


**BANDERA**  
**High School**

A black and white line drawing of a trumpet, positioned centrally below the school name. The trumpet is shown from a three-quarter view, highlighting its bell, valves, and tubing.

**Bulldog**  
**Band**  
**Handbook**  
**2011-2012**



**2011-2012**  
**Bandera High School**  
**Bulldog Band Handbook**

*Statements from  
the Texas Education Agency  
Concerning Participation and Eligibility  
for Band Members*

### **Academic Standing Requirements**

In order to participate in TMEA and U.I.L. activities, a student must have been in attendance and have passed the number of courses required by state law and by rules of the State Board of Education. (This article refers to extra-curricular participation rules promulgated by TEA/SBOE in T.A.C. Section 97.113.)

1. Beginning at the seventh grade year—have been promoted from sixth grade to the seventh;
2. Beginning at the eighth grade year—have been promoted from the seventh grade to the eighth;
3. Beginning at the ninth grade year—have been promoted from the eighth grade to the ninth;
4. Beginning with the second year of high school—at least five credits toward graduation; or must have earned five credits during the preceding twelve months;
5. Beginning with the third year of high school—at least ten credits toward graduation; and
6. Beginning with the fourth year of high school—at least fifteen credits toward graduation.

### **Age Limits**

A student may not participate after the end of the eighth semester following his first enrollment in the ninth grade. A student will not be allowed to audition who has attained his nineteenth birthday prior to September 1<sup>st</sup> of that current school year.

## **Rehearsals and Performances**

The Texas Public Education Handbook considers rehearsals and performances co-curricular for the purpose of evaluation of students' progress. All students are required to participate in rehearsals and performances.

## **Performing Band**

All students who have demonstrated their ability to perform to a standard acceptable to the instructional staff shall be a member of the Performing Band. Certain band members will be used as reserves, to fill any vacancies created by illness, or to replace a person who is not performing up to the set standard. Just as playing auditions are held for placement in the bands, so shall all students demonstrate a reasonable proficiency in marching fundamentals as well as a good attendance record before they are assigned a definite position in the marching formation.

Students must be enrolled in both the Fall and Spring Semester Band class. Only academic exceptions approved by the Director will be permitted.

## **Jazz Band**

Entrance into this ensemble is by invitation or audition only. A student must display a high competency on his/her instrument and must be a member of a parent organization to be eligible for membership. Vacancies may be filled by invitation.

## **Private Lessons**

Students are urged to recognize the benefits of private lessons. A recommended list of private teachers is prepared each year by the band staff and is available upon request in the band office. Students may be asked to take private lessons if their playing ability falls below a standard.

## **Band Camps**

A list of recommended band camps is available in the band office. Students attending band camps may receive credit toward the letter award.

## **Officers**

All band student officers will be elected by the band members with the exception of drum majors. The Band will not be any stronger than its elected officers. Officers should set an example with their actions worthy of Bulldog Pride and should assume a degree of responsibility for encouraging other band students to do the same. Officers should also encourage members of the band to maintain a high performance level. All officers must be members of the Marching Band. All officers shall assist the directors and chaperones in every way possible on trips.

The Drum Majors will be the student officers in charge of the band on the drill field and will assist in any way designated by the directors.

The other officers will help the directors in general execution of whatever needs to be done.

## **Selection of Drum Majors/Twirlers**

1. All presently enrolled members who have an 80 or above average and who have at least one year of high school marching band experience.
2. For selection purposes, all presently enrolled members with 10 or more absences may not qualify for selection on the grounds of poor attendance. (Note: There will be no distinction made between excused or unexcused absences for this selection purpose.)
3. Administrative approval will be given or denied on the grounds of poor student behavior to all presently enrolled members or prospective members.

