

JOHNSON JAGUAR BAND AND GUARD



STUDENT HANDBOOK 2023-2024

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Johnson High School, and the Johnson Jaguar Band and Guard! You are a privileged member of one of the newest and fastest growing programs in Central Texas. This handbook has been prepared to provide you with as much information as possible about membership in this program. This includes scheduling, activities and requirements, so that you fully understand your responsibilities and expectations, in order to receive the maximum enjoyment from your participation.

The mission of the Johnson Band and Guard Program is to cultivate, in all of our students, a life-long interest in, and an appreciation of music, while continually raising our standards of excellence through unified efforts, mutual respect, and common goals building upon a new tradition of success.

To achieve this mission, both students and staff devote their energies to:

- Pursuing those endeavors that define excellence in a distinguished musical organization,
- Demonstrating musical knowledge and proficiency through performance in a variety of mediums including:
 - a) Concert Band
 - b) Marching Band
 - c) Jazz Ensemble
 - d) Percussion
 - e) Color Guard and Winter Guard
 - f) Small and Medium Ensembles
 - g) Individual Performance and Achievement
- Giving and receiving instruction in those skills that will foster the desire to excel, and build team skills, self-esteem, and satisfaction in both individual and group performance.

Individual musicianship will be emphasized throughout the year and is the backbone of this organization. In general, the focus from June through early November is on the marching band and guard. Early November through May focuses on the concert bands and winter guards.

General Participation Statement

Performance of music is the standard by which learning and proficiency are measured. Therefore, **all band and guard students are required to participate in EVERY performance** unless otherwise authorized by their director. These performances include football games, marching contests, pep rallies, parades, scheduled local concerts, concert contests, winter guard contests and any competitions required by a given performance group.

To eliminate scheduling conflicts, the **complete annual performance schedule** is:

- a) Given to students during the last part of the prior spring semester
- b) Included on the Johnson Band website: www.jaguarbands.com
- c) Displayed in the Band Hall
- d) Sent via REMIND Messaging Service

It may be necessary to make changes to the schedule after publication. Students and parents will be notified of these changes by sending a notice on the web page, through Remind, email and other communications available.

Communication

Good communication is the single most important means of informing members and parents and preventing problems. There are a number of ways that information is dispersed.

- Students are informed of all upcoming events, actions, etc., in class. Directors inform the students of information they need to relate to their parents, and students are encouraged to take that information home. We know it doesn't always make it home but this is a great time and opportunity to help those students develop higher responsibility and increase those communication skills! (below are additional communication methods utilized in case the info never makes it home)
- Emails are sent to parents through Charms/CutTime.
- All information is posted on the Jaguar Band website: www.jaguarbands.org and at www.charmsoffice.com
- On Facebook, so please "Like" us on Facebook at "@johnsonjaguarband"
- REMIND Messaging Service. Please sign up for our multiple REMIND Accounts.
- Parents are highly encouraged to join the Parent GroupMe's for their students section. This is a great place to not only receive valuable information but to also ask questions.

Band Website

The internet home of the Johnson Band is at www.jaguarbands.org. Here you will find all of the information regarding the Johnson Band, including calendars and handouts. In addition, there will be links to band media such as pictures, audio recordings and videos!

Charms Website (This fall, Charms will be migrating to a new platform entitled: CutTime)

The Charms website, much like our Band website offers a great deal of information including band calendar, and all handouts. In addition, the Charms website allows students to download the current marching band music and also allows parents to check on student accounts and to pay for band fees, see outside of school rehearsal attendance, etc. It is important to ensure that you have an email address that you actually use listed in Charms to ensure you receive emails and stay informed.

How to access parent information

- Log on to www.charmsoffice.com
- Locate the "PARENT/STUDENT LOGIN" section of the web page.
- Login to your child's program account using the following login: **johnsonjaguarband**

When you enter your child's **ID NUMBER**, another more detailed screen appears with even more options to view your student's uniform assignments, music assignments, financial records, forms and inventory. Enter your child's ID FIRST – then you may create your own, unique password by clicking on the "keys icon"

Two areas in which you can help the directors maintain their records:

Student information form – you may help make changes to your child's **student information page** (such as updating phone numbers and email addresses if they change) to help the director communicate with you more effectively.

Credit card payments for fees, trips and deposits to your student's account can be made on our website and Charms through REVTRAK.

Most importantly, the parent page assists both you and the teacher to communicate with each other.

Color Guard

The Johnson Color Guard is the visual performance ensemble of the Johnson High School Band Program. In addition to the use of dance, drill, and theatrics, members of the Color Guard learn to perform with various pieces of equipment including flag, rifle, and sabre, as well as other miscellaneous props. During the fall semester, the Color Guard performs as part of the Johnson Marching Band, performing at all Varsity football games, UIL contests, various invitational contests and Bands of America Regional Championships. Like Band, Color Guard Class meets daily and receives the same academic credit that other band members receive.

In the Spring the Johnson Color Guard competes in "Winter Guard" contests hosted by the Texas Color Guard Circuit, and Winter Guard International.

Participation in Ancillary Groups of the Johnson Band

The Johnson High School Band is comprised of several smaller, ancillary performing groups. Currently those groups are: Color guard, Winter Guard, Johnson Jazz, Drumline, and Musical Pit Orchestra (when available). Students participating in these ensembles must maintain enrollment within Johnson High School Band. Any student who chooses to withdraw from the Johnson High School Band will also forfeit their membership in any ancillary groups. (Those members of the Color Guard that have never been a part of the JHS Band or it's feeder bands are exempt)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Care of Facilities

Band and Guard Members will observe all policies set forth by the School District, in addition to the following, as they pertain to the instrumental music setting:

1. Students will bring **no food, drinks, candy or gum** in the Band Hall area without permission from a band director (students are allowed to bring the campus and booster provided meals into the Band Hall area, however food is not permitted in the practice rooms at any time)
2. Students will not play on equipment they do not own or have permission from a director to use
3. Students will not touch, handle, borrow, or use anyone else's instrument, uniform, or personal belongings
4. When allowed in the band hall, either before or after school, students will not disturb any rehearsal in progress
5. Students will respect the property of others
6. Students will not enter the directors' offices without permission. Students **should enter the band office through the main office door**
7. The copy machine is off limits from all students except librarians and students given permission by a director
8. Students will not deface or mark on music stands, walls, etc...
9. Practice rooms and auxiliary rooms are designated for practicing, not for social gatherings.
10. Students not currently enrolled in band should not be in the band hall area or in the fine arts suite. If students who are not enrolled in band wander into the band area, please bring their presence to the attention of the band staff
11. Students should keep their equipment in the designated storage area, and keep said storage area clean and neat in appearance. Students who demonstrate great difficulty with this may lose the privilege of having a storage area in the band hall. Your locker is not your personal property and a director at any time may remove anything undesirable from your locker with the repercussion of losing all locker privileges in general.
12. Only JHS Band issued combination locks will be allowed on instrument lockers
13. Students will utilize their assigned storage slot/locker for instrument cases during rehearsals. Cases & Backpacks/other bags **should not be brought into the rehearsal area or set up** unless requested by a director. In addition, all instrument cases should remain **closed** when stored in their locker.

General Daily Supplies – The following list is a guide for what you need to be prepared for daily rehearsals.

- A. All issued music in a binder
- B. Pencil
- C. Instrument
- D. All supplies relative to their instrument
- E. Metronome/Tuner (for home use)
- F. All marching related equipment (during marching season)
 - Digital device with access UDB
 - All issued music/Binder
 - Band issued Water Jug
 - Large Towel for Movement Warm Up
 - Batting or Golf Gloves for French Horns, Baritones and Sousaphones

Flute

- Tuning and cleaning rods
- Cleaning cloth
- Key oil
- Approved type instrument

- Screwdriver set

Clarinets

- Four good playable reeds. Vandoren is the approved reed.
- Reed guard
- Ligature
- Proper mouthpiece with cap (Vandoren 5 RV Lyre)
- Cleaning swab
- Approved type instrument
- Cork grease

Saxes / Low Reeds as applicable

- Four good playable reeds. Vandoren is the approved reed.
- Reed guard
- Ligature
- Proper mouthpiece (Selmer C star)
- Pad and neck saver
- Approved type instrument

Trumpets

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

French Horns

- Rotary / Valve oil (Al Cass - Mellophone) (Holton Rotary - Concert Horn)
- Polishing cloth
- Approved mouthpiece (Hammond for Mellophone and Holton Farkas MDC)
- Approved type instrument

Trombones

- Slide cream
- Spray Water Bottle
- Polishing Cloth
- Mouthpiece (Schilke 51D or other director approved mouthpiece)
- Approved type instrument

Baritones / Euphoniums

- Valve oil (Al Cass)
- Mouthpiece (Schilke 51D or other director approved mouthpiece)
- Polishing cloth
- Approved type instrument

Tubas

- Rotator / Valve Oil (Al Cass -Valves / Holton - Rotors)
- Mouthpiece (Schilke Helleberg or other director approved mouthpiece)
- Polishing cloth
- Approved type instrument

Percussion

- List of approved equipment provided by Mr. Lunsford

Color Guard

- Please see Color Guard sections starting on page 24 of this handbook.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

New Student Orientation Camps

During the Spring Semester, camps are held for all incoming freshmen or new students to the program. It is a time for these students to get to know the directors and student leaders, become familiar with the high school facilities, learn basic marching and playing fundamentals, and have a good time. They will receive the music played in the stands during football games, and will get an idea of how things work for summer band camp and the marching season. By the time this camp is concluded, these new students will feel like returning band members when summer band camp arrives in late July/early August.

Instruments

During Spring Training and the summer working days, marching instruments will be issued to all students who need to use school-owned instruments.

