

# **Lone Star High School Band**

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## **Band & Color Guard Handbook**

Directors:

Tim Golden, Melissa Lewis, Colin McKelroy, Brian Gill, Kevin Hanrahan,  
and Alexis Mendoza

**One Mission, One Nation**

# WELCOME TO THE LONE STAR H.S. BAND 2017 - 2018!

This handbook is provided to help you understand the rules and procedures under which this band program will operate. Please read this entire handbook carefully and make sure that you understand it in its entirety. Please e-mail or call if you have any questions.

As a member of the Lone Star High School Band, you are a part of a public performing group. That makes each one of us a very visible and important part of the Frisco community. The standards for The Lone Star High School Band are high and we embrace and celebrate that responsibility. Within this high school, you are a part of one of the largest student organizations on campus, and one of the most important and respected groups. As with all organizations, the success of the LSHS Band will depend on the loyalty, cooperation, and dedication of each and every member.

Loyalty is crucial to our band. It is demonstrated the following ways. First, by making up his/her mind to be a proud and contributing member; second, by giving the organization all he/she can in interest, effort, and attention; and finally, by observing and following the objectives and guidelines of the organization. This is a necessary part of any outstanding program.

Remember that your directors are always available for questions and/or assistance.

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# GENERAL BAND OBJECTIVES

## Educational Objectives

- To assist students in becoming responsible and successful members of society, able to produce both individually, and as a member of a group, and possessing the essential characteristics of integrity, dependability, and loyalty
- To develop music skills and attain a high level of musicianship
- To instill in each participating member the desire to succeed in his/her endeavors
- To provide aesthetic expression and outlets for creativity through music as an art form
- To educate the individual as to the importance of teamwork in all facets of life

## Cultural Objectives

- To develop and enlarge an appreciation of music through exposure to and performance of the best available symphonic, jazz, and marching band music

## Public Relations

- To represent the Frisco Independent School District in community, school, and University Interscholastic League events



# **I. Marching Band**

*Directors: Mr. Golden, Mrs. Lewis, and Mr. McKelroy  
Mr. Gill and Mr. Hanrahan (percussion)  
Mrs. Mendoza (color guard)*

The Lone Star High School Marching Band is made up of students from all four concert bands and the color guard. The LSHS Marching Band will maintain a long history of great traditions, pride, discipline and excellence. The band performs at every LSHS pep rally, varsity football games, selected marching contests, and community events. The marching band schedule is available on our website [www.lshsband.com](http://www.lshsband.com).

Marching Band students are eligible to receive a physical education waiver. All band students are required to be in marching band unless permission not to march is given by the director in advance of the season.

## **General Marching Requirements and Expectations**

All students who (1) play all music by memory for directors (2) attend all rehearsals, and (3) make a conscientious effort to improve will be considered to perform during the marching season. However, contest performances may be limited to those students who demonstrate the most advanced skills for performance.

Should a student miss a marching practice, an alternate could fill his/her place in the show. An "alternate" is simply a student who does not currently have a place on the field in a numbered position. Alternates may be worked back into the performance as places open or as it may be necessary to replace those who have difficulty fulfilling expectations. In this way, it is hoped that everyone will have ample opportunities to gain experience.

**Chain of Command:** In any large organization, it is important to have a leadership structure that is easy to understand. This structure allows the director to quickly and accurately convey information to a large number of people. On game day, the chain of command should be used for all questions and information concerning all aspects of the performance. The directors have far too many responsibilities on game days to be answering questions that could be answered by a student leader.

Order of chain (bottom to top):

1. Captains and officers
2. Drum Majors
3. Student Teacher/Field Tech.
- 4 Director

Selection of alternates may change at any time during the week. If a student is in "In School Suspension" (ISS) on the day of a football game and is to be in ISS on the following school day, he/she will not be permitted at the stadium according to FISD rules. Therefore, he/she will not participate with the band at the game or the contest on the following Saturday. If a student's last day of ISS falls on the day of a football game, he/she will be an alternate for the game and contest. Students placed in alternative school for any reason will become permanent alternates.

Students who are alternates at any given performance are an integral part of the performance and will perform or assist the directors and field crew with field equipment and organizational needs.. (Students placed in permanent alternate positions because of disciplinary action will not participate at any time in performance.)

Students that eat the game meal in the cafeteria must keep the area neat and clean up after themselves. Proper eating manners must be demonstrated. Food must not be thrown or played with. No loud talking will be tolerated. Do not take more food than you can eat. Band officers are to oversee the meal. Parents should be thanked and shown appreciation for providing this meal by demonstrating you have pride in your band. Everything we do including this meal must reflect excellence!

All band students at Lone Star High School are required to be in marching band. There are no exceptions for freshmen and only rare exceptions for upper classmen. The band director will have the final say in this decision.

### **Football Game Procedures**

The football game is viewed as a performance of the band program. Such a performance includes all aspects of the game from arrival to departure.

- Students will arrive at the set report time.
- Students will check out their uniform and dress correctly in a timely manner to be ready for inspection.
- Students will load and be prepared to travel at the set load time.
- Students will load the buses with all equipment needed for the performance.
- Inspection of all students will occur prior to boarding the buses.
- Upon arrival at the performance area, students will prepare equipment for unloading. Students will unload buses when instructed to do so by a chaperone or director. Students must be in full uniform excluding hat, gloves, and gauntlets.
- Students will report to the entrance formation for final inspection. Students will march in to a drum tap or cadence upon instruction from a drum major or director.
- Students will report to seating area. Students will remain standing at attention until all band members are ready to be seated. Students will sit when instructed by a drum major or director. Students must sit in assigned seats and remain in that seat at all times.
- Students will remain in the band seating section at all times during the game. Water will be provided by the band parent organization. Students will refrain from accepting food or drinks from parents, relatives, or friends.
- Students must keep their hat boxes and hats clean and empty. No food, candy, beverage, or additional items not approved of by the directors are allowed in hats or hat boxes.

