



CLEAR CREEK

WILDCAT BAND

HANDBOOK AND POLICIES

2021-2022

CLEAR CREEK HIGH SCHOOL
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Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 edition of the Clear Creek Wildcat Band! As we embark on another year for this storied program, the Band Staff and I are excited about the possibilities that the new season brings. The Administration of Clear Creek ISD and Clear Creek High School along with the Creek Band Staff look forward to working with you and supporting all Wildcat Band students throughout the year.

High school band is one of the most unique experiences available to students and their parents at Clear Creek High School. Through participation in the Wildcat Band, students can expect to learn and/or experience:

- Exceptional musical skills and appreciation for all forms of visual and performance art
- Varied performance opportunities throughout the area, state, and nation
- Time management and efficient methods of successfully maintaining multiple responsibilities
- Superior communication skills with peers and adults
- An increased understanding of strong work ethic, perseverance, persistence, and drive
- A sense of belonging to a tight knit student family
- A once in a lifetime experience creating memories and friendships for life!

For those of you who are new to the Creek Band, welcome to your next great adventure! To those of you returning, welcome back! Together, we will continue to push the Wildcat Band to the highest levels of excellence and performance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in brown ink, appearing to read 'Tate Fincher', written in a cursive style.

Tate Fincher
Director of Bands
Clear Creek High School
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Handbook Introduction

The Clear Creek Band Handbook and Policies document exists to provide a general guideline and some specific rules by which the program is operated. It is impossible for such a document to foresee any possible situation or need that may arise, so this document may be amended at any time with appropriate notice to the Clear Creek Band students, parents, and stakeholders.

This document assumes and requires that all students will follow guidelines and procedures in the Clear Creek ISD Code of Conduct and Extracurricular Code of Conduct.

This Handbook and Policies document is subject to revision and update at any time. All revisions and/or updates will be posted on the band website at www.clearcreekbands.com.

COVID Disclaimer

This document has not been significantly altered with information regarding the current COVID pandemic and adjustments as a result of new safety regulation and protocols. Those regulations and adjustments are published separately.

Any rules, regulations, and policies in this document are superseded by any and all COVID related rules, policies, and adjustments. This includes, but is not limited to schedules, participation requirements, attendance policies, etc.

The most current COVID related information can be found on the Clear Creek ISD website.

Band Course Overview

The Clear Creek Band program offers students a wide variety of performance opportunities. Students are placed in a concert ensemble based on the result of auditions held in both May and December. Both auditions are comprised of major and chromatic scales, selected etudes, and sight-reading material. Students may be reassigned, at the director's discretion, to a different ensemble based on their December audition or performance and participation throughout the year.

Please note: Placement for percussion during the fall semester will be determined based on the spring drumline audition camps. Band placement for the spring semester will be determined by an audition held in October comprised of region band audition music excerpts.

Performing Ensembles

Wind Symphony – This ensemble is comprised of the highest caliber musicians who strive to achieve artistry and musicianship at the highest level. Students perform college-level literature and are expected to act as leaders in the band program. All students are highly encouraged to study privately and are required to audition for the All-Region Band, perform at Solo & Ensemble Contest (1 solo and 1 ensemble per student). At the conclusion of marching season, Wind Symphony participants are required to attend one full ensemble rehearsal and one sectional each week during concert season. These rehearsals/sectionals typically begin in November. A detailed schedule will be provided prior to the beginning of concert season.

Required for Wind Ensemble Members:

- Participation in marching band
- Performance of all marching contest music from memory
- Preparation of All-State music during the fall, with tests assigned throughout the first semester
- Audition for All-State Band
- Performance at UIL Concert and Sight-Reading
- Performance of a solo and ensemble at Solo & Ensemble Contest
- Performance of concert music as assigned by the director
- Attendance at section rehearsals and/or full band rehearsals before or after school
- Performance in Clear Creek Full Orchestra (select instruments)

Symphonic Band - This ensemble is comprised of students with solid fundamentals who produce characteristic sounds and demonstrate technical proficiency on their instrument and are developing their musical artistry. All members of this ensemble are highly encouraged to study privately and to audition for the All-Region Band. All Symphonic Band members are

required to perform a solo at Solo & Ensemble Contest. At the conclusion of marching season, symphonic band participants are required to attend one full ensemble rehearsal and one sectional each week during concert season. These rehearsals/sectionals typically begin in November. A detailed schedule will be provided prior to the beginning of concert season.

