

Central Hardin High School  
*Bruin Band*



2009-2010 Student and Parent Handbook

[www.centralhardinband.org](http://www.centralhardinband.org)

# Central Hardin High School Band Handbook 2009-2010

This handbook is designed to help you better understand all aspects of the marching band program at Central Hardin High School. Please read through all of the information carefully and complete the last page and return to Mr. Centers (this must be returned in order to participate in marching band).

If you do not understand the information in the handbook, please contact the Band Director or any of the Executive Board Committee who would be able to answer or clarify any questions or concerns that you have.

David Centers  
Director of Bands  
Central Hardin High School

\*\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*\*

**The Parent/Student Acknowledgment Form and medical Form MUST be completed and signed before any student will be allowed to participate in the marching program.**

## Band Directors & Staff

David Centers - Director

Ken Allen- Assistant Director

Matt Baucum - Assistant Director

John Harris - Percussion

Kaleena Thompson - Color Guard

Kayla Pucket – Color Guard

Visit our website at [www.centralhardinband.org](http://www.centralhardinband.org)

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## CENTRAL HARDIN BAND ENSEMBLES:

**MARCHING BAND** begins in the summer and concludes at in early November (depending on State Competition dates). Rehearsals are mandatory and held consistently after school and are scheduled well in advance so that all members can avoid unnecessary conflicts. The marching band performs at various competitions throughout the state on Saturdays in September and October, and they perform at ALL home football games on Friday nights.

**Attendance at football games and competitions is mandatory.** Expenses are required for items such as food, travel, and other related items and are non-refundable.

### **CONCERT AND SYMPHONIC BAND CLASSES –**

- ❑ These classes are taken during the school day as part of the students regular school schedule
- ❑ Students must have a good quality instrument (often times the middle school instrument is fine, but if you have questions – ask the band director)
  - Some instruments may not be acceptable if they are in poor repair or are inappropriate
- ❑ Woodwind players must use good quality, real cane reeds. Plastic reeds are not acceptable. WW players should also have no less than 3 good reeds at all times.
- ❑ Brass players may need to purchase mutes depending on the music being performed (the band owns a limited number of mutes)
- ❑ Percussion students must own a pair of all wood drum sticks (Vic Firth SD-1 or Innovative Percussion CL-1) and a practice pad.

**CONCERT BAND** is a year-round ensemble. Rehearsals are a part of the regular school day, and students must be scheduled in a band class in order to be a part of the group and participate in KMEA solo and ensemble and All-District/All-State festivals and auditions. After school rehearsals are required on occasion (usually 1 or 2 before a concert) and attendance is mandatory. Concerts are mandatory and are held once or twice a semester. Students in Concert, percussion, or Symphonic class can earn A&H credit by taking band for 3 consecutive years.

**SYMPHONIC BAND** is a year-round ensemble. This is the premier instrumental ensemble at CHHS. Students for this ensemble must successfully complete one year of concert band. Rehearsals are a part of the regular school day, and students must be scheduled in the band class in order to be a part of the group and participate in KMEA solo and ensemble and All-District/All-State festivals and auditions. After school rehearsals are required on occasion and attendance is mandatory. Concerts are also mandatory and are held once or twice a semester.

**PEP BAND** plays at select home basketball games (boys and girls) and tournament games at the end of the season. The band may get to travel for tournaments. Once members have signed up to participate, attendance is required at all scheduled games. If a conflict cannot be avoided then the director must be notified in writing no less than 1 week prior to the game in question. The pep band shirt is required to be worn for all games.

**JAZZ BAND** begins after marching season ends. *Students will be selected by audition.* Rehearsals are scheduled after school once a week from 3:30 - 5:30. Attendance is mandatory. This ensemble performs concerts around Hardin County.

**WINTER PERCUSSION** begins after marching season ends. *Students will be selected by audition.* All students must be members of the prior year marching band and will be participating in the following year marching band (with exceptions made for graduating seniors). Rehearsals will be after school and attendance is mandatory. There are expenses to participate which cover items and fees for competition.

