

CHURCHILL FULSHEAR HIGH SCHOOL

CHARGER BAND



BAND STUDENT HANDBOOK

CHARGER BAND REQUIREMENTS

1. SHOW UP!!!

- Be reliable!
- Be on time!
- Be prepared!

2. TRY!!!

- Give your best effort!
- Be attentive!
- Try to improve every day!

3. BE RESPECTFUL!!!

- Be kind to other students!
- Be kind to staff!
- Choose to be a positive example!

The **CHARGER BAND** will be a place where students learn how to be successful as musicians and in life. As long as students can meet the above requirements you will ALWAYS be welcome in the **CHARGER BAND**.

Welcome to the band family at Churchill Fulshear High School! This handbook is meant to serve as a guide to the **CHARGER BAND**. We look forward to working with you over the next four years as you develop as a person and musician!

Sincerely,

THE CHARGER BAND STAFF

INTRODUCTION

The CHARGER BAND staff has developed this handbook to familiarize each band member with the general operation and procedures of the CHARGER BAND and standards by which all band and guard members are expected to conduct themselves. This handbook is not intended to be all-inclusive, as every possible situation and question cannot be predicted in advance; however, a thorough knowledge of these materials, as well as the LCISD secondary handbook, is essential to the smooth operation and success of the band this year.

By accepting membership in the Churchill Fulshear High School Band, you are agreeing to perform to the best of your abilities and work together with the band staff in making this year's band the finest musical organization that our combined efforts can produce. For this to occur, students will need to have a positive attitude, be responsible, attentive and respectful.

The success of any organization is dependent upon the spirit, pride, leadership, teamwork, dedication and cooperation of its members. Certain rules, policies and procedures are necessary so that the overall goals of the group are met and the welfare of each individual member is best served.

MARCHING BAND

MARCHING BAND PARTICIPATION

As an integral part of the band, the CHARGER BAND staff's philosophy is that educationally, historically and musically marching band is an essential ingredient in a well-rounded music education in band. LCISD and the CHARGER BAND staff believe that music students need to develop the ability to participate and perform in different ensemble experiences which, for band students, includes the marching band. As a result, marching band is required for all high school students who elect to take an academic band performance course. However, students who have severe medical complications or physical disabilities can be excused from full participation at the discretion of the directors.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

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 substitution credit in accordance with TEA guidelines.

MARCHING BAND AN INTEGRAL COMPONENT OF STATE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

The music and performance skills and techniques, along with the associated academic skills in the band program, are derived from implementation of the expectations found in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). The curriculum specifically includes requirements such as demonstrating musical skills and artistry, performing in different musical mediums and experiencing music through a wider range of music literature, which are addressed through a wider range of music literature, which are addressed through the marching band. Each performance by the marching band provides students the opportunity to demonstrate musical artistry through the ensemble, individual music performance skills and techniques, marching performance skills and techniques and critical thinking skills that include auditory, spatial and visual awareness.

HIGH ACADEMIC STANDARDS

The opportunity for weekly performance is a motivating factor for academic achievement for marching band students, since only by maintaining their eligibility can they continue to perform. As a

result, the directors have documented the fact that the least number of ineligible students during the school year is during the marching season. It is EXPECTED that our members be leaders on the campus which includes the classroom.

GRADING

Since marching band is a part of the academic band course and therefore, part of the graded curriculum, students in marching band are responsible for assimilating the academic aspects of the band elective as found in the TEKS. Attendance at rehearsals and performances is mandatory and will be integrated into the student's grade for band in accordance with TEA/UII guidelines.

PRACTICE TIME LIMITS/SUMMER BAND

Marching band practice times are regulated by TEA/UII guidelines. Adherence to these guidelines is the responsibility of the directors. As per TEA and UII rules, "the members of a marching band or any of its components may not begin MARCHING preparation prior to August 1. 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 1." Music preparation is not affected by this ten-hour rule. Percussion and Guard camps are also not affected.

SUMMER BAND ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHARGER BAND (in accordance with LCISD policy) Any conflicts should be communicated to directors immediately and may impact a student's placement in performing ensembles. For incoming new members, special consideration will be made for trips planned **prior** to knowledge of the summer band commitment.

During the school year, no more than 8 hours of rehearsal per week, outside of the school day, is permitted. The 8-hour rule applies only to marching rehearsal and does not include preparation immediately before games and contests or section rehearsals used for other music.

REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE SCHEDULES

Rehearsal and performance schedules are determined by the directors and will be published on the band's website, on the BAND APP, via Canvas and made readily available.

INSTRUMENTS/EQUIPMENT

Marching band students who play an instrument that LCISD does not provide (flute, clarinet, alto sax, trumpet and trombone) may be required to personally provide, march and perform with the same instrument they use in band or a second instrument of the same type that is approved by the directors. If there is an instrument concern please reach out to the directors directly.

STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND CARE OF THEIR INSTRUMENT/EQUIPMENT WHETHER IT IS DISTRICT OWNED OR PERSONALLY OWNED.

MARCHING POSITIONS

DISCLAIMER: Every student enrolled in a band or guard class is a part of the CHARGER BAND. Every student will receive a uniform, travel to all games and travel to all contests.

PRIMARY MARCHERS

Students who earn a “primary” spot will perform at all games and contests. A “primary” marcher:

- Successfully completes the audition requirements by the appropriate time
- Demonstrates high quality marching skills
- Is punctual in report times
- Is present at all rehearsals and performances
- Maintains academic eligibility
- Complete all SmartMusic assignments
- Has all supplies required during rehearsal
- Represents the school, school district, band program and themselves with the highest possible decorum and behavioral standards

SPECIAL NOTE: Students who fail to meet rehearsal, musical, visual or attendance requirements may be penalized by loss of position as a primary or loss of performance opportunity.

SHADOW MARCHERS

The band directors will keep the amount of “shadow” marchers to a minimum; however, they are a necessary and vital aspect of our program. Due to UIL “No Pass/No Play” rules and to prepare for possible substitutions due to injury, sustained illness, etc. Shadow marchers will meet the same attendance, rehearsal, memorization, academic and performance requirements of primary marchers. This will help improve their individual skill level and will prepare them for future performance opportunities. However, the level of performance participation may be limited by eligibility and individual performance ability. Shadow marchers, meeting all participation requirements, may be afforded performance opportunities at games or contests at the discretion of the directors.

There are many ingredients that are vital to a successful marching program and no one part is more valuable than any other. Examples of ways that students can contribute to the performance are: marching winds, marching percussion, front ensemble, color guard, stage crew, pit crew, etc.

The band staff will take every step possible to guarantee a positive experience for each individual student in the program while creating the most successful program possible.

MARCHING REHEARSALS

- Respect everyone on the marching field. We are all working toward the same goal.
- Prior to rehearsals eat healthy and drink plenty of water.
- Be punctual!!! Aim to arrive 5 minutes before practice is scheduled to begin.
- Water breaks are meant for your health! DRINK WATER! (bring your CHARGER BAND jug daily)
- Rehearsal will be silent at all times.
- Standing is the only acceptable position on the marching field unless otherwise instructed.
- EVERYONE will be expected to vocally count at all times.
- Pay attention at all times. Listen attentively and respond appropriately.
- FUN-damentals will make us successful. Therefore, we expect everyone to participate fully.
- You are responsible for your dot book at EVERY REHEARSAL. Period. (keep your coordinate sheet)
- Band members will wear their coordinate book always. Section leaders will identify where.
- Move when instructed quickly and quietly.
- “Standby” is feet together, eyes forward, no talking and no moving.
- When setting forms keep your feet together and your mouth closed.

- Remain at “Set” until you are told to relax.
- Relax means silently standing at “Standby”.
- When adjusting the forms, use your coordinate books at all times unless instructed otherwise.
- To keep your spot on the field, meet all music memorization and SmartMusic deadlines.
- TENNIS SHOES and SHORTS are required at all marching rehearsals.

MARCHING BAND PERFORMANCES

The primary performances of the marching band will be at the football games. Other primary performances of the marching band will be at various competitive marching festivals and UIL Contests, as well as possible local and national parades.

The CHARGER BAND staff recognizes that the health and safety of the students is a primary concern, as well as their scholastic performance in all of their subjects. The band directors also acknowledge that the season for marching band competitive performances is contained within a brief but intense period of time during the months of September through November. Additionally, the directors recognize the intrinsic value gained by the students from the pursuit of excellence in these programs.

PERFORMANCE PROCEDURES

- Band Hall Open: This is the time that the band hall will be open and students can begin arriving to prepare for rehearsal/performances.
- Report Time: This will be the designated time at which all members should be at the high school or set location. Students should be prepared to rehearse and should have all necessary items for that rehearsal/performance.
- Load Time: This will be the designated time at which all members will begin loading the truck.
- Depart Time: This is the time that all students should be on their designated bus with all required equipment following an inspection by one of the student leaders. STUDENTS WITHOUT APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT MAY BE SENT HOME MARKED ABSENT.
- Return Time: This is the APPROXIMATE time of return to the school.

MUSIC INSPECTION

Music inspection will occur before marching contests and games. Students will demonstrate that their instrument is in working order, cleaned and polished with all necessary components. Students must have a lyre, mouthpiece, reed, etc. Any student who does not pass music inspection will have their grade lowered and may be sent home and/or not allowed to perform.

