

Eldorado High School  
**MIGHTY EAGLE BAND**  
*Finis Coronat Opus*

This manual contains information regarding the activities, policies, and regulations of the Mighty Eagle Band. All Band members, and their parents, are urged to read the entire manual carefully so as to avoid conflict with the policies stated within.

In order to insure that each student and parent/guardian is informed, please sign and return the last page by the end of the student's class on Tuesday, September 5.

Should you have any questions, or need additional information, please feel free to contact us at 325.853.2514 x328, or x336.

Sincerely,

Scott A. Bostwick	Justina Saunders
Director of Bands	Associate Director of Bands

## **2017-2018 MIGHTY EAGLE BAND CALENDAR**

### **Bold Type = REQUIRED Performance**

August 21—Rehearsal—7:00  
August 22—Rehearsal—7:00  
August 28—Rehearsal—7:00  
August 29—Rehearsal—7:00  
**September 1—Football @ Rocksprings—7:30**  
September 5—Rehearsal—7:00  
**September 8—Football vs. Forsan—7:30**  
September 11—Rehearsal—7:00  
September 12—Rehearsal—7:00  
**September 15—Football @ Harper—7:30**  
September 18—Rehearsal—7:00  
September 19—Rehearsal—7:00  
**September 22—Football vs. Miles—7:30**  
September 25—Rehearsal—7:00  
September 26—Rehearsal—7:00  
**September 29—Football @ Cross Plains—7:30**  
**September 30—Concho Valley Classic Marching Contest @ San Angelo Stadium—TBA**  
October 2—Rehearsal—7:00  
October 3—Rehearsal—7:00  
**Homecoming Parade--TBA**  
**October 6—Football vs. Irion County (HC)—7:30**  
**October 7—Big Lake Marching Contest @ Reagan County HS—TBA (Tentative)**  
October 9—Rehearsal—7:00  
October 10—Rehearsal—7:00  
**October 13—Football @ Christoval—7:30**  
October 16—Rehearsal—7:00  
October 17—Rehearsal—7:00  
**October 20—Football vs. Anthony—7:30**  
**October 21—UIL Region 6 Marching Evaluation @ San Angelo Stadium—TBA**  
October 23—Rehearsal—7:00  
October 24—Rehearsal—7:00  
**October 27—Football @ Ozona—7:00**  
**October 28—UIL Area A Marching Contest @ Lowery Field, Lubbock (pending qualification)**  
October 30—Rehearsal—7:00  
October 31—Rehearsal—7:00  
**November 3—Football vs. McCombs (Senior Night & Glow Show)—7:30**  
**November 6&7—UIL State Marching Contest @ Alamodome, San Antonio (pending qualification)**  
December 2—ATSSB JH All-Region Band Auditions—TBA (8<sup>th</sup> Grade Only)  
**December TBA—SCISD Bands Christmas Concert—3:00**  
December 9—ATSSB HS All-Region Band Auditions @ Midland Greenwood HS—TBA  
January 13—ATSSB All-Area Band Auditions @ TBA  
January 19&20—ATSSB HS All-Region Band Clinic & Concert @ UT Permian Basin, Odessa  
January 27—ATSSB MS All-Region Clinic & Concert @ Ballinger HS  
February 3—UIL Solo & Ensemble Evaluation @ Angelo State University—TBA (HS Only)  
February 14-17—ATSSB All-State Clinic & Concert @ San Antonio—TBA  
**February 28—UIL Region 6 Concert & Sight-Reading Evaluation @ Ballanger HS—TBA**  
**May TBA—SCISD Bands Spring Concert—3:00**  
**May 25—Graduation Day--TBA**  
May 26-28—UIL State Solo & Ensemble Contest @ Pflugerville Hendrickson HS—TBA

All dates are, to the best of the directors' knowledge, correct as of August 16, 2017. If any changes or additions to the calendar need to be made, the directors will try to give at least two weeks' notice. Dates will be updated & sent out on Remind, and posted on the school's band website.

## **BAND POLICY**

The success of every band member is important to the success of the whole program. Every student can learn to play an instrument, and the number one goal of the band program is to have every student excel. Every student is important, and they will be treated equally regardless of their individual level of performance.

### ***Finis Coronat Opus*—The Band Motto**

*Finis Coronat Opus* is a Latin phrase which translates to “The End Crowns the Work”. This means that your finished product is a reflection of the amount of effort you put into it. The Mighty Eagle Band expects of all of its members to live up to that standard, and strive to put the maximum effort into everything they do.

## **CHANGING RULES**

At some time during the school year, it may be necessary to alter, change, or develop new rules. If this occurs, the student will be notified in class and the new rule will be posted on the bulletin board in the band hall. Once the rule is stated to the students they are expected to be aware of the rule and comply with it.

