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# Leander High School

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## Lion Band<sub>d</sub>



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## *2021-2022 Handbook*

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Robert Selaiden, Director of Bands

Ryan Sirna, Associate Director

Michael Swiren, Associate Director

Michael Zellers, Percussion Instructor

Chris Simpson, Principal

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## ***Foreword***

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

By accepting membership in the Leander High School Band, you are agreeing to perform to the best of your abilities and work together with the band staff in making this year's band the finest musical organization that our combined efforts can produce. In order for this to occur, students will need to be responsible, attentive, and respectful, have a positive attitude, and follow the LISD Ten Ethical Principles. The directors will do their best to ensure that every student will be provided the opportunity to be successful, regardless of their ability as an incoming student or of their career ambitions following graduation.

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

## ***Mission***

The Leander High School Band - Excel through Innovation, Lead with Integrity, Unify through Leadership.

## ***Communication***

The directors encourage positive communication and are willing to discuss any aspect of a student's progress in band with his/her parents. Specific directors' office phone numbers and email addresses can be found on the band website.

## ***Financial Obligations***

It is the philosophy of the Leander High School Band that no student should be denied the privilege of band membership due to financial hardship. For options in meeting financial obligations, parents should contact the director.

### ***Full Program Cost***

*Dependent on the year and need of the band student. Costs change year to year, and the number of years in the program may affect what students owe.*

### Fair Share Fee

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

### Assessed Fees

Fees listed below are approximate and may vary from student to student. Each student will receive an estimated expense sheet with their applicable expenses.

- Shoes: All marching band students must have the approved MTX black shoes. No other shoe will be acceptable. Approximate cost: \$50.00
- Lion Band Shirt: Worn at designated games, pep-rallies, informal concerts/events, etc., Cost: \$15.
- Leander Band shorts (informal uniform): Worn at all designated games, pep-rallies, informal concerts/events., Cost: \$20
- Theme Shirt: Will be worn at designated games/competitions (underneath uniform). Cost: \$10 - \$15.
- Uniform Cleaning: All marching uniforms are professionally cleaned at the same time.
- Misc. Supplies: Including, but not limited to, various supplies such as lyres, flip folders, raincoats, water jugs etc. The costs may vary from year to year.

### Equipment Fee - \$62.50

This fee is for students with district-owned instruments, percussion, and color guard. It is to offset the cost of chemical cleaning and minor repairs for the end of the school year.

### Spring Trip

The band students will take a trip in the spring if approved.

## ***Fundraising***

The Leander High School Band and Band Booster Club engage in fundraising activities throughout each year. The monies raised from fundraising activities will be credited to an account held by the Booster Club and is subject to all state laws. This money will be used only for the direct benefit of the band program.

## ***Care of the Band Facilities***

*Refreshments* – No gum, food or drinks are allowed in the building except when authorized by the directors.

*Litter* – All trash (paper, broken reeds/drum sticks, etc.) is to be deposited in the wastebaskets provided.

*Vandalism* – Acts of vandalism or the willful misuse of school property will be dealt with severely and appropriately. Every band member is responsible to help the directors monitor the facility and control vandalism, which includes writing or carving on walls, destroying music, or breaking school property.

*Workroom* – Absolutely no student is allowed in the workroom without permission. The copy machine is off limits without permission!!!

*Practice & Ensemble Rooms* – Are designed for practicing, not social gatherings.

*Offices* – Please knock, and if you are invited in, you may enter. Otherwise, they are off-limits to students. Students may not use directors' phones without permission.

## ***Daily Supplies***

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

- All issued music
- Pencil
- Instrument
- All supplies relative to their instrument
- All marching related equipment (during marching season)
- Drill/dot book/lanyard/coordinate sheet
- Lyre/folder
- Other marching equipment as needed (could vary from year to year)

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

The following list for each instrument is composed of preferred or highly recommended supplies and equipment. Any deviance from this list should be approved by a director. Private lesson teachers may make recommendations that stray from this list after consulting with an LHS band director.

Flutes

- Tuning and cleaning rods
- Cleaning cloth
- Key oil
- Approved type instrument (see LISD list)
- Screwdriver Set

Clarinets

- Three good playable reeds. Vandoren Blue Box, and V-12's are the approved reeds.
- Reed guard (plastic, with rubber bands to hold reed in the guard are preferred)
- Ligature (Bonade, Inverted strongly recommended)
- Proper mouthpiece with cap (Vandoren 5 RV Lyre)
- Key oil (Case Storage)
- Bore oil (Home Storage)
- Cleaning swab (silk handkerchief style, with covered weight)
- Approved type instrument (Buffet R13 preferred)
- Cork grease

Saxes /Bass Clarinet as applicable

- Three good playable reeds. Vandoren is the approved reed.
- Reed guard
- Ligature
- Proper mouthpiece (Selmer C star)
- Neck Strap (Bass Clarinet players included)
- Pad and neck saver
- Approved type instrument

