

2007-2008 Clear Brook Band Staff

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2007-2008 Clear Brook Drum Majors

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2007-2008 Clear Brook Band Council

President: Andrew Kelling

Vice President: Maggie Griffith

Secretary/Treasurer: Tara Mahoney

Historians: Lindsey Rogers

Junior Representative: Joe Bartos

Sophomore Representative:

Freshman Representative:

Band Council Liaison: Christine Mahoney

2007-2008 Clear Brook Band Booster Officers

President: Don Webb

1st Vice President: Marilyn Wilson

2nd Vice President: Kathleen Meyers

Treasurer: Vicki Lemke

Secretary: Linda Bertram

Color Guard Liaison: Dana Scabora

Clear Brook Band Course Syllabus

2008-2009

Class Goals:

1. Identify and develop advanced techniques of individual instrument performance
2. Identify and develop advanced techniques of ensemble performance
3. Develop an appreciation of the historical significance of music in society
4. Identify and develop advanced sight reading techniques

Class Requirements:

1. Attendance and active participation in all scheduled rehearsals.
2. Participation in extra rehearsals, concerts, contests, and other official class activities
3. Obey all classroom rules inside the classroom and while representing Clear Brook and the band program outside the classroom

Grading:

Grading for each nine weeks will be as follows:

- 25%** Participation, including extra rehearsals
- 20%** Fundamentals and individual improvement
- 25%** Skills, including playing tests
- 25%** Concert preparation and performances
- 5%** Reading Assignments

Please refer to the CCISD Grading Guidelines for Music, grades 6-12. At the end of each semester, a written exam is given for 20% of the semester grade. There may be a playing portion of the exam.

Individual practice at home on a regular basis is mandatory. Failure to do so will affect your performance in class and your ability to advance technically and musically. Develop a practice schedule and use it consistently.

Students are expected to attend all required rehearsals and concerts. Excuses for missed rehearsals or concerts are considered on a case-by-case basis, but generally speaking, sickness, accidents, death in the family, and scholastic athletic games in season are considered acceptable excuses. Excuses should be cleared with a director **before** the scheduled event. In case of an emergency, file a note from your parents on the day you return to class. If a student becomes academically ineligible, they will be allowed to continue to rehearse with the band. Everyone is needed at these rehearsals to perform successfully. To give you plenty of notice, the calendar for the upcoming year is published on the webpage in May. Please mark the dates of any extra rehearsals on your calendar as they are announced. Students will be notified in advance as to allow for schedule adjustments.

Clear Brook Color Guard Course Syllabus 2007-2008

Class Goals:

1. Identify and develop advanced techniques of movement and equipment
2. Identify and develop advanced techniques of working in an ensemble
2. Develop an understanding and appreciation of the historical significance of dance and music in society.

Class Requirements:

1. Participate in daily rehearsals, without causing distractions and always having your equipment ready to rehearse
2. Participate in extra rehearsals, performances, contests, and other official class activities
3. Obey all classroom rules inside the classroom and while representing Clear Brook and the band program outside the classroom

Grading:

Grading for each nine weeks will be as follows:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ¼ | Participation, including extra rehearsals |
| ¼ | Skills, including memory tests |
| ¼ | Fundamentals and individual improvement |
| ¼ | Preparation and performances |

Please refer to the CCISD Grading Guidelines for Music, grades 6-12. At the end of each semester, a written exam is given for 20% of the semester grade. There may be a performance portion of the exam.

Individual practice at home on a regular basis is mandatory. Failure to do so will affect your performance in class and your ability to advance technically and musically. Develop a practice schedule and use it consistently.

Students are expected to attend and required rehearsals and performances. Excuses for missed rehearsals or performances are considered on a case-by-case basis, but generally speaking, sickness, accidents, death in the family, and athletic games in season are considered acceptable excuses. Excuse forms are available in the Band Hall and should be filed with a director two weeks **before** the scheduled event. In case of an emergency, file a note from your parents on the day you return to class. If a student becomes academically ineligible, they will be allowed to continue to rehearse with the band. Everyone is needed at these rehearsals to perform successfully. Please mark the dates of any extra rehearsals on your calendar as they are announced. Students will be notified in advance as to allow for schedule adjustments.

