

**CALHOUN CITY HIGH
SCHOOL "WILDCAT" BAND**



2018-2019

Band Handbook

"Superior Everyday in Everyway!"

The Calhoun City High School Band offers students the opportunities to learn and grow as musicians and young people. We perform at various public venues such as football games, marching competitions, festivals, parades, and other local community events. The band program also helps students learn to be disciplined, motivated, hard working, and how to work together as a group to reach a goal.

MEMBERSHIP

The Calhoun City High School Band is comprised of students in grades 7-12 who have fulfilled requirements set forth by the band director. Transfer students will be allowed to participate in the Calhoun City High School Band after gaining approval by the band director. Each student wishing to gain access into the high school band program must fulfill the requirements below.

REQUIREMENTS

- Payment of the band fee. Late band fees will result in a student's grades being held or other disciplinary actions. This fee CANNOT be fundraised, as set forth by the Calhoun County School District.
- Payment of the "Fair Share Fee." This is a requirement of all CCHS Band Students in an effort to help with the expenses of the band program (travel, competition entry fees, music, etc.). This fee can be completely fundraised. Furthermore, working in the concession stands, doing jobs and participating in activities approved by the band director will result in the lowering of this fee.
- Students must remain academically eligible as defined by the MHSAA and the Calhoun County School District. This means that each student must maintain a 2.0 GPA in all classes a student is taking. Furthermore, students must pass all core subjects (English, Math, and Science).
- Students are required to be at all rehearsals and performances on time. If there is a problem, please communicate with the band director at least three days in advance when at all possible.
- Band students must participate in band both the fall and spring semesters. This includes color guard members.
- Band is a physical activity and students must be able to do the physical activities required to be a member of the band. Pushups, marching, running, etc. will be done by students.
- Band members must attend the CCHS Band Camp in order to participate in the fall show. Failure to attend this camp will result in a student losing his or her spot in the show.
- All band members must represent our band, school, and community with pride and professionalism.

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ATTENDANCE POLICY

REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED!

Students and parents must realize the success of our organization depends upon 100% participation and cooperation of its members. Attendance is mandatory at ALL REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES unless a director specifically communicates otherwise. When a student is absent, no one can take his/her place. ONE ABSENCE AFFECTS THE ENTIRE BAND!

The only automatically accepted excuses for absences are illness (with a doctor's note) or a death in the family.

If a student has **ONE UNEXCUSED ABSENCE** from a rehearsal, he/she will not be allowed to participate in performances for that week and will perform from the side line.

ONE UNEXCUSED ABSENCE from a **PERFORMANCE** will result in that student being removed from any performing group (marching band, concert band, indoor).

Parents: You are urged not to punish your child by keeping him/her from participating in a rehearsal or performance. When you do this you are punishing more than your child. You are punishing EVERY CHILD in the band and impacting the entire program. Our students rely heavily upon one another not only in rehearsals, but also – and especially - in performance situations. This will be viewed as an UNEXCUSED ABSENCE and the aforementioned policy will be enforced. This is to protect the organization as a “whole”.

The attendance policy will be enforced from the first day of Band Camp throughout the school year. Please try to schedule doctor appointments, commitments, dentist, and orthodontist appointments outside of rehearsal time if possible. We realize this is not always possible, but please make every effort to do so.

The excuse of not having a ride to a performance or rehearsal WILL NOT be accepted nor excused. If a student is going to be late, the student should have a GOOD reason and either call the band hall directly at 662.628.5112 or call their section leader to relay the message to the director.

UNEXCUSED TARDIES WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Excessive tardiness will result in dismissal from the marching band or performance ensemble.

BE HERE! BE ON TIME!

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FEES

At this time our school district does not provide a budget for any extracurricular activities. Any money that our band program gets to spend must be raised by the students. This money will cover our travel, music, contest entrance fees, and other general monetary needs of the band program. Please know that these fees are necessary and are only used to create a better band experience for the students.

