

BLANCHARD
HIGH SCHOOL BAND
HANDBOOK



2018-2019

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Blanchard Bands

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August 11th, 2018

Hello Band Students and Parents!

Welcome to the Blanchard High School Band and another exciting year! As a member of the Blanchard Band program you have the honor and responsibility of participating in an organization with high standards of excellence both in performance and personal conduct. The main emphasis of our band program is on musicianship and pride of accomplishment, followed closely by citizenship, tradition, spirit, and loyalty. It is the pride of a job well done and the accomplishments achieved that make the sacrifice worthwhile. The success of the individual will lead to the success of the organization and vice versa. I don't know why anyone would not want to be involved in a successful band program like the one here in Blanchard!

Everyone should read the information in the handbook, even veterans. For rookies, this is our "band bible" that keeps us running smoothly and efficiently. Most questions can be answered by consulting the handbook which is always available on the band website, www.blanchardbands.com, or on Charms. Charms and the band website are incredible resources that include a wealth of knowledge, so bookmark both sites and check them regularly. On the band website is a "Rookie Parents" section that will give you many insights to life as a high school band parent. It's a must read for new parents and a great refresher for veterans.

Pay special attention to the calendar, which is only available online (band website or Charms). It will assist you in balancing your schedule for the year. We know that it is possible to have successful band, academic, and athletic careers at the same time.

The 2017-2018 year was full of successes by our students. In all areas of the program we saw growth and indications that things are only going to continue to prosper. We are looking ahead to some wonderful opportunities for the coming year including a small trip, location yet undecided!

After reading the handbook, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us. All contact information can be found on the letterhead, Charms, or the band website. If you do not have internet access and are unable to access the online tools, please let us know immediately so we can make alternate arrangements with you.

We are extremely fortunate to have parents, faculty, administrators, and school board members that are committed and dedicated to a quality band program. We look forward to you and your family being a part of our band! We are honored to be your band directors and are looking forward to an incredible year!

AFTER READING THESE MATERIALS, PLEASE FILL OUT, SIGN, AND RETURN THE HANDBOOK AGREEMENT, FOUND ONLINE AT CHARMS OR AT THE END OF THIS PACKET
PLEASE RETURN IT ON OR BEFORE UNIFORM CHECKOUT.

Sincerely,

Jenn Kauffman

Michael McCullough

Why Band?

It has been proven time and time again that participation in school music programs, particularly band, has immense positive effects on students' other academic areas. Test scores go up dramatically, high school and college graduation rates are higher, and band students in general enjoy a higher level of success than non-band members. The only group in school with better academic numbers is the National Honor Society, which includes many band members. More students are accepted into medical school who have a bachelor's degree in music than students who have bachelor's degrees in pre-med. Besides the academic benefits, it is shown that students who participate in band have lower rates of drug and alcohol abuse, not just during high school, but throughout life.

While we believe completely in making our students the best musicians possible, it is even more important to us to shape our students into the best people they can be. We teach students to be good people, not just good musicians, and encourage them to be the best they can be.

We have three foundations from which we teach that we believe are not taught anywhere else:

- **The more you give, the more you get, and the more you get, the more you give**
 - **It is a win/win world**
 - **Don't quit until it's perfect**

The more you give, the more you get- We give our students an objective and when they achieve it, we congratulate them and turn around and give them more to achieve. We are constantly dangling a carrot in front of them, pushing them to do more and be more. In order to keep improving, students must continue to give more of themselves and work harder. Schools are struggling to deal with students who won't give of themselves, so those students are learning that if you give less, you'll get more. When they don't turn in homework, they get extra make-up assignments; when they have too many tardies or absences, they get Saturday school; when they fail a class, they get summer school. We try and keep our goals focused on everyone giving and encouraging each other.

It is a win/win world- All of our students, no matter their level of talent, participate in band at all times. There is no bench for anyone to sit out, so the students who are more talented have a vested interest in helping out those students who need extra attention. At our contests, if everyone is perfect and one person is not, we are judged on that one person. In a regular class, if someone gets a 94% and someone gets a 54%, the student with the lower grade doesn't negatively affect the student with the higher grade. In fact, the lower grade lowers the curve and makes the higher grade even better. There is no incentive for students to help each other achieve. This is the opposite of band. The first chair student doesn't win until the last chair student wins. We are all in this together and we work as a family to achieve success as a group, not as individuals.

