

Central High School  
Band Hand Book  
2009–2010

*Central High School*

*5321 Jacksboro Pike*

*Knoxville, TN 37918*

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# Commitment to Excellence

PRIDE AND TRADITION

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## Letter from the Director

Dear Central Band Students and Band Boosters,

Welcome to the award-winning Central High School Band family. The 2009-2010 school year gives us all the opportunity to carry on the outstanding tradition of excellence that is the trademark of the Central Band program. Congratulations on your decision to be a part of one of the finest organizations in the state. The Central Band provides musical activities that encompass a wide scope and allows everyone a chance to reach their highest possible level of Performance.

The fall season emphasizes the excellence of our outstanding Marching Band and Color Guard. Our performances will include home football games, away football games, parades, and several marching competitions. The Marching Band may travel in state and out-of-state to marching competitions.

The Central Band program features a concert organization that has a distinguished reputation for musical excellence through concert and festival participation. The Concert Band and Symphonic Band will present several public concerts as well as performing at the ETSBOA Concert Festival. In 2006, the Central High School Symphonic Band performed at the TMEA State Music Festival, as well as the Southern Division NBA/CBDNA Convention. In 2007, both the Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band were named NATIONAL HONOR WIND BANDS.

In addition to ensemble successes, members of the Central Band will distinguish themselves through individual efforts in All-East, All-State, Solo and Ensemble Festival, and various honor band activities.

Students in the Central Band Program also have the opportunity to participate in the Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Band, Knoxville Symphony Youth Orchestra, Colorguard/Winterguard, as well as various Chamber Ensembles.

The Central Color/Winterguard program offers activities to showcase the talents of our Color Guard members during the fall and spring months. These groups will compete and travel to local, regional, and national events. In 2008, the winterguard received a GOLD MEDAL at the Carolina Indoor Performance Association Championships. In 2009, the CHS Winterguard earned a silver medal at the CIPA Championships.

Hard-working students, dedicated staff members, involved and active parents, and a supportive administration and community all combine to make it possible for the Central Band program to offer an outstanding array of musical opportunities. Our students are expected to set and reach high goals for themselves and their program. The rewards of meeting those expectations are immeasurable in the development of our students as well-rounded human beings. Members of the Central Band will develop musically, emotionally, mentally, socially, and physically during their time in the program.

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents, administrators, staff, and directors as a convenient source of information regarding the varied aspects of the Central Band program. We have tried to cover as thoroughly as possible every facet of the program. However, unforeseen circumstances from time to time may necessitate changes or additions without notice at the discretion of the Band Director.

Band members will be expected to understand and abide by all rules and regulations set forth in this handbook. Students and parents should read this handbook carefully and sign and return the agreement forms located on at the end of the handbook.

**Remember -- to have a great band, we must all maintain a strong commitment to excellence!**  
Sincerely,

Joshua S. Jackson, Director of Bands

## Tradition and Philosophy

*"Success is a journey -- not a destination."*

The Central High School Band has developed a proud tradition of excellence since the band was created in the 1930s. Upon becoming a member of this organization, you assume the responsibility of continuing this tradition that has been established through the dedication, devotion, and hard work of those who came before you.

The Central High School Band program is dedicated to providing educational opportunities for its students in the performing arts. All educational activities will take place in an atmosphere, which promotes social and artistic development through creative and innovative programs; each based upon high quality leadership and instruction. In addition, it is our belief that the process is just as important as the product. Therefore, the emphasis is on the development and growth of each individual student, not on specific performances.

This marching season the Central Band will join Central High School in celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> year of CHS. Please join us each football game for special activities. Keep informed by viewing CHS band webpage regularly.

### Attitude

Those students who have a positive mental attitude, regardless of their individual skills, will always have a place in the Central High School Band. Regardless of your ability, if your attitude is not positive, if you are not doing your best to make the group successful, you **should not** be a part of this organization. Students who do not project an attitude that is positive and cooperative will be given the opportunity either to change their personal perspective or leave the organization.

Those who have pride in themselves will usually project a positive mental attitude. Characteristics of a positive mental attitude include a generally cheerful outlook towards rehearsals and performances, cooperation in the preparation and maintenance of equipment and facilities, and an eagerness to do whatever is necessary to be successful. In short, the total band member is someone who is always willing to give his or her best for the good of the organization.

## Organization Membership Requirements

### Marching Band

To be a member of the Central High Marching Band, the student must be enrolled in the proper band class. The student is **required** to attend band camp and summer rehearsals. The directors must approve exceptions in advance. Each member must meet all financial obligations and must attend all rehearsals and performances (contests, parades, and football games). Colorguard should also sign up for a fall band class.

