Rigby High School



Band Handbook

Welcome to the Rigby High School Instrumental Music Program!

You have chosen to be a part of the successful band program here at Rigby High School. This program is full of heritage and tradition and is an integral part of our school as well as our community. Individually as well as a whole, we have a great opportunity to add to that heritage and tradition. What happens this year is entirely up to you and the level of commitment and work ethic that you are willing to give. This program is committed to excellence in everything we do which centers around our core values

* **Respect**
  + Show respect for yourself, your classmates, the classroom and the instructor.
  + Respect is earned, but showing respect at all times will go a long way to earning it.
* **Discipline and Preparation**
  + Be disciplined in your actions, your preparation, rehearsal and performance.
* **Attitude**
  + A positive attitude goes a long way to making yours and everyone's experience great.
  + No whining or complaining- there will be times when things are difficult complaining will only compound the issue.
* **Protect the Ensemble**
  + You represent this program, your school and community, **everything** you do will reflect upon each. You can reflect positively or negatively based upon your actions and attitude. Lets make sure that everything we do is positive.

“Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence.” Vince Lombardi

**Goals and Objectives**

* To foster a lifelong love, appreciation and understanding of Music.
* To teach excellence in music through performance
* To develop understanding of music theory and history and its relationship and relevance to music within the classroom as well as art, culture history and everyday life.
* Provide students with the ability and opportunity to thrive and flourish within a group environment as well as provide for leadership opportunities
* Provide for the musical needs of the school and community
* To build upon the heritage and traditions of the Music Program at Rigby High School

**Expectations:**

***Attendance:***

* **Daily Class:**
  + Be in class by the late bell. You need to be in your seat, set up and ready to play when class begins (2 minutes after late bell). Failure to do so will result in a tardy.
  + No food or drink in the Band Room (except sealed **water** containers) **NO GUM EVER!!!**
  + RHS attendance policy is in effect
* **After School Rehearsals**
  + Occasionally after school rehearsals will be called for either Pep Band or Marching Band it is expected that you show up 15 minutes before call time so that you can be ready for the downbeat. This is called band time. To be early is to be on time, to be on time is late, and late is inexcusable.
  + Marching Band rehearsals are mandatory, and reflected in your grade. An unexcused absence will not be tolerated.
* **Performance**
  + All performances (besides Basketball Pep Band) are mandatory and reflected in your grade for each trimester. You are expected to adhere to *bandtime* for all concert and marching band performances. Unexcused absences will not be tolerated.
  + **Performances are scheduled and posted in advance. It is your responsibility to set your calendar accordingly.**
  + Extreme illness, death in the immediate family, or religious holiday observance is the only permissible excuses. Unexcused absence from a performance will result in a loss of letter grade for the Trimester.

***Instrument and Music***

* Instruments are expected to be in good working order with appropriate accessories (reeds, valve oil etc…) It is expected that single reed players have 5 good reeds at all time, double reeds should have 3. It is expected that brass have mutes (straight and/or harmon) and percussion have their own set of sticks and mallets.
* Bring all music to class every day. **Each student will have their own folder with personal copies of music.** Section leaders will be responsible for the distribution of music to the section. Go to them first! – Lost originals will result in a fine…do not lose your music-
* Any collected, lost music will be turned into Mr. Sandford, and kept in a bin. If you want your music back, you will be expected to perform scales. You will either not lose your music, or become really good at scales.
* Have a pencil for every rehearsal- Keep one in your folder

***Rehearsal Technique***

* Actively involved in all facets of the rehearsal…i.e. obviously trying
* Rehearsal is not practice time, you do not come to class expecting to learn your part – you come to class to learn everyone else’s part.
* Demonstrates proper playing technique
  + Good Posture
  + Proper instrument hand position
  + **NO GUM EVER**!!!
* Only sealed drink containers will be allowed in the Band Room
* No talking or other disruptive behavior during rehearsal

***Home Practice***

* **It is expected that you practice regularly at home**. There will be very few homework assignments as it is expected that you **treat practice as homework**. You will be given advanced notice of the rehearsal schedule for the week, use it to your advantage.
* Scales, chords and music for class are all expected.