UNIFORM/WATER 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 all uniform components and a filled water jug. Students who do not pass this inspection will receive a lower grade and/or may be sent home.

COLOR GUARD INFORMATION

DRESSING OUT

Dressing out is required during rehearsal and is part of the daily grade. Dress out clothes for outdoor marching rehearsals include: t-shirt, athletic shoes, athletic shorts, socks, fanny pack and additional items as indicated by the directors. Dress out clothes for indoor rehearsals include: all black form fitting attire (while still in school dress code), exposed ankles, hair pulled back and gloves.

TOTE BAGS

The following items are to be kept in the tote bags. Additional items may be required at the discretion of the directors:

- Hair spray/gel (in zip-loc bag)
- Bobby pins
- Hair clips
- Deodorant
- Make-up (in zip-loc bag)
- Towel (in zip-loc bag)
- Kleenex
- Uniform parts (i.e. gloves)
- Electrical tape
- Females: Feminine products
- Warm-ups (when applicable)

PRACTICE

When practicing, concentrate on technique. Pay attention to the details of both body and equipment. Do not “just go through the moves/routines” half-heartedly reiterating mistakes. Define each move as explained in class.

WINTER GUARD

Students in the Color Guard will also take part in the Winter Guard program(s) during the Spring semester. Winter Guard rehearsal dates, performances and additional costs will be determined and communicated to the participating students and their parents. Please refer to Financial Obligations.

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

To have and maintain a high-quality band/guard program, attendance from all members is essential. While the Churchill Fulshear High School band and guard programs follow all district policies and procedures, the following additional guidelines outline the attendance procedures and expectations as a member of the band/guard.

ROLL CALL

Attendance will be checked and documented promptly at the start of each rehearsal.

TARDINESS

Students not in their designated area at the appropriate time with all materials will be marked tardy. A tardy will be converted to a mark of absent 10 minutes after the rehearsal begins.

EXCUSED TARDINESS

Tardiness may be excused at the discretion of the directors. Tutorials, appointments etc. will not be an excuse for tardiness unless prior arrangements, with written documentation, are made and **approved by a director.**

UNEXCUSED TARDINESS

Students who have more than one unexcused tardy shall make up missed time at a time to be arranged by the director AND may be subject to one of the following consequences at the discretion of the band directors:

- Loss of spot as a primary marcher
- Loss of marching privilege at a football game
- Requirement to stay after rehearsal or report early to next rehearsal to make up lost time
- Requirement to make up 15 minutes of fundamental marching with a student leader
- Requirement to make up 15 minutes of fundamentals playing/spinning with a student leader

ABSENCE

Students not present at the appropriate time may be marked absent.

EXCUSED ABSENCE

Absences will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Appointments, tutorials etc. will not be an excuse for absence. Absence due to personal illness requiring medical attention, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances (approved by director) will be considered for excused status. Students who are continually ill may be required to provide a doctor's note releasing them from participation in order to ensure the well-being of the child and to reduce concerns of the band directors. If in doubt, an absence should be checked with a director.

PLEASE NOTE: Students will have two free afternoons per week, with a few possible exceptions, throughout all of marching season. During the concert season, students will generally be responsible for one sectional and one full band rehearsal per week.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE

Students who have an unexcused absence may be subject to one or more of the following consequences at the discretion of the directors:

- Make up missed time
- Loss of spot as a primary marcher
- Loss of marching privilege for one game
- Loss of attendance privilege at one game
- Loss of concert band/winter guard assignment. Assigned to a different class/group.
- Removal from the marching band

Parents will be notified immediately.

CARE OF THE BAND FACILITIES

Refreshments- No gum, food or drinks (other than water) are allowed in the building except when authorized by the directors.

Litter- All trash (paper, broken reeds/drum sticks, etc.) is to be deposited in trash cans provided.

Vandalism- Acts of vandalism or the willful misuse of school property will be dealt with severely and appropriately. Every band member is responsible to help the directors monitor the facility and control vandalism. Examples of vandalism include but are not limited to writing or carving on walls, destroying music, or breaking school property.

Library/Booster Storage- Absolutely no student is allowed in the library or booster storage room without permission from a director.

Smart Board/Computers- Absolutely no student can use the band hall computers or smart boards without the permission/supervision of the directors.

Practice & Ensemble Rooms- Are designed/intended for practicing ONLY. PERIOD.

Offices- Please knock and if you are invited in, you may then enter. Otherwise they are off-limits to students. Students may not use the director's phone without permission.

TRAVEL GUIDELINES

The band/guard will frequently travel on either school buses or commercial buses. Student conduct is expected to be at the highest level on any trip.