Required SLT Workdays

As part of their responsibilities, all student leaders agree to attend work sessions in the summer at the band hall. Time will be spent on instructing new band members, preparing music for the fall, facility preparation, readying of uniforms, music and marching instruments for issuance, general preparation for summer band camp, team building exercises, and goal setting for the year. Although there are some "impromptu" work days, all **REQUIRED** work days will be on the calendar that is distributed after SLT audition results are announced in the spring. **In addition, Librarians may be required to serve multiple prep days throughout the summer.**

Summer Band and Guard Camp

Attendance is **REQUIRED** of all band students unless the Head Director approves an absence. The dates are announced at least 3-4 months in advance to give families an opportunity to plan vacations.

Camp begins promptly at a designated time every day (this means the student is in place, ready to go at appropriate time, not just arriving) and finishes in the afternoon. Teacher in-service dates may sometimes require adjustment to the rehearsal schedule. Students alternate practicing outside on the practice field (parking lot) and inside the band hall. Great care is taken to prevent heat-related problems. Various communications are sent to each student in early July outlining specific dates and times, what to bring, wear, eat, etc., but some general rules follow.

- a) Hats and sunscreen are **REQUIRED** for outside during summer band. Save your skin!
- b) Band students are required to wear athletic type shorts and a solid white t-shirt. We recommend that you purchase several white shirts to rotate. Color Guard members should refer to the Color Guard section starting on page 24.
- c) Wear socks and athletic shoes (cross trainers or running shoes are the best example of proper footwear). **No** sandals, bare feet, high-tops, ill-fitting, or non-athletic shoes, including converse and slip-on sneakers. Due to the physical nature of our activity, and that the majority of our movement will be done on a hard asphalt surface, proper footwear is a necessity to reduce the risk of injury and strain on your body.
- d) If you do not sign up our student for the summer band meal plan, make sure to bring a good lunch, high in carbohydrates and fruit, low in fat. Leaving campus is not allowed.
- e) Water should be the **ONLY** drink during rehearsals.

During summer camp, students will work on marching fundamentals, marching drill and music for the fall field production. They will also learn playing fundamentals, practice stand tunes for football games, and still manage to have some fun! There will be multiple celebrations held during summer band to help build relationships, provide opportunities for comradery and downtime for the structure of rehearsals. During the camp, we work very hard, as there is a lot to get done before school starts, but there is also a time for fun, and we will work very hard at that as well!

Uniforms

Marching uniforms will be issued during the summer band camps. The marching uniform consists of a jacket, gloves, tall black socks (student provides) (not ankle or short socks), one pair of black pants (bibbers), a shako, shako box, two plumes (one white, one black), two sets of gauntlets (one white, one black), and other uniform parts that are specific to the fall show, including additional uniform attachments, baldrics, tops, hats, etc. The financial obligation for replacement of lost or destroyed parts of any uniform will be the responsibility of the student/parent of whom the uniform is issued. Concert formals and tuxedos will be issued in November and will follow the same procedures as below. Once checked out by the student, the uniform becomes the responsibility of that student. It must be hung and stored properly and kept clean at all times. When not being worn, the uniform will be stored in the uniform room at school. At no time should a uniform be left

in a car, the student's band locker, or taken home, unless director approved. Color Guard members should refer to the Color Guard section starting on page 24.

Required Band and Guard Clothing

Orders and measurements are taken for those clothing accessories that are required for students throughout the year, including t-shirts, shoes, gloves, summer uniforms, etc. Some of these items do not need to be purchased every year.

FIELD SEASON (MARCHING BAND)

The Johnson Band and Guard aspire to be recognized among the top bands in the state and country. This does not come automatically. *It is the result of long hours of very hard work, at school, on the practice field, and at home.* Each member of this organization is responsible for learning and memorizing an 8-minute marching show and a rigorous musical score. Students are responsible for performing all components by memory at all competitions and must be able to march each measure of music to its specific chart, i.e., chart #3 is for 16 steps/counts and includes measures 48-64. Each student will be responsible for his/her marching "spot", and will receive a set of printed music. Each student will receive an individual login & license allowing them access to UDB (Ultimate Drill Book) which is a digital, cloud based, platform that generates their individual and specific coordinates for the marching production. The cost of the license is covered through the student band fees, fundraisers and band budget.

Pre-Participation Physical – a link to the updated online form will be mailed to parents each spring prior to the registration date.

UIL - C&CR Section 1105:

(F) Marching band pre-participation physical examination. Upon entering the first and third years of high school and upon any 7th or 8th grade student participating in marching band, a physical examination signed by a physician, a physician assistant licensed by a state board of physician assistant examiners, a registered nurse recognized as an advanced practice nurse by the board of nurse examiners or a doctor of chiropractic is required. Standardized pre-participation physical examination forms, available from the UIL office and authorized by the UIL Medical Advisory Committee, are required.

(G) Marching band medical history form. Each year prior to any practice or participation a UIL Medical History Form signed by both student and a parent or guardian is required. a medical history form shall accompany each physical examination and shall be signed by both student and a parent or guardian.

Marching Band Positions

Primary Marchers ("A's")

Students who earn this position in the marching band will carry the designation of primary marcher. A primary marcher is evaluated on the following:

- a) Grade History (Eligibility)
- b) Playing Ability (Band Audition Placement)
- c) Marching Ability (Spring Training Visual Assessment)
- d) Attendance
- e) Attitude
- f) Previous history in all above listed areas.

Secondary (Alternates) Marchers ("B's")

Any student who is a secondary marcher will SHARE a position with a primary marcher. Secondary marchers will participate at all rehearsals, football games and public performances, and may be utilized in areas such as field preparation and clearance, percussion and electronic logistics, etc. The position of secondary marcher will be utilized for those students who display difficulty in meeting the criteria of a primary marcher including but not limited to attendance, preparation, attitude, playing, marching, and movement ability.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

In order to have and maintain a high-quality band and guard program, attendance from all members is essential. In addition to district and school policies, the following guidelines outline attendance procedures for the Johnson Band and Guard. These attendance guidelines also apply to activities held outside of the school day.

Band Calendar

To assist Band and Guard members in planning and scheduling, the monthly Band calendar will be posted in the Band Hall and will also be given to every member. In addition, parents and students can go to www.jaguarbands.org to see the calendar at any time. Students will be given advance notice of any changes in the monthly calendar. Band and Guard members are **solely responsible** for being familiar with the calendar and attending all scheduled functions.

Because the Jaguar Band and Guard function as a “team” and count on every member, each member’s prompt attendance at all functions is crucial to the success of the program. Each Band and Guard member is responsible to be in the required location, properly attired (in the full proper uniform as required), with his or her instrument and all necessary music, equipment, etc. at or before the appointed time.

Roll Call/Attendance Block

During Marching season, students are expected to be in attendance block with ALL necessary materials and equipment at the start of rehearsal. Any student NOT in block, or without all materials and equipment will be considered tardy. During concert season and class, students must be in the assigned seat at the designated time. Students must be **IN the Band Hall** when the bell rings. Students who are in any other area of the “Band Suite” (i.e. hallway, office, library, instrument room) when the bell rings will be considered tardy.

Tardy Policy

Students not in their designated area at the appropriate time will be marked tardy. A tardy will be converted to an unexcused absence 10 minutes after the rehearsal begins.

*During the Marching season, tardy students must check in with a Drum Major or Director, and are then required to run one lap around the field and/or perform the designated calisthenic exercise they missed. Requiring tardy students to run one lap or complete the callisthenic component is in support of our physical marching band requirement without impacting other students who have already completed their callisthenic component at that rehearsal. By arriving late, they will have missed the physical conditioning or calisthenics that their fellow students would have just performed. Students who decide to walk instead of run thus benefiting from the rigor will be asked to leave rehearsal, and will receive an unexcused absence.

Excused Tardiness

Tardiness may be excused at the discretion of the directors. Tutorials, meetings for other organizations, appointments etc. will **NOT** be an automatic excuse for tardiness unless prior arrangements, with written documentation, or documentation from the sponsor addressing the lack of prior approval.

Unexcused Tardiness

Band students who have more than one unexcused tardy may be subject to one of the following consequences at the discretion of the band directors:

- Loss of spot as a primary marcher
- Loss of marching privilege (for one game) at a football game
- Requirement to stay after rehearsal or report early to next rehearsal to make up lost time
- Requirement to make up 15 minutes of fundamental marching with his/her section leader

Absence

Students not present at the appropriate time will be marked absent. Students are responsible for any new material learned or rehearsed while they were absent, and may need to spend additional time on their own before or after school in order to fulfill any learning objectives missed during the absence.

A member’s work/ employment, club meetings, or other rehearsals are NOT an excuse for absence from or tardiness to a Band or Guard function. Elective doctor’s appointments should be scheduled at times other than

when the band has rehearsal. In addition, family events and birthday celebrations of any kind are not excused absences. Your participation is crucial to the success of the entire program.

Color Guard members should also refer to the Color Guard section starting on page 24.

The nature of the activity is such that no amount of individual effort can substitute for group participation. Any absence, whether due to illness or other circumstance, is impossible to make up. Therefore, students who miss rehearsal repeatedly, regardless of the reason, compromise the progress of the group and cannot be allowed to continue to participate in a primary capacity.

Any member who may have a problem attending a function must contact a director IN ADVANCE to satisfactorily resolve the problem or to arrange for an expected absence or tardy to be excused. If your absence is unexcused it will affect your participation grade and may result in the loss of your marching spot/concert chair. If you are absent from two rehearsals consecutively, an alternate will be placed in your marching spot. In either case you may have the opportunity to challenge back into your marching spot or concert chair.

Excused Absence

Absences will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Appointments, tutorials, other club meetings, etc. will NOT be an excuse for an absence. Absence due to personal illness requiring medical attention, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances (approved by director) may be considered for excused status. Students who are continually ill may be required to provide a doctor's note releasing them from participation in order to ensure the well-being of the child and to reduce concerns of the band directors and fellow students. If in doubt, an absence should be checked with a director.

