

Ranchview High School Band Handbook

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Mrs. Sherie Skruch, Principal

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WELCOME

Welcome to the Ranchview Band program. It can be overwhelming for parents at the beginning of the year. This handbook has been compiled to help orient you to the many different aspects of the band.

This information is not intended to replace your attendance at band parent meetings.

Calendars are posted on the band website or CHARMS. Please refer to the band website or CHARMS which will contain the most up to date information. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the band hall for assistance.

So come and join the fun. You will see changes in your child that you only dreamed would happen some day. Bring your family and friends to contests and concerts. Your child will definitely enjoy your family's attendance.

Sincerely,

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Band Culture Statement

| We are proud to be a supportive community with a feed-back-rich environment that embraces change, values diversity and learns from our experiences. We thrive on creative and innovative ideas, which add value for all students, parents, community, and the band staff. We achieve our goals because we are accountable for our contributions to the Ranchview High School Band. We have a passion to succeed together and celebrate our accomplishments.

Band Mission Statement

The mission of the Ranchview High School Band is to promote excellence in music, to build trust in each other, to set a high standard of performance in our region, area, and state, and to develop character and integrity in every individual as well as a whole. It is our goal to maintain these expectations while still upholding an enjoyable and productive environment within our school and community. We dedicate ourselves to Educate, Entertain, Uplift, and Unite all with our actions and our music.

"For the strength of the pack is the wolf -- and the strength of the wolf is the pack"

- Rudyard Kipling

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PERFORMING GROUPS

There are several performing groups under the umbrella of the Ranchview High School Band Program. Membership in each of the ensembles is through audition or director approval only. Auditions will occur at the end of each semester; schedule changes will only occur at the beginning of the semester. All members of the concert bands must participate in the marching band program.

Wind Ensemble: The Wind Ensemble is the elite concert group. Students in this ensemble must be proficient on their instruments and must be willing to commit to regular rehearsals, sectionals, and practice times. Students in this ensemble are encouraged to study privately and travel with the band on the spring trip. Students are expected to audition for all-region competitions. Students are required to perform a solo at the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest. They are encouraged to perform in an ensemble for UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest. Students must demonstrate outstanding citizenship and are expected to remain academically eligible. A fine arts credit is awarded for enrollment in the Wind Ensemble in both the fall and spring semesters. This is a year commitment (fall and spring semesters).

Symphonic Band: The Symphonic Band is one of the concert groups. Students in this band must be proficient on their instruments and must be willing to commit to regular rehearsals, sectionals, and practice times. Students in this organization are encouraged to study privately and travel with the band on the spring trip. The students are encouraged to audition for all-region competition. Students are required to perform at UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest. Students must demonstrate outstanding citizenship and are expected to remain academically eligible. A fine arts credit is awarded for enrollment in the Symphonic Band in both the fall and spring semesters. This is a year commitment (fall and spring semesters).

Marching Band: All band members shall participate in the marching band. The band performs at all varsity football games, pep rallies, marching festivals, UIL Marching Contest, and parades. Marching band provides the students with a Physical Education credit.

Percussion: Auditions for the Marching Band percussion section will occur in the spring with students being assigned to the various sections within the percussion section. Attendance is mandatory for all percussionists at all percussion activities. Students in this ensemble must be proficient on their instruments and must be willing to commit to regular rehearsals, sectionals, and practice times. Students in this ensemble are encouraged to study privately, travel with the band on the spring trip, and audition for all-region competitions. Students are required to perform a solo at the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest. They are encouraged to perform in an ensemble for UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest. Students must demonstrate outstanding citizenship and are expected to remain academically eligible. A fine arts credit is awarded for enrollment in the percussion class.

Full Orchestra: Full Orchestra is partnered with the Ranchview Orchestra program to create a full Symphony Orchestra. We begin Full Orchestra after the conclusion of Marching Season. We perform in three main concerts with the Full Orchestra: Holiday Concert, Orchestra UIL Concert and Sight Reading and the Spring Concert. Participation in the Full Orchestra is based on demand of instrumentation and audition to the ensemble.

Musical Pit Orchestra: The Pit Orchestra performs in cooperation with the band, orchestra, choir, and theater to create a school musical. Participation in the Pit Orchestra is based on demand of instrumentation and audition to the ensemble.

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PERFORMING GROUPS, cont.

Color Guard: (We do not currently have a Color Guard) The color guard is a selected group that performs with a variety of equipment including flags, props, and rifles. The group is strongly oriented toward dance. Auditions for this group occur in the spring and are open to any student that will be enrolled at Ranchview High School for the coming school year. The color guard has many extra responsibilities including several additional rehearsals and additional expenses. Those members of the color guard that are instrumentalists are expected to continue study on their instruments and are encouraged to study privately during the fall semester.