Website and Tuesday Notes

Our major means of communication are our website and weekly emails. Our website, www.clearbrookband.org, contains our detailed calendar for the year, news headlines, important forms, newsletters, media, and history. Every Tuesday we send out an email containing important announcements, upcoming schedules, and the latest news. If you are not receiving the emails, there is a mail registration link on the band's webpage. It is vital that you read your Tuesday Notes and stay up to date via the webpage.

Band Rehearsal Guidelines

- **NO food, gum, or drinks are allowed in the band hall or gym!**
- Be seated or in block with your equipment, instrument, music, pencil and supplies by the time rehearsal starts
- Show good rehearsal etiquette by being a good team player – study your part quietly while the director works with another section. Remain on task at all times; do not talk or interrupt the focus of the rehearsal
- Maintain proper posture at all times
- Be intent on improving your performance skills
- Raise your hand and ask questions if you need more individual help
- Do not leave books, purses or other valuables unlocked in the band hall or gym
- Students are solely responsible for the care and maintenance of their assigned equipment and personal items
- All instruments and equipment are to remain in cases with latches or on the equipment cart when not in use
- Instrument or personal slots shall remain clean. Items other than instruments, music or personal items should not be kept in slots
- No food should be stored in the instrument slots
- Disorderly behavior and abusive language will not be tolerated
- The practice rooms are for individual practice and private lessons. They are not to be used for any other reason.

Our goal as a staff is to ensure that all students are treated fairly. Please call one of our directors if you have any concerns. We will work with you to resolve problems. We are here to provide a quality music education for all our students.

Marching Band Guidelines

CCISD policy states that participation in both Marching and Concert Bands is required for credit. If a student has three unexcused absences from any rehearsals or an unexcused absence from any performance, they will be subject to dismissal from the program and dropped from enrollment in the band and color guard class.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances of the marching band. An unexcused absence from a performance will jeopardize one's position in the marching band. Note the band calendar and clear all the performance dates now!

A student is tardy to rehearsal if he or she is not in the attendance block with their instrument and supplies when the drum majors or color guard captains begin the rehearsal. Habitual tardies will jeopardize one's position in the band and may result in the removal of the student from performances.

Marching Rehearsals

Dress for marching rehearsals includes shorts, a light colored T-shirt, hat or cap, tennis shoes, and socks. For safety reasons, students will not be allowed to march in any other footwear (this includes sandals and flip-flops).

Students should bring individual water bottles clearly labeled with their name to all rehearsals. Water bottles will be kept close and frequent water breaks will be taken. Water jugs will also be available under the band tower. Students should sit down immediately if dizzy or weak. During rehearsals, directors will constantly monitor the weather conditions and make adjustments as necessary for the safety of the students.

Practice Time Limits

Marching band practice times are regulated by UIL guidelines. As per UIL rules: "The members of a marching band or any of its components may not begin the marching preparation for a UIL contest preparation prior to August 1st. In addition, no more than ten hours of director-supervised instructional time may be devoted to marching fundamentals between the end of the previous school term and August 1st." Music preparation is not affected by this ten-hour rule. During the school year, no more than eight hours of rehearsal per week, outside of the school day, is allowed. Exceptions to the 8-hour rule include preparation immediately before games and competitions.

Pep Rallies

All eligible marching band members will attend pep rallies unless excused by a director in advance. Students must refrain from playing their instruments on their way to or from a pep rally. Seating shall be by section, front to back: Color Guard, flutes, clarinets, low winds, saxes, drum line, horns, trumpets, trombones, euphoniums, and tubas.

Physical Education Requirement Waiver

As an artistic endeavor, each rehearsal and performance by the marching band is mentally and physically demanding. For the full marching band performance, students are always on task and must bring to the experience their best performance skills. As a result, each student in the marching band is eligible to receive a physical education waiver in accordance with UIL guidelines.

Football Game and Marching Contest Procedures

1. **GAME DAYS:** The band will have a short run-through of the halftime show **EVERY** Friday that we have a game. Practice will take place on the football field in the back of the school. **BE LINED UP ON THE SIDE OF THE FIELD WITH YOUR INSTRUMENT, DRILL TEAM MUSIC, AND SHOW EQUIPMENT FOR COLOR GUARD (WEATHER PERMITTING) NO LATER THAN 2:55PM.** The longer you take to get out to the field, the less free time you will have before call time.