Required for Symphonic Band Members:

- Participation in marching band
- Performance of all marching contest music from memory
- Preparation of All-Region music during the fall, with tests assigned throughout the first semester
- Encouraged to Audition for All-Region Band
- Performance at UIL Concert and Sight-Reading
- Performance of a solo at Solo & Ensemble Contest
- Encouraged to perform an ensemble Solo & Ensemble Contest
- Performance of concert music as assigned by the director
- Attendance at section rehearsals and/or full band rehearsals before or after school

Marching Band- All students in the Clear Creek Band Program participate in the marching band. This group rehearses after school, 8 hours per week, during the first part of the year. They perform at all football games, pep rallies, parades, and several band competitions throughout the first quarter. There are required pre-season training camps during the summer that are mandatory for all students. As an artistic endeavor, each rehearsal and performance of the marching band is mentally and physically demanding. In accordance with UIL guidelines, each student in the marching band is eligible to receive a physical education waiver.

Competitive marching spots are assigned and maintained based on the following:

- UIL eligibility
- Demonstrated playing ability
- Demonstrated marching ability
- Consistent attendance throughout summer and fall activities including Summer Band and all fall rehearsals
 - Absences must be excused with documented communication
- Consistent and active participation during all rehearsals

Decisions regarding assignment of competitive marching band spots are at the sole discretion of the Director of Bands.

Marching Band Performances

All marching band performances are mandatory and part of the student's grade. Students who have an unexcused absence from a performance are subject to immediate removal from their marching spot. Students who miss more than one performance for any reason (excused or unexcused) are subject to possible removal from the band program. Band is a performance activity in which every performer relies on other performers. Students who consistently miss performances are not receiving full benefit from the program and are negatively impacting other students.

General Performance Procedures

- **Report/Call Time:** This will be the designated time at which all members should be at the high school or set location. Students should have all attire and necessary items for the designated performance prior to the report time.
- **Load Time:** This will be the designated time at which all members should be on the appropriate bus with all equipment loaded. All equipment and materials will be checked by section leaders. Students who do not have all required equipment and uniform parts will be sent home, an unexcused absence will be recorded, and a zero will be recorded as a grade.
- **Return Time:** This will be the estimated time of return to the band hall.
- **Music Inspection:** Music inspection will occur before all football games and marching band performances that will utilize music which is not part of the competition show. Students will be asked to display music, lyre (if appropriate), and flip folder. Students who do not pass music inspection may not be allowed to perform. All students are required to have their flip folder with them in the stands for all performances.
- **Uniform Inspection:** Prior to student departure for a marching band performance, students must pass a uniform inspection. In order to board the bus, students must have the complete uniform, music, flip folder, water jug, and other components for the marching performance. Students who do not pass uniform inspection and are unable to resolve issues of missing items, may not be allowed to attend the event.
- **Instrument Transportation:** Students will be allowed to transport their instrument on the band trailer, box truck, or bus. Students will be responsible for seeing that their instrument is loaded into the proper location. Students will also be responsible to see that their instrument is taken off the trailer, box truck, or bus and stored correctly at the conclusion of the event.

Varsity Color Guard/Winter Guard- This is a visual performing ensemble open to all select members demonstration superior training and skills. They rehearse daily as part of an academic course throughout the entire school year. During the fall, members of the color guard perform with the marching band at all competitions, football games, pep rallies, parades, and other various events. During the spring semester, the color guard performs at basketball games and other local events.

