

Cherokee Bluff High School

Bear Band

Handbook 2024-2025



This handbook belongs to: _____

Cherokee Bluff Bands

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Welcome

Welcome to the Cherokee Bluff Band Program, where the power of music transcends the ordinary and propels students into a realm of unparalleled growth, discipline, and community. In this opening section of the handbook, we delve into the essence of our activity, what sets it apart in the educational landscape, and the myriad benefits it bestows upon both the individual student and the collective student body. Join us as we unravel the profound significance of music within this transformative experience.

Why Band?

At its core, a band is a collective of individual instrumentalists converging towards a shared objective—to render music that captivates the ears and resonates with the soul. It distinguishes itself from conventional courses by demanding an exceptional investment of time, energy, and commitment. Band membership extends beyond regular rehearsals, encompassing supplementary sessions, sectionals, and a substantial commitment to individual practice. To unlock its full potential, each musician must wholeheartedly dedicate themselves to the organization, its ideals, standards, and fellow members.

Despite the demanding nature of band participation, the benefits reaped by students far outweigh the investment. The activity uniquely engages every facet of the student's mind—intellectual, physical, psychological, and cultural. The journey through it fosters an appreciation for music through performance, interpretation, and attentive listening. Moreover, unlike any other endeavor, it imparts invaluable life skills, cultivating the discipline of mind and behavior and refining the coordination of mind and body. Through artistic discrimination, judgment, insight, and problem-solving, students embark on a holistic learning journey. Band not only extols the virtues of hard work but also serves as a recreational and creative outlet, nurturing a well-rounded individual.

Participation in the band not only grants students a sense of belonging but also immerses them in something greater than themselves. It instills responsibility, providing opportunities for achievement and personal development. The band becomes a microcosm of society, embracing diverse personalities and behaviors and enriching individual personalities through collaboration. Band participation fosters leadership skills, nurturing responsible, confident, and purpose-driven adults.

The band stands as a prominent representative of the school and community, reaching a broader audience than any other program. Whether at football games, parades, or concerts, the band is a perpetual symbol of school spirit and a showcase of achievements. It serves as an ambassador, echoing the triumphs and successes of the school.

As stewards of the Cherokee Bluff Band Program, we are committed to providing students with abundant musical opportunities. Your decision to join the band is an investment in a lifelong journey of self-discovery through music. Your involvement is not merely a fleeting activity but a gateway to a lifetime of limitless possibilities and rewards.

Our band staff at Cherokee Bluff are committed to providing you with many musical opportunities. This is your band, and these experiences are at your disposal, but you must decide to claim them. You must follow up that decision to be a band member with dedication, practice, and hard work. Your involvement allows you to instill in all people an awareness of music's important role in enriching the human spirit. Being involved in a band program is an activity in which you can participate for your entire life. The benefits available to you through music and its countless variations are limitless. It offers opportunities and rewards that no other discipline can provide.

Thanks for all your support, help, and understanding.

Mr. J. Craig Cantrell
Band Director (CBHS)

Mr. Geoffrey Lonberger
Band Director (CBMS)

Dear Bear Band



Welcome to Cherokee Bluff High School and what is shaping up to be another exciting year on The Bluff! I am excited to see the ignition of excellence set forth by the Bear Band to continue this year. It is truly an exciting time to be involved in this program here at CBHS and we are so glad to have you on our team.

In the realm of successful programs, the pivotal contributors are numerous, and at the core are our dedicated students. The commitment exhibited by each student is the linchpin to achieving the zenith of success. I express my gratitude to our students for the countless hours they will invest in honing their craft for a myriad of performances, symbolically representing our school with distinction. Your significant role within the fabric of our CBHS culture fills us with immense pride. As your principal, I am deeply appreciative of your tireless dedication and the unrelenting efforts you channel into showcasing your musical talents.

The parents, guardians, and invaluable volunteers who play pivotal supporting roles are equally indispensable. From the logistical intricacies of event transportation to the meticulous setup and dismantling of equipment, and the vital contributions at concession stands, your roles are crucial in propelling this program forward. None of these endeavors could be realized without your selfless dedication, and we extend our heartfelt gratitude for investing your time and skills.

Allow me to underscore the significance of strong leadership and a committed staff in steering a clear vision. Mr. Cantrell and Mr. Lonberger exemplify unwavering dedication and a relentless "refuse to fail" mentality. Directors and staff, your contributions are the bedrock upon which our collective pride in this outstanding program rests. Anticipation mounts for the exceptional feats that you, along with the Bear Band, have in store for us this year.

Having been privileged to witness firsthand the transformative impact of this program on developing leadership skills and fostering camaraderie among our students, I extend my deepest appreciation to each of you and to the dedicated support system that sustains this tradition of excellence. Rest assured of my unwavering support and endorsement as you relentlessly pursue musical and artistic greatness.

Go Bears!
Denise Ramsey
Denise Ramsey
Principal



Cherokee Bluff HS BEAR BAND

6603 Spout Springs Road, Flowery Branch, GA 30542
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Dear Bear Band Family,

Welcome to a new and promising year with the Cherokee Bluff HS Band! As we embrace the arrival of new students and warmly greet those returning, I am filled with enthusiasm for the musical journey that lies ahead. Teaching students is not just a job for me; it is a profound joy, and I am honored to be part of the Cherokee Bluff family.

Over the past six years, our band program has flourished, establishing a solid foundation of core fundamentals and exceptional musical skills. As we embark on this new chapter, the challenge before us is clear: to elevate every aspect of our program to new heights. Will you join me in raising the bar for our program? I am eager to witness the collective passion and dedication that will shape this year into another stellar and superior chapter in our journey. I hope that you are ready for the exhilarating ride ahead.

This handbook serves as a vital communication tool, containing the wealth of information required to sustain the smooth operation of our expansive program. I implore each of you to keep it close, familiarize yourselves with its contents, and fully embrace the guidelines, procedures, and expectations that define our musical community. Crafted annually by YOUR band leadership, this handbook reflects our evolving commitment to excellence. Please stay connected with us through our web presence at www.cherokeebluffband.com, where you'll find valuable updates and resources.

I extend a personal invitation to all parents, guardians, supporters, and stakeholders to actively participate in our Band Parent Booster Association (CBBA) meetings. As parents, you are integral members of CBBA, with no applications or membership dues required. The CBBA comprises remarkable individuals who consistently go above and beyond to support our students. As we face new challenges, your involvement becomes increasingly vital. Join us in this collective effort to nurture and strengthen our musical community. Parents, I hope that you are ready to support your child through this exhilarating experience.

To the parents reading this: THANK YOU! Your unwavering support and encouragement are invaluable. Your presence at games, competitions, concerts, and other musical events are not only appreciated but essential. In an era of budget constraints and evolving educational landscapes, music programs rely on the steadfast support of our greatest advocates – You. Continue to champion your child's musical endeavors, recognizing that the life skills they gain from participation in this band will leave an indelible mark on their futures.

