

Luther Burbank High School

2022-2023

Mariachi Handbook

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Foreword

The success of any organization is dependent upon the spirit, pride, leadership, teamwork, dedication, and cooperation of its members. Certain rules, policies, and procedures are necessary so that the overall goals of the group are met and the welfare of each individual member is best served.

By accepting membership in the Burbank Mariachi Program, you are agreeing to perform to the best of your abilities and work together with the Mariachi staff in making this year's Mariachi the finest musical organization that our combined efforts can produce. The director will do his best to insure that every student will be provided the opportunity to be successful, regardless of their ability as an incoming student or of their career ambitions following graduation.

The mariachi director has developed this handbook to familiarize each mariachi member with general operation and procedures and standards by which all mariachi members are expected to conduct themselves. The handbook is not intended to be all-inclusive, as every possible situation and question cannot be predicted in advance; however, a thorough knowledge of these materials is essential to the smooth operation and success of the band this year.

Mission

The Mission of Mariachi Estrellas de Oro is to mold young adults to be better human beings for the world through music. We are going to relentlessly chase perfection knowing full well we will not catch it because nothing is perfect. But, we will continue to chase it because in the process we will catch excellence. We are not remotely interested in just being good.

Goals and Objectives

Mental and physical discipline

Develop powers of concentration

Memorize music

Learn techniques of preparation as they relate to group and individual performances

Develop self and group discipline

Citizenship through group endeavor

Develop leadership abilities

Develop responsibility

Develop ability to cooperate with others and to work as a team member

Develop diligence

Develop mutual respect

Physical conditioning

Develop strength, stamina, endurance and coordination

Cultural growth

Provide opportunities to attain knowledge of music history through performance of various types of Mariachi literature

Value judgments

Ability to make musical value (as they pertain to a musical setting) judgments through critical listening

Recognition of quality of sound, pitch, style, tempo, rhythm, blend, balance, phrasing, dynamics, and articulation

Music theory

Know and utilize note values and rest

Know and utilize keys, key signatures, and scales

Know and utilize musical terms, signs, and symbols

Recognize and tune intervals and harmony

Ear training/listening skills

Proper instrumental technique

Care of the instrument

Assume correct posture and playing position

Develop the embouchure/pick grip/hand position

Develop characteristic instrumental tone

Develop proper breathing techniques

Develop technical instrumental proficiency

(fingering, articulation, rudiments, scales, etc.)

Creative self-expression

Express oneself in every performance experience

Explore careers

In addition to the State of Texas guidelines, Mariachi Estrellas de Oro will strive to:

Provide any interested student with opportunities for musical knowledge, musical fellowship, and fun through participation in mariachi

Provide for the mental, physical, social, and emotional development of students

Instill pride and discipline in each student

Provide each student with solo and group endeavors to achieve personal goals and satisfaction

Provide basic psychological needs such as recognition, belonging, self-respect, and a feeling of achievement

Communication

The director encourages positive communication and is willing to discuss any aspect of a student's progress in mariachi with his/her parents. Specific directors' office phone numbers and email addresses can be found on the school web site at <https://schools.saisd.net/page/002.homepage>

Auditions

All students are required to audition for select performance ensembles. The Mariachi Director determines audition requirements and the director will notify students of audition dates, requirements, and results. The director will serve as an evaluator during auditions. Audition material will reflect the director's anticipated performance level for the students and will be based on prior learning, and auditions may be live or recorded at the director's discretion. Students will be re-evaluated periodically for participation in select performance ensembles.

Conduct/Expectations

Mariachi members will observe all policies set forth by SAISD, in addition to the following, as they pertain to the instrumental music setting:

Students in mariachi serve as representatives of the school and school district at many public extra-curricular functions. Membership in these organizations is a privilege and it is within the right of any director to deny membership to a student if they believe that they would not positively represent the organization.

Any behavior, which is not representative of good citizenship, as perceived by the mariachi staff, may result in the student's dismissal from the activity at hand as well as the mariachi program. This also applies to the actions of student leaders in both public and private events.