- Students must keep their garment bags and uniform clean and empty. No food, candy, beverage, or additional items not approved of by the directors are allowed in garment bags.
- Students needing a restroom break must be accompanied by a chaperone. Restroom breaks will not be granted in the second quarter of a football game except in emergencies.
- Students will be expected to listen for and watch the directors and drum majors during the game. Students will need to be prepared to perform at all times.
- Students will refrain from playing their instruments on an individual basis. The band will perform as a group.
- At the appropriate time, the band will be dismissed from the stands for the half-time performance. At this time, the band must move quietly and efficiently to the appropriate area and put on jackets and plumes. Students will need to be focused on the directors and drum majors instructions.
- At the conclusion of the half-time performance, students will return to the stands and continue performing throughout the remainder of the game.
- During the game, only the band officers will go across to meet the other band.
- Upon return to the band hall, students will insure that all personal items, uniforms, and instruments are placed in the proper storage areas.
- Checking Students Out from a Football Game: Check out for a student from a football game is after the school song has been played at the conclusion of the game. So there is no confusion, leaving early for homework, birthday, or to see people that came into town, etc., is not acceptable. A note must be turned in one day in advance of the game to check out. Sign out is with the director by a parent only. (THIS SHOULD BE A RARE OCCURRENCE.)

## **II. Concert Bands**

*Prerequisite: Audition Only*

*Directors: Mr. Golden, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. McKelroy, Mr. Gill*

### **Wind Symphony (UIL VARSITY)**

In 2016 – 2017, the Wind Symphony is the varsity ensemble at Lone Star High School. Students will have the opportunity to continue their development at the most advanced levels. The Wind Symphony will perform as part of the marching band at all pep rallies, football games, parades, and marching competitions. Additional performances will be given periodically throughout the year at school, community, and UIL performances.

As a select organization, members will be expected to maintain the highest levels of responsibility and preparation. Members are also required to audition for the All-Region Band and perform a solo and an ensemble at the Solo and Ensemble Contest. Attendance at all out-of-school rehearsals and performances is required. Students in the top ensemble are expected to take private lessons on their instrument.

Students in LSHS band are expected to “double block” band unless prior permission is given by the director.

### **Symphonic Band (UIL Non-Varsity)**

Symphonic Band is the Non-Varsity ensemble at Lone Star. Students will have the opportunity to continue their development at an advanced level. The Symphonic Band will perform as part of the marching band at all pep rallies, football games, parades, and marching competitions. Additional performances will be given periodically throughout the year at school, community, and UIL performances.

Members will be expected to maintain a high level of responsibility and preparation. Members are also required to audition for the All-Region Band and perform a solo and/or an ensemble at the Solo and Ensemble Contest. Attendance at all out-of-school rehearsals and performances is required. Students are HIGHLY encouraged to take private lessons on their instrument.

Students in LSHS band are expected to “double block” band unless prior permission is given by the director.

## **Concert Band I (UIL Sub Non-Varsity A)**

Concert Band I is one of the Sub-Non-Varsity ensembles at Lone Star. Students will have the opportunity to continue their development at an advanced level. The Concert Band will perform as part of the marching band at all pep rallies, football games, parades, and marching competitions. Additional performances will be given periodically throughout the year at school, community, and festival performances.

Members will be expected to maintain a high level of responsibility and preparation. Members are also HIGHLY encouraged to audition for the All-Region Band and perform a solo and/or an ensemble at the Solo and Ensemble Contest. Attendance at all out-of-school rehearsals and performances is required. Students are encouraged to take private lessons.

Students in LSHS band are expected to “double block” band unless prior permission is given by the director.

## **Concert Band II (UIL Sub Non-Varsity B)**

Concert Band II is one of the Sub-Non-Varsity ensembles at Lone Star. Students will have the opportunity to continue their development at an advanced level. The Concert Band will perform as part of the marching band at all pep rallies, football games, parades, and marching competitions. Additional performances will be given periodically throughout the year at school, community, and festival performances.

Members will be expected to maintain a high level of responsibility and preparation. Members are also encouraged to audition for the All-Region Band and perform a solo and/or an ensemble at the Solo and Ensemble Contest, although these are not required. Attendance at all out-of-school rehearsals and performances is required. Students are encouraged to take private lessons.

Students in LSHS band are expected to “double block” band unless prior permission is given by the director.

***ALL ENSEMBLE ASSIGNMENTS ARE MADE BY THE DIRECTORS THROUGH AN AUDITION PROCESS EACH SPRING. PREVIOUS SERVICE AND MUSICAL ACHIEVEMENTS MAY BE CONSIDERED AS WELL AS THE AUDITION.***



### **III. Jazz Band**

*Prerequisite: Audition by Director*

*Directors: Mr. Golden, Mrs. Lewis, and Mr. McKelroy*

The LSHS Jazz Band begins after the conclusion of marching season. Rehearsals are held before and/or after school. The band performs a variety of jazz styles including swing, Latin, funk, and pop. The band performs regularly at concerts throughout the spring semester, and academic credit is given to participants in the jazz band. Jazz Band membership is open only to secondary students who are a part of a parent large ensemble band organization (marching and concert band) at LSHS. Jazz Band membership is open to students outside the band program only when there are no qualified band member candidates for keyboard, rhythm guitar, bass guitar, and/or drums.