To all the students and parents who dedicate their time, energy, and passion to making this band superior – THANK YOU!

Ever Onward & Upward!

J. Craig Cantrell
Director of Bands

FORWORD

The Cherokee Bluff HS Band Handbook is designed with the following objectives in mind:

- To help avoid costly delays, loss of time, and misunderstanding due to a lack of awareness of policy and procedures.
- To serve as an operational guide for students, parents, and directors.
- To develop a systematic approach to the teaching and organization of the high school instrumental program.

ORGANIZATIONS

The Cherokee Bluff High School Bands are the primary performing groups of the high school grades 9-12. The band classes form the base of these concert organizations: Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble, Chamber Ensembles, Marching Band, and the Jazz Band and Combo. Selection and placements in the bands will be determined by auditions and/or recommendation of the middle school band director.

The Color Guard, Winterguard, and Drumline/Front Ensemble (Pit) are sub-sections of the marching band. Members of these groups are selected by audition every spring. These members must meet skill, academic, and behavioral requirements.

A STATEMENT OF BAND POLICY

The Cherokee Bluff Band program is a co-curricular endeavor, encompassing both in-class and extracurricular activities. While enrolled in the band class, students will engage in various events beyond regular school hours, contingent upon their active participation in the classroom component. A foundational belief of our program is that student progress is cultivated through consistent daily practice. When a student loses the motivation to enhance their skills for the betterment of the ensemble, it may be considered a disservice to the school, peers, and community to continue in the program. We hold a steadfast conviction that students who derive the most satisfaction from their musical journey are those committed to regular practice and continual improvement. It is imperative that students not only possess ethical discernment but also uphold their principles with unwavering resolve. Cultivating a strong sense of purpose and a willingness to work toward their goals is paramount. Our commitment is to foster an environment that inspires all students to attain these objectives. To supplement their musical education, we strongly recommend that all students consider private lessons from a specialist.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE PROGRAM

Students participating in any band-related activity are expected to:

1. Adhere to all guidelines outlined in the CBHS Student Handbook, maintaining an on-campus presence during events. School rules apply 24/7 for any band event on or off campus.
2. Be regular in attendance and account for all absences in writing or email. Texting is not considered an acceptable form of communication with the instructor.
3. Exhibit a genuine commitment to daily learning and improvement.
4. Become responsible for and expect to assume the consequences of your actions.
5. Maintain personal cleanliness, neatness, and appropriate attire. Dress appropriately.
6. Have and show the proper respect for those in authority.
7. Follow all classroom rules, school regulations, and all travel instructions issued for trips.
8. Be honest and fair in dealing with others.
9. Cooperate with fellow members and share with them the responsibilities and privileges that are a part of the band program. Included responsibilities are: helping others with preparation of performances, tear down after performances, keeping up with music and materials, keeping band areas clean, etc.
10. Read and play music with insight and expression.

11. Improve your knowledge and understanding of music theory, harmony, and history, as well as develop good listening habits.
12. Always keep your instrument in good playing condition. This includes having all needed materials and equipment.
13. Keep your band uniform clean and in good shape.
14. Uniforms must be maintained as to the standards and procedures told to you in class.
15. School-owned instruments become the full responsibility of the student who is assigned that instrument. The school accepts NO responsibility for individually owned instruments stored at school. **If you share an instrument, it is the responsibility of both members using the instrument to assume responsibility for damage or needed repair.**
16. All members will be expected to do their part in all projects the band undertakes for fundraising.
17. Students are expected to be in full uniform in public, except when otherwise approved by the director.
18. Students new to the high school will be expected to purchase black concert apparel.
***Participation in band performances and rehearsals is contingent upon being present in school for at least half a day on the day of the performance (see School Handbook).**

CANTRELL'S LAWS

1. Early is On Time; One Time is Late; and Late is Unacceptable.
2. We leave it better than we found it.
3. Our Words and Actions will speak of the Highest Character.

GUIDELINES

1. Follow Directions.
2. Raise your hand to speak.
3. Stay in your seat: no extraneous movement.
4. Be prepared.
5. Respect the property of others.
6. Treat others with respect.
7. Absolutely no gum, food, drinks, or electronic devices are permitted in rehearsal.

POLICIES

1. **School Policies:** All CBHS guidelines, procedures, and systems will be strictly enforced. Please refer to the CBHS Student Handbook to review these school policies. All school rules take precedence, and the administration will handle any infractions. In case of policy conflicts, school policy takes prevails. All school rules will be followed at all times within the band program.
2. **Reputation Building:** The reputation of the Cherokee Bluff Band program hinges on both character and musicianship. Nothing less than the best effort is expected from each member.
3. **Reflecting Values:** Young adults are expected not to damage property or equipment. As members of the Cherokee Bluff Band program, they represent the values of Cherokee Bluff High School and the community.
4. **Behavior:** Any action intentional or unintentional that projects unfavorably on the school, community, or band program, whether it be in band or outside of band, could result in dismissal or exclusion from the activity.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

1. **Active Participation:** All students are expected to actively participate daily. Prolonged periods with instruments in non-playing condition or in the shop are discouraged. Alternate assignments will be provided for those without instruments or music.
2. **Productive Class Time:** Class time should be maximally productive. Given the number of students and the presence of instruments, it is crucial to manage noise levels. Random playing upon entering is discouraged. Group warm-ups will be conducted, and students are expected to maintain silence during rehearsal breaks for effective communication.
3. **Preparation Before Class:** Students should address sheet music needs, instrument care, and preparations before class begins. Avoid wasting time during class searching for supplies like valve oil and reeds. Percussionists are expected to set up equipment at the start of each class.
4. **Storage and Seating Areas:** All instrument cases must be stored in the designated area in your assigned locker. The band seating area is to be kept free of clutter for efficient movement and organization.
5. **Director's Office Protocol:** The director's office is off-limits unless students are specifically invited. Telephone use is restricted to emergencies. The office copier is for teacher use only. Respecting the director's working space and maintaining the privacy of the office is paramount – knocking before entering is mandatory.

AFTER-SCHOOL REHEARSALS AND CONCERTS

A schedule of after-school rehearsals and concerts will be published well in advance to students each semester. Attendance is required; however, other arrangements can be made if legitimate reasons for absences exist. While a student is expected to attend all rehearsals and performances outside of the school day, occasionally emergency conflicts arise. Conflicts with work, sports, other school activities, family events, etc. are not emergencies and should be resolved in advance. Concert performances include Fall Concert, Holiday Concert, Pre-LGPE Concert, LGPE Performance, Pops at the Bluff Concert, and other possible invitational opportunities. **Scheduled after-school rehearsals and concert performances are part of the band grade and must be attended.**

ASSESSMENTS AND GRADES

All assessments and grades are connected to individual proficiency of the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) and performance, measured through assignments aligning with the instruction and execution of instrumental music. The nature of assignments will be calibrated to the collective proficiency of each class and tailored to individual needs. The class syllabus is the ultimate authority governing all instructional and grading policies. Earning an 'A' as the grade in the class is contingent upon genuine merit and effort.