Trumpet

- Valve oil (Al Cass)
- Polishing cloth
- Mouthpiece (Bach 3c or 5c) or other director approved mouthpiece
- Approved type instrument
- BERP

French Horn

- Valve/Rotary oil - (Al Cass - Marching Horn) (Holton Rotary - Concert Horn)
- Polishing cloth
- Approved mouthpiece (Holton Farkas)
- Approved type instrument (provided by district)
- BERP

Trombone

- Slide cream
- Spray Water Bottle

- Polishing Cloth
- Mouthpiece (Bach 5G or 51D) or other director approved mouthpiece
- Approved type instrument
- BERP

#### Baritone/Euphonium

- Valve oil (Al Cass)
- Mouthpiece (Bach 5G or 51D) or other director approved mouthpiece
- Polishing cloth
- Approved type instrument (provided by school)
- BERP

#### Tuba

- Valve/Rotary oil - (Al Cass –Sousa Valves /Holton – Concert Rotors)
- Mouthpiece (Bach 24 AW, Helleberg, or Miraphone Rose Model)
- Polishing cloth
- Approved type instrument (provided by district)
- BERP

#### Percussion

- Snare sticks - Vic Firth SD1 General
- Xylophone mallets (Musser M-4, 213)
- Vibes/Marimba mallet (Blue Medium)
- Timpani mallets (Firth Staccato)
- Stick bag
- List of approved equipment provided by the percussion instructor, or any appropriate variation of the above

#### Color Guard

- Pole
- Flag
- Rifle (if applicable)
- Sabre (if applicable)
- Electrical Tape
- Gloves

### ***District-Owned Instruments***

LISD will provide a limited number of instruments for student use. These instruments include highly expensive instruments such as the bassoon, oboe, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, french horn, euphonium, tuba, and general percussion equipment. This equipment is generally purchased by the school district for student use because of its extremely high expense. *Thus, all*

*district owned equipment must be handled with optimum care.* Students failing to take proper care of their school-issued instrument may lose the privilege to use such instruments.

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

- Order of distribution will be done based on chair order. If possible, students who play large instruments and are dependent upon LISD buses may be issued one instrument for home use and one for school use. This will be at the discretion of the directors and will be based on instrument availability and transportation needs.
- LISD does not provide insurance for individually owned or district-owned equipment. It is required of all students utilizing district-owned instruments to provide insurance coverage for the instrument that has been issued to them. Students will be held responsible for all district-owned instruments issued to them. This responsibility will include fire, theft, accidental damage, abuse and general maintenance not incurred through normal use.
- Students and parents must sign an instrument checkout form before the student can use the instrument.
- Each instrument will be issued in good playing condition. Each issued instrument will be checked and cleaned prior to issue. Students are expected to maintain their issued instruments accordingly.
- The band member is financially responsible for all equipment and/or materials checked out to him or her.
- All equipment and materials must be kept in their proper storage location when not in use.
- LISD will assess a fee for routine (end of year) cleaning and maintenance of district-owned instruments. This fee will be collected at the beginning of each school year, by the Leander Band Boosters, and then forwarded to LISD (this fee does not cover removal of dents or other student-responsible repairs).

### *Special Note*

District-owned instruments are not to be treated as "free" instruments. Basic supplies must still be purchased, and repairs must still be made just like personally owned instruments. Please strive to treat these instruments as if they were your own. Most district-owned instruments exceed \$2,000 in value.

## ***Grading Guidelines***

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



mastery of the instructional objectives. The student's mastery level of these objectives is a major factor in determining the grade for a subject or course.

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

A band member's six weeks grade will be determined from the following items: student's daily preparation and participation - **40%**, performances/individual testing - **40%**, and extended classroom activities such as sectionals and before/after school rehearsals - **20%**. For more specific information pertaining to how a student's grade is determined, please consult the director.

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

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

## ***Concert Ensembles***

Wind Ensemble — selection into this group is by audition, director recommendation, and demonstration of academic proficiency. Members in this ensemble will participate in the TMEA Region Band process, UIL Marching Contest, UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest, and UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contest. Members of this group will have a one-hour section rehearsal and an assigned hearing time outside of the school day. The Wind Symphony will give numerous

performances both on and off campus. In UIL activities, this group will be designated the “Varsity” band.

Symphonic Winds, Symphonic Band, Concert Band— selection into any of these groups is by audition. These groups, at varying levels, will participate in UIL Marching Contest, UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest, and UIL Concert and Sight-reading Evaluation. Members of the Symphonic Winds will participate in the TMEA Region Band process. Members in these groups will have a one-hour section rehearsal and may have an assigned hearing time outside of the school. These groups will give a variety of performances. In UIL activities, these groups will be designated as the “Non-Varsity” and “Sub Non-Varsity” bands.