### **IV. Percussion**

*Directors: Mr. Gill and Mr. Hanrahan*

The percussion students are members of marching band as well as one of the four concert bands. Students who are on the drumline must double block band in the fall. Other percussion students are expected to double block unless prior permission is given by the director.

Percussion has sectionals throughout the year including the summer. Students should coordinate their sectional attendance with Mr. Gill.

Percussion students are required to provide certain implements (mallets, sticks, stick bags, etc.) as determined by Mr. Gill.

Percussion students are subject to the \$50 per semester fee charged by the district for use of school owned instruments. (See section XXIII)

# **V. Color Guard**

*Prerequisite: Audition by Director*

*Director: Mrs. Mendoza*

The LSHS color guard is a class and performing organization at LSHS. The guard performs with the LSHS Marching Band in the fall, and performs as a Winterguard unit the rest of the year. Using rifles, sabers, props, and a wide assortment of flags, the guard provides a fantastic visual effect to the marching band show. During the spring, the guard competes on the NTCA Winter guard circuit. Students do not need prior band experience to be on the guard.

(The complete LSHS Color Guard Handbook is at the End of this document)

# VI. Absence Policy

WORK SCHEDULES, FAMILY TRIPS, and other activities must not interfere with the rehearsal and performance schedule that you are given at the beginning of the school year. Students who enroll in other school activities such as athletics, choir, drama, etc. need to plan ahead to avoid conflicts that cannot be resolved. Ask to receive a complete semester calendar from all your activities so that you can have the maximum amount of time to work out potential schedule conflicts. The band directors will work together with the other teachers, coaches, and directors of various activities to give each student every opportunity to be a part of other groups.

However, other groups, organizations, or businesses that may change schedules or make demands of students on short notice will not be allowed to interfere with long-scheduled rehearsals or performances of the band. School comes first.....non-school sponsored activities, teams, organizations, or jobs must not conflict in any way with the practice/performance schedule of the band. There will be no exceptions.

The Band is dependent on ALL of its members. Unlike most other classes where individuals are accountable only for their own success or failure, band students' success is, in large part, dependent on the full participation of all the members. The following attendance policies will affect the students' grades and chance to participate:

## Examples of Excused Absences

1. Illness
2. Death in the family
3. Emergency medical situations. Please schedule all medical appointments around rehearsals and concerts
4. All other circumstances considered as excused under FISD policy

## Examples of Unexcused Absences

1. Work
2. Forgetting
3. Homework/Project
4. Missed alarm clock
5. Any other reason not listed above as excused

**Important: All absences require a note and/or phone call from a parent to be considered excused. The directors have the final determination in whether or not an absence is excused. Only requests made in advance of the designated event will be considered.**

Absences may result in removal from an ensemble. Students who are consistently absent or tardy to marching band rehearsals may be reassigned as an alternate and subsequently will lose their marching spot. Students who miss a performance with an unexcused absence may be immediately moved to a lower concert band and/or reassigned as an alternate in marching band.

These attendance policies are designed to help our band achieve optimal success, while still maintaining a sense of reason and fairness.

If you know of a potential absence please make every effort to notify a director in advance. Their contact information is listed on the 1<sup>st</sup> page of this handbook. This absence policy applies to all rehearsals, concerts, and sectionals. *If you are well enough to be in school, you are well enough to participate in rehearsal.*

## **VII. Rehearsal Expectations**

Every person is expected to bring his or her black binder, music, and all other necessary materials/equipment to EVERY rehearsal. This will be checked periodically and grades will be assessed. Music will also be checked periodically to be sure that all music is numbered in an orderly and sequential manner; in addition, music will be checked to be sure that all appropriate markings and added information are written on the page. It is also expected that your instrument will be stored in the appropriate assigned location.

Attire for marching band rehearsals will conform to school dress code policies. Gentlemen will wear shirts at all times. Athletic shorts of proper length are a good choice for the summer months. Athletic footwear and socks are REQUIRED. Your attire should help you rehearse and perform at your best. *Sunscreen, hats and sunglasses are a must for protecting yourself from the summer heat and are HIGHLY encouraged!*

## **VIII. Section Rehearsals**

Each section will be assigned a weekly sectional time as needed. The sessions are used to develop the proper tonal concepts, as well as to focus on the individual's music. The sectionals are an essential part of our total program, and attendance at all sectionals is required.

## **IX. Out of School Rehearsals/Clinics**

Additional rehearsals may be necessary from time to time. Every effort will be made to keep these to an absolute minimum. They will be scheduled as conveniently as possible, and notification will be made well in advance of the rehearsal. Students are expected to be in attendance and to make the necessary accommodations. Unavoidable conflicts must be discussed AND resolved with the director prior to the rehearsal.

Throughout the year, we bring in excellent high school and college band directors to “clinic” the bands. The expertise brought to Frisco by these individuals is invaluable. The clinic sessions are scheduled during or after school. Attendance at these sessions is mandatory.

## **X. Marching Uniforms**

It is a privilege to wear the Lone Star High School Band uniform. Students must follow all uniform guidelines in order to protect the integrity and quality of the uniform. Students will pay a cleaning fee at the beginning of each school year. The school will arrange for cleanings throughout the fall. Students will be issued all uniform parts listed below. The replacement costs of each item are also listed. If any part of the uniform is damaged or destroyed when it is checked in following marching season, students will be held responsible for the costs.