Each student who plays their own instrument must pay a \$65.00 band fee. Students playing on a school-owned instrument will pay an \$85.00 band fee. This fee will need to be paid in full before the first ballgame. Students will not participate in the halftime performance without this fee being paid, or arrangements made with the band directors ahead of time. There will also be a \$100.00 fair share fee. Please note that there will be fundraising opportunities to ease the out of pocket expenses of the parents for the fair share fee.

There will also be opportunities for parents and students to add credit to their fair share account in the following ways:

- Working two football games in the concession stand will result in \$50.00 credit toward the fair share fee.
- Weekly private lessons taken by the student by a director approved instructor will result in a \$25.00 credit. These weekly private lessons must last a minimum of three months.
- Director approved activities such as honor bands, community events, etc. will result in fair share credit as deemed by the band director.

There will also be a uniform fee for each band member to pay. On years where the band wears a costume for the marching show, students will pay for all or part of the costume, depending on the price. This costume will be the student's to keep after the marching season is completed. This fee will be based off the cost of the costume.

PLEASE COMMUNICATE ANY ISSUES WITH THESE FEES WITH THE BAND DIRECTOR! WE CAN COME UP WITH A PLAN!

BAND HALL RULES

1. Have the materials needed for class (instrument, music, pencil, etc.).
2. Be respectful of all those around you.
3. Be present and on time.
4. NO FOOD, GUM, DRINKS, OR CELL PHONES in the band hall during rehearsal. (Water is acceptable).
5. Two times in ISS or OSS will result in removal from the band program.

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6. Always leave the band hall in a neat and orderly fashion. Chairs straight, stands straight, percussion put away and percussion room cleaned, color guard equipment put away and color guard room cleaned.

TRAVEL/BUS RULES

1. No talking when the bus is in the city limits.
2. No loud music on the bus. Headphones must be used.
3. Stay seated.
4. Students must ride the bus TO all games, but may ride home with parents if a check out form has been received.
5. The director will dictate when to load and unload the bus/equipment.
6. Ladies will not share a seat with gentlemen, gentlemen will not share a seat with ladies.

GRADES

Daily Grades: Students will receive a 100 every week for no missed rehearsals. For every missed rehearsal without an excused absence, a student's daily grade will be lowered one letter grade. There will also be material checks throughout the week.

Test Grades: Performances will count as a test grade. Attendance and ability to be on time will play a role in this grade. Pass offs of routines and music will also count for this grade.

Any students failing band after the fall semester will be removed from the band program.

REHEARSAL BEHAVIOR

Be at the field, or in your seat, at a time that you feel is sufficient for you to be prepared to rehearse: get your instrument together, check that all necessary music is in order, make sure your charts are in order, and mentally review your movements through the drill.

"To be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late!"

GIVE 100% AT REHEARSALS

We live in the Great State of Mississippi. At no time during my lifetime can I remember a year in which the months of July, August, nor the beginning of September were perfectly conducive to marching band rehearsal. IT IS HOT! We will sweat, probably smell bad, and get thirsty. Know ahead of time that you must condition your body for this. Dehydration and heat-related illnesses are a real and viable threat. Drink plenty of water during the weeks prior to camp and during the marching band season. Students are encouraged to bring water bottles they

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can carry on their person during rehearsals. We will also provide water. This can easily become the number one deterrent to productive marching rehearsals!!! Lack of focus and energy are the first signs of dehydration. **THIS WILL PREVENT YOU FROM BEING ABLE TO GIVE 100% AT REHEARSALS!** Furthermore, pay attention to what you eat! If you put junk in, you will get junk out! You don't have to go on a diet, but pay attention...especially during camp week!

After you have prepared for rehearsal and arrived early, you must give your full attention to completing the job at hand. Know your assignment and do it well. Strive to do everything right the first time. **DO NOT TALK DURING INSTRUCTION!** Conversations directly involved with the diagnosing and solving of marching or playing problems are all that are necessary during rehearsal time. When the band is stopped during rehearsal, immediately stop playing and/or marching and listen to the instruction being given by the staff. This is the only way to efficiently use rehearsal time.