Jazz Band: (We do not currently have a Jazz Band) Jazz band is an extracurricular ensemble that is composed of players from the concert bands. Auditions are required for membership. All students in the jazz band must also be enrolled concurrently in concert band. The exception to this rule would be for students that play guitar, electric bass, or keyboard/piano. Rehearsals begin soon after the start of school and are held outside of school time. The ensemble performs regularly in concerts. The ensemble is designed to expose students to the jazz idiom.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

Rules - There are four basic rules that must be adhered to by all students during regular band class. They are:

1. Bring your instrument, instrument supplies, music, and a pencil to every rehearsal and be on time.
2. Be prepared for rehearsal – Practice your assigned parts.
3. Do not talk during rehearsal: if you have any questions that need to be asked, you should raise your hand and be called upon.
4. Do not play your instrument unless instructed to do so.

Discipline: All members of the Ranchview Band Program will be held to high standards of discipline. The actions of each member of the band program affect the overall image of the Ranchview Band in the school and community. When dealing with such a large group as the marching band and thousands of dollars worth of equipment, it becomes necessary for each member to always behave in a mature manner.

When dealing with disciplinary problems, the directors will follow a discipline plan that includes counseling with the student, contacting the parents, and following CFBISD disciplinary guidelines. Great band programs have great students. Therefore, discipline problems should be nonexistent. If the actions of a student become a consistent problem or there are significant disruptions to the educational setting, a conference may be arranged with the parents and the student resulting in a discipline management program or up to removal from the band program.

Attendance: Due to the participatory nature of band, attendance is mandatory at all rehearsals and performances for all students. All absences must be approved in advance: 24 hours for a rehearsal, at least 2 weeks for a performance. In the event of an emergency, please call the band hall (972) 968-5067 or send an email to myersj@cfbisd.edu.

Absences will be excused by the same criteria established by the Ranchview High School attendance policy. Absences outside school policy may be excused at the discretion of the director provided a written request by a parent or guardian has been submitted and approved in advance. Performances are tests for the band.

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The following guidelines should be used for any absence:

1. In the event of sickness or emergency, the student should call the band hall or send an email to the band director.
2. A note signed by a parent should be brought to a director on the next day in order that a record of the absence is on file.
3. Upon return, the student should meet with a director and see if any make up work is in order.
4. Once the official calendar of events is given to each student, the student is expected to organize their own personal calendar and check for any conflicts. If a student has a schedule conflict, they should talk with a director as early as possible and ask for permission to be excused from the event. Permission may or may not be granted.
5. Medical and dental appointments need to be scheduled around band activities.
6. Work is not an acceptable reason to miss band rehearsals or performance. Extra-curricular activities are not an acceptable reason for missing curricular activities
7. Clubs, organizations, tutorials, and make up exams are to be done outside of band rehearsals. Our schedule has been designed to accommodate these activities.
8. Religious events must be communicated with a director in advance.

Please understand that the quality of our program is in direct proportion to your attendance. You will learn if you are present.

Punctuality: Students should be prompt (at least ten minutes early) for all band functions. Tardiness will be defined as being unprepared to begin the rehearsal at the designated time and place with all necessary equipment. All rehearsals will begin on time. If you are tardy to class (after the tardy bell rings), there will be 10 points deducted from your daily grade for the week.

GRADING POLICY

Playing Examinations: The majority of the grades will come from playing tests which may be administered at any time.

Participation Examinations: Part of each student's band grade is awarded for participation at rehearsals and sectionals. The grade is based on attendance, punctuality, and your preparation for each rehearsal. This preparation includes knowing the assigned music, having music memorized when applicable, and bringing the proper materials. Each student is required to attend all assigned sectionals. Sectionals count as a rehearsal and are an extension of the school day. Sectional attendance is mandatory unless excused by the band director. Additionally, participation grades will be given for class involvement, preparedness, class materials, and taking your instrument home each evening. Grades will be given for performances.

SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

Instruments: Each student must have an acceptable instrument in proper working condition. The school provides some instruments for use. These are generally the more expensive and larger instruments. The student will be held responsible for any repair other than general maintenance. The student will also be held responsible for vandalism, theft, and other damages incurred while assigned that instrument. We strongly encourage all students to insure their instruments. Be sure that you have a written record at home of the make, model, and serial number. This information is necessary if the instrument is lost or stolen. Do not let anyone hold, play, or borrow your instrument. All instruments must be clearly labeled with the student's name and slot number. All instruments should be taken home each evening.

Step-up Instruments: Many parents choose to upgrade beginning instruments to more advanced/higher quality models for their children during high school. The instrument sold to students for use as a beginning instrument is not usually suitable for advanced playing in high school. Before buying a new instrument, please check with your band director.