**Coat - \$395**  
**Bibber Pants (Blue) - \$185**  
**Bibber Pants (White) - \$185**  
**Hat - \$68**  
**Plume - \$30**  
**Hat Box - \$18.50**  
**Garment Bag - \$6.50**  
**Guantlets - \$42.50 (pair)**

### **Use Expectations:**

1. Hang up the uniform correctly (pants hung folded on the crease) immediately after undressing.
2. Do not leave the garment bag zipped closed if the uniform gets damp or wet.
3. Adjust snap hems and cuffs. Do not cut the material.
4. Do not attempt to wash or dry uniform (they will be dry-cleaned).

**In addition, each student needs the following items to complete the uniform:**

1. Black marching shoes - ordered through the band in August
2. Long black socks - your choice, no logos, ankles completely covered
3. Band Under Armour Shirt - ordered through the boosters; worn under uniform
4. White compression shorts – ordered through boosters; worn under uniform
5. Horn Line and Guard: Gloves (specified by director, ordered through boosters)
6. Khaki shorts - your own - only at beginning of season if it is too hot for full uniforms  
(Students must follow school dress code! Knee-length or longer khakis. Please refer to the list of recommended khaki short.)

Marching uniforms will be issued during summer band and will “live” at school. Do not change in the parking lot before the game.

For all games and contests, we will change at school and have inspection before departure. You will take your garment bag on the bus so you can change out and hang your uniform after the game for the bus ride home.

**Marching Uniform Guidelines: The uniform should be hung in your garment bag when not worn.**

**STUDENTS WILL NOT CARRY FOOD WHILE WEARING ANY PART OF THE MARCHING UNIFORM!!!**

Personal Grooming and Miscellaneous

- Hair may not touch the ears or collar in any way. Long hair must be secured or under a skull cap. Hair spray and bobby pins are encouraged to keep hair looking neat.
- No jewelry of any kind – including earrings, watches and wristbands
- No nail polish is to be worn while in uniform
- All stand tunes must be in your flip folder**

Jacket

- Must be clean and non-wrinkled
- Sleeves at the wrist when in playing position
- Do not lean against dirty surfaces!
- Must be hung correctly when turning in to Uniform Crew

Pants

- Adjust snap hems so there is a slight break at the shoe
- Clean and non-wrinkled, do NOT let touch the ground or dirty surfaces!
- Must be hung correctly when turning in to Uniform Crew

### Socks

- LONG black socks that are clean and neat are required for all uniform inspections.

### Shoes

- Cleaned and polished
- Correct color: black

### Gloves

- Black, unfaded, unstained, without rips or tearing
- Fingers cut for woodwind players. Band Leadership Team members will only be allowed to cut these for students to ensure uniformity.

### Garment Bags

- Bags will be kept neat and clean
- No food will be allowed inside bag whether or not there are clothes in it or not

**The color guard has separate uniform requirements. The color guard director will give that information to the students.**

### **Uniform Inspection:**

Prior to departure for a marching band performance, students must have on the complete uniform with white compression shorts and official blue band shirt under it, 100% black socks and shined band shoes on. Black socks must at least be mid-calf in height. Your lyre, flip folder and other items required by directors must also be ready for inspection. Ball caps and jewelry may not be worn with the uniform at any time.

Students who do not pass the inspection will not be allowed to attend the event and sent home with an unexcused absence recorded. (This is for students who cannot or will not correct their appearance during/after inspection.)

## **XII. Concert Uniforms**

Students in all bands will perform in formal concert clothes at all concerts and at contests and festivals.

Boys in all bands will be issued a school-owned tuxedo and will need to furnish:

1. A white tux shirt with wing collar
2. Medium (2") black bow-tie
3. Black cummerbund
4. Black dress shoes and all black dress socks

(The shirt, cummerbund, and tie can be ordered through the band boosters for a very reasonable cost).

**ANY TUXEDO NOT RETURNED WILL RESULT IN A \$125 REPLACEMENT FEE.**

Girls will wear a concert black dress which will be ordered through the band boosters. Girls wear the same style of dress. We will keep the same style dress, so hopefully you will only buy one for your high school career.

Black dress shoes: heel of your choice (no flip flops or non-dress sandals). Closed toe shoes are encouraged.



## XIII. Use of Band Facilities

Students are welcome and encouraged to use the band hall practice rooms for daily practice whenever a director is present. Please be aware that rehearsals, sectionals, and private lessons will always take priority.

Students will be assigned an instrument locker. Please make every effort to keep your instrument or percussion sticks locked up when not in use. In addition, because we have thousands of dollars worth of instruments and equipment stored in the band hall, **non-band and non-color guard students will not be allowed into the band hall**. This policy is designed to keep your instrument and supplies safe and secure. Please ask friends to wait for you outside of the band room.

### Lockers and Instrument Room

- Everyone must use a band issued lock for their locker. Locks should remain LOCKED at all times.
- Students will store their instrument in its case inside of their locker.
- Nothing should be placed on top of the lockers.
- NO EATING OR DRINKING IN THE INSTRUMENT ROOMS – NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Nothing should remain on the instrument room floor (including chairs) or on the top of the lockers (except on game days) – empty instrument cases should be placed in your locker during rehearsals.
- The floor of the instrument room should always be clear of clutter and trash.

### Band Hall

- No eating or drinking anything besides water in the band hall. Food kept in containers.
- The floor of the band hall should always be clear of clutter and trash.
- No non-band students allowed in band hall or instrument rooms.

# XIV. Grading Policy

Grades in band will consist of co-curricular performances, rehearsal performance, playing tests, sectional grades, and quizzes. The categories and weighting is listed below. Our make-up and retest policy is in accordance with FISD and LSHS policy. It is the student's responsibility to inquire about any work missed due to an absence. Students should also try to arrange a time convenient for both the student and director to make up any missed assignments.