### Concert Band

The Concert Band offers instrumentalists the opportunity to perform developmentally appropriate graded literature. Students focus on technique and tone development. Fundamentals and developing quality musicianship is the main focus of this ensemble. The Concert Band performs by itself and occasionally in conjunction with the other performing organizations (jazz band/symphonic band). The concert band performs one Concert in the Fall semester and two or three concerts in the Spring Semester. Concert band is primarily made up of freshman and sophomore instrumentalists and performs grade III and IV literature. *Prerequisite:* The student must be enrolled in the proper band class and meet instructor approval.

### **Symphonic Band**

The Symphonic Band at Central is reserved for the most advanced musicians at the school. This ensemble performs high quality band literature to educate students in different forms of music. Students in this ensemble often can attain scholarships to major colleges and universities. The main focus of this ensemble is to grow and nurture an understanding of ALL types of music. The Symphonic Band will perform two concerts in the Fall Semester and three concerts in the Spring Semester. Students in this ensemble are expected to audition for clinic bands, pursue private lessons, and participate in other musical events outside of the school day.

### **Jazz Band**

The jazz course will allow the student to become familiar with the development of jazz, beginning with the blues and continuing through ragtime, swing, bebop, and modern jazz. Improvisation will be covered at length, and students will become adept at performing creatively on their instrument. *Prerequisite:* Current enrollment in a school performing group (band classes/percussion class) and audition/recommendation of the Instructor. Piano, guitar, and bass are included in the course based on audition/recommendation of the instructor.

### **Advanced Placement (AP) Theory**

This course is designed to familiarize students with basic knowledge of music theory for a freshman in college. Theory students will have opportunities for creative composition. The course also presents inversion of triads, modulation, modes, and harmonization style of J. S. Bach, as well as various other techniques and music appreciation. *Prerequisite:* Permission of the Instructor.

### **Percussion Techniques**

This course is designed to provide an advanced study in the area of percussion. Students will obtain information and hands on experience in the areas of percussion technique, literature, and instrument maintenance and repair. This course is designed to enhance the student's individual musical development in the area of percussion. Students will perform with the Concert and/or Symphonic Bands, perform with percussion ensembles, and will study world music and respective cultures. *Prerequisite:* Audition and/or permission of the Instructor. ALL PERCUSSION STUDENTS MUST BE ENROLLED IN INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE CLASS, NOT BAND CLASS IN THE SPRING. **See Appendix for Percussion Curriculum.**

### **Color/Winter Guard**

The Color/Winter Guard is open to any student who has a strong desire to dance, enjoys theatrics, and wants to learn flag, rifle, and saber technique. Although not a stand alone class, students meet year-round, in the fall serving as the visual addition to marching band and in the spring performing as its own entity through winter guard competitions. Members of the Color/Winter guard who play an instrument also may participate in the other groups. Students enrolled in the color guard class are required to be in the Marching Band in the fall, as well as participate in the winter guard during the spring. *Prerequisite:* Audition/Consent of the instructor.

## **Individual Membership Requirements**

The Knox County School System provides basic support for the band programs. The major responsibility for meeting the financial needs of our band program rests on the shoulders of the band members and band boosters. Fundraising events are scheduled throughout the year to help each student offset the costs for band activities and fees. Those who need to make special arrangements will need to speak with the Directors on an individual basis. No one will be denied participation because of financial hardship, but everyone must help out.

### **Band Fees**

Each year the Directors create a budget of the operating expenses for the following school year. These expenses are paid through fees paid by the students and through fundraising activities. Please see Appendix for detailed explanation and rationale of all band fees and program costs that are covered by these fees. **Also see Fee Payment Agreement and Medical form must be returned to and office before band camp.**

### **School Instrument and Equipment Use**

Most band members are expected to provide their own instruments. In special cases, such as percussion, color guard, low brass, and other larger instruments, school-owned equipment may be available to rent. School-owned instruments and equipment become the responsibility of the student to whom they are assigned. Any damage other than normal wear and tear will be repaired at the student's expense. Individual instruments always must be maintained in top playing condition. Before taking a rental instrument in for repairs, show it to a Director. An instrument rental form will be issued in class and records kept on the CHARMS Music System. School Instruments may be rented for \$25 per school year.

### **Financial Assistance**

Students and parents with financial difficulties will need to complete and turn in the Free and/ or Reduced lunch form. Students on fee waiver have general band fees covered, but may be required to pay for some auxiliary items. ALL STUDENTS who wish to participate in the Central Band program will have the opportunity to do so.