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

## ***Auditions***

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

## ***Performance/Rehearsal Requirements for Concert Ensembles***

Each of the concert ensembles will perform at various times throughout the school year. Students are expected to participate in the performances of their assigned ensemble. Failure to participate in either rehearsals or performances may result in student removal from the organization at the discretion of the band directors (see general attendance policies).

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

- Music Camp Performance (1<sup>st</sup> performance of the show)
- Winter Concert
- Spring Concert
- Band Festivals/Pre-UIL Contest
- UIL Contest
- Spring Trip Festival
- Honor Band Recording(s) – April & May

### *Concerts/Performances*

Concerts and performances are an integral component of the band curriculum. Students should consult their schedules for dates and times. Periodically, the schedule may change, and updates will be communicated. Concerts are considered to have three parts: warm-up, performance, and listening. The concert begins for the student at the warm-up. Punctuality is essential. A concert concludes after the last group performs and directors have given permission for students to be dismissed. A general report time will be given for all students.

- All concerts are a group effort; thus, attendance is required.
- All concerts are an extension of the classroom and will be graded accordingly.
- Students should be punctual and prepared for each performance/concert.
- In the event a performance causes a student to miss another class, the student is responsible to make up all missed work!
- The appropriate dress for all concerts will be a dress uniform (see Uniforms).
- Students are expected to stay the entire concert.
- Students are expected to help move equipment and “stack-n-rack” chairs and stands when needed.

## ***Section Rehearsals/Master Classes***

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

During football season, students will have a weekly Master Class for the fundamentals of instrument technique and region music preparation. These Master Classes may be taught by a professional on the specific instrument, such as a private lesson teacher, or by a band director. Master Classes will begin in August and continue through Region Band Auditions. These are separate from all other rehearsals.

After football season, all students will have one weekly section rehearsal and one full ensemble rehearsal with their concert band. The Sectional will be directed by the band director of the concert ensemble and will be primarily focused on music that the student’s concert ensemble is preparing for future concerts and contests. Students are expected to be punctual and prepared on a weekly basis. Absence from section rehearsals must be in accordance with the attendance policy. Students must make every effort to attend. Section rehearsals are an extension of the classroom and are graded accordingly. Section rehearsal schedules may be found on the band web site or by contacting the student’s director.

## ***Private Lesson Program***

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

instruments. Lessons are extremely valuable to the individual student and are highly encouraged.

- *ALL* students are strongly *ENCOURAGED* to take individualized private instruction.
- Teachers are screened and interviewed by the district.
- Lessons will be given weekly, preferably during the band classes.
- If there is a need for before/after school lessons, every effort will be made to schedule private lessons at times that do not conflict with marching rehearsals, sectionals, or other activities.
- Detailed information will be distributed on the private lesson program.

## ***Marching Band***

### *Background Information*

Leander ISD has enjoyed a high reputation for excellence in music performance, including marching band, for many years. The marching band is the most visible aspect of the band program. The marching band provides performance opportunities for band students while integrating the band program into school and community activities.

### *Marching Band Participation*

As an integral part of the band program, Leander ISD's philosophy is that educationally, historically, and musically, marching band is an essential ingredient in a well-rounded music education in band. LISD believes that music students need to develop the ability to participate and perform in different ensemble experiences which, for band students, includes the marching band. As a result, marching band is required for all high school students who elect to take an academic band performance course. However, students who have medical complications or physical disabilities may be excused from participation at the discretion of the head band director. Philosophy regarding all aspects of high school band stems from TEA/UIIL guidelines which govern all Texas schools.

### *Physical Education Substitution Credit*

As an artistic endeavor, each rehearsal and performance by the marching band is mentally and physically demanding. For the full marching band performance, students are always on task and must bring to the experience their best performance skills. As a result, each student in the marching band is eligible to receive a physical education substitution credit (maximum 1.5 credits) in accordance with TEA guidelines.

### *Marching Band an Integral Component of State Curriculum Requirements*

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

demonstrate musical artistry through the ensemble, individual music performance skills and techniques, marching performance skills and techniques, and critical thinking skills that include auditory, spatial, and visual awareness.

#### High Academic Standards Maintained by Students

The opportunity for weekly performance is a motivating factor for academic achievement for marching band students, since only by maintaining their eligibility can they continue to perform. As a result, the directors have documented the fact that the least number of ineligible band students during the year occurs during the marching season.

#### Color Guard

Students in Color Guard are a part of the marching band and participate in all activities, including Winter Guard. Band students in Color Guard must be enrolled in the band elective. Students not in band may audition for and participate in Color Guard with the approval of the Head Band Director. As members of the marching band, Color Guard students receive a physical education substitution credit.