Assignments not made up in a timely manner in accordance with the district policy will result in a grade of "zero". Low band grades may result in a student being moved to a lower band and/or reassigned as an alternate in marching band.

In determining the band grade each six weeks, three areas comprise the average:

1. **Performance Grades (50%)** - including but not limited to class assignments, section rehearsal assignments, objectives, chair tests, and additional musical performances.
2. **Quizzes (30%)** - pass offs, sectionals, rehearsals and in class assignments.

Pass offs:

The music pass-off allows the directors to hear the students in a small group setting and provide individual feedback to each person. Pass-offs holds each student accountable for themselves.

The expectation of a satisfactory pass-off during marching season is correct notes, rhythms, dynamics and articulation.

All students may re-test in accordance with the district policy to "pass-off," with no penalty to their grade. The first two opportunities to pass-off will take place during class.

3. **Participation Grades (20%)** - including but not limited to having music, instrument, and pencil at all rehearsals; correct marking of music; care and maintenance of instruments.

## **XV. Academic Eligibility**

The eligibility schedule is listed in the Student Handbook Addendum which can be found on the school's website. The LSHS band adheres to all eligibility rules and regulations as stated by TEA and FUSD. Any student who records a grade lower than 70 in any course at the end of a six-weeks grading period shall be suspended from participation in extra-curricular performances for at least the following 3 weeks beginning one week after the end of the six-weeks. If at the conclusion of that 3-week grading period, the student is passing all courses, he/she can regain their eligibility one week after the 3-week grade check. However, if at that time the student is failing any course, the eligibility is lost for the remainder of the six weeks.

Students enrolled in upper level class may apply for an academic waiver if they have met certain criteria laid out in LSHS policy. The LSHS band staff will firmly enforce these policies. Students who lose their eligibility are still required to attend all rehearsals as well as participate in curricular activities (concerts). It is vital that all students remain eligible. The LSHS band staff will always encourage students to attend tutorials. Some academic tutorials are often offered by upperclassmen within the band program to help students who are struggling with their grades.

Free concerts, section rehearsals, concert rehearsals, and private lessons are all considered Curricular. Events that are considered Extra-Curricular include:

1. Any event with paid admission.
2. Any event that is inter-school competitive.
3. Any event that takes place off of the LSHS campus.

Should a band student become ineligible for extra-curricular functions, he/she will still be eligible for curricular functions. Ineligible students will be given alternate assignments during contest preparation time.

# **XVI. Individual Competitions**

The band staff encourages participation in the individual competitions and festivals offered during the year.

## **All-Region:**

All-Region tryouts involve the finest students from schools in our Region and are the first step in advancement toward All-State. All students in grades 9-12 may participate if academically eligible. All students in the Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band are required to audition. Students in Concert Band I and II are HIGHLY encouraged to audition. The music is handed out in August and the tryouts are in November & December. Students must check their calendars carefully and make a complete commitment to both the tryouts and the performance before entering.

## **Solo and Ensemble:**

Solo and Ensemble competition takes place in February. All students in grades 9-12 may participate if academically eligible. All students in the Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band are required to participate. Students in Concert Band I and II are HIGHLY encouraged to participate.

Unlike middle school solo and ensemble, the University Interscholastic League (UIL) governs the high school level and maintains very specific music lists and rules for performance. Soloists hoping to advance to State must perform from memory at the region level. There is a short-list of class 1 solos that do not require memorization due to their difficulty. The UIL limits participation to two different events. Students are responsible for their own accompanists, if needed.

State Solo and Ensemble is held during the last week of the school year in Austin for all students who receive a 1<sup>st</sup> division on a class I ensemble or a memorized class I solo at the region level. Students must enter all events in which they qualified if they wish to go to the State contest. Students are responsible for their own accompanists, if needed, and are required to perform all events entered. According to UIL, band directors and school district personnel reserve the right to determine whether or not a student participates at the state level regardless of the rating at the regional level.

# **XVII. Band Officers**

Band officers are comprised of the Drum Majors, elected Band Officers, captains and section leaders.

## **Drum Majors: (selected by tryout each spring.)**

1. Must be academically eligible at the time of tryouts and have been academically eligible for the entire year in which auditions are held.
2. Must complete the drum major leadership packet.
3. Drum majors must attend Drum Major camp (usually at Texas A&M Commerce) together in the summer.

## **Band President: (elected by student vote conducted by the directors)**

The band president is the student's representative. The president is a full member of the band officer staff. The band president represents the band at functions, concert contests and more. The band president also signs for the band in the use of Student activity funds as directed by FISD rules.

## **Band Officers/ Captains / Section Leaders: (appointed by directors)**

1. Must be academically eligible at the time of tryouts.
2. May be a member of one of the concert bands.
3. Must complete the leadership packet of information.

## **ALL BAND OFFICERS SELECTED MUST FULFILL THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS TO REMAIN IN THEIR OFFICES:**

1. Attend ALL summer practices, meetings, and have no un-excused absences from band activities during the year.
2. Provide leadership through example, promote the highest expectations for band members, and show a zero tolerance for negative behavior. Band officers with any disciplinary referral in any class will be removed from office.
3. Remain academically eligible throughout the year.

***FAILURE TO FOLLOW THROUGH WITH THE OUTLINED JOB DESCRIPTION COULD RESULT IN A STUDENT BEING REMOVED AS AN OFFICER FOR THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR.***

## **XVIII. CHARMS**

Charms is a web-based database we use for student information, as well as other information about our band program. It has many useful applications for students and parents. Please keep your personal information updated throughout the year. Please be sure to carefully enter correct email addresses since this is the most used form of communication to our parents.