Don't quit until it's perfect- Because everything must be uniform, lined up, and perfectly together in time, we believe in repetition until we are the best we can be. In other classes when a student gets a 94% on a test and earns an "A", that's the end. It's a great grade. In band, when we get a 94%, we know we can do better and we expect ourselves to do better. While being perfect is virtually impossible, this relates directly to the more you give, the more you get. We will always try harder to be better because we are capable of more.

Our students deserve the best shot at success in life and we believe with all of our hearts that band sets them up for success and also gives them amazing opportunities and creates friendships for life. We believe in teaching content and curriculum, but those areas change continuously as time goes on. We believe even more in teaching character, which will last forever.

BLANCHARD HIGH SCHOOL BAND

CURRICULUM

Marching Band- The Blanchard High School Marching Band is an award-winning ensemble made up of students in grades 9-12. All band students must be a member of the marching band. Marching band is a “co-curricular” activity that combines rehearsals during the school day with extensive extra-curricular rehearsals and performances. The marching season starts at the end of July with Summer Band, contests run through mid-October, and we continue participating in football games and parades into the first week of December. Marching band members learn the sets (formations) on the field and play the music from memory. Playing tests are pass or fail. Extra help is always available. The band fee is \$300 for rookies (new members) & \$250 for returning members.

Color Guard- The Color Guard provides the visual component for the marching band field show using dance, flags, and other visual props. Students interested in dance, choreography, and movement may choose to audition for our guard. Auditions generally take place in April. The group is open to students in grades 9-12 and is open to any student attending Blanchard High School. Though prior enrollment in band is not a requirement for membership, students with band experience are expected to maintain their instrumental skills in order to contribute during concert season. Guard members attend all rehearsals, competitions, and activities as the marching band. The color guard fee is \$400 for rookies (new members to band) & \$350 for returning members. Members who are in band and guard are only responsible for the guard fee and instrument rental fees, if applicable.

Symphonic Band- The Blanchard Symphonic Band consistently receives top awards and is one of the finest bands in Oklahoma. The Symphonic Band is made up of students in grades 9-12 and all students must be a member of the Symphonic Band. The ensemble stresses musical and performance excellence through the performance of a wide variety of band literature. Section leaders schedule weekly before or after school sectionals. Students who are struggling may be asked to come in more frequently. The Symphonic Band performs at various contests and events from November through May.

Chamber Music Ensembles- Blanchard Bands offer a variety of chamber ensembles including woodwind, brass, and percussion groups. Rehearsals are generally held before or after school starting in December. These ensembles compete at the District Solo & Ensemble contest and are often asked to perform in the community at various events and social gatherings. Participation is optional. If students decide to compete in district competition, there is a fee that varies from \$5-8, depending on the size of the ensemble.

Percussion Ensemble- The Blanchard Percussion Ensemble is a group that offers specific technique and chamber music ensemble experience in addition to large group experiences. Here the percussionists get individualized and small group attention they would not get in the regular band class in order to develop their skills. These musicians will get advanced training in all percussion areas including but not limited to rudimental percussion, orchestral percussion, world drumming, keyboard percussion, and timpani. These rehearsals are held before or after school one or two days a week depending on school schedules. All percussionists must be members of the Percussion Ensemble.

Honor Band- This class is offered to high school students (9-12). It meets during the school day and is geared towards students who are driven to succeed musically on an individual level. Students who enroll in honor band are required to audition for every honor band for which they are eligible and must also compete with a solo in the District Solo & Ensemble competition. Music theory will also be introduced.

All-Region (SWOBDA) Honor Band- Students in grades 7-12 may audition for a place in one of the Southwestern Oklahoma Band Director's Association (SWOBDA) Honor Bands, also known as All-Region. There are two 7th grade bands, two junior high bands (grades 8-9), and two high school bands (grades 10-12). Students who earn a place in a band will rehearse and perform under a guest conductor in February in Weatherford. These honor bands are comprised of musically gifted students representing the top talent in the southwest region of Oklahoma. There is an audition fee of approximately \$10.