## **RULES OF CONDUCT**

1. Be in your seat (or on the field) ahead of schedule.
2. Have music, instrument, and proper footwear ready before rehearsal starts, including proper maintenance.
3. All playing and talking STOPS when the director begins rehearsal.
4. Have a pencil...NOT PEN with you in class.
5. Raise your hand to speak.
6. DO NOT distract anyone during rehearsal or performance.
7. DO NOT chew gum, or bring food and/or drink into the band hall during rehearsals or performances (water or Gatorade is OK in rehearsal).
8. Listen carefully to instructions & read the board at the beginning of rehearsal.
9. If something is NOT yours...DO NOT TOUCH IT. Exception: If a director asks you to move, or pick up something, then do so.
10. Student to student interactions will remain cordial and constructive.

## **GRADING**

Students will receive grades each grading period as in other subjects.

1. The band grade will be made up of two merit/demerit categories: Daily grades 40%, and Performance grades 60%. The purpose of the merit/demerit system is to reflect your acceptance of responsibility.
2. All merit/demerit grades will start each class day with a 100. This grade will move up or down depending on merits/demerits received.
3. Merit/demerit grades will be kept in my grade book and will be made available for you to check your grade.
4. Excessive merits will not carry over the end of a grading period.
5. The maximum grade you can receive from merits will be 100.
6. Merits must be requested within seven (7) days of the activity, or by the end of the grading period.
7. Merits for Code 3 must be OK'd by the director.
8. Merits for Code 4 must have a practice record attached.
9. The Fall Semester Test Grade will be based on performance at the Christmas Concert (TEKS)
10. The Spring Semester Test Grade will be based on performance at the Spring Concert (TEKS)

## **DEMERITS**

1. Being late: -30
2. Not being aware of instructions: -30
3. Failure to have proper music/equipment: -30
4. Improper care of instrument: -90
5. Failed uniform inspection: -50
6. Unexcused absence from rehearsal, sectional, or lesson: -60
7. Unexcused absence from performance (with possible expulsion from band): -90
8. Disrespect, or discipline referral: -90

## **MERITS**

1. Private lesson or sectional with director: +90
2. Attending a musical performance of another organization (bring in program): +30
3. Extra work with director's prior approval: open
4. Home practice with a turned in practice record signed by a parent: 2 hrs +30, 3 hrs +40, 4 hrs +50.
5. Serving as an active section leader, officer, or manager (at director's discretion each grading period): +90.

## **EXTRA REHEARSALS**

During football season, there will be two weekly night rehearsals, scheduled for Monday and Tuesday nights from 6:30 to 8:30, that is required and attendance is part of the students' band grade. There will not be a rehearsal on Labor Day Monday. Upon the conclusion of the band's UIL Evaluation & Contest season, these rehearsals will no longer be held. Extra rehearsals may be scheduled throughout the year on an as needed basis. Attendance is required and part of the students' band grade.

## **PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS**

As a member of the Mighty Eagle Band, you have obligated yourself to its performances. Therefore, the following rules apply to all members:

1. All members are required to attend the following events:
  - a. UIL varsity football games
  - b. UIL marching evaluations, contests, and non-UIL invitationals
  - c. UIL concert & sight-reading evaluation, and non-UIL invitationals
  - d. Christmas & Spring concerts
  - e. Any trip, event, or performance of the Mighty Eagle Band required by the director with at least 24 hours advance notice (directors will try to provide two weeks' notice).
  - f. Any performance requested or required of the MEB by the SCISD administration, including school principals, superintendent, or the school board (directors will try to provide two weeks' notice).
2. A member will not be expected to perform if that member was absent from school on the day of the performance with an official excused absence.
3. Excused absences include:
  - a. Death in the family,
  - b. Marriage in the family,
  - c. Religious observances (including Quinceañeras),
  - d. Major medical situation in family,
  - e. Limited special circumstances...see #5 below.
4. If a student becomes ill immediately prior to a performance, or has a legitimate reason other than illness for not attending, IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY to contact the director PRIOR to the performance to let the director know why he/she cannot attend. If the student is unable to contact the director, then he/she is expected to make contact as soon as

- the student returns to school. A written note, Remind message, or phone call from the PARENT will be expected in either case.
5. A special request to be excused from a performance will occasionally be allowed. This request will be considered ONLY if presented to the director with sufficient time to cause no hardship to the band in any way (two weeks minimum preferred). The request is to be presented ONLY by the PARENTS of the student and is not considered granted until so stated by the director.
  6. Unexcused absences may lower your chair position and will drop your grade.
  7. Two (2) unexcused absences in a grading period will move the student to the bottom of his/her section in addition to the required demerits.
  8. An excused absence from a performance will require the student complete an alternate assignment of the director's choosing. An unexcused absence from a performance will not be allowed to be made up.
  9. Students who are not in a performing group because of poor grades, poor behavior, or poor performance may be required to attend separate rehearsals equal to the time spent by performing students.
  10. Students who enroll in band in the fall are expected to stay in band the entire year.
  11. All students are encouraged to participate in All-Region (individual auditions), and/or UIL Solo & Ensemble. Color guard, and students in leadership positions are expected to do either or both.