**WINTER GUARD** will be held after school through the winter months and will consist of a winter camp for color guard to strengthen skills. *Students will be selected by audition.* All students must be members of the prior year marching band and will be participating in the following year marching band (with exceptions made for graduating seniors). There are expenses to participate which cover items and fees for competition.

# ATTENDANCE

EVERY PERSON IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE. Unlike other teams, we cannot afford to have someone “sit out.” When someone is missing from the band or marching form, it can cost the entire band valuable points at competitions and makes it very difficult to perform. When someone misses, they let down the entire band! We count on you!

In order to maintain a successful program **ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY** at all rehearsals, events, and performances. Students must be at rehearsal **ON TIME** as well. All conflicts to rehearsals and performances must be submitted in writing 2 weeks prior to the event. The following rules are non-negotiable:

1. If a student has **one** un-excused absence, that student will make up the time and will be assigned “make up” work by the directors.
2. After the second un-excused absence, the student and parent will meet with the directors and appropriate disciplinary action will occur which can include removal from the current band program.
3. Students who are late without an excused absence will be required to make up the time. Students who are consistently tardy will be subject to removal from the current band program.
5. If a student misses a performance without an excused absence, **THE STUDENT WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE ENSEMBLE.**

*Half of life is showing up.*

*Success does not come from luck, but from diligence, repetition, and hard work.*

*Hard work shows the character of a person:*

*some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their noses, and some don't turn up at all*

*- Sam Ewing*

## A few examples of:

### **\*EXCUSED ABSENCES\***

PERSONAL ILLNESS – The health of a student is most important. When a student is absent due to an illness, please place a phone call on the date of the event/practice to inform the director where the student is so we are aware of the situation. Please send a note from the parent for the following event/practice. A doctor's note will also suffice – please include information regarding when the student is able to return to normal activities if necessary.

DEATH IN THE FAMILY or SUDDEN ILLNESS - Please send a note and call as soon as possible

SCHOOL SPONSORED ACTIVITIES – For School Sponsored Events, the director must be informed in writing TWO WEEKS prior to the event/practice in question. Arrangements must be discussed with the director and the sponsor of the other activity – this is usually done well in advance of the activity.

### **\*UNEXCUSED ABSENCES\***

WORK (Babysitting, job, etc..)

PERSONAL MATTERS - (i.e. doctor's / dentist's appointments not relating to illness, social issues, dates, etc...)

CONCERTS/MOVIES (ex: attending a rock concert, seeing a movie...)

SPORTING EVENTS

PERSONAL OR FAMILY TRAVEL (especially for contests!). Please schedule family vacation time around band concerts and competitions. You are very important to us and we want you there!

The list of examples above does not include every situation. The director is ultimately responsible for determining if an absence is excused or unexcused. If a conflict arises, please inform the band director as soon as possible. The sooner the director is aware of a situation, the more likely a problem can be solved. Please write down the situation on paper and turn in to the director.

**A note regarding emails:** Please do not assume that if you send an email it has been properly received. A hand delivered note is the best way to document any conflicts with the band schedule.

# YEARLY AWARDS FOR BAND

Bars will be given for every successful completion of one year in marching band. Successful completion of the band year is defined by:

- **A passing grade for the year in Concert Band/Symphonic Band**  
or
- **Successful participation in Marching Band (appropriate attendance and attending ALL performances/competitions)**

Additional Recognition will be given for participation in the various band ensembles. Additionally, outstanding students will be recognized at the Band Banquet for exceptional merit as shown throughout the year as a band student. Some examples are students who are selected for All-District, All-State, GSA, and other activities. Students who participate successfully in band are also eligible for many other awards such as the Directors' Award and John Phillip Sousa Award. These and other awards are presented to outstanding students at the annual band banquet.