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Repair: Music and Arts Music Company comes to the school once each week. Instruments can be sent to the repair shop at this time. However, if an instrument is in need of repair and the music store representative has already made his weekly visit, it is the student's responsibility to take it to the appropriate music company for repair.

Reeds: All clarinet, bass clarinet, and saxophone players are required to have a minimum of five reeds in good playing condition. If reeds are used on a rotation basis they will last longer. It is advisable to buy a complete box of reeds. Oboe and bassoon players need to have at least two working reeds. Students are expected to buy the brand and strength of reeds recommended by their band director.

Mouthpieces: It is important that all players have the proper brand and size mouthpiece. Please check with your director if you have questions about mouthpieces.

Cleaning: Students will be expected to own a cleaning rod, cleaning snake, valve oil, key oil, slide grease, etc. which is needed to keep the instrument in proper playing condition.

Percussion: All percussionists will be required to own the required drumsticks, keyboard mallets, timpani mallets, and a metronome. The percussion coordinator shall provide a list of required sticks and mallets.

Band Fee: A band fee is charged annually to the students. The full band fee is \$295 and covers some of the following expenses: competition fees, uniform cleaning and maintenance, trailer transportation, UIL accompanists, underclassmen lesson sponsorship, water and snacks, equipment repairs, and various other equipment or personnel needs of the Ranchview High School Band. The band fee is non-refundable and must be paid before the end of the first semester; else the student will be placed on the unclear list.

Music Stand: It is suggested that each student have his or her own wire music stand. This is to be used at home to facilitate practice.

Tuners and Metronomes: A personal tuner, a matrix clip microphone, and metronome are strongly recommended for all woodwind and brass players.

Marching Band Supplies: For the student's convenience, water jugs, towels, tuners, and clips may be purchased at the band registration meeting at the beginning of the year. If there are financial difficulties, please speak with Mr. Myers. There are limited funds that can assist students that need some financial assistance. All members should have the following marching band supplies:

1. Band Shirt (included in the band fee)
2. Flip Folder
3. Pair of RHS Band approved marching gloves (in the band fee)
4. Black marching band shoes (in the band fee)
5. LONG black socks
6. Lyre (except percussion, double reeds, tubas, and flutes)
7. Three ring binder for music storage
8. Water jug with your name on it for outside rehearsals and games.
9. Black Towel appropriately sized for their instrument. (except front ensemble)
10. Students must have required materials with them at every rehearsal: pencil, band folders, and music.

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FACILITIES

Band Hall: The appearance of our band hall reflects the Ranchview Band program. This includes the rehearsal hall, all ensemble rooms, storage areas, practice rooms, directors' office, and the hallways that connect these. Please help keep the area neat and clean. Please pick up any trash, pick up any music stands that have fallen over, and try not to change the arrangement of the chairs. Gum, food, and drinks are not allowed in the band hall at any time. Music stands are for music only; they are not to be used as desks. The band hall is off limits for students who are not band members because of the expensive equipment.

Instrument Storage and Lockers - The instrument storage area located in the band hall is where students leave their instruments during the school day. At the beginning of each year, each student will be assigned a locker. Lockers are to be kept trash free and in neat order. RHS has provided a combination lock for each locker, and only those locks will be allowed. If you lose your lock, there will be a \$15.00 replacement fee. Your lock should always be locked when you are not present at your locker. Do not use any locker that has not been assigned to you. Because we have a limited amount of floor space, we ask that when you take your instrument out for rehearsals, you return your empty case to the storage bin. Although a very strong effort is made to keep all instruments safe and secure, the school and its employees are not liable for any damage or loss due to theft of instruments kept in the storage area. We strongly suggest that all instruments be insured. No instrument is allowed to be left in the instrument storage area overnight without permission of the band director. Lockers must be cleaned out and locks removed by the last day of school.

Practice Rooms - Practice rooms are available in the band hall for the use of all music students and private lesson teachers. The rooms are to be used for music practice only; they should not be used to change clothes, study for other subjects, or to meet socially. If you put any additional chairs or stands in the room, please return them once you finish your session. Please close the doors and turn off the lights when you are done.