Diligent utilization of practice time is a pivotal factor influencing a band member's grade positively. We actively encourage parents to engage in ongoing dialogues with the director, seeking insights into their student's band grades and overall progress. This collaborative exchange ensures a mutual understanding and facilitates effective problem-solving. Notably, students whose parents express concern and support consistently achieve higher levels of success.

Attendance at all major performances is mandatory for graded members of performing groups, with exceptions granted only under circumstances such as a death in the immediate family or a doctor's care. Requests for exceptions require a conference involving the parent, student, and director and should be communicated well in advance of the scheduled performance date. Grading will be applied to major performances that serve as extensions of the classroom.

NOTE: If you missed a scheduled performance, you could earn credit by completing the "Alternative Assignment for a Missed Band Concert." The assignment is due one week after the missed performance by the end of the regular band class period (in your director's hands by the end of your band period). Unfortunately, late assignments for the alternate assignment will not be accepted. Please contact the director for more information.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

For a successful experience for all students, it is crucial that each member attends all rehearsals and performances. An absence from one student affects more than just that individual; it impacts the entire group. The organization thrives when it acts cohesively, especially in intricate drill and musical preparation where a single absence can hinder the entire group. Every member plays a critical role in achieving our maximum potential. Proper planning helps prevent conflicts.

*ABSENCES AND TARDIES WILL BE DEALT WITH IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:

TARDY	For tardies due to approved school activities, see the director one week in advance to avoid penalization. Otherwise, time-for-time will be enforced.
EXCUSED ABSENCE	<p>An absence will be counted as excused if approval is given in advance and/or the absence falls under school system guidelines for excused absences (see below). No penalty will occur if this criteria is met.</p> <p>*To obtain an excused absence, the following criteria must be met by student/parent:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Director must be notified more than a week prior when possible. In the unfortunate event of an illness or emergency, please contact the band office as soon as possible. 2. ABSENCE REQUEST FORM must be filled out online. 3. Director must approve request.
UNEXCUSED ABSENCE	<p>If arrangements are made in advance and an unavoidable conflict surfaces, a student is allowed one (1) unexcused absence from a rehearsal without penalty: An unexcused absence from a performance or a second unexcused absence from rehearsal will result in immediate loss of lettering eligibility and possible removal from the performing ensemble.</p> <p><u>Unarranged, unexcused absences, or "no shows," will result in the loss of the ability to earn a letter and possible termination from extra-curricular activities.</u></p>

CONFLICTS WITH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	If the conflict is approved by the director before the missed rehearsal, then the absence will be counted as excused. If the director is not given at least a week's notice of the absence, then the unapproved absence will be counted as unexcused.
UNARRANGED, UNEXCUSED ABSENCE	No shows will result in the loss of ability to earn a letter and possible termination from extra-curricular activities.

***Individual needs will be addressed as they occur. This system is subject to modification by the director.**

ATTENDANCE – HALL COUNTY SCHOOLS PROCEDURES

Students may be temporarily excused from school under the following conditions:

- When personally ill and when attendance in school would endanger their health or the health of others.
- On special and recognized religious holidays observed by their faith.
- When mandated by order of governmental agencies (pre-induction physical examination of services in the armed forces or court order).
- A student may be granted an excused absence, not to exceed, on a day in order to register to vote.
- Students may be excused from school attendance when prevented from such attendance due to conditions rendering school attendance impossible or hazardous to their health or safety.

If a student is in school, he/she is expected at rehearsal that day!

The mere filing of an absence request does not guarantee an excused absence.

Phone calls must be followed up by the appropriate paperwork.

All follow up is the responsibility of the student/parent.

USE OF SCHOOL-OWNED INSTRUMENT/EQUIPMENT/PROPERTY

Students playing on an instrument or using equipment owned by the school must pay their any school-owned instrument/equipment/property fee (\$50). For the purpose of helping to balance the band's instrumentation, students on certain instruments will not be charged a fee as determined by the directors. In any case, students using school property, are expected to:

1. Practice regularly.
2. Accept the responsibility for maintaining the instrument in good playing condition (this means that any damage or repair work needed on the instrument while signed out to you will be at your expense).
3. Be responsible for checking the instrument out and in properly.
4. In some cases students may be required to study privately on a regular basis from an approved teacher.
5. Cases may NOT be kept in cars overnight or weekends. The heat/cold of a car may actually harm the instrument and you will be billed for its repair.
6. Unless you are a guard member, you are not allowed to touch any of their equipment.

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

While the CBHS Band program fully supports students' rights to freedom of speech and expression, it is essential to acknowledge that membership in the band program is a privilege, and as representatives of Hall County Schools, Cherokee Bluff High School, and the Cherokee Bluff Band program, students are expected to consistently uphold a positive image.

1. Public Nature of Posts

All content posted online, including text and photos, is considered public information and is beyond control once unloaded. Even with restricted access, information may remain accessible after removal.

2. Future implications

Recognize that posts may impact future opportunities. Employers and college admissions officers frequently review social media profiles as part of their evaluation process. Consider how you wish to be perceived before sharing content.

3. Respectful Online Behavior

The CBHS Band strictly prohibits disrespectful comments and behavior online, including:

- Derogatory language or remarks harming students, directors, teachers, administration, and staff.
- Incriminating photos or statements depicting violence, harassment, nudity, inappropriate gestures, vandalism, stalking, underage drinking, substance abuse, or any inappropriate behaviors.
- Indicating knowledge of unreported school or band violations, whether intentional or unintentional.

4. Family Responsibility

Family members are expected to adhere to these guidelines. Any derogatory or inflammatory posts may result in a conference to address the issue, potentially leading to the removal of the student from the program.

In summary, do not assume an unfettered right to freedom of speech online. Online platforms do not grant immunity; freedom of speech has limits. Social media is not a space for unrestricted expression without consequences. Every post is considered public information, emphasizing the importance of maintaining a positive and proud self-image for the years to come.

MARCHING BAND

REGISTRATION AND FEES

Marching Band Registration takes place in the Spring of each year. In order to be an active member of the Marching Band, each student and parent must complete registration forms (including medical authorization, travel, and acknowledgement forms). All students and parents are required to be in good standing with band dues and volunteer obligations. For questions about band fees, please contact the directors. **All members must have completed forms on file in order to participate and travel with the band.**

REGULAR REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

*MONDAYS	GUARD & PERCUSSION SECTIONS (4:00pm-7:00pm) *Occasionally, we will have some sectionals for Wind Players on Mondays (once every few weeks). Students will receive a schedule with these listed, but no more than 3-4 Mondays through the season.
TUESDAYS	FULL BAND (All Students) (4:00pm-7:00pm)
THURSDAYS	FULL BAND (All Students) *DRESS REHEARSAL (4:00pm-7:00pm)
FRIDAYS	FULL BAND (All Students) (Football Games – TBA)
SATURDAYS	COMPETITIONS (Selected Saturdays in late September and October). Students will receive a schedule with these listed, but no more than 2-3 competitions per season).