# BAND RULES

- 1. Appropriate behavior is expected at all times!** Professionalism and RESPONSIBILITY are required from every student! (School policies apply, and dismissal from the ensemble can occur if rules are broken.) Inappropriate language will not be tolerated by anyone associated with the band.
- 2. Take care of your things!** Each student is responsible for his/her own music and equipment. Any repairs and/or problems with music or equipment must be taken care of before rehearsal.
- 3. No food, drinks, or gum will be allowed in the band room. PERIOD!** This is your room - take care of it. Our room should show our professionalism.
- 4. No public displays of affections/inappropriate behavior.**
- 5. Students will sit together at concerts, contests and at football games when not performing.**

# DRESS CODE:

## Marching Band

All students wearing band uniforms must wear under the uniform:

- ❑ **BLACK SOCKS**
- ❑ **WHITE T-SHIRT** with sleeves
- ❑ **SHORTS** – lightweight without extra pockets on the sides
- ❑ Long hair will be pinned up and secured under the uniform hat (there are many parents who will help with this.)
- ❑ Blue CHHS Band (\$7) will be worn for trips, parades, and concerts
  - This along with Khaki shorts will be the “summer uniform”
- ❑ “Show Shirt” – given to every marching band member will be used for competition days

Students will remain in full uniform at each contest until otherwise instructed by the band director. **DO NOT WALK AROUND IN HALF UNIFORM!!!**

## Concert and Symphonic Band

- ❑ **Male Students**
  - All male students will be assigned a tuxedo.
  - White tuxedo shirt
  - Black Bow Tie
  - Black socks and black shoes
  
- ❑ **Female Students**
  - All Black full length dress
  - Black shoes – closed-toe and no tall heels please

# BAND CAMP and EARLY WEEK

Early Week will be held from June 22 - 26, 9:00 – 4:30.

Band camp will be held from July 20 - 31, 8:00 - 8:00\*.

We will dismiss at 5:00 on Friday's of band camp.

Also, for 2009 – we will dismiss early on Tuesday, July 28 for an optional DCI (Drum Corps) trip to Lexington, KY.

## What to WEAR:

- ❑ TENNIS SHOES - REQUIRED (No other shoes are permitted)
- ❑ SOCKS - REQUIRED (you will get blisters if you do not protect your ankles. Sitting out for blisters that were preventable will be considered an UN-EXCUSED ABSENCE!)
- ❑ Comfortable summer clothing (Dress smart and appropriately, keeping your shoulders covered will help minimize sun exposure)
- ❑ Wear a cap or hat (this will protect you from the sun and keep you cool)
- ❑ SUN BLOCK !(min. of SPF 30) - (YOU WILL BURN IF YOU DO NOT PROTECT YOURSELF. Sitting out because of sunburn will be considered an UN-EXCUSED ABSENCE if it has occurred because you did not protect yourself.)

## BAND CAMP, CONTINUED

### What to Bring:

- ❑ WATER! Each student should bring a smaller Coleman-type cooler with ice-water for each day.
- ❑ SUN BLOCK! - very important - (bring extra) see above
- ❑ Music, Instrument, Pencil

All students should eat a good breakfast before coming to camp, you WILL need the energy. Everyone will be working hard and it is difficult to do so on an empty stomach.

- ❑ DO NOT DRINK MILK and other foods that may sour on your stomach.
- ❑ The school will provide a FREE lunch for the students. However students may bring their own food or walk to McDonald's to get food.
- ❑ Do not bring any type of carbonated drinks on the field. Water or sports drinks like Gatorade are best for this type of activity.

### **\*\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*\***

Students will NOT be allowed to leave campus during band camp, except they will be allowed to walk to the McDonald's nearest CHHS.

NO DRIVING WILL BE PERMITTED.

Please note:

The Medical Form and Emergency Contact Form can be found on the Band's Website

## MEDICAL FORM

A completed medical form and physical is required for each student. These forms will be located in the band office at all times. These forms must be completed by the student and a physician and must be submitted before band camp. THIS IS A SCHOOL AND BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY!!

## EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM

This form is completed by the parent/guardian and contains important information in the event of an emergency. This form will travel with the band on all away trips and competitions. This form will give permission for your child to receive appropriate medical attention if the this should be needed.