- Students will wear dark colored gym shorts/lose fitting pants, section color t-shirt, and RUNNING/TENNIS shoes to rehearsals. No boots, sandals, flip flops, etc. The rehearsal clothing must allow for maximum amount of movement.

SECTION LEADERS

Section Leaders will apply for the position and go through an interview process. The position will be determined by the band director. Section leaders will be expected to lead by example. The duties of a section leader will be explained to them upon their selection. Furthermore, if a section leader is performing unsatisfactorily, he or she will be removed as section leader and a new one will be chosen.

COLOR GUARD

Auditions for color guard will be held before school ends in May. A mini camp will be held prior to auditions (attendance at which will be mandatory). Any students interested in auditioning for color guard must have been a member of the indoor color guard held in the spring semester. Any students interested in auditioning for captain must have had at one two year on the color guard line and go through a separate audition process. The requirements of this audition will be made available to the interested candidates.

All color guard members will be expected to pay for their fall costume as well as the fair share fee. There will be some special fundraising opportunities for the members of the color guard. Furthermore, color guard members will be expected to purchase a rifle and a practice flag and flag pole for the season. A detailed list of expenses and a payment schedule will be provided to the students.

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**PLEASE COMMUNICATE ANY ISSUES WITH THESE FEES WITH THE BAND
DIRECTOR! WE CAN COME UP WITH A PLAN!**

UNIFORMS

Uniforms will be issued during band camp. It will be the students' responsibility to have the uniforms cleaned. All uniform parts will be kept in the band hall. After each football game, students will hang their uniforms properly in the uniform room before students will be dismissed. Each student will need a pair of long black socks to accompany the uniform, a pair of marching band shoes, and a pair of marching gloves. We will give the students an opportunity to be fitted for these shoes if they need them.

The CCHS Band will also utilize an altered variation of the uniform for warm weather games. The "summer" uniform will consist of band pants, band t-shirt, band shoes, black socks, and band hats and plumes. Color guard will wear black leggings/tights, black gym shorts, and a black top.

If the uniform is lost or damaged at the fault of the student, the following payment scale will be used for replacement. It will be the student's responsibility to replace the uniform in the event it is lost or damaged beyond normal wear and tear.

- JACKET: \$225.00
- PANTS: \$125
- HAT: \$50

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Students playing a school owned horn must have an instrument check out form on file.
- Students who damage or lose a school owned instrument will be responsible for replacing/repairing the instrument.
- The director has the right to change any policies in this handbook at any time.
- Students must have a medical form on file before they are able to travel with the band.
- The calendar attached to this handbook is as close as possible; however, changes could be made at any time. These changes will be communicated to the students and parents as soon as possible.
- All students must have a medical release form NOTARIZED and with insurance information to be able to travel with the band. This form will be due by the end of band camp.
- Parents and students please join the Calhoun City High School Band Band Facebook Page.

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- Please always communicate any issues, absences, tardiness, etc. with the band director. Unexcused absences, tardiness, etc. can result in removal from the band program.
- Students who quit band or get removed from band will pay the band fee that will be due up to that point. (For example, if a student is removed from band in September, the band fee will still be required to be paid and will be nonrefundable. Furthermore, if a student is removed during second semester, all band fees and fair share fees will be expected to be paid.
- Please sign and return the attached document acknowledging you have read and agree with this handbook. Also, sign and return ALL of the documents attached to this handbook by the end of band camp.

***EXCELLENCE IS A HABIT...
WHAT YOU DO MATTERS!***

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HANDBOOK AGREEMENT

THIS FORM IS DUE AT BAND CAMP

By signing this document, I acknowledge I have read through the CCHS Band Handbook and agree to adhere to the policies set forth in the handbook.

PRINCIPAL: Mr. Mike Ray

BAND DIRECTOR: Mr. Dustin Thrasher

Mr. Justin H. Parks

Parent: _____ Date: _____

Student: _____ Date: _____

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Student Participation Clearance Form

THIS FORM IS DUE AT BAND CAMP!

I hereby give consent for my child, _____, to participate in the CALHOUN COUNTY School District's athletic and activities programs during the 2015-2016 school year.

