



Pearl Junior High School Eighth Grade Information

www.pearlpirateband.org

Dear Eighth Grade Students & Parents,

Welcome back to the Pearl ***"Pirate"*** Band Program!! Please read the items below so that you may become reacquainted with the band program, and how we will start off the beginning of the year. Our number one goal during the eighth grade is preparing students for the Pearl 'Pirate' Band when they move on to the high school.

1. **Eighth Grade Band** is a continuation of the skills learned in the seventh grade, and the development of further musicianship. This third year in band offers more performance opportunities for students as a group, and as individuals. **The main goal for this year will be to prepare you to be effective performers in the Pearl High School Band.**
2. **The 8th Grade Band offers many performance opportunities.** They are scheduled to include PJHS night August 25 @ PHS, pep rallies, some Junior High Football Games (August 29, Sept. 5, 12, 26), Christmas Concert (November 28) and Christmas Parades (Dec. 1 and 2), one student to the State Band Clinic (December 6-9), PJHS Band Clinic Jan. 19-20, East Central Miss. Band Clinic Feb. 1-3, Band Festival (March 22), and the Spring Concert (May 7). The Junior High Band receives a portion of the concession stand proceeds at all home games. We will be calling on 8th grade parents for help on home game days. We would greatly appreciate parent help in the concession stand.
3. **Our uniform** We will wear our blue polo shirt and khaki for concerts. If you do not have a pair of plain khaki pants, you must invest in some. We also will be getting a dry-fit shirt and black shorts to wear for pep rallies and football games. These must be worn at performances. The cost for the dry fit shirt and shorts is \$25. ***If your polo shirt from last year still fits, wear it.
4. **There is a band fee paid each semester.** Students who play their own instrument pay \$25.00 each semester. Students who play a school owned instrument pay \$60.00 each semester. These fees are used for the purchase of method books, solos, school bus travel, and instrument maintenance, etc. These fees are due at the end of August and at the end of January. You may pay this in the band office. Checks are payable to Pearl Junior High. ***All cash/checks must be turned into the band office in an envelope with the student name and purpose (dues, shirt, etc.) on the outside. YOU MUST PAY YOUR FEES IN ORDER TO PERFORM ON CONCERTS.***

5. **Third Class Musicianship Pass-off system.** This year students will be required to pass off scales, arpeggios, and other requirements to be eligible for spring performance opportunities and membership in the Pearl High School band. Students will be given a list of these requirements, which are similar to what we took tests on in the past.
6. **We are very careful to stress** to the students the proper care and maintenance of their instrument. Please help us by keeping instruments in the assigned locker/place in the band hall while they are at school. The school cannot be responsible for lost or stolen instruments. For this reason, we insist that personal instruments be taken home at the end of the day. All band students except Baritone, Tuba, and Percussion will have an assigned instrument locker. Each student must have a combination lock (no keys) for this locker. We will keep a record of combinations in Charms. If a student forgets a combination regularly, the student will lose their locker.
7. **High School Band Helpers** will have the opportunity to assist with the high school band at their marching performances. We will have a sign-up for those interested. **There is a significant financial investment to be a band helper to cover travel to games and contests.** Students must demonstrate responsibility and be trustworthy to be selected. All that sign up may not be selected. The ten to twenty students selected must be available to attend all of the Friday night high school football games and the scheduled contests in the fall and pay their helper fees up front. It will also be necessary for them to attend some of the Thursday evening practices. We will notify you of the details in a future letter.
8. **All band members (except school owned horns)** will need to go purchase a lyre for their instrument from a music store. A lyre will hold their flip folder (provided by the band) on their horn for our football game performances. Each lyre is specific to the type of horn you have so take your horn with you to the store when purchasing to make sure it fits. These must be purchased by the first jr. high football game, August 29.
9. **For instrument repairs,** please see a band director before you put a horn in the shop. Sometimes we can help speed up the process if we know about it ahead of time. We don't want you to be without an instrument in class because you will get behind.
10. **We want to stay in contact with you.** Please make sure you know how to log in to Charms to view your information. You can also keep up with fees online and pay them this way. Sign up for Remind101 by texting @pearlj to 601-714-2363.

Pearl Junior High School Band Fees

The Pearl Junior High Band fee for students who have purchased their own instrument is \$25.00 (twenty-five dollars) per semester.

The total yearly fee for students who have purchased their own instrument is \$50.00 (fifty dollars).

The first semester fee is due by August 31.
The second semester fee is due by January 31.

The band fee for students who play a school-owned instrument will be \$60.00 (sixty dollars) per semester. This consists of the \$25.00 (twenty-five dollar) band fee plus a \$35.00 (thirty-five dollar) rental fee.

The total yearly fee for students playing a school-owned instrument will be \$120.00 (one hundred twenty dollars).

The first semester fee is due by August 31.
The second semester fee is due by January 31.

Failure to pay the fees stated above may result in the student not being able to perform with the band and the student's grade may suffer as a result.