4. Judges will select all members based on technical execution, ability to follow instructions, appearance, and overall physical projection and enthusiasm.
5. Drum Majors scores will include ¼ band vote.
6. Students currently in band must re-qualify annually before the judges.
7. Only members currently in band will be selected as a candidate for drum major/twirler.
8. Behavior that results in disciplinary action will in turn cause dismissal from the position, and this rule will be strictly enforced when it applies to serious or major behavior offenses. (Note: See Student Handbook and BISD Discipline Management Plan.)
9. Only two Drum Majors will be selected for the next school year. The number of twirlers will be determined by the director prior to tryouts and will be based on number of band students for the upcoming year.
10. Drum Major and twirler candidates must average 70% on the following fundamentals to be considered as a drum major or twirler.

**Drum Major:**

- |                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Vocal Commands        | 5. Conducting       |
| 2. Whistle Commands      | 6. Leadership       |
| 3. Marching Fundamentals | 7. Posture/Carriage |
| 4. Marching Ability      |                     |

**Twirler:**

- |                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Finger Twirls (R & L)   | 6. Figure 8's       |
| 2. Pass Around the Back    | 7. Military Salute  |
| 3. "Little Joe" Flip       | 8. Strut            |
| 4. Horizontal Toss (R & L) | 9. Posture/Carriage |
| 5. Vertical Toss           | 10. Showmanship     |

Final selection will be made by judges. Twirlers and drum majors must have one year of high school marching and instrument experience in order to qualify. Twirlers and drum majors must

attend camp during the summer after selection. Failure to attend may cause forfeiture of their position.

## **Squad Leaders**

Squad Leaders will be assigned during the Fall, and will perform their jobs as directed.

## **Color Guard**

The number used in the Color Guard will be decided by the band directors. The Color Guard shall consist of twirlers and flag corps. The Color Guard is a vital part of the Marching Band. They will abide by all the rules and regulations that other band members do. Selection will be determined by the directors and any additional judges the directors may choose to appoint. The Color Guard is encouraged to attend clinics and enter U.I.L. Solo and Ensemble events where applicable.

## **Student Teachers**

Student teachers from the universities will assist the directors in any way needed. They deserve the same respect as directors and all students will act accordingly.

## **Band Managers**

Managers are selected by the directors and assigned duties. They shall be shown respect from the band members. All rules and regulations shall apply to Managers also.

## **Attendance**

By virtue of being a member of a band, attendance at all performances and rehearsals both during school time and outside of school time is necessary and mandatory. Absence and tardiness mar the effectiveness of the entire band. A band member must realize that if he holds up a rehearsal for just one minute, he wastes one hour (if there are only 60 members in band). If he

hurts an effective performance, he has hurt not only himself, but the whole band. The good band member never has an unexcused absence or tardiness. A *bona fide* illness or death in the family is among the very few permitted excuses.

Promotions within the band, grades, awards, recommendations by the director upon graduation, even scholarships are all dependent on cooperation and reliability, and inherent therein is your attendance record.

Tardiness, whether during school time or outside school time, cannot be tolerated. To discourage tardiness and absences, careful records are kept of each student.

Band members will be given a copy of the yearly itinerary of performances and rehearsals. Parents and students will be asked to sign a statement that indicates they have read the handbook and itinerary and understand that the itinerary is a part of the course assignment and should not plan to participate in performing ensembles if the itinerary cannot be honored.

When a student is going to miss a rehearsal, the following procedure should be followed:

1. A telephone call should be made to the school in advance of the rehearsal that will be missed, when possible.
2. A note, written by the student, should be given to the director in order that a record of the absence is on file and excused.
3. Reasons that will be accepted as excused absences include:  
A. the student's illness; B. death of a family member or close friend.
4. Tardiness will be considered on the same basis as absences, with the makeup time being less.
5. Excessive tardiness or absences may result in expulsion from the performing ensembles.
6. Any student who misses two marching rehearsals for a performance will not be allowed to perform at that performance. However, the student will be required to be in attendance with the band.
7. Doctor/dental appointments, make-up tests, and D-Hall should be scheduled after school and should not interfere with band class/practice. This does not include tutorials

which are important in maintaining the eligibility and grades of a student.