All students are expected to conduct themselves in an ethical manner at all times. Display of profanity, temper, flagrant violation of rules, etc., will not be tolerated. Individual behavior during a mariachi function is a reflection of the group.

Students will follow directors' instructions.

Students will be in their assigned rehearsal area ready to work at the set rehearsal time with all equipment, including music, pencil, instrument, and all supplies to rehearsals daily.

Students will keep hands, feet, and other objects to themselves.

Students will not use or play on equipment they do not own without permission from a director.

Students will not touch, handle, borrow, or use anyone else's instrument, uniform, or personal belongings.

Students should request permission to speak by raising their hand and waiting to be acknowledged. All rehearsals are expected to be extremely quiet so that time will be utilized wisely and as efficiently as possible.

When allowed in the mariachi hall, either before or after school, students will not disturb any rehearsal in progress.

Students will respect the property of others, and return their equipment to its proper storage place when not in use. Students should keep their equipment in the designated storage area, and keep said storage area clean and neat in appearance. Students who demonstrate great difficulty with this may lose the privilege of having a storage area in the mariachi hall.

Students will not deface or mark on music stands, chairs, walls, etc.

Students will not write on dry-erase board without permission from a director.

Students will utilize their assigned storage slot/locker for instrument cases during rehearsals. Cases should not be brought into rehearsals unless requested by a director.

Program Course Expectations

Students understand that Mariachi Estrellas de Oro is a full year course. Students that enroll at the start of the school year understand that it is not semester based, but continues all school year long. Students that leave the program and want to later become a part of the program again will be allowed in the program at the director discretion.

Internet

Maintaining a higher standard of conduct will also include ensuring that mariachi member websites are appropriate. The internet is a worldwide, publicly accessible form of communication. Any communication such as **Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Tik Tok Facebook, photo sharing, emailing, or texting, etc.**, appearing on the internet is public domain, even if it is marked private. Members are responsible for their personal websites and postings, as well as posting from or on other students' websites. The areas of appropriateness will include but are not limited to profane, foul, or disrespectful language (abbreviated or alluding to), pictures, suggestive poses, clothing, references to alcohol, drugs, and/or tobacco, and postings (either verbal or photos) that could be interpreted as being negative or threatening towards other SAISD teaching staff or mariachi members, or that demonstrate poor sportsmanship or a disrespectful attitude towards other mariachis. Any such incident will result in review by the principal (or designee) and may lead to probation or dismissal from the mariachi.

Mariachi members that violate the above internet guidelines shall be subject to the following:

Upon confirmation of a first violation, the member will be asked to remove any offensive items from the website(s) and will be asked to give an apology and plan of action to deter this behavior to the principal, directors, and mariachi members. Parents/guardians will be contacted and made aware of the offensive behavior.

Upon confirmation of a second offense, the member will be asked to remove any offensive items from the website(s) and will be asked to give an apology and plan of action to deter this behavior to the principal, directors, and mariachi members. Parents/guardians will be contacted and made aware of the offensive behavior. In addition, the student will be suspended from all Mariachi activities for a period of 3 days to 3 weeks.

Upon confirmation of a third offense, the member will be removed from Mariachi.

Care of the Mariachi Facilities

Refreshments – No gum, food or drinks are allowed in the building except when authorized by the director.

Litter – All trash (paper, broken picks/strings, etc.) is to be deposited in the wastebaskets provided.

Vandalism – Acts of vandalism or the willful misuse of school property will be dealt with severely and appropriately. Every mariachi member is responsible to help the director's monitor the facility and control vandalism, which includes writing or carving on walls, destroying music, or breaking school property.

Workroom/Library/Storage – Absolutely no student is allowed in these areas without permission. The copy machine is off limits without permission!

Practice & Ensemble Rooms – Are designed for practicing, not social gatherings.

Offices – Please knock, and if you are invited in, you may enter. Otherwise, they are off-limits to students. Students may not use director's phone without permission.

Attendance

In order to have and maintain a high quality mariachi program, attendance from all members is essential. While SAISD mariachis follow all school and district policies and procedures, the following additional guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies for the mariachi program. These attendance guidelines also apply to activities held outside of the school day.

Roll Check

Roll will be checked and documented promptly at the start of rehearsal.