Special note: During marching band season, any scheduled morning rehearsals will end at a scheduled time that allows students to attend the campus morning tutorials. In addition, during the concert season, students will generally be responsible for a weekly section rehearsal and a full ensemble rehearsal. Thus, students will have ample days available for tutorials and appointments.

Unexcused Absence

Students who have an unexcused absence will receive a "0" participation grade for the rehearsal and may be subject to one or more of the following consequences at the discretion of the directors:

- Loss of spot as a primary marcher.
- Loss of marching privilege for one game.
- Loss of attendance privilege at one game.
- Removal from marching band participation

**Students who have been absent for two hours (or more) in any week, or missed a long evening rehearsal, will be expected to participate at that week's game, but will not be allowed to perform at the next marching performance. Students must be at the final run-thru before a performance in order to participate in that performance.*

Weather

Marching Band is an outdoor sport. Half-time shows and marching competitions are held regardless of the weather, as are rehearsals. If one must perform in inclement weather, one must learn how to do so. The one exception to this rule is violent weather, which includes lightning, hail, and violent wind. In the event of violent weather, rehearsals, sporting events and competitions are first halted and everyone brought inside of the building (Hays CISD provides a "Weather Alert" system to all District Directors and Coaches that will automatically notify us via cell phone when a lightning strike has occurred. This alert system allows us to ensure the safety of the students at all times). If the storm passes in a reasonable amount of time, the outside rehearsal or event continues after danger has passed. In very rare instances, an event may be canceled, but that is an extremely rare occurrence due to the impossibility of rescheduling.

Students should always be prepared for rehearsal in inclement weather. Band and Guard staff will make every effort to see that all required precautions are taken to insure student health and safety. If it is extremely hot, cold, windy, raining, snowing, or any combination of the above, rehearsals, half-time shows and competitions will be held, and students should have the necessary clothing available. Being aware of weather forecasts during marching season is an excellent idea. Weather apps are free to download, should be checked frequently and can provide large amounts of valuable information and help students plan for their day.

Since a large part of the marching season occurs typically in summer-like weather, the dress and student responsibility for rehearsals is similar to summer band. As for summer band:

- a) put your name in or on all your gear
- b) wear light colored clothing in addition to the white band shirt for rehearsal
- c) wear athletic shoes and socks - no sandals, bare feet, high-tops, or other inappropriate footwear (i.e. converse, slip-on shoes, etc.)
- d) bring water jug, hats, and sunscreen to the practice field, and along with sunglasses that won't obstruct your peripheral vision

Obviously, the weather can change rapidly, so an awareness of the temperature and the immediate weather forecast is advised. Having a jacket or rain gear available is a good idea, since rehearsals are held regardless of weather with the exception of violent weather.

Typical Marching Rehearsal Schedule during the school year. (Considering JHS will have games on Thursday, Friday or Saturday it is advisable that you look at the band calendar as the below schedule varies weekly)

Monday	5:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Tuesday	5:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Thursday	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Friday	7:00 AM - 8:00 AM
Saturday	Decision based on contest schedules and football games. CHECK YOUR CALENDAR!

Football Game Procedures

The football game is viewed as a performance of the Marching Band which includes all Band and Guard members. Such performance includes all aspects of the game from arrival to departure.

1. Students will load equipment in the appropriate manner onto the truck or a cart during the assigned time.
2. Students will arrive in INSPECTION BLOCK at the set time. Students will load and be prepared to travel at the set load time. An inspection will be held prior to departure from JHS to ensure all equipment and materials are accounted for. Students who are missing materials are expected to resolve these issues BEFORE INSPECTION. Students who are not fully prepared at the time of inspection may lose the opportunity to perform, or receive other consequences at the discretion of the director.
3. Students will load the buses with their uniform and equipment needed for the performance.
4. Upon arrival at the performance area, students will wear all uniform components and prepare equipment for unloading. Students will unload busses and retrieve their equipment when instructed by a director. Students will report to the designated staging area for final inspection and warm-up.
5. Band students will report to the seating area and will remain standing (at Ready) until all marching band members have arrived and are prepared to be seated, at which point a Drum Major or Director will instruct the band to sit. Color Guard members will have a slightly different pre-game process and will follow instructions from Mr. Jacobes and Guard Captains based upon the stadium. Although each stadium is different, the seating order will remain the same for EVERY Game. Once seated, students are to remain in their respective sections.
6. Students will remain in the band seating section at all times during the game.
7. Water refills to the required water jug will be provided by the band booster organization. Students will refrain from accepting food or drinks from parents, relatives, or friends.
8. Students needing a restroom break must get permission from a director, and will be escorted to the restrooms in groups by Band Booster Volunteers. Restroom breaks will not be granted in the second quarter of a football game.
9. Students will be expected to listen for and watch the Directors and Drum Majors during the game to ensure readiness to perform at all times.
10. Students will refrain from playing their instruments on an individual basis. The band will perform as a group or with approved small ensembles.
11. At the appropriate time, the marching band will be dismissed from the stands for the half-time performance. At this time, the marching band must move quickly, quietly, and efficiently to section prep areas and await instructions from Directors or SLT's.
12. 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. There will be opportunities for the marching band to move to the Student Section of the stadium during home games to perform for

- the Student Body during the 3rd quarter.
13. Prior to the end of the game, the appropriate loading crew will begin preparing equipment and instruments in preparation for departure.
 14. At the conclusion of the game, students will load their instrument and bus quickly and efficiently.
 15. Upon return to the band hall, students will ensure that all personal items, uniforms, instruments, and equipment are placed in the proper storage areas.

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, including the U.I.L. Marching Contest, Bands of America Regionals, as well as other local and possible national contests or parades. ALL performances are mandatory, and are an extension of our classroom.

General Performance Procedures

1. **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
2. **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 THEIR SECTION LEADERS. STUDENTS WITHOUT APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT WILL BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE OR WILL BE SENT HOME AT THE DIRECTOR'S DISCRETION, AND AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE RECORDED.)
3. **Return Time:** this will be the time of return to the band hall. It is very important that your parents or guardians are located at the High School when we arrive so that all students and directors may leave the campus within a reasonable amount of time. **Do not wait until we arrive at the school to call your parents. A Remind101 will be sent to parents upon departure with an approximate time of arrival.**

Travel Guidelines/Bus Behavior

This program spends a fair amount of time on buses; therefore, the behavior of all participants should be such that it ensures that everyone will have a safe, comfortable, and enjoyable trip.

1. Students must travel to events and return from events on the bus. Any student wishing to arrive or leave with his / her parents, must notify a director in writing prior to the event. A decision will be rendered based on the circumstances provided
2. Students must have all necessary forms completed and returned, to travel on any program trip.
3. Sections will ride the same bus, some buses will have multiple sections. Example Tubas and Horns may ride the same bus to meet seat requirements, however developed all instruments sections will ride together as a section.
4. Students must follow the appropriate bus behavior as listed below:

Appropriate bus behavior includes the following.

- a) There should be no shouting or singing that may distract the driver
- b) Music is to be played through headphones only
- c) Stay seated at all times. Do not move about the bus while in the bus is in motion
- d) Do not distract the driver. If the driver asks that something change, change it
- e) Always be attentive, quiet, and seated when a director or chaperone is calling roll or giving instructions
- f) NO GUM on the bus, ever
- g) Place all trash in trash bags
- h) Leave nothing on the bus following the end of a trip, including trash, leftover food, clothes, etc. If you took it on the bus, you take it off
- i) No inappropriate language, including, but not limited to swearing, profanity, cursing, cat calls, or rude/offensive behavior
- j) Keep everything inside the bus. There will be no throwing of anything out the windows
- k) Public display of affection (PDA) has no place, either on buses or during any band or school-related function. The freedom to travel with a specific individual is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate behavior can lead to the loss of that privilege.
- l) No signs are allowed on the buses at any time, inside or out. No exceptions.

m) Keep your entire body in the bus – Never put any part of your body out of a window.

Chaperones know what appropriate behavior is. They are there to help students have a safe and enjoyable trip. Respect and compliance with the chaperones will ensure that directors do not have to become involved. If there is ever a question concerning the requests made by chaperones please bring it to the attention of a director.

Students are responsible for keeping their bus clean. A director or chaperone will pass trash bags out prior to arrival. A student will be selected to inspect each seat after arrival.

Special Note:

As a member of the marching 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! Your conduct must be such that at no time could it be considered a bad reflection on the school, the band, your home, yourself or the community. Always represent: **“The Johnson Way”**

Chaperones

Parent chaperones are a crucial part of this band program. These parents volunteer their time to travel with the band and ensure that everyone gets to their destination safely. While every effort is made to have a director on each bus, there may also be parents on each bus. Chaperones are to be treated with the same respect and authority as a director. Chaperones also should understand that they are responsible for ALL students, not just their own child.

Instrument Loading / Unloading

Students playing clarinet or flute will transport their instruments on the bus. All others will keep their equipment on the band trailer/instrument truck. (pending available size and space on the trailers this may vary) Students will be responsible for seeing that their instrument or empty case is in the proper location. Students will also be responsible to see that their instrument is picked up and stored correctly upon the unloading of the instrument truck. Students who display difficulty in following the loading and unloading procedures may lose the privilege of utilizing the instrument truck and may share their seat on the bus with their instrument.

Loading Procedures

A Director or Logistics member will designate the appropriate area for all instruments. Students should ensure that their instrument is in the proper place at the proper time. Cases should be closed and secure. Instruments in the wrong area may be overlooked and not loaded.

Unloading Procedures

A Director or Logistics member will designate the unloading area. Students should uncase their instrument and place the empty case back on the cart. Unloading should be done in a timely and efficient manner.