8. Work may not interfere with scheduled practices or performances. Probation will occur for the student who cannot comply and may result in suspension from performances).

## **Grades**

Student grades are assigned as a result of individual student evaluations and participation.

### **Individual Student Evaluations:**

Live Auditions: Students will be asked periodically to play a live audition for evaluation or chair order and band placement.

### **Individual Student Participation Evaluations:**

1. Participation evaluations fall into the following categories:
  - A. Attendance
  - B. Punctuality
  - C. Uniform and instrument inspections
2. Report periods are designed for those students who wish to make up points lost on uniform or instrument inspection in order that they may keep their participation grade at 100%. (Specific information is given under attendance policies.)

Students who are ineligible for extra curricular activities will be given graded assignments until they become eligible for the regular activities.

## **Demerit and Merit System**

### **Demerits:**

1. Being tardy more than one time in a week to rehearsal.
2. Not calling director for permission for being late or absent from practice or performance.
3. Tardy to performance or rehearsal.
4. Talking during rehearsal or while waiting to perform or march to stadium.
5. Showing disrespect to officers or directors.
6. Not being in complete uniform.

7. Eating or drinking without permission while wearing any part of your uniform or at rehearsal.
8. Failure to attend every game with the band whether performing or not.
9. Leaving any clothing parts, equipment, or music at home, school, or on the bus.
10. Using obscenities.
11. Any act committed after director's warning.
12. Unexcused absence to performance or rehearsal.
13. Chewing gum at rehearsal/performance.
14. Not having flip folder and all music inside folder at rehearsal or performance.
15. Inspection:
  - a. dirty shoes, hat, uniform
  - b. chewing gum
  - c. wearing jewelry
  - d. equipment in improper order.
16. Not playing off music by designated time.
17. Not playing instrument when instructed to do so.
18. Improperly worn uniform parts.

Directors will deal with unusual circumstances on an individual basis. Some other forms of punishment may be assigned in lieu of demerits.

**Merits:**

1. Participation in district, area, and state band.
2. Participation in solo and ensemble contest.
3. Private lessons on your band instrument.
4. Extra practice time arranged with director.
5. Performance at spring festival
6. Others at discretion of directors.

**Uniforms**

When in uniform (either with the band or elsewhere), you are on parade; wear it with pride and dignity. Your personal appearance

and your actions represent not only you but your school and your community.

A uniform is issued to each band member at the beginning of school at no cost to the student. Each student will furnish his own black marching shoes, band shirt, and black socks. The student will sign a small contract card on receipt of the uniform. A \$20.00 cleaning fee will be charged for normal cleaning. Students are responsible for cleaning their uniforms when they are excessively soiled or for repairs when needed.

When the uniform is worn, the entire suit will be worn as directed, and not just part of it. All parts are to be worn correctly.

## **Instruments and Equipment**

In most cases, instruments will be furnished by the students. The larger, more expensive instruments will be furnished by the school. In all cases, use extreme care in the handling and use of your instrument. Those using school instruments are responsible for any damage incurred while the instrument is checked out to them. Those students using school instruments will sign an instrument checkout card that indicates the condition of the instrument when checked out to them. Use your own instrument and no one else's. Do not let someone else use your instrument. If possible, insure your instrument. Be sure that you have a written record at home of the make, serial number and finish. This information is necessary if the instrument should be lost or stolen. Keep your instrument in good condition at all times. Keep it clean, inside and out, valves or slide working, mouthpiece clean, keys and wood oiled, clarinets swabbed, etc. Keep a supply of valve or slide oil, extra reed, swab, or whatever you need. Have a music lyre. Drums, cymbals, and mallet instruments must be in cases or covers before leaving on a trip. Percussionists, be sure that you have a strap/harness and sticks before you leave. Keep the carriers/straps clean.