UNIFORM INFORMATION

Marching Uniforms – Marching uniforms (coats/pants/gauntlets/hat/plume/marching shoes/white gloves) are provided to all band members for marching season. Students must provide their own solid long black socks. Additional shoes and gloves can be purchased from the band boosters. The uniform is to be worn with pride. When the band is in uniform, no member of the group may remove their uniform without the permission of the band directors. While in uniform, there will be no food or drink other than water allowed. Our uniforms must be kept in good condition since they will have to last approximately 8-10 years (2012-2022). Food stains and the subsequent removal of those stains weaken the fibers of the uniform. The only drink that will be allowed while in uniform is water. There is no make-up or jewelry (of any kind) worn while in uniform. Students with hair that is long enough to be seen hanging out of the band hat (shako) will be asked to lift their hair into the hat to produce a uniform appearance. Hair dyes and gels are not allowed when in uniform as it damages the hat's interior. The student is responsible for any damage or loss of any of the uniform items; the cost will be applied to the student's account and must be paid before year-end, else placed on the unclear list for finals.

The band uniform will NEVER be laid on the ground. The white material will stain very quickly. Any permanent damage caused to the uniforms by a parent/student will be paid for by that parent/student. The plumes will only be touched by parents trained in their handling.

By signing the acknowledgement form at the end of this document, you (parents and students) understand that any damage caused to the uniform by prohibited practices will result in you paying for a replacement uniform (approximately \$500).

Concert Uniforms - Concert tuxes are provided to all male band members for Concert season. Female band members must provide their own solid black outfit (Concert Black). Ladies may choose to use their own black dress, pant suit, or skirt. The skirt/dress must cover below the knee when sitting. All apparel must be solid black. The blouse/dress must cover the midsection and not have a low neck-line. Male members must provide their own tuxedo shirt, black bow tie, black cummerbund, and black dress shoes (marching shoes may be

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used). Instead of a concert tux, male percussionists wear Concert Black for concert season, which include black shirt and black pants.

FUNDRAISING INFORMATION

Fundraising opportunities are available throughout the year. **Each student will be required to sell a minimum number of items which include a minimum of 10 Taste of Ranchview tickets.** There will be other fundraising efforts throughout the school year to help benefit both the student's account as well as the Band Booster general fund. The success of these efforts help to keep the band fee's at a reasonable level so your assistance in these efforts is greatly encouraged.

BAND TRAVEL

Medical Release - Students must have a CFBISD medical release form on file with the band director before they are allowed to travel with the band. This form gives us necessary information in case of a medical emergency. All required forms must be turned in to travel with the band and/or receive a grade on their report card.

Home Games – Due to the high cost of transportation, we do not use buses for home games. Students are expected to arrive at Standridge Stadium with the proper equipment at the specified time. Failure to arrive with the proper equipment at the specified time will result in a poor grade for that performance.

Bus Travel – Due to our extensive amount of travel, proper behavior on a bus is mandatory. For short trips, different groups will be assigned to each bus. A band director or adult chaperone will be in charge of each bus. All CFBISD policies apply to student travel. Students should never get off of the bus without the permission of the band director. We expect all students to travel as a group both to and from the performance site.

Returning to School - Once the band returns from a football game or contest, all students will unload their belongings and then proceed to the band hall. The loading crew will need extra time to unload the percussion equipment, tubas, etc. It is not fair to allow anyone to leave until all equipment has been properly put away. The band hall must be cleaned before dismissal. Once everything has been unloaded, there may be a very brief meeting, if needed, to make quick announcements. After that, everyone will be dismissed together. It is impossible to say exactly what time the band will return from trips. You will always be informed during the week of an out-of-town game what the approximate return time is. Please tell your parents. Make arrangements ahead of time to have someone there to meet you. We expect all students to be picked up shortly after we return.

Football Games - The appearance that the band makes at football games is very important. We are visible to the greatest number of people at football games. Remember that the band's performance begins when you are called to attention for inspection and is not completed until you are dismissed from the band hall after the game. Help us make the image of the band a positive one by following these guidelines:

1. Be properly uniformed at all times.
2. Be responsible for your own equipment.
3. Please move to and from the stands very quickly and orderly. No one should talk at all during entry and exit from the stands. Once you are in position, you should stand at attention facing the front until a drum major signals you to be seated.
4. Walk in step when you are filing into the stands or lining up on the sidelines. Do not acknowledge your friends or anyone that may call out to you. Pride is demonstrated by your discipline.
5. Sit in your assigned seat during the game; do not move around.
6. Please eat before the football game. The Band Boosters has a meal plan available for purchase for all games – if you do not partake in the meal plan, you will need to provide a meal for yourself prior to the game/suiting up in uniform.
7. Do not take any unauthorized refreshments during the game except for your blue jug containing only water. –We will also supply water for you after halftime. No eating whatsoever is allowed in the stands or in uniform.

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8. Do not play your instrument during the game at any time the band is not playing as an organized ensemble.
9. Only band personnel are allowed in the band section. Chaperones, directors, and special visitors are the only people other than band members allowed in this area.
10. Watch the conductor and/or drum majors at all times when he or she is standing in front of the band. Get music up rapidly when it is called. Watch closely for cut-offs in the music.

