



Bloomington High School Rajun' Bull Band

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A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Bloomingdale High School *Rajun' Bull Band* Parents and Students:

Welcome to the Bloomingdale High School Band family! This school year gives us all the opportunity to continue the outstanding tradition of superior performances that are the trademark of the Bloomingdale Band Program. Congratulations on your decision to be a part of one of the finest organizations in the state. The Bloomingdale Band provides musical activities that encompass a wide scope and allows everyone a chance to reach their highest possible level of excellence.

The fall emphasizes the excellence of our outstanding marching band. Our performances will include home and away football games, local parades, and the FBA Marching Assessment. The goal of the Marching Band will be to continue to provide a challenging half-time performance that is musically educational for its members while offering a high level of entertainment to the audience.

The Bloomingdale High School Band Program also offers three Concert Ensembles and two Jazz Ensembles that have developed a reputation of musical excellence through concert and Assessment participation. The Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Ensembles will perform several public concerts and Assessments at the District and State levels by the Florida Bandmasters Association. These ensembles also perform at National Concert Band Festivals on the annual spring trip.

In addition to ensemble performances, members of the Bloomingdale High School Band Program distinguish themselves through individual efforts in All-County, All-State, Solo and Ensemble Assessment and other Honor Band Activities.

The Bloomingdale High School *Crimson Guard* is a nationally recognized group that offers activities to showcase the talents of our color guard members during the winter and spring months. The *Guard* will compete and travel to local, regional, and national events.

Hard-working students, dedicated staff members, an active parent group, a supportive administration, and our community all combine to make it possible for the Bloomingdale Band Program to offer an outstanding array of musical opportunities. Students are expected to set and obtain high goals for themselves and their program. The rewards of meeting those goals are immeasurable in student development as well-rounded human beings. As a result, students will develop musically, emotionally, mentally, socially, and physically during their time in the program.

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents, administrators, staff, and Directors as a convenient source of information regarding the varied aspects of the Bloomingdale High School Band Program. Although this handbook attempts to cover every aspect of the program, the true key to understanding is to communicate with the Director often. Please do not ever hesitate to contact the Director for any reason. The most important aspect of the program is positive student involvement!

Go Bulls!

Jordan Frazee
Director of Bands

A LETTER FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Bloomingdale Families,

Welcome to an exciting year with the Rajun' Bull Band! We are thrilled to embark on another journey of excellence and musical achievement. For the entirety of its existence, the Rajun' Bull Band has consistently received superior ratings, a testament to the hard work and dedication of our talented students and supportive community.

This year promises to be no exception, with a calendar full of exhilarating performances at football games, parades, pep rallies, school events, and more. We are particularly proud of our past participation in the prestigious London New Year's Parade, showcasing our band on an international stage. There is no doubt that the Rajun' Bull Band is the heartbeat of our school that establishes our school culture with amazing performances by our drumline, Crimson Guard, and marching band.

On behalf of our administration and staff, we look forward to continuing this tradition of excellence and making unforgettable memories together. Thank you for your unwavering support, and let's make this year the best one yet for the Rajun' Bull Band!

Go Bulls!

Marcos Rodriguez, Ed. D.
Principal

A STATEMENT OF BAND POLICY

In order to help band members and parents understand their areas of responsibility, a statement of band policy is herein set forth. Becoming familiar with this policy will help each band member make the most of this fine opportunity to become a better person through his/her association with music.

Traditions are important to organizations such as bands. Our tradition is one of hard work and *superior* performances all over the state of Florida. Hard work is the secret behind this tradition, and it will take a maximum effort from you to maintain *superior* standards set by those before you. Hard work will enable us to continue as one of the most comprehensive high school bands in the state of Florida.

The Director firmly believes the student should improve through daily progress. In the instrumental music program, the Director feels that when a student loses the desire to improve themselves in order to make a better contribution to his fellow performer, the student is perhaps wasting the time of the school, fellow students, and the community by continuing the program. **The Director is convinced that the happiest student is one who is consistently improving through regular habits of practice and daily progress.** They must not only know right from wrong but must be able to stand for principles. They must develop a high sense of purpose toward which they are willing to work.

