

BLANCHARD  
HIGH SCHOOL BAND  
HANDBOOK



2022-2023

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# Blanchard Bands

Jenn Kauffman & Kara VanVickle

400 N. Harrison, Blanchard, Oklahoma 73010

HS office: 405-485-3392 ext142 Fax: 405-485-9549

[blanchardbands@gmail.com](mailto:blanchardbands@gmail.com)

[www.blanchardbands.com](http://www.blanchardbands.com)

Hello Band Students and Parents!

Welcome to the Blanchard High School Band and another exciting year! As a member of the Blanchard Band program you have the honor and responsibility of participating in an organization with high standards of excellence both in performance and personal conduct. The main emphasis of our band program is on musicianship and pride of accomplishment, followed closely by citizenship, tradition, spirit, and loyalty. It is the pride of a job well done and the accomplishments achieved that make the sacrifice worthwhile. The success of the individual will lead to the success of the organization and vice versa.

Everyone should read the information in the handbook, even veterans. For rookies, this is our "band bible" that keeps us running smoothly and efficiently. Most questions can be answered by consulting the handbook which is always available on Cut Time. Cut Time and the band website are incredible resources that include a wealth of knowledge, so bookmark both sites and check them regularly. On the band website is a "Rookie Parents" section that will give you many insights to life as a high school band parent. It's a must read for new parents and a great refresher for veterans.

Pay special attention to the calendar, which is available online (Cut Time). It will assist you in balancing your schedule for the year. We know that it is possible to have successful band, academic, and athletic careers at the same time.

The **2021-2022** year was full of successes by our students. In all areas of the program we saw growth and indications that things are only going to continue to prosper. We are looking ahead to some wonderful opportunities for the coming year!

After reading the handbook, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us. All contact information can be found on the letterhead, Cut Time, or the band website. If you do not have internet access and are unable to access the online tools, please let us know immediately so we can make alternate arrangements with you.

We are extremely fortunate to have parents, faculty, administrators, and school board members that are committed and dedicated to a quality band program. We look forward to you and your family being a part of our band! We are honored to be your band directors and are looking forward to an incredible year!

AFTER READING THESE MATERIALS, PLEASE FILL OUT, SIGN, AND RETURN THE HANDBOOK AGREEMENT,  
FOUND ONLINE AT CUT TIME

**PLEASE RETURN IT ON OR BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.**

Sincerely,

  
Jenn Kauffman

  
Kara VanVickle

# Why Band?

It has been proven time and time again that participation in school music programs, particularly band, has immense positive effects on students' other academic areas. Test scores go up dramatically, high school and college graduation rates are higher, and band students in general enjoy a higher level of success than non-band members. The only group in school with better academic numbers is the National Honor Society, which includes many band members. More students are accepted into medical school who have a bachelor's degree in music than students who have bachelor's degrees in pre-med. Besides the academic benefits, it is shown that students who participate in band have lower rates of drug and alcohol abuse, not just during high school, but throughout life.

While we believe completely in making our students the best musicians possible, it is even more important to us to shape our students into the best people they can be. We teach students to be good people, not just good musicians, and encourage them to be the best they can be.

We have three foundations from which we teach that we believe are not taught anywhere else:

- **The more you give, the more you get, and the more you get, the more you give**
  - **It is a win/win world**
  - **Don't quit until it's perfect**

**The more you give, the more you get-** We give our students an objective and when they achieve it, we congratulate them and turn around and give them more to achieve. We are constantly dangling a carrot in front of them, pushing them to do more and be more. In order to keep improving, students must continue to give more of themselves and work harder. Schools are struggling to deal with students who won't give of themselves, so those students are learning that if you give less, you'll get more. When they don't turn in homework, they get extra make-up assignments; when they have too many tardies or absences, they get Saturday school; when they fail a class, they get summer school. We try and keep our goals focused on everyone giving and encouraging each other.

**It is a win/win world-** All of our students, no matter their level of talent, participate in band at all times. There is no bench for anyone to sit out, so the students who are more talented have a vested interest in helping out those students who need extra attention. At our contests, if everyone is perfect and one person is not, we are judged on that one person. In a regular class, if someone gets a 94% and someone gets a 54%, the student with the lower grade doesn't negatively affect the student with the higher grade. In fact, the lower grade lowers the curve and makes the higher grade even better. There is no incentive for students to help each other achieve. This is the opposite of band. The first chair student doesn't win until the last chair student wins. We are all in this together and we work as a family to achieve success as a group, not as individuals.