Charms login information:

- Parent/Student login: lonestarband
- Enter your child's 6 digit student ID to view their detailed information.

***If you make changes to your address, phone, or email, remember to click "update"!***

## **XIX. Travel Policy**

Students who represent FISD and the LSHS band on school sponsored trips are expected to maintain very high standards in behavior, punctuality, and respect at all times. Normal school policy dictates that band students ride FISD transportation to and from all off-campus performances and events when it is offered. On rare occasions, and emergency or other school-related event will necessitate a parent to provide transportation. In such an event, a note signed by the parent should be given to the director in advance of the event. If FISD transportation is provided, students are not permitted to ride home from a band event with anyone other than their parent.

There may be times when students will be under the supervision of parent chaperones. Students are to treat chaperones with respect at all times. It should be understood that their directions are to be followed completely as if the directors said it. Bus trips should be orderly and calm. Students should remain in their seats for the entire trip. The noise level should be moderate. No student is to get on or off the bus unless instructed to do so. Students who are involved in a serious disciplinary offense on a school-related trip, such as use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol, stealing, fighting, leaving a room or bus at an inappropriate time, or other serious offense will face strong action which may include the following:

- 1. Being sent home immediately at the parent's expense.**
- 2. Being held liable for damage of property.**
- 3. Being permanently removed from the band program.**
- 4. LSHS administrative disciplinary action.**

## **XX. Fund Raising**

The majority of the fundraising for the band is done by the Band Boosters. District policy determines the maximum number of fundraisers per year.

For this school year, our primary student fundraiser is our annual March-A-Thon. Students are asked to participate in the fundraiser as it benefits the entire band. The student fundraiser funds are sheltered in an account administered by the district. The March-a-thon performance is just that, a community parade/performance. Participation in the performance is required.

## **XXI. LSHS Band Boosters**

The Lone Star High School Band has a very active and supportive parent organization. The club includes parents from both the band and color guard. Without the hard work and dedication of the parents, the band program at Lone Star High School could not be as successful and productive as it is. There are numerous areas in which interested parents can be involved in supporting the activities of the band. General meetings of the band club are held throughout the school year; however numerous committees do most of the parent organization planning. Every parent of a band/color guard student is considered a member of the Booster club. Additional information such as contact numbers and email addresses is available on the band website.

## **XXII. Private Lessons**

Frisco ISD is fortunate to have an outstanding staff of private lesson teachers. This program is designed to enrich and further the level of performance of the musician. One on one, individual instruction is one of the main reasons why programs, especially in the North Texas area, are extremely successful. It is a general misconception that private lessons are set up for students who are “falling behind” or for those musicians that are “not as successful” on their instrument. While private lessons can still be highly beneficial in these cases, supplemental private lessons are designed and intended more for students that are advancing and proving success on their instrument. The opportunity to study one-on-one with a professional musician is invaluable and has proven to be one of the most successful ingredients to individual achievement. Lessons are customized and tailored for each individual’s needs.

Private lessons may occur before, during, and after the school day depending on availability. They are not required, but are highly recommended. Private lessons taught on campus vary in price and are dependent on the lesson teacher. Students traveling to a private teacher’s home to study may be subject to a different rate based on the teacher’s experience and credentials. Again, though optional, private lessons are an imperative part of the program. A list of approved FISD lesson teachers is available on the band website.



## **XXIII. Band Fees and Student Needs:**

Each August the band will register through the band boosters. At this time students will purchase necessary items for the school year (marching shoes, guard uniforms and supplies, required shirts, concert attire, cleaning fees, etc.) This amount is in line with what other area bands charge and well below what some programs charge.

**We never want money to keep anyone from participating fully in the LSHS Band program. If money is an issue, please discreetly contact Mr. Golden. This information will only be shared with the Band Booster treasurer.**

## **XXIV. School owned instrument use:**

Frisco ISD owns certain instruments that may be assigned to the students. The district has set a \$50 per instrument per semester fee to be paid at the beginning of the school year. Students are responsible for returning the instrument in the same condition in which it was issued. Use of a school owned instrument is a privilege. Students should take great care of what the LSHS band is blessed to have.

In addition, students are responsible for any damages to the instrument. This means that any repairs needed during the school year are the financial responsibility of the student. The instrument will be returned to LSHS Band at the conclusion of the school year or within one week of being notified by the director.

***Important Note: Please fill out the following forms. The band will keep the handbook form and 2 medical forms on file. The UIL form is required for all students to participate in UIL events. Thank you!***



FRISCO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
School Health Services

## PARENTS REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION BY SCHOOL PERSONNEL

Name of Pupil \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

I do hereby request that school personnel of the Frisco Independent School District administer the medication set forth below to my child. The medication must be administered during school hours and I cannot personally supervise this activity. I have supplied all information concerning the dosage of the medication and method of administration or requested that it be supplied by my child's physician. I do hereby release the Frisco Independent School District, its agents, servants, employees and medical advisors from any liability in connection with the administration of this medication.

I understand that my child requires medication(s) to be on hand during field trips away from the school campus. I give my permission for the school to send this medication (these medications) on the field trip with my child. All medication(s) will be sent in a single dose container if possible and clearly marked with my child's name and instructions. An assigned teacher who has been given instructions, has verbalized understanding of medication administration and has performed demonstration of medication administration, will be in charge of dispensing the required medication as directed on the field trip.

Medication: _____	Medication: _____
Time: _____	Time: _____
Start Date: _____ End Date: _____	Start Date: _____ End Date: _____
Dosage and Route: _____	Dosage and Route: _____
Special Instructions: _____	Special Instructions: _____

Physician's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Physician's Signature (if needed) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's/Guardian's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Information concerning this medication and my child's health may be shared with/obtained from the above named physician. Parent's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



PARENT/STUDENT UIL MARCHING BAND  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

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

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

Examples of Activities Subject To The UIL Marching Band Eight Hour Rule.