I, Jordan Frazee, intend to conduct the instrumental music program in a manner that will encourage all students to achieve these goals.

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE at all rehearsals, performances, etc. is REQUIRED. Band is a Co-Curricular program in Hillsborough County - this is very different from an extra-curricular subject. Attendance at all band functions will be an enormous part of each student's grade in band.

As a member of the Rajun' Bull Band, you play a critically important role in the success of our Band Program. Just as any sport, the band works as a finely trained team. It is essential that every member be present for ALL functions, which include rehearsals, concerts, assessments, football games, and out-of-town trips. Any member who is absent makes the band less effective and has an adverse effect on the morale of the band. Parents: if you plan to schedule an out of town vacation or doctor's appointment, please check the band calendar as to not schedule these during a rehearsal or performance. It is important to notify the Director at the beginning of the year of any vacations or appointments.

PROCEDURE FOR ABSENCE

Naturally, sickness and other hardships make it necessary to miss on a rare occasion. The PARENT must notify the Director as far IN ADVANCE as possible if a student must miss a rehearsal or performance by emailing Mr. Frazee with the date and reason for absence.

AN ABSENCE WILL FALL INTO (1) OF (3) CATEGORIES:

Permitted

(Advance notice given was at least 10 school days)

Reason: BSHS-sanctioned activity

Student will not lose points for the activity/event

Note: A permitted absence may not be granted for a day on which the band gives public performance.

Excused

Reason: Documented family emergency or illness

Director and staff must receive notification within 2 days of returning to school

Excused absences may be eligible for partial credit through an approved makeup assignment. Due to the performance-based nature of band, missed performances cannot be replicated and may not be made up for full credit

Notification may be given by parent/guardian for 1 absence every 9 weeks.

Any additional absences during that same nine-week period must be accompanied by official documentation from a licensed medical professional or other applicable official documentation.

Unexcused

Reason: Any absence, which is not permitted or excused

Student will lose points for the activity/event; no make-up is allowed.

Consequences for Absences from Rehearsals/Performances

1. The first unexcused absence to a performance or rehearsal (outside school hours) may result in losing third quarter privilege and loss of points for that rehearsal.
2. The second unexcused absence may result in losing third quarter privilege, loss of points for that rehearsal, and being prohibited from performing at that Friday football game.

3. Missing two band classes may result in being removed from the performance that week.
4. A student that has lost performance privileges for any reason may still be required to attend all band functions, sit in the stands, and play in uniform or additional points for that performance may be deducted.

Please understand that rehearsals and performances are the same as exams in other classes. Since there is no way to “make up” these events, missing a rehearsal or performance is equivalent to not taking an exam and receiving a zero as a grade. However, ANY outside rehearsal or performance missed for an acceptable reason must be made up by completing an assignment approved by the Director.

Band is a Performing Art, and it is impossible to replicate a performance. Make-up work for missing a performance for any reason CANNOT be taken for full credit.

FAILURE TO MAKE UP AN ABSENCE WILL RESULT IN LOWERING OF THE BAND GRADE.

PROCEDURE FOR TARDY

TARDINESS will not be tolerated. Tardies cause delays in time schedules and are discourteous and irritating to your fellow band members who have to wait for you. All tardies are unexcused unless excused by valid reasons or a written pass. The procedure for tardies is the same as that for absences.