### **Band Trips and Expenses**

The Central High School Band travels frequently during the year, in county, out-of-county, and out-of-state. In a typical year there may be at least one overnight trip.

All band trip expenses (buses and hotel) must be paid at least two weeks prior to the trip, either through fundraising or cash payment. Band members will be notified of all trip costs as early in the season as possible. Efforts will be made to have all trip information and costs solidified by September.

In the event of an overnight trip, an itinerary will be distributed to all students and parents via the CHARMS system. All county, school, and band rules are in effect for the duration of any trip. We are representing the Central High School Band, Central High School, and Knoxville, TN.

*\*\*\*Note: If all student trip expenses are not paid by the two-week deadline, the Directors reserve the right to cancel any band trip at that time.*

**STUDENTS WHO HAVE NOT TURNED IN A TRAVEL FORM WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TRAVEL WITH THE BAND. PLEASE TURN IN FORMS EARLY.**

## Practice Tips and Techniques

### Warm-up

This part of your daily playing is the most important. Therefore, use it with great care.

1. Don't play in the upper register
2. Don't play too low at first
3. Don't play too loud
4. Don't play too soft

Play in your middle register, mezzo-forte, and gradually extend the register and dynamics as your lips and embouchure begin to respond with agility and flexibility.

### Techniques

Strive to master all phases of your instrument, not just one part or the part that you already do well. Work for progress and results.

The four big "DO's" for focus during a practice session:

1. DO work to increase breathing capacity and support.
2. DO work to develop embouchure strength and flexibility.
3. DO work to increase strength and speed of fingers.
4. DO work to increase tonguing abilities.

Each day...

- attempt to strengthen your breathing technique and gain better control
- attempt to strengthen your lip muscles to gain endurance in your playing (long tones are best)
- attempt to strengthen your finger muscles for better dexterity and control
- attempt to strengthen your tonguing muscles to gain control, evenness, and speed (in this order, never speed first)

### Other Phases (to be covered as needed)

1. Range (especially brass)
2. Altissimo exercises (clarinets, saxes)
3. Scales and arpeggios
4. Interval studies, 3rds, 4ths, 5ths
5. Lip slurs (brass)
6. Chords (broken arpeggios)
7. Single/double/triple tonguing
8. Flexibility exercises
9. Long tones (crescendo and decrescendo)
10. Sight reading skills

**\*\*\*\* Students enrolled in the percussion Techniques class will receive a detailed handbook tailored for a four-year percussion curriculum.**

### Private Lessons

Private lessons are the key to developing an outstanding musical organization. Students who study their instruments privately with a professional, show rapid improvement in individual musicianship. As these students improve, their excitement towards practicing increases, they improve further and become a stronger contributor to the overall success of the band. The Directors will assist you, if needed, in selecting a private instructor. Private lessons are the key to excellence on your instrument, so start as soon as possible. It would be nice to have at least 75% of our students taking private lessons. Extra Credit is give to those students who take regular (weekly) private lessons.

## Student Leadership

### Drum Major

The Drum Major is the student leader and field conductor for the marching band. The Band Director will conduct tryouts for this position each spring. Judges will be brought in to evaluate candidates in several different areas. Drum Major candidates must have completed at least ONE year in the Central High School Marching Band and be in good academic standing at school. Of all leadership positions, this position requires the most dedication, time, and dependability.

### Section Leaders/Squad Leaders

At the conclusion of each school year, students interested in being a section leader will be asked to fill out an application and interview with the Band Director and Assistant Band Director. Section Leaders can be sophomores, juniors, or seniors. Usually upperclassmen have the advantage, but often younger students show great potential to be leaders. Some sections may also have more than one Section Leader to carry out the assigned duties.

Section Leaders will be responsible for rehearsing their individual sections, maintaining accurate attendance records, making phone calls to section members, scheduling some alternative sectionals, developing strong morale, teaching fundamentals, and most importantly maintaining a positive attitude. Section Leaders also are responsible for maintaining a good working relationship with the Band Director as well as attending specially called meetings for those in band leadership roles. Section Leaders must also relay messages to/from the Drum Major and carry out any special requests.

There may also be Leadership training seminars students will be required to attend throughout the year.

### Guard Captain/Drum Captain

These leaders are selected by the Directors and staff on the basis of musical/marching ability, service, dedication, loyalty, and leadership qualities. In some cases, no colorguard or drum captain will be assigned.

All student leaders will abide by the policies of the Band, Directors, and School and will expect fellow band members to do the same. Any time you question or disagree with specific instructions from a student leader, please avoid confrontation and discuss the problem with the Drum Major or ultimately the Directors at your earliest convenience. Student leaders **cannot** give you permission to miss a rehearsal or performance, be tardy, or leave early. Student leaders should be positive and work in the best interest of the Central Band at all times.