Tardiness

Students not in their designated area at the appropriate time will be marked tardy. A tardy will be converted to a mark of absent 10 minutes after the rehearsal begins.

Excused Tardiness

Tardiness may be excused at the discretion of the director. Tutorials, appointments etc. will not be an excuse for tardiness unless prior arrangements, with written documentation, are made and approved by the director.

Unexcused Tardiness

Students who have more than one unexcused tardy shall make up missed time at a time to be arranged by the director and may be subject to one of the following consequences at the discretion of the band directors:

- Loss of spot as a primary performer
- Loss of performance privilege (for one concert)
- Requirement to stay after rehearsal or report early to next rehearsal to make up lost time
- Requirement to make up 15 minutes of fundamental techniques with his/her section leader
- Removal from program

Absence

Students not present at the appropriate time may be marked absent.

Excused Absence

Absences will be excused at the discretion of the director. Appointments, tutorials etc. will not be an excuse for absence. Absence due to personal illness requiring medical attention, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances may be considered for excused status. Communication to director for understanding and approval is needed. Students who are continually ill may be required to provide a doctor's note releasing them from participation in order to ensure the wellbeing of the child and to reduce concerns of the mariachi director. If in doubt, an absence should be checked with the director.

Special note: Students have two afternoons, or more, free per week. These days should be used for appointments and routine professional visits. During the concert season, students will generally be responsible for only one weekly section rehearsal and one group rehearsals as needed. Thus, students will have ample days available for tutorials and appointments.

Unexcused Absence

Students who have an unexcused absence may be subject to one or more of the following consequences at the discretion of the directors:

- Loss of spot as a primary performer
- Loss of performance privilege (for one concert)
- Requirement to stay after rehearsal or report early to next rehearsal to make up lost time
- Requirement to make up 15 minutes of fundamental techniques with his/her section leader
- Removal from program
- Removal from the mariachi program and loss of arts education credit.
- Parents will be notified immediately.

Daily Supplies

The following list is what each student should plan to bring to the appropriate rehearsal and/or performance. Other items may be added at the discretion of the directors.

All issued music

Pencil

Instrument

All supplies relative to their instrument

Music stand/folder

Metronome and Tuner

Other mariachi equipment as needed (could vary from year to year)

The following list for each instrument is composed of preferred or highly recommended supplies and equipment. Any deviance from this list should be approved by a director. Private lesson teachers may make recommendations that stray from this list after consulting with the Burbank mariachi director.

Violins

- Bow
- Rosin
- Shoulder rest
- Replacement strings
- Tuner
- Approved type instrument

Trumpet

- Valve Oil (Al Cass)
- Polishing cloth
- Mouthpiece (Bach 3c) or other director approved mouthpiece
- Approved type instrument

Armonia

- Guitar strap
- Pick
- Replacement strings
- Tuner
- Approved type instrument

Guitarron

- Guitarron strap
- Replacement strings
- Tuner
- Approved type instrument

District-Owned Instruments

Burbank High School/SAISD is able to provide a limited number of musical instruments for student use throughout the school year. Burbank Mariachi staff members will provide appropriate instructions on the safe care and handling of the Burbank/SAISD-owned musical instruments.

For this reason, students and parents should work to insure the safety and security of the instrument at all times, including appropriate care regarding temperature and weather conditions. Burbank staff members will verify the condition of the instrument upon check-out and document this condition with photograph(s). The full repair or the replacement cost for any damage caused by negligence after check-out will be the sole responsibility of the student and the parent/guardian. As with all SAISD property, if the student moves out of this attendance zone, the instrument will be returned to the assigned campus.

Eligibility

All Burbank Mariachis adhere to the eligibility rules and regulations as stated by TEA and UIL.

Some mariachi activities are designated as extra-curricular, such as mariachi. Students participating in these activities are governed by eligibility requirements. A student shall be suspended from participation in all extra-curricular activities sponsored or sanctioned by the school district during the nine week period following a grade reporting period in which the student received a grade lower than seventy in any class. Loss of eligibility does not take effect until seven days after the end of the reporting period. Ineligible students are not suspended from practice or rehearsal of extra-curricular activities, and thus are expected to attend and participate at every practice and rehearsal. The student is not suspended from participation during the period in which school is recessed for the summer or any other vacation time.