Students must travel to and from events on the bus. Any student wishing to arrive or leave with his/her parent must submit an alternative transportation form, found on the band website, at least twenty-four hours in advance. The form requires a parent signature as well as an administrator signature. Permission will be granted or denied based on the circumstances of the occasion.

Students must have all necessary forms (medical/UII/physical) completed online and on file with the band to travel on any trip with the band or guard.

While on the bus students will:

- Remain seated at all times
- Sit properly in a forward position
- Keep the bus clear of food, drinks and debris (at times it may be necessary to eat a pre-game dinner on the bus) Every effort should be made to keep your area clean
- Keep all body parts inside the bus
- Refrain from loud noises, screaming, whistling, foul or inappropriate language, etc.
- No public displays of affection

SPECIAL NOTE: Students are reminded that all performances start and conclude at the band hall. As a member of the band, you are a representative of your school. Always be on your best behavior. If you are in doubt about an action, do not do it! Your conduct at all times should be considered a good reflection on the school, the band, your home, yourself and the Fulshear community.

CHAPERONES

Adult chaperones are a great asset for the band program. Students will treat them as an extension of the band staff. Proper respect will be shown to all adults at all times.

SPRING TRIP

The band will take an out-of-state trip once every four years. In years when the band is not going out-of-state, they may travel to an in-state festival such as Dallas, San Antonio, Houston, or Corpus Christi.

CONDUCT/EXPECTATIONS

Band members will observe all policies set forth by LCISD, in addition to the following, as they pertain specifically to the CHARGER BAND.

- Students in band serve as representatives of the school and district at many public functions. Since participation in extra-curricular programs is optional, those who choose to participate will be held to higher standards of behavior and performance in and out of school. Additionally, students and parents are reminded that participation in interscholastic competition is a privilege, not a right. Band members will observe all policies set forth by LCISD, in addition to the following, as they pertain to the instrumental music setting and color guard.
- Any behavior, which is not representative of good citizenship, as perceived by the band staff, may result in the student's dismissal from the activity at hand as well as the band/guard program in accordance with LCISD district guidelines.
- It is expected that all members of the CHARGER BAND will treat each other with respect.

- Displays of profanity, temper, flagrant violations of rules, etc., will not be tolerated. Individual behavior during a band function reflects the group.
- Students will follow instructions. This includes directions from directors, staff and student leaders.
- Students will be in their assigned rehearsal area ready to work at the set rehearsal time with all equipment, including music, pencil, instrument and all supplies to rehearsals daily. (see detailed list of supplies for each instrument/section)
- Students will keep hands, feet and other objects to themselves.
- Students will not touch, handle, borrow, or use anyone else's instrument, uniform, or personal belongings.
- Students should request permission to speak by raising their hand and waiting to be acknowledged. All rehearsals are expected to be extremely quiet so that time will be utilized wisely and as efficiently as possible. Failure to do so will result in removal from rehearsal.
- When allowed in the band hall, either before or after school, students will not disturb any rehearsals in progress.
- Students will respect the property of others and return their equipment to its proper storage place when not in use. Students should keep their equipment in the designated storage area and keep said storage area clean and neat in appearance. Students who demonstrate great difficulty with this may lose the privilege of having a storage area in the band hall.
- Students will not deface or mark on music stands, chairs, walls, school property, etc....
- Students will not write on dry-erase board without permission from a director.
- Students will utilize their assigned locker/slot for instrument cases during rehearsals. Cases should NOT be brought into rehearsals unless requested by a director.

Band/Guard members that violate the above guidelines shall be subject to the following:

- Upon confirmation of a first violation the member will receive a verbal warning from band staff. If necessary, in accordance with LCISD, students may be written up and parents notified depending on the offense. In cases of offensive comments towards students/staff an official apology and **plan of action** to deter this behavior will be shared with a principal, directors and affected band members.
- Upon confirmation of a second offense the member will receive a verbal warning and may, dependent upon the offense, be removed immediately from band/guard either temporarily or permanently. If necessary, in accordance with LCISD, students may be written up and parents notified depending on the offense. In cases of offensive comments towards students/staff an apology and plan of action to deter this behavior will be shared with a principal, directors and affected band members.
- Upon confirmation of a third offense parents will be notified. The student may be removed from performance opportunities or removed/demoted from their current band/guard. In cases of repeated offensive comments towards students/staff the member will be removed from band.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

Maintaining a higher standard of conduct will also include ensuring that band member websites are appropriate. The internet is a worldwide, publicly accessible form of communication. Any communication will include but are not limited to Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, photo sharing, emailing, groupme, group chats or texting, etc., appearing on the internet is public domain, even if it is marked private. Members are responsible for their personal websites and postings, as well

as posting from or on other students' websites. The areas of appropriateness will include but are not limited to profane, foul, or disrespectful language (abbreviated or alluding to), pictures, suggestive poses, clothing, references to alcohol, drugs and/or tobacco and postings (either verbal or photos) that could be interpreted as being negative or threatening towards LCISD staff or band members, or that demonstrate poor sportsmanship or a disrespectful attitude towards other bands/schools. Any such incident will result in review by the principal (or designee) and may lead to probation or dismissal from the band/guard.