## FIRST AID

Unfortunately accidents do occur. A first aid kit is always available. We also try to have someone with medical experience travel with the band. On the overnight trips we will always have a medical person with us. (i.e. registered nurse, aid, technician, paramedic, etc...). This is a great opportunity for some parents to volunteer and help out. If you have medical experience please consider helping the band students as a volunteer in this area!

## EXPENSES\* FOR MARCHING BAND MEMBERS

It is very costly to run a successful competitive band program. The booster organization does a fantastic job of fundraising to help provide services that the band requires on a regular basis. Sometimes, however, it is impossible to raise all of the money needed, so each student asked to reimburse the boosters a portion of the cost for the individual student incurred throughout the season. Some of these expenses include props for show, transportation, hotels, music, drill arrangements, recordings, guard equipment, percussion equipment, uniforms, contest entry fees, music arrangement fees, copyright fees, food and beverages for contest days...

The following is the reimbursable expenses for the 2009 marching season:

\$350

This can be paid in installments as follows:

June - \$60

July - \$60

August - \$60

September - \$60

October - \$60

November - \$50

\*Money should never be a determining factor in anyone participating.

We want to make sure that everyone who wants to participate can do so.

There are some options, if needed, for paying the band expenses; *Payment plans are available to those who are interested. Please see the director or booster president for any money issues.*

**Payments may be placed in the black box in the band room.**

*If you have questions about your band account, expenses, or finances, you can talk with the band director and/or Band Treasurer*

**\*\*\*\*Please NOTE\*\*\*\***

## **All paid expenses are NON-REFUNDABLE**

The money received for expenses are used almost immediately for items for the students and can't be reimbursed once paid.

## **Additional and Miscellaneous EXPENSES**

There are a few items which are purchased by only certain band students. These items may be a One Time purchase or a replacement of a worn-out item. For this reason, they are not included in the normal marching band yearly expense.

Items may include:

- Marching Band Shoes
- Color Guard Undergarments
- Blue CHHS Band T-Shirt
- Socks
- Color Guard Equipment (optional)

# TRIPS

## TRANSPORTATION

School buses transport students to away trips for contests, concerts, parades, etc.... Students are assigned to buses. Students have an opportunity to sign up for a bus in the band room and can choose which bus they ride when we take multiple buses.

**Students will ride the bus to and from each contest.** It is asked that all students return home with the band unless there are extenuating circumstances\*.

\*If there are extenuating circumstances, please download the transportation form from the band website, fill it out, and hand deliver to the director before the event. Exceptions for medical and family emergencies will be made. The parent is then responsible for getting in touch with the person in charge of taking role (bus captain) to let him/her know that their child will be riding home with them. The student's equipment must be taken with the parent at that time.

**No student will be allowed to drive to any competition.**

**Each student will conform to the code of conduct set forth by the State Board of Education, Hardin County School Board and the bus driver.**

*We encourage all guests to attend band related functions.* Only band members, teachers, and parents who have completed a Hardin County Schools Volunteer Form are allowed to ride the buses.

**No boyfriends/girlfriends are allowed to ride along on the bus.**

# CHAPERONES

PARENTS, WE NEED YOU!

- Parents serve as chaperones on band trips.
- There is to be one chaperone for every 10 students.
- Chaperones will help in many ways from monitoring student behavior to being in charge of specific activities for the duration of the trip.
- Chaperones should ensure that rules are followed and that every student conducts himself/herself in a manner that promotes a positive image.
- Chaperones are not responsible for direct supervision of the students while the band is in warm-up or performance.
- ANY discipline that may be needed is the sole responsibility of the directors.

Chaperones should behave with professionalism at all times with appropriate language and attitudes. Always be positive and supportive.

All Chaperones are considered volunteers for Hardin County Schools and must complete the Hard County Schools Volunteer Form. You can get this form from the band director or booster president.

## **CONTEST SEATING**

Cheering parents, friends, alumni, classmates, etc...are encouraged to sit together as a group to cheer for the band during the performance. The supporting crowd for the band often has a positive effect on the judges as well as our own Marching Bruins.