#### Grading

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

#### Practice Time Limits

Marching band practice times are regulated by TEA/UIIL guidelines. Adherence to these guidelines is the responsibility of the Head Band Director at each high school. As per TEA and UIL rules, "The members of a marching band or any of its components may not begin the marching preparation for a UIL contest presentation prior to August 1. In addition, no more than ten hours of director-supervised instructional time may be devoted to marching fundamentals between the end of the previous school term and August 1." Music preparation is not affected by this ten-hour rule. Between August 1 and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school, practice schedules are determined by the Head Band Director. During the school year, no more than 8 hours of rehearsal per week, outside of the school day, is allowed. Exceptions to the 8-hour rule include preparation immediately before games and competitions. LISD observes all of these guidelines.

#### Rehearsal and Performance Schedules

Rehearsal and performance schedules are determined by each band staff and are published on the band's web site.

#### Instruments

Marching band students who play an instrument that LISD does not provide (flute, clarinet, alto sax, trumpet and trombone) must personally provide, march and perform with the same

instrument they use in band or a second instrument of the same type that is approved by the Head Band Director.

Students are responsible for all maintenance on their instrument, whether it is a district-owned or personally owned instrument.

## ***Marching Band Positions***

### *Primary Marchers*

Students who earn a position in the marching band will carry the designation of primary marcher. A primary marcher is a student who:

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

Special Note: Students who fail to meet the music memorization requirement may be penalized by one of the following: a) perform at a football game without a mouthpiece b) loss of position as a primary marcher, c) loss of performance opportunity, or d) performance as a marcher only.

### *X-Box/Alternates*

The band directors will keep the number of alternates to a minimum; however, they are a necessary and vital aspect of our program due to the UIL “No Pass/No Play” rules and to prepare for possible substitutions due to injury, sustained illness, etc. Alternates will meet the same attendance, rehearsal, memorization, academic, and performance requirements of primary marchers. Specific drill may be written, and music may be edited for those students who are not yet able to achieve the physical and musical demands required of primary marchers. This will help improve their individual skill level and will prepare them for future performance opportunities. As a band staff, we are committed to providing performance opportunities for all students. However, the level of performance participation may be limited by eligibility and individual performance ability.

There are many ingredients that are vital to a successful marching program and no one part is more valuable than any other. Examples of ways that students can contribute to the performance are: Marching Winds, Marching Percussion, Pit Percussion, Color Guard, Stage Crew, Pit Crew, and Tech Crew.

## ***Marching Band Rehearsals***

- Respect everyone on the marching band field - we are all working toward the same goal.
- Prior to all rehearsals, eat healthy and drink a lot of water.
- Be punctual. Aim to arrive 5 minutes before practice begins.
- Water breaks are meant for your health and comfort. DRINK WATER!!! Return on time after the whistle.
- Rehearsal will be silent at all times.
- Standing is the only acceptable position on the marching band field unless instructed otherwise (ex: when a director tells you to kneel while he gives instructions).
- Everyone will be expected to vocally count at all times.
- Pay attention to general instructions at all times. Listen attentively and respond appropriately.
- FUN-damentals will make us successful. Therefore, we expect everyone to participate fully.
- Section leaders are responsible for keeping coordinate books. You will receive your coordinate books from your section leader at the beginning of rehearsal, and it will be given back to them at the end.
- Band members should wear their coordinate book at all times. Your section leader will tell you where to wear them.
- Move when instructed quickly and quietly (ex: moving from set to set or after a discussion with a leader).
- “Attention” is eyes forward, no talking, no moving.
- When setting forms keep your feet together and mouth closed.
- Remain at attention until you are told to relax.
- “Relax” means silently standing in the ready position.
- When adjusting the forms, use your coordinate books at all times unless instructed otherwise.
- To keep your spot on the marching field, meet all music memorization deadlines.
- No jewelry during rehearsals except watches.

## ***Marching Band Performances***

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

### *Leander ISD Marching Band Performance Guideline*

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

After lengthy study of current practices of state and national marching band programs and to provide a balance of the above beliefs, LISD Marching Bands will participate in competitive/festival performances for no more than five consecutive weeks during a marching season. This guideline refers to competitive/festival performances involving the entire marching band and does not include performances at football games.

### Performance Procedures

- *Report Time:* This will be the designated time at which all members should be at the high school or set location. Students should have all attire and necessary items for the designated performance prior to the report time.
- *Load Time:* This will be the designated time at which all members should be on the appropriate bus with all equipment loaded. All equipment will be checked by the section leaders. Students without appropriate equipment will be sent home and an unexcused absence recorded.
- *Return Time:* This will be the approximate time of return to the band hall.

### *What to bring:*

\*When the informal uniform is worn, the students will need to wear their Leander Band shirt, Leander Band athletic shorts, low white socks, and tennis shoes with “neutral” laces.