Students may regain eligibility under certain circumstances. If a student has been suspended as a result of failing, he/she may regain eligibility by passing ALL courses in the third week of the affected grading period. Reinstatement of eligibility would occur seven days after the three week progress report period (see TEA/UIL Side by Side).

Activities that are considered curricular components of any course are not affected by the eligibility law. Examples of these activities are all rehearsals and performances that take place as a regular extension of classroom instruction. Any performance that is competitive in nature or for which admission is charged is deemed extra-curricular.

For a list of courses that are exempt from eligibility requirements, please contact the director.

Grading Guidelines

Burbank Mariachi programs have instructional objectives that relate to the mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for grade level subjects or courses. These objectives are aligned to address the academic skills needed for successful performance in the next grade or next course in a sequence of courses. Assignments, tests, projects, classroom activities, and other instructional activities are designed so that the student's performance indicates the level of mastery of the instructional objectives. The student's mastery level of these objectives is a major factor in determining the grade for a subject or course.

Students will be expected to meet the responsibilities for each band class as determined by the director. 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.

A Mariachi member's nine weeks grade will be determined from the following items: student's daily preparation and participation, individual testing, performances, and extended classroom activities such as sectionals and before/after school rehearsals.

For more specific information pertaining to how a student's grade is determined, please consult the director.

The following list is provided to give students and parents examples of items that can be subject to grading. Additional assignments may be given at the discretion of the director.

- The student will receive a grade for each before or after school sectional and rehearsal during a grading period.
- 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.
- The student will be expected to improve individual music skills.
- The student's individual skill development will be evaluated through taped music tests, individual playing tests, scale tests, and/or written tests.
- The student will be evaluated on improvement of ensemble skills during daily rehearsals.
- The student will be expected to improve his/her performance fundamentals.
- The student will be evaluated for improvement of his/her music fundamentals through daily observation during the "basics" part of each rehearsal and during sectionals.
- The student will be expected to demonstrate correct posture, hand position, embouchure, air production, and articulation as monitored during rehearsals.
- The student will be expected to develop a historical knowledge of the literature relative to their respective instrument.
- The student will receive a grade for each performance during a grading period.

Travel Guidelines

The mariachi will frequently travel on either school buses or commercial buses. Student conduct is expected to be at the highest level on any trip. Students must travel to events and return from events on the bus. Any student wishing to arrive or leave with his/her parent must notify a director in writing with parent signature, prior to the event. Permission will be granted or denied based on the circumstances of the occasion. Students must have all necessary forms (Medical/Travel Release) completed and on file with the mariachi office to travel on any trip with the mariachi.

While on the bus students will:

- Remain seated at all times.
- Sit properly in a forward position.
- Keep the bus clear of food, drinks, and debris (At times it may be necessary to eat dinner on the bus. Every effort should be made to keep your area clean.)
- Keep all body parts inside the bus.
- Use only approved type/headset radios (no boom boxes).
- Remain silent when addressed by person in charge on the bus.
- Refrain from loud, boisterous talking, singing, screaming, whistling, inappropriate jokes, etc.
- No public displays of affection.

-Remain silent from the time they step onto the bus until otherwise instructed.

Special Note:

Students are reminded that all performances start and conclude at the mariachi hall. As a member of the mariachi, you are a representative of your school. Always be on your best behavior. If you are in doubt about an action, do not do it! Your conduct at all times should be considered a good reflection on the school, the mariachi, your home, yourself, and the community.

Chaperones

Adult chaperones are a great asset for the mariachi program. Students will treat them as an extension of the band staff. Proper respect will be shown to all adults at all times.

Spring Trip

The Burbank Mariachis may, or may not, take Spring Trips each year during the second semester. These trips may include in-state traveling to local contests or festivals, but may also include out-of-state trips. The Mariachi Director will communicate the cost, itinerary, and other details of the trip in a timely manner, allowing families proper time to plan. The SpringTrips are not required events, but can include either portions of the mariachi program, the entire mariachi program, or all Burbank Fine Arts.