I hereby authorize and give permission for emergency medical treatment to be rendered for and on behalf of my child, _____, for any injury received while participating in any supervised school activity. This authorization includes, but is not limited to, any treatment deemed necessary by certified personnel, physicians, hospital emergency room physicians and hospitals.

I hereby release the Calhoun County School District and all school personnel for any and all liability associated with such necessary treatment.

The Calhoun County School District does not pay any expense incurred for any accident involving a student on school property or participating in school activities and does not provide health or accident insurance for participants in school programs.

In addition, I assume any expenses for liability not covered by the above required insurance policy for injury received by the above named student while participating in sports and school activities. I accept full responsibility for medical and hospital expenses and any other related expenses and do hereby hold harmless the Calhoun County School District and the Board of Trustees, their agents or assignees, of responsibility for any such injury or expenses and waive any and all claims which may arise against them. I realize that participation in organized sports and activities involves the potential for injury, sometimes severe enough to result in total disability, paralysis, or death.

I give the Mississippi High School Activities Association and its assigns, licensees and legal representatives the irrevocable right to use any picture or image or sound recording of the student in all forms and media and in all manners, for any lawful purposes. In addition, I consent to the disclosure, by my child's/ward's school, to the MHSAA, upon its request, of all records relevant to his/her eligibility and participation including, but not limited to, his/her records relating to enrollment and attendance, academic standing, age, discipline, residence and physical fitness.

Parent/ Legal Guardian _____ Phone # _____

Cell # _____ Date _____ (valid 365 from this date)

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**Calhoun City High School "Wildcat" Band
Medical Release Form 2015-2016
THIS FORM IS DUE AT BAND CAMP!**

Student's Name: _____
Physical Address : _____
Mailing Address: _____
Date of Birth: _____ Phone Number : _____

Parent of Guardian: _____
Phone Number: _____ Employer: _____
Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____
Relationship to Student: _____ Phone Number: _____

Please describe any of the following which may pertain to your child:

Serious Chronic Illness: _____
Severe Allergic Reactions: _____
Non Severe Allergic Reactions: _____
Medicines Taken Regularly: _____
MEDICINES ALLERGIC TO: _____
Insurance Company: _____ Policy Number: _____

Which of the following medicines can your child take if necessary:

_____ Tylenol _____ Ibuprofen _____ Pepto Bismol _____ Benadryl _____ Other if Necessary

PARENT OR GUARDIAN CONSENT STATEMENT

I am the legal Parent or Guardian of the above named student. By my signature below, I hereby release the Calhoun County School District, Band Director(s), or chaperones acting as agents of the District, of liability in the event of illness, accident, or injury occurring beyond the realm of reasonable care in ALL BAND ACTIVITIES AND TRAVEL. I also grant permission for the above name student to be treated and/or hospitalized by a licensed physician and for Insurance Policy Information and the above written medical information to be released to the physician and Medical Facility used.

Parent of Legal Guardian

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF CALHOUN

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

(SEAL)

My commission expires: _____

Notary Public

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UNIFORM AGREEMENT

THIS FORM IS DUE AT BAND CAMP!

Please initial and sign where indicated. Thank you!

Please note: The following information does not pertain to parents of Color Guard participants unless you also have a child who will wear a standard marching uniform.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Please understand that past circumstances have made this document necessary. The Boosters have made significant investments in uniforms (approximately \$350 per uniform), and it is our goal that each uniform be returned, clean, and in good condition for the future use of students in the program. This document must be on file before a student will be issued a uniform for performance.
- **This agreement must be signed and returned before the uniform can leave the band hall.**

Parent Initials: _____

DESIGNATED SHOES

- Shoes, designated by the band director, are required for **every** student.
- Shoes are ordered in the first few weeks of August. New ones are only necessary if 1) your child has outgrown the shoes from the previous year, 2) the current shoes are worn out/damaged, or 3) your student does not have a pair. At the end of the year, a student *may* donate them to the band program, if they are still in good condition, so that we have a few extra pairs in different sizes on hand for emergencies – donating them is *not* required.
- **The payment for each pair is approximately \$37** and students are fitted at school during band hours. Payment is due when shoes are ordered. (Shoes are **not** included in the Fair Share Amount.) Shoes can only be paid for with cash directly to the company when they come to fit the students.
- Guard shoes must be purchased by the students in the same fashion.