Requirements for Varsity Guard Members:

- Development of advanced movement skills
- Development of advanced performance and visual communication skills
- Development of ensemble skills including timing of flags and body movement
- Performance of contest and performance routine by memory
- Participation in all marching band activities in the fall semester and winter guard activities in the spring semester
- This class is open to students who do not perform on a band instrument as well as band students who want to have additional work in this area.
- Students who are currently members of the band must remain a member of the band in order to participate in color guard

JV Color Guard/ Winter Guard- This is a visual performing ensemble open to all students at CCHS. They rehearse daily as part of an academic course throughout the entire school year. During the fall, members of the color guard perform with the marching band at all competitions, football games, pep rallies, parades, and other various events. During the spring semester, the color guard performs competitively in the Texas Color Guard Circuit and Winter Guard International, as well as producing a Spring Show that features solo and ensemble performances written and choreographed by the student performers.

Requirements for JV Guard Members:

- Development of basic movement skills
- Development of ensemble skills including timing of flags and body movement
- Performance of marching contest routine by memory
- Participation in all marching band activities in the fall semester and winter guard activities in the spring semester
- This class is open to students who do not perform on a band instrument as well as band students who want to have additional work in this area.
- Students who are currently members of the band must remain a member of the band in order to participate in color guard

Full Orchestra- Selected students from the Wind Symphony will have the opportunity to participate in the Symphony Orchestra in the winter and spring. Being selected for Symphony Orchestra will be based on band auditions and musical requirements (instrumentation). Rehearsals take place after school and this ensemble may perform at UIL in April. This is required if you are member of the Wind Ensemble. A detailed rehearsal schedule will be made available prior to the full orchestra season.

Drumline/Percussion Ensemble- All percussionists in the Clear Creek Band participate in either the drumline or front ensemble during the fall, based on auditions during the previous spring semester. Students are reassigned to one of the three concert bands for the following spring semester based on an audition in the fall. The drumline performs with the marching band at all competitions, football games, pep rallies, and other events. The drumline will have additional performances for community and school events. In addition to performing with a concert band during the winter and spring, percussionists also perform with a percussion ensemble at a percussion concert. All percussion students are required to perform a solo at the Clear Creek Solo contest.

Musical Development

Individual Practice

All band students are expected to practice on a regular basis in order to improve their individual musicality that contributes to the overall success of the ensemble. Musical improvement from each member is expected and is factored into the student's overall grade. Band placement, chair placement, and course grades are determined based on the student's preparation in class on a daily basis. Remember that when you are practicing, its **quality** not **quantity**. Practice efficiently in short blocks of time for maximum success!

Private Lessons

The Clear Creek band has about 80% of the students enrolled in private lessons. Private music lessons are offered as an enrichment to classroom instruction and are designed to utilize the broad scope of characteristic literature available for every instrument. Rather than stress the singular goal of competition preparation, the emphasis instead is on nurturing the independent thinking and individual performance skills critical to the development of the maturing musician. The focus is on acquiring refined levels of sight-reading and technical proficiency in tandem with the attainment of an advanced sense of musical instinct and interpretation. Enrollment is open to all students and professional private instructors work with the students during and after school hours. Lesson fees are paid directly to the private lesson teacher. Students are strongly encouraged to study with a specialized teacher on their instrument.

Solo and Ensemble Contest

The Region 17 UIL Solo and Ensemble contest is an opportunity for students from our immediate area to perform individually as well as in small groups. It takes place at the beginning of February, and students are given a rating for their performance. Participation in UIL Solo and Ensemble is required for all members of the Clear Creek HS Band program.

All-State and All-Region Band

The All-State and All-Region Band process is an opportunity for students to improve their individual performance skills. Etudes are chosen in the summer and distributed at summer band camp for music students from across the state to prepare. Members of the Wind Symphony are required to audition for the All-Region band while members of the Symphonic and Concert Bands are encouraged to audition. Region auditions take place in December and the best players from our region will make the All-Region band which meets for a clinic and concert in January. Some students will advance to the All-Area auditions, which take place in January. Those who are successful at the area audition will earn a coveted chair in the Texas All-State Band, which meets in February for a clinic and concert at the TMEA Convention in San Antonio.

