

# Odem Junior High School



## 2017-2018 Band Handbook

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Welcome to the Odem Band Program! The Odem Junior High School Band has a fine tradition of success, and we are glad that you have chosen to be a part of it. The Odem Junior High School Band has continued to excel and push itself to new heights each year and I feel that last year's State Championship for the Symphonic Winds in the Outstanding Performance Series is a tremendous start.

Every year is a new challenge – new combinations of personalities and talent, new audiences, new music, and new members. By accepting membership in the Odem bands, you agree to perform to the best of your abilities and work together with the band directors to make this year's band the finest musical organization that our combined efforts can produce.

This handbook is designed to convey the guidelines and operating procedure of the Odem Bands. Its purpose is to help answer student/parent questions and also serve as a guide for defining the procedure of the organization. PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED CONSENT FORMS BEGINNING ON PAGE 23. If you need further information, please call and we will assist in every possible way.

2017-2018 Odem-Edroy I.S.D. Band Staff

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Odem Bands Website: [www.odembands.org](http://www.odembands.org)

Odem Junior High School Facebook Page: Odem Junior High School  
Band

Odem Junior High Band Remind: Text @ojhbands to the number  
81010. Or try texting @ojhbands to (973) 810-4662.

## **Individual Responsibilities**

Students are placed by audition into one of the bands: Symphonic Winds (UIL Varsity), Concert Band (UIL Non-Varsity), and first year band students are placed into the Beginning Band. Additionally we have the Screeching Owl Jazz Band that select seventh and eighth grade students may join. Our curriculum is designed to improve individual performing skills throughout the year. The responsibilities for students in each group are outlined below.

### **Symphonic Winds**

**Nathan Williams, Director**

- Preparation of All-Region Middle School music during the Fall
- Audition for All-Region Band in the Fall (Required)
- Students will be encouraged to participate in Solo and Ensemble
- Performance of concert music as assigned by the director
- Performance of contest music as assigned by the director
- Attendance at section rehearsals and/or full band rehearsals before or after school
- Performance of All-Region Scales
- Students in this band are expected to fully participate in all performance activities, including approved travel (i.e. concerts, pep rallies, band trips)

### **Concert Band**

**Steven Rash, Director**

- Development and improvement of fundamental playing techniques on individual instruments
- Students will be encouraged to audition for All-Region Middle School Band
- Performance of concert music as assigned by the director
- Performance of contest music as assigned by the director
- Attendance at section rehearsals and/or full band rehearsals before or after school

### **Beginning Band**

**Steven Rash & Nathan Williams, Directors**

- Development and understanding of fundamental playing techniques on individual instruments
- Performance of concert music as assigned by the director  
Preparation to advance to Concert Band and Symphonic Winds

## CODE OF CONDUCT

Any organization that has high performance standards must also have high behavioral standards. The basic behavioral guidelines for students in music activities are taken from the OEISD Student Code of Conduct Handbook. Specific guidelines above and beyond those outlined in the Code of Conduct Handbook are contained within this document. All students within the Odem Junior High School Band are expected to 'Set the Example.' This means within the school and anytime that they are representing the Odem Bands!

Students will be expected to follow all school rules and band hall rules. Breaking rules usually results in one warning and a parent conference; however, depending on the severity of the infraction and the rule involved, a serious infraction may result in immediate removal of the student from Band. Parent support of our school and band rules and regulations is of great importance to us. Our goal is to work with parents in order to solve any discipline problem prior to the problem becoming a major issue.

All of the band member guidelines stem from a respect for each other, equipment and facilities. Rules are posted and explained to all band students at the beginning of the school year. Our rules are designed to help facilitate the "safe educational environment" that is crucial to our future success at Odem Junior High School.

**Band students at Odem Junior High School shall always strive to enhance the reputation of and promote the discipline, good order, morale, and the educational environment of Odem Junior High School. Student usage of drugs, alcohol, and other controlled substances is strictly prohibited as per the OEISD Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct.**

Students found to be consistently failing to uphold this code of conduct may face consequences such as, but not limited to: suspension of event Travel/Performances, Contests, or Removal from the Odem Band Program. All students involved in extra-curricular activities at Odem Junior High School are subject to drug testing at random intervals.

Students are reminded that social media posts that are inflammatory in nature towards both Odem students and students and other bands are inappropriate. While we will not actively police social media, should the use of social media or electronic expression result in a substantial disruption of the operation of school or violate District policies, including but not limited to FFH and FFI (Legal and Local), disciplinary measures may be taken. Any concerns in regards to cyber-bullying or harassment will be turned over to the school administration for investigation, if required by district policy FFH and/or FFI.

Please feel free to contact the directors at any time regarding your students' behavior in band. Our phone number is 361-368-3401 x257. Please see the following OEISD Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct for more details.