## Administrative

### Rehearsal Schedule

The Director will give a rehearsal schedule to the students. Also, booster meetings are an excellent opportunity for parents to stay current on rehearsal schedules. A typical Central Band calendar can be found in the Appendix. Updated/Interactive calendars are made available on the CHARMS system.

### Band Staff

Paid professionals, technical assistants, and guest artists are a vital part of the band program. Without their help the Central Band would not be able to achieve the standards to which we aspire. They must have the respect of all students and parents. Staff members are chosen by the Directors and are directly responsible to them. Students should give these staff members the same respect they would give any member of the faculty. Any problems should be brought directly to the Directors. ***Do not confront the staff member directly.***

## Grading Policies

To improve the assessment procedures and the instruction of our students, the Central Band program will use the assessment system described below. A general rubric is provided below, but may be altered each semester. This assessment will include three main elements on which a student's grade will be based. They are:

**PERFORMANCE SKILLS (35%)** -- Students will perform regularly for the Directors. Students can expect to be pulled from band class to play prepared and unprepared excerpts. Exercises, method books, band music, and sight-reading will be used to evaluate a student's progress. Evaluation will be based on tone quality, intonation, technique, phrasing, articulation, and music reading. Evaluation will also be based on effort shown during class, musical and equipment preparedness, and a positive attitude toward the learning environment.

**PERFORMANCES (30%) and REHEARSALS (20%)** -- Students will be required to attend all performances, concerts, and competitions relating to the band class and/or marching band. Students will be required to attend all rehearsals relating to marching band and special rehearsals relating to concert band. Two weeks notice must be given and approved by the Directors to be excused from a performance or rehearsal. To clarify what is and is not an excusable absence, see page 10 (Rehearsal and performance attendance policies). Just because a student submits an excuse form DOES NOT mean they will be considered excused. **Students who arrive tardy(within the first 10 minutes of a call time) will lose 10 points off of their grade for that performance/rehearsal. Students arriving after the first 10 minutes are subject to even greater penalties at the discretion of the director.**

**FINAL EXAMINATION (15%)** -- Students will take a cumulative final examination that contributes to the overall class grade. The test in the instrumental music classes is assigned by Knox County Schools.

### **COLORGUARD/WINTERGUARD GRADING POLICY**

The grade in this class will be determined by a number of factors. Homework assignments, quizzes, and tests make up a large portion of the grade. However, attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory. This is not optional, because everyone's attendance is vital to the success of the program. Over the course of the semester, you will be required to keep all materials that are handed out in a notebook. This notebook will be collected at the end of the semester for grading. Colorguard students must ALSO play instruments when the season ends. Students with no instrumental background will be assigned to particular instruments.

Below are more detailed descriptions of each grading component and the points for the component.

**ATTENDANCE** --Attendance in class is not optional. You are required to be present every day in order to achieve an A for the course. In the case of an excused absence, you will be responsible for learning missed work and for bringing the teacher a written excuse. (A written excuse for a missed class is school policy.) Tardiness is not acceptable. For every absence from class, you lose 10 points from the attendance category. For every day tardy you lose 5 points.

**PROJECTS/NOTEBOOKS** --Each student will be required to design a Winter Guard show from start to finish. This includes selecting the music, designing the concept complete with tarp and silk design (draw pictures), and explaining how these will be used in the production. Staging issues also should be discussed. The design and show length should fall within the parameters of WGI rules, which will be discussed in class. Everyone will be required to write work and teach it to the rest of the class as if it were a real teaching situation. Upperclassmen will be required to write weapon work. Everyone must write dance and flag. This work can be based on your past experiences and will be used to help increase everyone's vocabulary base as well as ability to teach and clean work.

**Notebooks-** Everything handed out throughout the course of the semester should be kept in your notebook. When you present your notebook, there should be a table of contents. You will be provided with a list of everything that should be included. However, you must include some additional materials that will display to the instructors what you learned in the class.

## COLORGUARD REQUIREMENTS

**SPIN QUIZZES** --Periodically quizzes covering the dance, rifle, saber, and flag work taught in class and at rehearsals will be given. You are responsible for knowing the work and its checkpoints. If there are any questions concerning the work, please ask an instructor or one of the upperclassmen.

**PERFORMANCES** --Once again, performances are not optional. You must be present at every performance or risk a severe grade penalty. Tardiness will not be tolerated for performances. Arrive early with your equipment and appropriate uniform and materials.