In the Fall, you will be issued a marching folio. You are responsible for it and its contents. Percussionists will furnish sticks/mallets for the instruments they play. Use extreme care in handling music. Concert music will be issued to each person, but be

very careful with it when you take it out for practice, and be sure it is returned for the next rehearsal, whether you are present or not.

**Each person is responsible for his own equipment on trips. You should make sure it gets unloaded and put away when you return home.**

Help keep the band room as neat and clean as possible. **DO NOT** use it as a locker for all of your personal equipment. Use care with chairs and music stands.

## **Instructions on the Care and Wearing of the Uniform and Inspection Notes**

1. **Hat:** Hat should be worn straight on top of the head. Hair extending below the collar will be worn inside the hat. (this includes everyone.)
2. **Coat:** Coat should be worn completely buttoned and fastened at all times in public. (This includes hooks on collar)
3. **Trousers:** Trousers should be worn loose and slightly above the waist. Trousers should be adjusted as long as possible and still have no break in the crease
4. **Shoes:** Shoes should be kept black and polished. Solid black socks will be worn.
5. **Brass Instruments:** Valves and slides must work freely. Mouthpieces must be clean and horns spotless.
6. **Woodwind Instruments:** Reeds should be clean and without flaws. Instruments should be free of dust and dirt under the keys. Pads should be in good condition without frays
7. **Percussion Instruments:** Drumheads should be clean and drum shells should be cleaned and waxed. Straps bleached clean and white; cymbals polished; bells cleaned and polished.
8. No jewelry should be worn except Senior rings. Pierced earrings must be individually checked and director will allow these if they are not lavish and conspicuous. Nail polish that is noticeable is not allowed.

9. Auxiliary units may use makeup; however, all wind and percussion players will refrain from the use of lipsticks or noticeable cosmetics.
10. Music folder and lyre must be presented during inspection.

## **Uniform Accessories and Cleaning Fees**

Each band member will be responsible for the purchase of certain uniform accessories and for paying a uniform cleaning fee. (This fee is not a deposit; it will not be returned.) Although costs fluctuate, an effort is made to keep these costs minimal.

The following is an estimate of the cost of the uniform accessories:

Marching Shoes	\$26.00
Band Shirt	\$15.00
Cleaning Fee	<u>\$20.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$61.00</b>

Marching shoes and band shirts are ordered at the beginning of each school year. Cleaning fees are due before uniform check out begins.

Another required accessory is black socks. They must come up high enough on the leg that no skin shoes when the student is marching or sitting.

## **Festivals**

Festivals and trips are carefully selected with an out-of-state trip scheduled every three years. The out-of-state trip is dependent on the band earning enough money from fundraisers by the cut-off date. Trips on the years between the out-of-state trip will be to festivals in our area.

The profit from the approved fund raising projects is put into the trip fund and becomes the property of the band to be used for a trip. (The profits will not be refunded to you under any circumstances.)

To be eligible for the trip, students must meet UIL academic standards and the band's monetary requirement. Students must:

1. Participate satisfactorily in the school's fund raising activities; or

2. Pay for their portion of the trip themselves with the understanding that after the announced cut-off date, there will be no money refunded, since the band has to make all payments in advance.

## **Travel**

**Contests:** The Bandera Bulldog Band participates in the U.I.L. Solo and Ensemble, Marching, Concert, and Sight-Reading Contests. A student must be eligible under U.I.L. rules for competition and must meet standards set by the band staff to participate in these contests.

**Region, Area, and All-State Band:** Students are eligible to compete for positions in these groups on a voluntary basis.

**Football Games:** The Bulldog Band travels to all varsity football games to perform at halftime ceremonies and act as a supportive unit for the team.