Band members that violate the above internet guidelines shall be subject to the following:

- Upon confirmation of a first violation, the member will be asked to remove any offensive items from the website(s) and will be asked to give an apology and plan of action to deter this behavior to the principal, directors and affected band members. Parents/guardians will be contacted and made aware of the offensive behavior.
- Upon confirmation of a second offense, the member will be asked to remove any offensive items from the website(s) and will be asked to give an apology and plan of action to deter this behavior to the principal, directors and affected band members. Parents/guardians will be contacted and made aware of the offensive behavior. In addition, the student will be suspended from all band/guard activities for a period of 3 days to 3 weeks.
- Upon confirmation of a third offense, the member will be removed from band.

DUE PROCESS

All LCISD students are entitled to due process in accordance with LCISD guidelines. Our goal as a staff is to ensure that all students are treated fairly. Please contact one of the 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.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

It is the philosophy of the Churchill Fulshear High School Band that NO student should be denied the privilege of band membership due to financial hardship. For options in meeting financial obligations, parents should contact Mr. Lee directly. **REQUIRED FEES FOR MARCHING BAND WILL NOT EXCEED \$425.**

CHARGER BAND FEE

All band and guard members will be responsible for this annual fee. The purpose of this fee is to help with various expenses that are necessary to run a quality program, but are not covered by the school district. These include but are not limited to such items as clinicians, contest entry fees, printing specialty items, general supplies, marching band design, transportation, social activities and more.

CONTEST MEAL FEE

This fee covers all pre-game meals, specified meals at camps and some contests in marching season.

ASSESSED FEES

Fees listed below are approximate and may vary from student to student. Each student will receive an estimated expense sheet with their applicable expenses prior to **the first day of school.**

- Shoes: All marching band students must have the approved performance shoes. No other shoes will be acceptable. Approximate cost: \$45.00-\$50.00
- Band Shirt: Purple "Once a Charger Always a Charger" Shirt. Cost: \$15.00-\$22.00.

- Show Shirt: NOT required. Will match that year's marching show. Cost: \$15.00-\$22.00.
- Misc. Supplies: Including, but not limited to, various supplies such as lyres, water jugs, etc. The costs may vary from year to year.

SPRING TRIP

The concert bands and/or color guards may take a trip in the spring. The trip next year will be to Disney/Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida. Attendance at this trip is not required. All band fees **MUST** be paid to attend the spring trip and student **MUST BE IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE BAND.**

WINTER GUARD

Winter Guard begins after marching band season. Expenses vary from year to year. These expenses and a payment schedule are communicated in November with an estimated fee of \$200-\$300. First payment will be due in Late November.

FUNDRAISING

The Churchill Fulshear High School Band and Fulshear Charger Band Boosters engage in fundraising activities throughout the year. The funds raised from these activities will be credited to an account held by the booster club or the school. This money will be used only for the direct benefit of students in the band and guard programs.

DAILY SUPPLIES

The following list is what each student should plan to bring the appropriate rehearsal and/or performance. Other items may be added at the discretion of the directors.

- All issued music
- Pencil
- All supplies relative to their instrument/equipment
- All marching related equipment (during marching season/winter guard season)
- Drill/dot book/lanyard/coordinate sheet
- CHARGER BAND water jug at all marching rehearsals
- Gloves/Towels and any additional marching equipment needed

In addition, a metronome and tuner should be a part of a band member's tools for home practice.

COMMUNICATION

The directors encourage/expect positive communication and are willing to discuss any aspect of a student's progress in band with his/her parents. Specific director contact information can be found on the band website at www.CHARGERBAND.org.

GRADING GUIDELINES

LCISD band programs have instructional objectives that relate to the mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for grade level subjects or courses. These objectives are aligned to address the academic skills needed for successful performance in the next grade or next course in a sequence of courses. Assignments, tests, projects, classroom activities and other instructional activities are designed so that the student's performance indicates the level of mastery of the instructional objectives. The student's mastery level of these objectives is a major factor in determining the grade for a subject or course.

Students will be expected to meet the responsibilities for each band class as determined the director. Since band is an academic music class with some extra-curricular activities attached, the band student's grade will reflect achievement in both curricular and extra-curricular areas.

A band/guard member's six-week grade will be determined from the following items: student's daily preparation and participation, individual testing, performances and extended classroom activities such as sectionals and before/after school rehearsals. For more specific information pertaining to how a student's grade is determined, please consult the director.