**VOCABULARY QUIZZES** Throughout the course of the semester you will be taught appropriate vocabulary and terminology used in Colorguard. Any handouts must be kept as part of your notebook. The terms you will be required to know, as well as their definitions, will be presented to you in class.

**EQUIPMENT** --You must have all equipment (flag, rifle, sabre) for class and rehearsal each day. If not, you cannot be given full credit for your participation in class. All students are required to purchase black guard/weightlifting gloves for use during equipment work. Each student will also be responsible for purchasing their own electrical tape to use in taping flags. You should purchase either white or black. Also, part of the equipment grade is your dress attire for class. Students should dress within the school dress code but also wear clothing that allows them to move and fully participate in class. If the clothing restricts or does not allow you to do something the instructor asks of you, it is inappropriate for class. NO platform shoes, heels, blue jeans, etc.

**FINAL EXAMINATION** -Students will be assessed on a cumulative Final Examination.

### **Classroom Procedures**

- All students will be inside the band room before the tardy bell sounds. At **three** minutes after the bell, all students will be in their seat, with instrument, stand, music, **notebook and pencil**. There will be **silence** in the classroom when the conductor steps on the podium.
- Warm-up is a crucial time in each rehearsal. This is when we focus on the fundamentals of our playing so that we may improve both as a group and as individuals.
- Brass players should have all necessary mutes and valve oil ready. Not being prepared in class will result in a tardy.
- Reed players should have at least one spare reed at their seat during rehearsal. Ideally, you should have four to five good reeds that you rotate from day to day. Your reeds will last longer, and you will get better play from them if you do not use the same reed all the time.
- Percussionists should each have a pair of concert snare drum sticks, mallets, and timpani sticks during concert band class. During marching band or percussion ensemble class, make sure you have all of the equipment needed to perform on your assigned instrument.
- Cases should be left in the instrument storage room. They are unnecessary obstructions in the rehearsal area.
- Color Guard should have flags, rifles, sabers, gloves and appropriate dance/movement attire when they come to class.
- Percussion equipment is to be put away at the conclusion of rehearsal unless another band class is to follow that uses the same equipment.
- At the end of rehearsal, make sure you put all of your equipment away. Instruments should be put back into your locker in the instrument storage room until it is time to take them home for practice.

- Talking during rehearsals should be kept to a minimum. Any necessary talking should be about the music we are studying and there should never be a distraction to the conductor or other students. When the conductor is on the podium, there is no talking. When the conductor steps off the podium, you may talk quietly if at all necessary.
- Problems of an individual nature (music missing, instrument problem, etc.) should not take class time. These issues should be dealt with before school or after school. The appropriate request forms should be filled out in order to attain music or assistance.
- Students are not to complete homework from other classes during band. These students will be assessed a zero for their daily grade that period.
- No Food or Drink or drink containers will be allowed in the bandroom at any time. These items will be taken and thrown away by a director without any questions asked.

### **Rehearsal and Performance Attendance**

Band practices and performances are **mandatory**. Any request for an exception must be submitted in writing and approved by the Directors two weeks in advance of the conflicting date, except in emergencies. Work is not an acceptable excuse for missing any band event; our schedule is always announced far enough in advance to avoid conflicts. Parents, please make every effort to schedule regular medical appointments around the band's schedule whenever possible.

If a change of schedule is necessary, students will be given **sufficient** notice when possible.

Students are responsible for arriving at each rehearsal and performance on time and properly prepared (properly dressed, instrument ready, music ready). Parents are urged to see that their children take this responsibility seriously.

#### ***Excusable absences are:***

- Sick from school
- Death in the family
- Religious Holiday

#### ***Inexcusable absences are:***

- Driving test
- Homework (You must learn to manage your time well.)
- Attending a rock concert or sporting event
- Birthday
- Work
- Trips when two weeks notice is not given (For example, you know you are going to be at a wedding, and you don't tell us until the day before you leave.)
- Didn't have a ride (Your section leader can help you find a carpool within the band.)

**The excuse form is located in the Handbook Appendix.**

**Since we will be learning new material for each and every performance, students who do not attend the weekly rehearsals after school may NOT be allowed to march in the Friday and Saturday performances.**

## **Uniform Information**

A uniform is a complete outfit and will be worn in its entirety or not at all...buttons buttoned, zippers zipped, etc. The uniform is a symbol of pride and dignity to many people. Treat it with the utmost respect at all times.