**Don't quit until it's perfect-** Because everything must be uniform, lined up, and perfectly together in time, we believe in repetition until we are the best we can be. In other classes when a student gets a 94% on a test and earns an "A", that's the end. It's a great grade. In band, when we get a 94%, we know we can do better and we expect ourselves to do better. While being perfect is virtually impossible, this relates directly to the more you give, the more you get. We will always try harder to be better because we are capable of more.

**Our students deserve the best shot at success in life and we believe with all of our hearts that band sets them up for success and also gives them amazing opportunities and creates friendships for life. We believe in teaching content and curriculum, but those areas change continuously as time goes on. We believe even more in teaching character, which will last forever.**

# BLANCHARD HIGH SCHOOL BAND

## CURRICULUM

**Marching Band**- The Blanchard High School Marching Band is an award-winning ensemble made up of students in grades 9-12. All band students must be a member of the marching band. Marching band is a “co-curricular” activity that combines rehearsals during the school day with extensive extra-curricular rehearsals and performances. The marching season starts at the end of July with Summer Band, contests run through mid-October, and we continue participating in football games and parades into the first week of December. Marching band members learn the sets (formations) on the field and play the music from memory. Playing tests are pass or fail. Extra help is always available. The band fee is **\$350 for rookies (new members) & \$250** for returning members.

**Color Guard**- The Color Guard provides the visual component for the marching band field show using dance, flags, and other visual props. Students interested in dance, choreography, and movement may choose to audition for our guard. Auditions generally take place in April. The group is open to students in grades 9-12 and is open to any student attending Blanchard High School. Though prior enrollment in band is not a requirement for membership, students with band experience are expected to maintain their instrumental skills in order to contribute during concert season. Guard members attend all rehearsals, competitions, and activities as the marching band. The color guard fee is **\$450 for rookies (new members to band) & \$350** for returning members. Members who are in band and guard are only responsible for the guard fee and instrument rental fees, if applicable.

**Symphonic Band**- The Blanchard Symphonic Band consistently receives top awards and is one of the finest bands in Oklahoma. The Symphonic Band is made up of students in grades 9-12 and all students must be a member of the Symphonic Band. The ensemble stresses musical and performance excellence through the performance of a wide variety of band literature. Section leaders schedule weekly before or after school sectionals. Students who are struggling may be asked to come in more frequently. The Symphonic Band performs at various contests and events from November through May.

**Chamber Music Ensembles**- Blanchard Bands offer a variety of chamber ensembles including woodwind, brass, and percussion groups. Rehearsals are generally held before or after school starting in December. These ensembles compete at the District Solo & Ensemble contest and are often asked to perform in the community at various events and social gatherings. Participation is optional. If students decide to compete in district competition, there is a fee that varies from \$5-8, depending on the size of the ensemble.

**Percussion Ensemble**- The Blanchard Percussion Ensemble is a group that offers specific technique and chamber music ensemble experience in addition to large group experiences. Here the percussionists get individualized and small group attention they would not get in the regular band class in order to develop their skills. These musicians will get advanced training in all percussion areas including but not limited to rudimental percussion, orchestral percussion, world drumming, keyboard percussion, and timpani. These rehearsals are held before or after school one or two days a week depending on school schedules. All percussionists must be members of the Percussion Ensemble.

**Honor Band**- This class is offered to high school students (9-12). It meets during the school day and is geared towards students who are driven to succeed musically on an individual level. Students who enroll in honor band are required to audition for every honor band for which they are eligible and must also compete with a solo in the District Solo & Ensemble competition. Music theory will also be introduced.

**All-Region (SWOBDA) Honor Band**- Students in grades 7-12 may audition for a place in one of the Southwestern Oklahoma Band Director’s Association (SWOBDA) Honor Bands, also known as All-Region. There is a 7<sup>th</sup> grade band, an 8<sup>th</sup> grade band, a 9<sup>th</sup> grade band, and two high school bands (grades 10-12). Students who earn a place in a band will rehearse and perform under a guest conductor in February in Weatherford. These honor bands are comprised of

musically gifted students representing the top talent in the southwest region of Oklahoma. There is an audition fee of approximately \$10.

