

## SCHOOL MUSIC GROUPS

### GENERAL PROVISIONS AND REGULATIONS

1. The number of beginners who are permitted to enter the instrumental music program at the fifth grade level will have no numerical limits except through selectivity as follows:
  - a. The student must have average grades or better, and a music aptitude rating of 88 or better, with exceptions therefrom only after consultation between band director and principal to insure that the best interests of the student can be served by instrumental music instruction. Special Education students require special consideration.
  - b. Adequate facilities and a minimum of six (6) students are necessary in order to have a beginning class in a school.
  - c. Beginning students must have their instruments by the Tuesday following Labor Day in order to qualify for enrollment in the instrumental music program.
2. Marching units will be offered in grades 7-12 only.
3. The size of the performing marching band units will be limited to 80 members in grades 7-8 and 96 members in grades 9-12. The 80 members for grades 7-8 bands and the 96 members grades 9-12 bands shall include any student carrying a wind musical instrument (brass, woodwind). Special auxiliary units (rifles, flags, majorettes, drum and bugle corps, drum majors) are not included in the numerical limitations. The uniform inventory of 95 for grades 7-8 and 125 for grades 9-12 will remain the same. Exception to this limitation shall be made by the principal and director not to exceed the number of uniforms in inventory (95 for grades 7-8 and 125 for grades 9-12); and, further, this exception shall accrue no additional cost to the parents, the school, or the School Board.
  - a. Parents should be informed of the size restriction on performing units so that they will be aware of the possibility that the student might not be selected for the performing unit.
  - b. The Terrebonne Parish School Board will purchase band uniforms for the individual schools under the following guidelines:
    - (1) Grades 9-12 are to be allowed to purchase full uniforms.
    - (2) Grades 7-8 are to be allowed to purchase blazers and trousers only.

- (3) Grades 9-12 are limited to the maximum purchase of 125 uniforms.
- (4) Grades 7-8 are limited to the maximum purchase of 95 blazers and trousers.

4. Continuance of Membership

- a. A student may be removed from performing band or choir for violation of regulations, but will be permitted to continue to receive music instruction.
  - b. A student may be allowed to drop performing band or choir with parental permission and administrative approval. He/She may be reinstated in the program the following semester after meeting entrance requirements.
  - c. Music students shall not be penalized for failure to appear in a performance of their group because of religious beliefs or reasons.
  - d. A student may elect to enroll in music classes for instruction only. Once the decision to be in a non-performing group has been made, the student cannot be reinstated in a performing group until the following semester.
5. Elementary students who are retained in the same grade, or those high school students who did not earn at least three (3) academic units in the preceding year, may be allowed to continue to receive instrumental music instruction if, after consultation with the parents, principal, and band director, it is found to be in the best interest of the student. This policy also applies to high school choral students.
6. Beginning choral students must have average grades or better, a score of 88 or better on the music aptitude test, as well as pass a vocal audition in order to qualify for membership in a performing choral group.
7. Practice sessions are limited to no more than three (3) hours per school day.
8. The use of board-owned music instruments is to be limited to students in grades 7-12, housed at any middle, junior or senior high schools.
- a. Board-owned music instruments, presently not in use by grades 7-12, may be borrowed by feeder schools, provided that there will be no additional expense to the schools or to the School Board.
  - b. Elementary and/or middle schools housing grades 5-6 instrumental music programs may purchase low brass instruments and bass drums through the school's general funds and/or sales tax allocations only. Fundraising activities, specifically for instrument purchase, are prohibited.
9. Principals and music directors should take the necessary precautions in the

scheduling of activities so that they do not interfere with study requirements or examination schedules.

## PARTICIPATION IN NON-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### 1. Activities Allowed

School music groups may participate in activities sponsored by organizations that are not political or religious in nature.

- a. At the discretion of the Superintendent, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, music groups may be permitted to participate in statewide functions that are religious or political in nature.
- b. No music group shall be permitted to participate in more than one non-school function on a given day.

