

# Freshman information

for

## Back to School

Dear freshman band students and parents,

There is usually some confusion about the transition to high school band and what is expected of the 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. This information letter is written to help make the transition from junior high band to high school band easier and less frustrating. Specific questions that parents and students are frequently concerned about are listed below, along with information that should provide direction and guidance. Additionally, the HHS Band Manual provided the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school each year is full of band policies, guidelines, sample quarterly grading scale and forms.

1. Harrison High School Band is made up of 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders.
2. The band program operates on “an open door policy.”
3. The band room phone number is 741-8403.
4. High School Band starts at 8:00 am:
  - a. Students may be dropped off at the High School and be ready for class at that time.
  - b. Students that ride the bus may have their parents contact Rick Rogers (HSD Transportation manager) to determine how to get to the HS in the morning and after school on a district bus. This sometimes requires a bus transfer at one of the other buildings.
  - c. 9<sup>th</sup> grade band students are transported back to the Jr. High via district transportation. The bus departs the HS for the Jr. High at 9:00 am. Bus loading takes place behind the high school building by the greenhouse.
5. Marching Band
  - a. One full band evening rehearsal is scheduled weekly from 4:00 – 8:00 pm on Tuesdays through October.
  - b. One afternoon rehearsal is scheduled on Mondays through October:
    - i. Woodwinds – 3:30 to 4:15 pm
    - ii. Brass – 4:30 to 5:15 pm
    - iii. Percussion and color guard have slightly different after school schedules (refer to the pre audition contract for specific details).
  - c. One student led 60 minute after school practice per week through October, scheduled by each section leader.
  - d. Meals are provided to the students on marching competitions and away football games in the fall.
6. Some away football games and band activities are far enough from Harrison that the band, like the athletic teams and cheerleaders, must leave school early to allow for travel and meal time; when this occurs:
  - a. Students are required to ride the bus to the event.
  - b. Students are encouraged to complete homework on the bus ride.
  - c. 9<sup>th</sup> grade band students have their own bus that upperclassmen do not ride.
  - d. Parents are encouraged and welcome to ride the bus and serve as chaperones on all band trips.
7. Students are to be picked-up at the high school after every band function.
8. Trip and event schedules:
  - a. In the band room.
  - b. On the band website [www.harrisonbandboosters.com](http://www.harrisonbandboosters.com) under the high school link under schedules.
  - c. Harrison School District Band activity schedules are normally available 1 week prior to the event or activity.
  - d. Region and state event schedules are not usually available until the week of the event or activity.
9. Uniforms do not go home.
10. Bullying and hazing is not tolerated.