**All-State (OkMEA & OSSBDA) Honor Bands-** Students in grades 10-12 may audition for a place in an All-State Band. The Oklahoma Music Educators Association (OkMEA) is comprised of the most musically gifted students from throughout Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma Small Schools Band Director’s Association (OSSBDA) is comprised of the most musically gifted students from small schools throughout Oklahoma. Students who earn a place in a band will rehearse and perform under a guest conductor, OkMEA in January in Tulsa, and OSSBDA in February in Oklahoma City. Participation in either of these fine ensembles often comes with college scholarship options from many colleges and universities around the state and beyond. There is an audition fee of approximately \$15 for each honor band.

**District & State Solo & Ensemble Competitions-** Students in grades 7-12 may choose to participate in District Solo & Ensemble competitions, which take place in February. Students prepare a solo or ensemble (duet, trio, quartet, etc.) and perform, often with an accompanist, for a judge. There are a few evening rehearsals required for students using the accompanist. While extra help is always available, most of the preparation of this music is student-driven. Students in grades 9-12 who earn a superior rating on their solo or ensemble are eligible for state contest in April. Students in grades 7-8 are not eligible for state. Participation fees range from \$5-10, depending on the type of group. Accompanist fees apply if necessary. Participation fees are only charged for district level competition.

**Private Lessons-** Just like most activities that require a high degree of skill, private lessons on a musical instrument are the best way to improve performance skills. The one-on-one approach allows the student to benefit from individual, specialized attention. Most students who earn a place in an All-State band study privately. We are lucky to live so close to many universities with excellent music programs, and even have teachers who come to Blanchard weekly to teach lessons. We have many students who study with advanced college students and some even with university professors. Visit the “Private Lessons” section of the band website or contact a band director to find a suitable private teacher.

**Leadership Council-** The Leadership Council is a group of students who have gone through a rigorous process in order to be chosen as leaders for the band. These students hold positions like drum major, section leader, president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, librarian, uniform assistant, and more. These leaders are integral to running the band smoothly, and the experience of working in this situation helps prepare these students for the future. Students who are members of this group have attended at least one workshop led by Scott Lang. Those students in grades 10-11 who would like to be members of the Leadership Council will need to pick up a packet in March. All required information and activities are due in April.

### CALENDAR OVERVIEW

July/Aug.:	Summer Band School begins Uniform Checkout	Mar./Apr:	District contest St. Patrick’s parade Leadership Council/Drum Major apps
Sept./Oct.:	Football games Marching competitions		State band contest State solo & ensemble contest
Nov./Dec.:	Honor band auditions Football playoffs Christmas parade Winter Concert	May:	Band Banquet Spring Concert Graduation Band Garage sale (MayDaze)
Jan./Feb.:	Honor band clinics District Solo & Ensemble contest		Spring Band

# GENERAL BAND INFORMATION

## EXPECTATIONS

Band is a year-long commitment.

Each member of the band is required to practice the music regularly, learn his/her part, and come well prepared to rehearsal. Home practice is absolutely essential to our pursuit of excellence. Sectionals are intended as periods for refining the musical work done in full rehearsals, not as practice time for learning the music. Insufficient practice and preparation of music will affect the student's grade.

Each member of the band will be expected to attend and participate in all rehearsals, sectionals, and performances called by the directors and/or section leaders.

Punctuality at all events is critical. All students must arrive on time unless they have spoken with a director and received permission to be late. On time means that events begin at the stated time; students are not just arriving. Band is a team effort and it hinders the entire group when people are late. Time is a valuable resource and ours as a band is limited. To make the most of the time we have, all students need to be ready to begin promptly.

Band members are expected to follow the rules of Blanchard schools' student handbook as well as the band handbook while present at any band function. Failure to abide by the rules may result in removal of a student from a performance, not allowing the student to travel with the band, or removal from the band program at the directors' discretion.

Leadership Council members should be at all rehearsals and are expected to demonstrate excellent attitudes, leadership, discipline, and cooperation. Members will arrive 10 minutes early to every rehearsal and sectional, check in with the drum major for any new information, be responsible for musical details of the music (done before rehearsal), schedule, lead, and run sectionals, distribute and collect music all year, and be willing to help the band in any way possible.

Percussionists are expected to assist in moving, setting up, dismantling, loading/unloading the trailers, and putting away all percussion instruments for rehearsals and performances. Percussionists must arrive to rehearsal at least 15 minutes early to set up the section, and should plan to stay at least 15 minutes after a rehearsal or performance ends to properly store the instruments.