Marching Band Uniform Guidelines

General

1. Band and Guard uniforms will be issued during summer band camp
2. Band and Guard uniforms will be stored at school in the uniform storage area
3. Students will be held financially responsible for the uniform and its' components
4. Band students will receive formalwear for Spring concerts during the fall semester

Issue and Return

1. Students will pick up uniforms at the designated report time for any event. The uniform issuance area will close 15 minutes prior to the scheduled time to be seated, or in Inspection.
2. Students should follow the posted pick up/return guidelines. Students who do not arrive to pick up their uniform during the allotted time will be the last student to turn their uniform in after the performance
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 storage area.

Students not properly hanging the uniform will be asked to re-hang their uniform and return to the back of the line.

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 (ALL or NONE!). The ONLY exception to this will be when a director instructs you otherwise. When jackets are removed, bibbers are to remain ALL of the way on, NEVER rolled down or unzipped. The black compression shirt is to be worn under your uniform. The compression shirt will be part of pre-performance inspections.

2. You must wear approved black band shoes and black socks (student purchases).
3. Jewelry, hair ribbons, colored nail polish, visible tattoos of any kind, etc. are unacceptable while in uniform. These items hinder the uniform appearance of the band. (Students may need to wear clear spacers should they have piercings.) Also, upon the Director's consent, ladies may wear a black or gold ribbon in their hair as part of the summer uniform.
4. Band students with long hair will need to put it up in a neat bun under their shako during performances. The entire band will be preparing their hair the SAME way. Instructions will be given early in the year to address how hair will be done for performances. Affectionately known as "Show Hair". Color Guard members should refer to Color Guard section starting on page 24 of this handbook.
5. Natural occurring hair colors will be the only style of color accepted. Hair with any "unnatural" or multiple colors will not be acceptable while in uniform. (If you hair has been dyed a non-natural color these can be temporarily colored a natural color for performances ensuring uniformity)
6. No consumption of food and drinks (except water) while in full uniform without permission.
7. Running is prohibited while in uniform.
8. Wearing the Johnson Marching Band Uniform is a PRIVILEGE and should be treated as such. Never leave ANY uniform part unattended or lying around. ALL behavior and language while in uniform is a DIRECT REFLECTION OF OUR COMMUNITY, HAYS CISD, JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL, ADMINISTRATORS, DIRECTORS, YOUR PARENTS, AND YOUR PEERS! Please be respectful while in uniform and keep up that GREAT JAGUAR MARCHING BAND IMAGE!

Uniform Costs

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

DAILY INSTRUCTION OF BANDS AND INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION

All band members are expected to:

Color Guard members, please refer to the Color Guard section starting on page 24 of this handbook.

- Maintain eligibility at all times, keeping grades in all subjects at 70 or better.
- Maintain a grade of 90 in band in all 9-week periods.
- Be prepared to practice and perform given literature in a professional manner.
- Serve as tutors and peer supporters to help other band members maintain their eligibility and deal with any problems they may encounter.
- Uphold the principles, policies and procedures of the band, school and community.
- Acknowledge and respect the leadership structure of the band program.
- Act as role models for other band students
- Encourage and provide assistance and support for all bands.
- Maintain the highest possible positive attitude toward this program and our school.

Wind Ensemble and Wind Symphony

These two performing groups serve as Johnson High School's premier performance ensembles and can be entered by audition only. The size of the ensemble is determined by prescribed wind ensemble instrumentation with one player on a part on most instruments. Membership in these groups has stiff requirements and considerable expectations. These students must:

- a) Prepare the TMEA All-State audition music and perform to the highest level attainable at the All Region auditions.
- b) Prepare and perform a solo at UIL contest - A student may elect to perform a solo from memory to qualify for State Solo contest.
- c) Understand that the demands on their time will be significantly higher due to increased individual practice time, difficulty of literature and expected participation in band functions. Most students can expect to practice at least 30-45 minutes per day outside of class or rehearsal time.
- d) Step forward into the leadership roles for the band, including drum majors, section leaders, squad leaders and band officers.
- e) **Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony and Double Reed students are strongly encouraged to be involved in private lessons.**
- f) Attend outside of school sectionals and rehearsals to prepare for UIL contests and concerts.
- g) Students must remain academically eligible to participate in the Wind Ensemble.

Symphonic Winds and Concert Winds

This performing group serves as Johnson High School's Non-Varsity group and can be entered by audition only. The size of the ensemble is determined by prescribed wind ensemble instrumentation with one player on a part on most instruments. Membership in this group has stiff requirements and considerable expectations. These students must:

- a) Members are encouraged to prepare the TMEA All-State audition music and perform to the highest level attainable
- b) Prepare a solo for class performance, and encouraged to attend Solo contest. A student may elect to perform a solo from memory at UIL Solo Contest to qualify for State Solo contest.
- c) Understand that the demands on their time will be significantly higher due to increased individual practice time, difficulty of literature and expected participation in band functions. Most students can expect to practice at least 30-45 minutes per day outside of class or rehearsal time.
- d) Step forward into the leadership roles for the band, including drum majors, section leaders, squad leaders and band officers.
- e) **Symphonic Winds and Double Reed students are strongly encouraged to be involved in private lessons.**
- f) Attend outside of school sectionals and rehearsals to prepare for UIL contests and concerts.
- g) Students must remain academically eligible to participate in the Wind Symphony.

Jazz Ensemble

These performing groups serve as Johnson High School's ancillary performance ensembles and can be entered by audition only. The size of the ensemble is determined by prescribed Jazz ensemble instrumentation and generally consists of Rhythm Section, Trumpet, Trombone and Saxophone families. There are times where a specialty instrument will perform with the ensemble should the arrangement require that voicing. All members of the Jazz Ensemble must be concurrently enrolled in the Johnson High School Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony, Symphonic Winds or Concert Winds. The only exceptions to this will be those students performing on Piano, Bass and Guitar as these instruments are not typically found in a band program. Band Membership in this group has stiff requirements and considerable expectations.

- a) Jazz Ensemble members are encouraged to prepare the TMEA All-State Jazz Ensemble audition music and perform to the highest level attainable.
- b) Understand that the demands on their time will be significantly higher due to increased individual practice time, difficulty of literature and expected participation in band functions. Most students can expect to practice at least 30-45 minutes per day outside of class or rehearsal time.
- c) **Jazz Ensemble Members are strongly encouraged to be involved in private lessons.**
- d) Attend outside of school sectionals and rehearsals to prepare for UIL and Invitation Contest and Concerts.
- e) Students must remain academically eligible to participate in the Jazz Ensemble.

Concert Dress

Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony, Symphonic Winds and Concert Winds

- School Owned Tuxedos and Dresses, Black socks/dress shoes.
- Black Dress Shoes, or Marching Shoes w/long black socks.
- Appropriate colored nail polish. (The performance is about music, not neon nails)
- Only jewelry should be stud type earrings and school owned necklaces

General Grading Policy (greater detail provided further below) Students will be graded on the following scale:

- * **Daily / Participation** **60%**
Includes: Instrument, Music Supplies, Concentration, Class Work, Weekly Pass Offs, Hearings etc...
- * **Extension of Class** **40%**
Includes: Co-curricular events such as **concerts and rehearsals**. (yes outside of school rehearsals and concerts are graded functions as band is Co-curricular and these events are extensions of the classroom)

Individual Competition

Individual competition at the district level is encouraged for all Johnson band students. Competition for individual students is provided by the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA). Each summer, three etudes are selected for each concert instrument. An etude is a technical study designed to teach the techniques, dynamics, rhythm, and interpretation contained within a short, well-defined piece of music. There are typically two fast, technical pieces, and one slow, interpretive piece. Intense preparation of this music accomplishes two things:

- a) It provides instruction on the capability of the instrument, the technique and interpretation of that instrument's music, some music history, and to further the playing ability of the student.
- b) It serves as audition music for a series of competitive events used to select the top musicians in the district, region, area and state. Students receive tremendous self-satisfaction and acclamation for progressing through these auditions, being selected for the All-District, Region and Area Bands, and culminating with being named to an All-State group.

All-Region Jazz Band

This audition occurs in late September. This music is available to any student who wishes to make this effort. There are several jazz pieces, plus the student is required to improvise. This competition is open to saxophone, trumpet, trombone, percussion, and rhythm section.

All-Region Orchestra

This competition is set up like the band auditions, except that some instruments are not represented in an orchestra. Students selected to the All-Region Orchestra attend a clinic and perform a concert in mid- November. Students receive a patch, and automatically progress to the All-Area auditions, which is for both band and orchestra students.

All-District/Region Band

Students participating in these auditions are scored by a panel of five judges, who are screened off from view. A group of students, all playing the same instrument, are allocated to a room, and each of the three etudes are played. Of the five scores, the highest and lowest scores are thrown out, and the three remaining scores are averaged for that student's score. Roughly the top 25% scoring students from these auditions are named All- Region and/or All-District musicians. All-District students receive a patch. The district band does not perform as a group.

All-Area Band

This is the last of the competitive auditions in the selection of All-State musicians. This competition is held in early January, and includes 6A students from Area D. It also includes those students who were named to the All-Region Orchestra. Based on this competition, the top scoring students in each instrument group are named to All-State.

All-State Band

This is the highest individual accomplishment for a student musician in the state of Texas. The All-State musicians attend the TMEA State Convention in San Antonio in early February for a three-day clinic followed by a concert that is attended by top music educators from throughout the state and around the world. Upon arrival in San Antonio, All-State students have one last audition, during which they are ranked by score. This serves not only as their state ranking, but determines which all-state group they will work with and perform during the next three days. There are four performing groups for band

students, the All-State Concert Band, the All-State Philharmonic Orchestra, the All-State Symphonic Band, and the All-State Symphonic Orchestra.