**MARCHING/COLOR GUARD**-Marching band uniforms will be issued by the chairman of the uniform committee and box parents. Guard uniforms and the guard parent representative will handle accessories. Uniform fitting will take place during the summer and at band camp. The uniforms (including hat) are owned by the band and will be kept at school in the uniform room. Uniforms are checked out prior to each performance and returned after each performance. Band members are responsible for the care of their uniforms. The band fee covers a specific number of cleanings of the marching uniform. That member will pay for any cleaning or repairs due to abuse of the uniform by a band member.

The member is responsible for his/her black socks and Central Show Shirt. It is the responsibility of the member to label his/her shoes, keep them clean, and make sure they are on the cart or with their belongings. Any band member who loses, damages, wears out, or outgrows items they own must replace them at their own expense. Black band shoes are not to be kept lying around the bandroom.

Members will arrive in time to put the uniform on before warm ups and upon returning will take the time to put it in its proper place. Help the box parents who are trying to help you by putting your uniform on the hanger properly.

UNIFORM FEES ARE REQUIRED OF ALL BAND MEMBERS THIS YEAR. PLEASE SEE FEE AGREEMENT PAGE FOR SPECIFICS.

## **CONCERT ATTIRE**

Students will wear "concert dress attire" for all concerts held with the Concert, Symphonic, and Percussion aspects of the program. Concert Dress is assigned as followed.

**Men**-Black Pants, White Tuxedo Shirt, black bow-tie, black socks, and black dress shoes (black marching shoes will work in some cases.)

**Women**-Long Black Skirt or Black Dress pants, with a white or black blouse/top, please avoid spaghetti/tank. Skirts must be long enough to reach the calf when sitting. Dress shoes must also be worn. Any Lady not wearing appropriate attire will be asked to change/leave. Clothing options may change for ladies if stock concert dresses come available.

## **Inspections**

There could be uniform and instrument inspections prior to each uniformed performance. These are run by the box parents, Booster Club President and Vice President with assistance from section leaders. All problems noted during inspection will be reported to the Directors, who will determine whether the student will be allowed to perform.

## **Instrument Care**

Remember that horseplay can cause damage to instruments and equipment. Be careful with your own instrument; place it out of harm's way if you must put it down, and never play around with or play on anyone else's instrument. Those students violating this rule will be warned on first occasion and then removed from the performance event upon the second warning.

Brass instruments are not to rest their instrument on asphalt or to leave it standing on its bell. This damages the instruments and allows them to be knocked over easily. Students will be asked to repair any instruments that are damaged as a result.

### **General Band Rules**

1. Tennis shoes and socks MUST BE worn at all marching rehearsals.
2. Chewing gum is NOT PERMITTED during any rehearsal.
3. A band member must RESPECT his/her uniform at all times.
4. There will be NO HAZING of rookies allowed.
5. Be in your seat, warmed up, and ready to begin ON TIME.
6. Insubordination WILL NOT be tolerated.
7. RESPECT other peoples' property.
8. Public display of affection IS NOT allowed while on "band time." Remember that this is NOT a date.
9. A band member will wear no jewelry, fingernail polish, or excessive make-up while in uniform. Leave expensive jewelry at home.
10. NEVER disrespect another band or its members -- EVER!
11. Remember to always CHEER for the other bands.
12. Show RESPECT to directors, administrators, teachers, band staff, and parents at all times.
13. Keep your language CLEAN! You never know who might be listening.
14. Remember that you are a CLASS ACT. Do not do anything that would have to be explained. Always conduct yourselves as ladies and gentlemen.
15. Food and drink will NOT be permitted into the bandroom. Water or drink containers of any kind will NOT be allowed in the bandroom at ANY TIME. This will result in a write up from band directors.

### **Bus Captains/Bus Warm-Up Captains**

For each trip, Bus Captains and Warm-up Captains will be assigned to each bus. Bus Captains and Warm-Up Captains will be those members of the band who have exemplified good leadership in the week or weeks leading up to the trip. This person is responsible for setting a good example for all other members of the organization to follow. Each week, a new Bus Captain will be chosen. The responsibility of the Bus Captain is to make the job of the bus driver and parent chaperones easier. Bus Captains will take roll, quiet down the bus, show respect for others, make announcements, etc. at the Director's discretion.

Warm-up Captains will be chosen from the brass section to warm up the brass section and other winds in basic breathing exercises. They will be given a schedule before the trip of the specific procedure for the trip. Warm-Up Captains will also change from week to week. Our goal is to establish good leadership and respect throughout the band, not just from a select few.