The band/guard fee covers a band polo, band t-shirt, band dry fit, band jacket, band backpack, band water bottle, band/guard shoes, guard uniform, two pairs of gloves, food for most marching band events, gas fee to reimburse trailer pullers, a lyre to hold flip folders, and other miscellaneous items. A minimum of \$100 must be paid at uniform checkout. All fees must be paid in full by the Winter Break in December. See a director for payment options.

## ATTENDANCE

Prompt attendance is EXPECTED and REQUIRED at all rehearsals, sectionals, and performances. During marching season, band will start at 7:15am. During concert season, band will start at 7:30am. *Students are expected to be at rehearsals on time.* Students are expected to work out their own transportation details. *Bus routes will not be an excuse for tardiness.* Tardies for band are recorded in the grade book and will affect your exemption and average. For each semester, six tardies will be excused. For each additional tardy two percentage points will be subtracted from the semester grade. Students who are excessively late will be dealt with on an individual basis at the discretion of the director and/or principal. Tardies can be made up by arriving a full half hour before a morning rehearsal, checking in with a director, and doing homework or practicing. *Work is not an excuse to miss a performance or a rehearsal.*

## INSTRUMENTS AND SUPPLIES

Be prepared! Have all equipment, instrument, music, pencil, four useable reeds, oil, grease, sticks, etc. Take what you might need to your seat. This will eliminate disruptions during rehearsal. Some supplies are available for purchase before and after band rehearsal begins - not in the middle of class. There will be no credit on supplies. You must have money to buy them.

During marching band each student will be required to carry coordinate sheets. If a coordinate sheet needs to be replaced, the cost is \$1.00.

If a student's instrument is in need of repair, the instrument can be sent to the music store (Ada Music) through the school. The roadman from the music store comes once a week and would be able to pick up any repair that might be needed. You are also welcome to take it to the store yourself. Repair time is usually one to two weeks. The school will not be responsible for the bill.

Some school instruments will be issued to students. The instruments are always working properly when they are issued. If an instrument is damaged or broken while it is checked out to a student, the student will be responsible for its repair. The fee to use a school instrument is \$50.00 a year, due in full at the beginning of the year.

We will be doing business with **Ada Music**, at 315 W. 12<sup>th</sup> St. in Ada. The phone number is 580-436-0838.

## CHAIR TESTS

We are continuing our approach to chair tests this year and not having scheduled chair tests. We will be listening to students on a regular basis and will adjusting seating to suit the needs of the student and the band. This was spurred by discussions with the Leadership Council who feel this new approach will better serve the needs of the students and the quality of the band.

## PRIVATE LESSONS AND AFTER SCHOOL HELP

Students have the opportunity for private lessons. Blanchard is in a very good location. We are close enough to the University of Oklahoma and to Oklahoma City to take advantage of opportunities not available to most small school systems. We are also lucky to have many lesson teachers who come directly to the school on a weekly basis. If you are interested in taking private lessons we will get you set up with an expert on your instrument.

After school help with a director is available to help students, such as on an upcoming test or an honor band audition. After school help is not to be used weekly as a private lesson.

## PERFORMANCES

Students will perform numerous times during the year. All performances are expected and mandatory. Excuses for missing a performance must be turned in on an absence excuse form prior to the event. A performance absence excuse form can be found on Cut Time. The excuse must be made on the online form or it will not be valid. The directors will determine if the reason for the absence is excusable. Just because a form is submitted does not automatically make the absence excused. If an absence is deemed excused, an alternate make up assignment will be assigned and must be completed within one week for the student to receive credit for the missed activity. An unexcused absence from a performance, concert, or contest will result in the deduction of one letter grade from the nine weeks grade or failure for the nine weeks and possible expulsion from the band. A calendar is online and updated regularly to keep you informed of scheduled events. Plan around performances. *Work, student or parent, is not an excuse for a student to miss a performance.*

## EVENT CHECK OUT

All students must ride to and from band events on school approved transportation. Students may leave after events with their own parent/guardian by signing out with a band director. To leave with anyone else, a 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Student Transport Form, found on Cut Time, is required. It gives permission for the band director to release the student to that person, and they must then sign the student out with a band director. Emails, text messages, and phone calls **will not** be accepted in lieu of a Student Transport Form with a parent signature. The form can be found on Cut Time.