The following list is provided to give students and parents examples of items that can be subject to grading. Additional assignments may be given at the discretion of the director.

- The student will receive a grade for each before or after school sectional and rehearsal during a grading period.
- The student will be on task and focused during all rehearsals.
- The student will have instrument, music, pencil and supplies.
- The student will be prepared to play his/her part successfully.
- The student will mark music and take notes as needed.
- The student will be expected to improve individual music skills.
- The student's individual skill development will be evaluated through SmartMusic assignments, recorded playing tests, individual playing tests, scale tests and/or written tests.
- The student will be evaluated on improvement of ensemble skills during daily rehearsals.
- The student will be expected to improve his/her performance fundamentals.
- The student will be evaluated for improvement of his/her musical fundamentals through daily observation, SmartMusic assignments and during sectionals.
- The student will be expected to demonstrate proper posture, hand position, embouchure, air production, intonation and articulation as monitored during rehearsals.
- The student will receive a grade for each performance during a grading period.

ELIGIBILITY

All LCISD bands adhere to the eligibility rules and regulation as stated by TEA and LCISD. Some band activities are designated extra-curricular. Students participating in these activities are governed by eligibility requirements. A student shall be suspended from participation in all extra-curricular activities sponsored or sanctioned by the school district during the six-week period following a grade reporting period in which the student received a grade lower than seventy in any class. Students are permitted to apply for a one-time waiver in certain courses (preAP/AP) to maintain eligibility in accordance with LCISD. Loss of eligibility does not take effect until seven days after the end of the reporting period. Ineligible students are not suspended from practice or rehearsal of extra-curricular activities. The student is not suspended from participation during the period in which school is recessed for the summer or any other vacation time.

Students may regain eligibility under certain circumstances. If a student has been suspended as a result of failing, he/she may regain eligibility by passing ALL courses at the third six-week progress report. Reinstatement of eligibility would occur seven days after the three-week progress report.

Activities that are considered curricular components of any course are not affected by the eligibility law. Examples of these activities are all rehearsals and performances that take place as a regular extension of classroom instruction. Any performance that is competitive in nature or for which admission is charged is deemed extra-curricular.

PERFORMING ENSEMBLES

CHARGER BAND “Marching Band” – Also known as “The Heartbeat of Fulshear” is made up of EVERY band and guard member. EVERY member is expected to participate during the Fall and Spring semesters. When we address the CHARGER BAND in communications home it is best that you assume it impacts your student regardless of section. This is the most visible component of the program and the CHARGER BAND will perform at every football game. In addition, the band will compete on Saturdays throughout the month of October at different venues throughout Houston and the state of Texas. **Attendance at all contests and rehearsals is required.** Calendars available on the website.

COLOR GUARD and WINTER GUARD – The Fulshear Color Guard is considered a VITAL component of the CHARGER BAND! It is the largest visual component of the band. Students will audition for placement in this group for the Fall. Color Guard is a class offered during the school day and guard members will be expected to enroll in the course, this may or may not apply to band students participating in Winter Guard at the discretion of the directors. Auditions for the Fulshear High School Winter Guard(s) will happen shortly following marching season. Band students are NOT permitted to audition for the Fall guard but CAN audition to participate as part of the Winter Guard. Students in the guard can expect to pay some additional fees for uniforms and additional instruction costs as needed.

WIND ENSEMBLE – Selection into this group is by audition, director recommendation and demonstration of academic proficiency. Members in this ensemble will be expected to participate in the Region Band process, UIL Marching Contest, prepare for Solo and Ensemble Recital/Contest, preparations for special possible honor concerts and UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest. Members of this group will have one forty-five-minute sectional and one hour and a half after school full-band rehearsal per week during concert season. Additional rehearsals will be scheduled as needed. Students will also have daily/weekly assignments given to them through SmartMusic throughout the school year. The Wind Ensemble will give numerous performances both on and off campus. In UIL activities, this group will be designated as the “Varsity” band.

SYMPHONIC BAND and CONCERT BAND – Selection into any of these groups is by audition. These groups, at varying levels, will participate in the Region Band process, UIL Marching Contest, prepare for Solo and Ensemble Recital/Contest and UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest. Members of these ensembles will have one forty-five-minute sectional per week and periodic after school rehearsals as needed. Students will also have additional assignments given to them through SmartMusic as needed. These groups will give a variety of performances. In UIL activities, these groups will be designated as the “Non-Varsity” or “Sub Non-Varsity” bands.