UIL Region Solo and Ensemble Competition

Competition for solo and ensemble, both regional and state, is sponsored by UIL. **This event is required for all Wind Ensemble members** and encouraged for all band students. Students may perform in up to two events, either two solos on different instruments, two ensembles, or one of each. The regional competition is held in February. Each student receives a handout prior to registering that outlines the responsibilities of the student. Upon signing this, the student agrees to uphold these responsibilities.

Failure to perform after being registered will result in a grade penalty as well as financial compensation for your entry fee. Once the deadline is passed for selecting a piece, the piece cannot be changed for any reason. Additionally, if an accompanist has already been engaged and has prepared the music, the student will have to pay the entire accompanist fee, whether the piece is performed or not.

Solos

Students may select a solo for their instrument from a shortlist chosen by a director or their private lesson teacher. These pieces must be on the UIL Prescribed Music List (located in the Band Office). Most solos require an accompanist, which the student pays for a portion of the cost. The Band Office assists in locating accompanists and in scheduling rehearsal and contest times. For the fee paid to the accompanist, the student should receive at least two 15-20 minute rehearsals and the performance accompaniment. Students should refer to the requirements of the band in which they play to determine what options they have for this contest.

Students may not play a solo or ensemble they have already played before.

In order to qualify for State Solo and Ensemble competition, a student must receive a Division I on a Class I solo played from memory at the regional level. Students who play a Class I solo with the music can compete at region; however, they will not qualify for state competition.

Ensembles

There are many combinations of ensembles that students may elect to perform, from trios, quartets, quintets, and choirs of the same instrument, to a variety of ensembles of mixed instruments. Ensembles do not have to be memorized, either at the region or state level.

To qualify for State Solo and Ensemble competition, the ensemble must receive a Division I on a Class I ensemble.

If a soloist or ensemble is unable to attend the official UIL competition date, the soloist or ensemble must perform for judges at Johnson High School on the date specified or attend the official UIL Solo and Ensemble competition within a different zone.

Texas State Solo and Ensemble Competition (TSSEC)

The state competition is held on Memorial Day weekend, usually after the last day of school and graduation.

Students may, but do not have to play the same solo or ensemble for both regional and state competition. However, the type of ensemble must remain the same, i.e., a saxophone quartet playing at region cannot change and become a saxophone trio at state. It must remain a quartet. Additionally, at the time of state competition, an ensemble may replace up to 50% of the original members, but at least 50% of the original members must remain, i.e. a trio may replace one member, a quartet may replace 2 members, etc.

Each student receives a handout prior to registering that outlines the responsibilities of both the student and the Band Office. Upon signing this, the student agrees to uphold these responsibilities.

The Band Office will complete the paperwork for entering students in TSSEC, but students must pay all fees to register for this contest. Once the deadline is passed for selecting a piece, the piece cannot be changed for any reason. Additionally, if an accompanist has already been engaged and has prepared the music, the student will have to pay the accompanist fee, whether the piece is performed or not.

All solos must be memorized for the state competition.

**2023-2024 UPDATE - this year the Johnson Band Program may alter or edit the Solo & Ensemble procedures in an effort to help alleviate or alter the cost of accompanist as well as the performance requirements. This may be done through a Non-UIL option*

for some students. Details will be provided if and when this option is finalized.

CONCERT SEASON

Eligibility

1. Many band activities are designated by the state as extra-curricular. These activities are therefore governed by the state laws regarding participation. 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 grading 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. ALL students who become Academically Ineligible are **REQUIRED** to attend tutoring. Academic Progress Sheets and Tutoring Logs will be distributed to those students who are **REQUIRED** to attend tutoring.
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 suspension period. The students may also regain eligibility through the process of getting a waiver. There are special circumstances – see a director for more information. Regaining eligibility does NOT guarantee regaining a performance spot or opportunity.
3. Band activities are designated by the state as co-curricular. These activities are those which occur on campus, and are a natural extension of the learning taken place in the classroom. Examples of this type of activity are the public concerts which are presented at the Hays CISD Performing Arts Center. These activities are not governed by the state eligibility law.

Effective May 1, 2019 TEA has amended 19 TAC Chapter 76, Extracurricular Activities, Subchapter AA, Commissioner's Rules, §76.1001, Extracurricular Activities

Summary: This amendment allows a student who has not passed all his or her classes, but who is enrolled in a state-approved music course that participates in University Interscholastic League (UIL) Concert and Sight-reading Evaluation, to perform with the ensemble during the UIL evaluation performance.

Performance / Rehearsal Requirements for the Concert Ensembles

The concert program is the heart of any successful band program. During this time, the focus is on the musical enrichment of the students on a variety of styles of music. This creates a platform for music making to occur through the fundamental development of tone, technique, reading and listening skills. Although concert season and marching season form two distinct parts of our year, both work hand in hand to develop a holistic approach to music education.

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 ensembles will include but are not limited to the following:

- Holiday Concert, December
- Pre U.I.L Festivals, March
- U.I.L. Concert, April
- Spring Concert, May
- Possible Invitation Concert Event, May

Concerts are considered to have three parts: warm-up, performance, and listening. The concert begins for the student at the first group's warm-up and ends at the last group's performance. 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 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 for missed work!
5. The appropriate dress for all concerts will be a dress uniform.
6. Students are expected to stay the ENTIRE concert. Students who are not present for an entire concert may not receive full credit for the audience portion of their performance grade.

Sectionals and Outside Rehearsals

Students will have a weekly section rehearsal for the fundamentals of instrument technique, region music preparation, solo and ensemble preparation, and UIL concert and sight-reading. These are separate from all other rehearsals.

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. Again, attendance is MANDATORY not only to be successful, but to also participate in performance opportunities.

UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Evaluation

All bands participate in at least one concert competition during the spring semester. The primary event is the UIL Concert and Sight-reading Evaluation, held at one of the schools in our region. This event is the essential barometer by which music programs are measured. The event occurs in April and students may be required to miss some part of the school day. This will be considered an excused absence and students are responsible for all work missed.

There is a concert portion and a sight-reading portion to this annual event. Each portion is judged separately, but equally. Each band's concert program consists of three prescribed pieces, one of which is a march, and the other two are selected by the director from the UIL Prescribed Music List. Music is performed for three adjudicators for a rating.

The sight-reading portion demonstrates the student's basic fundamentals of music knowledge. Students apply all their skills as they learn and perform a piece of music they have never seen before for three judges.

Parents, family and friends are encouraged to attend the concert portion and/or the sight-reading portion of the event. This provides a positive audience for our students, which is very important. There is no admission fee.

This event is mandatory for all students. A major grade will be given to these students for this performance.

DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE GRADING PERIOD TO TRY AND DO SOMETHING THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR GRADE!

It is too late. Do not expect teachers to "give" you an extra point or two so that you can continue your extracurricular activities. This will not happen. Each teacher is charged with ensuring that you know the material in which you are being instructed. It serves neither you nor the teacher to "pass" you when you have not successfully completed the material.

Typically, the Number 1 reason for failing classes is not turning in work.

Eligibility during the fall and spring semester WILL affect band placement and marching band positions for the next year.

JOHNSON JAGUAR BAND STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

Financial Obligations

The district budget does not fully cover many of the band program's needs. There are some costs that must be borne by students. Please pay strict attention to deadlines. These will be posted in the calendar.

Supplies & Services \$375:

This is for all instrumentalists: woodwind, brass and percussion. For all incoming rookies (first year members), this fee will cover the cost associated with the rookie season equipment including that of the Viper Marching Shoes, as well as the shorts and polo shirt that are used for the Summer Uniform. (after their rookie year students will be responsible for purchasing new items if they are lost, destroyed or outgrown.) Additional items covered by this fee for all students are the cost of gloves, shirt, cap, performance top, drill designers, music writers, guest clinicians, marching techs, program designer and production staff. The final aspect that this covers is the visual enhancement of the competitive marching show through items such as props, field screens, tarps, flags and customization of uniforms.

Instrument Fee \$100:

This is due only from students that are performing on school instruments (yes percussion is a school owned instrument). Those that must pay the instrument fee are the same that had that fee in Middle School. Many of the students such as French Horns, Euphoniums and Tubas will now receive two different instruments from the school. However, the instrument fee will not change, they will receive the second instrument at no additional cost. (\$25 additional if your student wants to take the school instrument home for the summer)

Color Guard: \$500 (Fall) and \$200 (Spring):

Each Color Guard fee Member covers most of the costs for custom uniforms, equipment, travel and additional program costs not covered by the budget. Students must have balances in good standing to continue participation in the Color Guard program.

Financial Obligations must be taken care of by posted deadlines, or students may not be eligible to participate in band functions and activities. Every effort should be made to pay by the deadlines. Communication to the Head Director is crucial in matters of finances.

Students and parents may access their account information through the CHARMS program. A link is found on www.jaguarbands.org. Please go to the login section, enter a valid student ID number, the valid password and all account information pertaining to that student will be displayed.

Fund-Raising

Each student can participate in multiple fund-raisers as a member of the band. They are highly encouraged to take advantage of the fund-raisers as it can take financial burden off of all families. All fund-raising profits will be placed into the Johnson Band's Activity fund and used to offset the various costs associated with the running of the band program.

The Johnson High School Band Booster Club engages in several fund-raising activities each year. The monies raised from fundraising activities will be credited to an account held by the Booster Club. This money will be used solely for the direct benefit of the students.

Money from fundraising is by law the property of the school district, and cannot be transferred from one student to another. A student who ends the school year with an account balance from personal funds deposited may carry that balance over to the next year.

It is the policy of the Johnson High School Band and Guard that no student should be denied the privilege of membership due to financial hardship. Arrangements can be made with the director for those students and parents who can verify the need.

Johnson Band and Guard Code of Conduct

Member of the Johnson Band, individuals will represent the entire band program, the school, the community and each of our families. The appearance and behavior of each band member should reflect pride in the fine reputation that is growing in this organization and the start of a tradition of excellence in this program.

