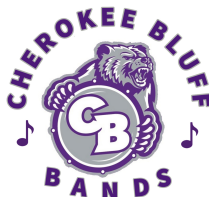


Cherokee Bluff Bands
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J. Craig Cantrell, Director of Bands
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Onward & Upward! A Commitment to Excellence.

Band Students and Parents:

Welcome to one of the most exciting experiences in which you can be a part - the Cherokee Bluff Band! Now, more than ever, we have information to justify why we participate in this demanding yet rewarding activity. Experts have concluded that the study of music helps with spatial reasoning, test-taking skills, and overall quality of life! Factor in social skills, emotional development, leadership training, group interaction, aesthetic perception, music-making, and the discipline of being in a band program, and I don't know why anyone would not want to be involved in a successful band program like we have a Cherokee Bluff. The ultimate goal is a lifelong understanding and appreciation for high-quality music and music-making!

Everyone should read the information in the handbook, even returning members. Some of the information has changed, so make sure you're informed. For those new to the program, this is the "band bible," which keeps us running smoothly and efficiently. Most questions can be answered by consulting *the handbook*, and policies will be adjusted from year to year as the need arises to clarify issues within the program. I hope that the information contained in the handbook will both *inform* and *inspire*! The advocacy article "*How Parents Can Help*" is designed to give guidance to parents; read it carefully to gain meaningful insights. Students need to know we think that what they do is significant. You will quickly find that band is truly a family in and of itself.

This past year was full of successes by our students. In all areas of the program, we saw growth and indications that the program will continue to prosper. As of this writing, we are looking ahead to some incredible opportunities for the upcoming year: Marching Band Camp, Football Games, Marching Band Competitions, District/All-State Band Auditions, Symphonic Band Camp, Large Group Performance Evaluation, and an out-of-state national televised performance!

Also, for the coming year, we would like to welcome several newcomers to the band family:

- Mr. Chris Ash (biology/marching band instructor)
- Mr. Dariush Mirsajedin (percussion instructor)
- Mr. Magdiel Portillo (percussion instructor)
- Mr. Gabriel Ezeta (brass instructor)
- Mr. Jonas Ventresca (brass instructor)

I have renewed my commitment to developing student leadership as well as our private lesson program. We have such tremendous potential in both areas. Our program can take huge strides forward with students who are actively taking private lessons. These lessons can challenge our most gifted musicians and provide one-on-one remedial tutoring for our developing musicians. We are very fortunate to have fine symphony players in the area to teach our students, and the other rewards are so great that you can't afford to miss this opportunity.

Our handbook is designed to answer any questions you might have concerning the program. Please read all of the information, and sign the attached forms. I am honored to be your band director and am looking forward to a great year!

Band Handbook QR CODE:



"If better is possible, then good is not enough!"

J. Craig Cantrell
Fine Arts Chair/Director of Bands
Cherokee Bluff High School

Contract of Mutual Consent

I, the undersigned student, accept membership in the Cherokee Bluff High School Band and understand I am responsible for all policies set forth in the band handbook. I fully agree to carry out my responsibilities to the very best of my ability.

Student (print name)

Student Signature

Student Email

Student Cell

Date

I, the undersigned parent or guardian, have read and understand the policies as set forth in the band handbook. I also grant full permission for my child to be an active member of the Cherokee Bluff High School Band. In addition, my child has full permission to attend all band functions. Furthermore, I understand that I must meet all financial obligations.

Parent/Guardian (print name)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Email

Parent/Guardian Cell

Date

Type of instrument(s) _____

Is this instrument a school-owned instrument _____ Yes _____ No

Manufacturer _____

Serial Number _____