# Odem-Edroy Independent School District 2017-2018 Extracurricular Code of Conduct

## 1. Extracurricular Activities: General Provisions

What is an Extracurricular Activity?	Why are Extracurricular Activities Important?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&lt; Any University Interscholastic League (UIL), School District, or campus-sponsored or related public performances, events, contests, demonstrations, displays, club activities, athletics, whether on- or off-campus;</li> <li>&lt; Any elected offices and honors (such as student counsel and homecoming queen);</li> <li>&lt; All co-curricular activities, which are those held in conjunction with a credit-bearing class, but that may take place outside of school and outside of the school day (such as band and choir);</li> <li>&lt; All national organizations (such as National Honor Society or Future Farmers of America); and</li> <li>&lt; Any activity held in conjunction with another activity that is considered to be an extracurricular activity (such as a meeting, practice, or fundraiser).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&lt; They promote self-discipline, responsibility, leadership, teamwork, self-confidence, commitment, and student wellness.</li> <li>&lt; They enhance and enrich curricular educational offerings.</li> <li>&lt; They offer participants the opportunity to be leaders and role models on campus and in the community.</li> <li>&lt; They enable participants to represent the School District in a positive manner.</li> </ul>

## 2. Jurisdiction

Who is Subject to the Extracurricular Code of Conduct?	When Does the Extracurricular Code of Conduct Apply?
<p>Any student who participates in one or more extracurricular activities is subject to the Extracurricular Code of Conduct (ECC). A student is subject to the ECC from the time he/she is selected for, elected to, or otherwise joins an extracurricular activity and continues to be subject to the ECC from that point forward unless or until the student no longer participates in extracurricular activities.</p>	<p>The privilege of representing the School District carries with it a greater responsibility to conduct oneself with respect and dignity, and to serve as a role model for all students. Consequently, extracurricular activity participants are expected to comply with the ECC at all times, regardless of location. This includes both on and off-campus conduct as well as evenings, weekends, holidays, and summer vacation.</p>

### 3. Conduct Expectations

#### What is Expected of Extracurricular Activity Participants?

Participants in extracurricular activities are representatives of the School District, and must conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on the School District at all times. Specifically, they must:

- < Maintain an average of 70% or better in all academic courses, except as provided in District policy FM (Legal);
- < Be punctual and prepared for all games, practices, meetings, performances, camps, and/or other scheduled events related to an extracurricular activity;
- < Treat all school property with respect and ensure that school property is returned upon request and in good condition (excluding reasonable wear and tear);
- < Abide by the District's dress and grooming standards for students as well as any dress and grooming standards applicable to the specific extracurricular activity;
- < Comply with UIL rules, including those related to random steroid testing, if applicable;
- < Be courteous and respectful toward all fellow participants, school faculty and staff members, spectators, parents, and officials, whether from Odem-Edroy ISD or from any other school district;
- < Provide at least Twenty-Four hours advance written notice to the coach or sponsor of an activity if they are unable to attend a game, practice, meeting, performance, and/or other scheduled event related to the extracurricular activity;
- < Complete safety training and maintain certification as required regarding: the use of automated external defibrillators (AED's), recognizing the symptoms of injuries, and the risks of using dietary supplements;
- < Comply with all rules and guidelines in the ECC and those established for a specific extracurricular activity in which the student participates; and
- < Comply with and adhere to the behavioral standards identified in the District's Student Code of Conduct.

## 4. Prohibited Conduct

### What Conduct is Prohibited for Extracurricular Activity Participants?

#### Category A Violations:

- < Engaging in theft, destruction, or misuse of school district property;
- < Failing to return school property as directed where the property is valued at more than \$ **50**;
- < Engaging in hazing, harassment or bullying of others as defined by the Odem-Edroy ISD Student Code of Conduct;
- < Buying, selling, giving, delivering, using, possessing, or being under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, a controlled substance (without a proper prescription), or a dangerous drug at any time and regardless of whether the student is on school property or at a school-related activity;
- < Engaging in any unreasonably dangerous athletic technique that unnecessarily endangers the health or safety of a student;
- < Engaging in conduct prohibited by the District's Student Code of Conduct that is punishable by placement in DAEP or expulsion.

#### Category B Violations:

- < Being absent from games, meetings, practices, performances, camps, and/or other events without permission from the activity sponsor or coach;
- < Engaging in acts of poor sportsmanship, such as cheating, using profane language, or taunting other participants;
- < Being insubordinate to a coach or sponsor;
- < Being disruptive during a game meeting, practice, performance, camp, and/or other event;
- < Failing to return school district property as directed where the property is valued at \$ **30** or less;
- < Violating the established rules or guidelines of a specific extracurricular activity in which the student participates;
- < Violating the District's standards for dress and grooming or the standards set for the specific extracurricular activity; and
- < Engaging in general misconduct prohibited by the District's Student Code of Conduct.

**Note:** Students placed in DAEP are ineligible to participate in or attend extracurricular activities pursuant to Texas Education Code § 37.006(g).

**Note:** The standards of the ECC are independent of the Student Code of Conduct. Violations of these standards of behavior that are also violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in a student being disciplined under both standards.



## 5. Consequences – Option 1

### Category A Violations:

#### First Offense:

The student will be suspended from participation for One school week and will be placed on a behavior contract for Two school weeks.

#### Second Offense:

The student will be suspended from participation for Three school weeks and will be placed on a behavior contract for Six school weeks.

#### Third Offense:

The student will be suspended from participation from **all** extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year. If the violation occurs within 3 school weeks of the end of the current school year, the student will be suspended for the remainder of the current school year and the entirety of the next semester, including any extracurricular activities or events during the summer months.

#### Fourth Offense:

The student's participation in **all** extracurricular activities will be revoked for the remainder of the time the student attends that campus, or any other Odem-Edroy ISD campus serving the same grade levels as the campus the student currently attends. For example, the remainder of the student's high school career.

### Category B Violations:

#### First Offense:

The student will receive a verbal warning and reprimand and will be directed to refrain from future violations.