Band members must first abide by all rules and regulations set out for Johnson High School and Hays CISD. These rules, together with all laws set out by the state and federal governments supersede any rules and regulations set out by this program. Violations of district, county, state and federal rules and laws will be handled by appropriate persons outside the band program, beginning with the student's Assistant Principal.

Hays CISD has a zero-tolerance policy for tobacco, alcohol, controlled substances, weapons of any kind, gang-related activities, and violation of state and federal laws. In keeping with district policies, the Johnson Band also maintains a zero-tolerance for any and all of these activities. This program takes great pride in the quality of students involved, and for our students, we demand that the environment in which they spend a great deal of their time must be one that is safe and in their best interest.

The Johnson Band and Guard expects that all of its students will exhibit those behaviors that are most conducive to a pleasant and productive working environment. These behaviors include:

- Demonstrating courtesy and respect for others
- Show proper conduct at all times. Displays of profanity, temper, flagrant violation of rules, etc., will not be tolerated. Individual behavior during a band function is a reflection of the group
- Attend all classes and rehearsals regularly and on time
- Public Display of Affection is not allowed
- Prepare for each class and take appropriate materials and assignments to class
- Students should be well-groomed and dressed appropriately
- Obey all district, campus and classroom rules and directives
- Respect the rights and privileges of other students, directors and staff
- Respecting the property of others, including fellow students, the band hall, the campus and all district property and facilities defined in the handbook
- Avoid violations of the Student Code of Conduct
- Follow all instructions from any director or staff member
- Rehearsals are expected to be extremely quiet so that our time will be utilized wisely – raise your hand before asking questions

Misconduct includes, but is not limited to, the following violations:

- Failing to comply with directives issued by the Directors
- Leaving school grounds or school-sponsored events without permission
- Directing profanity, vulgar language, or obscene gestures toward other students, directors, staff, visitors, teachers, etc.
- Theft
- Damaging or vandalizing property owned by others
- Engaging in behavior that gives directors reasonable cause to believe that such conduct will be disruptive to the band program
- Behaving in any way that disrupts the school environment
- Being tardy, failing to attend, being truant, or having unexcused absences
- Violating any communicated district, campus or classroom standards of behavior
- Inappropriate use of e-mail, text, or other electronic forms of communication

Students who have witnessed misconduct or have knowledge of acts of misconduct are required to report the infraction to directors immediately. Failure to come forward with this information is the same as acting as an accomplice.

Misconduct violations may result in, but are not limited to, one or more of these consequences:

- Verbal reprimand
- Progress report to parents
- Grade reduction
- Assigned service to the program
- Denial of participation
- Denial of privileges
- Discipline report to JHS Administration
- Removal from class
- Removal from leadership position
- **Placed on Behavioral Contract**
- **Removal from the Johnson Band or Guard program at the discretion of the Directors.**

Any student who is sent to IMPACT will be removed from the JHS band or guard program and its ancillary ensembles.

Internet & Social Media

Maintaining a higher standard of conduct will also include ensuring that band and guard member websites are appropriate. The internet is a worldwide, publicly accessible form of communication. Any communication such as Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, photo sharing, emailing, or texting, etc., appearing on the internet is public domain, even if it is marked private. Members are responsible for their personal websites and postings, as well as posting from or on other students' websites. The areas of appropriateness will include but are not limited to profane, foul, or disrespectful language (abbreviated or alluding to), pictures, suggestive poses, clothing, references to alcohol, drugs, and/or tobacco, and postings (either verbal or photos) that could be interpreted as being negative or threatening towards other Hays CISD teaching staff or band or guard members, or that demonstrate poor sportsmanship or a disrespectful attitude towards other bands or guards. Any such incident will result in review by the principal (or administrator) and may lead to probation or dismissal from the band or guard at the discretion of the director.

Members that violate the above internet guidelines shall be subject to the following:

- Upon confirmation of a first violation, the member will be asked to remove any offensive items from the website(s) and will be asked to give an apology and plan of action to deter this behavior to the principal, directors, and band members. Parents/guardians will be contacted and made aware of the offensive behavior.
- Upon confirmation of a second offense, the member will be asked to remove any offensive items from the website(s) and will be asked to give an apology and plan of action to deter this behavior to the principal, directors, and band or guard members. Parents/guardians will be contacted and made aware of the offensive behavior. In addition, the student will be suspended from all Band activities.
- Upon confirmation of a third offense, the member will be removed from band.

PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES AND EXPECTED BEHAVIOR

Performance Attendance

Band & Color Guard are PERFORMANCE based classes. Performances are an extension of our classroom and are graded activities. All students are required to participate in all performances, including all Football Games, Contests, Concerts, Pre-UIL/UII events, as well as clinics and festival performances during and after school hours. Failure to attend may result in removal from the program at the discretion of the band directors (see general attendance policies above). In addition all students must travel in 2's. We never want a student to be moving at an event or location alone. We use the buddy system for everything that we do!!

Performance Behavior

After arriving at the performance site, members should:

- a) Listen carefully for instructions as to getting dressed, unloading, etc.

- b) Depart the buses in a mature fashion.
- c) Do not run, sit on the ground or curbs, engage in horseplay, shouting, lean against walls or vehicles, etc. in order to protect your uniform.
- d) Remain focused, quiet, and always listen for instructions.
- e) Unload your instrument from your cart quickly and in an organized fashion. Return your case to the appropriate cart neatly.
- f) Move to the final inspection site.

Behavior around other Bands and Guards

It should always be remembered that every band and guard with whom we compete has also put in hundreds of hours of rehearsal and preparation time, and whereas we compete with these other schools on a regular basis, we also have much in common. There are a few rules to remember when in association with other performing bands.

- a) When outside of the performance area, show politeness and respect for all other marching band members, regardless of where they are from. Over time, you will come to know students from other schools, and it is nice to be able to visit with them.
- b) In the pre-performance area, there is no opportunity for socializing. When approaching or leaving the gate, marching to and from the stadium, going into the stands area or warm-up area, members should avoid visual or verbal contact.
- c) Members should remain silent and attentive when other groups are performing, and should avoid visual or verbal criticism of any sort in public.
- d) When a band or guard finishes a performance, enthusiastic applause and acknowledgement is always appropriate, no matter the level of performance.
- e) Parents, friends, and alumni of the marching band should stay out of the marching band area in the stands and should stay out of the preparation area for shows and competitions. This must be enforced by marching band members. Marching Band members need no distraction from their focus on the job at hand. Members should not accept food, drink, candy, etc., from parents or friends in the stands or in performance situations. There will be time allotted for this opportunity.

Behave like a **Champion**, with dignity, class, professionalism, focus and pride. People around you will know who you are by the way you behave, both before, during and after a performance.

GRADING POLICY

It is important to remember the mission statement of the Johnson Band and Guard and the requirement of each student to participate in every performance. Failure to meet the performance schedule will result in a serious grade reduction.

At the beginning of each semester, each director will hand out guidelines that will tell the students how grades will be determined. Any student may check on their grade at any time during the grading period simply by arranging a meeting with their director and asking about their grades or using the Hays CISD student portal. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for understanding how they are graded and the status of their grade at any given point in time. While grading parameters will change from the fall semester to the spring semester, some of the major grading categories may include: Color Guard members, please refer to Color Guard section starting on page 24 of this handbook.

Music Proficiencies/Pass-offs

Each student is required to perform their music using smart music in a designated music computer lab, a live performance for a director or a pass-off to a student leader. This will be true of all marching music; some stand tunes, and all concert music, whether for local performance or concert competition. Students may be required to pass-off other technical exercises from time to time, such as scales, warm-ups, etc. Students will be assessed and graded by directors based on the following:

- a) Articulations, dynamics, style and phrasing.
- b) Characteristic tone quality and breath support.
- c) Proficiency of correct notes and rhythms.
- d) Ability to play in time with a metronome.

Some music play offs will be graded by a highly innovative music program called SmartMusic. The program will record the student playing, give a grade based off of accuracy, make a recording and send the recording and the grade to their band director. Each student will have a one-week time frame to pass off their music and will be provided 2 opportunities to re-play their music for a higher grade before or after school.

*** Marching Band: Any student who does not complete music pass offs may not be allowed to perform, or may be asked to march without their instrument. .*

Sectionals

Attendance is **REQUIRED** at all sectionals. Sectionals are held one morning or after school each week after marching season and during the Spring for each instrument group, i.e., clarinets together, trumpets together, etc. Grades are given for attendance, preparation of the music, and class participation, including attitude.

Students are graded at these sectionals on attendance and preparation.

Class Participation

The grade assigned to class participation includes preparation of music (indicated by outside practice), presence of all class materials, positive attitude, attendance, and improvement as a result of instruction. Other parameters may affect a student's grade, but these will be outlined each semester in class, either by handout or posted on the board in the Band Hall. There have been some misconceptions that a grade of 100 is given in band if one shows up. This is not true. Grades, like everything else of merit, are earned, not given, and the means to receive good grades in band is well defined.

INSTRUMENTS

The School District will provide a limited number of instruments for student use. These instruments include such highly expensive instruments as the Bassoon, Oboe, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, French Horn, Euphonium, Tuba, and general Percussion equipment. This equipment is purchased by the school district for student use because of its extremely high value. **Thus, all school owned equipment must be handled with optimum care.** Students failing to care for, or take care of their school issued instrument will 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. Order of distribution will be done based on chair order.
2. The School District does not provide insurance for individually or school owned equipment. It is required of all students utilizing school owned instruments to provide insurance coverage for the said instrument. **Students will be held responsible for school owned instruments issued to them. This responsibility will include fire, theft, accidental damage, abuse and general maintenance not incurred through normal use.**
3. Students and parents must sign an instrument check-out form before the instrument can be used by the student.
4. 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.
5. The band member is financially responsible for all equipment and/or materials checked out to him or her.
6. All equipment and materials must be kept in their proper storage location when not in use.
7. The School District will assess a fee for routine cleaning and maintenance of school district owned instruments, generally \$100 per academic year.
8. NEVER ALLOW ANOTHER PERSON TO PLAY YOUR INSTRUMENT. YOU ARE STILL RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DAMAGE!