Mariachi

Background Information

SAISD has enjoyed a high reputation for excellence in music performance, including Mariachi, for many years. The mariachi is the most visible aspect of the music program. The mariachi provides performance opportunities for music students while integrating the mariachi program into school and community activities.

Mariachi is an Integral Component of State Curriculum Requirements

The music and performance skills and techniques, along with the associated academic skills in the mariachi program, are derived from implementation of the expectations found in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). The curriculum specifically includes requirements such as demonstrating musical skills and artistry, performing in different musical mediums, and experiencing music through a wider range of music literature, which are addressed through the mariachi program. Each performance by the mariachi provides students the opportunity to demonstrate musical artistry through the ensemble, individual music performance skills and techniques, mariachi performance skills and techniques, and critical thinking skills that include auditory, spatial, and visual awareness.

High Academic Standards Maintained by Students

The opportunity for performances is a motivating factor for academic achievement for mariachi students, since only by maintaining their eligibility can they continue to perform.

Grading

Since mariachi is a part of the academic orchestra course and therefore, part of the graded curriculum, students in mariachi are responsible for assimilating the academic aspects of the orchestra elective as found in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Attendance at rehearsals and performances is mandatory and will be integrated into the student's grade for mariachi in accordance with TEA/UIL guidelines. Summer rehearsals are mandatory, but will not be graded until the school year starts.

Rehearsal and Performance Schedules

Rehearsal and performance schedules are determined by the mariachi director and are published on the school web sites <https://schools.saisd.net/page/002.homepage> . Any rehearsal scheduled by the mariachi director are mandatory. Loss of spots or removal from program are at the mariachi director discretion due to lack of rehearsal attendance.

Instruments

Mariachi students are responsible for all maintenance on their instrument, whether it is a district owned or personally owned instrument.

Mariachi Positions

Primary Performer

Students who earn a position in the mariachi will carry the designation of primary performer. A primary performer is a student who:

- Successfully completes the audition requirements by the appropriate time
- Demonstrates high quality performance skills
- Is punctual in report times
- Is present in rehearsals and performances
- Maintains academic eligibility
- Represents the school, school district, band program and themselves with the highest possible decorum and behavioral standards

Special Note: Students who fail to meet the music memorization requirement may be penalized by one of the following:

- a) loss of position as a primary performer,
- b) loss of performance opportunity, or
- c) performance of music to director on a make up day.

Non-Primary/Alternates

The mariachi director will keep the number of alternates to a minimum; however, they are a necessary and vital aspect of our program due to the UIL “No Pass/No Play” rules and to prepare for possible substitutions due to injury, sustained illness, etc.

Alternates will meet the same attendance, rehearsal, memorization, academic, and performance requirements of primary performers. Specific music may be written and may be edited for those students who are not yet able to achieve the physical and musical demands required of primary performers. This will help improve their individual skill level and will prepare them for future performance opportunities.

As a mariachi staff, we are committed to providing performance opportunities for all students. However, the level of performance participation may be limited by eligibility, attendance and individual performance ability.

There are many ingredients that are vital to a successful mariachi program and no one part is more valuable than any other. Examples of ways that students can contribute to the performance are: Stage Crew, Engineering Crew and Tech Crew.

Mariachi Rehearsals

- Respect everyone in the Mariachi Hall - we are all working toward the same goal.
- Prior to all rehearsals, eat healthy and drink lots of water
- Be punctual. Aim to arrive no later than 5 minutes before practice begins.
- Water breaks are meant for your health and comfort. DRINK WATER! Return to rehearsal promptly after being told to.
- Rehearsal will be silent at all times
- Standing is the only acceptable position in the mariachi hall unless instructed otherwise (ex: when a director tells you to sit while he gives instructions).
- Everyone is expected to sing.
- Pay attention to general instructions at all times. Listen attentively and respond appropriately.
- FUN-damentals will make us successful. Therefore, we expect everyone to participate fully.
- Move when instructed quickly and quietly (ex. moving from practice room to mariachi hall or after a discussion with a leader).
- Do not play while Director or leadership speaks
- “Relax” means to silently stand not talking
- When given time to practice, be efficient, do not play anything outside of what we are working on.
- To keep your spot in the mariachi meet all music deadlines.