Students in the band program will be placed in a concert ensemble by audition, as well as observation throughout the year. ***The second semester placement will include the progress of students as observed through the Fall semester.***

JAZZ BAND “Fulshear Jazz Project” – Selection into these groups is based off audition/invitation. The jazz band is comprised of Saxophones, Trumpets, Trombones, Bass Guitar, Guitar, Drums and Piano. Jazz band students MUST be members of the band program to be a member of the jazz band. The Fulshear Jazz Project has several performance opportunities throughout the school year. For students who are not available to enroll in the class the Fulshear Jazz Project will have one or two rehearsals per week after school.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCERT ENSEMBLES

Each of the concert ensembles will perform at various times throughout the school year. Students are expected to participate in the performances of their assigned ensemble. Failure to participate in either rehearsals or performances may result in student removal from the organization at the discretion of the band directors (see general attendance policies). Possible scheduling conflicts need to be communicated to the directors IMMEDIATELY. Every effort will be taken to work around schedule conflicts. The directors have an outstanding working relationship with our coaches.

Performances of the concert ensembles will include but are not limited to the following:

- Parent Preview
- Winter Concert
- Spring Concert
- Band Festivals/Pre UIL Contests
- TCGC Performances (Winter Guard)
- UIL Contest
- Spring Trip Festival
- Others as scheduled

CONCERTS/PERFORMANCES

Concerts and performances are an integral component of the band curriculum. Each student's part is essential to the successful performance of the concert. There is no other person to "cover" a part that has been rehearsed with the balance and blend of all students in that ensemble. The musical/visual "hole" cannot be accounted for. Students should consult their schedules for dates and times. Periodically, the schedule may change and updates will be communicated (band website/email). Concerts are considered to have three parts: warm-up, performance and listening. The concert begins for the student at the warm-up. Punctuality is essential. A concert concludes when the last group performs and directors have given permission to be dismissed. A general report time will be given for all students.

- All concerts/performances are a group effort, thus, attendance is required
- All concerts are an extension of the classroom and will be graded accordingly
- Students should be punctual and prepared for each performance/concert
- In the event a performance causes a student to miss another class, the student is responsible for all make up work. (please take advantage of "Power Hour")
- The appropriate dress for all concerts/performances is required
- Students are expected to stay for the entire concert
- Students are expected to help move equipment and "stack-n-rack" chairs and stands

SECTION REHEARSALS/MASTER CLASSES

Section rehearsals/Master classes will begin in August and will be held throughout the school year.

During marching/football season, students will have a weekly 30 to 45 minute master class for their specific instrument. These master classes may be taught by a professional on their specific instrument, such as a private lesson teacher, or by a band director. Master classes will begin in August and continue through Region Band tryouts in early December.

After football season, all students will have a weekly section rehearsal with their concert band's section. The sectional will be directed by the band director of the concert ensemble and will be primarily focused on music that the student's concert ensemble is preparing for future concerts/contests. Students are expected to be in accordance with the attendance policy. Students must make every effort to attend. Section rehearsals are an extension of the classroom and are graded accordingly. Section rehearsal schedules will be made available to students and parents and every effort will be made to schedule them at a time that works for all students. Section rehearsal schedules may be found on the band web site, posted in the band hall or by contacting the director. Any possible conflict needs to be communicated to the appropriate director immediately.

PRIVATE LESSON PROGRAM

This is a district wide program that provides a high-quality enhancement to classroom instruction. Teachers are all specialists on their instruments. Most of our teachers are professional musicians in the Houston area and have advanced degrees in the performance of their instruments. Lessons are extremely valuable to the individual student and are highly encouraged.

- **ALL** students are **ENCOURAGED** to take individualized private instruction
- Teachers are screened by LCISD as well as the directors
- Lessons will be given weekly, preferably during the band classes
- If there is a need for before/after school lessons, every effort will be made to schedule lessons at times that do not conflict with other rehearsals
- The average cost for lessons is twenty dollars per half hour (paid to the teacher directly)
- Additional information will be distributed on the private lesson program

REGION BAND GUIDELINES

- Wind Ensemble members are required to prepare and audition for Region Band.
- All other band members are **strongly** encouraged to prepare and audition as well.
- Students will be graded on preparation for this event (individual listening's, SmartMusic)
- Any person fortunate enough to be selected to the All-Region Band will be expected to attend all rehearsals and performances of the All-Region Band.

It is quite an honor to be selected to the All-Region Band. Thousands of students throughout the region will audition. Even if you are not selected, the experience you receive by preparing will enhance your musical ability and education!

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE

All band members will prepare and perform a solo at the Solo and Ensemble Recital in February. Students looking to receive letter jacket points through participation in UIL Solo and Ensemble **MUST** have all materials (piano parts, originals, entry fees and accompanist fees) turned in no later than

December 1st. Should a student desire to perform at UIL Solo and Ensemble they will need to find and order a solo/ensemble from the UIL Prescribed Music List. Students electing NOT to participate in UIL Solo and Ensemble electing to only participate in the Recital are NOT required to select from the PML. Students in the Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band WILL be expected to attend the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest in February.