All students will travel as a group via school-approved transportation. Students may make other arrangements for returning from these events if granted permission by the director:

1. If the student desires to ride home with parents, a written parental request must be submitted to the band office. On football trips, this request must be submitted by noon on the day of the trip. On other trips, twenty-four hour notice prior to departure time is required.
2. Your parent or person approved by the administration must come to the director after the game to pick you up. We can't turn you over to anyone who has not been approved.

When in another town for a football game, be very careful of remarks made to local students and citizens. Show good sportsmanship at all times.

## **Student Conduct**

No student shall possess, use, transmit or attempt to possess, use, or transmit, or be under the influence of tobacco, any controlled substance or alcoholic beverage, or dangerous drug as defined by law while on school premises during any school term or off school premises at a school sponsored activity, function, or event.

Normal singing on the bus is all right, but no loud singing or yelling is permitted. Be quiet while going through towns. Be considerate of others in bus ventilation.

It is impossible to say exactly what time the band will return from trips. You will always be informed during the week of an out-of-town game what approximate return time is. Please tell your parents. Please make arrangements ahead of time to have someone there to meet you since the directors cannot leave until all students have been picked up.

## Football Game Procedures

The appearance (at all times—not just on the field) that the band makes at football games is very important. Make the band's part of the game an outstanding one. Many people from outside of Bandera will see our band at every game, and the impression they receive has a great deal to do with the building of the spirit and reputation of the band. Let's make our image a favorable one.

1. Each person is responsible for his/her equipment at all times.
2. Stay seated when the bus is moving. All rowdiness is to be reported by officers.
3. File off buses in an orderly manner. Do not crowd or push. Do not leave buses until the band director instructs you to do so.
4. Get you instrument ready for inspection.
5. Be properly uniformed at all times. (Never should you be seen in public with your coat off, collar unbuttoned, nor hat worn incorrectly, etc.)
6. Get into your place as quickly as possible.
7. Sit in assigned seats and **do not move about during the games.**
8. Do not take any unauthorized refreshments during the game. After the halftime show, refreshments may (or may not) be authorized.
9. No blowing an instrument or drumming at any time the band is not playing. Drums are to play **ONLY** with the full band or with the yells unless otherwise authorized.

10. No one but band personnel is allowed in the band section. Ex-band students or special visitors are sometimes exceptions, but only by special permission from the director.
11. Watch the director/drum major at all times when he is standing in front of the band. Get music up rapidly when it is called. Watch closely for cut-offs in the music as the band will stop playing when play resumes on the field.
12. File orderly from the stands to the formation before the halftime show. Do not play instruments; if it is cold, blow air through instruments to warm up. Get quickly into formation so the entrance onto the field can be made as soon as halftime begins. Do not loiter around out of formation on the end zone or on the sidelines.
13. Treat other guests and directors politely at all times.

### **Bus Clean-Up**

1. The entire band is responsible for the condition of the buses.
2. A Drum Major will notify each driver that they need to wait until the buses have been inspected before they leave.
3. Make sure all trash is passed to the front of the bus during the trip in order that the bus stays “tidy.”
4. Those who are in charge of bus clean up are to come inside and quickly put their things away and get back to the bus.
5. The person in charge of each bus should make sure all lost articles are taken from the bus and turned in to the director’s office.
6. When you think the bus is clean, ask the Drum Major to check it and see if it is satisfactory.
7. Failure to have 100% implementation by 100% of the band personnel may result in all lunches, etc. being prohibited on the next trip.

### **Awards**

- A. **Letter Jacket:** A letter jacket will be awarded to those high school seniors who meet the standards of the Jacket Policy.

### Lettering Point Requirements:

In order to letter, a student must earn a total of 30 points by his/her senior year. Points are structured so that each student may earn their lettering jacket by the end of their junior year.