#### Second Offense:

The student will receive a written warning and parent notification, and will be directed to refrain from future violations.

#### Third and Fourth Offenses:

The student will be suspended from participation for One school week and will be placed on a behavior contract for Two school weeks.

#### Fourth Offense:

The student will be suspended from participation for Three school weeks and will be placed on a behavior contract for Six school weeks.

#### Fifth Offense:

The student will be suspended from participation from **all** extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year. If the violation occurs within 3 school weeks of the end of the current school year, the student will be suspended for the remainder of the current school year and the entirety of the next semester, including any extracurricular activities or events during the summer months.

#### Sixth Offense:

The student's participation in **all** extracurricular activities will be revoked for the remainder of the time the student attends that campus, or any other Odem-Edroy ISD campus serving the same grade levels as the campus the student currently attends. For example, the remainder of the student's high school career.

**Definition: “weeks”** means school weeks, but also includes any non-school weeks in which an extracurricular competition or event occurs, such as camps during the summer or on school holidays.

**Definition: “suspension”** means that the student will not be permitted to participate in any competition, contest, scrimmage, performance, or election associated with an extracurricular activity. The student may continue to participate in practices.

**Note:** An extracurricular activity participant starts each school year with a clean slate, unless he or she had participation in extracurricular activities revoked during the previous school year, in which case that revocation continues from year to year. In addition, any consequences that were assessed during the prior school year for which the student owes additional suspension or behavior contract time must still be completed. For example, a student who was suspended from participation for 4 school weeks during the last week of school may have an additional 3 weeks of suspension to complete beginning with the next school year.

## 6. Procedures

### Who Determines that a Violation of the ECC has Occurred?

The activity sponsor or coach will determine whether a violation of the ECC has occurred and will assess the appropriate consequence. Serious infractions resulting in removal or suspension from the extracurricular activity will be determined by the Principal in consultation with the Sponsor.

### How will Consequences be Assessed for Different Violations of the ECC?

Consequences for violating the District's ECC are assessed based on the severity of the violation and the commission of prior ECC violations.

### Is a Student Entitled to Participate in Extracurricular Activities?

No. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. As such, a student's participation may be revoked at the District's discretion.

### How Will Parents be Notified that a Violation of the ECC has Occurred?

Parents will be notified of all violations *that result in suspension from participation* in extracurricular activities. The activity sponsor or coach will contact the student and the student's parent via telephone or face-to-face conference within 5 school days from the time the activity sponsor or coach learns of such a violation. At this time, the activity sponsor or coach will inform the parent and student that a violation of the ECC has occurred, discuss with them the applicable consequences, and give the student an opportunity to respond to the allegations.

### What if a Parent Does Not Agree with the Decision?

All appeals will be addressed through the District's complaint process, contained in policies FNG (Legal) and (Local). A decision of the Odem-Edroy ISD Board of Trustees regarding an extracurricular activity complaint is final and is not appealable.

## Management of Felony Crimes

It will be considered a breach of the Code of Ethics to willingly allow a band member who is charged with, and/or under indictment for, a felony crime to participate in any contest. This action should not be considered a presumption of guilt, but rather it affords the accused member the time and opportunity to clear his/her name. The member may be allowed to remain on his/her team as a suspended member, but should not be allowed to represent his/her school or community in a contest while under this suspension.

## Management of Other Crimes and Suspicion of Crimes

The Band Director reserves the right to suspend any student athlete, who is suspected of committing any crime depending on the circumstances. The Band Department's decisions will not conflict with any state, or federal laws or the Local Code of Conduct.

## **Instruments and Supplies**

### **Personal Instruments**

A quality program requires quality musical instruments. Many instruments that are very low cost are “you get what you pay for.” We want our students to have the greatest success and the instrument selection is the first starting point. A list of acceptable instruments is always available in the band office. If a purchase is needed, the band directors will be happy to consult with the student and the parents in order to avoid an inappropriate purchase and to assist in obtaining the best possible price for the instrument. We have provided a list of acceptable instruments on page 12 for your convenience.

With all personal instruments, it is strongly recommended that the instrument be insured through your homeowner’s policy or a private company. The school district will not assume liability for maintenance, repair, or damage of personal instruments.

### **School-Owned Instruments**

Odem Junior High School furnishes the following instruments for students to use: piccolo, oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, French horn, bass trombone, euphonium, tuba, and all percussion instruments except Beginning Band bell kits.

The usage fee for school owned instruments is \$30.00 per year. All students (including percussionists) who play school owned instruments will be charged \$30 per year, not \$30 per instrument. This is a very minimal fee considering that most of the school owned instruments cost several thousand dollars each. The students are required to buy their own mouthpiece, ligature, reeds, care kits, and valve oil (as applicable). The student is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the equipment. This includes periodical cleaning, oiling valves, and greasing slides. Damage to the instrument due to carelessness and/or neglect will be repaired at the parent /guardian’s expense. The student is expected to return the instrument in the same condition it was issued. If the damage is severe enough to render the instrument no longer usable and the instrument repair technicians determine that the instrument cannot be repaired, then the instrument will be replaced at the parent’s/guardian’s expense. Eating or drinking anything other than water while practicing on the instrument will cause damage. Please do not eat or drink anything other than water just prior to or during your practice.

The student is responsible for damage to the instrument while in his/her possession. The instrument will be inspected at the end of the year for damage and the student must pay for any repairs.