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 were your own. Most school owned instruments exceed a \$3,000.00 value. Numerous school owned instruments exceed \$10,000.00 in value! **Since the expense of purchasing,**

leasing or renting is deterred, students using school owned instruments are strongly encouraged to participate in the private lesson program.

COLOR GUARD

The Merit System for Color Guard is a framework designed to recognize and reward excellence, growth, and positive contributions within the color guard program. It consists of specific categories that encompass various aspects of performance, teamwork, professionalism, and commitment. By earning merits, color guard members have the opportunity to showcase their dedication, skill development, and positive attitude.

Attendance and Punctuality:

- **On-time Arrival: 1 merit** - Consistently arriving on time for rehearsals, performances, or other scheduled activities.
- **Perfect Attendance: 2 merits** - Attending all rehearsals and performances without any unexcused absences.

Technique and Skill Development:

- **Skill Progression: 1 merit** - Showing consistent improvement in individual skills over time.

Performance Quality:

- **Artistic Expression: 2 merits** - Displaying emotive and expressive qualities during performances, effectively conveying the intended message of the routine.
- **Stage Presence: 1 merit** - Exhibiting confidence, projection, and engagement while performing.

Teamwork and Collaboration:

- **Cooperative Spirit & Team Contribution : 1 merit** - Displaying a positive attitude, respect, and willingness to work well with teammates and staff, Taking initiative, providing guidance, and positively influencing the team dynamics.

Professionalism and Conduct:

- **Preparedness and Organization: 1 merit** - Being consistently prepared, having all required equipment, and maintaining personal organization.
- **Respectful Behavior: 1 merit** - Treating instructors, teammates, and staff with respect and courtesy.

Dedication and Commitment:

- **Extra Effort: 1 merit** - Going above and beyond in practice or performance, showing dedication to improvement and growth.
- **Team Spirit: 1 merit** - Demonstrating enthusiasm, support, and dedication to the success of the entire color guard team.

The demerit system in a Color Guard class is a method used by instructors to track and address repeated or serious infractions committed by members. It involves assigning demerits to members who violate the class rules or exhibit inappropriate behavior. The accumulation of penalty points can result in various consequences or disciplinary actions.

Tardiness:

- **1 demerit:** Arriving late to rehearsals, performances, or other scheduled activities without a valid reason or prior notification.
- **2 demerits:** Repeated instances of tardiness within a designated time period (e.g., a semester).

Incomplete or Improper Uniform:

- **1 demerit:** Failing to wear or properly maintain the required uniform components as instructed by the instructor, including not wearing it during class.

Examples:

- Missing or incomplete uniform pieces (e.g., jacket, pants, shoes, gloves).
- Wearing poorly fitted clothing.
- Not wearing the assigned color guard t-shirt or undergarments.
- Wearing unauthorized accessories or jewelry.
- Not wearing the uniform during class when it is required.

If a color guard member encounters any challenges in acquiring the appropriate attire, it is their responsibility to promptly inform the director.

Unexcused Absence:

- **2 demerits** - Being absent from rehearsals, performances, or other scheduled activities without a valid reason or prior notification.

Excused Absences include:

- **Illness:** When a student is genuinely sick or experiencing a contagious condition that makes it inadvisable for them to attend the event. Director is to be notified by a parent, **NOT** the student of the illness by email, Remind, or call.
- **Medical Appointments:** Necessary medical appointments, treatments, or therapy sessions that cannot be rescheduled and conflict with the event. This should be discussed with the Director a minimum of 1 week in advance.
- **Family Emergency:** Dealing with a sudden and significant family emergency, such as the hospitalization of a family member or a home-related crisis.
- **Bereavement:** Attending a funeral, memorial service, or dealing with the loss of a close family member or loved one.
- **Religious Observances:** If the event conflicts with a significant religious observance or holiday that holds particular importance to the student and their family. This should be discussed with the Director a minimum of 1 week in advance.
- **School-Approved Activities:** Engaging in school-sanctioned activities or events that are deemed as a priority by the school administration, such as representing the school in a competition or participating in an educational trip or program. This should be discussed with the Director a minimum of 1 week in advance.

Insubordination or Disrespectful Behavior:

- **4 demerits** - Disregarding instructions from instructors or team leaders, displaying a disrespectful attitude towards peers or staff, or engaging in disruptive behavior during rehearsals or performances.

Examples:

- o Ignoring or challenging instructions or corrections given by instructors or team leaders.
- o Speaking disrespectfully or rudely to peers, instructors, or staff members.
- o Engaging in gossip, spreading rumors, or participating in negative or harmful conversations.
- o Exhibiting disruptive behavior that interrupts the flow of rehearsals or performances.
- o Demonstrating a lack of cooperation or refusal to work collaboratively with team members.

Repeated action will result in a review of membership on the team and potential probationary period or termination from the color guard team.

Safety Violation:

- **3 demerits** - Engaging in unsafe behavior that puts oneself or others at risk during rehearsals, performances, or other related activities. This can include improper weapon handling, walking without a partner at an event, or failure to follow safety guidelines outlined by the director.

Lack of Preparedness:

- **1 demerit** - Consistently coming to rehearsals or performances without the necessary equipment, gloves, flag, rifle, shoes, or other required items.
 - First infraction will result in verbal reminder, subsequent infractions will result in accumulation of demerits.

Poor Attitude or Sportsmanship:

- **4 demerits** - Displaying a negative attitude, poor sportsmanship towards teammates or competitors, or creating a hostile environment during rehearsals or performances.

On and off the field, you represent the Moe and Gene High School, and as such should always conduct yourself in a manner that upholds the values and standards of our school and team. Treat others with kindness, respect, and inclusivity. Be mindful of your behavior in public, social media, and other interactions.

Repeated Failure to Know Choreography:

- **1 demerit** - When a color guard member consistently fails to remember or properly execute choreography or disregards instructions provided by the instructor or team captain.

Consequences will be implemented based on the accumulation of penalty points. Here's an example of potential consequences:

The system aims to maintain discipline, encourage professionalism, and ensure a positive and respectful environment for all participants.

- 3-4 points: Verbal warning or reminder
- 5-7 points: Meeting with the instructor to discuss the issues and create an action plan for improvement.
- 8-10 points: Suspension from participating in the next performance or competition.
- 11-13 points: Extended suspension from participating in multiple performances or competitions.
- 14 or more points: Review of membership on the team and potential dismissal.

Member Placement

Camps for the Johnson Color Guard will be held in April and May of each year. Membership is open to any student that will be attending Johnson High School the next school year. In order to participate, students must;

a) turn in an application signed by a parent or guardian (including a copy of their current grade check),

b) attend all scheduled clinics prior to placement. Former members of the Johnson Color Guard that have left the organization must get director approval to audition.

**Current color guard members must have ALL financial obligations paid in order to perform in the show the next season!*

Members are placed based on several factors, including, but not limited to;

- Adherence to the Merit System
- Academic standing (eligibility)
- Performance Quality
- Physical/Medical Condition

The above criteria will also be used to determine each member's placement for the winter guard season.

Member's Roles and Responsibilities

All members must adhere to the following guidelines:

- **Commitment:** Membership To the Johnson Color Guard is a YEAR long commitment. Students must participate in both fall and spring semesters in order to join the Color Guard. Consideration for
- **Class Enrollment:** All members must be enrolled in Color Guard Class. Students who are not able to enroll in Color Guard may be considered as an alternative. Any students who are unable to enroll due to a scheduling conflict must notify the director in writing prior to the end of the school year.
- **Academic Eligibility:** Any student who becomes academically ineligible at ANY TIME may be removed from the organization, or considered as an alternate (at the discretion of the director). Ineligible students will be required to do written work in order to make up for missed performances.
- **Attendance:** Color Guard members are subject to the Attendance and Band Calendar guidelines outlined in the band handbook. The following guidelines apply to ALL absences.
- **Schedule Conflicts:** Schedule conflicts may be worked out if the student submits the conflict IN WRITING before the date of the conflict (at the discretion of the director). Again, students are always responsible for communicating conflicts to the director. As indicated earlier in the Attendance Policy, meetings and events for other organizations are NOT considered excused absences. Students who are absent due to obligations with another organization/event may risk the loss of performance opportunities with the Color Guard (i.e. loss of spot, or inclusion in a specific part of the show)

Illness, Family Emergency, Etc:

In the case of illness or sudden family emergencies, students are required to call the director immediately to notify them of their absence. Students are required to verify the absence in writing on the day of their return to school (or the next rehearsal, whichever occurs first).

Also, students missing rehearsal are responsible for any material covered during that rehearsal. An absence may also result in a student not being included in the portion of the show learned that day. Students must be at the final run-thru before a performance in order to participate in that performance. Due to the amount of time needed to prepare and set up for rehearsal, members are expected to be at rehearsal at least 10-15 minutes prior to the beginning of rehearsal. Students who are tardy or not prepared for rehearsal on more than one occasion may be denied performance opportunities.

Grade Check Policy

In an attempt to assist students track their academic progress, all Color Guard students will be required to turn in a grade check form each week. Students will be provided with an official grade check form to use. Students must use the form supplied during class, and it must be completed and signed by EVERY teacher. Incomplete or "self created" grade checks will not be accepted. Students must turn in a grade check in order to perform each week. Students who have failing grades between eligibility checks may lose their performance spot as well.