Here is the typical schedule for an evening home game:

- 3:00pm – Full band rehearsal on the football field
- 4:00pm – Full band rehearsal ends
- 5:00pm – Call time (have uniforms/instruments ready)
- 5:20pm – Buses leave for CCISD Stadium
- 6:45pm – Pregame
- 7:00pm – Game begins
- 8:30pm – Halftime
- 10:30pm – Arrive back at Clear Brook

You will have little time to go home before we begin loading, so you will need to come to school that morning with everything you plan to take to the football game. It's a good idea to pack a sack lunch and a drink. Some parents also choose to bring their students something to eat during the break between practice and loading. Choose the plan that best suits your schedule, but whatever you do, be sure to eat something before boarding the bus.

REMEMBER: THERE IS TO BE NO EATING IN THE BAND HALL – USE THE COMMONS!

Also, there can be **NO** food on the school buses at any time.

Make sure you have everything you need for the game before you come to school on Friday:

- black marching shoes and black socks
- white gloves
- black moisture management shirt
- garment bag for your uniform
- flip folder and music
- instrument

Color Guard

- shoulder bag
- uniform
- make up
- rifles and sabers
- show silks
- band T-shirt

2. **UNIFORM CHECK-OUT:** See Page

3. **LOADING:** For those whose instruments are loaded onto the equipment truck, be at the school at the designated time to have your instrument packed and at the loading area. Instruments are to be taken **outside** the back door, not left in the band hall. The loading crew's responsibility is to load the equipment that is outside in the loading area, not to come into the band hall to get anything.

Upon return to the school after the game or contest, you are to pick up your instrument from the loading area outside. It is no one's job to bring your instrument into the band hall but yours. Any instrument left outside will result in your having to pay a fine of at least one dollar to get it back. The more times your instrument is left outside, the larger the fine will be.

The following instruments are **not** to be loaded onto the equipment truck: Flutes, Clarinets, and Trumpets in gig bags. Take these on the busses with you.

4. **BUS RIDES:** All transportation to games and competitions (with the exception of some contests) will be on school busses. Even though there will be adult chaperones on each bus, the bus driver is the one in charge and we are to do whatever they say, PERIOD. Remember that some drivers are less tolerant than others. Here are some general rules to follow regarding bus transportation:

- Only personal music devices with headphones are permitted. Those that have external speakers are not.
- Absolutely no eating or drinking on the school buses
- Remain seated at all times
- Talking is to be kept at a reasonable level. Screaming, yelling, etc. is not acceptable.
- Keep all parts of the body inside the bus at all times
- Bus lists will be made prior to the first game and you must remain on your assigned bus
- NO kissing, cuddling, snuggling, or any other public displays of affection are allowed

5. **ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION:** If for some reason you need to ride with your parents either to or from a band-sponsored event, you are **required** to fill out an Alternate Transportation Form. These forms are located in the black folder hanging outside the band office. Please have the form completely filled out and signed by a parent **AT LEAST ONE DAY IN ADVANCE OF THE TRIP**. This policy may seem strict, but it is enforced to protect our students. These forms must be turned in early so that the chaperones know who will not be riding on the busses. When using alternate transportation, remember the following:

- Only an adult driver has permission to take you to or from an event; student drivers holding a valid driver's license **MAY NOT** transport any other student other than themselves
- If your parents want to take you home from an event and you have not filled out the proper forms, you and your parents **MUST** get permission from one of the directors. Also, it is imperative that you tell the chaperone that calls roll on your bus that you will not be riding back. You must either take your instrument with you or see to it that someone will bring it in from the loading area for you. If your instrument is left outside, you will pay the fine

6. **ARRIVAL AT THE STADIUM:** The first people to get off the buses are the directors, drum majors, color guard captains and loading crew only. Everyone else is to remain on board until instructed. After a few minutes, those with equipment on the equipment truck will disembark to get their stuff. Then, everyone else will be instructed to unload.

Once everything is unloaded, you are to quickly line up for stadium entry. **You must be completely dressed in uniform by the time we line up. No unzipped jackets or baseball hats!** Marching hats are to be carried in right hand into the stadium. In general, we line up in the order that we sit in the stadium from top to bottom, beginning with tubas and low brass, followed by horns and trumpets. Low woodwinds must allow enough room for the percussion between brass and woodwinds, color guard generally 4 rows, depending on the stadium.

As we march into the stadium, we will do so in a dignified manner and everyone will remain standing in their places in the stands until instructed to sit down once everyone is in. Water will be distributed immediately after the game begins.