EXCUSED - (Student does not lose points - make-up work may still be assigned)

UNEXCUSED - (Student loses up to 1/3 of points for the activity/event; no make-up will be allowed)

UNACCEPTABLE EXCUSES:	SOLUTION:
“Had to work.”	Make arrangements with your employer early.
“Couldn’t get a ride.”	Be responsible; check with your section leader.
“Didn’t know about it.”	Be responsible; you’ve been given advance notice.
“Parents are leaving town.”	Clear your schedule in advance.
“Parents made me stay home to do work or study.”	Attendance is required, and being absent for your co-curricular band class will have a negative effect on your grade/GPA
“Had an appointment.”	Do not schedule appointments during a band activity.
“I had to take the SAT/ACT.”	These tests are offered all year. Schedule accordingly to not conflict with band events.
“I had tickets to a concert/sporting event.”	As much as I love music and sports, we have to make sacrifices for the commitment we have made to the band program!

“It was my birthday.”

Personal celebrations, including birthdays, do not qualify as excused absences.

1. Students do NOT pick and choose the band events in which they wish to participate. If the band performs or rehearses, everyone is to be there every time!
2. Conflicts with other activities (ie: sport practice or other school related activities) are to be resolved as far IN ADVANCE as possible (not the day of the event).
3. Rain does not cancel a rehearsal or performance. In the case of inclement weather, report to the auditorium for rehearsal.
4. Performances take precedence over practice concerning another school activity.
5. Only reasons of GRAVE EMERGENCY should be used for missing a performance or rehearsal. These arrangements must be made in advance.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY/COMMITMENT TO BAND PROGRAM

MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS IN THE RAJUN' BULL BAND

Any student at Bloomingdale High School may be a member of the BSHS Rajun' Bull band program (including Crimson Guard) under the following stipulations:

1. Must be legally registered for Band class within the regular school day.
2. Must maintain an acceptable 2.0 grade point average to be eligible to participate in outside-of-school activities. (Per Hillsborough County School Board)
3. Must accept financial responsibilities for instrument, equipment, uniform, cleaning, and travel charges.
4. Must meet minimum performance/audition standards set by the Director.
5. Must complete “Home Campus” per the district.

Is there an audition to be in band?

No. If you are registered for band 1-4 or instrumental techniques 1-4 you are already in the band program! However, the following activities listed below will require an audition:

Crimson Guard
Marching Percussion (Battery)
Jazz Ensemble 1
Symphonic Band
Wind Ensemble
Leadership

Based on the audition results, a student may be allowed to be in the performing groups listed above. Auditioning for these groups is optional. The Director and staff will have final say as to the size and membership of these ‘audition only’ groups.

NON-PERFORMING STATUS

Students may be placed on Non-Performing (Probationary) Status if they fail to meet program expectations.

Reasons may include:

1. Excessive absences
2. Failure to participate in class

3. Failure to complete pass-offs or playing tests
4. Repeated tardiness
5. Poor rehearsal preparedness

While on Non-Performing Status:

1. Student must continue attending all required activities
2. Student remains enrolled in band
3. Student will not perform at games, concerts, or events
4. Student continues to receive grades
5. Student may be assigned additional work to regain eligibility

Placement on Non-Performing Status is at the sole discretion of the Director and may occur with or without prior warning depending on circumstances. Students may return to performing status only after demonstrating improvement in attendance, participation, and musical preparedness as determined by the Director.

GRADING PROCEDURE

Class Participation/Employability: 10%

This includes, but is not limited to: having your instrument, music, mouthpiece, mutes, reeds, oil, pencil, etc. at all times. If your instrument needs repair, you are to hang onto the mouthpiece and reeds (if applicable) so that a loaner may be arranged. Any projects that may be assigned will fall under this category.

Individual Testing & Music Theory: 25%

Tests will include but are not limited to: individual and section playing tests. Scales, exercises or excerpts from music may be selected as testing material. Students will also complete music theory assignments.

Rehearsals and Performances: 65%

This includes ALL after-school rehearsals and in school rehearsals for the marching, jazz, concert bands, and Crimson Guard events. The rehearsal schedule is online, so please make any and all appointments outside of these times, as appointments during band rehearsals and performances will most likely be counted as unexcused. Remember, any added rehearsals or concerts will receive at least a two-week notice.