Health and Safety of Mariachi Students

The health and safety of our students is our first priority. Every effort will be made to keep our students out of harm's way at all times.

Heat/Hydration

We stress to students the importance of hydration at all times, and especially in periods of extreme heat. The weather conditions as well as the physical and mental conditions of our students are monitored continually and adjustments are made to accommodate whenever necessary.

It is very important that every student bring and use their own personal water bottle. Sharing water (and food) leads to the spreading of germs that cause viruses such as cold, flu, mononucleosis, and Hepatitis B as well as many other bacterial infections. Sharing water is not acceptable.

Nutrition

It is important for all students to eat healthy and well-balanced meals every day. During summer mariachi camp, students need to eat a healthy breakfast every morning. Stay away from dairy and greasy foods.

Students need to bring a healthy sack lunch to summer camp. We do not recommend fried foods, salty snacks, soft drinks, or sweets. Drink plenty of water! Students should continue to drink plenty of water throughout the day to stay well-hydrated for afternoon rehearsals.

As the new school year begins, students should continue their healthy diet throughout the day. Continue to eat a healthy breakfast every morning. Eat a healthy lunch. Eating healthy meals and drinking plenty of water is essential to remain in good health.

Mariachi Performances

The primary performances of the mariachi will be at any SAISD event. The mariachi will also perform at various competitive mariachi festivals and UIL Mariachi Contests, as well as possible local and national events.

Mariachi Performance Guideline

The mariachi director at Burbank recognizes that the health and safety of his students is a primary concern, as well as their scholastic performance in all of their subjects. The mariachi director also acknowledges that the season for mariachi competitive performances is contained within a brief but intense period of time during the months of December through March.

Additionally, Burbank HS Mariachi Staff recognizes the intrinsic value gained by the students from the pursuit of excellence in these programs.

After lengthy study of current practices of state and national mariachi programs and to provide a balance of the above beliefs, Burbank High School Mariachi Estrellas de Oro will participate in competitive/festival performances for no more than five consecutive weeks during a mariachi competitive season. This guideline refers to competitive/festival performances involving the entire mariachi and does not include performances at SAISD events.

Performance Procedures

Report Time: This will be the designated time at which all members should be at the high school or set location. Students should have all attire and necessary items for the designated performance prior to the report time.

Load Time: This will be the designated time at which all members should be on the appropriate bus with all equipment loaded. All equipment will be checked by the section leaders. Students without appropriate equipment will be sent home and an unexcused absence recorded.

Return Time: This will be the approximate time of return to the mariachi hall.

What to bring:

Garment bag, black long socks, Instrument with accessories, Rain Poncho, proper under garments, botines, water bottle, sombrero if necessary, mariachi shirt, uniform apparel, hair accessories (gel, hair spray, bobby pins, etc.)

Pre-performance Practice:

Wear appropriate shoes, long black socks, mariachi shirt, no exposed jewelry, no nail polish on exposed fingernails, bring all equipment (weather permitting): that means everything (instrument, traje, etc.)

Uniform Inspection

Prior to student departure for a mariachi performance, students must pass a uniform inspection. In order to board the bus, students must have complete traje, instrument, and other components for the mariachi performance. Students who do not pass the uniform inspection may not be allowed to attend the event. Students not meeting uniform, and loading guidelines will be subject to disciplinary consequences.

Uniform Guidelines

Students are expected to follow the listed uniform guidelines. No variations will be allowed.

GENERAL

Mariachi trajes will be issued during Mariachi summer camp. Mariachi trajes will be stored at school in the uniform storage area. Students will be held financially responsible for the uniform(s) and all components.

ISSUE AND RETURN

Students will be issued a mariachi traje during mariachi summer camp. Depending on the campus, a procedure will be set in place for students to pick up/return their uniforms on the day of or before performances. Each student is expected to comply with the procedures determined by their director.

