

# Hidalgo High School Band Handbook

## Purpose

The Instrumental Music Code has been written to help students gain the most from their band experience.

## Our Mission

The Band is a unified group of musicians striving to gain a greater sense of unity while obtaining a greater appreciation of music. We promote high self-esteem, discipline, and excellent values. Band leaves each individual with treasured memories that will last a lifetime.

## Components of the Band

The Hidalgo High School Band program consists of the following groups:  
*Marching Band, Concert Band, Color Guard, Winter Guard, Indoor Marching Percussion, World Music Ensemble, Jazz Band, Music Theory, Music History*

## General Goals and Objectives

1. Mental and physical discipline
  - A. Develop powers of concentration
  - B. Memorize music/routine
  - C. Prepare and practice individual parts
  - D. Develop self and group discipline
2. Citizenship through group endeavor
  - A. Develop leadership abilities
  - B. Develop responsibility
  - C. Develop ability to cooperate with others and to work as a team member
  - D. Develop diligence
3. Physical conditioning
  - A. Develop strength, stamina, and endurance
  - B. Develop coordination
4. Cultural growth  

Provide opportunities to attain knowledge of music history and band literature through performance.
5. Ability to make musical value judgements through critical listening.  

The student will recognize quality of sound, pitch, style, tempo, rhythm, blend, balance, phrasing, dynamics, and articulation.
6. Music theory
  - A. Know and use note values and rests
  - B. Know and use keys, key signatures, and scales
  - C. Know and use musical terms, sign, and symbols
  - D. Recognize and tune intervals and harmony

7. Proper instrumental/equipment technique
  - A. Assume correct posture and playing/performance position
  - B. Develop the embouchure/hand placement
  - C. Develop good tone
  - D. Breathe properly
  - E. Develop technical proficiency (fingering, articulation, etc...)
  
8. Creative self-expression
  - A. Express oneself in performance
  - B. Explore career possibilities

**The Hidalgo High School Band will:**

1. Provide any interested student with opportunities for fun, musical knowledge, and fellowship through participation in band.
2. Provide for the mental, physical, social, and emotional development of students.
3. Instill pride, discipline, and sound values in each student.
4. Provide each student with solo and group endeavors to achieve personal goals and satisfaction.
5. Provide basic psychological needs such as recognition, belonging, self-respect, and a feeling of achievement.

## **General Conduct / Expectations**

Band members will observe all policies set forth by the Hidalgo Independent School District plus the following:

1. All students are expected to conduct themselves properly at all times. Display of profanity, temper, flagrant violation of rules, etc., will not be tolerated. Individual behavior during a band function is a reflection of the group. Any behavior, which is not representative of good citizenship, may result in the student's dismissal from the band.
2. Students will follow director's instructions the first time they are given.
3. Students will be in their assigned rehearsal area ready to work when the tardy bell rings or at the set rehearsal time.
4. Students will bring all equipment including music, pencil, instrument, and supplies to rehearsals daily. (See detailed supply list for each instrument on pages 4/5.)
5. Students will keep hands, feet, and other objects to themselves.
6. Students will maintain a high level of good and acceptable behavior.
7. Students will consume no food, drinks, candy and gum in the Band Hall without permission.
8. Students will not play on equipment they do not own or have permission from a director to use. Students will not touch, handle, borrow, or use anyone else's instrument, uniform, or personal belongings.
9. Students should ask for permission to speak by raising your hand and waiting to be acknowledged. All rehearsals are expected to be extremely quiet so that our time will be utilized wisely.
10. When allowed in the band hall, students will not disturb any rehearsal that is occurring.

11. You will be allowed to use the student telephone before or after school. Phone calls will be limited to one minute in length. Phone calls are not to be made in such a manner as to disrupt rehearsals.
12. **The use of cell phones during a rehearsal or while the band is performing is strictly prohibited. Cell phones WILL be collected and a parent conference will be required for cell phone to be returned.**
13. Students will respect school property and the property of others, and return their equipment to its proper storage place when not in use. Students are responsible for keeping their storage areas neat.
14. Students will not enter the directors' offices without their permission.
15. Students will not deface or mark on in any way music stands, walls, etc.
16. Students should keep their equipment in the designated storage area, and keep said storage area neat. Students who demonstrate great difficulty with this may lose the privilege of having a storage area in the band hall.
17. Students will utilize their storage slot for instrument cases during rehearsals. Cases are to be closed and latched when the instrument is not in use. Cases should not be brought into rehearsals unless requested by a director.