Remember, missing a performance is inexcusable and will result in an 'F' for that performance. If all of these requirements are fulfilled 100% and the student has shown exceptional dedication and improvement, a student will earn an 'A'.

HOME CAMPUS/ATHLETIC CLEARANCE PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR BAND/GUARD

The application for extracurricular participation will only be submitted electronically and can be found on the Hillsborough County Public Schools Athletics Department website at:

www.nfhslearn.com or can be directly accessed on the Athletic Clearance website: <https://athleticclearance.fhsaahome.org/>

All students participating in Athletics, JROTC, Band, and Band Auxiliary will be required to complete, submit, and receive verification of clearance prior to being allowed to participate in

extracurricular participation at any Hillsborough County Public School. This includes participation in conditioning, tryouts, practice, contests and approved off-season activities.

SCHEDULING ISSUES

If for some reason Band is not on your schedule, please contact me ASAP so I can fix it for you. No one is EVER removed or cut from the program without notice from the director. I will be able to correct your schedule, so Band is a part of your education. Please contact me personally via email at jordan.fraze@hcps.net if you have an issue with your schedule concerning Band, and I will personally address your concerns with the administration.

MUSICAL GROWTH - LESSONS & HONOR BANDS

PRIVATE LESSONS

Private lessons are strongly encouraged. The value of one-on-one instruction with a professional on a student's instrument cannot be overstated. Private instruction is key to the advancement of individual skills and integral in achieving a student's highest potential. To obtain a private instructor, please contact the Director.

ALL-STATE BANDS

An honor band in which the students must audition to be a part of. Auditions are held in September and music can be obtained from the Director, however, it is highly suggested that each student purchase the books in which the exercises are in. Students who qualify will travel to the Florida All-State Clinic, which is held here in Tampa every year in January. They will rehearse with the top students from across the state and present a concert at the end of the clinic.

ALL-COUNTY BAND

A select group of students (in two categories, grades 9-10 and 11-12) who pass an audition, which is held usually at the end of marching season. Students who make these bands will participate with the top students in Hillsborough County for a 3-day clinic and then present a concert at the end of the third day.

USF FESTIVAL OF WINDS AND FSU TRI-STATE

This group of honor bands perform every year in early December. The Director recommends a number of talented students every year based on their preparedness and participation in All-State and All-County auditions. Students chosen for these bands will rehearse with top students from Florida, Georgia, and Alabama, and present a concert at the respective university.

MASTER MUSICIAN

A program that is designed for students who want to excel at their instrument and is interested in potential scholarships for summer music camps. This is highly recommended if you plan on interviewing to become a leader. If you complete the portfolio and pass the music theory test for the Master Musician Program, you are eligible to apply for band camp scholarship money.

SOLO & ENSEMBLE

Held in February every year. Students may prepare a musical selection for district level evaluation. Every student has the opportunity to participate in playing a solo and/or an ensemble as long as the music is on the Florida Bandmasters Association approved list. Students who earn the rating of Superior on a grade 5 or higher have the opportunity to perform at the State level for college professors.

AWARDS - BAND

ACTIVITY POINTS

Activity Points can be achieved by completing the items below within a given school year. This is a way for us to recognize you at the end of the year for the extra hard work you have done. The only thing that will keep you from accumulating points for a given year is if you have been suspended for any reason. See Below for ways to obtain points for the current school year.

August-December

Audition for All State Band	2
Marching Band officer	1
Perfect Attendance Quarter 1	2
Participate Marching MPA	2
Audition for All County	2
Participate in Fundraiser	1
USF Festival of Winds	1
FSU Tri-State	1
Perfect Attendance Quarter 2	2

January-March

Participate in All State	3
Participate in TMYO	2
Participate in Bay Winds at USF	2
Participate in a Community Band	2
Participate in All County Band	3
Participate at Jazz Band MPA	2
District Solo and Ensemble	3 (per event. Up to 4 Events)
Participate at Concert MPA	2
Switch Instrument per Director	1
Participate with another Band	1
Perfect Attendance Quarter 3	2