- Garment Bag
- Black Shoes
- Black Socks
- Blue Water Jug
- Flip Folder w/ all stand tunes
- Lyre (if necessary)
- Instrument with accessories
- Leander Band Shirt
- Rain Coat
- Uniform Apparel w/ shako
- Proper undergarments (bike shorts for warm weather, leggings for cold weather)
- Hair Accessories (Hair spray, gel, bobby pins)

### *Pre-performance Practice:*

- Wear black shoes, black socks, Leander band shirt (or theme shirt designated by a director)
- No fingernail polish
- No jewelry
- Bring all equipment (weather permitting): that means everything (drums, uniforms, etc.)

### Music Inspection



Music inspection will occur before all football games and marching band performances that will utilize music which is not part of the field/competition show. Students will be asked to display music, lyre (if appropriate), and flip folder. Students who do not pass music inspection may not be allowed to perform.

### Uniform Inspection

Prior to student departure for a marching band performance, students must pass a uniform inspection. In order to board the bus, students must have their complete uniform, raincoat/poncho, music, flip folder, and other components for the marching performance. Students who do not pass the uniform inspection may not be allowed to attend the event. Students not meeting uniform, music, and loading guidelines will be subject to disciplinary consequences.

## ***Football Game Procedures***

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

- Students will remain on campus after school on game days for a brief rehearsal and then for food provided by the boosters. This is in consideration of time, organization, and safety. Please do not ask for exceptions to this.
- Students will arrive at the designated report time.
- Students will load and be prepared to travel at the designated load time.
- Students will load the buses with all equipment needed for the performance. The section leaders will inspect all students boarding buses prior to departure. Students not meeting uniform, music, and loading guidelines may be sent home and not allowed to participate. Students will receive an unexcused absence for such occurrences.
- Upon arrival at the performance area, students will don all uniform components and prepare equipment for unloading. Students will unload buses when instructed to do so by a chaperone or director. Exit the bus in proper uniform as instructed by the directors, carrying all necessary equipment in their garment bag unless instructed otherwise.
- Instruments that arrived via equipment truck/trailer will be picked up at the designated area when instructed. All cases must be put back in their original location with latches closed.
- Students will report to the entrance formation for final inspection. Upon instruction from a Drum Major or director, students will march into the stadium accompanied by a drum cadence.
- Upon arrival to the seating area, students will remain standing until all band members have arrived and are prepared to be seated. Students will sit when instructed by a Drum Major or director. Students will sit in their assigned seat and section. Students will remain in that seat and section at all times. Any movement in this bleacher adds risk to the safety of students and their instruments.

- Water will be provided by the band boosters after the halftime performance. No other food or drink will be allowed in the stands during the game. Students will refrain from accepting food or drinks from parents, relatives, or friends. Parents: please do not offer refreshments to your children.
- Restroom breaks may be granted by a director, chaperone, or selected student leader. Every effort will be made to accommodate needs without jeopardizing the integrity of the section. Restroom breaks will not be granted in the second quarter of a football game.
- 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 and at a moment's notice.
- Students will refrain from playing their instruments on an individual basis. The band will perform as a group or with approved small ensembles. While playing, always pay attention to the director/drum major.
- At the appropriate time, the band will be dismissed from the stands for the half-time performance. At this time, the band must move quickly, quietly, and efficiently to the appropriate area. 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 in the stand performance throughout the remainder of the game.
- During the 3rd quarter, we will participate in the good sportsmanship procedures of officer meetings and introductions. The band president will create a schedule of which student leaders participate in this event each week.
- At the conclusion of the game, students will load busses quickly and efficiently.
- Upon return to the band hall, students will ensure that all personal items, uniforms and instruments are placed in the proper storage areas.
- At the conclusion of each engagement, there may be a brief meeting before dismissal.

## ***Instrument Loading/Unloading***

Large instruments will be transported on the band trailer/instrument trucks. All others (flutes & clarinets) will transport their instruments on the bus. Students will be responsible for ensuring that their instrument or empty case is in the proper location. After the instrument truck/band trailer has been unloaded, each student will be responsible for picking up their instrument and storing it correctly. Students who display difficulty in following the loading and unloading procedures may lose the privilege of utilizing the instrument truck.

## ***Health and Safety of Band Students***

The health and safety of our students is our first priority. Every effort will be made to keep our students out of harm's way at all times.

*Extreme Weather Conditions - Lightning*

A lightning detector located at Bible stadium is used at rehearsals, games, and contests to determine our activities. We, like the athletic teams, make it a practice to go inside when lightning occurs multiple times in a small amount of time within 10 miles of our location. Discretion is used to determine immediate threat, as we take lightning and the safety of our students very seriously.

*Rain*

Under rainy conditions, the band may still rehearse and/or perform at the discretion of the band staff.