Concert Attire:

**It is important to maintain a professional and uniform look for performances, and as such it is expected that each member of the ensemble is dressed accordingly. Concert participation will not be allowed if any student is out of concert dress.**

**Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band:**

* **Guys:**
  + **Black Dress Shirt –** Long sleeved, button up and collar
  + **Black Dress Slacks – NO jeans, corduroys, workout pants, sweatpants etc**…
  + **Black Shoes and Socks –** Shoes must be all black, and should be of the formal variety, socks must be black, not blue or brown or gray or white…**BLACK**
  + **A White or Black Straight Tie –** This item is optional, but adds to the overall look
  + **Black Belt –** Again, Optional but recommended
  + **Black Suit Jacket –** Optional item
* **Ladies:**
  + **Can dress same as Guys –** Not recommended (**guys may not dress like girls**!)
  + **Black floor length dress-** This is most recommended, looks very nice and is very formal
  + **Black floor length skirt and Black Blouse –** Also recommended
  + **Black Heels/Flats/Boots –** ladies there are tons of shoes out there, they need to be black and not of the tennis shoe variety
  + **Black Hose –** This is recommended
  + **Jewelry and Hair –** Minimal jewelry or hair accents are allowed so long as it is not a distraction.
  + **NOTICE! -** Skirts or Dresses that are not floor length are not allowed. Concerts are formal, family events and our stage sits above eye level. We do not need to show anything unnecessary. Remember: Modest is Hottest!

**Marching Band/Pep Band**

* **Black Slacks, Shoes & Socks and Band Sweatshirt for Marching Band performances**
* **Jeans (no Holes) and Pep Band/ Rigby High School T-Shirts for Pep Band**

**Performances are posted in advance so that you are able to acquire the appropriate clothing. Showing up to a concert without proper attire will result in you not participating in the concert and an unexcused absence. Should you have difficulty affording certain clothing items, please talk to me ahead of time so that arrangements can be made. If you are unsure about certain clothing pieces, please ask/bring it in well before the concert date so that issues can be avoided.**

**Pep Band**

**Pep Band:**

* Pep Band (or Basketball Band) is a volunteer group, unless there is not proper instrumentation at which point it becomes mandatory for Jazz Band members.
* Once you volunteer, it is both expected and required that you show up for every rehearsal (before games) and game…. Band Time is always in effect…
* In order to be eligible for a state basketball trip you must be present at all games, as well as be academically eligible.
* Should there be a limit of number of students for a State Trip, students will be selected by attendance, eligibility and seniority in that order.

**Instruments**

Instruments and their accessories are considered part of the class materials and are the full responsibility. It is incredibly difficult to be an active member of the ensemble without your instrument present and in working condition. You are expected to take full responsibility in obtaining, maintaining and caring for your instrument. Should it break down it is expected that it be repaired as soon as possible.

At the high school level, an intermediate or professional level instrument is highly recommended. The school has a limited supply of instruments available to use for a fee of $60.00. Please contact the director for more information on obtaining a school-owned instrument.

Most percussion instruments will be provided for use at school; however, the school asks all percussionists to pay a $15 donation to help cover the maintenance costs. Percussionists are required to purchase their own **sticks** and some **mallets**, just as wind players are responsible for needed accessories for their instruments.

Some instruments require more specific accessories than others. At the High School level the following accessories and materials are recommended and expected:

* All Students are expected to have proper and sturdy cases, cleaning cloths and care products for their instruments
* Oboe: 2 quality wood reeds at all times and cork grease
* Clarinet: quality mouthpiece, 3 quality and working cane reeds, quality ligature and cork grease
* Saxophone: quality mouthpiece, 3 quality cane reeds, quality ligature, cork grease and neck strap.
* Trumpet: quality mouthpiece, valve oil, Harmon mute and straight mute
* Trombone: Quality mouthpiece, proper slide care kit and mute
* Baritone/Euphonium: Valve Oil
* Percussion: quality snare sticks, personal mallet collection, stick bag, pitch pipe or tuner
* If you are unsure about what ‘quality’ accessories to buy, or if a certain item fits in that category, please ask the director before you purchase.
* Please avoid Orange Box RICO reeds as these do not create a good characteristic sound. Reed brands that are acceptable are VanDoren, LaVoz, Mitchel Lurie, RICO ROYAL, RICO Grand Concert Select and RICO Reserve, Marca, Eastman, Rigotti Gold and Gonzales. If you are unsure, again ask.
* Some quality mouthpieces are VanDoren 5 RV (clarinet) Eugene Rousseau or Selmer C\* (Saxophone) Bach 3c or Yamaha (trumpet) Bach 5G or 4G/Schilke 51 or 51D/Yamaha (trombone). Again, if you are unsure please ask. Mouthpieces are the starting point for your air, and your tone. You can achieve amazing characteristic tone with a high quality mouthpiece and a mediocre horn. You will not, however, achieve as good a sound with a mediocre mouthpiece and a high quality horn. Also, all mouthpieces are not created equal or even the same. It is recommended that you try many mouthpieces to find what works best for you. Please consult the director prior to purchasing a mouthpiece.

**Band Officers- Descriptions and Duties**

Students are given leadership opportunities within the program that will help guide and direct us throughout the course of the year, as well as make things run as smooth as possible. Expectations of all officers are as follows:

* All officers will promote respect, commitment, excellence and responsibility
* All officers will make the 6 wk. meetings
* All officers will be “self-starters” keeping foremost in their minds the welfare of the Music Program and its various members
* All officers will ascribe to a “see a need, take care of the need” concept

**President and Vice President:**

* Be able to direct the Band
* Oversee other officer duties i.e. Room cleaning, concert set up and tear down etc…
* Plan and Coordinate events i.e. awards banquet
* Plan and run 6 wk meetings
* Create weekly room cleaning schedule

**Secretary/Treasurer**

* Be able to fill in for the Pres/VP
* Take Roll
* Oversee Fundraisers- count money, write receipts, wrap up etc…
* Assist Pres/VP in their duties
* Plan and coordinate Bulletin board every 6 weeks with managers help

**Drum Major**

* Direct and help run Marching Band/ Pep Band
* Assist all other officers in their duties
* Take pictures and help coordinate end of the year slide show

**Librarian**

* Keeps the library clean and organized
* Oversees the passing out and collecting of Music
* Oversees the collection and passing out of music portfolios
* Keeps Music Filed correctly
* Assist the Sec/Treas and fills in where needed

**Managers**

* Set up and break down concerts and events
* Load and Unload Busses
* **Keep the room clean**
* Keep Uniform area maintained and orderly
* Assist in any way possible

Band Web Page, Facebook and Photo Release:

The band program maintains a webpage that will be updated regularly with performance information, assignments, quizzes and band related material. The webpage can be found at:

[www.band.rigbytrojans.org](http://www.band.rigbytrojans.org/)

Additionally the band program has an official Facebook page that will be used to make announcements and provide information about upcoming events, sudden changes to events or schedules, as well as to provide a place for students to connect and collaborate. The Facebook page can be found under **Rigby High School Bands.** It is requested that each band member join so that they can be connected and fully informed. If there is an issue or concern please contact the instructor.

* The Band Facebook page will be maintained by the instructor and is viewed as a forum that exists as an extension of the classroom, so all policies that govern daily classroom life (as illustrated in the student handbook) will be in effect
* Failure to comply with expectations will result in a warning for first offense, and disciplinary actions following repeated offenses (in accordance with school policy).

The Band program is a very visible and public organization at Rigby High School, and occasionally pictures and video will be taken to document the student’s achievements and performance. We would love to be able to share the success of the group, and provide the ability for family and friends out of the area to experience our concerts digitally (via official band youtube.com page). In order for photos and video of the bands to be shared it is asked that consent be given for the band program to use photo/video taken of the student for use on the band website and/or band youtube channel (which will be password protected)

To protect a student’s privacy while providing opportunities for student recognition, parental permission is asked before any student image is used (that shows the students face). If you are willing (parents) to provide consent, please fill out and detach the following form and have your child turn it in to Mr. Sandford.

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Consent for release of student image/video to be used for Band publications and website:

Name of Student:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Grade:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian’s name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardians signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_