Marching Band rehearsals will take place at CBHS (unless otherwise specified by the directors).

*On Thursday Dress Rehearsals, ALL students are required to wear a plain white shirt and black shorts. As the weather cools, students should wear black sweatpants, along with a plain white top.

ABSENCES/TARDIES AND PERFORMANCE SUSPENSION

All students are expected to attend all rehearsals (unless they have secured an excuse – see attendance policy above). Time missed from rehearsal must be made up either after rehearsal or before the next rehearsal, which may include additional physical conditioning (running laps, pushups, or marching fundamentals) as determined by the directors. Students with excessive absences or tardies may be suspended from performance. Decision as to length of suspension and/or disciplinary action will be determined by the director according to the circumstances.

MARCHING BAND FIELD EXPECTATIONS

1. Do not move or talk at attention. You are to be at attention unless otherwise notified.
2. Do not sit down when at ease unless told you can do so.
3. Do not be disrespectful and do not have a cell phone out at practice. If using a drill app on your phone, please use it wisely and do not use that time to play on social media.
4. Do not talk while band director, drum major or section leader is talking.
5. Make sure all needed materials are present at the beginning of rehearsal (music, coordinate sheet, correct shoes, socks, etc.).
6. Students are expected to have their water jugs with them at all times. A hat and sunglasses are strongly encouraged.
7. Coordinate sheets MUST be cared for. This means no folding them, tucking them into pants or defacing them in any other way. If you choose not to use the drill app, you must have your coordinate sheet at all times.
8. Dark clothing should NEVER be worn at camp or any marching band function that is outside. Inappropriate clothing will be determined by the directors (i.e. Black shirts, dark brown, blue, gray shirts, dark, heavy pants with pockets, anything we feel may be detrimental to your health and safety.) The only excused shirt that can be a dark color is any type of dry-fit shirt due to the qualities and features of those garments. It is still preferred to have no dark clothing on the field.
9. Student leaders should always have their drill charts that are provided to them by the directors. The purpose of having the drill charts is to be able to help other students; however, when you do not have them, you are doing a disservice to your obligation as a student leader.

Failure to comply with these expectations or any other policy in this handbook could result in the student being suspended or removed from the band program, depending on the severity of the situation.

The directors are charged with the responsibility of reviewing each situation carefully and considering how each situation will affect the future and total band program at Cherokee Bluff High School.

WEARING OF THE UNIFORM

1. Wear the uniform jacket zipped all the way up or take it completely off. Pants and shoulder straps should be worn all the way up.
2. Never leave uniform lying around. Hang it up or wear it.
3. All winds and percussion students must wear the purple wicking t-shirt underneath the jacket unless specified by the director. If show shirts are worn, you must wear the current year's band shirt. Long-sleeve undershirts are allowed in black, white, purple, or gray (school colors), as long as the fitting is completely under the uniform. Taking preliminary precautions for cold weather is advised before covering the uniform.
4. All ball caps (when worn as directed by the directors) must be worn properly with the bill of the cap facing forward. Students should never flip the cap backwards while in uniform.
5. Shakos (hats) should be carried upright when not being worn and not carried like a bucket. Carefully place your shako upright when not on your head or in the storage box.
6. Treat your instrument and uniform with pride and respect at all times.
7. Band jackets may only be worn traveling to or from games/competitions. Band letter jackets are not to be worn in the stands. Guard members can wear band jackets, "band hoodies" or approved auxiliary clothing in the stands due to the nature of their uniforms.
8. Uniforms will be checked, as described in band class, for proper storage in the uniform bag. Penalty for improper storage will be assessed by the directors.
9. Uniforms on the bus can include no jacket, but the shoulder straps must be on the shoulder. Pants should never be taken completely off. Whatever the chaperones say to do is the law, even if it differs from this.
10. Guard members may wear either the band shirt or guard section shirt, as specified by the guard director.

REQUIREMENTS TO PASS UNIFORM INSPECTION

- A. WOODWINDS, BRASS, PERCUSSION – all uniform numbers MUST be memorized.
 1. Black socks that are at least to mid-calf. NO ANKLE SOCKS. We must not see skin on your leg when you sit.
 2. Clean, non-wrinkled uniform and no missing pieces.
 3. Clean shoes (must be band shoes unless approved by the Director)
 4. Clean, smudge free shako brim. Black berets for sousaphone players.
 5. Must be able to identify shako, ball cap, jacket, gauntlets, bibbers (pants) and any other part. It is highly recommended that members label non-numbered items.
 6. Clean band wicking shirt (or show shirt as determined by the directors).
 7. Hair must be worn in such a manner as not to touch collar of uniform with hat on. Any item used in the hair must be purple, white or match the natural hair color.
 8. Hair bows that are black, clear, or matching hair color may be worn. Hair may be worn down in the stands. GENTLEMEN must wear their hair off their collars- no exceptions.
 9. Instrument must be clean, functional and in good playing condition.
 10. Students who are late to inspection should be inspected by the appropriate person ASAP after their arrival. It is the student's responsibility to see to this.

11. Jewelry should be small, unobtrusive, and tasteful. Ear studs must be black, silver, purple or clear. Piercings other than an ear piercing will be reviewed by the directors as to appropriateness.
12. Nail polish should not attract attention. The key is to be uniform.
13. White gloves (when determined by the directors).
14. If you choose to carry anything into the stadium, it can only be done in your band bag.
15. Tattoos are highly discouraged but must be covered if they are visible.
16. Makeup- this must be in natural/skin-colored tones. No wild colors, glitter, sequins, etc.

B. COLOR GUARD

1. Clean and wrinkle-free uniform that is hemmed properly.
2. Black socks or body tights- no footie socks.
3. Black or tan guard shoes as mandated by the director.
4. Makeup, jewelry, and hair requirements will change depending on the theme of the show and all must match.
5. Equipment must be clean and in performance condition.
6. No jewelry other than an ear studs. See above rule number 11.
7. Pants must be hemmed by the first game, and this is the member's responsibility.
8. 9. Tattoos are highly discouraged but must be covered if they are visible.

UNIFORM INSPECTIONS ON FRIDAY NIGHT GAMES AND COMPETITIONS

The Drum Major(s) will inspect the leadership members. Then, the section leaders will inspect the students. Section leaders report to the Secretary.

Failing inspection on Friday night and/or competitions performances will result in loss of third quarter break for each offense. Chronic inspection failures will result in additional disciplinary actions, including dismissal from the group.