If you earn a chair in the Region 17 All-Region band you are required to attend the clinic and concert held in January. Not attending the clinic and concert without director approval could lead to the student in question being moved to another ensemble for the upcoming semester. Auditioning for the region band is your acknowledgement of this and your understanding of the consequences for not attending.

Attendance Policies and Rehearsal Expectations

*To be early, is to be on time
To be on time, is to be late
To be late, is to be left!*

The nature of this activity requires that students be present at **ALL** rehearsals. A student missing from the section or the marching band drill not only affects their individual performance, but those around them as well. It also creates a safety concern when students fall behind in learning drill for marching band. The policies stated below are to ensure the quality and safety of the Clear Creek Band and its members.

Excused/Unexcused Absences

Determination of excused and unexcused absences will be at the discretion of the band director. For all absences, students and/or parents must submit a note or email to Mr. Fincher (tfincher@ccisd.net) **24 hours prior** to the absence or (in the case of a severe emergency) as soon as possible **prior** to the missed event.

All appointments, meetings, etc. should be scheduled on weekdays when there is no rehearsal, after rehearsal time, or immediately following school. Unforeseen sicknesses must have a parent or doctor note in order to be excused from rehearsal. This documentation must be provided on the day the student returns in order to be excused, but it is still expected that an email or note be provided prior to missing rehearsal.

Things that are always considered unexcused:

- Work/Job
- Electives/Club Meetings
- Driver's Ed
- Babysitting
- Homework/Projects
- Club or outside of school sports

Marching Band

One unexcused absence will result in the student losing their marching privilege for one football game. Two unexcused absences will result in the student forfeiting their competitive marching assignment. Three unexcused absences will result in the student being removed from marching show and possible removal from the band program and loss of P.E credit. Those students involved in sports during the fall season are still required to be in attendance at all band performances including football games, pep rallies, and parades as these are considered performances.

Students who are continually ill may need to provide a doctor's note releasing them from participation in order to ensure the well-being of the child and to allow the band staff to make accommodations as necessary.

If a student misses over **3 hours** of rehearsal within a given week, regardless if it is excused or unexcused, the student will not perform with the band during that week's performance. Similarly, a student with one excused tardy and one excused absence will also not perform in that week's performance. This amount of time cannot be made up which creates performance quality, and for marching band, safety issues for other members of the ensemble.

****NOTE: Absences due to avoidable, elective conflicts or as a result of poor planning will not be excused. Students and parents should stay familiar with the band calendar and communicate with parents, siblings, directors, friends and employers to avoid scheduling issues. In many cases there is a solution for conflicts and being proactive with your communication allows the directors the opportunity to help resolve any issues.**

Concert Band

One unexcused absence from a rehearsal in a concert band will result in a reevaluation of the student's placement in their ensemble. Two unexcused absences will result in the student being moved either within their current ensemble or into another performing ensemble. Three unexcused absences may result in possible removal from the band program. Those students involved in other activities should communicate all possible schedule challenges with the band staff as soon as possible (including providing schedules) so there is no confusion as to when there might be attendance challenges.

Tardy Policy

Marching Band

A tardy is defined as not being in the block or your seat when rehearsal is scheduled to begin. There are no exceptions to the "3rd tardy" rule. Once a student has reached the 3rd tardy, they will be pulled from the next performance and an alternate. When the performance is over, the student who lost the spot may be allowed to challenge to win the spot again. Not being tardy is the responsibility of the student. The only excused tardy are those involving medical emergencies and must be accompanied by a doctor or parent note.

Consequences of being tardy:

1. Warning
2. Points deducted from participation grade, 5 points per 1 minute tardy
3. Student will be pulled from performances

Concert Band

A tardy is defined as not being in the block or your seat when rehearsal is scheduled to begin. Tardies during the school day will be handled in accordance with Clear Creek High School policy. Tardies at sectionals and other rehearsals will result in reevaluation of a student's placement in the performing ensembles.