*Heat/Hydration*

We stress to students the importance of hydration at all times, and especially in periods of extreme heat. During extreme heat conditions, we decrease the amount of time between water breaks and/or increase the amount of time used for the break. The weather conditions as well as the physical and mental conditions of our students are monitored continually, and adjustments are made to accommodate whenever necessary.

It is very important that every student bring and use their own personal water jug. Sharing water (and food) leads to the spreading of germs that cause viruses such as cold, flu, mononucleosis, and Hepatitis B as well as many other bacterial infections. Sharing water is not acceptable.

## ***Nutrition***

It is important for all students to eat healthy and well-balanced meals every day. During summer band camp, students need to eat a healthy breakfast every morning. Stay away from milk and greasy foods.

Students need to bring a healthy sack lunch to summer camp. We do not recommend fried foods, salty snacks, soft drinks, or sweets.

Drink plenty of water!

As the new school year begins, students should continue their healthy diet throughout the day. Continue to eat a healthy breakfast every morning. Eat a healthy lunch. Stay away from greasy foods such as pizza, chips, and candy during the school day. Lunch from the vending machines is not appropriate.

Students should continue to drink plenty of water throughout the day to stay well-hydrated for afternoon rehearsals.

Eating healthy meals and drinking plenty of water is essential so students can remain in good health.

## ***Uniform Guidelines***

Students are expected to follow the listed uniform guidelines. No variations will be allowed.

### GENERAL

- Marching Band uniforms will be issued during summer band camp. Band uniforms will be stored at school in the uniform storage area.
- Concert Uniforms are formal back attire. Individual families are responsible for this purchase. Description of these items TBA.
- Students will be held financially responsible for the marching uniform and all components.

### ISSUE AND RETURN

- Students will pick up uniforms from the storage room or Z rack at least 15 minutes prior to report time for any event.
- Students should follow the posted pick up/return guidelines. Students who do not follow these guidelines will be sent to the end of the pick-up/return line.
- Students will be issued a uniform storage number. This number should be memorized or recorded in a readily accessible location. Students will use this number to pick up their uniform from the storage room.
- Students not properly hanging the uniform will receive a community service assignment.

### DONNING THE UNIFORM

- Always wear and treat your uniform with pride. The uniform should be worn as a complete unit at all times when in public. The only exception to this will be when a director instructs you that you may remove your hat or coat. Loading crews may be exempt from wearing the uniform during loading/unloading procedures. *Do not run while in uniform!*
- The Leander Band shirt is to be worn under your uniform. The band shirt will be part of pre-performance inspections.
- You must wear approved black band shoes and black socks (student purchases).
- Jewelry, hair ribbons, and bright colored nail polish etc. are unacceptable while in uniform. These items hinder the uniform appearance of the band.
- Band students with long hair will need to put it up under their hat during performances. Hair must not touch the collar of the jacket and must be above the top of the ear or pulled behind it. No visible hair on forehead.
- No consumption of food and drinks (other than H<sub>2</sub>O) while in uniform without permission.

### ALTERATIONS and CARE

The LHS Band Boosters will hire tailors to perform the initial uniform alterations. In the unusual circumstance that you are asked to alter your own uniform, never cut any material from the band uniform. Hem your pants so that the crease does not "break" when you are standing straight up with your band shoes on. The pant leg should come to the top of the band shoe. An elastic stirrup should be added to the hem of the pant to keep the pant down on the top of the shoe.

- Keep the collar hooked and the jacket zipped while hanging to retain the shape of the coat.
- Always hang the pants by the crease, careful to avoid wrinkles, and lock the dowel into the metal catch to keep the pants secure.
- Label your uniform garment bag.

### Color Guard

- Make-up will be worn as instructed by the director.
- Hair will be styled as instructed by the director.
- Only prescribed accessories that are part of the uniform may be worn.
- Changes in hairstyle should be approved by the Guard Director prior to making any change. This could affect the performances for both marching band and winter guard.

### Color Guard Uniforms

- A professional seamstress will alter the color guard uniform.
- Wash the uniform separately in "cold" water on the "delicate" cycle. Use a mild detergent such as Woolite.
- The uniform should be laid flat to dry. DO NOT hang uniform to drip dry. The uniform material will stretch out of shape if you hang to dry.

### UNIFORM COSTS

If a uniform part is damaged or lost, the student will be responsible for the replacement costs. All marching uniforms are professionally cleaned at the same time to prevent unequal discoloration and fading. The costs for cleaning are collected from each student in advance (see Financial).

## ***Color Guard Information***

### Dressing Out

Dressing out is required during rehearsal and is part of the daily grade. Dress-out clothes consist of:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● T-shirt</li> <li>● shorts</li> <li>● socks</li> <li>● tennis shoes w/ arch</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● sweat shirt (when cold)</li> <li>● sweat pants (when cold)</li> <li>● additional items (at director's discretion)</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

Tote Bags

The following items are to be kept in the tote bags. Additional items may be included at the discretion of the director.