Students in the Wind Ensemble are required to participate in a small ensemble as well Symphonic and Concert Bands are strongly encouraged to participate in a small ensemble.

Grades will be issued as part of preparation for the Solo and Ensemble Recital hosted at Churchill Fulshear High School. Students seeking additional performance opportunities or letter jacket points should plan to attend UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest in February. ALL SOLOS AND ENSEMBLES NEED TO BE APPROVED BY A DIRECTOR.

INTERVIEWS/AUDITIONS

All students are required to audition for select performance ensembles. The band directors will determine audition requirements and directors will notify students of audition dates, requirements and results. Directors will serve as an evaluator during auditions. Audition material will reflect the director’s anticipated performance level for the students and will be based on prior learning and auditions may be live or recorded at the director’s discretion. ***Students will be re-evaluated periodically for participation in select performance ensembles as needed.***

LETTER JACKETS

SIX POINTS REQUIRED TO LETTER IN BAND/GUARD

YEARS OF PARTICIPATION <i>Awarded in March each year</i>	UIL COMPETITION <i>Not Full Band Accomplishments</i>	TMEA COMPETITION <i>Individual Achievements</i>
9 th Grade – 2 Points	1 ST Division Solo – 1 Point	Freshman Region – 1 Point
10 th Grade – 2 Points	1 st Division Ensemble – 1 Point	District Band – 1 Point
11 th Grade – 2 Points	1 st Division State Solo – 1 Point	Region Band/Orch – 2 Points
12 th Grade – 2 Points	1 st Division State Ens. – 2 Points	Area Band – 2 Points
		All State Band – 4 Points

COLOR GUARD AND WINTER GUARD

- 1 Point per Fall Semester
- 2 Points for Spring Semester – contingent on academic eligibility, no unexcused absences to rehearsals and performing at a minimum of three Winter Guard contests.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The CHARGER BAND will endeavor to provide as many opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills with a variety of offerings. Students can audition and/or apply for appointed officer positions. In this manner, students can not only serve their band program but also receive skills that they will be able to use in other school organizations, as well as in their future careers. Audition

criteria is selected at the discretion of the directors and is communicated directly to the students. The directors evaluate all candidates based on their performance during auditions as well as throughout the entire school year.

Student leaders are held to higher standards of performance and behavior than a general band student. They are expected to be positive role models for all band members at all times. Please see conduct expectation #1 pertaining to general conduct of all students as well as student leaders. All student leaders are leaders throughout the school year.

BAND BOOSTERS

The FULSHEAR CHARGER BAND BOOSTERS exist to assist the directors in reaching the band program goals. The boosters usually meet on the second Tuesday of every month. The meetings are open to the public and begin at 7:00pm in the Churchill Fulshear High School band hall. Support activities provided by the boosters include serving meals to students before games, providing chaperones for trips, providing chaperones for social events, financing social events, providing parents to assist in various aspects of the marching band production, fundraising initiatives and numerous other activities. There is a place for EVERY parent in this organization! Your service is not only encouraged, but also needed. For more information, please visit our web site at www.CHARGERBAND.org.

BAND BANQUET

A band banquet is held each spring near the end of the school year. This special evening brings the band together one last time to review the year and to wish the seniors a fond farewell. The location may vary from year to year, but it will usually be held either on campus or a banquet hall and is considered a formal evening. Tickets are sold to cover the cost of the dinner, decorations, etc.

DISTRICT-OWNED INSTRUMENTS

LCISD will provide a limited number of instruments for student use. These instruments include highly expensive instruments such as the bassoon, oboe, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, French Horn, euphonium, tuba and general percussion equipment. This equipment is generally purchased by the school district for student use because of its extremely high expense. Thus, all district owned equipment must be handled with optimum care. Students failing to take proper care of their school-issued instrument may lose the privilege to use such instruments.

The following is a list of general procedures for district-owned instruments:

- Order of distribution will be done based on chair order.
- LCISD does not provide insurance for individually owned or district-owned equipment. Students will be held responsible for all district-owned instruments issued to them. This responsibility will include fire, theft, accidental damage, abuse and general maintenance not incurred through normal use.
- Each instrument will be issued in good playing condition. Each issued instrument will be checked and cleaned prior to issue. Students are expected to maintain their instrument.
- The band member is financially responsible for all equipment and/or materials checked out to him or her.
- All equipment and materials must be kept in their proper storage location when not in use.

SPECIAL NOTE: District-owned instruments are not to be treated as “free” instruments. Basic supplies must still be purchased and repairs must still be made just like personally owned instruments. Please strive to treat these instruments as if they were your own.