### **Standards for Behavior on Buses**

1. Each bus will have one or more chaperones, bus captains, and warm-up captains.
2. Chaperones should check over each bus before anything is loaded and relay any problems or damage to the driver and band director.
3. Students must ride the bus to which you are assigned. Do not change buses!
4. Students are not to put anything on or under a bus until instructed to do so.
5. Roll must be checked before the bus moves and after every stop at which anyone gets off.
6. The bus driver must be treated with respect. Different drivers have different standards. Whatever the driver says goes.
7. Nothing is to protrude outside the bus windows (heads, arms, instruments, etc), nor should any item ever be thrown or dropped out of a window.

8. Normal conversation is appropriate; shouting or screaming is not. Singing may or may not be OK depending on the driver, content, and musicality. Good singing might be acceptable; bad singing never is.
9. Radios are not permitted on school buses. On longer trips involving charter buses, radios with headphones are generally OK as long as no one hears them besides the person wearing them.
10. Chaperones may reassign seats if they deem it necessary; students may also be assigned to a different bus at any time at the Directors' discretion.
11. To avoid problems, school bus windows stay up as we enter or leave another school campus.
12. All students are to keep the bus clean at all times. At the end of a trip, every student should check the area where he/she was sitting, including the floor and overhead storage. The bus captain will remain on the bus to ensure that it is left in proper condition and to see that any problems are corrected.
13. Public display of affection between students is not allowed on any bus at any time.
14. Be courteous, do what chaperones ask, and thank the drivers and chaperones when we return.
15. The Directors will ride different buses over the course of the year.
16. Students are not permitted to change out of uniform unless instructed to do so by the Directors. NO EXCEPTIONS!

### **Band Traveling Rules**

*All school rules will be strictly enforced. Any infraction of these rules will be dealt with by the Directors and school administration.*

1. Drinking alcoholic beverages and taking non-prescription drugs will not be tolerated. Violators will be dismissed from the band and will be subject to administrative action.
2. No smoking, chewing or dipping of tobacco.
3. Band members are not permitted in others' rooms after hours. No unauthorized persons are allowed to visit.
4. Students are expected to behave properly at all times in the hotel. Anyone deemed guilty of gross misbehavior will be dealt with by the Directors and may be sent home.
5. Parents and students will be responsible for any property damage and lost room keys.
6. Shirts and shoes are to be worn at all times.
7. Rooms are to be locked at all times.
8. Courtesy is expected in any dining facility. Other groups use these facilities as well. Don't forget common courtesy.
9. No food, glasses, dishes, or signs are to be taken from any dining facility.
10. Please refrain from the playing of instruments in your room. Also, no loud TV, radio, or other noise.
11. No one is allowed to leave the hotel premises without permission from the Directors. Any student found doing so would be dealt with severely.
12. Follow all instructions of Directors and chaperones at all times. If you don't understand, ask for clarification.
13. Prescription drugs should be turned over to band directors, who will give them to a chaperone. Only a chaperone will administer prescription drugs.

**REMEMBER:** Young adults do not roughhouse or damage property. As Central Band members you reflect not only the values you learn at CHS, but those of your community as well. The Band Directors reserve the right to dismiss and send home any student who disobeys the rules and whose general conduct and attitude towards the trip and its participants is determined to be detrimental to the rest of the group.

**BAND MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO BE AT THE RIGHT PLACE, AT THE RIGHT TIME, WITH THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT -- READY TO GO!!! IF NOT, THEY MIGHT BE LEFT BEHIND!!!**

### **Football Game Procedures**

1. Home Football games will be played at the Central High School stadium.
2. Band report time will be posted for each game and are usually contained in the newsletter/CHARMS
3. Students will check out their uniform for each performance.
4. Woodwind cases and ponchos will be taken into the stadium when there is a threat of rain.
5. Plumes will be issued before a show and picked up after the performance.
6. All band instruments and equipment must be sparkling and ready for inspection.
7. No band member is permitted to leave in advance of group dismissal unless excused by the Directors. (A note from parents is needed.)
8. While seated in the stands, only band members are allowed in the ranks.
9. While seated in the stands, the band will always sit in sections. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!
10. Attention should be given to the Band Directors or Drum Major when they are standing in front of the band.
11. We will play only as a group while in the stands. Solo performance is strictly forbidden. However, sections are encouraged to work up brief musical selections to aid in the support of group spirit. These "cheers" must be approved prior to the start of the game.
12. No inappropriate cheers are allowed.
13. Musicians should avoid jumping when the team scores a touchdown. We appreciate the enthusiasm, but instruments may become damaged in the stands.
14. To move in an organized fashion we must be able to give instructions in a rapid manner. Everyone will listen to the Directors, Staff, and Drum Major when instructions are given.
15. Groups will be assigned on a rotating basis to help load for trips and to clean the band room after games and trips.
16. The band will march to the stadium as a unit.