PENALTIES FOR IRRESPONSIBILITY

1. If a student lacks any part of his uniform or equipment at the time of inspection, the first offense will result in the loss of their third quarter break. After the second offense, the student will lose the third quarter break for the rest of the season. If a student needs any part of the uniform, they should see a uniform chaperone or the uniform manager at least thirty minutes prior to inspection. Gloves, socks, and ball caps may be bought, and shoes, ball caps, etc. may be borrowed; however, the student who borrows items must still lose their third quarter break (except for those who buy items in advance of the deadline time).
2. If a student is improperly dressed while required to be in full or partial uniform, they will lose third quarter break.
3. If a student leaves any part of his uniform or equipment unattended after a game, performance, trip, or other event, they will be given severe consequences at the next rehearsal.
4. Lost items must be replaced so the cost of the new item will be assessed.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Practices regarding inclement weather:

Based on the current and predicted weather conditions we will decide if it is realistic for the band to practice. If heavy rain is constant, the band will rehearse indoors at the high school. Should weather prevent the band from practice (thunder/lighting/etc.), there will be an announcement made through text alerts (Remind), emails (Cut Time), and the band website (www.cherokeebuffband.com). If you are unsure about reporting to rehearsal, call the band room (770-967-0080 ext. 13252).

Home Football Games regarding inclement weather:

Students will report at the assigned time regardless of weather conditions. Roll will be called and absences and points will be recorded. If the weather allows, the band will participate in all game and halftime activities. If conditions are potentially damaging, students will either be held in the band room or bus until halftime in the hopes that conditions will improve or a **"RAIN BAND"** will be called. This means that students will be asked to volunteer their time to perform (brass and percussion) or to cheer in the band section (woodwinds and auxiliaries). All other students will be dismissed before the Rain Band reports to the stadium. Students in Rain Band will not wear band uniforms, but all regular game procedures will be followed. *Students not participating in Rain Band will have to pay to get into the stadium if they stay for the game.*

Away Football Games regarding inclement weather:

Based on the current and predicted weather conditions we will decide if it is realistic for the band to load and travel to the game location. If we feel there is a chance that weather will improve enough for students to participate, we will travel. However, if inclement weather seems inevitable, it is in the best interest of our students not to sit on buses in the parking lot for several hours trying to wait out the weather.

Inclement Weather Uniform:

Depending on weather and the timing of the weather, the directors may find it necessary to call for students to wear a rain uniform. This announcement would be made before the end of school on the day of the performance so that students would know how to arrive dressed for in-seat time. The rain uniform will consist of blue jeans, band t-shirt, and tennis shoes. If students plan to remain after school until report time, we suggest that if rain is predicted, students come to school prepared with rain uniform items.

PRE-GAME PREPARATION

- The Call Time for each performance will be announced and published prior to arrival. Students should strive to arrive in plenty of time. Early is One Time, On Time is Late, and Late is Unacceptable.
- Before games or competitions, students should check and load their own equipment upon arrival to the band room. *You are responsible for loading your own equipment!*
- Students who arrive with food and drinks must dispose all before entering the band room. Students can finish meals in the hallway, but **NO FOOD OR DRINKS ARE ALLOWED IN THE BAND ROOM.**
- After loading your equipment, you should retrieve your uniform from the uniform manger or uniform chaperones.
- As the weather gets cooler, long-sleeve undershirts may be worn as long as they are school colors and fit completely underneath the uniform, out of sight.
- Before covering your uniform with a jacket or coat, you should take preliminary precautions for cold weather (for instance, thermal underwear or sweatpants/sweatshirt). *Borrowing parts to pass inspection is considered to be failing inspection and no third quarter break will be granted.*
- Please sit in your section or area and do not play on your instrument, as there are several announcements and information that will be made and all students, chaperones, and directors should be able to hear. Be respectful to your peers, chaperones, and directors during this time.

ARRIVAL AT GAMES AND BUS CAPTAINS

- Bus captains are appointed at the beginning of the season will coordinate responsibilities.
- The equipment crew, percussionists, and sousaphones will exit the bus in full uniform and unload the trailers upon the director's orders.
- Students will exit the bus in full uniform and line up to file into the stadium.
- All students are expected to carry their belongings in an approved bag and stay in their sections while following instructions.
- ***Everyone is to remain in their section and to follow the instructions of those in charge.*** Precautions need to be taken to see that instruments are taken care of. Section leaders should appoint someone to handle placement of instrument cases.
- The band will be seated in a block. **NON-BAND MEMBERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN THE BAND SECTION.** Chaperones will be near the band section should they be needed.

CONDUCT IN THE STANDS – HOME AND AWAY GAMES

1. Stay in your sections. DO NOT move around the band set. This causes problems with playing and broken instruments.
2. You are a member of the band. Do not do things that bring attention to you as an individual.
3. No visitors in the band set (unless granted permission by the directors, as alumni of the band program may be granted permission to sit/play in the stands).
4. Play only as directed by the Drum Major(s), Directors, or Drum Captain.
5. Be attentive and follow instructions of Drum Major(s) and/or Directors.
6. Play only your written part.
7. Playing in the stands is considered part of the performance. Everyone is expected to participate fully. Anything the band is doing in terms of dancing and support should be done by all. All students WILL STAND during the game if they have an instrument.
8. Cell phones should not interfere with ANY aspect of performance, including the stands.

THIRD QUARTER BREAK

Unless directed otherwise, the third quarter is designated for a break. Consumption of food and drink is allowed only during this break. Chaperones and student leaders will start rounding up students with four minutes left in the third quarter. **ALL STUDENTS MUST ARRIVE BACK TO THE STANDS AND BE READY TO PLAY WITH TWO MINUTES LEFT IN THE THIRD QUARTER.**

Students late reporting from third quarter break (or late from the Call Time of the performance) may forfeit the third quarter break at the next game.

Students missing the third quarter break may have food or drinks brought to them but should maintain silence during the missed break.

LOSS OF THIRD QUARTER BREAK

If a student is punished for any infraction of the handbook by the loss of third quarter break, the punishment will be carried out thusly:

1. The student will remain in the stands during the third quarter of the football game and not go to the concession stand. The student will sit near the front of the band set near the director. Talking to others will not be permitted and students should have their music folder with them to review music.
2. Students serving for a loss of third quarter break may have other students or parents bring them food and drink from the concession stand. Bathroom breaks will be allowed as well.

After refreshments are delivered, students should be left alone. Missing the break is not a time to socialize.

3. No cell phones or other electronic devices are allowed during this time. Read and review your music in your music folder.
4. Failure to serve for loss of third quarter break will result in the loss of third quarter breaks for the rest of the season and a parent conference with the directors about the students' future in the band program.

POST-GAME PROCEDURES

- After the game, the band will either move to the buses (for Away games) or the band room (for Home games).
- The equipment crew, percussionists, and sousaphones should assist in the loading of equipment at this time. All other students should remain on the bus.
- **If a student wishes to be checked out after a game or performance with his/her family, he/she must present a written statement or email to the director preferably prior to departure to the game. These students are required to check out with both the director and head chaperone before leaving. The person with whom they are riding should meet the student at the buses. The person you go home should be documented in the written statement and must be the parent, guardian, or an adult acceptable to the directors.**

STUDENT LEADERSHIP SELECTION PROCESS

"Leadership is not something you do; leadership is something you are. Leadership is doing what needs to be done, when it needs to be done, whether we want to do it or not, without anybody asking." – Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser

In the Spring semester (usually mid-March), student leadership applications will out to the band membership. The applicant must follow all instructions on the application, including any necessary essays or assignments and turn them in on time.