- Marching Band Rehearsal (Both Full Band And Components)
- Any Marching Band Group Instructional Activity
- Breaks
- Announcements
- Debriefing And Viewing Marching Band Videos
- Playing Off Marching Band Music
- Marching Band Sectionals (Both Director And Student Led)
- Clinics For The Marching Band Or Any Of Its Components

The Following Activities Are Not Included In The Eight Hour Time Allotment:

- Travel Time To And From Rehearsals And/Or Performances
- Rehearsal Set-Up Time
- Pep Rallies, Parades And Other Public Performances
- Instruction And Practice For Music Activities Other Than Marching Band And Its Components

NOTE: An extensive Q&A for the Eight Hour Rule for Marching Band can be found on the Music Page of the UIL Web Site at: [www.uil.utexas.edu](http://www.uil.utexas.edu)

“We have read and understand the Eight-Hour Rule for Marching Band as stated above and agree to abide by these regulations.”

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





Lone Star High  
School

2016 -2017

## **Introduction**

*Color guard/Winter guard – Mrs. Alexis Mendoza, Color Guard/Winter Guard Director*

The color guard is most well known for their contribution to the marching band in the fall. Using rifles, sabres, props, and a wide assortment of flags, the guard provides a fantastic visual effect to the show. During the spring the guard competes on the North Texas Color guard Association Winter guard circuit.

## **Lone Star Marching Band**

All wind, percussion and color guard members are a part of the Lone Star Marching Band during marching season. The rehearsal demands on students are rigorous, and the highest level of commitment is expected. Due to illness, absences, eligibility, etc..., the marching band must have an alternate policy in place. Please see our alternate policy in the handbook. Performances include all home and away varsity football games, pep rallies, parades, and marching competitions throughout the season. Please see the calendar for exact dates/times.

## **Additional Opportunities**

As a member of the Lone Star High School Band/Color Guard, many additional opportunities are available to you. We recommend you take advantage of as many activities below as possible to achieve your highest musical potential.

Private Lessons: All students are encouraged to seek the help of a private lesson teacher. Nothing is more beneficial than to have weekly lessons with an expert teacher of your equipment. For the convenience of students and parents, private lessons can be arranged at school both before and after school. Lessons can be arranged at any time during the school year as well as during the summer months. Please consult our website for the current list of private lesson instructors, or see Coach Rasmussen for recommendations

Solo/Ensemble: Solo/Ensemble: Students may choose to compete in a winter guard solo/ensemble unit. They will need to prepare a routine with flag, rifle, sabre, or any combination thereof to music of their choice. The solo will need to reach a minimum time of one and a half minutes, but not to exceed three minutes. An ensemble will be defined as a unit ranging from two to four members.

Students choosing to compete in a solo/ensemble contest may use Lone Star High School Color guard property such as flags, rifles, and sabres, and may use a current or past uniform if they choose. Lone Star High School will not be responsible for transportation of students to and from S/E contests, nor the fee per performer per show. However, students competing in S/E contests will be rewarded for their efforts through Letter Jacket qualifications.

SummerBand/ColorguardCamps: There are numerous summer band camps offered in and around our area. They can last from a couple of days up to three weeks. Students are encouraged to attend at least one during the summer. For more information, see Coach Mendoza.

## **Academic Eligibility**

The Lone Star High School Color Guard/Winter Guard adheres to all eligibility requirements as stated by FISD rules. Any student receiving a grade lower than 70 on a six-week recording period is suspended from all extra-curricular activities. The student may regain his/her eligibility if at the following 3-week grading period; he/she is passing all his/her classes. If a student is failing a class at the following 3-week grading period, he/she is suspended from all extra-curricular events until the next 6-week grading period. All marching band activities, all region/state, solo/ensemble, and spring trip is affected by academic eligibility. Because color guard/winter guard is so dependent on all of its members contributing to the group, academic eligibility for students is especially critical. Any student who is in danger of failing, may be asked to turn in periodic grade reports from their academic teachers, and/or assigned a peer tutor to help assist them with their studies. Consistent ineligibility may result in a student being moved to an alternate status or removed from the guard program.

## **School-Owned Equipment**

Students participating in Color guard will be given appropriate equipment for their position in the marching band/winter guard show. Care should be taken by the student for general upkeep throughout the school year. If a piece of school owned equipment is lost, stolen, or damaged beyond repair, the student is financially responsible for replacing that piece of equipment.

The fees for equipment are as follows:

**Practice Flag (silk only) \$10**

**Practice Flag (pole, silk, end caps, bolts) \$20**

**Performance Flag (silk only) \$60**

**Performance Flag (pole, silk, end caps, bolts) \$70**

**Rifle \$30**

**King Saber \$190**

## Auditions

Auditions for the LSHS Color Guard and Winter Guard will happen twice a year. Once for the fall Marching Band season and once for the spring Winter Guard season. All eligible applicants will be required to audition again, regardless of their status within the guard in previous seasons.