# Odem Bands Instrument Policy

## Approved Brands of Brass and Woodwind Instruments

Armstrong – Azumi – Bach – Blessing – Buffet – Cannonball – Conn – Di Zhao – Fox – Getzen – Holton – Jupiter – Keilwerth – King – LeBlanc – Lorée – Miraphone – Schreiber – Selmer – Shilke – Sonare – Trevor James – Yamaha

## Unacceptable Brands of Brass and Woodwind Instruments

These Brands will not be repaired at our local music store. That means that when they break they cannot be repaired.

Allora	Etude	Paradise
Amati	First Act	Parrot
Angel	Heimer	Pathfinder
Aruba Breeze	Hope	Peace
Band Now	Huang	Prestini
Barkley	Jinyin	Rossetti
Barrington	Kima	Shu Shu
Belcrest	Lark	Silvertone
Belton	Laurel	Simba
Bestler	Liang	Staag
Blossom	Liberta	Standell
Bravo	Merano	Steuben
Conservarte	Mirage	The New Buescher
Diamond	Monique	Windsor
Dixon	Nadir Ali Co.	Winston
DKDouble Fly	Palm	Xingha
Eastman	Pan	York

Horns from “Big Box Stores (i.e. Walmart, Target, Toys”R”Us, Sams Club, etc) are not acceptable. Also do not buy horns online from e-bay!!

## Required Supplies

Students must provide their own personal accessories such as a mouthpiece, drumsticks, and reeds. The following supplies below are required for band class.

Single-Reed Woodwinds + Flutes	Double-Reed Woodwinds	Brass	Percussion
5 good reeds in a reed guard (Clarinet and Sax only)	3 Good Reeds in Reed Guards or Case	Valve or slide oil	One pair of Vic Firth SD-1 drum sticks
Tuning rod (flute only)	Film Canister for soaking reeds	Tuning slide cream	One pair of medium-hard cord mallets
Swab or Cleaning Cloth	Cleaning Swab		One pair of timpani mallets
Cork Grease	Cork Grease	Cleaning Cloth	Stick bag
Pencil	Pencil	Pencil	Pencil
Music	Music	Music	Music
Music Stand (for home)	Music Stand (for home)	Music Stand (for home)	Music Stand (for home)
Metronome & Tuner (optional)	Metronome & Tuner (optional)	Metronome & Tuner (opt.)	Metronome & Tuner (opt.)

- As noted above, we strongly encourage you to consider getting a personal metronome and digital tuner (for home practice). Some phones (such as iPhones and BlackBerries) may have tuner/metronome apps available for them that are also really handy for the same purpose! There are also apps for the Nintendo DS for the same function.

Students will also purchase the following method book for their class. Beginning Brass and Woodwind students will use the method book, Traditions of Excellence, Book 1. Beginning Percussion need to purchase two, Row-Loff's Mallet Player Toolbox and the Snare Drummer's Toolbox. Please make sure you purchase the book for the correct instrument.

## Rehearsal Guidelines

- ❑ Follow all classroom procedures
- ❑ Be seated with instrument, music, pencil, and supplies when the tardy bell rings.
- ❑ Show good rehearsal etiquette by being a good team player—practice your part silently while the director works with another section. Remain on task at all times; do not talk or interrupt the focus of a rehearsal.
- ❑ Maintain proper posture at all times, regardless of instrument, as it affects the sound of the ensemble.
- ❑ Be intent on improving your performance skills.
- ❑ Raise your hand and ask questions if you need more individual help.
- ❑ Leave your bags and books along the sidewall when arriving to class.
- ❑ Leave large cases in the instrument storage room during class (i.e. euphonium, tuba, bassoon, French horn).
- ❑ Do not leave purses or other valuables unlocked in the band hall.
- ❑ **No food, gum, or drink** is allowed in the band hall. We all take pride in keeping our band hall clean and organized.
- ❑ Hats are to be removed prior to entering the band hall.
- ❑ All instruments remain in cases with latches closed in their proper storage place when not in use.
- ❑ Disorderly behavior and abusive language will not be tolerated.
- ❑ Please be considerate of directors' requests for assistance and/or performance of tasks around the band hall.
- ❑ All students will adhere to the *OEISD Student Code of Conduct Handbook*.

## Failure to Follow Procedures During School May Result in the Following Consequences

- 1<sup>st</sup> Infraction - Verbal Warning/Redirect
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Infraction – Detention and Parent Phone Call
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Infraction – Detention and Parent Teacher Conference
- 4<sup>th</sup> Infraction – Office Referral

Severe Discipline Infractions May Result in Immediate Office Referral and the student's suspension or removal from the Band. Placement in ISS/AEP throughout the year may affect students being allowed to travel with the band at the Band Directors' discretion.

A student may be removed from participation in extracurricular activities or may be excluded from school honors for violation of extracurricular standards of behavior for an activity or for violation of the Student Code of Conduct. FO(Local)

The terms of a placement in DAEP under Education Code 37.006 must prohibit the student from attending or participating in school-sponsored or school-related activities. *Education Code 37.006(g)* FOC (legal)

## GRADING GUIDELINES

Students will be expected to meet the responsibilities for each band class as listed in the preface of this handbook. Since band is an academic music class with some extra-curricular activities attached, the band student's grade will reflect achievement in both curricular and extracurricular areas as per the TEA UIL Side-by-Side.