### **The Facilities:**

Our facilities are to be treated with respect. With over 150 band students using the band hall each day, there are some guidelines that students must follow:

1. GUM, FOOD, CANDY, or SOFT DRINKS are not permitted in the band hall, or any room within the music wing.
2. Do not write on the chalkboard, music stands, walls or any other surface not designed for such activity.
3. DO NOT move chairs or stands with out permission.
4. The director's offices, library, uniform room, and copy room are off limits to students unless you have permission.
5. The band hall telephones are business lines and are not to be used for personal calls.
6. Students are not allowed to use Band Hall computers unless otherwise directed/instructed by the Band Staff.

### **Bus and Travel Rules**

The band will frequently travel on both school and commercial busses. Your conduct is expected to be at the highest level on any trip.

1. Students must Travel to and return from events on the school bus. Any student wishing to arrive or leave with his / her parent, must notify a director or bus chaperone in writing. Students may return from a football game with their parents by checking out with the chaperone on duty for their bus.
2. Students must have all necessary forms completed and returned to travel on any trip with the band.
3. Students are always to board the bus through the front entrance as attendance is taken at this time.
4. All students are required to assist in the loading and unloading of equipment. Students will not be dismissed until all equipment is properly stored away.

5. The following bus rules will be observed:
- A. No standing
  - B. No sitting backwards
  - C. No food or drinks
  - D. All parts of the body are to remain in the bus.
  - E. No glass containers
  - F. No stereo / radios / tape players without headsets
  - G. Keep the bus clean
  - H. Be quiet when an adult is addressing the bus
  - I. No loud, boisterous talking, screaming, whistling, etc...
  - J. Public displays of affection are not acceptable.
  - K. Students are to load the bus by the front door only. Students may exit the bus by either the front or back.

**Special Note:**

Students are reminded that all performances / concerts start and end at the band hall. As a member of the band, you are a representative of your school. Always be on your best behavior. If you are in doubt about an action, DO NOT DO IT! With any large group whose reputation is based on the actions of its members, you must use a measure of judgement.

Behavior that may be acceptable at your home or while socializing with your friends may not reflect on the band in an acceptable manner. Your conduct must be such that at no time could it be considered a bad reflection on the school, the band, your home, or yourself.

## **Overnight Travel**

General Policy: The band or some of its components may take overnight trips. These trips are an opportunity to perform in venues not normally available and to compete with other groups from around the state or country. Because instrumental music is a co-dependent activity (that is, the success of the group depends on the participation of every student), participation in these trips is expected from any student who accepts membership in a performing ensemble.

All High School and school district rules and procedures remain in effect during overnight trips. Violation of rules, which in the director's opinion is severe in nature, may result in the student being sent home early at parent's additional expense.

## **General Daily Supplies**

- A. All issued music
- B. Pencil
- C. Instrument/Guard equipment
- D. All supplies relative to their instrument/equipment
- E. A three ring binder and all issued music in plastic sheet protectors
- F. All marching related equipment (during marching season)
  - 1. Drill / chart book
  - 2. Lyre / folder
  - 3. Other marching equipment as needed.

## **School Owned / Issued Instruments**

The Hidalgo I.S.D. will provide all instruments for student use. This equipment is generally purchased for students' use because of its extreme high cost. Thus, all school owned equipment must be handled with the optimum care. Students failing to care for, or take care of their school issued instrument shall lose the privilege to use such instruments. The following is a list of general procedures for school owned instruments:

1. If at all possible, students will be issued one instrument for home use and one for school use.
2. Hidalgo ISD **does not provide insurance for individually or school owned equipment. Students will be held responsible for school owned instruments issued to them. This responsibility will include fire, theft, accidental damage; abuse and general maintenance needed not caused by normal use.**
3. Students and parents must sign an instrument checkout form before the student can use the instrument.
4. Each instrument will be issued in playing condition. Each issued instrument will be checked and cleaned by a music company prior to issue. Students are expected to maintain their issued instruments accordingly.
5. Students are expected and required to take excellent care of Hidalgo I.S.D. issued instruments. Any repairs needed for carelessness will be the financial responsibility of the student/parent.
6. The school district policy is to charge a \$20 fee for the use of district-owned musical equipment. The band member is financially responsible for all equipment and/or materials checked out to him or her. Equipment is to be used, not abused. No charge will be made to the student if the instrument becomes damaged due to normal wear and tear. However, damages caused by fire, theft, accident, or abuse may result in a charge to the student responsible for that instrument.
7. All equipment and materials must be kept in their proper storage location when not in use.

### **Special Note**

School 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 are your own. Most school owned instruments exceed a \$2,000.00 value.

## **Marching Band**

The Hidalgo High School Marching Band is the most visible organization of the Band program. All band students in grades 9-12 are expected to participate in the Pirate Marching Band. Students who participate in certain school events such as cheerleading, ROTC, or football may be excused from participation at the discretion of the band director. Students may also be excused for other reasons such as medical complications at the discretion of the directors.

## **Competing/Non-Competing Marching Band**

### Marching Band Requirements

- Participation in marching band is required of ALL band members
- Exceptions to this requirement are:
  - Documented medical exemption
  - Extenuating circumstances as approved by the band director
- Participation in club sports or other activities outside of H.S. **DOES NOT** qualify a student for exemption from the marching band requirement.
- In order to meet the needs of ALL members of the band program, the marching band curriculum will exist on two overlapping levels:

### **PIRATE MARCHING BAND (NON-COMPETING)**

ALL Hidalgo H.S. band members will participate in the Pirate Marching Band.

- Members of this organization will be required to spend seven hours during the school week in extracurricular practice, plus time on performance days.
- The Pirate marching band is a non-competitive unit, and as such, will have no requirement for travel or performance other than football games, pep rallies, and other non-competitive events.
- Members are required to attend the entire June music camp.
- ALL Pirate marching band members will attend all summer band rehearsals immediately preceding the start of school in July/August.
- Members of the Pirate marching band will satisfy their PE requirement and will earn points towards their varsity letter jacket.
- Because of the abbreviated rehearsal schedule, students who miss the weekly practices for any reason, will forfeit their privilege of performing that week.
- PE credit will be earned only by those students who are conscientious in their attendance of weekly practices and performances.

### **COMPETITION MARCHING BAND**

The competing marching band will be made up of members of the Pirate Marching Band and will carry all requirements for that organization plus the following:

- The competing marching band will practice no more than eight hours per week, plus one hour of preparation on performance days.
- Like the Pirate Marching Band, members of the competing marching band will attend ALL football games, pep rallies, and non-competitive marching band events, but will also participate in marching contests.
- Attendance at all June camp rehearsals is mandatory for members of the competing marching band. Exceptions to this requirement will be made on a case-by-case basis, and only for extenuating circumstances as approved by the directors.
- The competing marching band will attend all performances of the Pirate marching band, but will also travel to contests, both in and out of state, as determined on an annual basis.
- In that participation in the competing marching band is optional, only those students prepared to commit to all rehearsals and performances will be considered for participation.
- Members of the competing marching band will satisfy their PE requirement and will earn points toward their varsity letter jacket

## **Marching Band Student Leadership Positions**

### **Squad Leader (4)**

Squad leaders shall be utilized in the instruction of the marching band show. Squad leaders are an important part of the marching band. An audition process that will involve chart reading, marching skills, and use of vocal commands will select squad leaders. Squad leaders will serve the marching season for which they are selected.

### **Drum Major**

The drum major audition process will select drum majors. Drum Majors will be used in the instruction of marching skills as well as general marching drill. The Drum Major will be the field commander and conductor for the marching band. An audition process that will involve chart reading, quality marching skills, and use of vocal commands and conducting skills will select Drum Majors. Drum Majors will serve the marching season for which they are selected.

