Columbia High School Band

2015-2016 Handbook

Columbia High School
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West Columbia, TX  77486
979-345-5147 ext. 2020
www.cbisd.com/band
columbiasroughneckband.wikispaces.com

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Welcome

Welcome to the Columbia High School Roughneck Band! The Roughneck Band is a fun and exciting organization designed to provide a strong background in music through daily instruction and public performances. In addition to musical skill, each student develops skills in teamwork, citizenship, leadership, good sportsmanship, and responsibility. This is more than just a band class; the students come together and grow as a “family.”

This handbook has been compiled to help orient students and their parents to the many different aspects of the band. This will help make the Columbia High School Band an organization of which the community and the students can be proud. Through all of this each student will have a sense of pride for themselves and their band program and an understanding that a sense of accomplishment comes with hard work.

The procedures and regulations in this handbook reflect those of the Columbia-Brazoria Independent School District and Columbia High School. All District and Campus rules apply to all band activities.

Please read all the information included in this handbook and then sign the statement of understanding included in the back of the handbook.

Website and Charms

The CHS Roughneck Band maintains a website at www.cbisd.com/band and at https://sites.google.com/a/cbisd.com/chs-band/. These sites are updated on a regular basis with current information about activities and accomplishments of the Roughneck Band. You can also find copies of necessary forms for trips and activities. In addition, there is general information about the band programs of all of the CBISD campuses. We also use Charms software at www.charmsoffice.com, which is an online program to provide information to students and parents, and to organize the band program. To access Charms go to the band website or wiki and read the instructions printed there. You can also receive text updates by way of Twitter (@ColumbiaHSBand) and we have a FaceBook organization page (Columbia High School Roughneck Band). Please bookmark these sites and visit them often.
Eligibility

If a student earns a grade of 69 or less in any subject (except AP, Calculus, PreCal, and Honors classes) on any six-week report card, they are not allowed to participate in any activity that involves competition, out-of-district travel, and performing in pep rallies and parades. If a student is passing all of his/her classes after the three weeks period then they can regain their eligibility. If the student is not passing at that time then that student will remain ineligible until the end of the grading period. This is state law. A seven calendar day grace and waiting period is always applicable. You can check the band website/wiki for the eligibility calendar.

Participation

Students are expected to participate in all activities, rehearsals, competitions, and performances of the Columbia High School Band program. Students will be excused from participation for personal illness or immediate family emergency only. Students who cannot attend a performance or practice outside of school time must notify the Directors in advance and in writing. Work is not considered a legitimate excuse for an absence. Students are asked to check the band calendar and note the required rehearsals and performances. Students who are absent from rehearsals, performances, and extra-curricular activities for un-excused reasons or due to ineligibility may at the director's discretion be moved to an alternate position and/or lower performing group. Students may be removed from the band program at the end of a semester if they are unable or unwilling to participate in rehearsals and curricular and/or extra-curricular activities. Directors will determine whether an absence is excused or unexcused.

Grading Policy

Each semester a syllabus will be distributed to students listing assignments for the semester. Grades will come from a combination of after school rehearsal/sectional attendance, weekly playing assignments, playoff tests, class participation, special assigned projects, and participation in regular events. Students are required to attend all activities. It is the student’s responsibility to check the calendar and make arrangements to attend all band activities. If a student becomes ineligible for a six weeks or has an excused absence from an event, alternative assignments will be available for the events they miss. These alternative assignments are due on the Monday following the missed event.
The Mighty Roughneck Marching Band

The marching band is a very unique unit of a band program. Students get the experience of performing in front of an audience each week and the community gets to enjoy the entertainment the band provides.

The marching band serves two main purposes. First of all, it is instrumental in teaching a vital phase of music education that cannot be taught elsewhere. It teaches all the fundamentals that the concert band teaches plus adds an even greater emphasis on the development of coordination, rhythm, organized thinking, and self-discipline. It affords a great opportunity for the development of leadership qualities and abilities.

Secondly, the marching band is to serve as a public relations and entertainment medium by providing half-time programs at football games and performing for other school and community functions.