A band member's six weeks grade will be an average of the following items:

- Participation
  - ❑ The student will be on task and focused during all rehearsals.
  - ❑ The student will have instrument, music, pencil, and supplies.
  - ❑ The student will be prepared to play his/her part successfully.
  - ❑ The student will mark music and take notes as needed.
- Skills
  - ❑ The student will be expected to improve individual music skills.
  - ❑ An evaluation of this improvement may include recorded music tests, individual playing tests, section tests, scale tests, and written tests.
  - ❑ The student will be evaluated on improvement of his/her ensemble skills during daily rehearsals.
- Fundamentals
  - ❑ The student will be expected to improve his/her performance fundamentals.
  - ❑ An evaluation of this improvement will include daily observation of students during regular class time.
  - ❑ Student posture, hand position, embouchure, air production, and articulation will be constantly monitored during rehearsals for improvement.
- Performance
  - ❑ The student will receive a grade for each performance during a grading period.
  - ❑ Performances will be counted towards up to 30% of students grade.
  - ❑ The number of performances will be determined by the calendar.
  - ❑ If no public performance occurs during a grading period, the performance grade will be based upon informal classroom performances determined by the director.
  - ❑ STUDENTS MUST NOTIFY THE DIRECTORS IN ADVANCE IF THEY ARE GOING TO MISS A PERFORMANCE! **Excepting extenuating medical or family emergencies**, students will not be excused without prior notice. Within 48 Hours is not an acceptable period for most excuses! It is up to the directors' discretion as to whether an excuse shall be deemed excused or unexcused.
  - ❑ ***Missing the Pre-UIL Performance without a valid, pre-approved excuse, or medical/family emergency may result in the student losing their eligibility to perform at contest at the directors' discretion. They will be assigned an alternate written assignment.***

➤ **Additional Criteria Affecting Grades**

- Consistent with Policy FM(Local), The District shall make no distinction between absences for UIL activities and absences for other extracurricular activities approved by the Board. A student shall be allowed in a school year a maximum of ten extracurricular absences not related to post-district competition, a maximum of five absences for post-district competition prior to state, and a maximum of two absences for state competition.

❑ **Excused Absences**

In accordance with OEISD policy, all excused absences will be honored with no grade penalty. These will include: *Medical emergency or illness; Death in the family; Religious holiday; Family emergency; Medical or dental appointment*. Circumstances may justify an excused absence for reasons other than those listed above. If an excused absence is anticipated, a written notification should be submitted at least two days in advance when possible.

❑ **Unexcused Absences**

A major part of the music curriculum is the development of performance skills. Therefore, “unexcused” absences from a rehearsal or performance, which are integral to developing performance skills, will lower a student’s course grade. Rehearsals are course requirements that require interaction from members of a group and cannot be made up. The student may have the opportunity to make up the grade per the director’s discretion.

Performances are a result of group course requirements and cannot be made up. Therefore, an “unexcused” absence from a scheduled performance will reflect a grade of “0” to be averaged into the student’s six weeks’ performance grade, and the student “may” be subject to removal from the band program.

❑ **Tardies**

Because of the limited amount of rehearsal time and the importance of each member to the group, it is very important that everyone be on time. A student is tardy if, they are not in their assigned seat with their supplies by the time the director steps on the podium. Following those warnings students will be assigned detention and potentially ISS for being tardy.

## Eligibility

The band staff will enforce all eligibility rules and regulations involved in **NO PASS/NO PLAY**. Students who are ineligible will continue to rehearse during their band class, before and after school, and participate in curricular activities to earn their band grade. Ineligible students may not travel with the band or participate in extracurricular performances. In addition, a student that becomes ineligible prior to contest will be expected to makeup that performance grade with written work. The assigned work will be given prior to contest, with the expectation that it be turned in by the assigned due date.

Per TEA, for a student to be eligible to participate for a six weeks period, a student must not have received a grade average lower than a 70 in any class preceding a six weeks period event. If a student should become ineligible, a student may regain eligibility seven days after a three-week period of the next six-weeks. Eligibility is gained by passing **all classes**.

Additionally per local OEISD policy, a student that accumulates **3 Unexcused Absences per Six-Weeks** shall lose eligibility for all extra-curricular events. Eligibility may be regained at the following three weeks by having no unexcused absences for the three-week period following the six-weeks.

A student who is tardy to class will be assigned to detention. Upon the Sixth Tardy, a parent conference will be arranged. If the student is in extra-curricular activities, the sponsor/coach will also attend the parent conference.

Per TEA/UIL and local OEISD policy there is a Seven Calendar Day Grace Period following a Six-Week and Three-Week period. All grade changes and attendance corrections must take place during this time.

## CALENDAR

A calendar is attached to this handbook at the back. Please take this calendar and put it on your refrigerator – or another prominent place in your house. The calendar details the band events for the school year. Some dates/times/locations will be “TBA” until they are confirmed. We strive to be as flexible as possible with the many schedules that we keep. Occasionally a date/time may change – we will inform you as soon as we know about any such occasion!

## ALL-REGION CONCERT BAND

Odem Junior High School students are highly encouraged to audition to become a member of the All-Region Honor Band. All students that participate in the Junior High Symphonic Winds are required to audition for the All-Region Bands. Any student that earns membership in the ensembles is required to attend the region clinic/concert. All-Region band represents a unique opportunity for students to play in a very high caliber band, and work with a guest clinician. Students should have received music at the end of last school year for this ensemble, but will receive another copy at the beginning of school.