Summer Band Attendance

For all students in the Clear Creek Band, attendance at summer band camp practices is **mandatory**. Band camp dates are posted in February and students and parents should plan vacations appropriately. Should any student elect to miss these practices, their competitive marching assignment will be affected. Those students involved in sports during the fall season are still required to be in attendance at afternoon playing rehearsals and band camp activities. All student athletes should work out their schedule with Mr. Fincher prior to the start of summer band. Determination of unexcused and excused absences due to conflicting sport events will be at the discretion of the band directors. Please email Mr. Fincher (tfincher@ccisd.net) in the event of any absence from rehearsal or performance. See above for communication timeline.

Daily Marching Band Rehearsals

Once school begins, attendance at marching band rehearsals will count towards the student's first quarter grade. See "Grading Policies" for a more detailed outline. Should a student elect to miss rehearsal, both their grade and their Varsity marching assignment will be affected.

Run-Through Rehearsals

Before each football game performance and competition, we will have a run-through rehearsal. If a student is not present at this run-through and it is an unexcused absence, he/she will not march in that day's performance.

Sectionals/After School-Rehearsals

At the conclusion of the marching season, we will begin our regular sectional and after school rehearsal schedule. These rehearsals are mandatory and count towards the student's overall quarter grade, similar to marching band rehearsals. A detailed schedule of these rehearsals will be distributed at the conclusion of the marching season.

Rehearsal Expectations

Rehearsal Etiquette

Students must be prepared for all rehearsals prior to the start. For marching rehearsals, students should be in their attendance block before rehearsal begins. They must have with them at all marching rehearsals

- Proper school appropriate attire
- Athletic shoes designed specifically for walking and/or running (no sandals, boat shoes, or open-back shoes, converse style shoe, etc.)
- Electronic device for drill/Fanny pack
- Instrument
- Water
- Music/Lyre

A student's grade and marching band assignment will be affected if proper materials are not brought to each rehearsal. Students are expected to be respectful, courteous, and attentive throughout the entire rehearsal. Disciplinary action will be taken at the discretion of the band directors for those students who continue to not contribute to the "team" atmosphere.

During concert season and class rehearsals, students are expected to have their instrument, music, and pencil at every rehearsal. The student is to be in their assigned seat 2 minutes after the bell rings, warming up individually and ready to play. Students are to be quiet, polite, and respectful during all rehearsals with any teacher, clinician, or other student.

Marching Band Assignments

Each year, beginning in November, the directors begin to plan and assemble a competitive marching show for the upcoming year. There are many factors that determine the number of positions in the show as well as how the musical and visual idea of the show is constructed. It is also the responsibility of the directors to make sure all students in the program are set up to be successful. Some students take longer to develop proper marching and playing fundamentals when they enter high school. Therefore, students are assigned into one of two categories during summer band camp: Competitive Block or Alternate Block. This will be determined based on the following criteria:

1. Musical preparation and playing ability, as determined by spring band audition and marching music preparation prior to band camp.
2. Marching preparation and ability, as determined by participation and progress during Summer Band and throughout the season.
3. Ability to be consistently punctual in report times and present at all rehearsals and performances during summer band camp.
4. Ability to consistently meet UIL eligibility requirements.
5. Consistently positive, hardworking, and appropriate attitude during rehearsals.

Students who also play a fall sport are still required to participate in the marching band at all performances. It will be at the discretion of the directors to determine excused and unexcused absences from these events based on their athletic schedule.

Behavior Policies and Expectations

Clear Creek Band students the best and brightest in the school. The behavioral expectations below are set-up in a way that promotes each individual students' learning and performance in the classroom. The band program is one of the most visible programs on campus and we must constantly represent our program, our school, and our school district with professionalism and class **no matter what we do and wherever we go**. The responsibility for behavior lies directly within each individual student. All code of conduct and policies are firm, director's discretion can be used on any and all infractions.