The band directors will review the applications and interview all candidates for Band Captain, Drum Majors, and Section Leaders during class time, before school or after school. Some candidates are voted on by the students in the band program.

The band director has the final say in the selectin of the candidates. Failure to abide by his decision is unacceptable. It's okay to be disappointed if you are not chosen, but it is not okay to be rude about it. The director picks the best candidate for the position and for the good of the band program.

If a suitable candidate is not yet available, the directors have the ability to postpone the selection of any leader until a later time. The directors may keep the original applications or require new applications to be submitted in this case.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP INFORMATION AND HIERARCHY

It is important to realize that every student in the band program has an influence, positive or negative. The goal of any leader should be to go beyond that of the average band member. When you accomplish this, you have become a leader. Leadership goes beyond a rehearsal; it is more than a full-time job – it is a lifestyle.

The foundation of genuine leadership is maturity and good attitude. Successful leadership only results from respecting others and having their respect. The following is a list of ways to gain the respect of your peers:

1. Competency – the ability to do your job.
2. Lead by example and set high standards.
3. Be energetic and enthusiastic – it's contagious!
4. Be responsible and stay informed.
5. Be consistent.

Furthermore, you must respect other leaders. If the leaders of an organization cannot communicate and work together, there is no hope. Commit to being a team player, not a hero.

Finally, lead from within the band, not from above the band; you are still a student who has to go to class with these individuals. As you seek to be a student leader of this program, be sure to walk the walk before you talk the talk. If you are not selected as a student leader, do not be angry. If you have predetermined that you will quit the program if you do not get a position, you are not a leader. As a leader, you will now be in the most important part of the group. When all members are operating under the appropriate authority, the band will improve.

Leadership Hierarchy:

The student leadership team will include but are not limited to the following positions. All positions will report directly to the band directors.

Executive Leadership:

- Drum Major(s)
- Band President
- Band Vice President
- Captains (Brass, Guard, Percussion, Woodwind)
- Secretary

Leadership Council:

- Section Leaders
- Music Librarians
- Equipment Manager
- Field Crew
- Equipment Crew
- Uniform Manager
- Social Media Chief
- Lockers/Instrument Check-Out Committee
- Party Planning Committee

To view duties of each position, please review the student leadership section of the band website at www.cherokeeluffband.com.

AWARDS

Throughout the year, band members have a variety of ways to earn individual recognition from within the school, the school district, and even the state.

As with any other activity, when a student drops out, they are no longer considered a “member in good standing” and are not eligible for awards and/or honors. Even though the student in question might have worked hard for the time that they were active, their decision to discontinue participation means that they no longer wish to be included in band activities. In every case, when a student has approached the director with a legitimate conflict, they have worked out a method of sustaining their participation on some level until the end of the school year. When the student or parent makes no such effort, we must assume that they no longer have interest in the program.

Band awards will be given at the end of the Spring semester in conjunction with the Pops at the Bluff concert. To be eligible to receive an award, the band member must have met the criterion for that particular award. Any or all of these awards may be presented.

- John Phillip Sousa Award – Senior, voted on by the seniors. Considered by them to have made the greatest contribution to the Cherokee Bluff High School Band over the past four years.
- Leonard Bernstein Musicianship Award – Senior, whose musical contributions, dedication, and creativity set them apart as deserving of the highest recognition for their achievements.
- Quincy Jones Musicianship Award – Awarded by the director to the person who contributes in many ways to the band program.
- Silver Bear Award – One for each subsection (woodwinds, brass, percussion, guard) from concert and marching organization. Determined by the directors.
- National Band Leadership Award – Awarded to a selfless and generous student leader who leads peers demonstrate superior musicianship, leadership, dependability, loyalty, and cooperation both in and out of the band program.
- National Marching Band Award – Awarded to the strongest marcher of the year, with special attention given to ability, both playing, marching, and leadership on the field.
- National Color Guard Award – Awarded to the strongest guard member of the year, with special attention given to ability, both performance and leadership on the field.
- Semper Fidelis Award – From the U.S. Marine Corps. Semper Fidelis meaning “always faithful” and is the motto of every Marine – an eternal and collective commitment to the success of our battles, the progress of our Nation, and the steadfast loyalty to fellow Marines they fight alongside. The criteria is determined by the Marine Corps.
- Arion Academic Achievement Award – Awarded to the senior with the highest-grade point average as determined by the student services department with recommendation from the guidance department.
- Concert Band Award – Awarded by the director as the highest achieving member of the Concert Band.
- Musicianship Awards – Presented one for each subsection (woodwinds, brass, percussion) from the Concert and Symphonic bands as determined by the director.

WALL OF FAME

Individuals who distinguish themselves in the band program by making All-State or Governors Honors will be honored by having their picture and a listing of their band accomplishments hung on the Wall of Fame. This will take place after the student has graduated. It is possible that other prestigious awards/accomplishments may be achieved by seniors. At the discretion of the directors, this event may warrant the inclusion on the Wall of Fame.

BAND/GUARD LETTERS

The following guidelines are in effect as of the publishing of this handbook:

For a student to earn a band letter, they must meet the following requirements:

1. Be in Marching Band and in BOTH semesters of band classes, meeting the criteria of the band.
2. Have no more than three excused absences. Additional absences will involve a conference with the parents. Extenuating circumstances and acceptance of excuses will be at the director's discretion. **Have NO unexcused absences. Have no more than one unexcused tardy.**
3. Miss no marching band performances. This absence must be excused by the following guidelines: personal illness, accidents, acts of nature or death in the family, and/or approved family commitments.
4. Discipline record will be reviewed by the band directors.
5. All marching band excuses should be turned into the director by the Christmas Parade.
6. Missing third quarter break for the second time due to a failed inspection will result in letter loss.
7. **Members of the Marching Band who cannot complete requirements due to excusable reasons may be given additional work to do that will allow them to earn a Marching Band letter. See Mr. Cantrell to discuss this before the end of the season should the need arise.**

NOTE: Marching Band season ends with the Gainesville Christmas Parade held in December. Notice will be given in the Spring as to whether or not a letter was earned or lost.