7. **IN THE STANDS:** Once in the stadium, you are to remain in your designated place **IN YOUR SECTION** until time to depart for halftime, or depart from the game. Non-band members are **NOT ALLOWED** in the band seating area at any time.

All students must have their music in a flip folder. Watch the director or drum major at all times when he is standing in front of the band. Watch closely for cut-offs in the music, as the band will sometimes stop playing when the game is resumed on the field.

Do not make discourteous remarks to visiting bands, peers and other students. Remember that you represent Clear Brook High School.

8. **UNIFORMS:** Everyone will wear their entire uniform properly while in the stadium, with one exception. After halftime, (or if the weather becomes unbearable), those wearing the proper band T-shirt underneath their uniforms may remove their jackets.

NO HEADGEAR OF ANY KIND EXCEPT THE SHAKO MAY BE WORN AT ANY TIME WHILE IN UNIFORM.

10. **CONDUCT:** You must remember that from the moment we are off the busses, we are performing. You are expected to act in a dignified manner. During pre-game, we will stand while the other school's alma mater is being played. We will also stand respectfully while the National Anthem is being played.

11. **HALFTIME:** While we are on the sideline waiting for the halftime performance, you are expected to stand quietly. After the halftime performance, you will either proceed in an orderly manner back to the stands, or you will stand quietly in a relaxed parade rest while the home band performs.

You are part of a fine organization and are expected to act accordingly. At no time should anyone do anything or say anything that could reflect on the group in general. Remember that these events are school-sponsored activities and general rules of conduct will apply, but because we are in uniform, you are expected to conduct yourself better than the average student.

Band Uniforms

The school provides each student with a marching uniform and a concert uniform. The marching uniform consists of a marching jacket, black pants w/ suspenders, and a marching hat. The concert uniform consists of a black tux jacket and black pants.

Students will provide the following:

Black marching shoes – Information on buying these shoes will be available during band camp. There are currently several used pairs of shoes in the uniform closet.

Marching band T-Shirt – Orders for these shirts will be taken during band camp.

Black moisture management shirt – Every student is required to purchase this to wear under their uniforms

Black socks

Please take care of your uniform. Keep it on the hanger when you are not wearing it. Marching and concert uniforms will be laundered by a dry cleaner designated by CCISD.

A cleaning fee of \$25.00 will be taken up at the beginning of the year.

Uniform Check-Out Procedure

All uniforms will remain in the uniform closet except when in use. Everyone will check out their uniform from one of the band parents either in the uniform closet or stationed at one of the uniform racks. Make sure you get to the band hall early enough on game and contest days so that you have time to get your uniform and everything else you need for a performance.

Keep track of YOUR hanger!!! Each hanger has a number that corresponds to your uniform number, so that you don't get yours mixed up. Put your hanger somewhere safe and out of the way, so that someone else doesn't pick it up and assume it belongs to them. **It is the student's responsibility to replace broken or missing hangers at a cost of \$5.00 each.**

IMPORTANT: Arrange your ride home BEFORE you get in the uniform line!

After the game, it is **YOUR** responsibility to wait in line and return your uniform to the uniform closet. Make sure your pants are properly hung on the hanger, or you will be sent to the end of the line. Once your uniform has been checked back in by a parent, and your hatbox has been returned, you are free to go.

ANYONE WHO DOES NOT TURN IN THEIR UNIFORM AFTER ANY BAND EVENT WILL RECEIVE AN AUTOMATIC 2-HOUR D-HALL! SHOVING YOUR UNIFORM IN YOUR SLOT OR LEAVING IT LAYING ON THE FLOOR WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. YOUR UNIFORM IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!

Marching Band Student Positions

Drum Majors

Drum majors are selected through an audition process in the spring semester. Candidates for drum major will demonstrate marching skills, teaching skills, vocal commands, a salute, basic tempos and conducting patterns and an interview. Each candidate must submit a Drum Major application to the directors and attend **all** of the clinics led by the previous drum majors. .

Dates and times for try-outs will be posted and announced in class. It is each candidate's responsibility to be aware of this information.

Criteria for drum major candidates are as follows:

- must be eligible in all classes and have no history of ineligibility
- must have an exemplary attendance record at all band rehearsals and events

Section Leaders

The band directors and the drum majors select section leaders for each section of the marching band in May. These leaders are selected based upon their overall band attitude, leadership skills musicianship, marching skills, movement skills, and equipment skills.