General Behavior Guidelines

1. Students are to adhere to all policies in the CCISD and Clear Creek HS "Code of Conduct." Consult the student handbook for more information
2. Students are expected to treat every member, director, instructor, and clinician with the highest level of respect and courtesy and act in a supportive and positive spirit when partaking in activities associated with the CCHS Band.
3. Students are to refrain from any negative verbal or nonverbal action that reflects poorly on the CCHS Band program. This applies to the internet and social media as well. Remember, the reflections and attitudes of one person affect the entire group's image within the community.
4. Cell phones are permitted only at specific times. Cell phones are not permitted in performances (football games are performances). Cell phones will be confiscated and kept until the conclusion of the performance and/or handed over to an assistant principal, should the violation repeat itself.
5. Students are expected to maintain a clean environment in facilities and during travel and "leave it better than you found it." This includes the use of gum, soda, and any food items in the band hall.
6. The Band Hall is not an activity center and therefore, outdoor activities should be kept outdoors.
7. Any degrading verbiage, profanity, obscene gestures, or any negative action, or form of hazing or harassment will not be tolerated and will be cause for a student to be dismissed from a rehearsal, performance, or the band program.
8. Loud, abusive, or rude behavior will not be tolerated when the band travels. Students are not allowed to move around while the busses are in motion and may listen to audio devices, only with headphones attached. Disregard for these expectations will result in loss of student travel privileges.
9. All students are expected to follow the CCISD Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct and all laws. Students in violation of the law or codes will be subject to removal from the band program for at least the remainder of the school year. Readmission to the program in the following year will be at director and administrative discretion.

Football Game Behavior Expectations

The primary goals during all football games is supporting the football team and performing well at halftime. This is the most visible performance venue for the band and it is imperative that all students act with professionalism, class, respect, and dignity during these games. Behavioral infractions are considered particularly serious in this public setting and will be handled as such. The implementation of these guidelines ensures that the Clear Creek Band retain our positive reputation in the community.

1. Band members must be immediately ready to play when the director or drum major asks. Pay attention to the drum majors and section leaders for visual cues.
2. Students are to remain in the stands, in their sections, in their seats, throughout the course of the entire game. There will be no moving around to other sections or around the stadium.
3. Restroom visits are only granted one at a time or groups no larger than three and must be accompanied by a chaperone.
4. There will be no visits to the concession stands. Students will receive water throughout the game. We will not eat or drink in uniform, you will only be allowed water while in uniform (this includes our alternate uniform). Students caught violating this rule will be asked to throw away the food immediately.
5. Students must remain in uniform throughout the entire football game.
6. There will be no playing of other individual's instruments or random playing on one's instrument. Everybody plays together, at once, all the time. Playing on your own or not with the group will not be tolerated and will face disciplinary actions.
7. Cell phones are prohibited at any time during the game. Attempted use will result in the confiscation of the device.
8. No visitors are allowed in the band area. If a parent needs to contact a student, they must come to the front and ask a director first. No alumni or other students may sit with the band at any point during the game.
9. Be supportive, attentive, and silent during other band's performances. No negative comments or verbal/visual criticism...PEOPLE REALLY NOTICE!

Grading Policies

Grades will be determined based on attendance and participation at all scheduled events and rehearsals, the student's preparation and ability to perform all pass-off assignments, and the presence of all required materials at rehearsals and performances. All graded assignments are subject to change and students/parents will be notified in a timely manner of these changes.

1st Quarter Grading Overview:

Marching Band Participation

- Attendance (rehearsals, performances, competitions)
- Material Checks (instrument, music, drill book, lyre, pencil to all rehearsals)

Marching Band Performance – Graded by pre-performance rehearsal and other items.