## **CONTEST PARKING**

For the safety and protection of the student performers, parents and spectators are NOT permitted to park with the school busses and equipment truck while at competitions. Separate parking for spectators will be provided at each competition. Please follow the signs and instructions of the hosts of each contest at which we participate.

## **CONTEST ETIQUETTE**

Parents, Spectators, and Fans of the CHHS Band should show support for ALL bands at the competitions. BOOING, JEERING, and RUDE COMMENTS are considered inappropriate and reflect poorly on our students, school, and staff. Please remain positive of all bands that perform. It is OK to cheer for other bands – just make sure you cheer the loudest for the CHHS Bruin Band!

## **GENERAL BAND ETIQUETTE**

The CHHS Band is regularly complemented for our high standards and exceptional behavior while on away trips to other schools. This is due to the positive attitudes of our students, directors, and parents. Please remain positive at all times when around the students and on school property. Cursing around or at students is inappropriate. For the well being of our students, please refrain from smoking in the general vicinity of our students, especially around the rehearsal areas, school busses, and equipment vehicles.

# BOOSTER ORGANIZATION

## WE NEED YOU!!!!!!!

The band booster organization is a non-profit, tax-exempt group whose membership is composed of all parents/guardians of students in the band program and any individual having a vested interest in the band program. The booster's goals are to promote interest, goodwill, financial support, support of the program, and are the **CHEERING SECTION** for the band and school to show their **BRUIN PRIDE**.

The group operates on a budget developed by the officers, board of directors, band directors, and approved by the general membership. Upon request, the budget will be made available for review.

**Booster meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month, with the annual meeting being held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of May.**

The following is a list of some of the things the booster organization provides for the band:

- The show for marching season, i.e. music, drill, drill writer, etc.....
- Assists in purchasing band instruments: tubas, percussion equipment
- Assists in purchasing new band and guard uniforms
- Band camp expenses (above the amount collected from students)
- Scholarship funds
- Office expenses (postage, stationary, photocopies, etc..)
- Percussion, Guard, and band camp Instructors
- Field Commander's Camp
- Guard Equipment and uniforms
- Equipment and food for concession stands (football games and festivals)

In order to provide funding for the above expenses, the booster organization has numerous fundraisers. Listed below are some of the events, which the boosters are involved.

- Kentucky Oaks and the Kentucky Derby
- Concessions for all high school home football games and local festivals
- Selling fundraiser items
- Yard sale
- Heartland Festival
- Cecilia Days
- Glendale Days
- Classic Car Show
- Papa John's Pizza
- Craft Fair
- Hosting Band Competition (including State Regional)
- Many different fundraisers sold throughout the year i.e. lollipops, footballs, cheer sticks, umbrellas, barrel bags, megaphones, etc...

Parents/Guardians/Friends are encouraged to volunteer their time and effort to the band booster organization. It takes **all of us** to have a successful band program!!!

If you have any questions or ideas for fundraisers, please get in touch with the 2nd Vice President who is in charge of the Fundraising Committee or any other Executive Board Member.

There are many opportunities to help the band students. We are certain you will enjoy your time working with the CHHS Bruin Band and the other parents. We have opportunities for any busy schedule. You may enjoy working directly with the students as a chaperone, or “behind the scenes” making props or caring for the many pieces of band equipment.

**We have a need for you –  
please consider being a CHHS Bruin Band Volunteer.**

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT AND AGREEMENT

- I have received, read, and understand the 2009-2010 Central Hardin High School Band Student and Parent Handbook.
  
- I understand that attendance at all REHEARSALS is important and I agree to fulfill my responsibility to all band students to the best of my ability regarding band rehearsals.
  
- I understand that attendance at all PERFORMANCES is extremely important and I agree to be at EVERY performance. I understand that my spot in marching band is unique and cannot be given to someone to fill when I cannot make a performance. I understand that I am important to the success of the entire band.
  
- I understand the standard of professionalism as set out by the band rules and will uphold that professionalism in all that I do.
  
- I understand that if I do not follow the rules or break my agreement with the CHHS Bruin Band, then I could be permanently suspended from the band program with no refund of paid fees.
  
- I will do my best!

Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_