## ELIGIBILITY

In order to participate in an extra-curricular activity, you cannot be failing any of your classes. Any student deemed to be ineligible will be required to be in attendance at the event, in full uniform, and seated in a designated area within the band. The ineligible student will help the band in every way, except by performing. Failure to comply will result in a serious grade penalty determined by the band directors.

Students who show a history of eligibility problems may be removed from the band program for a period of no less than one semester. If during this time grades improve to an acceptable level, the student may be evaluated for possible reinstatement at the discretion of the directors.

We offer help for students in any subject through band tutors. We need everyone for every performance, so we do our best to help all of our students in every class. If you need help, just ask!

## DRUG TESTING

All students are required to turn in an online drug testing consent form. Blanchard randomly drug tests students involved in activities, including band. Any students suspected of abusing drugs can be recommended for testing by a director.

## GRADING

Students' grades will be determined in several ways. Throughout the year a daily grade will be given and students who are prepared will get 100% for the daily grade portion. During marching season students will be required to play several pieces by memory. Memory tests and playing tests will all count as test grades. Missing a contest, performance, rehearsal, or having excessive absences/tardies will lower a student's grade. Parents can check a student's grade at any time online at the school's gradebook (Parent Portal), tardies can be checked on by emailing a director, and you may email and check on your student any time.

The grading breakdown is as follows:

Test grades (40%)

Concerts, performances, contests, and playing tests will count as test grades.

Daily grades (50%)

Daily points are earned by being present, having all required materials, and participating in class.

Students who do not have their instrument, music, or supplies will earn zero points for that day.

Newsletters (10%)

A newsletter is emailed at the beginning of each month. Each newsletter must be responded to via email (or signed and returned to school) for a grade.

## LETTERING

All students are eligible for lettering in band. A google form will be filled out by students at the end of the year checking student participation in all band activities. Each activity is assigned a point total and if the accumulated points reach 125, the student will have lettered.

## FUNDRAISERS

We will be doing several fundraisers throughout the year. Students are expected to help and participate in all fundraisers.

## BAND BOOSTERS

The Blanchard Band Booster Club, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation organized and operated to support the instrumental music and performance ensemble programs at Blanchard High School. All parents of the band students are automatically members of this organization. The elected executive board directs the meetings and business of the group. The Booster's primary role is to provide volunteer and financial support to permit the band to prosper, both inside and outside the classroom setting. There are many opportunities for parents and family members to serve and get involved. All parents are encouraged to attend the booster meetings, which are usually held on the last Tuesday of each month (exact dates are listed in the calendar). Our next meeting is **Tuesday, August 30th, at 7:00 PM** in the High School Band Room. A current list of booster officers and their contact information can be found on the band website, [www.blanchardbands.com](http://www.blanchardbands.com).

**Parent Volunteer Needs-** There are many opportunities for parents to volunteer in support of the program, and the success of the program depends upon the willingness of parents to step up and do their part. The major areas where parent volunteers are needed are the fundraising, marching band, and concert committees. Students need to know that we think what they do is important! Your participation shows them this and you play a vital role in the success of our band family! See how you can volunteer by looking at the calendar on Cut Time and checking out the available volunteer opportunities.

As a safety precaution, all parents who want to volunteer directly with the students (tailgating, chaperoning, trailer pulling, etc.) will need to pass a background check. The cost will be **\$15.00** and these will be done at uniform checkout. You will need to bring your social security card and driver's license. If you do not do the background check at this time and decide later to volunteer, you will need to make arrangements with a band director to have one done at least one week prior to when you want to volunteer. This background check will be valid for the duration of your time as a volunteer with the Blanchard Bands unless a director has a concern and requests another, which will then be done at a cost to the band.

## MARCHING BAND

In addition to the general rules stated above, the following rules will be in affect for the following areas pertaining to the marching band.

1. Students will have instruments, music, pencils, coordinate sheets, and their OWN water bottle at all rehearsals.
2. Food, candy, gum, and beverages other than water will not be allowed in any rehearsal space at any time.
3. Students will lose their 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter privileges for the following reasons: failure to pass off show music on time, more than one unexcused absence or tardy per week, or failure to be back in the stands on time at the previous game.

## UNIFORM RULES & GUIDELINES

Respect and pride in any organization is reflected in the organizations uniform and how it is worn. They are a privilege.