- All aspects of football game/competition performances, uniform inspections
- Music Pass-Offs
- Marching Fundamentals Pass-Offs

All-State/Scale Testing/Fundamentals

- The students will perform a cut of the all region music or major scale for a band director
- Sight reading and recorded assignments

2nd, 3rd, and 4th Quarter Grading Overview

Students will be graded for the following:

Concert Band Participation

- Attendance at all required sectionals and ensemble rehearsals
- Evidence of musical progress
- All-State/All-Region auditions, clinics, and concerts
- Solo and Ensemble/UII Participation

Concert Band Performance

- Music playing tests and pass-off's
- All-Region auditions and mock-auditions
- Solo and Ensemble/UII Performance preparation

All-State Testing

- The directors will assign region and/or scale tests throughout the fall semester

1st Semester Exam

- Spring placement audition consisting of:
 - Major and chromatic scales
 - Prepared etudes
 - Sight reading

2nd Semester Exam

- All students will perform scales and an etude chosen by Clear Creek ISD for their specific instrument. Audition music is distributed in either late March or April.

Music/Drill Book Pass-Off Assignments

Ultimately, the goal is for all students in the band program to have their music prepared at the highest level possible in order to give the best performance at the highest quality. Therefore, the following policies are in place to ensure the safety of all students in the Clear Creek Band.

- Students will be expected to pass off their competitive marching show music as well as show evidence of a memorized drill book after each movement of the show is completed. The due dates for these pass-offs will be communicated by the band staff during summer band. All students will pass their music and drill off to a director during their band class.
- During concert season, students will be asked to pass-off portions of their All-Region music or concert music as well as technical exercises deemed appropriate by the directors for continual development on their instrument.
- To receive full credit, students must be able to play (from memory during the marching season) selections of the music that will be performed that week. Accuracy of notes, rhythms, dynamics, intonation, and articulations will be assessed. Students will have as many attempts as necessary to complete their playing assessments but must complete them by the assigned date. If the student fails to pass off music by the assigned date, could lose their privilege to perform at one game. The student may regain their marching spot by completing the assignment the following week. If the student does not fulfill the requirements within the assigned time he/she will forfeit their competitive marching assignment.

Uniform Policies

As members of the Clear Creek Band, we represent the Clear Creek Band program, Clear Creek High School, and Clear Creek ISD. We must remember that we are an ensemble, a team and a public figure. The policies below are to ensure that all members of the Clear Creek Band act and appear uniformly with professionalism, class, and respect.

Uniform Care and Inspection

It is imperative that we all are dressed appropriately and look “uniform,” like one ensemble. Prior to departure for a performance, students must pass a uniform inspection. In order to perform, students must be in *complete* uniform for both concert and marching performances. At the discretion of the band directors, students who do not pass the uniform inspection will not be allowed to attend the event and will jeopardize their position for the remainder of the season. In order to board the bus, students must have the complete uniform, music, flip folder or concert music, water jug during fall season, and other components for the performance. Students who do not pass uniform inspection may not be allowed to attend the event. If a uniform part is damaged beyond repair or lost, the student will be held responsible for the replacement costs.

Marching Band Inspection

Students should arrive to all marching band events in the appropriate uniform for the performance. Detailed information will be provided for each uniform as they are available, however general guidelines include:

- Clear Creek Water Jug with ice and water
- **No jewelry, earrings, watches, or wristbands including but not limited to those on hands, ears, neck, lips, or skin. The only thing you are allowed to wear with your uniform is your Wildcat Lightning, Thunder, or Storm bracelet. Students will be expected to remove jewelry, covering piercings with a band-aid will not be allowed. Color Guard may have modified jewelry requirements based on the needs of the costume at the discretion of the color guard instructor.**
- All hair must be away from the face and off of the neck. For girls, hair must be up and tucked into a tight bun with hair away from the face and pinned on the top or back so it is away from the neckline. For boys, all hair must be away from the neckline and face. Those with longer hair need to have it up in a tight bun and pinned back on the top and back. ***Hair must be a natural human color. It does not have to be YOUR natural color, but it cannot be an unnatural shade for any performance at any time as this distracts from the uniformity of the ensemble.***
- Music flip folder with current season music and lyre if appropriate.