Rules and Expectations for Marching Band

- Marching season for the Mighty Roughneck Band usually begins the last week of July with fundamental camp for rookies and full band. Then each week day for the month of August the band rehearses in preparation for the marching season and the first football game on the first week of school. Summer Band is an extremely important time and all band members are expected to attend. Failure to attend Summer Band may result in loss of marching show position or removal from the program. If a student must miss Summer Band, the directors must be notified in writing before it starts.
- Once school begins, during marching season rehearsals are Monday night from 6:30 – 8:30 pm in the stadium, and Tuesday through Thursday from 3:15 – 5:00 pm on the parking lot by the stadium. These are in addition to the regular school day rehearsals. All rehearsals are required. The director reserves the right to change practice times.
- Rehearsals will start on time. If a student is to be late one of the directors must be notified in writing before the time of practice. If a student has unexcused tardies that student will serve 30 minutes time after school to make up for the tardies.
Rehearsal will end as a group. Anyone that must leave early must notify one of the directors in writing. If you have unexcused leaves in a week then the student will serve 30 minutes after school to make up for the leaves. If you have more than 2 unexcused absences or unexcused tardies in any given week then you may not march at half-time on the Friday night game. Students will have to play off the marching music for that week from memory to one of the directors. If the student does not pass the playoff by Thursday afternoon of that week then the student may not be allowed to march at the Friday night game. Students must be changed into their marching clothes, tennis shoes and socks and report with their instruments, flip folder with music and drill charts/coordinate sheets to the designated marching practice area by the start of rehearsal. Students are to have comfortable shoes for marching. Socks are required. Tennis shoes with laces are the preferred kind of marching shoe. No sandals, loafers, boots, street shoes, Toms, or bare feet are allowed. You will be asked to leave practice if inappropriate shoes are worn and it will be counted as one unexcused absent. Students need to bring water and sunscreen to rehearsals. Hats and sunglasses should also be worn at practice. It gets hot out there so please come prepared.

**Football Games**

The band has an important part to play at football games. Because the band is there to perform and support the football team, students need to act accordingly. From the time we start inspections in the band hall until the time we dismiss the students from the band hall the band is always performing. **The full band uniform will be worn at all times** unless authorized otherwise by the director. **Food and Gum will not be allowed in the band setting. Water** is the only drink allowed in the band setting. All School and Band rules apply at all the Football Games.

**Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band**

These are the band organizations for the late Fall and Spring. Auditions will be in May of the previous year for the Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band. Both bands work on fundamentals of playing their instruments and participation in an ensemble. Both bands present a concert in December and May, and participate in the UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contest in March or April. There will be some evening rehearsals and clinics, as well as a Pre-UIL concert planned in preparation for these events.
Roughneck Jazz Band

The Roughneck Jazz Band meets after school during the school year. In this group students learn about the history, theory, and practice of America’s only original art form. The Jazz Band performs regularly throughout the year for lunches, school concerts, and local organizations.

General Rules for the Roughneck Bands

1. Be prepared! Be in assigned seat with instrument, music folder, and pencil ready to play before the tardy bell rings or before the time assigned by the director.

2. Listen to the directors and band leaders by following directions and instructions, and not talking during rehearsals.

3. Take care of our home and equipment...No gum, food, candy, or beverages (except bottled water) are allowed in the band hall! Help keep the band area clean. Take the proper care of all equipment and facilities.

4. Respect your directors and classmates and work with a positive attitude at all times.

5. The school code of conduct and dress code will be followed at all times during the school year.

Consequences of Breaking the Rules

1st occurrence: Warning (This will be your only warning)
2nd occurrence: Reduction of grade, conference with student, and a phone call to the parents.
3rd occurrence: Reduction of grade, conference with student, parent and principal, plus detention.
4th occurrence: Immediate removal from band.

Severe disciple problems will mandate immediate removal from class and may incur removal from the band program upon the band director’s discretion.
ATSSB Region, Area, and State Bands

The Roughneck Band is a member of ATSSB – Association of Texas Small School Bands – which sponsors Region, Area, and State Band competitions each year for concert and jazz bands. Students compete against band students from schools across the state. Music is distributed at the beginning of the school year and is learned by all students. They then have the opportunity to sign-up for the first round of auditions for Region Band in December. For those who qualify, the second level is the Area Band auditions in January to determine the All-State Band members. The ultimate experience is the ATSSB All-State Band, where students spend several days in February in San Antonio preparing and performing a concert for music educators from across the state.

UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest

Students have the opportunity to participate in the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest in February. Students choose to prepare a solo with piano accompaniment and/or participate in a small ensemble of like instruments. They prepare the music and then play for a judge who critiques their performance and gives them a rating. Those who receive a Superior or I rating on an ensemble or memorized solo have the opportunity to participate in the UIL State Solo and Ensemble Contest at the end of May.
School Instruments and Uniforms

Since the Columbia-Brazoria Independent School District provides the best possible instruments and uniforms available, extra care must be taken to insure that they are kept in good condition.

Instruments

- All students using school instruments will complete a School Instrument Checkout agreement.
- Any students seen intentionally misusing any school instrument will pay for the damage of that instrument and be removed from the band program.
- Students are responsible for any damage done to the instrument while in the students care, aside from normal wear and tear.
- Proper accessories reeds, oils, mouthpieces, etc., must be purchased by the student in order to keep the instrument in proper playing condition.

Uniforms

- The cost for cleaning is part of the band budget. The school takes care of sending uniforms to cleaners when needed.
- After every game students are to hang the uniforms back up properly and return the uniforms to their proper place.
- Students are responsible for any damage done to the uniform besides normal wear and tear.
- Students are responsible for any items of the uniform if they are lost while the uniform is in their care.
- If the uniform gets dirty the students are then responsible for paying to have that uniform dry cleaned other than scheduled cleanings.
- In addition to the uniform provided by the school, students are to purchase the following:
  - Black Marching shoes (these are ordered through the school)
  - Knee/mid-calf length solid black socks
  - Solid black long basketball type shorts
  - Maroon band shirt and show shirt (these are ordered through the school)
  - For colder weather, any coats, sweatshirts, hoodies, etc., that are worn must be maroon or black and match uniform colors.
  - No jewelry is to be worn with the uniform, and hair ribbons must be maroon or black and match uniform colors.
Twirlers and Color Guard

Twirlers and Color Guard members are an essential part to the Columbia Band Program. Band is always first and then these organizations. The sponsors for these organizations help the director by teaching the fundamentals needed to be proficient in their performances. Being part of the band the band director has full control of the functioning and happenings of these groups. Twirlers have the opportunity to participate in the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest at the region and state level.

Columbia High School Twirler and Color Guard Guidelines are available as separate documents both online and on request.

Drum Major

The Drum Majors are a vital part of the band. The drum major is a person that has the responsibility to aid the band director during marching rehearsals. The drum major also conducts the band during the half-time shows and also in the stands during the games. The drum major is a person in the band that the other band members in the band respect. Tryouts for drum major take place during the spring.

Requirements for Drum Major

- Leader in the band.
- Has not failed any six weeks during the previous year.
- Must be a Junior or Senior.
- Has to show good musicianship within the band.
- Has to have been in the band the previous year.

Tryouts

Tryouts will consist of the following:

- Teaching
- Vocal Commands
- Conducting of time and prepared piece
- Marching routine execution
- Interview and director’s score
Letter Jackets

Band letter jackets will be awarded to students who have successfully passed and completed two years (four semesters) of service with the Columbia High School Band, or has made the TMEA/ATSSB All-State Band or Jazz Band, or who qualify for the Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest in either a solo or ensemble. For those who have completed the requirements, letter jackets will be ordered in the spring and delivered the following semester. To receive the jackets, students must be enrolled in band during the school year they are delivered.
Please sign and return the following forms:

**Handbook Form:** This is to verify that you and your child have read the CHS Band Handbook and understand its contents.

**Parent Consent Form:** This is the CBISD required form to grant permission for your child to attend CHS Band activities.

**Parent/Student UIL Marching Band Acknowledgement Form:** This is to verify that the band has followed the UIL rules for marching band. We will be very careful to stay within the rehearsal guidelines for the year. Please sign and return.

**Band Fees, Equipment, and Supplies:** This is a list of items your student needs for band. If you have not already done so, please fill out the form and the amounts and return to the band directors. You can send your payment with the order, or pay when you pick up the items. If you pay by check, please include your driver’s license number on the check.

**Medical Release Form:** This form serves two purposes…this is an information sheet for us to use to contact you and keep you informed of the happenings of the CHS Roughneck Band and it is our band medical information/release form. Please fill it out completely…all information will be kept confidential and only used by the CHS Roughneck Band and its organizations.

**Illegal Steroid Use Parent and Student Notification/Agreement Form:** This is a state required UIL form. Please fill it out and return.