Band Trips - The band will periodically go on trips out of town for competition/performance purposes. Traveling with the Ranchview High School Band is a privilege. During all trips students are expected to abide by CFBISD Code of Conduct throughout the duration of the trip. In order to be eligible to attend a band trip, each student must be current with all monies owed to the Ranchview Band. The students must also be academically eligible to attend. Students that exhibit consistent behavior problems will not be allowed to travel with the band.

PERSONAL IMPROVEMENT

Parental Help - Parents play an important role in the development of a student's musical ability. Parents can take an active part in their child's learning process by attending concerts, encouraging their child to take their instrument home daily, encouraging home practice (it is expected that each student practice at least thirty minutes at home each day), listening to a child play at home, providing lessons when possible, providing the proper equipment, and praising accomplishments.

Ranchview Band Booster Club - All parents are eligible and encouraged participate in membership of the Band Booster Club and volunteer whenever possible. The main objectives of the Ranchview High School Band Booster Club are to provide funds and support for the various projects in our band program and volunteer in any way necessary to help out with the Ranchview High School Band. Some of the projects the boosters cover include supplemental lesson scholarships, social activities, guest clinicians, senior scholarships, etc. Volunteer opportunities include: assisting with games, meals, fundraising, chaperoning, equipment repairs, and transportation. It takes a great deal of work and cooperation from parents at all levels to accomplish these goals and your assistance with these efforts is greatly encouraged.

Pit Parents - The pit parents are a unique group of people who go above and beyond to help the Pride of the Pack. The group is made up of parents of band members and they supervise loading and unloading of equipment for every performance, design and build props for the marching show, and provide enthusiasm and spirit to the Pride of the Pack.

Supplemental Lessons - The best way to develop your playing ability at the fastest pace is by studying privately. The best performers are always those who take private lessons. A list will be available of recommended private lesson teachers for the Ranchview Band Program; many of these teachers will teach at the band hall during and after school. We strongly urge everyone to study privately. If you have any questions about private lessons, please see your director. It would be in your child's best interest to check with the band director before beginning lessons with a teacher who is not on the recommended list.

Band Camp - Every summer, several Texas universities offer band camps. For a small entrance fee, band students can travel to one of these camps and stay in the college dormitories. During the camp, the students participate in band rehearsals and various elective music classes such as conducting, marching, music theory, and music history. The evenings are filled with recreation and social events. Most students not only have a lot of fun at these camps, but also come home playing their instrument better and having a more enthusiastic attitude about music. There is information posted in the band hall or you can see your band director about summer band camp information during the month of March. Entry deadlines for these camps are usually in May.

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Solo and Ensemble Contests - UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest is traditionally held in February. The music to be performed at the contest must be selected by the private lesson teacher or director. The music must be selected from the UIL Prescribed Music List (PML). Students that receive a first division superior rating are awarded a medal or patch. Students must provide their own original copy of the music. Accompanist and entry fees are covered by the Ranchview Band and Band Boosters. Students who become ineligible or elect not to perform must repay the accompanist fee and entry fee. All students are expected to participate in UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest. Students who make a First division on a memorized Class I solo or Class I ensemble can advance to Texas State Solo and Ensemble Competition in Austin in May.

Region Band - The Region Band honors the most advanced students in our region of the state. Students receive the music that is to be played at the beginning of the school year and work to prepare it for an audition, which is held in November. An entry fee is charged and is covered by the band program. All Wind Ensemble members are required to audition for the Region Band. Symphonic Band members are strongly encouraged to audition. Any student who prepares for Region will become a better player, and the band will improve as a result. Students who are selected for the Region Band will attend rehearsals on a Friday evening and all day Saturday (usually in January). That Saturday evening, the Region Band will present a concert. A prominent guest conductor will rehearse the band and conduct the concert. It is very exciting to be a part of this group that can work up very difficult band music in a short time.

Area/All-State - Students who place at the top of their sections in the Region Band will advance to the next level of competition, which is the Area tryout. At Area auditions, the top players from several Region Bands in the northern part of Texas will audition again. There is no concert performance at the Area level. When a student has earned a certain chair (based on their specific instrument) at the Area audition, they become a member of the Texas All-State Band or Orchestra. Chair placement auditions for the All-State Band occur in February at the beginning of the four days of rehearsal at the Texas Music Educators Association convention. On the evening of the last day of rehearsals, the All-State groups perform. Most students who are selected for All-State honors receive several scholarship offers from universities and colleges.