Parent initials: _____

GLOVES

- Gloves are issued to students who need them for performance.
- Gloves are ordered in the first few weeks of August, just like the shoes.
- Gloves are included in the fair share amount. If gloves are lost during the season, new ones are required. They are \$5 for two pair.
- **GUARD MEMBERS WILL NOT RECEIVE GLOVES.**

Parent initials: _____.

JACKETS

- Are issued to each student and are provided by the Band Boosters. The Booster organization has raised and continues to raise funds in order to provide jackets for the program.
- Students are fitted from our current inventory of jackets.
- It is recommended that the jacket be dry cleaned before competitions, but it is not a requirement. However, the jacket must be dry cleaned before it is turned in at the end of the semester.
- **If the jacket is lost or damaged (torn, ripped, shredded, stained, etc.), your student will be charged a replacement fee of \$225.**

Parent initials: _____

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BLACK PANTS

- Are issued to each student.
- Pants should be dry-cleaned at the same time as the jackets.
- Pants should be hemmed but **NOT CUT!** Even if this means a 6-inch hem.
- We will have the uniforms altered during band camp, but understand that students may grow and need hemming done through the year, this will be at the expense/responsibility of the student.
- **If your student rips, tears, or damages the pants (by ironing or cutting) they will be charged \$125.**

Parent initials: _____

HATS, PLUMES, HAT BOXES, AND GARMENT BAGS

- Are provided by the Band Boosters to each student who needs them for performance.
- If these items are lost or damaged, your student will be charged a replacement fee.
Replacement fees are: hats, \$50; hat box, \$15; plumes, \$20; garment bag, \$20

Parent initial: _____.

PARENT: *I have read the above information pertaining to uniform care for the Southaven Band program. I understand that my student is responsible for the proper care of the uniform while it is in his/her possession, and that a replacement fee may be charged, according to the prices above, if any part of the uniform is returned unfit for future use by other students. I have initialed in the spaces above, and my signature below signifies my understanding and agreement with the above policy.*

Parent's signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent name, printed: _____

STUDENT: *I have read and understand the replacement costs of the uniform that has been issued to me by the Southaven Band program. I understand that it is my responsibility to take proper care of the uniform while it is in my possession.*

Student's signature: _____ Date: _____

Student's name, printed: _____

The following will be filled out at band camp!

JACKET # _____ PANTS # _____ HAT # _____

BAG # _____ BOX # _____

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INSTRUMENT CHECK OUT FORM

THIS FORM IS DUE AT BAND CAMP!

Student Name: _____

Student Grade: _____ Instrument : _____

Student Address: _____

Student Phone Number: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Phone Number: _____

TO BE FILLED OUT BY BAND DIRECTOR:

Instrument Brand: _____ Case Number: _____

Serial Number: _____

PLEASE SIGN THE BOTTOM AGREEMENT:

I am aware that my child is using an instrument that is the property of the Calhoun City High School Band. I am aware that if the instrument is damaged beyond the normal wear and tear as deemed by the band director, that it will be my responsibility to pay for the repairs. I am further aware that if the instrument is damaged beyond repair or lost while in my child's possession of usage, that I will be responsible for the replacement value based on the attached chart. I have read this paragraph and understand the agreement.

Parent Signature

Date

REPLACEMENT VALUE CHART:

Bassoon: \$4949.50

Bass Clarinet: \$2167.99

Contra Bass Clarinet: \$4849.00

Tenor Saxophone: \$2574.00

Baritone Saxophone: \$4226.00

Oboe: \$3699.50

Trombone: \$800.00

French Horn: \$3179.00

Mellophone: \$1576.99

Concert Tuba: \$6659.99

Sousaphone: \$6575.00

Concert Baritone: \$2318.99

Marching Baritone: \$2203.99

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