Concert Band Attire

- **Girls:** Concert dress, closed toe dress shoes (short heel or flats), minimal amount of jewelry and make-up (no lipstick).
- **Boys:** Concert tuxedo, clean & solid white dress shirt, band tie & vest, LONG black socks, black dress shoes (your marching shoes are ok to use). No tennis shoes or sandals.
- ***Hair must be a natural human color. It does not have to be YOUR natural color, but it cannot be an unnatural shade for any performance at any time as this is not appropriate for a formal classical concert setting.***

Uniform Care and Cleaning

Marching Hanging

It is absolutely essential that the uniforms be hung correctly to ensure that they remain in pristine condition. Please keep track of your uniform hanger as it is made to maintain the uniform's shape. **Do not use a plain hanger on your uniform.** Once you have hung your uniform correctly please place it on the appropriate spot on the racks. As you do so, make sure that it maintains its shape.

Cleaning

Detailed cleaning instructions for the custom competition uniforms will be provided and must be adhered to for student comfort and safety.

Concert

Concert dresses and tuxes will be issued to students prior to the first concert ***once rental fee has been paid***. The students will keep these items at home until after the final concert. While the garment is in the student's possession it must be treated with great care. Hang the garments immediately after each use.

Do not wash or press the garments. Any wrinkles will usually disappear if the garments are hung properly immediately after each use. Pressing the garments with an iron that is too hot will damage the fabric. Ladies dresses are made from polyester, which can melt. Excessive pressing of either the tuxes or dresses will make the fabric shiny and will limit our ability to alter the garments for future students. If you think that your concert attire needs cleaning or repair, please contact Mr. Fincher.

Instructions for alterations will be provided when the dress / tuxedo is issued.

*****It is the responsibility of the student and parent/guardian to assume the cost to replace any part of the uniform that is returned damaged*****

Financial Considerations

All financial requirements will be detailed out yearly using our CCHS Band Booster and Band registration forms.

CCISD Instrumental Rental Policy

For those students using a CCISD instrument, there is an annual charge of \$100 as well as a \$25 summer rental fee. This covers the normal wear and tear of the instrument such as annual cleanings (which range from \$40-\$150) as well as replacement cases. This, however, does not cover repairs that need to be made to the instrument that are a result of a student's mistake, such as dropping the instrument or not properly storing or taking care of the instrument. This applies to any school owned instruments including but not limited to the following instruments: bass clarinet, contra bass clarinet, oboe, bassoon, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, horn/mellophone, bass trombone, euphonium/baritone, and tuba/sousaphone.

Note: Students who play two school-owned instruments (ex. horn/mellophone) will only pay a single \$100 fee.

Instrument Recommendations

We recommend that students not continue using their "beginner" instrument past the 8th grade, unless an advanced model was purchased initially. Better quality instruments allow students to learn more quickly and with greater ease. Below is a list of recommended intermediate/advanced instruments. **Always consult with your band director and lesson teacher before making a purchase. Remember, if the price seems too good to be true...there is probably a reason!**

Flute - Yamaha models 581, 581 H, or Miyazawa 95SR or other approved models

Clarinet - Buffet R 13

Alto Saxophone - Selmer SA-80; Yamaha Custom EX

Trumpet - Bach Stradivarius 180-S37

Tenor Trombone - Bach Stradivarius 42-BO; Getzen 3047AR

Student Leadership

The Clear Creek Band program takes great pride in providing students an opportunity to develop the skills to be leaders in the band program. Our goal is to promote and foster teamwork, social bonds, and responsibility that is completely student-driven. Our leadership team consists of several different student-led positions appointed following an extensive application and audition process held in the spring.

To be considered for a student leadership position, the following must be completed:

- Attend future leadership meeting (date listed in calendar)
- Complete and submit leadership packet by posted deadline
- Interview with band staff
- Attend and complete audition clinics in May (dates are listed in calendar)
- Attend leadership workshop in the summer (end of July).
- Attend 100% of summer band activities
- Attend all performances/practices (no unexcused absences)

Students selected to serve on the leadership team will be responsible for maintaining the most professional, positive, and mature image in the band program. **Failure to meet UIL eligibility requirements, obtain unexcused absences from rehearsals or performances, or not meet the requirements of the positions stated below will result in the immediate removal of the student from their leadership position.**