DONNING THE UNIFORM

Always wear and treat your traje with pride. The uniform should be worn as a complete unit at all times when in public. The only exception to this will be when a director instructs you that you may remove your sombrero or coat. Do not run while in uniform!

You must wear approved black shoes and black long socks (student purchases).

Jewelry, hair ribbons, and bright colored nail polish etc. are unacceptable while in uniform. These items hinder the uniform appearance of the mariachi. Unless approved by director.

Mariachi students with long hair will be required to wear their hair in a specific manner, As per director discretion.

No consumption of food and drinks (other than H2O) while in uniform without permission.

REQUIRED DRESS – Concert Traje

ATTIRE

Both men and women will have a required uniform set by the head director. Each student will be issued the required pieces to their uniform and are required to return the parts in good condition at the conclusion of their concert season. Please see mariachi director for a specific list of uniform parts.

ALTERATIONS and CARE

Mariachi Parent Association may provide volunteers to perform the initial uniform alterations for their specific program.

- Keep the collar hooked and the jacket buttoned while hanging to retain the shape of the coat.
- Always hang the pants by the crease, careful to avoid wrinkles, and lock the dowel in to the medal catch to keep the pants secure.
- Label your uniform garment bag. Uniform crew may label these for you.

TRAJE COSTS

If a traje part is damaged or lost, the student will be responsible for the replacement costs. All Mariachi Trajes are professionally cleaned at the same time to prevent unequal discoloration and fading. The costs for cleaning come from SAISD Fine Arts.

Concert Ensembles

Each campus will have one or more mariachi ensembles with varying ability levels each year. Placement into these ensembles is by audition, as well as observation throughout the year. The audition process is determined by the staff of each campus and approved by the head director. Directors will provide students and parents with the audition requirements in advance to allow adequate time for preparation. For questions regarding the mariachi ensemble names and set up, contact your campus director.

Performance/Rehearsal Requirements For Mariachi Ensembles

Each of the mariachi ensembles will perform at various times throughout the school year. Students are expected to participate in the performances of their assigned ensemble. Failure to participate in either rehearsals or performances may result in student removal from the organization at the discretion of the mariachi director (see general attendance policies).

Performances of the mariachi ensembles will include but are not limited to the following:

- Fall Concert/Winter Concert
- Spring Concert
- Mariachi Festivals/Pre UIL Contest
- UIL Contest
- Spring Trip Festival Others as needed

Concerts/Performances

Concerts and performances are an integral component of the mariachi curriculum. Students should consult their schedules for dates and times. Periodically, the schedule may change and updates will be communicated. Concerts are considered to have three parts: warm-up, performance, and listening. The concert begins for the student at the warm-up. Punctuality is essential. A concert concludes when the last group performs and directors have given permission for students to be dismissed. A general report time will be given for all students.

All concerts are a group effort, thus, attendance is required.

All concerts are an extension of the classroom and will be graded accordingly.

Students should be punctual and prepared for each performance/concert.

In the event a performance causes a student to miss another class, the student is responsible to make up all missed work.

The appropriate dress for all concerts will be a dress uniform (see Uniforms). Students are expected to stay the entire concert.

Students are expected to help move equipment and “stack-n-rack” chairs and stands when needed.

Financial Obligations

Trip

The mariachi program may take a trip in the spring. Cost and Fee Schedules will be communicated ahead of time at the discretion of the Head Director for each campus. All mariachi fees must be paid in full prior to trips or the student will not be allowed on the trip.

Fundraising

Mariachi Estrellas de Oro and Mariachi Parent Association (Mariachi Booster/MPA) engage in fundraising activities throughout each year. The monies raised from fundraising activities will be credited to an account held by the MPA and is subject to all state laws. This money will be used only for the direct benefit of the mariachi program.

Student Leadership

The high school mariachi programs at Burbank provide many opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills with a variety of offerings. Students can audition and/or apply for both selected officer positions and elected officer positions. In this manner, students can not only serve their mariachi program but also refine skills that they will be able to use in other school organizations, as well as in their future careers. Audition criteria is selected at the discretion of the director and is communicated to the students. The director evaluates all selected officer candidates based on their performance both during the audition and during their performance during the current school year.