BAND/GUARD LETTER JACKETS

The following guidelines are in effect as of the publishing of this handbook:

To be able to purchase a band jacket a student must meet the following requirements:

- You may purchase the jacket after earning a letter at least one year. Therefore, if you letter your freshman year, you may purchase your jacket as early as your sophomore year.
- Each year that a student letters, they will be given a silver service bar (to be sewn into the varsity letter) to serve as proof of each year of service. They would have four service bars if they marched for four years.
- The actual letter will be awarded to you upon achieving letterman status. The factory will also put one on your jacket.
- Transfer students from another school must provide evidence of continuous membership in good standing from other band programs.
- All patches, etc. are the financial responsibility of the student who orders them.
- Lost bars will have to be paid for at a cost of \$2.00 each.

GRADUATION CORD AND STOLE

A graduation stole and chord are presented to Seniors who have a great record of time in the CBHS Band, as determined by the band director. Seniors that have participated in the program for all four years will be awarded an Eight Semester Award. These items are presented to seniors during our annual Pops at the Bluff concert at the end of the Spring semester.

TRAVEL GUIDELINES, POLICIES, AND EXPECTATIONS

Chaperone Information:

1. The chaperone is an extension of the band directors and should be shown the respect and cooperation that you would show the band directors.
2. It is the chaperones' duty to take care of the well-being of the students in the band.

3. It is the chaperones' duty to uphold all rules, regulations, and policies of the band.
4. Chaperones will always report any situation that conflicts with the rules, regulations, and policies to the band directors.
5. Chaperones will always bring serious situations immediately to the directors' attention.
6. Chaperones are volunteers to help you. **Help them by giving your full cooperation.**
7. Chaperones are on the trip to assist the band directors and students. At no time should a chaperone ask to alter the schedule or plans for their own gain or enjoyment.

Buses:

1. Students are responsible for their own luggage and equipment/instrument. They must see that they are removed from the buses and put in the proper place each time we unload.
2. Bus loaders will supervise loading and unloading bus luggage bins.
3. Luggage limit: one large luggage, one carry-on, school uniform and instrument. NOTE: all luggage and instruments must be properly tagged with I.D. and Bus Number
4. Uniforms need to be in a travel bag with your name on the outside of bag.
5. Snacks may be carried, but no trash may be left on the bus.
6. No music will be allowed on buses except with earphones.
7. Students are to remain seated while bus is in motion.
8. Upon arrival to destination, students must remain seated unless dismissed by the chaperones or directors.

Rooms:

1. No sound systems without headphones.
2. Do not leave valuables/money in the rooms. Neither the hotel, school nor band is responsible for theft or lost articles.
3. Room captains will pick up and return keys upon check in/out. Students are responsible for lost key charges and should contact a chaperone to get a replacement key.
4. There should be no mixed (male/female) company in any room at any time.
5. No one should leave the motel without the group on scheduled tours/activities.
6. Room checks will be made by the chaperones each night. All room members must be visibly present.
7. No one should be out of their room after curfew.
8. Curfew will be strictly enforced. Do not leave your room for any reason until 30 minutes before breakfast. Anyone breaking curfew will be sent home.
9. Furniture and fixtures are to be checked immediately after arriving to be sure nothing is damaged. Students will pay for anything damaged after the final room check.
10. You are required to go and return by the provided transportation.
11. When free time is allotted by the directors, travel in groups.
12. Your chaperone must always know where you are.
13. Be considerate of others in the hotel. If we get complaints from others, it will be addressed harshly.
14. When swimming, don't drown.
15. All other school rules and regulations are in effect including the dress code.
16. Students who break rules, regulations, or policies are subject to be sent home at their parents' expense. In instances where school rules are broken, school officials may take further disciplinary action.
17. All clothes worn should be neat and decent. If in doubt, ask Mr. Cantrell. Be prepared to change at their request.

Things to Remember:

1. Follow all policies and guidelines of the band and school and a good time will be had by all. Reread the handbook regarding travel rules.
2. Be where you are supposed to be when you are supposed to be there.
3. Meet your bus drivers and chaperones. They are an important part of the trip.
4. Be considerate to other hotel guests.
5. Keep your cash and debit cards with you at all times. Be safe.
6. If you have a problem, tell a chaperone. They will be glad to assist you. We will have a first aid kit. Make sure your medical/insurance forms are on file, and that all the information is current.
7. Smoking, possession of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco or use of the same, indecent actions, stealing, vandalism, public display of affection, and not following instructions are all grounds to be sent home at your parents' expense.
8. When worn, the uniform will be worn in full, unless otherwise instructed. When changing clothes is permitted after performing, it must be a complete change. Students will not wear a partial uniform. (Exception: band T-shirt.)
9. Uniform inspections by the directors, section leaders, or chaperones may be conducted before each performance. All parts of the uniform will be checked.
10. An itinerary should be kept by every person. A picture of one on your phone will suffice.
11. The directors will make all final decisions in all situations concerning discipline, behavior, or procedures.

PARENT CHAPERONE RESPONSIBILITIES

Thank you for being an essential part of the Cherokee Bluff Band! Your dedication and support make a significant impact on the band experience for our students. Please read the below guidelines carefully to ensure a positive and enjoyable chaperone experience.

A. General Guidelines

1. Support the band director and staff by providing adult supervision and guidance to the students at band events and activities.
2. Ensure the safety of students by adhering to the rules of conduct on the buses and at band events listed in the CBHS student code of conduct and band handbook.
3. Check that the band leaves the areas occupied by our students as clean as we found them.
4. Responsible for assisting all students in the band. Please treat all students with respect, avoiding obscene language and gestures. In addition, smoking and the consumption of alcohol while in a chaperone role is prohibited.
5. Be watchful and act quickly to address any situations that might be hazardous. Should a crisis arise, Mr. Cantrell and his staff are the final authority, as you act on their behalf, reacting appropriately, quickly, and fairly in a positive direction.
6. Any and all discipline will be conducted by Mr. Cantrell and his staff.
7. Refer to this handbook for guidelines on Public Display of Affection (PDA) that all students should be aware of. Emphasize to students that they should always keep heads and hands visible, avoid sitting on each other's laps, and promptly address any PDA concerns. If PDA persists, discreetly and swiftly inform the head chaperone, who will report it to the band directors.
8. While chaperones are encouraged to enjoy each other's company and make the experience fun and rewarding, it is crucial not to be distracted from our primary purpose. Ensuring the safety and well-being of the students remains our top priority. Always be vigilant.

9. During a stop on the way to an event, the director will inform the lead chaperones about the allocated time. The lead chaperone will then convey this information to the students and chaperones on their bus.
10. Upon returning to the bus, it is imperative that everyone is accounted for by name. The lead chaperone on each bus is tasked with conducting a roll call, ensuring that the director and bus driver are notified of attendance before the bus resumes movement.
11. Follow school bus rules, help with equipment, and create a positive atmosphere during bus rides.
12. Wear band or school shirts when traveling and foster a positive environment for the students.