All-State (OkMEA & OSSBDA) Honor Bands- Students in grades 10-12 may audition for a place in an All-State Band. The Oklahoma Music Educator's Association (OkMEA) is comprised of the most musically gifted students from throughout Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma Small Schools Band Director's Association (OSSBDA) is comprised of the most musically gifted students from small schools throughout Oklahoma. Students who earn a place in a band will rehearse and perform under a guest conductor, OkMEA in January in Tulsa, and OSSBDA in February in Oklahoma City. Participation in either of these fine ensembles often comes with college scholarship options from many colleges and universities around the state and beyond. There is an audition fee of approximately \$15 for each honor band.

District & State Solo & Ensemble Competitions- Students in grades 7-12 may choose to participate in District Solo & Ensemble competitions, which take place in February. Students prepare a solo or ensemble (duet, trio, quartet, etc.) and perform, often with an accompanist, for a judge. There are a few evening rehearsals required for students using the accompanist. While extra help is always available, most of the preparation of this music is student-driven. Students in grades 9-12 who earn a superior rating on their solo or ensemble are eligible for state contest in April. Students in grades 7-8 are not eligible for state. Participation fees range from \$5-10, depending on the type of group. Accompanist fees apply if necessary. Participation fees are only charged for district level competition.

Private Lessons- Just like most activities that require a high degree of skill, private lessons on a musical instrument are the best way to improve performance skills. The one-on-one approach allows the student to benefit from individual, specialized attention. Most students who earn a place in an All-State band study privately. We are lucky to live so close to many universities with excellent music programs, and even have teachers who come to Blanchard weekly to teach lessons. We have many students who study with advanced college students and some even with university professors. Visit the “Private Lessons” section of the band website or contact a band director to find a suitable private teacher.

Leadership Council- The Leadership Council is a group of students who have gone through a rigorous process in order to be chosen as leaders for the band. These students hold positions like drum major, section leader, president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, librarian, uniform assistant, and more. These leaders are integral to running the band smoothly, and the experience of working in this situation helps prepare these students for the future. Students who are members of this group have attended at least one workshop led by Scott Lang. Those students in grades 10-11 who would like to be members of the Leadership Council will need to pick up a packet in March. All required information and activities are due in April.

CALENDAR OVERVIEW

July/Aug.:	Summer Band School begins Uniform Checkout	Mar./Apr:	District contest St. Patrick’s parade Leadership Council/Drum Major apps
Sept./Oct.:	Football games Marching competitions		Bowl-a-thon State band contest
Nov./Dec.:	Honor band auditions Football playoffs Christmas parade Winter Concert HS chair test	May:	State solo & ensemble contest Band Banquet HS chair test Spring Concert Graduation
Jan./Feb.:	Honor band clinics District Solo & Ensemble contest		Band Garage sale (MayDaze) Spring Band

GENERAL BAND INFORMATION

EXPECTATIONS

Band is a year-long commitment.

Each member of the band is required to practice the music regularly, learn his/her part, and come well prepared to rehearsal. Home practice is absolutely essential to our pursuit of excellence. Sectionals are intended as periods for refining the musical work done in full rehearsals, not as practice time for learning the music. Insufficient practice and preparation of music will affect the student’s grade.

Each member of the band will be expected to attend and participate in all rehearsals and performances called by the directors.

Punctuality at all events is critical. All students must arrive on time unless they have spoken with the director and received permission to be late. On time means that events begin at the stated time; students are not just arriving. Band is a team effort and it hinders the entire group when people are late. Time is a valuable resource and ours as a band is limited. To make the most of the time we have, all students need to be ready to begin promptly.

Band members are expected to follow the rules of Blanchard schools' student handbook as well as the band handbook while present at any band function. Failure to abide by the rules may result in removal of a student from a performance, not allowing the student to travel with the band, or removal from the band program at the directors' discretion.

Leadership Council members should be at all rehearsals and are expected to demonstrate excellent attitudes, leadership, discipline, and cooperation. Members will arrive 10 minutes early to every rehearsal and sectional, check in with the drum major for any new information, be responsible for musical details of the music (done before rehearsal), schedule, lead, and run sectionals, distribute and collect music all year, and be willing to help the band in any way possible.

Percussionists are expected to assist in moving, setting up, dismantling, loading/unloading the trailers, and putting away all percussion instruments for rehearsals and performances. Percussionists must arrive to rehearsal at least 15 minutes early to set up the section, and should plan to stay at least 15 minutes after a rehearsal or performance ends to properly store the instruments.