## **BAND OFFICERS**

The band council is governed by the elected band officers. This group consists of: President, Vice President, Secretary, Historian, Drum Major, and Class Representatives. The director serves as an advisor to the Band Council and must be present in order for a meeting to be considered "official".

Any officer who becomes academically ineligible, or receives a discipline referral will forfeit his/her office, and a new officer will be appointed. The director reserves the right to appoint, create, or eliminate any offices as deemed necessary.

### ***PRESIDENT / VICE PRESIDENT***

This person should preferably be a junior or senior. They must display strong leadership and motivational qualities. They preside over band council meetings. The Vice President will fill in for the President as needed. They answer to the director.

### ***DRUM MAJOR***

This person should preferably be a junior or senior, and is selected through a judged audition. The drum major must display strong leadership and motivational qualities as well as have knowledge of conducting music, teaching drill, and marching fundamentals. He/she is in charge of the band at rehearsals and performances and is responsible to the director. Appearance and confidence is important. Auditions are in the spring. Anyone who is selected as drum major is required to attend a drum major camp during the summer.

### ***SECRETARY***

This person should preferably be at least a sophomore. This person records & presents the minutes of the band council meetings, and reads any correspondence the band receives. This person also provides copies of the minutes to the directors.

### ***HISTORIAN***

This person should preferably be at least a sophomore. They are responsible for keeping a record of all of the band's activities for the school year. They are also responsible for the slide presentation during the Spring Concert.

### *CLASS REPRESENTATIVE*

This person is elected to serve as spokesman for their class. He/she presents concerns and suggestions to the band council. Representatives are only elected when there is no other member of the grade level already holding office.

### *EQUIPMENT MANAGER*

This individual should preferably be a former loading crew member, and is appointed by the director. He/she is responsible for the care of all equipment and maintains the cleanliness and appearance of the band hall. He/she answers to the director, and supervises and organizes the work crew. The equipment manager is responsible for making sure that all equipment is available for various band activities. Daily duties include supervising the setup of chairs, stands, and director's podium at marching band rehearsals. Additional duties include supervising the loading of instruments, equipment, and uniforms for away football games and band trips. They are assisted by the loading crew.

### *LOADING CREW*

The loading crew is comprised of 7th Grade band members who assist the equipment manager. They are appointed by the director on the recommendation of the equipment manager, and they help load and unload equipment for all band functions. They also assist in maintaining cleanliness and correct order of chairs and stands. The loading crew is responsible for the stage set up at concerts.

### *BEAU / SWEETHEART*

The band members vote for a favorite senior boy and girl as Band Beau and Sweetheart before the last football game. The director will remove any student from consideration that is academically ineligible or who has had any discipline problems.

### *COLORGUARD*

During football season the color guard acts as a visual component of the marching band. The guard members are band members first, and are then selected by a judged audition. Band members selected for the guard are required to attend a color guard camp over the summer. Guard members must understand that they may be required to assume a position as a musician in the UIL contest show if the need arises.

## **BAND EQUIPMENT**

### *INSTRUMENTS*

1. The school owns **some** instruments that may be issued to a student by the director.
2. Students & parents are responsible for the cost & care of maintenance of their personal (not a school issued) instrument. School is responsible for the cost of maintenance & normal wear on school owned instruments.
3. The student is responsible for all repair costs due to negligence.
4. The school will supply woodwind players with reeds; and brass players with valve oil / slide cream. Students may purchase their own supplies if they so choose. These are available from Tarpley Music Store, or from the directors. Percussion need to provide a pair of drum sticks, bell mallets, and a mallet bag to keep these items in. These are available from Tarpley Music Store.

### *MUSIC & FOLDERS*

1. Keep a pencil in the concert folder at all times.
2. Music taken home must be in a folder.
3. Music must be brought to band every day.
4. Lost or damaged band books will be paid for by the student; they will be charged the cost of replacement.

### *UNIFORMS*

1. Band members will be issued a uniform.
2. Each student will provide the following:
  - a. Mighty Eagle Band T-shirt (\$15 per shirt by Aug. 26).
  - b. Black socks that are **no shorter** than calf length.
3. Students and parents WILL be held responsible for any damages to the uniform.