## UIL SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CONTEST

UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest presents a phenomenal opportunity to build musical skills for individuals. Students may choose to play a Solo, Trio, Quartet, Quintet, or other Small-Medium Ensemble. I would really like to see a lot of junior high school students involved in this contest this year.



## **UIL Region Concert and Sight-Reading Contest**

**Region Concert Contest is held in the spring at another school in our Region. Students in the Concert and Symphonic Bands will attend and perform in both the Concert and Sight-reading portions of the contest. Each group will be rated from the best rating of I (Superior) to a rating of V (Unprepared). Any student that does not attend Region Concert Contest will be assigned makeup work at the discretion of their director.**

## **BOOSTER CLUB**

The Booster Club exists for grades 6-12 under the leadership of elected officers, and the guidance of the high school band director. The main objectives of the Booster Club are to support and enhance the band program, which includes the Junior High School and High School, and to provide program communication to students and parents at all levels of participation. The Booster Club is an outside organization made up of Band Parents, students, and community members. We encourage all families to participate in the Booster Club because all band students benefit from the efforts of our parents. There are no membership dues; however, you are asked to register your membership to assist in communication.

Please join the “Odem Band Boosters” page on Facebook!

## **FUNDRAISING**

Band students are encouraged to participate in school affiliated fundraisers that benefit the band. It is important for the fundraisers to be as successful as possible. The funds generated by these projects augment the monies provided by the district. All specifics regarding the fundraisers will be communicated to parents via handouts prior to the time of the program. Participation in fundraisers is voluntary, but it is important to note that the District spends upwards of \$200 per student throughout the band performance year.

In September we will begin our annual sponsorship fundraiser for the band program. It's anticipated that more information will be given early in September. The program will involve all band students from grades 6-12 this year. This is our biggest fundraiser and helps our entire program.

The Junior High Students will have our own fundraiser with details to come at a later date. Student participation is never required, but it is the best we can do to help support them beyond the funds the school allocates.

## **Marching Band Assistants**

As seventh and eighth graders, students become eligible to help with the High School Marching band at high school games and competitions. Students that choose to participate will help move equipment and assist elsewhere as needed. This is not an activity designed for socializing. These students will need to attend at least a few Monday evening rehearsals. We will get volunteers and more information out as the year begins. With a large front ensemble and several props it is imperative to have student help.

All students that attend as a marching band assistant are expected to remain with the band at all times unless instructed otherwise by Mr. Williams or Mr. Rash. Students are expected to wear a band shirt (junior high or high school) and maintain all school rules while with the group.

Interested students should speak to Mr. Williams. Any student that is not passing classes will not be eligible to participate until eligibility is restored.

## Social Media

Social Media can be a powerful tool for communication with people locally and around the world. The Odem Bands maintain three groups on Facebook: Odem High School Band, Odem Junior High School Band, and Owl Band Boosters. On Twitter the band may be followed as TheSpiritofOHS. While the band program utilizes the powerful communication that may be achieved through social media, we remind students that items posted to any network across the internet should be assumed to exist forever. Students should understand that once an item is on a social network it is forever out there for anyone to screen capture, video, or save the item to their own device. If the use of social media or electronic expression results in a substantial disruption of the operation of school or violate District policies, including but not limited to FFH and FFI (Legal and Local), disciplinary measures may be taken

## Performance Attire Requirements

Band members are expected to maintain a neat appearance at all performances. Uniform is applicable to each performing group for the concert attire.

### **Pep rallies (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Graders):**

- Odem Band T-shirt
- Nice blue jeans or shorts (must be blue), or khaki pants.
- Athletic shoes (no sandals, etc.)
- Clothes must meet school dress code rules.

### **All Concert Performance Events (All Grades – Winter, Spring, UIL Contest):**

- Ladies – BLACK slacks or skirt – and BLACK blouse, OR a long black dress. Skirts and dresses must fall to ankle length. Dresses and blouses may not be sleeveless or have low collar lines. If a dress or skirt is worn ladies need to wear pantyhose!
  - Please note the change we made a couple years ago. We moved to ladies wearing **All Black** for our performances. Thanks for your assistance!
- Gentlemen – BLACK slacks and WHITE nice button-up shirt, solid dark blue tie.
- All students must wear BLACK dress shoes and black socks.

\*As a band we want to look as professional as possible, please keep your outfit tasteful. If it is deemed otherwise students will be sent home to change, and not allowed back until they are dressed appropriately.

Enjoy your three years as a member of one the finest Junior High Bands in the State of Texas!

# 2017-2018 Band Fees

In order to simplify the collection of funds for the Odem Bands we are going to continue to collect our Student Fees for band. This fee will pay for items students are already expected to purchase plus an additional \$50 per student to help offset other costs. The **Spring Fee\*** is reduced to \$0.00 if a parent volunteers in the Concession Stand for the Band Boosters one night during the Fall Football Season. One parent will count for a family if there are multiple students in that family.

## Junior High School Fees:

### Fall Fees

All Seventh and Eighth Grade Members	\$25.00
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*Fall fee Includes T-Shirt and additional supplies*

### Spring Fees

All Seventh and Eighth Grade Members	\$50.00*
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## Junior High School Fee Payment Schedule:

September 5 <sup>th</sup> Fall Fee:	\$25.00
January 12 <sup>th</sup> Spring Fee:	\$50.00###

For families with two to three students in the band program the Spring Fee will be reduced to \$30/student. For more than three students the fee will be reduced to \$20/student.