## Guard Captains

The Guard Captains will be selected through audition. The Guard Captains will be used in the instruction of color guard skills as well as general marching drill. An audition process that will involve chart reading, high caliber weapon and flag demonstration, and leadership skills will select the Guard Captains. Guard Captains will serve the marching season for which they are selected.

## General Attendance Policy

In order to have and maintain a high quality band program, attendance from all members is essential. The following guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies for the marching band.

### Roll Check

Roll check will be promptly at the start of the rehearsal in the attendance block.

### Tardiness

Students not in their assigned location/attendance block at the appropriate time should check in with the person checking roll in their area. The student will receive a mark of tardy.

### Excused Tardiness

Tardiness will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Tutorials, appointments etc... will not be an excuse for tardiness unless prior arrangements are made and approved.

“Feet Club”      Students arriving late to practice may be placed in the “*Feet Club*.” These students will remain at practice for an extra 15 to 20 minutes after rehearsal to work marching fundamentals.

### Unexcused Tardiness

Students who have an unexcused tardy shall be subject to one of the following consequences:

1. Must attend practice on their “off “ day to do fundamentals.

Subsequent tardies may result in further consequences to include:

1. Loss of marching privilege for one game at a football game.
2. Loss of marching band membership

### Absence

Students not in the attendance block at the appropriate time will be marked absent.

### Excused Absence

Absences will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Appointments, tutorials etc... will not be an excuse for absence. Personal illness, death in the family, and serious problems will be considered an excused absence. Students may be asked to make up work or time lost due to an excused absence. Students who are continually ill may need to provide a doctor’s note in order to insure the well being of the child and to reduce band director concerns. If in doubt, this should be checked with a director. **Try to schedule medical and personal appointments on days where there is no scheduled rehearsals and/or performances.**

## **Unexcused Absence**

Students who have an unexcused absence will be subject to one of the following consequences:

1. Loss of marching privilege for one game/contest.
2. Loss of attendance privilege at one game/contest/trip.
3. Removal from the marching band and loss of physical education credit.

All unexcused absences may be made up. Failure to do so will result in grade penalty and/or loss of marching band privileges.

## **Attendance at performances**

Performances are not to be missed. Acceptable excuses for missing a performance are personal illness, death in the family, and serious illness within the immediate family. Performances missed for reasons other than those listed above may result in a penalty. Penalties will include:

1. Loss of performance privilege at the game following the unexcused absence.
2. Loss of attendance privilege at the game following the unexcused absence.
3. For students who miss more than one game for an unexcused reason, loss of marching band membership, and loss of PE credit may result.

## **Band Uniform Guidelines**

*Students are expected to follow the listed uniform guidelines.*

### **GENERAL**

1. Band uniforms are issued during the first two weeks of school, and will be stored at school in the uniform storage area.
2. Students will be held financially responsible for the uniform and its' components.

### **ISSUE AND RETURN**

1. Students will pick up uniforms from the uniform room at least 30 minutes prior to report time for performance.
2. 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.
3. Students will be issued a uniform 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 uniform storage room.

### **WEARING THE UNIFORM**

1. 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. You are required to wear your band shirt under your uniform. The band shirt will be part of pre-performance inspections.
2. You must wear approved black band shoes and black socks (student purchases).

3. Jewelry (bracelets, necklaces, earrings, body piercing jewelry, etc.); hair ribbons, and bright colored nail polish etc... is unacceptable while in uniform. These items hinder the uniform appearance of the band.
4. Band students with long hair will need to put it up under their hat during performances.
5. Earrings are not to be worn with the band uniform. Clear plastic tubes designed to hold open ear piercing are acceptable to be worn provided they are inconspicuous.

### **ALTERATIONS and CARE**

1. 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 should come to the top of the band shoe.
2. Keep the collar hooked while hanging to retain the shape of the coat. Always hang the pants by the crease.
3. Label your uniform bag, and tape your name under your hat brim.

