

Clifton High School Band Handbook

2023-2024

It is the goal of CISD to have a quality band program. We are committed to the development of our student musicians. Important goals in the band program are to give students direction in developing better musicianship, self-discipline, pride, responsibility, leadership, loyalty, and teamwork.

General Information

The band is a unique organization in that it serves two purposes - to serve its members and to serve others. The band is obligated to support other organizations of the school and the community. **Participation in the band program is a privilege that carries additional expectations.** Because participation in the band program is a privilege and not a right, Clifton Independent School District is authorized to set higher standards for participants of extracurricular activities such as the band program. Below are the conduct expectations of all band participants: Failure to meet these expectations may result in disciplinary action or removal from the program by the band director.

Attendance & Participation

Attendance at **all** rehearsals and performances both during school and outside of school is necessary and mandatory (summer band, Monday night marching band rehearsals, Friday night football games, marching contests, UIL contests, concerts, etc...). A student illness or death in the family is among the very few permitted excuses. The band director determines what is considered an excused/unexcused absence. Parents and students must realize that the yearly itinerary of rehearsals and performances is a part of the course assignments and must plan to participate in all of them. Missed rehearsals must be made up within three school days. Failure to make up a missed rehearsal may result in disciplinary action or removal from the program. If a rehearsal is missed due to an unexcused absence, disciplinary action will be taken. Excessive absences from practice will result in removal from the band. Failure to attend a performance due to an unexcused absence will result in removal from the band.

Grading Policy

Student's grades are assigned as a result of individual student evaluations and participation. Attendance, punctuality, following instructions, uniform and instrument inspections will be used for student participation evaluations. Each performance is a Major Test Grade and each scheduled practice is a daily grade. Students missing a practice will receive a zero for that daily

grade. Students missing a performance will be given a grade of zero for that Major Test Grade.

Uniform Policy

The band uniform should always be worn with pride and dignity. Your personal appearance and your actions represent you, the band, the school and the community. The band director will determine what the uniform will be for each band event.

Travel Policy

The band will participate in out-of-town school related activities. School buses or other modes of transportation will be provided. All students are expected to ride the school bus to and from the out-of-town functions. Exceptions may be granted on an individual basis. If permission is granted, the band director must be notified in advance of circumstance, and must have a note signed by the parent. The parent must also talk personally with the director immediately before the student is to be released. No student will be released to anyone but the parent or legal guardian. **Students are not allowed to drive themselves or ride with parents when transportation is missed.**

Leadership Policy

Leadership in the Clifton High School band program is a prestigious honor. Leaders should have the highest moral character. Leadership positions in the band program will be appointed by the director or a method of the director's choosing. A student can be removed from his/her leadership position if deemed necessary by the director.

School Instruments

School-owned band instruments will be issued based on instrumentation needs of the band and the availability of the instrument. No student is guaranteed use of a school instrument. Students using a school instrument will be responsible for that instrument. Students using a school instrument will be trained and responsible for the well-being/functionality of that instrument. The student will be trained and responsible for maintenance (oiling valves, greasing slides, swabbing) throughout the school year. A yearly instrument security deposit in the amount of \$40 will be due at the beginning of the school year and will be returned at the end of the school year if the instrument does not need significant cleaning or repair due to negligence. Normal wear and tear on the instrument is not considered as damage but intentional or accidental damage that occurs from inappropriate use of the instrument will be considered and determined by the band director.

Eligibility Requirements

Students participating in the Clifton High School band program must remain eligible to compete in UIL band events. Students who fail three six weeks during the course of a school year or are ineligible to participate in all of the band contests during the school year will be removed immediately from the band program. You must pass to participate. **The only competition we participate in that does not require students remain eligible is UIL Concert and Sightreading.**

Physical Exam Requirements

The following rule concerning pre-participation physicals for marching band takes effect on August 1, 2019: C&CR Section 1105:

(F) MARCHING BAND PRE-PARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EXAMINATION. UPON ENTERING THE FIRST AND THIRD YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL AND UPON ANY 7th OR 8th GRADE STUDENT PARTICIPATING IN MARCHING BAND, A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION SIGNED BY A PHYSICIAN, A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LICENSED BY A STATE BOARD OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT EXAMINERS, A REGISTERED NURSE RECOGNIZED AS AN ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE BY THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS OR A DOCTOR OF CHIROPRACTIC IS REQUIRED. STANDARDIZED PRE-PARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FORMS, AVAILABLE FROM THE UIL OFFICE AND AUTHORIZED BY THE UIL MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE, ARE REQUIRED.

(G) MARCHING BAND MEDICAL HISTORY FORM. EACH YEAR PRIOR TO ANY PRACTICE OR PARTICIPATION A UIL MEDICAL HISTORY FORM SIGNED BY BOTH STUDENT AND A PARENT OR GUARDIAN IS REQUIRED. A MEDICAL HISTORY FORM SHALL ACCOMPANY EACH PHYSICAL EXAMINATION AND SHALL BE SIGNED BY BOTH STUDENT AND A PARENT OR GUARDIAN.

Year 1 and 3: Physical Examination and Medical History Form Required.

Year 2 and 4: Medical History Form Required.

Clifton High School Band Drug and Alcohol Policy Alcohol Policy

The following rules apply to all Clifton High School Extracurricular students at all times during the calendar year. Students will be subject to disciplinary action according to the Student Code-of-Conduct.

Tobacco

- No smoking or use of any tobacco products OR of electronic cigarettes (Mandatory DAEP Placement). Offenses will be handled in the following manner:
- Parent and campus administration will receive notification from the Band Director
- Extra conditioning or practice as determined by the Band Director

Alcohol and Illegal Drugs

Students shall not illegally consume, use, possess or disseminate alcohol and/or other illegal drugs in any form, at any time or place, shall be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities, in addition to any disciplinary consequences required by law.

Offenses will be handled in the following manner:

First Offense:

- Parent notification by the Band Director
- The student shall be suspended from participating in extracurricular activities for 10 percent of UIL allowable number of contests in his/her current or next sport/activity season.

Second Offense:

- Parent notification by the Band Director
- The student shall be suspended from participating in extracurricular activities for 50 percent of UIL allowable number of contests in his/her current or next sport/activity season.

Third Offense:

- Parent notification by the Band Director
- The student shall be excluded from participating in extracurricular activities for the remainder of his/her school career.

If the offense occurs during the off-season then the suspension will begin the Monday preceding the first competition or performance.

I have received the handbook, and I understand that it is my responsibility to read and comply with the policies contained in this handbook and any revisions made to it.

Student Full Name(Print): _____ Grade _____

Parent Signature Student Signature