Students will not receive their band shirt until they have made their first payment.

# 2017-2018 Odem JH Bands Calendar

Date:	Event:	Location:
<b>August 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Beginning Band Instrument Drive</b>	<b>OJH Band Hall</b>
<b>September 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Mandatory Parent Meeting 7-12</b>	<b>OHS Cafetorium</b>
October 7 <sup>th</sup>	Goliad Marching Showcase	Goliad
October 14 <sup>th</sup>	Cuero Marching Contest	Cuero
October 21 <sup>st</sup>	UIL Region Marching Contest	Sinton HS
October 28 <sup>th</sup>	UIL Area Marching Contest	Cuero HS
November 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup>	UIL State Marching Contest	Alamodome
<b>December 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>All-Region Band Auditions (JH and HS)</b>	<b>West Oso</b>
<b>December 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>All-Region Band Clinic/Concert (JH and HS)</b>	<b>Kingsville (Memorial MS and TAMUK)</b>
<b>December 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Beginning Band Dress Rehearsal @ 3:45</b>	<b>OJH Band Hall</b>
<b>December 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>JH and HS Winter Concert (JH @ 6:30pm, HS @ 8:00pm)</b>	<b>OHS Cafetorium</b>
December 19 <sup>th</sup>	HS Jazz Winter Evening of Jazz Concert	OHS Cafetorium
<b>February 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>MS All-Region Jazz Recordings Due</b>	
<b>February 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>First Annual Odem S&amp;E Recital</b>	<b>OHS Cafetorium</b>
<b>February 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest (JH and HS)</b>	<b>Robstown (Seale JH)</b>
<b>February 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Pre-UIL Contest Concert (JH and HS)</b>	<b>OHS Cafetorium</b>
<b>March 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest (JH and HS)</b>	<b>Goliad</b>
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	Tentative Windi and Jazzi Fundraiser	OHS Cafetorium
<b>April 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>All-Region Jazz Clinic and Concert (JH and HS)</b>	<b>Goliad</b>
<b>April 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>JH Symphonic Winds and HS Concert Band Spring Concert</b>	<b>OHS Cafetorium</b>
<b>April TBA</b>	<b>JH Symphonic Winds Festival Performance</b>	
<b>May 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Beginning Band Dress Rehearsal @ 3:45</b>	<b>OJH Band Hall</b>
<b>May 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>JH Beginning Band and Concert Band Spring Concert</b>	<b>OHS Cafetorium</b>
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	Screeching Owl Jazz Evening of Jazz	OHS Cafetorium
<b>May 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Graduation (Symph Winds)</b>	<b>Owl Stadium</b>
May 30 <sup>th</sup> -June 1 <sup>st</sup>	Drumline and Front Ensemble Camp (Tentative)	Odem
June 3 <sup>rd</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Odem HS Band Trip to Orlando	Orlando

\* All Items in bold are Junior High Events

## **ODEM BANDS HISTORICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Odem High School Superior at UIL Region Marching Band Contest  
1972-1983, 1987, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1999, 2003, 2004, 2006-Present

Advanced to UIL Area Marching Band Contest  
1999, 2003, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015

Finalists at UIL Area Marching Band Contest  
2013, 2015

Semi-Finalists at the UIL State Marching Band Contest  
2013: 12<sup>th</sup> Place at State

Sweepstakes Odem High School (Varsity)  
1957, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1983, 2008, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017

Sweepstakes Odem High School (Non-Varsity)  
2011 and 2015

Sweepstakes Odem Junior High School (Varsity)  
2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017

Sweepstakes Odem Junior High School (Non-Varsity)  
2011

Odem Junior High School ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series 'Concert Selection' State  
Champion  
2015

Odem Junior High School ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series 'Concert March' State Runner-  
Up  
2014

Odem Junior High School ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series State Finalists  
2010, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

Odem High School ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series State Finalists  
2017

Odem Junior High School TMEA State Honor Band Semi-Finalist  
2012

Total All-State Students: 7

2015, 2016, & 2017 Odem-Edroy ISD Named as One of the "Best Communities for Music  
Education" by the NAMM Foundation



## Odem Bands Charms Registration Sheet

### Student Data Sheet

Name (first, middle, last)	
Address	
City, St Zip	
Home Phone	
Cell Phone	
Cell Company	
E-mail	
Grade	
Gender	
Instrument	
Birthdate	
Groups	
<b>Adult 1 Information</b>	
Adult Name (first last)	
Address	
City, St Zip	
Home Phone	
Work Phone	
Cell Phone	
Cell Company	
E-mail	
Relation	
Occupation	
<b>Adult 2 Information</b>	
Adult Name (first last)	
Address	
City, St Zip	
Home Phone	
Work Phone	
Cell Phone	
Cell Company	
E-mail	
Relation	
Occupation	

ODEM-EDROY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PERMISSION FORM, WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS

By signing below, as the parent or guardian of the student listed below, I acknowledge and agree to the waiver of liability and grant permission for: (print name of student) \_\_\_\_\_ to attend all approved extracurricular travel with the Odem JH Bands. I understand that student must obey the sponsors and all school rules and may be disciplined for behavior while on school sponsored trips. I also understand the ODEM-EDROY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, its employees, and/or sponsors, are not liable for injuries suffered by students while on any school sponsored trip, except for use and operation of a motor vehicle or as otherwise provided by law. The parent/guardian by signing below grants permission for the employees to secure needed medical services for the above-named student if necessary. Said parent or guardian agrees to be financially responsible for the medical services.