Each student is responsible for the condition and care of the uniform while in his or her possession. Damage or loss of the uniform will result in the student paying for the repair or replacement.

Our uniforms are crucial to our appearance. Please understand that with all of the parts of our uniform that are white, parents will need to help their students to maintain the cleanliness of these items. Shoes, socks, and gloves should be taken home regularly to be washed, and should always be cleaned the day before a contest. Gloves can be washed in the washing machine. Shoes should be scrubbed by hand (the scrubber side of a sponge or a magic eraser work great) and polished with white/black shoe polish or scuff cover.

If gloves or socks are not appropriate (dirty, incorrect length, etc.) then students will be required to buy a new pair from a section leader or the drum major (prices from \$2-4). If the student cannot pay at that time, it is expected that the student will repay the band by the next school day.

1. Students must wear the uniform 100% correctly at all times when in public. For example, students may not arrive wearing only the pants or with the jacket unzipped. The uniform is either **all the way on**, or it is hung up and **all the way off**. The only exceptions to this are gloves, gauntlets, and the shako.
2. Black marching shoes, the band t-shirt, and gloves (brass and woodwinds only) will be worn with the uniform. LONG black socks must be worn and provided by the student; the ankles must be completely covered. The longer, the better.
3. Shako (the hat) - When worn, the shako will be worn straight forward on top of the head with the brim pulled down towards the nose. The hatbox will be carried to all football games. In addition to the shako and the hat wrap, students may store small items inside such as flip folders, lyres, valve oil, gloves, etc.
4. Jacket - the jacket will be worn completely zipped and collar hooked at all times. Exception: in extremely hot weather (directors' discretion), you may be instructed to take off the jacket as A GROUP when in the bleachers. Jackets will be carefully laid across the bleachers in this case.
5. Shoes/Socks - Shoes must be ordered through the band. They will be kept spotless. Solid, long black socks will be worn with the shoes and must completely cover the ankles. The longer, the better.
6. Gloves - the wind players will wear gloves that are unsoiled and untornd. When not wearing them, store the gloves inside the hat box.
7. Underneath - the band dry fit shirt must be worn underneath the uniform jacket; light shorts should be worn underneath the pants to facilitate speedy dressing and comfort (light colored shorts when wearing white pants, any color when wearing black/maroon pants). No jeans will be worn under the uniform. Long thin sweatpants or thermal wear may be worn in cold weather as long as it does not interfere with the correct look of the uniform.
8. Hair - Hair that is longer than collar length will be worn up inside the hat. Hair must be a natural color for all performances. Directors have the final say if hair color is appropriate. When in doubt, ask first.
9. Personal Grooming - all students will conform to the Blanchard High dress code. In addition, no jewelry is to be worn and one should not wear excessive make-up.

## UNIFORM CARE

The uniform is to be treated with respect at all times. After a performance,

1. HANG IT UP CORRECTLY - never allow your uniform to lay on the ground. Section leaders are responsible for checking the uniforms after each performance for correct hanging on the uniform hanger.
2. The uniform will be cleaned at least twice a year by the band. Stains are very difficult to get out of uniforms, so BE CAREFUL! If an accident does occur, the student is responsible for notifying the directors immediately and cleaning the uniform before the next time it is to be worn. Uniforms are only to be dry-cleaned. *Do not wash them in a washing machine.*
3. When storing the uniform after a performance, make sure it is complete: check for loose or missing buttons and that the zippers work. If you have a problem, contact a director WELL BEFORE the next event so that repairs can be made.

## FOOTBALL GAME RULES & GUIDELINES

The impression (at ALL times, not just on the field) the band makes at football games and contests is very important to the reputation of the band and the school. The individual member's participation, demeanor, and behavior at football games and performances contribute to the overall effect of the band's performance.

Students will observe the following rules and guidelines in order to reflect the best of the Blanchard Band:

1. Each member is responsible for his/her equipment at all times. Extra care should be taken in the bleachers to avoid damage to the instrument. Instruments and music must be put in cases. Sticks should be placed in the box/bag. Do not leave equipment laying around for someone to break or steal.
2. Students will be in full uniform and remain in full uniform until dismissed at the end of a performance. Do not wear anything in addition (baseball caps, bandanas, etc.) to your uniform without permission from a director. During cold weather you may be allowed to wear a hat or gloves to keep warm (directors' discretion).
3. Students will remain within their sections and will not move around during the game.
4. Students will not have any wet foods or beverages other than water at any time while in uniform. Water is allowed at any time while in uniform. During 3rd quarter students may bring and eat dry foods (candy bars, granola bars, popcorn, pretzels w/o cheese dip, hot dogs w/o toppings, etc.) in the stands. The directors will have the final say on what you can and cannot eat while in uniform.
5. Students will remain in full uniform (no shako and no gloves) during 3rd quarter break. Students will be back in their section in the assigned row at the designated time ready to perform; being late from the break will result in the loss of break privilege for that student at the next game.
6. Only band personnel will be allowed in the band's bleacher section. Parents may not sit in the designated seating area, and no one except directors, instructors, and drum majors will be allowed to stand in front of the band.
7. Students will perform and remain with the band until dismissed at the end of the game. No early dismissals will be allowed without prior clearance with the directors.
8. Restroom breaks are not permitted as a full group. You MUST plan ahead and prepare to not use the restroom during performances.

## COLOR GUARD

Color guard members are held to the same standards as band members in regards to expectations, attendance, equipment, performances, eligibility, grading, and fundraisers.

Uniforms will be measured for and ordered in the summer. If the uniform doesn't fit properly when school begins, each guard member will be financially responsible for alteration expenses, or for ordering a new uniform.

Only guard members are allowed to use the guard equipment. Any damages to equipment will result in a guard member reimbursing the band for the equipment's repair or replacement.

Guard members must return all school issued equipment and uniforms in good condition at the end of marching season. Failure to do so will result in ineligibility for future tryouts and must be paid for prior to the end of the year.

Each year at least one guard captain will be chosen from those students who complete the Leadership Council application process.

The guard fee is **\$450 for rookies and \$350** for returning members and includes the uniform, shoes, band t-shirt, band dry-fit, band jacket, and equipment. A minimum of \$100 must be paid at uniform checkout. All fees must be paid in full by Winter Break in December. See a director for payment options.

# SYMPHONIC BAND

## GENERAL RULES & GUIDELINES

These rules will apply in addition to all school and district policies.

1. Students will attend all rehearsals and performances on time with the correct equipment.
2. Food, drinks, gum, or candy is not allowed at any time in the band room. Water will always be allowed in all circumstances.
3. Students will remain quiet and attentive to instructions given from directors, student teachers, and other instructors during all rehearsals. Water/restroom breaks, supply purchases, and other errands should be taken care of BEFORE the rehearsal begins. However, if a personal emergency arises the student may take care of it as promptly as possible without distracting others from the rehearsal. If a student abuses this policy they will lose this privilege.
4. Students will not have other homework, books, or other distractions of any kind in rehearsal without specific permission from the director.
5. Students will store all instruments, mallets, music, etc. in the correct location after rehearsals and performances. All storage containers (cases, drawers, bags, etc.) must be closed and latched.
6. Instrument cubbies or their equivalent will be kept neat and clean at all times. Items that can be in your cubby include instruments, music, marching shoes (during marching season), flip folders, pencils, and school books. There should NEVER be any food or drinks in your cubby. The director reserves the right to enter a cubby as needed. See the Instrument Room agreement form (online) more details.

## CONCERT UNIFORM

A separate uniform is used for concert season called concert black. The purpose of concert black is uniformity and blend. We want the focus to be on the music and the ensemble, not the individual. Any jewelry needs to be modest (no bright colors) and not draw attention to itself (no bright colors). Hair must be a natural color for all performances. Directors have the final say if hair color is appropriate. When in doubt, ask first.

Guys need to wear black dress slacks, long, black socks, black dress shoes, and a black, long sleeve, collared, button down dress shirt (black or white buttons are acceptable). A black belt is recommended but not required. Girls need to wear black dress slacks, black socks or hose, black dress shoes (closed toe and heels one inch or shorter), and a black dress shirt with sleeves. Sleeveless shirts are not acceptable. Girls may wear dresses or skirts but they must be ankle length. Skirts/dresses that are knee length must be worn with black, non-see through tights.

If you are at all concerned about your student's attire, please have him/her bring it in or email pictures before a performance. We also have files on Cut Time that show examples of appropriate and inappropriate concert black. We are glad to help your student get everything he/she needs regarding concert black attire so if you have any issues getting these items, notify a director as early as possible and we will provide anything you need. Any students not appropriately dressed may be removed from a performance and for grading purposes, this will be treated as a missed performance.