The band fee is \$300/\$250 and covers a band polo, band t-shirt, band jacket, band backpack, band water bottle, band shoes, two pairs of gloves, food for most marching band events, gas fee to reimburse trailer pullers, a lyre to hold flip folders, and other miscellaneous items. A minimum of \$50 must be paid at uniform checkout. All fees must be paid in full by the Winter Break in December. See a director for payment options.

ATTENDANCE

Prompt attendance is EXPECTED and REQUIRED at all rehearsals and performances. During marching season, band will start at 7:15am. During concert season, band will start at 7:30am. *Students are expected to be at rehearsals on time.* Students are expected to work out their own transportation details. *Bus routes will not be an excuse for tardiness.* Tardies for band are recorded in the grade book and will affect your exemption and average. For each nine-week period, three tardies will be excused. For each additional tardy two percentage points will be subtracted from the nine weeks grade. Students who are excessively late will be dealt with on an individual basis at the discretion of the director and/or principal. Tardies can be made up by arriving a full half hour before a morning rehearsal, checking in with a director, and doing homework or practicing. *Work is not an excuse to miss a performance or a rehearsal.*

INSTRUMENTS AND SUPPLIES

Be prepared! Have all equipment, instrument, music, pencil, four useable reeds, oil, grease, sticks, etc. Take what you might need to your seat. This will eliminate disruptions during rehearsal. Some supplies are available for purchase before and after band rehearsal begins - not in the middle of class. There will be no credit on supplies. You must have money to buy them.

During marching band each student will be required to carry coordinate sheets. If a coordinate sheet needs to be replaced, the cost is \$1.00.

If a student's instrument is in need of repair, the instrument can be sent to the music store (Ada Music) through the school. The roadman from the music store comes once a week and would be able to pick up any repair that might be needed. You are also welcome to take it to the store yourself. Repair time is usually one to two weeks. The school will not be responsible for the bill.

Some school instruments will be issued to students. The instruments are always working properly when they are issued. If an instrument is damaged or broken while it is checked out to a student, the student will be responsible for its repair. The fee to use a school instrument is \$50.00 a year, due in full at the beginning of the year.

We will be doing business with **Ada Music**, at 315 W. 12th St. in Ada. The phone number is 580-436-0838.

CHAIR TESTS

We are continuing our approach to chair tests this year and not having the normal scheduled chair tests. We will be listening to students on a regular basis and will adjusting seating to suit the needs of the student and the band. This was spurred by discussions with the Leadership Council who feel this new approach will better serve the needs of the students and the quality of the band.

PRIVATE LESSONS AND AFTER SCHOOL HELP

Students have the opportunity for private lessons. Blanchard is in a very good location. We are close enough to the University of Oklahoma and to Oklahoma City to take advantage of opportunities not available to most small school systems. We are also lucky to have many lesson teachers who come directly to the school on a weekly basis. If you are interested in taking private lessons we will get you set up with an expert on your instrument.

After school help with a director is available to help students, such as on an upcoming test or an honor band audition. After school help is not to be used weekly as a private lesson.

PERFORMANCES

Students will perform numerous times during the year. All performances are expected and mandatory. Excuses for missing a performance must be turned in on an absence excuse sheet to your director, dated and signed by a parent or guardian prior to the event. A performance absence excuse form is included on [page 13](#). Extra sheets are available in the band room. The excuse must be on an excuse form or it will not be valid. The director will determine if the reason for the absence is excusable. Just because an excuse form is turned in does not automatically make the absence excused. If an absence is deemed excused, an alternate make up assignment will be assigned and must be completed within one week for the student to receive credit for the missed activity. An unexcused absence from a performance, concert, or contest will result in the deduction of one letter grade from the nine weeks grade or failure for the nine weeks and possible expulsion from the band. A calendar is online and updated regularly to keep you informed of scheduled events. Plan around performances. *Work, student or parent, is not an excuse for a student to miss a performance.*

EVENT CHECK OUT

All students must ride to and from band events on school approved transportation. Students may leave after events with their own parent/guardian by signing out with a band director. To leave with anyone else, a 3rd Party Student Transport Form ([page 14](#)) with a parent signature is required that gives permission for the band director to release the student to that person, and they must then sign the student out with a band director. Emails, text messages, and phone calls will not be accepted in lieu of a Student Transport Form with a parent signature. The form can be found on the website, Charms, and hard copies are available from a director.