### **UNIFORM COSTS**

If a uniform part is damaged beyond repair or lost, the student will be responsible for replacement costs:

Coat	\$175
Trousers	\$100
Hat	\$ 45
Plume	\$ 10

### **Concert Ensembles**

Students in the band program will be placed in a concert ensemble by audition. The concert ensembles will be:

Symphonic Band

Concert Band

To be selected into the Symphonic or the Concert Band

Students must:

1. Participate in the audition process.
2. Have successful participation in the marching band.
3. Participate in section practice.
4. Demonstrate an ability to rehearse in a group.
5. Maintain scholastic eligibility.

# **Performance / Rehearsal Requirements for the 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 will result in student removal from the organization at the discretion of the band directors. (See general attendance policies.)

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

- Fall Concert (Marching Band Concert)
- Winter Concert
- Spring Concert
- Borderfest
- Hidalgo I.S.D. Band Festival / Pre U.I.L. Contest
- U.I.L. Contest
- Spring Trips

## **Concerts / Performances**

Concerts and performances are frequent with all bands. Students should consult their schedules for dates and times. Periodically, the schedule will change and updates will be sent home.

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 when the last group performs and directors have given permission for students to be dismissed. A general report time will be given for all students.

1. All concerts are a group effort, thus, attendance is required.
2. All concerts that occur on campus are an extension of the classroom and will be graded accordingly.
3. Students should be punctual and prepared for each performance / concert.
4. In the event a performance causes a student to miss another class, the student is responsible to make up all missed work!
5. The appropriate dress for all concerts will be a dress uniform. (See Uniforms.)
6. Students are expected to stay the entire concert.

## **General Attendance**

In order to have and maintain high quality concert ensembles, attendance from all members is essential. **The following guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies for concert ensembles as it relates to after school rehearsals and section rehearsals.**

## **Roll Check**

Roll check will be promptly at the start of rehearsal.

### *Tardiness*

Students not seated at the appropriate time will receive a mark of tardy.

### *Excused Tardiness*

Tardiness will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Tutorials, appointments etc... will not be an excuse for tardiness unless prior arrangements are made and approved.

### *Unexcused Tardiness*

Students who have an unexcused tardy shall make up missed time as arranged by the director.

### *Absence*

Students not seated at the appropriate time and those not tardy will be marked absent.

### *Excused Absence*

Absences will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Appointments, tutorials etc... will not be an excuse for absence. Personal illness, death in the family, and serious problems will be considered an excused absence. Students, who are continually ill, may need to provide a doctor's note in order to insure the well being of the child and to reduce band director concerns. If in doubt, this should be checked with a director. **Special note: During the concert season, students will generally be responsible for only ONE weekly section rehearsal and group rehearsals as needed. Symphonic Band students will have one section practice and one full band practice per week. Thus, students will have ample days available for tutorials and appointments.**

### *Unexcused Absence*

Students who have an unexcused absence will be expected to make missed time up at the discretion of the director. Also, a student may lose his/her position in the band for such absences.

### *Section Rehearsals*

All students in the Symphonic and Concert Band will have a weekly section rehearsal. **Section rehearsals will begin at the conclusion of the marching band season.** Students are expected to be punctual and prepared on a week by week 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.

### **Region Band \***

1. All Symphonic band students should plan to audition for All – Region Band. If selected, you will perform a concert. (Check your calendar for dates.)
2. All other band students are encouraged to audition.
3. Any person who is fortunate to be selected will attend all rehearsals and the performance.

**It is 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 \***

1. All band members will prepare and perform a solo.
2. All Symphonic and Concert Band members are encouraged to participate in an ensemble.
3. Grades will be issued for preparation in the solo and ensemble process.

\* *See Appendix I and II for rehearsal suggestions.*

## **Eligibility**

1. Many band activities are designated by the state of Texas as extra – curricular. The state laws regarding participation therefore govern these activities. The state law is such that a student shall be suspended from participation in all extra – curricular activities sponsored or sanctioned by the school district during the six week period following a grade reporting period in which the student received a grade lower than seventy in any one class. However, the student may not be suspended from participation during the period in which school is recessed for the summer. Also, students are not suspended for practice or rehearsal of extra – curricular activities.
2. Students may regain eligibility under certain circumstances. If a student has been suspended as a result of failing, he / she may regain eligibility by passing ALL courses in the third week of the affected grading period. Thus, he may regain eligibility at the conclusion of the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the suspension period.
3. A few band activities are designated by the state as co-curricular. These activities are those that occur on campus, and are a natural extension of the learning taking place in the classroom. Examples of this type of activity are the public concerts that are presented at Hidalgo High School. The state eligibility law does not govern these activities.