1. Fall Guard Auditions will be held in the spring prior to the start of the new school year.
2. Winter Guard Auditions will be held in the fall prior to the start of the new season.
3. The final audition date in front of the judges panel is MANDATORY for all applicants unless subject to a UIL Scheduled event. In the event of a conflict, prior arrangements for the audition must be made with the guard director.
4. All applicants must complete the following in order to be eligible for LSHSCG auditions.
  - a. LSHSCG Audition Information Packet
  - b. Medical Release Form
  - c. Acknowledgement of estimated fees for the season
  - d. Signed acknowledgement of the LSHSCG Handbook
  - e. Most recent 6 weeks report card
5. There is no set number of spots for the LSHS Fall guard. Each candidate must score a 70/100 or higher on the audition in order to be eligible for team placement. Scores between 60/100-70/100 will be eligible for alternate placement, and scores below 60/100 will not be eligible for team placement at all.
  - a. The LSHS Winter guard only has 30 available spots, and two alternate spots. Each position will be given to the candidates with the highest 32 scores.



## Alternate Policy

The following guidelines have been created to give the members of the Lone Star High School Band/Winterguard information on set marching positions and alternate positions. All alternate status decisions are subject to director approval.

### Possible reasons for not having a permanent color guard position:

1. Any student not attending Summer Band Camp or missing part of Summer Band Camp or winter guard camp.
2. A student missing a regular rehearsal during the school year (see Attendance guidelines).

There is a difference made between an excused absence and an unexcused absence, but both are still counted as an absence. One of the directors will have final say about whether a student can march or not due to missing rehearsals.

4. Students who need continued improvement with their color guard skill set. Placement on the color guard is at the discretion of the director based on evaluation throughout the season.

## Status of Performers

The status of any performer or alternate is subject to the director based on the below items. Members may be removed, or reassigned to different roles within the color guard at any time.

- I. Choreography
- II. Marching
- III. Attendance
- IV. Tardies to Rehearsals – unless excused prior to the rehearsal date and discussed with instructor.
- V. Any discipline issues within the state, local, school, or program level.
- VI. Eligibility

## Means of Evaluation

1. Individual playing auditions and tests – technique exercises (movement, flag, rifle, and sabre) show choreography, memorization of drill sets in marching show, etc.
2. Rehearsals – (Daily, Sectional, and Extra). As color guard is a laboratory course with much of the work being done during rehearsal time, the rehearsals are an important part of the class requirements. Preparation will be monitored.
3. Written Assignments – Student may occasionally be given written assignments covering concepts and theories covered in class.
4. Special Projects – These can involve a variety of things including solo/ensemble contest, a self evaluation, or a critique of a recorded color guard/winter guard

performance. There may or may not be a special project for each grading period.

5. Performance – When planned, organized and evaluated as a culminating activity in a learning experience, performance before an audience is a legitimate and important part of the curriculum. The performance for the band is akin to the final exam in a class such as English. Such performance should become for the students a goal to be attained through self-directed preparation activities, cooperative planning and organization, self-disciplined practice, creative thought and action, and self-evaluation.

## **Absences**

There are two types of absences, an excused absence and an unexcused absence. Here at LSHS we encourage students to be involved in multiple activities and will do our best to work around other extracurricular schedules. If you plan to be absent for any of the following reasons you must notify your guard instructor with a parent note or email no later than 24 hours before the scheduled event. Examples are as follows but not limited to:

1. Unexcused absence: skipping practice or class, work related absences, social events, etc.
2. Excused Absence: Note from parent for emergency situations, tutorials (for scheduled time period and with a note from that teacher), other sports practices/games that are prearranged with Coach Mendoza, etc. For questions on absences, please contact Coach Mendoza.

## **Lettering Policy**

Students must complete two full seasons and be in good standing academically in order to letter in color guard. Two seasons includes one fall season and one winter guard season, for a total of one calendar year. The two seasons do not need to be consecutive.

## **Band Hall Usage/Guard Room Care**

Students should treat the band hall with the utmost respect. No eating or drinking of any beverages besides water is allowed in the band hall. Band lockers should contain only practice clothes, and guard supplies while we are in season. Enforcement of the cleanliness of lockers may be enforced in a variety of ways including, but not limited to detentions in which the assigned student will help clean the band hall. All personal supplies, etc..should be stored in your school locker. Only band and color guard students are allowed in the band hall.

## **Bus Policies**

1. All band members will sign up in advance for a bus to be ridden throughout football season.
2. Attendance will be taken on each bus, both ways.
3. Students must ride the same bus to and from the event.
4. Students must obey all school and bus rules.
5. No food or drink is permitted on the buses – unless specifically allowed for special circumstance.
6. Show common courtesy and respect for the bus drivers and chaperones. Chaperones are volunteering their time for our benefit.
7. Use the restroom before we leave for the game.

## **Appearance and Professionalism**

1. Look crisp and professional when marching into any stadium (home or away). Flag bags and guard bags are to be carried in the same way. All uniform parts are to remain on and intact unless otherwise directed.
2. All guard members will sit together in the stands – no non-band members allowed in our cluster.
3. During quarters 1, 2, and 4, no food or drink (besides water) is allowed in the stands.
4. Warm ups must be worn at all times over the uniform when eating or drinking anything other than water.
5. Do not go into other sections of the stands at any time – stay together.

## **Detrimental Behavior Policy**

Being a member of the Lone Star Color Guard program is a privilege, not a right. There are various electives a student may participate in at LSHS. Because the band is an extremely visible representative of the school, and because we must trust students to behave properly in various situations, both in school and while traveling, the directors reserve the right to remove students from the band program whose behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- Vandalism
- Theft
- Substance abuse
- Insubordination
- Bringing humiliation, embarrassment or danger to themselves or others
- Excessive ineligibility
- Deliberately disobeying rules while traveling or in class
- Unexcused absence from performance of any kind

## **The Disciplinary System**

Should and disciplinary actions need to be taken, each discipline action will be based on the seriousness of the offense and may be subject to the following:

1. Director disciplinary actions
2. Principal/Assistant Principal Referral for disciplinary action