Letter Jackets - Letter jackets are one of the most visible parts of a school organization and represent the highest level of achievement in our band program. They should be a symbol of your pride and accomplishments. There is a fair process in which every student is given the opportunity to attain a letter jacket. This system will be respected and upheld. A student will be permitted to order a letter jacket by being in good standing in the band program and after completing the required criteria. Good standing is defined in terms of a student's attitude, attendance, and work ethic. In order to be eligible to purchase a letter jacket, you must complete all of the following categories:

Category I:

1. Active participation in summer band activities.
2. Active participation in all football games.
3. Active participation in all concerts in the fall and spring semester.

Category II:

1. Making the All-Region Band
- OR -
2. Receiving a Division I Rating on a Class I or Class II solo or ensemble at UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest in the spring.

Conflicts arising with these criteria will not be excused unless the conflict involves another varsity sport/activity or a family emergency. After all these requirements are met, you may be eligible to be fitted for a letter jacket if you are in good standing as a member of the Ranchview High School Band. This status will be at the discretion of the directors and may be affected by the following: absences or excessive tardiness to rehearsals and performances, attitude or discipline problems related to the band program and school environment, or lack of respect for school facilities, equipment or uniforms.

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ANNUAL EVENTS

Calendar – The Ranchview High School Band website and CHARMS always has an updated calendar. All rehearsals, sectionals, concerts, contests, etc. that will take place during the year are listed on this official calendar. For most events on the calendar, the only excused absence will be personal illness or other extenuating circumstances that will be approved by the band director. Although we try to avoid it, it may become necessary to slightly alter the schedule. In such an event, the students will be informed as soon as possible and absences due to unavoidable conflicts need to be discussed with the band director.

FALL SEMESTER

Summer Band - August is the beginning of our busy marching season. Attendance at this camp is mandatory therefore you need to plan vacations accordingly. Speak to the director with any concerns.

Comfortable light colored clothes and a cap are the best type of attire for summer band. Low rise tennis shoes, a water jug, and sunscreen are mandatory. Have your band member check with their section leaders for other good advice.

Some of the things happening at this camp include:

1. Marching tryouts
2. Learning show music
3. Learning drill
4. Uniform distribution
5. Football program pictures
6. Learning stand tunes
7. Collection of camp fees and instrument fees
8. Purchasing gloves and shoes
9. End-of-the-camp Pool Party!

Football Games - The Ranchview Band supports the football team at each home game in the fall by playing in the stands. We are visible to our largest audience at football games. All performances are mandatory.

Pep Rallies - The band participates by playing the fight song, school song, and pop tunes. Attendance at pep rallies by all band members is required.

Sectionals - Each student will be required to attend one hour of sectionals per week. A schedule of sectionals will be handed out at the beginning of the marching season and again during concert season. Sectionals count as a rehearsal and are a part of the student's grade (see Grading Policy)

Area Marching Contest - During even numbered years, the Area Contest is held. Texas is currently divided into twenty-eight regions and seven areas. A formula based on the number of bands competing is used to determine how many are selected to advance to state contest.

State Marching Contest - The bands that win their Area competitions compete in the Texas State Marching Contest. The contest is held in San Antonio at the Alamo Dome on a prelims and finals format. The top seven bands in each class perform in finals. The contest is held on the first Monday in November.

SPRING SEMESTER

Concerts - The Ranchview Band will present several concerts throughout the year. There is a Holiday Concert in December, a Pre-UIL Concert in late March/early April, Honor Band recording sessions in April and May in even years, and a Spring Concert at the end of the school year.

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Percussion Concert - Each spring the Ranchview High School Band percussionists present a concert featuring a guest artist. The Ranchview High School Band percussionists will perform several different styles of percussion from around the world.

UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest - The University Interscholastic League schedules this contest each year. One of our main goals of the Ranchview Bands is to perform well at this contest. The outcome generally gives us a standard to evaluate the level of achievement. A first division superior rating is a goal aimed for and it is indeed an honor to receive such a rating.

Taste of Ranchview-Our largest fundraiser of the year. Students from Bush MS and Ranchview sell tickets for this event featuring restaurants from the community. Musical performances by the Bush MS bands, Ranchview ensembles and Ranchview Marching Band are held throughout the night. All students in the Ranchview Band are required to help run the evening in several different ways. Ranchview Band students are required to sell at least 10 tickets and are responsible for the money from the 10 tickets. Additionally, parent involvement and assistance is greatly encouraged and welcomed!

Spring Trip - A spring trip is taken every year. The location of the trip will vary and will be decided by the Director of Bands. The costs for the trip vary and can be paid out in 2-3 installments if necessary and are non-refundable. As with as with all trips, student conduct rules are strictly enforced. Those not complying will be sent home at their parents' expense. You will receive complete details, which include cost, locations, times, and phone numbers prior to their departure. The directors can limit participation for disciplinary or eligibility reasons at the director's discretion.