April-June

Participate All County Jazz Band	2
Participate at State Solo/Ens	3
Master Musician	3
Play all 12 Major Scales from memory	3
Write a research paper (500 words)	1
Private Lessons (proof provided)	1 point per lesson, must be on primary wind/perc. inst.
Perfect Attendance Quarter 4	2

Here are the awards for a specific school year:

Bronze Award 15-19 Points

Silver Award 20-24 points

Gold Award 25 or Higher

If you are able to average a gold medal for each year in school and accumulate 100 points:

Platinum Award 100 points over 4 years (trophy and name on plaque)

SEMPER FIDELIS AWARD

Each year, the Semper Fidelis award is presented to Senior students who display traits that the Marine Corps consider essential to being a good leader: endurance, knowledge, unselfishness, dependability, enthusiasm and loyalty. The “Semper Fidelis” award for Musical Excellence is presented by the United States Marines Youth Foundation, Inc. and the Marine Corps League in recognition of diligence, dedication and musical excellence as a performing high school bandsman.

LOUIS ARMSTRONG JAZZ AWARD

The Louis Armstrong Jazz Award was inaugurated in 1974 with the consent of his widow shortly after this great jazz artist died in 1971. It honors the outstanding Senior jazz musician in the band program.

DIRECTOR AWARD

The director award recognizes a Senior band student's outstanding leadership qualities as well as responsibility, maturity, selflessness, and musicianship.

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA AWARD

The Sousa Award is the pinnacle of achievement in a high school band. Introduced in 1955 to honor the top Senior student in the high school band, the John Philip Sousa Band Award® recognizes superior musicianship and outstanding dedication. It was created with the approval of Helen Sousa Albert and Priscilla Sousa, daughters of the famous composer and bandmaster.

AWARDS - CRIMSON GUARD

BEST NEW MEMBER AWARD

The Best New Member Award recognizes a new member who has shown an incredible development of skill and leadership in their inaugural Marching and Winter seasons of the Crimson Guard.

MOST IMPROVED AWARD

The Most Improved Award recognizes a Crimson Guard member who has shown significant improvement over the course of Marching and Winter Seasons.

ON YOUR TOES AWARD

The On Your Toes Award is presented to an outstanding member of the Crimson Guard who showcases talent and leadership at the highest level.

ENSEMBLES

RAJUN' BULL BAND

Operates primarily during the fall and is composed of EVERY student in the band program. As the marching band is a critically important component of the Bloomingdale community, every instrumental music student must put in their fair share of work to ensure the success of the band. Basics of marching and outdoor playing are stressed. To be a part of the marching band the student must be in a concert band or Crimson Guard. Band camp is required and is generally held the week before school starts. The marching band provides in-game spirit and support for the football team and puts on an exciting halftime show every Friday there is a football game. They also play at every school pep rally. There is only one REQUIRED (graded) Saturday that the band meets: The culmination of the marching season is a Saturday performance for the Florida Bandmasters Association Music Performance Assessment. The Rajun' Bull Band rehearses every Tuesday and Thursday from 6pm-8pm. This schedule lasts until the end of October. If the football team makes the playoffs, the band will travel with the football team and support them.

WIND ENSEMBLE

An audition-based band designed for the most advanced musicians. An emphasis is placed on the musicianship skills required for performance of sophisticated literature. This band is designed to have 1-3 persons on a part. Members are required to participate in Solo and Ensemble Music Performance Assessments. Membership is based on previous years success and musical growth. Members must participate in marching band. Participation in All-State, All-County, Master Musician, and Solo & Ensemble all play a factor in the Director(s) decision. Private lessons are expected. Contact Mr. Frazee for approved private lessons teachers.

SYMPHONIC BAND

An audition-based group designed for musical growth. This is a larger ensemble with multiple people on a part. Emphasis is placed on the musicianship skills required for advanced high school literature. Fundamentals and technique building are priorities. Members are highly encouraged to participate in All-State, All-County, Master Musician, and Solo & Ensemble. Members must participate in marching band. Private lessons are highly encouraged.