4. The student is required to maintain the uniform with proper care.
5. Jewelry will not be worn while in uniform. EXCEPTION: Earrings may be worn as long as they are starter studs.
6. Long hair will be put up under hats at marching performances.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

We represent the “PRIDE” in Eldorado High School. Our conduct & appearances are on display and there MUST NOT be any grounds for criticism.

1. ALL SCHOOL POLICIES ARE IN EFFECT AT ALL TIMES.
2. Playing is done as a group. Each one of us is a member of the band, and as such will only perform as a group.
3. Each one of us has earned the right to wear a Mighty Eagle Band uniform. Outside people will not be allowed to sit, or mingle with the band during performances. The director reserves the right to allow individuals to sit with the group (ie. Band Alumni).
4. Any student who receives a discipline referral slip during a performance of the Mighty Eagle Band might not be allowed to perform with the band again. Any activity that represents Eldorado, SCISD, and the Mighty Eagle Band will be considered a performance. A performance starts when we leave the band hall, and continues until we return to the band hall.

### **SUMMER BAND**

1. Band students must attend summer band.
2. Exceptions may be made by the director if contacted by a parent.
3. Students who miss any summer band without approval risk not being allowed to perform until they “catch up” with the rest of the band in terms of learning the show.

### **FOOTBALL GAMES**

1. HS games start at 7:30. Students will report to the band hall by 6:00 for home games, be ready to rehearse at 6:15, and move to the stadium at 6:45. Away game report times will be set on a game to game basis.
2. Students will be in uniform, and in their seats ready to play at the specified time.
3. Games are usually over by 10:30. Time of return on away games will depend on the distance we must travel.
4. Student will remain in their assigned seats during the game except for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter break. You may not move without permission from the director.
5. Students will be back in their seats ready to play with one minute remaining in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Attendance will be taken. Students failing to report on time risk losing 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter privileges.
6. Students not marching are required to perform in the stands and to assist at halftime.

### **BAND TRIPS**

1. An itinerary will be made available to the students the Monday before an away football game and at least a week prior to any other trip. Changes will be posted as necessary.
2. At least one chaperone will be on the bus.
3. The band will sit together on the bus...no “mixing” with any other group on the bus.
4. As long as the students behave in a mature manner, seating on the bus is open (within the “band” area). The director and/or bus driver reserves the right to assign seats.
5. Food and/or drink is allowed on the bus at the sole discretion of the bus driver.
6. ALL SCHOOL POLICIES ARE IN EFFECT AT ALL TIMES.
7. All music devices MUST have headphones.
8. Keep all other noises to a minimum. We are not the pep squad.
9. There will be silence during roll call on the bus.
10. Keep hands, feet, etc. inside of the bus at all times.

11. DO NOT throw ANYTHING out of the bus windows.
12. NO foul language will be allowed at any time.
13. If a chaperone, sponsor, director, or any other SCISD employee tells you to do something...**DO IT!!!** If you believe that you were unfairly treated in this respect, discuss the incident with the director AFTER we return to the band hall.
14. Pack all instruments carefully for travel. All horns should be placed by the band trailer for loading in the specified location.
15. Hang uniform properly when not in use...we will check.
16. Place complete identification on all personal & school property.
17. NO ONE is to leave the group for ANY reason without being properly dismissed by the director.
18. Notify parents of departure & travel times (give them the itinerary).
19. You are expected to ride the bus to the performance with the full group. Occasionally a student will not be required to ride the bus if circumstances are such that it is not practical to do so (such as already being in the town we are travelling to). This must be approved in advance with the director by your parents. A written note is required from a parent.
20. Ride home notes must be turned in to the director prior to the trip. Parents must sign & provide a contact number.
21. Please note that personal belongings should be kept to a minimum as the school and the band ARE NOT responsible for any losses that might occur.
22. Each band member is responsible for his/her own uniform and instrument. Loading crew is responsible only for getting equipment on and off the trailer.

### **MISSING THE BUS**

1. If you miss the bus, contact the directors immediately, and you may come to the activity ONLY if you are brought by your PARENTS. Once there, you are to report to the director immediately with your parents. You will return on the bus.
2. If you miss the bus, and do not have your parents available to bring you, do not come by yourself, or with anyone under the age of 21. If you do, you WILL NOT be allowed to participate.
3. Missing the bus and thus missing the activity will be considered an unexcused absence from the performance.

### **BAND BOOSTERS**

The band booster organization is an organization of band parents, and interested adults who wish to support the band and its activities. In addition to financial support for student activities, trips, and camps, the Band Booster Club also adds greatly to the success of the band with its moral and visible support at concerts and contests. This manual has been written to comply with all district policies. In the unlikely event there is a conflict between band policy and district policy, district policy will take priority.

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Director of Bands

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Associate Director of Bands

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High School Principal