### **Contests and Festivals**

Contests, festivals, and other adjudicated activities are important features of the Central Band program. Through these activities we obtain valuable feedback about our progress as individuals and as a program. Although we never "live or die" by any one judge's or panel's opinion of our performance, it is important that we learn the value of giving maximum effort and standing by the results as our best possible effort that day.

Competitive performances are packed with emotion. Because of the amount of time, work, and discipline required to produce award-winning performances, we develop great camaraderie within the organization. We share hardship, discomfort, fatigue, oppressive heat, cold, long bus rides, disappointment, tears, success and joy. With these emotions comes a high level of tension, which can cause students to react in an immature manner. We learn to avoid these pitfalls and to channel our energy and attention toward the goal of performance excellence and the ultimate success that will follow.

When scores are announced, the Central Band will stand with silent pride and graciously accept the results, regardless of outcome. We show our appreciation and respect for those who have earned the right to score ahead of us, and we gracefully accept our own successes.

We will come in first when we earn it through performance. Until then, we know that winning occurs when we have endured the hardships, taken the risk of competing, and done our best in our "commitment to excellence."

The band's image is built on the behavior and performance of each individual. Our public reputation is based upon our appearance, our actions, and our projection of pride. It is the responsibility of each band member to insure that we present the best possible image at all times.

### **Solos and Ensembles Festival**

Solos and Ensembles festival is held each year in February. This event gives students an opportunity to excel individually or in small groups. Students may select their own music, or Directors may assist in the selection process. There is an entry fee assessed for each event entered. Students improve and grow even more through participation in such activities.

### **Honor Bands**

Auditions are held each year for the Tennessee All-East Bands. It is the expectation of the Directors that student participating in the Symphonic Band will audition each year. Registration is held in the fall, auditions in January, and the All-East Clinic being held in February.

Other "Honor Band" opportunities may be available to band members during the school year, either based on audition or application.

### **Criteria for Earning Letters and Bars**

#### ***Letter plus two Bars***

- Four semesters of band with a passing grade
- Participate in two band camps
- Participate in two marching band seasons
- Participate in two concert seasons

#### ***Letter plus one bar***

- Participate in band for four years without previously earning a letter or
- Any foreign exchange student completing:
  - Two continuous semesters of band with a passing grade
  - One marching band season and
  - One concert season

#### ***Additional Bars***

- One bar is given for each additional two semesters of band participation after receiving a band letter.

#### ***Color Guard Bar***

Participate in Marching Band Color Guard for two semesters and receive a band letter. An Additional Bar is given after each year of participation.

## **Band Boosters**

Parents are an important part of the Central Band program. Without the assistance and cooperation of band parents, it would not be possible to reach the level of success to which we aspire. Putting the band on the field and in the concert hall takes a great deal of effort. Please offer your time where you can. Get involved to provide the most positive experience possible for our children. Hopefully you will find this involvement fun and rewarding. It is thrilling to see our children improve and work toward their goals. You also will have the opportunity to meet a lot of nice people! There are many things parents can do.

### **Support Your Child**

- Attend performances
- Help your child make time for band
- Encourage your child to practice and study
- Get your child to rehearsals on time
- Notify the Directors if your child is to be absent or late for rehearsal or performance. This should be done in advance except in emergency situations.
- Promote a positive attitude
- Arrange for private lessons

### **Support the Directors and Staff**

Boosters support the band with finances and administrative tasks so that the Directors and their staff can focus on musical and academic content and performance standards.

### **Volunteer to Help**

- Attend Monthly Booster Meetings!! (Calendars and schedules are handed out)
- Serve on committees
- Chair a committee
- Serve on the Booster board
- Fit, sew, sort uniforms or flags
- Pack, move, build or repair equipment
- Provide, prepare or serve food
- Work football games
- Chaperone trips and contests

**Please see Appendix for listing of current Booster Board members along with phone numbers for use if you have questions. Also, please fill out the very important Volunteer Opportunities form.**

### **Chaperone Guidelines**

- Chaperones will be approved by the band director.
- Chaperones are to answer only to the band director and provide support for the director(s) on school trips.
- Chaperones ARE NOT disciplinarians on school buses, in the stadium, etc. unless the directors request their assistance.
- Chaperones are NOT to bring extra people with them on trips (kids, aunts, uncles). Buses are purchased based on the number of students attending the trip. Allowance is then made for one director and two chaperones per bus. Therefore, extra room for others is not available.
- Chaperones are to remain with students AT ALL TIMES.