Points may be earned by the following activities:

Marching Band. . . . .	3 points per year
Concert Band . . . . .	3 points per year
Jazz Ensemble. . . . .	1 point per year
Area Marching Contest . . . . .	3 points per year
Region Band Tryouts*. . . . .	2 points per year
Region Band Member*. . . . .	3 points per year
Area Band Member*. . . . .	3 points per year
All-State Band Member* . . . . .	5 points per year
Band Officer. . . . .	2 points per year
Section Leader. . . . .	1 point per year
Solo and Ensemble. . . . .	2 points per year
State Solo and Ensemble. . . . .	2 points per year

\* Includes concert band and jazz band auditions.

A breakdown of points earned at minimum participation follows:

<b>Freshman Year:</b>	Marching Band	3 points
	Concert Band	3 points
	Area Marching	3 points
	Region Band Tryouts	2 points
	Solo & Ensemble	<u>2 points</u>
	<b>Total for Year</b>	<b>13 points</b>
<b>Sophomore Year</b>	Marching Band	3 points
	Concert Band	3 points
	Region Band Tryouts	2 points
	Solo & Ensemble	<u>2 points</u>
	<b>Total for Year</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Junior Year</b>	Marching Band	3 points
	Concert Band	3 points
	Area Marching	3 points
	Solo & Ensemble	<u>2 points</u>
	<b>Total for Year</b>	<b><u>11 points</u></b>
	<b>Total Points</b>	<b>34 points</b>

- B. **Director's Award:** A student who has been recognized for his/her leadership, musicianship, and by nomination of fellow band members and confirmation of director, shall be awarded the Director's Award.
- C. **Band Awards:** as designated by the director(s). Outstanding bandsman in Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior Class.



**An Invitation . . .**

Please consider your family becoming 2010-2011 members of our Bandera Music Boosters Association. Some of the benefits of your participation and support:

Enables special "extras" that contribute to an outstanding music program at BHS

Involvement with other organization families.

**To: Bandera Music Boosters Association**

**Yes!** *We want to help.*

*Please enroll our family as 2011-2012 members of the*  
**Bandera Music Boosters Association**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/St./Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Attached is \$10 for our membership.*

I have read the **BANDERA HIGH SCHOOL BAND HANDBOOK** and understand everything that concerns and is required of me/him/her.

Signature  
of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature  
Of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

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

(Please sign card and return it to the Band Director.)

**Travel Permission**

\_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to travel with the Bulldog Band to and from all regularly scheduled contests and performances.

Signature  
Of Parent Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please sign card and return it to the Band Director.)

## **Parent/Student UIL Marching Band Acknowledgement Form**

No Student may be required to attend practice for marching band for more than eight hours of rehearsal outside the academic school day per calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). This provision applies to students in all components of the marching band.

On performance days (football games, competitions and other public performances) bands may hold up to one additional hour of warm-up and practice beyond the scheduled warm-up time at the performance site. Multiple performances on the same day do not allow for additional practice and/or warm-up time.

Examples Of Activities Subject To The UIL Eight Hour Rule:

- a) Marching Band Rehearsal (Both Full Band And Components)
- b) Any Marching Band Group Instructional Activity
- c) Breaks
- d) Announcements
- e) Debriefing and Viewing Marching Band Videos
- f) Playing Off Marching Band Music
- g) Marching Band Sectionals (Both Director And Student Led)
- h) Clinics For The Marching Band Or Any Of Its Components

The Following Activities Are Not Included In The Eight Hour Time Allotment:

- a) Travel Time To And From Rehearsals And/Or Performances
- b) Rehearsal Set-Up Time
- c) Pep Rallies, Parades And Other Public Performances
- d) Instruction And Practice For Music Activities Other Than Marching Band And Its Components

NOTE: An extensive Q&A for the eight hour rule can be found on the Music page of the UIL web site at: [www.uiil.utexas.edu](http://www.uiil.utexas.edu)

“We have read and understand the Eight-Hour Rule for Marching Band as stated above and agree to abide by these regulations.”

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

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