For and in consideration of my child or ward being permitted to continue the activity noted above, I hereby release and discharge the Odem-Edroy Independent School District, its trustees, administrators, teachers, coaches, employees, officers, agents, volunteers and assigns, all both in their official and in their individual capacities, from any and all claims or causes of action for personal injury or property damage, whether to myself/ourselves or to the student named above, caused by, arising out of or in any way related to the above-described activity.

**THIS RELEASE EXPRESSLY EXTENDS TO ALL CLAIMS OR CAUSES OF ACTION OF ANY ORIGIN, INCLUDING THOSE ARISING AS A RESULT OF THE NEGLIGENCE OF ODEM-EDROY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ITS TRUSTEES, ADMINISTRATORS, TEACHERS, COACHES, EMPLOYEES, OFFICERS, AGENTS, VOLUNTEERS AND ASSIGNS, ALL BOTH IN THEIR OFFICIAL AND IN THEIR INDIVIDUAL CAPACITIES, OR ANY OTHER PERSON OR ENTITY, WHETHER BY ACT OR OMISSION. I FURTHER AGREE AND COVENANT TO NOT SUE ODEM-EDROY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ITS TRUSTEES, ADMINISTRATORS, TEACHERS, COACHES, EMPLOYEES, OFFICERS, AGENTS, VOLUNTEERS OR ASSIGNS FOR SUCH CLAIMS OR CAUSES OF ACTION.**

I have read this Permission Form, Waiver of Liability and Release of Claims and understand all of its terms and conditions. I execute this Permission Form, Waiver of Liability and Release of Claims voluntarily and with full knowledge of its significance. Finally, I acknowledge and agree that this Permission Form, Waiver of Liability and Release of Claims remains in effect until I deliver written notice to the Superintendent of Odem-Edroy Independent School District that I am withdrawing my permission.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Parent/Guardian)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Student)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed Name of Parent/Guardian)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed Name of Student)

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_



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# ODEM-EDROY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## ⚙ MEDICAL CONSENT / BEHAVIOR AGREEMENT FORM ⚙

As the parent/legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, I request that while my child is traveling or performing with the Odem-Edroy band and in my absence, should the above-named child or adult be admitted to any hospital or medical facility for diagnosis and treatment, I request and authorize physicians, nurses, dentists, and staff, to perform any diagnostic procedures, treatment procedures, and operative procedures to the above-named individual. I have not been given any guarantee as to the results of any treatment if performed on the above-named individual.

I understand any financial responsibilities for my child for medical expenses are not covered by Odem-Edroy ISD insurance and are the obligation of the student/participant and his/her parent/guardian.

In the event that the above-named student is presented for, or requires medical treatment or surgery or any other form of medical care or aid, I, parent/legal guardian of the above-named student, do hereby authorize the Directors/Sponsors/chaperones to be consulted with, and consent to, any medical treatment or care deemed necessary by any doctor, nurse or other medical personnel. I also guarantee payment of all charges incurred for medical treatment such as, but not limited to physician, hospital, x-ray, lab, drugs, and EMS.

This form must be signed and returned to the Odem Band Directors before the student will be permitted to participate in any off-campus activity.

*Any representative of Odem-Edroy ISD or sponsors are designated to act on my behalf until I have been contacted and withdraw my permission.*

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ for the above-named individual.

Date of last Tetanus Booster \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ for the above-named individual.

List known allergies and reactions of the above-named individual, including any allergies to medicine:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Note other special medical problems about the above-named individual.

\_\_\_\_\_  
List medications, prescription and over the counter, the above-named individual will bring with them. STUDENTS MUST BRING PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN THEIR ORIGINAL CONTAINER WITH DOSAGE REQUIREMENTS.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Family Physician: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Parents/ Legal Guardians: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: H \_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Person Responsible for Medical Charges (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: H \_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Other Person to Notify if Parent/Legal Guardian is unavailable: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: H \_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

IDENTIFY YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY AND PROVIDE A COPY OF THE INSURANCE CARD WITH THIS DOCUMENT:

Insurance Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Policy or Group Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

⚙ ⚙ ⚙ ⚙ BEHAVIOR AGREEMENT ⚙ ⚙ ⚙ ⚙

Students, even when off campus, are still subject to the school rules and regulations when participating with the Odem JH Band. I understand that any student who does not conduct himself/herself properly may be:

- (1) sent home at the parent's expense;
- (2) prohibited from participating in future activities of this organization; and/or
- (3) subject to other appropriate disciplinary action.

I, \_\_\_\_\_[student name] agree to comply with the rules, policies, Code of Conduct and regulations of Odem-Edroy ISD, teachers, and chaperones. I understand inappropriate action (such as bringing, purchasing, or using drugs or alcohol) during any event or trip will result in immediate removal from the Band. I also understand that at the discretion of the sponsors that I may be dismissed from the trip for violations described in the Band Code of Conduct and OEISD Code of Conduct and that any costs associated with my early return will be borne by my parent/Guardians.

By signing this document, the parent and/or legal guardian releases the Odem-Edroy Independent School District and the Odem JH Band directors, chaperones, volunteers, etc. from any and all claims resulting from the injury of the above-named student or the loss of property of the above -named student while participating

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_