ELIGIBILITY

In order to participate in an extra-curricular activity, you cannot be failing any of your classes. Any student deemed to be ineligible will be required to be in attendance at the event, in full uniform, and seated in a designated area within the band. The ineligible student will help the band in every way, except by performing. Failure to comply will result in a serious grade penalty determined by the band directors.

Students who show a history of eligibility problems may be removed from the band program for a period of no less than one semester. If during this time grades improve to an acceptable level, the student may be evaluated for possible reinstatement at the discretion of the directors.

We offer help for students in any subject through band tutors. We need everyone for every performance, so we do our best to help all of our students in every class. If you need help, just ask!

DRUG TESTING

All students are required to turn in a drug testing consent form, signed by the student and a parent. Blanchard randomly drug tests students involved in activities, including band. Any students suspected of abusing drugs can be recommended for testing by a director.

GRADING

Students' grades will be determined in several ways. Throughout the year a daily grade will be given and students who are prepared will get 100% for the daily grade portion. During marching season students will be required to play several songs by memory. Memory tests and playing tests will all count as test grades. Missing a contest, performance, rehearsal, or having

excessive absences/tardies will lower a student's grade. Parents can check a student's grade at any time online at the school's gradebook (Parent Portal), tardies can be checked on Charms, and you may email and check on your student any time.

The grading breakdown is as follows:

Test grades (40%)

Concerts, performances, contests, playing tests, and chair tests will count as test grades.

Daily grades (50%)

Daily points are earned by being present, having all required materials, and participating in class. Students who do not have their instrument, music, or supplies will earn zero points for that day.

Newsletters (10%)

A newsletter is emailed at the beginning of each month. The bottom of each newsletter has a section that must be signed and returned to school (or responded to via email) for a grade.

LETTERING

All students are eligible for lettering in band. Students must earn 125 points to letter. Points are awarded for many activities, including the following:

Spring/Summer Band - 5 points/day

Extra Rehearsals - 5

Band Camps - 20

Drum Major - 50

Honor Band Auditions - 15

Honor Bands - 25

Solo-Superior rating - 20

Solo-Excellent rating - 15

Solo-Good rating - 10

Ensemble- Superior rating - 15

Ensemble- Excellent rating - 10

Ensemble- Good rating - 5

Private Lessons - 50

Basketball Band - 20

Community Performance - 10

Attending Other Concerts - 10

Fundraising - To be Determined

FUNDRAISERS

We will be doing several fundraisers throughout the year. Our year-round fundraiser is Scrip (gift cards). Students have access to order forms all of the time, and occasionally forms will be sent home with newsletters. We also sponsor the Bounce-a-thon in the early spring. Students are expected to help and participate in all fundraisers.

BAND BOOSTERS

The Blanchard Band Booster Club, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation organized and operated to support the instrumental music and performance ensemble programs at Blanchard High School. All parents of the band students are automatically members of this organization. The elected executive board directs the meetings and business of the group. The Booster's primary role is to provide volunteer and financial support to permit the band to prosper, both inside and outside the classroom setting. There are many opportunities for parents and family members to serve and get involved. All parents are encouraged to attend the booster meetings, which are usually held on the last Tuesday of each month (exact dates are listed in the calendar). Our next meeting is **Tuesday, July 31st, at 7:00 PM** in the High School Band Room. A current list of booster officers and their contact information can be found on the band website, www.blanchardbands.com.

Parent Volunteer Needs- There are many opportunities for parents to volunteer in support of the program, and the success of the program depends upon the willingness of parents to step up and do their part. The major areas where parent volunteers are needed are the fundraising, marching band, Breakfast with Santa, and concert committees. Students need to know that we think what they do is important! Your participation shows them this and you play a vital role in the success of our band family!

As a safety precaution, all parents who want to volunteer directly with the students (tailgating, chaperoning, trailer pulling, etc.) will need to pass a background check. The cost will be **\$12.50** and these will be done at uniform checkout. You will need to bring your social security card and driver's license. If you do not do the background check at this time and decide later to volunteer, you will need to make arrangements with a band director to have one done at least one week prior to when you want to volunteer. This background check will be valid for the duration of your time as a volunteer with the Blanchard Bands unless a director has a concern and requests another, which will then be done at a cost to the band.