CONCERT BAND

Open to all students at BSHS and is designed for the musical growth of our newer members. This is a larger ensemble with multiple people on a part. Emphasis is placed on the musicianship skills required for high school literature. Fundamentals and technique-building are priorities. Members are highly encouraged to participate in All-State, All-County, Master Musician, and Solo & Ensemble. Members must participate in marching band. Private lessons are highly encouraged.

JAZZ ENSEMBLES

Designed for those students who have an interest in performing jazz music. Students develop an understanding of swing, latin, rock, funk, and contemporary styles of repertoire and performance. Instrumentalists must be in one of the concert bands and marching band.

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

Students are not only encouraged to play solo literature for Solo & Ensemble, but also to participate in chamber ensemble groups and perform. These ensembles will have the opportunity to perform at the District Solo & Ensemble Music Performance Assessment, and the possibility of performing at State S&E, the spring concert, and other various opportunities that may arise.

CRIMSON GUARD

An award winning color guard ensemble. It is designed to develop movement to music incorporating dance, flag, saber, rifle, and props. This ensemble performs varieties of dance styles including lyrical, jazz, military, and modern. The Crimson Guard also performs at various competitions beginning in January and the spring band concert (PRISM). The Crimson Guard is an audition-based ensemble. Uniforms vary from year to year. Email or see Ms. Strahan for details (Brianna.Strahan@hcps.net).

UNIFORMS

Uniforms are an extremely important part of the BSHS band program. They give us an identity, a sense of pride, and a clean-cut professional look. They add a measure of class and respect to our organization.

BAND UNIFORMS – HOW ARE THEY ISSUED?

Band uniforms will be issued to each member of the band. We will first issue uniforms to the Seniors, then Juniors, Sophomores, and Freshmen. The uniforms will be issued during the summer. Dates and times are available on the calendar found on the Cuttime Website. Students will be called into the uniform room in certain groups. Uniforms may also be issued during the school day through band class depending upon the availability of our volunteer band booster parents at those times. The uniforms will be kept at the school in the Uniform Room.

MARCHING BAND UNIFORM

A Bloomingdale High School Marching Band uniform is rented out to all wind and percussionists, which includes a standard issue jacket and jumper and shako (except tuba players). Students will purchase black marching shoes and socks, ball cap, I.D. tag, and black gloves (except percussionists). Students also are required to have the current year marching t-shirt and shorts under their uniform.

WIND ENSEMBLE/SYMPHONIC BAND UNIFORM

Students will wear a black dress shirt, black tuxedo pants, long black socks, and Dinkles. Students will have the opportunity to purchase this concert attire through the boosters at the beginning of each year.

UNIFORM POLICY

In order for our group to look uniform for marching band:

- **HAIR** must be put up under your hat. **DO NOT** use temporary hair colors that may bleed into the hat or on the uniform.
- **NO COLORED NAIL POLISH.** Students must remove colored nail polish before uniform inspection. **NO EXCEPTIONS! EVEN if your gloves cover your fingertips.**
- **MAKEUP** should be used in moderation.

A Special Note about Earrings/Piercings

Unfortunately, there has been so much dispute over what was and was not acceptable about piercings while in uniform, the Director has no choice but to ban **ALL JEWELRY AND PIERCINGS WHILE IN UNIFORM (Concert and Marching).** After checking with a physician, fresh piercings cannot close in a few hours time and therefore will not be an excuse. Please plan to pierce your body when it will not interfere with your ability to be in proper uniform and therefore will not interfere with your grade.

THE DUNGEON (UNIFORM ROOM)

The Dungeon is the uniform room staffed by our volunteer band parents. Our goal is to make all students look and feel great in their band uniform. New volunteers are always welcome.

ALTERATIONS TO UNIFORMS

Any necessary alterations will be done by the uniform chair committee.