Band Banquet - A band banquet is held each spring near the end of the school year. All students and parents are invited to attend this formal event to honor the students and reflect on the past year's achievements. A DJ provides music for dancing following dinner and awards. The location varies from year to year, but it is usually held at a nearby banquet room and is considered a formal evening. Have your band member visit with older students or the director on dress attire if you are uncertain on such details. A student may attend, without any additional charge, if band fees have been paid in full; else the student must pay a fee. Family members and friends may also purchase tickets to attend.

No Pass/No Play - Basically, if a student has the minimum amount of credits necessary for his grade level, they are eligible during the first six weeks of school. If a student fails any nine-week period, they are ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities during the next three-week period. Following the three-week period, students that were ineligible become eligible if they are passing all of their courses. This applies to extra-curricular activities. After the first six-weeks of the school year, students must be passing all of their classes. After the first 6 weeks, we then apply the 9 week grades that are on the report cards. Many band events are not classified as extra-curricular. Students are required to turn in a grade report to the directors at the three weeks point. Of course, it is important to our program that band students stay academically eligible.

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Band Fee Schedule

The band fee covers expenses that the band incurs that our school district budget does not cover. Due to the rising cost of fuel, most of our CFBISD budget for the RHS Band will be used for bus transportation. The band fee for all band members will be \$295 for the entire school year.

The full band fee is \$295 and covers some of the following expenses: competition fees, uniform cleaning and maintenance, trailer transportation, UIL accompanists, underclassmen lesson sponsorship, water and snacks, and equipment repairs.

Fundraising events will be provided throughout the year to help participating students to offset their fee costs. A payment plan is listed below. If you choose to pay the entire amount at once, that is most welcome.

Every time a payment is made, a receipt will be created and posted on the band bulletin board. Students are responsible for picking up their receipts and keeping track of them.

*Please make all checks payable to: **RANCHVIEW BAND BOOSTERS***

Paid in full: \$295

4 equal installments paid out over 4 months

September 1, 2017	\$70
October 6, 2017	\$75
November 3, 2017	\$75
December 1, 2017	\$75

Additional arrangements can be made with the Mr. Myers directly. Please call the band office or send him an email. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the band office at any time. Financial concerns should not prohibit your child from being in band. We will do everything possible to make sure that arrangements are made to assist you and your child.

INFORMATION SHEET

Student Information

Student ID Number: _____
Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
Home Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____ Student Mobile Phone: _____
Student Email Address(s): _____
Grade: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Instrument Information

Instrument: _____ Brand: _____ Model #: _____ Serial #: _____
Private Lesson Teacher: _____
Lesson Teacher Phone: _____ Lesson Teacher Email: _____

Mother's Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Mobile Phone: _____
Home Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Occupation: _____ Email Address(s): _____

Father's Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Mobile Phone: _____
Home Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Occupation: _____ Email Address(s): _____

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**PARENT / STUDENT UIL MARCHING BAND
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

Printed Student Name: _____

No student may be required to attend practice for marching band more than eight hours per calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). This provision applies to student in components of the marching band.

On performance days (football games, competitions, and other public performances) bands may hold up to one additional hour of warm-up and practice beyond the scheduled warm-up time at the performance site. Multiple performances on the same day do not allow for additional practice and/or warm-up time.

Examples of Activities Subject to the UIL Marching Band Eight-Hour Rule:

- Marching Band Rehearsal (Both full band and components)
- Any marching band group instructional activity
- Breaks
- Announcements
- Debriefing and viewing marching band videos
- Playing off marching band music
- Clinics for the marching band or any of its components

The following activities are NOT included in the eight-hour time allotment:

- Travel time to and from rehearsals and/or performances
- Rehearsal set-up time
- Pep-rallies, parades, and other public performances
- Instruction and practice for music activities other than marching band and its components.

An extensive Q&A for the eight-hour rule for marching band can be found on the music page of the UIL website at www.uil.utexas.edu.

“We have read and understand the eight hour rule for marching band as stated above and agree to abide by these regulations.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

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(PLEASE READ THE HANDBOOK CAREFULLY PRIOR TO SIGNING BELOW)

Handbook Commitment Form

Printed Student Name: _____

“We have read the RHS Band Handbook and our student has our permission to participate in the Band activities stated in this handbook within the guidelines described. We understand that Band is a full-year commitment for the 2017-2018 school year.”

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

“I have read the RHS Band Handbook and agree to abide by the policies stated. I realize that failure to follow policies or directions can result in disciplinary action that could lead to dismissal from the RHS Band and Band classes.”

Student Signature: _____

Date of both signatures: _____

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Please note: This page is non-alterable.