MARCHING BAND

In addition to the general rules stated above, the following rules will be in affect for the following areas pertaining to the marching band.

1. Students will have instruments, music, pencils, coordinate sheets, and their OWN water bottle at all rehearsals.
2. Food, candy, gum, and beverages other than water will not be allowed in any rehearsal space at any time.
3. Students will lose their 3rd quarter privileges for the following reasons: failure to pass off show music on time, more than one unexcused absence or tardy per week, or failure to be back in the stands on time at the previous game.

UNIFORM RULES & GUIDELINES

Respect and pride in any organization is reflected in the organizations uniform and how it is worn. They are a privilege.

Each student is responsible for the condition and care of the uniform while in his or her possession. Damage or loss of the uniform will result in the student paying for the repair or replacement.

Our uniforms are crucial to our appearance. Please understand that with all of the parts of our uniform that are white, parents will need to help their students to maintain the cleanliness of these items. Shoes, socks, and gloves should be taken home regularly to be washed, and should always be cleaned the day before a contest. Gloves can be washed in the washing machine. Shoes should be scrubbed by hand (the scrubber side of a sponge works great) and polished with white/black shoe polish or scuff cover.

If gloves or socks are not appropriate (dirty, incorrect length, etc.) then students will be required to buy a new pair from a section leader or the drum major (prices from \$2-4). If the student cannot pay at that time, it is expected that the student will repay the band by the next school day.

1. Students must wear the uniform 100% correctly at all times when in public. For example, students may not arrive wearing only the pants or with the jacket unzipped. The uniform is either **all the way on**, or it is hung up and **all the way off**.
2. Black/White marching shoes, the band t-shirt, and gloves (brass and woodwinds only) will be worn with the uniform. Black/White socks must be worn and provided by the student; the ankles must be completely covered
3. Shako (the hat) - When worn, the shako will be worn straight forward on top of the head with the brim pulled down towards the nose. The hatbox will be carried to all football games. In addition to the shako, students may store small items inside such as flip folders, lyres, valve oil, gloves, etc.
4. Jacket - the jacket will be worn completely zipped and collar hooked at all times. Exception: in extremely hot weather (directors' discretion), you may be instructed to take off the jacket as A GROUP when in the bleachers. Jackets will be carefully laid across the bleachers in this case.
5. Shoes/Socks - Shoes must be ordered through the band. They will be kept spotless. Solid black/white socks will be worn with the shoes and must completely cover the ankles.
6. Gloves - the wind players will wear gloves that are unsoiled and untorn. When not wearing them, store the gloves inside the hat box.
7. Underneath - the band t-shirt must be worn underneath the uniform jacket; light shorts should be worn underneath the pants to facilitate speedy dressing and comfort (light colored shorts when wearing white pants, any color when wearing black/maroon pants). No jeans will be worn under the uniform. Long thin sweatpants or thermal wear may be worn in cold weather as long as it does not interfere with the correct look of the uniform.
8. Hair - Hair that is longer than collar length will be worn up inside the hat. Hair must be a natural color for all performances. Directors have the final say if hair color is appropriate. When in doubt, ask first.
9. Personal Grooming - all students will conform to the Blanchard High dress code. In addition, no jewelry is to be worn and one should not wear excessive make-up.

UNIFORM CARE

The uniform is to be treated with respect at all times. After a performance,

1. HANG IT UP CORRECTLY - never allow your uniform to lay on the ground. Section leaders are responsible for checking the uniforms after each performance for correct hanging on the uniform hanger.

2. The uniform will be cleaned at least twice a year by the band. Stains are very difficult to get out of uniforms, so **BE CAREFUL!** If an accident does occur, the student is responsible for notifying the directors immediately and cleaning the uniform before the next time it is to be worn. Uniforms are only to be dry-cleaned. *Do not wash them in a washing machine.*
3. When storing the uniform after a performance, make sure it is complete: check for loose or missing buttons and that the zippers work. If you have a problem, contact a director **WELL BEFORE** the next event so that repairs can be made.

FOOTBALL GAME RULES & GUIDELINES

The impression (at ALL times, not just on the field) the band makes at football games and contests is very important to the reputation of the band and the school. The individual member's participation, demeanor, and behavior at football games and performances contribute to the overall effect of the band's performance.

