teach Percussionist, not drummers.”***

### **Instrument and Mouthpiece Upgrades**

#### **Mouthpieces**

Clarinet	Van Doren B40 or B45 mouthpieces DEG Barrels Rovner Ligatures
Saxophone	Selmer C
Trumpet	Bach 3C or 1 ½ C
Horn	Schilke 29 or 30
Trombone	Bach 6 ½ AL Schilke 51 or 51D
Tuba	Helleberg 120 S Bach 18

### **Instruments (Intermediate and Professional Models)**

Piccolo	Yamaha YPC 62
Flute	Yamaaha 581H
Clarinet	Buffet R-13
Oboe	Loree or Fox 400
Bassoon	Fox Renard 220 or 222
Saxophone	Old Selmer Mark Vi or Yamaha Custom
Trumpet	Bach Stradivarius
Horn	Paxman M20 or Holton 179
Trombone	Bach 42B, 42 BO, or Edwards
Euphonium	Yamaha 32-S or Wilson
Tuba	St. Petersburg of Perantucci

### **Recommended Method Books**

Flute	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advance Method Altes Method Art and Practice of Modern Flute Techniques – Kincaid Eck Method / Practical Studies / Tone Development
Clarinet	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advance Method Klose Celebrated Method for Clarinet Rose: 40 Studies for Clarinet, Book 1 Melodious and Progressive Studies – Hite
Oboe	50 Classical Studies for the Oboe – Joppig Rubank Advance Method Andraud Practical and Progressive Method Barrett Oboe Method
Bassoon	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advance Method Weissenborn Practical Method for Bassoon

## **Recommended Method Books (continued)**

Saxophone	Rubank Intermediate Method
	Rubank Advance Method
	Universal Method for Sax – DeVille
	Gatti: 35 Melodious and Technical Exercised
Trumpet	Rubank Intermediate Method
	Rubank Advance Method
	Arban Complete Conservatory Method
	Herbert L. Clark Technical Studies
	Schlossberg Daily Drills and Technical Studies
Horn	Rubank Intermediate Method
	Rubank Advance Method
	Kopprasch – Sixty Selected Studies for Horn (Vol. 1 & 2)
	Concone – Lyrical Studies for Horn or Trumpet
	Practical Studies – Getchell
Trombone/Euphonium	Rubank Intermediate Method
	Rubank Advance Method
	Rochet Melodious Etudes Book I and II
Tuba	Rubank Intermediate Method
	Rubank Advance Method

## **Recordings**

Just as the blind cannot paint a picture of the sunset, an instrumentalist cannot duplicate a characteristic sound on their instrument without an appropriate model to emulate. Below are suggestions of artists for each instrument. Every student in the band program should own at least one recording of the following artists.

Flute	Jean-Pierre Rampal, Jim Walker
Clarinet	Harold Wright, Larry Colmbs, Chip Hill
Oboe	Joseph Robinson, John Mack
Bassoon	Bubonic Bassoon Quartet, Christopher Millard
Saxophone	Jean Rosseau, Joseph Lulloff, Steven Mauk
Trumpet	Phil Smith, Adolph Herseth
Horn	Dale Clevenger, Dennis Brain
Trombone	Joseph Alessi, Christian Linberg
Euphonium	Brian Bowman, Roger Behrend
Tuba	Arnold Jacobs, Sam Pilafian

## Appendix E – Donation Wish List

Below is a list of some of the items that we need for the McBee Bands to use throughout the year. Besides the usual and constant need for all kinds of products, we sometimes have specific items in mind. You can bring these items directly to McBee High School Band Room where we will stockpile the items.

- 
- Gift Cards (Gas Stations, Wal-Mart, Bi-Lo, Sam's Club, Target, LOWES, Etc.)
  - Gatorade – Powder (Band Camp)
  - Gatorade - Bottles
  - Water (Bottled – Football Games & Competitions)
  - Paper Products (Paper Towels, Napkins, Plates, Etc.)
  - Plastic Products (Cups, Utensils, Etc.)
  - Gloves (Latex – Size Large)
  - Bungee Cords & Tie Down Straps
  - Electrical Tape (White & Black)
  - Heavy Duty Totes (Stackable – Flaps Attached)
  - Batteries – AA, AAA, 9 Volt
  - Band-Aids, Gauze, Etc.
  - Over the Counter Medication (Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Benadryl)
  - Sunscreen – SPF30 or higher, Spray
  - Aloe Vera Gel
  - Hand Sanitizer
  - Quick Break Disposable Ice Packs
  - Antiseptic Wash (Peroxide, Etc.)
  - Bug Repellant Spray
  - Fire Ant Treatment
  - Cleaning Supplies (Detergents, Degreasers, Brooms, Towels, Sponges, Etc.)
  - Febreze
  - 50' or 100' Extension Chords
  - Black Long Dress Socks (for when student forget theirs)
  - Staple Gun and Staples





### ***1) I keep hearing about Charms. What is it?***

Charms is the cloud-based administrative software the music department utilizes to effectively store and use student records.

### ***2) What does Charms do?***

Charms does several things:

- a) All financial records (including payments, charges, fees, trips, and fundraisers) are stored in Charms.
- b) Student demographic records are stored and can be edited in Charms.
- c) Communication from the department is made using Charms.
- d) Uniform and music assignments are stored in Charms.
- e) Instrument accessories are inventoried and sold in Charms.
- f) The full band calendar is published here.

There are many other things that this software takes care of for us. Log in to check it out!

### ***3) How do I get into Charms?***

That's simple! Go to [www.mcbeeband.org](http://www.mcbeeband.org). Under the "STUDENTS" tab, click "Charms". The first time you log in, the student area password is your student's PowerSchool ID number.

Once you login for the first time, you will be required to change the password. Make sure it's something you can remember! (On rare occasions, it will ask you for a school code, ours is mcbeeband).

### ***4) Will this work on my smartphone or tablet?***

YES! There are links to the iTunes App Store and Google Play store on the mcbeeband.org homepage. These are free downloads and the app works great! (Specifically, you are looking for the Charms Blue app in the app store.)

### ***5) Is there anything I should do?***

Yes. As stated before, Charms is the prime communication gateway for the music department. Please login and update your info! Mailing addresses, email, and phone numbers are important.

### ***6) What if I can't get it?***

Contact Mr. Crawley. He can reset your account password so you can login.