Student leaders are held to higher standards of performance and behavior than a general mariachi student. They are expected to be positive role models for all mariachi members at all times. Please see Conduct Expectation #1 pertaining to general conduct of students as well as student leadership positions. All student leaders are leaders throughout the school year.

Mariachi Student Leadership Positions

President and Vice President

The President/VP will be the leader during rehearsals and performances. President/VP will serve the entire year for which he/she is selected. In the event that an underclassman is selected as President/VP, he/she must reenter the selection process the next school year. President/VP will be selected through an audition process. Specific elements of the President/VP audition process may vary from year to year at the discretion of the directors.

Principal Performers

Principal Performers will be responsible for efficient operations of their sections. They will complete weekly inspections, maintain rehearsal discipline, provide instruction, serve as positive role models, and assist the President/VP as needed. They will be selected through an audition process at the discretion of the directors.

Mariachi Banquet

A Mariachi banquet is held each spring near the end of the school year. This special evening brings the mariachi together one last time to review the year and to wish the seniors a fond farewell. The location may vary from year to year, but it will usually be held at a banquet room in the area and is considered a formal evening. Tickets are sold to cover the cost of the dinner, decorations, DJ, etc. This event is entirely planned by the student leaders and select a Mariachi Parents Association.

MPA/Mariachi Boosters

The Burbank Mariachi Parent Association (MPA) to assist the band directors in reaching the band program goals. The Boosters meet once a month; please see your campus calendar for the meeting date, time and location. There is a place for every parent in this organization. Membership in the Band Boosters is open to every parent of a Burbank Mariachi Member. There is no membership cost. Your service is not only encouraged, but also needed. For more information, please contact the mariachi director.

Letter Jackets

A jacket will be presented to upperclassmen students who have served the Mariachi programs well. This is based on a point system. Students must have participated in the program from the time of their enrollment in high school to their senior year. A point system has been created by the fine arts department and will be used by the Mariachi Program. Any student that makes State will be awarded a jacket.

Section Rehearsals/Master Classes

Section rehearsals/Master classes will begin in August and will be held the entire school year.

During the fall season, students will have a masterclasses for the fundamentals of instrument technique and region music preparation. These masterclasses may be taught by a professional on the specific instrument, such as a private lesson teacher, or by a band/mariachi director.

Master Classes will begin in August and may continue through Mariachi Region Auditions. These are separate from all other rehearsals.

After fall season, all students will have at least one weekly Section Rehearsal with their mariachi section. The Sectional will be directed by the mariachi director of the mariachi ensemble and will be primarily focused on music that the student's concert ensemble is preparing for future concerts and contests. Students are expected to be punctual and prepared on a weekly basis. Absence from section rehearsals must be in accordance with the attendance policy. Students must make every effort to attend. Section rehearsals are an extension of the classroom and are graded accordingly. Section rehearsal schedules may be found on the mariachi web site or by contacting the student's director.

Region Mariachi/Orchestra Guidelines

- Students in the top performing mariachi are required to attend All-State audition process.
- All other mariachi students are HIGHLY ENCOURAGED to audition for All-Region Mariachi.
- Students will be graded on the preparation for this event.
- Any person who is fortunate enough to be selected will attend all rehearsals and the performance of the All-Region Mariachi. (Check your calendar for dates.)

It is quite an honor to be selected to the All Region Mariachi. Hundreds of students throughout the region will audition. Even if you are not selected, the experience you receive by preparing will enhance your musical ability and education!

Solo and Ensemble

All mariachi members have the opportunity to prepare and perform with a Mariachi at UIL Solo and Ensemble. Grades will be issued for preparation and participation in the Solo and Ensemble process.

Mariachi Handbook Signature Page

Please return this page to your mariachi director.

I have reviewed and understand the policies and guidelines in the Burbank Mariachi Handbook and the Instrumental Music Code. I understand that Mariachi is a Full Year course. I further agree to abide by the procedures set forth.

Print Student Name X _____

Student Signature X _____

Grade: 9 10 11 12 (circle one)

Print Parent Name X _____

Parent Signature X _____

Today's Date _____