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**CARROLLTON – FARMERS BRANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEDICAL RELEASE FORM FOR SCHOOL SPONSORED STUDENT TRAVEL**

I, _____, the parent/guardian of _____,
(print parent/guardian's name) (print student's name)

do hereby give my permission to Carrollton-Farmers Branch Independent School District during Ranchview High School Band Travel to secure medical attention for my child in the event of accident or illness while under his/her supervision. I understand that the adult sponsor will attempt to contact me before releasing my child to the care of a doctor or hospital.

Should my child need medical attention, and I cannot be contacted, neither the sponsor, the Carrollton-Farmers Branch Independent School District, or its representatives are to be held responsible for any occurrence which might transpire during the rendering of medical services to my child by a doctor or hospital staff to whom my child may have been released. I will assume the payment of all expenses incurred in securing the services of the doctor or hospital.

I further stipulate that this document contains confidential information which I have supplied regarding my child's medical status, and that the information is correct. The information is to be shared with attending physician and hospital staff members only in the case of emergency.

STUDENT MEDICAL INFORMATION

Student Last Name: _____ First: _____ M.I.: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Mother's Home Phone: _____ Mother's Mobile Phone: _____ Mother's Work Phone: _____

Father's Home Phone: _____ Father's Mobile Phone: _____ Father's Work Phone: _____

Home Address (Street): _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Student's Date of Birth: _____

In the event of an emergency, and I cannot be reached, I hereby authorize the school district's designated representative to take whatever action is deemed necessary and appropriate, including giving consent for medical treatment for the above named child. (Section 35 01 Texas Family Code)

Is your child allergic to any medication, food, insects, or plants? YES _____ NO _____
If you answered YES, please list any allergies your child has to medication, food, insects, plants, etc. _____

Please give any information about your child's physical or medical conditions that you feel would be important in the case of an emergency.

If medication is to be administered during the trip, please fill out and sign the release form as specified below.
I hereby give permission for my child to be given medication s on as prescribed and listed below:

Name of Medication: _____	Dosage: _____	Time(s): _____
Name of Medication: _____	Dosage: _____	Time(s): _____
Name of Medication: _____	Dosage: _____	Time(s): _____

I understand that the medication must be in the original container and properly labeled (including the student's name) for medication to be administered.

Signature of parent/guardian listed above: _____ **Date:** _____

Health Insurance Company: _____

Policy Number: _____ Insurance Company Phone Number: _____

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Band Fee Commitment Form

Printed Student Name: _____

A payment plan is listed below. If you chose to pay the entire amount at once, that is most welcome. Every time a payment is made, a receipt will be created and posted on the band bulletin board. Students are responsible for picking up their receipts and keeping track of them.

*Please make all checks payable to: **RANCHVIEW BAND BOOSTERS***

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December 1, 2017	\$75

Additional arrangements can be made with the Mr. Myers directly. Please call the band office or send him an email. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the band office at any time. Financial concerns should not prohibit your child from being in band. We will do everything possible to make sure that arrangements are made to assist you and your child.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

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Ranchview Band Meal Plan

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Band Website:

www.RanchviewBand.org

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The Ranchview Band plays at all football games – home and away. There is a limited window of time when students are allowed a break to eat. Because of this, stadium concessions are typically not open so students cannot rely on purchasing food upon arrival. Additionally, students are **NOT** allowed to eat once they are in uniform.

Students that sign up for the Meal Plan are provided a meal (food and water) for all 10 of the regular season football games. The total cost for the meal plan is **\$70 and must be paid in full the first week of school**. Indicate below whether you will or will not participate in the meal plan and return to Mr. Myers along with your payment, if you are participating. **We need all students** to return a form since we also offer snacks and sometimes meals for the students throughout the year and want to ensure that we know all food allergies and dietary restrictions. Payment can be cash or check made payable to Ranchview Band Booster Club. Additionally, parents may go to our CHARMS website and pay via PayPal or Credit Card. If a student does forget to bring their own dinner, a few extra meals will be available at a **cost of \$10.00** – however, we only order a few as to reduce our expenditures and often these go quickly.

Student Name _____
 Please list any food allergies or dietary restrictions _____

I **DO** or **DO NOT** plan to participate in the meal plan
 If you are participating, indicate your preferences below: (select one for each)

Cold Sub Sandwich	___ Ham	___ Turkey	___ Veggie		
Pizza	___ Cheese	___ Pepperoni	___ Sausage	___ Meat Combo	___ Veggie
BBQ	___ Brisket	___ Smoked Turkey	___ Baked Potato		
Canes	___ Chicken	___ Salad			
Spaghetti	___ With Meat Sauce	___ With Tomato Sauce			
Cookout	___ Beef Hot Dog	___ Veggie Dog			