## **General Grading Policy**

Students will be given specific criteria at the beginning of each six weeks-grading period. Grades will be earned by accumulating points. The total possible points earned in any six week grading period will always be 100 or greater.

## **General School Conduct**

As a band member, your directors expect above average conduct school wide! All school And school district policies are in effect during any band function.

## **Financial**

All Marching Band members will be responsible for an annual assessment of \$40. 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. This fee will cover band shirt, instrument fee and uniform maintenance. This fee may be paid in payments, however, we prefer that the entire fee be paid at band camp. Color Guard students will have a second fair share fee to help offset the additional expenses associated with winter guard activities.

## Assessed Fees

### **Band Shirt:**

Will be worn at all games. Cost - \$10.00.

### **Uniform Maintenance Fee:**

All students must pay this fee to receive a uniform. Uniforms will be turned in periodically to be professionally dry-cleaned. Cost - \$10.00.

### **Instrument Rental Fee:**

All students must pay this to receive a school owned instrument. Instruments will be issued during summer band camp. Cost - \$20.00.

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POLICY

It is the policy of the Pirate Band that no student should be denied the privilege of band membership due to financial hardship. Arrangements can be made with Mr. Lozano for those students who are financially challenged.

## FUND RAISING

The band engages in several fund raising activities each year. The money raised from fundraising activities will be credited to an account held by the Pirate Band Booster Club. This money is the property of Hidalgo ISD and is to be used only for the direct benefit of that individual student. Money in fund raising accounts is subject to state law regarding the collection of sales tax, and cannot be transferred to another student.

## Band Council

Band council elections will be held during the last six weeks of the school year. Band council positions are open to all students in the band program. The band council consists of the drum majors and the positions listed below. 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 operating band functions. The band council will meet as needed. The following is a list of offices with included responsibilities.

### Historian

The historian will be responsible for keeping an accurate record, both written and pictorial, of all band events. The historian should have a good camera and possess excellent writing skills. The historian will present a scrapbook to the band at the end of the school year.

### Secretary

The secretary will be responsible for many areas. The secretary will assist the band directors in operating the supply draw, collecting fund raising materials, typing, assisting in the band library, maintaining bulletin boards, and numerous special assignments.

### Vice President

Will receive assignments as dictated by the school year. The vice president will assist the president in the execution of his / her duties.

## **President**

The president shall be charged with ensuring proper operations of the band council. The president shall prepare a weekly meeting agenda and preside over all band council. The band president will have numerous special assignments and should be an extremely dedicated band member.

## **Appointed Band Positions**

### **Librarian (s)**

The librarian will be responsible for the operations of the band library. The librarian will have special computer assignments and band related projects. The librarian will have added weekly responsibilities.

### **Uniform Captain**

The uniform captain will be responsible for the efficient and effective operations of the uniform room in all events requiring the use of band uniforms.

### **Loading Crew-quartermaster**

The quartermaster will be loading crew captain and will be responsible for efficient and effective loading of all band equipment when the band is traveling. The quarter master assists with the physical and equipment set up of marching rehearsals.

### **Drum Major(s)**

The Pirate Band Drum Major(s) is selected through a rigorous audition process. The drum major is responsible for maintaining discipline, spirit, and the musical pulse of the marching band. The drum major is considered to be an extension of the band staff. The drum major should always maintain the highest academic and musical standards throughout the course of the year. It is the responsibility of the drum major(s) to attend an approved "Drum Major" training camp. There are numerous camps around the state to select from. The drum major(s) may request financial assistance from the band department to help offset costs. It is the responsibility of the Drum Major(s) to secure transportation to and from the camp.

### **Guard Captains**

The Guard Captains will be selected through a rigorous audition process. The Guard Captains are responsible for maintaining discipline, spirit, and the general running of the color guard. The Guard Captains are considered to be an extension of the band staff.