Students will observe the following rules and guidelines in order to reflect the best of the Blanchard Band:

1. Each member is responsible for his/her equipment at all times. Extra care should be taken in the bleachers to avoid damage to the instrument. Instruments and music must be put in cases. Sticks should be placed in the box/bag. Do not leave equipment laying around for someone to break or steal.
2. Students will be in full uniform and remain in full uniform until dismissed at the end of a performance. Do not wear anything in addition (baseball caps, bandanas, etc.) to your uniform without permission from a director. During cold weather you may be allowed to wear a hat or gloves to keep warm (directors' discretion).
3. Students will remain within their sections and will not move around during the game.
4. Students will not have any wet foods or beverages other than water at any time while in uniform. Water is allowed at any time while in uniform. During 3rd quarter students may bring and eat dry foods (candy bars, granola bars, popcorn, pretzels w/o cheese dip, hot dogs w/o toppings, etc.) in the stands. The directors will have the final say on what you can and cannot eat while in uniform.
5. Students will remain in full uniform (no shako and no gloves) during 3rd quarter break. Students will be back in their section in the assigned row at the designated time ready to perform; being late from the break will result in the loss of break privilege for that student at the next game.
6. Only band personnel will be allowed in the band's bleacher section. Parents may not sit in the designated seating area, and no one except directors, instructors, and drum majors will be allowed to stand in front of the band.
7. Students will perform and remain with the band until dismissed at the end of the game. No early dismissals will be allowed without prior clearance with the directors.
8. Restroom breaks are not permitted as a full group. You **MUST** plan ahead and prepare to not use the restroom during performances.

COLOR GUARD

Color guard members are held to the same standards as band members in regards to expectations, attendance, equipment, performances, eligibility, grading, and fundraisers.

Uniforms will be measured for and ordered in the summer. If the uniform doesn't fit properly when school begins, each guard member will be financially responsible for alteration expenses, or for ordering a new uniform.

Only guard members are allowed to use the guard equipment. Any damages to equipment will result in a guard member reimbursing the band for the equipment's repair or replacement.

Guard members must return all school issued equipment and uniforms in good condition at the end of marching season. Failure to do so will result in ineligibility for future tryouts and must be paid for prior to the end of the year.

Each year a guard captain will be chosen from those students who complete the Leadership Council application process.

The guard fee is \$400 for rookies and \$350 for returning members and includes the uniform, shoes, band t-shirt, band jacket, and equipment. A minimum of \$50 must be paid at uniform checkout. All fees must be paid in full by Winter Break in December. See a director for payment options.

SYMPHONIC BAND

GENERAL RULES & GUIDELINES

These rules will apply in addition to all school and district policies.

1. Students will attend all rehearsals and performances on time with the correct equipment.
2. Food, drinks, gum, or candy is not allowed at any time in the band room. Water will always be allowed in all circumstances.
3. Students will remain quiet and attentive to instructions given from directors, student teachers, and other instructors during all rehearsals. Water/restroom breaks, supply purchases, and other errands should be taken care of **BEFORE** the rehearsal begins. However, if a personal emergency arises the student may take care of it as promptly as possible without distracting others from the rehearsal. If a student abuses this policy they will lose this privilege.
4. Students will not have other homework, books, or other distractions of any kind in rehearsal without specific permission from the director.
5. Students will store all instruments, mallets, music, etc. in the correct location after rehearsals and performances. All storage containers (cases, drawers, bags, etc.) must be closed and latched.
6. Instrument cubbies or their equivalent will be kept neat and clean at all times. Items that can be in your cubby include instruments, music, marching shoes (during marching season), flip folders, pencils, and school books. There should **NEVER** be any food or drinks in your cubby. The director reserves the right to enter a cubby as needed. See the Instrument Room agreement form (online) more details.

CONCERT UNIFORM

A separate uniform is used for concert season called concert black. We wear all black. Guys need to wear black slacks, black socks, black **DRESS** shoes, and a black, long sleeve, collared, button up dress shirt. Girls need to wear black slacks, black socks or hose, black dress shoes, and a black dress shirt with sleeves. Sleeveless shirts are not acceptable. Girls may wear dresses or skirts but they must be ankle length. Any students not appropriately dressed may be removed from a performance and for grading purposes, this will be treated as a missed performance. If you are at all concerned about your student's attire, please have him/her bring it in before a performance.

help your student get
he/she needs regarding
attire.