Loading Crew

Membership in the loading crew is open to any member of the marching band, subject to approval by the director. This group is responsible for loading and unloading the instruments from the equipment truck at the football games, contests, and all concert band related activities in the spring. Also, they are responsible for making sure that all instruments are unloaded from the truck upon the return to school. Additional loading responsibilities may be assigned.

Color Guard Equipment Crew

Membership in the loading crew is open to any member of the color guard, subject to approval by the director. This group is responsible for delivery and return of the equipment for class.

Additional Information

School Instruments

Instruments are available for a maintenance fee through the school. The yearly fee is \$100.00. The fee for summer rental is \$25.00. The district now has a Musical Instrument Loan Contract that must be filled out and signed by parents, students, and a director when the fee payment is made. The maintenance fee goes into a fund for keeping instruments in good working order and to make repairs as necessary. Any deliberate damage to an instrument may be charged to the student/parent. It is required that parents cover instruments on their homeowner's policy or the directors have information concerning instrument insurance for theft or major damage. The information is provided with the school instrument contract.

Band Auditions

There will be two major auditions each year to place students in band classes and/or to assign chair placement within each ensemble. Students will audition in May for the following fall semester and in December at the conclusion of the regular marching season for the following spring semester. Audition material will include music and scales assigned by the directors. Audition music for the December audition will be cuts from the Region Band music and will be available the first week of school. Audition material for the May audition will be available approximately two weeks before the audition. Students will be evaluated by the directors at these auditions. Student chair placement within a band may change during the semester at the director's discretion based on performance and/or attitude.

Color Guard Section Auditions

Members of the color guard will audition for placement on the weapons, movement, and silk lines. Auditions will be determined by fundamentals in movement and equipment, selected audition piece and attitude.

Students will be evaluated by the directors at these auditions. Placements within the guard may change during the semester at the director's discretion based on performance and/or attitude.

All District/All Region/Area/All State Band

Students have the opportunity to audition for the All Region Band by preparing three etudes provided for them. Entries and fees for the audition will be due early in the fall and are usually \$10.00.

Winter Guard Auditions

There will be one major audition each year to place students in the winter guard. Students will audition at the conclusion of the regular marching season for the following spring semester. Audition material will include equipment and movement fundamentals assigned by the directors. Students must have no eligibility problems in first semester to be able to audition for varsity winter guard. Students will be evaluated by the directors at these auditions. Student placement within a guard may change during the semester at the director's discretion based on performance and/or attitude.

School Musical

The School Musical at Clear Brook is a voluntary activity that members of the band will be invited to play for. Attendance at after school rehearsals throughout December and January are required, as well as all performances. Students must be eligible in all classes to participate.

Winter Guard Competitions

All members of winter guard will perform at various TCGC and WGI contests in the months of January through April. Students must be eligible in all of their classes to go to these contests. Parents are welcome to join us at the contest and give us an audience to perform for.

UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest

Band members may participate in the UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest, but are not required to. Students must pay the entry fees by the assigned date and are responsible for preparing their music for competition. Very little class time will be allowed for this. Students may schedule times during lunch or after school, both to pick out music and to receive help with their preparation. They may also work on the music with a private lesson teacher. We will attempt to pick out all music before the winter break. The deadline for entries is in early January. Almost all solos require piano accompaniment. You may acquire your own accompanist or arrange one through the band directors. There will be a fee set by the accompanist if you are using your own. If you use an accompanist provided by us, they must be paid through the school district at a fee that will be set at a later date (usually \$20-\$30, depending on the difficulty of the piece and the amount of rehearsals). Students entering a Class I solo may qualify for the State Solo/Ensemble Contest by performing their solo by memory and receiving a Division I rating. Class I ensembles may also qualify if they earn a Division I rating.

UIL Concert and Sight Reading

All members of the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band will perform in the UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest. Students must be eligible in all of their classes to go to the UIL contest. Parents are welcome to join us at the contest and give us an audience to perform for.

Color Guard Recruiting

All members of Winter Guard will perform at various Intermediate Schools for recruiting purposes. Students must be eligible in all of their classes to perform. Parents are welcome to join us at the show and give us an audience to perform for.

Graduation

The band performs at the Clear Brook High School graduation ceremony. Seniors, of course, will not be performing, so it is critical that everyone else plan to be at the rehearsals and perform at graduation.