Dress Code

Rehearsal attire: Black (or dark colored) dance attire and tennis shoes must be worn to every rehearsal (unless otherwise specified). We strongly suggest that you have a number of leotards or unitards to wear during the week. Hair must always be pulled back, and out of the face (NO bangs). No jewelry may be worn at any rehearsal, including stud earrings, or ANY visible piercings or visible tattoos of any kind (clear piercings are allowed). We strongly recommend that students do not receive new piercings during the school year. Students who decide to receive new piercings must wear spacers. Band-Aids over the piercing are not acceptable. In addition, students should keep their fingernails short in order to prevent injury and damage to expensive flag material or themselves.

Performance Uniform:

Our performance uniforms are custom designed each season. It is of great importance that special attention be taken in how the uniforms are stored and cared for. Instructions on care will be given before the first dress rehearsal. Performance uniforms will always be stored in the uniform room. **Nail polish and jewelry are never allowed while in uniform. Also, water is the only liquid to be consumed while in uniform. We will never eat while in uniform.

Hair:

Due to the nature of our activity, it is vital that students maintain a "natural" look to their hair. This includes color and style. Students who wish to color or cut their hair during the year should consult the director in advance, as to avoid any "surprises" before a performance. Students who do not consult the director and choose to make drastic changes to their hair may not perform until they are able to blend in with the entire unit. There are also opportunities where hair extensions may be a part of the uniform.

Make Up:

Students will be required to purchase specific make-up for each season as part of the uniform. Due to hygienic reasons, students will not be allowed to share makeup or applicators at any time. Students will be given a class each season to learn how to apply makeup properly.

Equipment:

The members of the color guard may be required to purchase a rifle, or equipment bag. Orders for these items are taken at the beginning of each season for new members. Flagpoles and silks will remain property of the Johnson Band. All equipment must be taped properly and marked with the student's initials and/or drill number (as instructed by staff). Equipment bags should not be decorated or marked on other than on the ID tag. Members

are responsible for their equipment at all times. No one other than a member of the Johnson Color Guard, or the staff may hold, spin, or use a member's equipment at any time. Any equipment left out unattended will be confiscated!

Additional Items

Other items that students are responsible for having for class and rehearsals include (but are not limited to) the following:

- A roll of white and a roll of black electrical tape (Rifles must be wrapped with Scotch brand electrical tape. Generic tape yellows over time.)
- Black "Sharpie" marker to mark equipment and personal items.
- Pencil!
- 3-Ring Binder to hold important Color Guard information and notes.
- Sunscreen
- Water Bottle (must have at every marching band rehearsal)
- Head wear (hat/visor/bandana), also should be worn at every marching band rehearsal.

Cell Phone Policy

Students are not allowed to use cellphones until they have been released from rehearsal, or a performance, or are using UDB for drill placement. Students are allowed to have their cellphones on out of town trips, but may only use them when given permission by the director or a chaperone! Cell Phones will be confiscated from students if they are being used inappropriately.

JOHNSON BAND STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

ITs, & ATs, together with the Drum Majors, and Captains from Brass, Woodwind, Percussion and Color Guard, comprise the Johnson Band Student Leadership Team. This group of individuals form the pinnacle of student leadership, and will play a large role in the positive functioning and high morale of this group. The Student Leadership Team is guided by the Band Directors.

SLT's will devote a great deal of time outside of rehearsals, sectionals and class time, in order to plan, prepare, organize and facilitate projects to benefit the band and the band students and to assist the directors and staff. Do not plan on being an SLT if you are heavily committed with outside involvements, such as a heavy work schedule. If you fill an SLT position now, your term will serve through the 2023-2024 school year.

SLT's will work closely with the directors and staff, and will serve as the liaison between directors and students for many things. SLT's are expected to watch for problem areas, suggest and implement solutions, and to generally be a source of creative ideas for improving the program and the band experience. In addition to the specific office duties detailed below, SLT's are required to attend SLT work days during the summer and attend our Leadership Camps in July.

Drum Majors

Drum majors are the conductors of the band while on the field, assistants to the directors at all times, and provide the pinnacle of leadership and role models to all band members.

ITs (Instructional Team) and Captains

ITs and Captains are responsible for their sections both on and off of the field. They will serve as the leaders and instructors for ALL students, not just students who play their same instrument. Captains are responsible for their sections specifically.

ATs (Administrative Team)

ATs are responsible for all administrative duties for the Johnson band, including but not limited to library, facilities, logistics, organization, events, decorations, etc..... Those events not related to instruction.

ALL SLT's are the role models for all other marching band members.

Band Officers (Band Council)

The following Offices will be determined using the following percentages.

70% student 30% director

President

- Calls and posts meeting times and locations at least one week prior to date of meeting
- Presides over meetings.
- Forms committees to accomplish tasks and projects.
- Serves as a member ex-officio of all committees and communicates regularly with committee chairpersons.
- Is ultimately responsible for projects and actions of band officers.
- Liaison between marching band and directors — communication regarding events, projects (requesting permission, reminding, asking for help, offering help).

Vice-President

- Elected through the Presidential Election process
- Assists the Band President
- Assists the other band council officers as needed.
- Assists the Band Directors as needed.

******* the following Band-only offices are director appointed *******

Logistics

The Logistics Team is responsible for all the “behind the scene” work that allows the band to move/rehearse quickly and efficiently. This includes all performances. This position requires some administrative effort and a great deal of physical effort. Duties include, but are not limited to:

- Arranging for and getting all equipment loaded, unloaded, and stored properly.
- Learning about ALL of the equipment, how and how not to move it, how to secure the load to prevent damage, how to pack for maximum load and minimum shift, etc.
- If sound systems/amplifiers are involved in any performance (marching band, etc...), learning to cable the systems and ensure maximum performance.
- Setting up for concerts and performances, including chairs and stands in concert order (get from directors) and podiums, then returning facilities to original condition following the performances. This also includes assistance with Middle School concerts.
- Select and train a logistics crew to assist in the logistics of the requirements.
- Responsible for assisting the band booster parents in coordinating efforts for all events incorporating refreshments and food, including but not limited to football games, social events, clinics, etc...

Librarians (Multiple Positions Available)

The Librarians will work with the substantial amount of musical literature belonging to the band. This is a significant administrative function, with little physical effort. Duties include, but are not limited to:

- Help to maintain the accuracy of the music library database, both on computer and in printed form.
- Ensuring that all parts plus the score is available for each piece of literature on file.
- Ensuring that all pieces are in order and can be found easily.
- Making working copies of all music being performed, including solos/ensembles.
- Preparing new music for the library.
- Help to maintain a video and audio library of the band's performances.
- Maintain all band hall bulletin boards.
- Responsible for the copying needs of all students in the band.
- SCHEDULING ADDITIONAL SUMMER WORK DAYS!!

NOTE: There may be one librarian who may function as the “head” librarian. With this title comes:

- Delegation of tasks to the other librarians.
- Clear communication with each band director of their needs and expectations of the library and how it functions.
- Oversees and ensures that all tasks from a director are completed correctly and in a timely manner.

BAND LETTER JACKETS AND LETTERS

Letter Jacket Award System

Receiving a letter jacket is a visible indication of dedication to personal achievement and loyalty to the goals of the entire band program. Jackets will be ordered for and presented to Seniors who participate in band (or color guard) for their full four years (eight semesters). Students who do not participate in band or color guard for their entire Senior year must return their letter jackets before being cleared of obligations.

In order to receive their letter jacket before their Senior year, students must earn a grand total of 50 points in one school year to qualify for a letter jacket from the High School Band. Points may be earned in the following manner:

15 Points (THIS SECTION IS CUMULATIVE-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 at the head director's discretion.)

25 Points (Non-cumulative)

Selection into and performance with the TMEA All Region Band. Selection into and performance with the TMEA All Region Orchestra Selection into the TMEA AREA Band or Orchestra.

Performance of a Class ONE solo at the UIL State Solo Contest and earning a Superior (First Division) rating

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 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.

Maintaining a band officer position for an entire year.

5 Points (Non-Cumulative)

Performance of a Class ONE or TWO solo at the UIL Solo Contest earning an Excellent (Second Division) rating.

1 Point (Non-Cumulative)

Participation in events approved by the band director such as special fundraising events or performances and various other opportunities.

Sizing and ordering of Johnson Jaguar Band Letter Jackets will take place one time per semester. The fall date will occur during the first week of Summer Band and the spring date will occur within two weeks after UIL Solo & Ensemble.

Recognition points for SLT's are at the discretion of the band director

HONOR CORDS FOR GRADUATING SENIORS

Honor Cord Policy

Honor Cords are a distinction earned for above and beyond achievement for a band or color guard student. A student earning an honor cord has demonstrated higher than average excellence in areas such as student leadership and performance through the following venues: Student Leadership Team, Region/Area Band, UIL Solo and Ensemble, TCGC and WGI S&W performance and through additional opportunities at Director discretion.

Honors Cords are **NOT** participation awards, the Johnson Band award for 4 years of participation is a Johnson Band Letter Jacket

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & AGREEMENT FORM

The Johnson High School Band and Guard Handbook has been designed to provide you with the rules and requirements for participation in the Johnson High School Band and Guard. Its purpose is to give parents and students a clear and concise understanding of the workings of our programs and to provide a guide which covers most aspects of the function and requirements of participation.

We, the undersigned:

1. Understand that the handbook is available through digital link and the Jaguar Band website.
2. Have read and thoroughly understand and agree to comply with the contents of this handbook.
3. Understand that this manual is to serve as a reference for student participation, and will be checked periodically as a required part of the curriculum for this course.
4. Understand that this document must be returned within one week of receipt.
5. Understand that no student will be allowed to participate in any band or guard function who has not returned this document.
6. Understand that sanctions will be given by the teacher or administration for any infraction after considerations have been given to all extenuating circumstances.

Student's Name (printed)

Student's Signature

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date