We are glad to
everything
concert black



**Blanchard Bands
Performance Absence Excuse Form**

Student's Name: _____

Date of Absence: _____

Date this form was completed and turned in: _____

_____ Prior Commitment
This indicates that the band function was scheduled on top of another event that was previously scheduled. The conflict caused is irreconcilable.

What is the commitment: _____

_____ Athletic Event
This indicates that the band function was scheduled on top of a BHS athletic event. *(The policy for the hierarchy of events is: a performance or game takes precedence over a practice or rehearsal; a district level performance or game takes precedence over a non-district level event; a state level event takes precedence over a district level event. For all practices that overlap with rehearsals, the time should be split.)*

What is the conflicting event: _____

_____ Illness
This indicates that the student was sick during the band function and that the student did not go to school the day of the event due to this illness. If this is not the case then documentation may be required.

Please explain the circumstances: _____

_____ Other Commitment
Please understand that because this commitment was not made prior to the publication of the band schedule, the chances are not very high that it will be excused.

Please explain the circumstances: _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Office use only

Excused
Make up assignment: _____

Unexcused
Reason:
___ form turned in too late
___ need further documentation
___ not an appropriate reason
___ other: _____

Date processed: _____



Blanchard Bands Third Party Student Transport Permission

(please print all information except the signature)

Name of your Band Student	
Name of Parent/Guardian	
Name of Event	
Date of Event	
Name of 3 rd party Transporting Student from the Event	
Signature of Parent/Guardian	
Date of Signature	

By completing and signing this form, the Parent/Guardian hereby gives to the Blanchard Bands consent for the named Student to leave the named event with the person providing transport instead of utilizing school-provided transportation and hereby relieves Blanchard Bands & Blanchard Schools from any liability from any issue occurring after the named student leaves the event.

**A BAND DIRECTOR MUST HAVE THIS FORM IN HAND
PRIOR TO RELEASING THE STUDENT TO THE THIRD
PARTY TRANSPORTER.**

**THE THIRD PARTY TRANSPORTER IS RESPONSIBLE
FOR SIGNING THE STUDENT OUT WITH A BAND
DIRECTOR.**

Blanchard High School Band & Guard Handbook Agreement & Internet Release

Please keep the handbook for your reference during the year. If you have any questions or concerns, please bring them to our attention before you sign this form.

Please fill out and return this page by UNIFORM CHECKOUT.

HANDBOOK AGREEMENT

I, the undersigned student, accept membership in the Blanchard High School Band and understand I am responsible for all policies set forth in the band handbook and am fully aware of the expectations for the school year.

Student's name (printed legibly)

Student's signature

I, the undersigned parent or guardian, have read and understand the policies as set forth in the band handbook. I grant full permission for my child to be an active member of the Blanchard High School Band. In addition, my child has full permission to attend all band functions. Furthermore, I understand that I must meet all financial obligations by Winter Break in December.

Parent/Guardian's name (printed legibly)

Parent/Guardian signature

INTERNET RELEASE

The Blanchard Bands would like to be able to use pictures and videos of students as they are engaged in band activities on the Blanchard Band website (www.blanchardbands.com), the Blanchard Schools web site (www.blanchard.k12.ok.us), Facebook (Blanchard Bands page), and/or YouTube (www.youtube.com). As a safety concern, we do not use last names in conjunction with any student photo, nor do we print full names or addresses of any student. For videos, no student names are used at all. YouTube is used as a learning tool for younger students to look up older students playing and learn from their performances.

Please **INITIAL** the ways in which your student can be represented. Anything NOT initialed will NOT be used electronically.

_____ My child's first name may be published electronically.

_____ Pictures of my child, which may or may not be accompanied by his/her first name, may be published electronically.

_____ Videos of my child, which will never be accompanied with my child's name, may be published electronically.

I hereby give the above permission and release Blanchard Public Schools from any liability resulting from or connected with the publication of this information.

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

INFORMATION

Please log onto Charms and fill out all of the student and parent information online (address, phone numbers, shirt sizes, etc.).

If you DO NOT have internet access, please initial here and a director will get your student hard copies of everything you need.