- hair spray
- bobby pins
- hair clips
- deodorant
- make-up (in zip-loc bag)
- towel (in zip-loc bag)
- Kleenex
- uniform parts (i.e. gloves)
- electrical tape
- wind suit (when applicable)
- feminine products

Practice

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

Winter Guard

Students in the Color Guard will also take part in the Winter Guard program during the spring semester. Wind players who would like to participate in Winter Guard must continue to “double block” band. Winter Guard rehearsal dates, performances, and cost will be determined and communicated to the participating students and their parents.

## ***Student Leadership***

The high school band programs in Leander ISD provide many opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills with a variety of offerings. Students can audition and/or apply for both selected officer positions and elected officer positions. In this manner, students can not only serve their band program but also refine skills that they will be able to use in other school organizations, as well as in their future careers. Audition criteria is selected at the discretion of the directors and is communicated to the students. The directors evaluate all selected officer candidates based on their performance both during the audition and during their performance during the current school year.

Student leaders are held to higher standards of performance and behavior than a general band student. They are expected to be positive role models for all band members at all times. Please see Conduct Expectation #1 pertaining to general conduct of students as well as student leadership positions.

## ***Marching Band Student Leadership Positions***

Drum Major(s)

The Drum Major(s) will be the field commander(s) and conductor(s) for the marching ensemble. A Drum Major will serve the marching season for which he/she is selected. In the event that an underclassman is selected as Drum Major, he/she must reenter the selection process the next school year. Drum Majors will be selected through an audition process. Specific elements of the drum major audition process may vary from year to year at the discretion of the directors.

#### *Squad/Section Leaders*

These leaders will be responsible for efficient operations of their sections. They will complete weekly inspections, maintain field discipline, provide instruction, serve as positive role models, and assist the drum majors as needed. They will be selected through the first portion of the Drum Major audition process.

#### *Band Council*

All band students are eligible to apply/audition for Band council positions. The specific requirements for positions may vary according to the responsibilities of the office. The band council shall serve as an advisory/action body for numerous band functions. The council shall assist the band directors and band students in planning, preparing, and executing various band functions. Student leadership positions range from service areas to executive areas and may change annually. Examples of student leadership positions are President, Vice-President, Secretary, Historian, and Social Officers. These offices may change in name and duties from year to year. Candidates for these offices are screened through an audition process.

### ***Band Banquet***

A band banquet is held each spring near the end of the school year. This special evening brings the band together one last time to review the year and to wish the seniors a fond farewell. The location may vary from year to year, but it will usually be held at Leander HS and is considered a formal evening. Tickets are sold to cover the cost of the dinner, decorations, DJ, etc. This event is entirely planned by the student leaders.

### ***Band Boosters***

The Leander Band Boosters exist to assist the band directors in reaching the band program goals. The boosters usually meet on the second Tuesday of every month. The meetings are open to the public and begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Leander Band Hall. Support activities provided by the boosters include serving meals to students before games, providing chaperones for trips, providing chaperones for social events, financing of social events, providing parents to assist in various aspects of the marching band production, and numerous other activities. There is a place for every parent in this organization. Your service is not only encouraged, but also needed. For more information, please visit our website at [www.leanderband.com](http://www.leanderband.com) and look for the various contact numbers.

## *Letter Jackets*

The LHS Band Letter is first a recognition of “*Significant Service and Dedication*” to the LHS Band Program, manifested by hours upon hours of practice, patience, and perseverance as well as sacrificial giving of time and energy for the good of fellow bandmates, the directors, and the band as a whole.

Therefore, every student who has been eligible to perform in four UIL Band Events (UIL Marching Contests and UIL Concert & Sight-reading Contests) will have earned the Letter, will be given the privilege of purchasing a jacket during the following semester, provided they are currently enrolled in the band program. As an example: junior band students who have been eligible to perform for the UIL Marching Contest for two seasons (9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grades) and for the UIL Concert & Sight-reading Contest for two seasons (9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grades) will be awarded a Letter and will have the option of purchasing a jacket during the fall semester of their Junior year. Performance level has no bearing on this award. However, the students must be eligible to contribute to the performance, even if their specific band (Cadet Band, for instance) was not given the opportunity to perform.

The LHS Band Letter Jacket is secondly a recognition of “*Outstanding Individual Performance*” and may be earned early if a student qualifies for and performs with the Texas All-State Band, or if the student qualifies for the Area Level Auditions during both the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and 10<sup>th</sup> grade years. Consideration will be given to a student who makes the Top 5A All-Region Band and earns a First Division at the UIL State Solo Contest (this does not apply to ensembles). A student who meets either of the criteria for “*Outstanding Individual Performance*” will be awarded both the letter and the jacket.