**CBISD Mandatory Random Drug Testing Form:** This is the district information and form and also available on the school website. Please fill it out and return.
Columbia High School Handbook Form

My child and I have read the Columbia ISD Band handbook and understand fully, the content contained and the spirit of intent by which it is written. We also understand that if at any time, and/or for any reason, my child cannot follow the policies and guidelines set forth by the Director, classroom teachers, or a school administration, he/she will be subject to consequences stated in this handbook as well as the Columbia High School Handbook.

Furthermore we are all here to work together to make Columbia High school band an outstanding organization. Therefore, we also acknowledge our intent to contribute positively, as a parent and student, to the Columbia ISD Band program.

______________________________
Mother/guardian signature

______________________________
Father/guardian signature

________________________________
Date

________________________________
Student’s Signature

________________________________
Date
PARENT CONSENT FORM

This is to certify that my son/daughter ____________________________________________ has my permission to go on ALL COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL ROUGHNECK BAND TRIPS AND EVENTS with the COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL ROUGHNECK BAND. I understand that he/she will leave and return ON VARIOUS DATES AT DIFFERENT TIMES PER THE CHS BAND CALENDAR.

I hereby release the Columbia-Brazoria Independent School District and the sponsor from liability and waive any and all claims against school authorities individually of collectively for any injuries which might be received during the trip either at the destination or in traveling to or from said destination.

RANDY D. MARBLE, JOSH BASKIN, FRED MEYER, AND MAX SEVERN has/does not have my permission (please circle one) to act in my place in any medical emergency.

________________________________________________  
Signature of parent or guardian

________________________________________________  
Date of signature

________________________________________________  
Signature of student

Please sign and return to the band director as soon as possible.
**Band Fees, Equipment, and Supplies**

Name of Student: __________________________________________________

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<tr>
<th>Show T-Shirt - $15 ..........every student needs one!</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T-shirt size (adult sizes)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Extra Show Shirt - $15 each</th>
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<td>Quantity: ___________ Sizes: ______________________________________</td>
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<tr>
<th>Maroon CHS Band T-Shirt - $15 ..........every student</th>
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<td>(except Color Guard) needs one.....same shirt as last year!</td>
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<td>T-shirt size (adult sizes)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Extra Maroon Band Shirt - $15 each</th>
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<td>Quantity: ___________ Sizes: ______________________________________</td>
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| Marching Shoes - $35 ...every student needs a pair (except Color   |
| Guard). We will have a set of shoes for the students to try for     |
| their size.                                                        |
| Shoe size __________________________________________________________________________|

| Gloves - $5 ...every student (except Color Guard and percussion)   |
| needs them. Sizes are Small, Medium, Large, Xtra-Large.            |
| Glove size __________________________________________________________________________|

Total: ______________________________________________________________________________________

**Please note:**
- We will have samples to measure for shoes and gloves during summer band.
- You may pay with check or cash.
- All fees except the Uniform Cleaning fees are due by the first day of school.
- Make checks payable to “CHS Activity Fund”. Your check must not exceed $100 per check. Please make sure your Drivers’ License number is on the check.
- We will make a receipt and give it to your child.
Medical Release Form

Name of Student: ______________________________________________________________

Father’s/Guardian’s Name: __________________________________________________

Mother’s/Guardian’s Name: __________________________________________________

Student lives with: □ Father    □ Mother  □ Both

Mailing Address: ______________________________________________________________

Home phone: ________________________________________________________________

Mom’s Cell phone: ___________________________ Dad’s Cell phone: ______________________

Mom’s Work phone: ___________________________ Dad’s Work phone: ______________________

Mom’s Email address: _______________________ Dad’s Email address: _____________________

Emergency Contact Name: ______________________ Phone number(s): ______________________

Name of home physician ______________________ Phone ( ) ______________________

Insurance carrier ______________________________________________________________

Policy name and number _________________________________________________________

Important medical information (allergies, alerts, drug reactions, etc.) ______________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Blood type (if known) Date of last tetanus shot

List any medication that will be taken by the student on the trip _________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

In the event of a medical emergency and if I cannot be contacted, I hereby give permission for my child to receive appropriate medical treatment. I also hereby release school officials, chaperones, and resort personnel from any liability for any actions taken in the normal course of their duties.

Signature of Parent/Guardian ______________________ Date ______________________


The UIL Marching Form, UIL Steroid Form, and CBISD Random Drug Testing info is on the band website and GSite https://sites.google.com/a/cbsd.com/chs-band/ and the Charms website.