B. Away Games/Event Responsibilities

1. **Follow instructions:** To ensure organized movement, everyone should listen to the band directors and staff during announcements with instructions.
2. **Attire:** Chaperones are encouraged to wear a Band or CB shirt when traveling with the band to events.
3. **Early arrival and Preparation:** Chaperones should arrive at least 30 minutes before the scheduled event/departure time to assist with preparation tasks. Obtain designated assignments and badges from the head chaperone.
4. **Backpacks and Medical Forms:** Each bus will be equipped with a backpack containing necessary items for the event. Medical forms will be carried by the head chaperone.
5. **Roll Call and Bus Assignments:** A roll call sheet will be provided in each assigned backpack. The head chaperone will assign a lead chaperone to each bus, reporting to the director when all students are accounted for, as roll call **MUST** be conducted each time students board the bus.
6. **Travel in Pairs:** Students are required to travel in groups of at least 2 at all times.
7. **Third Quarter Break:** Check with other chaperones during the 3rd quarter break to ensure band student instruments and personal items are not left unattended. During the break, students can go to the restroom and get food in groups of 2 or more. Assist students without companions by walking with them.
8. **Return to Stands:** The director will provide a specific time for students to return to their stands. The head chaperone will ensure students are headed back to the assigned areas.
9. **Proactive involvement:** If you notice something that needs attention, please do not hesitate to jump in and get it done.
10. **Siblings and Family Members:** The decision on whether siblings and other family members are allowed to ride the bus to the band activity is at the discretion of the band director.
11. **Post-Event Responsibilities:** After the event, inspect the bus you are assigned for any left items.
12. **Seating Arrangements:** Chaperones should sit as close to the band area as possible to assist when needed.
13. **On-Field Support:** While the band is on the field, chaperones may be asked to help with equipment. Chaperones should sit in the band area to keep band members' personal items safe.

C. Home Game Responsibilities

1. **Timely Arrival:** Report to the band room by the specified band report time for each game.

2. **Check-In and Badge Collection:** Upon arrival, check in with the head chaperone designated for the event. Collect your official “chaperone” badge, which serves as your ticket into the game.
3. **Medical Supplies:** Similar to Away games, a backpack with medical supplies will be issued.
4. **Marching into the Stadium:** When the band marches into the stadium, chaperones should walk along both sides to ensure band students are aware of obstacles, especially the drumline. No one is allowed to cut through the band except in emergencies. Spectators and students must wait for the band to pass. Traffic needs to be halted while the band marches to the stadium.
5. **Bleacher Section Access:** Only current band members, current guard members, and authorized chaperones are permitted in the band section of the bleachers. Please sit as close as possible to keep instruments and personal items safe when students leave their area.
6. **Permission to Leave Band Area:** Band students require permission to leave the band area. The concession stand is off-limits until the 3rd quarter.
7. **Bleacher Section Oversight:** Watch over the band section of the bleachers to ensure nothing is tampered with while the band is away. During halftime, only chaperones are allowed to sit in this section to watch the show. Politely ask others to leave.

D. Overnight Trip Responsibilities

1. **Extension of Band Directors:** Chaperones serve as an extension of the band directors and should be treated with the same respect and cooperation afforded to the band directors.
2. **Upholding Rules and Policies:** It is the duty of chaperones to uphold all rules, regulations, and policies of the band.
3. **Reporting violations:** Chaperones are responsible for promptly reporting any situation that conflicts with the rules, regulations, and policies to the band directors.
4. **Immediate Reporting of Serious Situations:** In cases of serious situations, chaperones should bring them immediately to the attention of the directors.
5. **Voluntary Assistance:** Chaperones are volunteers offering their assistance. Band members are encouraged to reciprocate by providing full cooperation.
6. **Trip Assistance and Schedule Alterations:** Chaperones are on the trip to assist both the band directors and students. It is essential that chaperones refrain from requesting alterations to the schedule or plans for personal gain or enjoyment.

THANKS TO ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL CHAPERONE VOLUNTEERS FOR ALL OF THEIR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION THROUGHTOUT THE ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR!

CONCERT ATTIRE POLICY (UNIFORMS FOR CONCERTS)

All students must adhere to the designated concert attire for all concert performances. The guidelines for concert attire are:

Gentlemen:

- Long-sleeve Black Dress Shirt (button-down)
- Black Necktie
- Black Dress Pants or Tuxedo Pants (no jeans!)
- Black Dress Shoes
- Black Socks

Ladies:

- Black Dress (full length) or Dress Pants (no jeans!)
- Black Sleeved Top
- Black hose or stockings
- Black Closed-toed Shoes (no sandals)
- Faux white pearl, single-strand necklace 16-18 inches (optional)
- Faux white pearl button earrings (optional)

Adherence to these attire specifications ensures a polished and unified visual presentation for all performers. Your cooperation is appreciated and contributes to our concerts' overall professionalism and aesthetic harmony.

BASKETBALL PEP BAND – AS NEEDED

The Basketball Pep Band is a group that starts in November. Selection for the group is made by the director based on playing ability, sight-reading ability, past performance in the band, and enthusiasm for the group. There is no set number for the group regarding people accepted into the group. Approximately six to eight rehearsals are scheduled after the group is formed, and then we play at selected home basketball games. Attendance requirements follow the same rules as marching band, and absences/tardies in basketball band must have excused reasons. Doing homework, reading, playing chess, etc., will not be allowed during the game. Basketball band policy allows you to miss one game of your choosing with proper notification to the band director.

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE – AS NEEDED

The Percussion Ensemble, comprising percussionists and interested doublers, is formed based on percussion ability. Generally, all percussionists gain entry into the group, and performers on other instruments may join with the director's approval as needed. The group does not have a predetermined size. Following its formation, approximately 14 regularly scheduled rehearsals are planned. Performances, encompassing concerts and community events, are integral to the ensemble's activities. Attendance requirements align with the marching band's requirements, necessitating excused reasons for any absences or tardies in the Percussion Ensemble.

JAZZ BAND and JAZZ COMBO – AS NEEDED

In late Fall and early Spring, the Jazz Band initiates its activities. The group formation involves holding auditions during class, wherein students receive a placement. After the group's establishment, approximately 14 rehearsals are regularly scheduled. The ensemble showcases its talent in concerts and community events. Attendance requirements mirror those of the marching band, and excused reasons are necessary for any absences or tardies in the Jazz Band.

MY INSTRUMENT WILL NOT WORK! WHAT DO I DO?

If the school owns the instrument and was assigned to you, make a director aware of the problem. The instrument repair technician visits twice weekly (the day is announced in class) and can make MINOR on-site repairs. Minor repairs are things like replacing corks, and some pads, replacing a spring, and pivot screws, minor soldering, re-string a rotor for French horn, etc. Major repairs must be taken away by the representative to their repair shop and may necessitate your instrument being gone a few days (maybe MORE than a week, depending upon how busy the repair shop is).

If the horn is privately owned, you are under obligation to have it in playing condition at all times- this is a basic responsibility of all band students. If you or your parents take the instrument to a repair shop, see if the repair facility has a loaner instrument available. If they do not, we MAY be able to supply you with a loaner (if available). When having an instrument repaired, take ALL personal effects from the case.