Members of the LHS Color guard will use the same criteria system as the band. However, in the spring season, eligibility and participation must be maintained for the entire season. Members of the Color guard may have an opportunity to earn the letter jacket early by being recognized by the Directors as having contributed continued “*Outstanding Individual Performance*” comparable to that of an All-State Band Member.

Lastly, in the event that a senior band student has not yet earned a Letter, he/she will be awarded one and be welcome to purchase the jacket during the Fall Semester of the senior year, in recognition of time served in the LHS Band Program. This policy is intended to be as inclusive as possible, recognizing commitment and contribution to the band program, while also providing an incentive to those students who go beyond the “extra mile” in their individual pursuit of excellence.

A student must earn a grand total of 50 points in one school year to qualify for a letter jacket from the Leander High School Band. Points may be earned in the following manner:



Automatic Qualification (50 points)

- TMEA All-State
- TMEA Area Qualifier (5A track)
- Highest fundraiser for Leander Marcher-a-thon

*15 Points (Cumulative – maximum 15 points/year of participation)*

- One complete year of successful participation in both concert and marching band (loss of eligibility may remove point credit for this portion)
- Selection to and performance with the TMEA Region Band (4A)
- Participate in ALL LHS Band fundraising events and also meet the individual fundraising goals set by band boosters
- Academic all A honor roll

*25 Points (Non-cumulative)*

- Selection to and performance with the TMEA All Region Band (5A track)
- Selection to and performance with the TMEA All Region Orchestra
- Selection to and perform with the All-region Jazz Band

*10 Points (Non-Cumulative)*

- Performance of a Class One or Two solo at the UIL Solo Contest earning a Superior (First Division) rating
- Performance of a Class One solo at the UIL State Solo Contest and earning a Superior (First Division) rating
- Performance of a Class One or Two ensemble at the UIL ensemble contest and earning a Superior (First Division) rating
- Performance of a Class One ensemble at the UIL State ensemble contest and earning a Superior (First Division) rating
- Member of the LHS Jazz Ensemble
- Academic all A-B honor roll

*5 Points (Non-Cumulative)*

- Performance of a Class One or Two solo at the UIL Solo Contest earning an Excellent (Second Division) rating
- Member of the Pit Orchestra for the LHS Musical

*1 Point (Non-Cumulative)*

- Participation in events approved by the band director such as special fundraising events or performances
- Recognition points for individual band awards, band council officers, and leaders at the discretion of the band director

*Color Guard Letter Jacket Award System*

A color guard member needs to accumulate 30 points to earn a letter jacket. Color Guard can accumulate points toward a letter jacket in the following manner:

- 7.5 points (Cumulative) Marching Guard (fall semester)
- (Loss of eligibility may remove point credit for this portion.)
- 7.5 points (Cumulative) Indoor Guard (spring semester)
- (Loss of eligibility may remove point credit for this portion.)
- 10 points (Non-Cumulative)
- Summer Guard Camp Award
- 10 points (Non-Cumulative)
- Solo or ensemble guard competition receiving a Superior or Excellent rating

## ***Region Band/Orchestra Guidelines***

- All Wind Symphony and Symphonic Winds students will audition for Region Band.
- All other band students are encouraged to audition. Decisions to audition for these students will be on a case-by-case basis.
- Students will be graded on preparation for this event.
- Any person who is fortunate to be selected will attend all rehearsals and the performance of the All – Region Band. (Check your calendar for dates.)

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

## ***Solo and Ensemble***

All band members will prepare and perform a solo and/or an ensemble. All Wind Symphony, Symphonic Winds, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band members will participate in an ensemble unless other permission is granted.

Grades will be issued for preparation and participation in the Solo and Ensemble process. Students must use an approved accompanist. The accompanist fee is set each year (approximately \$45). Students must get director approval for an unaccompanied solo.

## ***Percussion Ensemble Concert***

This is a concert held in the spring featuring LHS percussionists and possibly percussionists from feeder middle school(s). The students perform music that they have learned for Solo & Ensemble Contest as well as competition pieces for the Percussive Arts Society (PAS) International Ensemble Competition or other invitational percussion festivals. PAS is an international

organization that serves the world of percussion performance and education. Membership in this organization is inexpensive and is encouraged for every percussion student at LHS.

## ***Data Collection - Privacy Notice***

The LHS Band Directors and LHS Band Booster Club use an online data information and communication website (e.g., CHARMS, Cut Time, etc.) to keep members informed about events, practices, and other important updates. Depending on the level of access set by the director or teacher, the website may contain contact information for students and parents, directory information for students, and confidential information such as payments made, account balances, uniforms, grades, practice logs, etc. Users and administrators of the website agree to protect the privacy of the information and agree not to use any information for non-program related purposes.