

Freshman Band Parent/Student 101

(Or things I wish I would have known when my kid was a freshman)

Draft as of 07/29/2019

BAND LINGO

- *Front Ensemble* - this is the xylophone (bells), gong, keyboard, speakers, etc, that goes on the field sideline. It does not move throughout the marching program.
- *Bibbers* - these are the black pants with suspenders attached that are issued to students. They wear compression shorts underneath and their jacket over the top.
- *Shako* - this is the white hat that they wear to march in. It is plumbed and unplumbed before and after their show. The Shako Box is black box that the Shako goes in.
- *Plumbe* - the tall, white feather thing that goes in the Shako

How to Sync your mobile device with the Charms calendar:

Charms is how the band directors send out mass emails to all band students and parents.

- Log Into Charms
- Go to Calendar Tab
- Go to the Import/Export Tab
- Pull down to Sync Calendar
- From there, you will find instructions for iPhone, Android, Blackberry, Windows Phone.

HOME FOOTBALL GAMES:

- ***Do I need season football tickets?***
 - Not necessarily. If you sign up to help with "field crew," then you get a lanyard with credentials on it, and you march in with the band before the football game. Some parents will buy season tickets and sit with friends.

VARSITY FOOTBALL

Varsity football pre-sale tickets are available at the Ticket Office during regular office hours (see above).

PRE-SALE TICKETS

Students (K-12) \$4

Adults \$6

TICKETS AT GATE

Students (K-12) \$5
Adults \$10

The A&M Consolidated Ticket Office is open for sales every Thursday and Friday during the football season from 7:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. On weeks when the game is on a Thursday, the Ticket Office will be open on Wednesday and Thursday instead of Thursday and Friday. The Ticket Office is located in the Field House.

If you have questions about purchasing tickets for athletic events or for information about Football season tickets, please contact Janice Attaway (jattaway@csisd.org).

- ***What is field crew?***
 - These are parents who help plume the students right before half time, help get props on the field, help get front ensemble (with bells, gongs, keyboards, sound equipment); help pick up music flip folders after they play music for the Belles, etc.
- ***Can I sit with the band at football games?***
 - There are about three or four rows behind the color guard at the top of the stadium and right next to the band where parents can sit. We ask that parents don't distract the students from their duties or sit in the band with the students.

AWAY FOOTBALL GAMES & CONTESTS:

- We need chaperones who will also function as field crew for away football games and contests. These folks will also help serve meals to our band students. Your meal will be provided for these games as a chaperone.
- Contests will be an all day commitment. Your meals will be provided for these events as a chaperone.
- Away football games will be leaving at various times sometimes 2 PM and occasionally earlier or later.
- As you sign up for these, we will send suggestions on things to bring to make your trip more comfortable and pleasant. :-)

MARCHING BAND CLOTHING & TIPS:

- **Dry-fit shirt:** maroon shirt is worn under uniform and while waiting to put uniform shortly there after. 2 are recommended.
- **Compression shorts:** worn under biker shorts, volleyball shorts, athletic tights and are black. Academy/amazon is a good place to get these. At least 2 pairs.
- **Show shirt:** to wear while dressed in band shorts; has the seasons theme on the back of the shirt; needed on competition days and away games. Not needed for home games.
- **Band shorts:** for public viewing and not under uniform
- **Gloves/percussion sweat bands:** you'll want to ask your kid to bring them home so they can be washed
 - Put name on everything. (Metallic sharpie for uniform shoes on the inside)

- The spirit store is through CC Creations. It also has the extra recommended uniform parts in it. This is where you buy the extra Uniform shirt (maroon dry-fit).

GAME DAY/GO BAG

A dedicated bag for band and contest days:

- Hair brush, hairspray, Bobby pins, hair ties
- Girls and boys with long hair wear their hair in a bun
- Sunscreen (lips are important, too)
- Portable Phone charger
- Headphones/Entertainment
- Deodorant
- Snacks
- Blanket

OTHER THINGS TO KNOW:

- You use your water jug all the time. Put your name on it (and everything else).
- Help your band student be on top of grades. It can get out of hand quickly.
- Push teachers for calendars as early as possible.
- Talk to upper class men who already have taken that class
- Sign up for Schoology
- Check HAC frequently (there's an app and it's worth the money)
- Get an upperclassmen's parent's and freshman parent's phone number
- Consider carpooling with friends, particularly for early morning and late night things
- Don't park or enter the band lot parking lot when it's a full ensemble rehearsal/performance, etc. Kids and equipment are everywhere and it takes longer to pick up.
- Don't park on the curb for away games. Buses park there.
- Be sure your child puts in their food order when the google form comes out via email. If you're chaperoning your food is paid for, however you need to put in a food order, also.

MORNING REHEARSALS

- Bring a hat and sunglasses for bright, sunny mornings; wear sunscreen on face, lips, arms, etc.
- Must wear a white t-shirt for all rehearsals
- Any kind of athletic shorts and tennis shoes