### 2. Applications by Sponsoring Organizations

An organization desiring the services of a band must, 14-days prior to the scheduled event, submit to the principal, on a form to be supplied by the principal, a written application signed by the major officer of the organization.

- a. In addition to the written application, the principal may require a personal interview to complete details of the engagement.
- b. Under extenuating circumstances, with the approval of the Superintendent and principal, the 14-day requirement for applications may be reduced.

### 3. Authority of the Principal in Approving or Refusing Requests

#### a. Approvals

- (1) The principal has the authority to approve any application that is in keeping with these policies.
- (2) The principal may object to any phases of the activity that do not lend themselves to the best interests of the pupils and the school. If the organization is unwilling to make the suggested changes, the principal should refuse the application.

#### b. Refusals

The principal has the authority to refuse an application for the use of the band of his/her school; and, if so, shall notify the sponsoring organization by a letter co-signed by the Superintendent.

4. Expenses

- a. Private organizations requesting the services of a band will be required to pay, when necessary, for such expenses as laundering of uniforms, meals, lodging, etc.
- b. Private organizations requesting the use of a school band and marching unit shall be assessed a fee of \$950.00, plus applicable transportation costs for use of band and marching units for a parade route of two (2) miles or less, and a fee of \$1,800.00 for a parade route of more than two (2) miles, effective with the 2013-2014 school year, based on each club's normal and traditional route, and further, that each club president, according to the rotation schedule, shall notify the Superintendent, in writing, ninety (90) days before their scheduled parade date as to the number they will use.
- c. The following contingency is stipulated in the event of inclement weather. In the event school marching units are required to report to the staging area, and the band does not march, the user organization shall be responsible for transportation cost and a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the fee. Further, once the parade starts and the band marches, the entire fee is due.
- d. Also in the event of a serious conflict with a scheduled school activity, the school activity takes precedent.

5. Security

- a. The sponsoring organization shall provide the necessary measures to assure the safety and security of the participating group.
- b. Where conditions warrant, law enforcement officers must be present.

PURCHASE OF BAND INSTRUMENTS

1. All music dealers submitting bids on school-owned instruments will be extended an invitation for the subsequent year's display.
2. The dealers must meet with the respective music instructors prior to the display.
3. Only instruments approved by the music directors may be presented at the display so as to assure the quality and the equity of the recommendations.
4. No "high pressure" sales tactics or "gimmicks" may be employed.
5. In order to avoid annoyance to parents, the names and addresses of the students will not be given to salesmen by music instructors without the agreement of the

parents.

6. A survey will be made by the music instructors to determine if the parents desire a dealer to be given their names.
7. If parents request that a specific music dealer call upon them, the names of the parents will be given to that dealer.
8. If parents request that a music dealer call upon them, but they do not express a preference, their names will be divided among the dealers so that a parent will be called upon by only that dealer.
9. The dealers must keep in mind that, since they are invited guests of the school, and the school must take an unbiased opinion of all the instruments displayed, their presentations must be confined to a discussion of their own brands of instruments.
10. Points which are not covered in these directions will be determined by the music instructors who must keep in mind that their first allegiance is to the child and the parent.
11. Dealers should understand that failure to comply with the conduct stated and implied in these procedures will affect future invitations.

#### PARTICIPATION IN THE STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL

If any Terrebonne Parish School Music Group competes in order to qualify for the State Music Festival, then that music group, upon qualifying, will be permitted to attend the State Music Festival at no expense to the Terrebonne Parish School Board.

An adequate number of buses, if available as determined by the Supervisor of Transportation, will be provided at no expense to the Board.

September 1998

December 2000

Revised: June 2004

Revised: November 2013

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Ref: Board minutes, 2-14-78, 3-20-79, 12-11-79, 3-18-80, 8-4-87, 4-16-91, 5-21-91, 5-18-93, 9-15-98, 12-5-00, 12-19-00, 6-15-04, 8-17-04, 9-21-04, 11-19-13, 11-5-19.