

W. Charles Akins Eagle Band



10701 South First Street Austin, TX 78748
Phone 841-9804



Eagles

Greetings W. Charles Akins Band Family!

Please be sure to check the band website at AkinsEagleBand.org for updates and other important information. On the website you will find the summer band schedule, the calendar for the entire year, and the 2011-12 Fair Share payment date.

Fair Share: As you know, AISD budget does not cover all the expenses necessary to run a top a band program. Therefore there is an annual Fair Share that every band and guard member must pay to help with expenses such as clinicians, purchase of music, etc... This year's Fair Share is \$250.00 – see the attached letter from the booster president for more information.

Summer Band Preparation: Be sure to acclimate yourself to the sun before summer band begins! Take walks, go swimming, run or bike on Town Lake. Just get out, slowly get some sun, and drink lots of water. These little details will pay off when rehearsals begin!

Required items for summer band rehearsals:

Large (1 Gallon) Water Jug Necessity – daily. The clear plastic bottles are not very good for you.

Sack Lunch Eat breakfast every day and also have a sack lunch. No one is allowed to leave during lunch break.

White T-Shirts and Shorts 100% Cotton fabric! White is important for keeping you cool and reflecting the sun. Shorts are necessary for movement during marching.

Athletic Shoes No flip flops at all. Also, Vans and other flat bottomed shoes like Converse are not good for marching. Running shoes, tennis shoes, etc... are needed.

Music Lyre Make sure to have this by August 1. Flip Folders will be provided. Tubas do not need lyres. (Pick them up at most music stores in Austin.)

If you are to play on a school owned instrument (oboes, bassoons, low reeds, horns, euphoniums, tubas) and do not have one checked out, please contact Mr. Golden as soon as possible. (841-9828 or Andrew.Golden@austinisd.org) Email is the best method of communication as it is checked much more frequently than the school phone. Also, if you are anticipating any conflicts with summer band, please contact us to find out if we can work something out. Attendance is key to success, and we have great attendance. If you are not in attendance at rehearsals we cannot guarantee that you will start out having a marching position, but if we know of conflicts in advance we can try to work things out. School related conflicts can be worked with, but non academic issues are less likely to be excused, so please keep that in mind as well.

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Drum Majors, Section Leaders, Band Officers, and Color Guard Captains:

We will be working at the band hall from 8AM to 5PM Wednesday July 20th to Friday July 22nd. During this time we will be going over fundamentals of marching, leadership, and performance. It is imperative that all leaders attend this camp. We will have time to eat at noon so you will need to bring a sack lunch. Also, the fee for the camp will be \$15.00 and you will need to pay by the first day. If you have any conflicts, please contact us as soon as possible so we can work them out.

Bring the following:

Instrument and show music

White shirt, shorts, athletic shoes

Sun screen

Water!

Be prepared to speak with your peers and directors about leadership, commitment, goals, and what this band means to you. We will all speak and discuss.

Be prepared to pass off and work on all of the show music. Your preparedness will show us how successful you want the band to be this year.

Other Expenses to Anticipate Are:

Marching shoes (approx \$29.25) – Required

Uniform bag w/Akins Logo –(\$28.25) Nylon Bag (\$11.50) – Required

Tote bag – (approx \$34.75) – Optional

Gloves \$3.00/pair

(We will have a few Gently Used Uniform Bags and Totes available to purchase on site (limited Qty.)

AISD Instrument/Equipment Usage Fee: AISD requires that we collect the instrument usage fee of \$25.00 per semester (\$50.00 yearly). All students using a school owned instrument or using school equipment need to pay the Fall Instrument fee by August 6th. This expense is also another that we must be responsible for.

AISD Region Fees: *In the Spring, there are fees for Region and UIL Contests, however these fees are only \$10 per contest. If we decide to do a band trip which would include a competition there will be a fee per student as well. However, students will be able to do fundraisers for band trips.*

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