***If you have a financial hardship and cannot pay the fee, you must make this known to the band directors in advance of the due date and a payment plan can be worked out.

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Pearl Band Information

This information is essential to help us keep you up to date and informed.

1. Student name and contact information.

Student _____

Cell Phone _____

Email _____

2. Adult/Guardian 1 name and contact information. **We MUST HAVE at least one parent email address.**

Relation _____

First and Last Name _____

Cell Phone Number _____

Email _____

3. Adult/Guardian 2 name and contact information.

Relation _____

First and Last Name _____

Cell Phone Number _____

Email _____

4. Student t-shirt size _____

5. (8th Grade Students Only) Athletic short size _____

I have read and understand the "Pearl Junior High School Band Fees" letter and agree to pay them as stated on the band fee letter.

I also understand that attendance at all concerts and performances is required unless excused because of sickness, family emergency, or prior approval by a band director. The full band handbook rules can be found online at www.pearlpirateband.org.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

2017-2018

8th Grade Band Important Dates

August 25 – PJHS night at PHS Football Game 5:30 pm

August 29 – 8th Grade Football Game 6:00 pm

September 5 – 8th Grade Football Game 6:00 pm

September 12 - 8th Grade Football Game 6:00 pm

September 26 - 8th Grade Football Game 6:00 pm

November 28 – PJHS Christmas Concert @ 6:30 pm

December 1 – Hudspeth Christmas Parade during school

December 2 – Pearl Christmas Parade 9:00 am

January 19-20 – PJHS Band Clinic for selected students

February 1-3 – ECMBDA for selected students

March 22 – CMC Band Festival @ Ridgeland during
school

May 7 – Spring Concert 6:30 pm

Pearl High School Band
8th Grade Helper Information

Your student has expressed interest in being a high school band helper. This a very important part of making our high school band successful. Please check that you will be available for ALL of the dates listed below. The dates listed are rehearsals, football games, and band contest performances. Each student selected will be given a specific job to do so it is very important that all performances are attended. There will also be Thursday night rehearsals which we will ask helpers to attend as well. These are on Thursdays starting in late September from 6:00 until 8:00. All Thursday night rehearsals may not be required. We will communicate exact times for Band helpers on a weekly basis.

We will travel to Lewisburg High School in Olive Branch, MS to attend a marching contest. We will depart on Saturday morning and return very late that evening.

The \$65 fee for this is to cover the cost of the PHS Band T-Shirt and travel to the contest via charter bus. This fee can be paid through our charms system if your student serves in this position.

An exact schedule of dates has been included on the back of this form. Please contact Mr. Rowan or Mr. Harrell if you have questions or concerns. We would love to have your student serve in this position!

Thanks,

Matt Rowan – mrowan@pearl.k12.ms.us – 601-932-7939

Jason Harrell – jharrell@pearl.k12.ms.us – 601-932-7960

(Cut, Sign, and Return Bottom Portion to the PJHS Band)

8th Grade Helper Information

Student Name: _____ **Parent Name:** _____

Parent Signature: _____

(For Remind Messaging and Communication Purposes Only)

Parent Email address: _____

Parent Cell #: _____ **Student Cell #:** _____

ANY UNEXCUSED ABSENCES WILL RESULT IN TERMINATION AS A BAND HELPER.

8th Grade Band Helper Dates

Friday, August 18 – PHS vs. Brookhaven (AWAY) Report @ 4:15 PM to PHS

Friday, August 25 – PHS vs. Warren Central (Home) Report @ 6:00 PM

Friday, September 1 – PHS vs. Northwest Rankin (HOME)

Friday, September 15 – PHS vs. Madison Central (Away)

Thursday, September 21 – Rehearsal @ PHS 6-8 PM

Friday, September 22 – PHS vs. Petal (AWAY)

Thursday, September 28 – Rehearsal @ PHS 6-8 PM

Friday, September 29 – PHS vs. Meridian (HOME)

Thursday, October 5 – Rehearsal @ PHS 6-8 PM

Friday, October 6 – PHS vs. Terry (AWAY)

Saturday, October 7 – Lewisburg Marching Contest @ Lewisburg High School – Olive Branch, MS

Thursday, October 12 – Rehearsal @ PHS 6-8 PM

**Saturday, October 14 – MHSAA STATE MARCHING FESTIVAL @ PEARL HIGH SCHOOL
PARENT HELP NEEDED**

Thursday, October 19 – Rehearsal @ PHS 6-9 PM

Friday, October 20 – PHS vs. Jim Hill (Homecoming)

Thursday, October 26 – Rehearsal @ PHS 6-8 PM

Friday, October 27 – PHS vs. Oak Grove (HOME)

Saturday, October 28 – MHSAA State Marching Championships @ Germantown

Friday, November 3 – PHS vs. Brandon (AWAY)

**Saturday, November 4 – MHSAA State Marching Championships @ Pearl
PARENT HELP NEEDED**