HOW DO I TAKE CARE OF MY UNIFORM?

The worst enemy of band uniform fabric is perspiration. Because of this, students must wear the current year theme t-shirt and shorts under their uniforms. Second only to this is dirt that can be embedded into the material, doing permanent damage. Do not attempt to wash or hand clean the uniform in any manner! The uniforms are dry-cleaned professionally through the Dungeon and are part of your band fees. Please be careful not to get food stains on the uniforms or let them drag on the ground or floor of the bus. Take pride in looking your best!

LOST OR DAMAGED UNIFORMS

The Band purchases a band uniform at a cost of approximately \$500.00. Students will treat their uniforms with respect and care. Any damage to a uniform will be assessed to the student. A lost shako hat is \$100.00, a lost or broken hat box is \$25.00.

UNIFORMS/BAND FEES/PURCHASES

We understand that the beginning of the school year can be expensive. Please realize that the shoes, concert uniform, and gloves are yours to keep and therefore are one time purchases unless they are lost or outgrown. If there are financial problems with the cost of being a member, please contact Mr. Frazee to arrange for a payment schedule with the assistance of the Band Boosters and fundraising.

CASH, CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD?

The band offers payment plans as well as numerous fundraisers to try to offset some of these expenses. Families experiencing extreme financial hardships should see Mr. Frazee privately for possible alternative arrangements.

Checks should be made payable to 'Bloomingdale Band Boosters' (except for instrument and uniform rental fees which will be in the student's My Payments Plus account).

Credit card payments are accepted through your 'Cuttime' Account for your Bloomingdale Band Booster charges (a convenience fee will be applied). All money turned into the band program must be put in a payment envelope and placed in the safe located outside the Director's office at school. Payment envelopes are available upon request. Please take the time to fill out the front (student name, etc.)

FEES & REQUIRED ITEMS

County Uniform Rental Fee

The Hillsborough County School Board owns the band uniforms and sets the countywide rental fee for each student to pay. This fee is NOT paid to the Bloomingdale Band Boosters. You can pay this fee through My Payments Plus.

County Instrument Rental Fee

If you are playing a school instrument owned by Hillsborough County Schools, you will pay this fee. This fee is NOT paid to the Bloomingdale Band Boosters. You can pay this fee through My Payments Plus.

Instructional Fee

This fee helps the band with the cost of the show's musical arrangements, drill charts, drill instructors, props, and whatever else is needed for the show. This fee also includes a theme T-shirt, which is worn throughout the year for events such as open house and pep rallies.

Dry Cleaning Fee

This fee covers regular cleaning.

Shoes

Black patent leather "Dinkle" brand band shoes are worn. New students who do not own a pair or returning students who have outgrown their shoes will be fit during uniform issuance. The shoes will be ordered and here in time for our first performance.

Gloves

During the year some students may need to buy new black gloves. We keep a supply on hand in the uniform room for purchase. The gloves do require washing after each wear. Uniform inspections are made periodically.

Socks

Students are REQUIRED to wear PLAIN BLACK, (no logo) socks with the uniform, or they do not perform. If you forget yours, we always keep a small supply in the uniform room for purchase.

Concert Shirts and Pants

Concert attire for the all band members is a black long sleeve shirt and black tux pants. Concert attire will be measured for summer fittings. The pants come unhemmed from the supplier; therefore, it is your responsibility to care for them and hem these items are at the responsibility of the family. All of these items will be purchased through the uniform room. All concert pieces are owned by the family.

I.D. Tag

A lanyard I.D. tag will be attached to each uniform when it is issued. This tag becomes part of the student's uniform and is the student's responsibility to keep up with it. The I.D. tag is the means used to keep track of all the uniforms, and to lay out the uniforms by sections for performances so that they are readily accessible to the students. We need the student's cooperation in keeping the name tags intact, and in keeping the tag with the uniform at all times. During performances, the name tag should be worn under the uniform. Do not lose the tag. They are to be returned with the uniform after each performance. A FEE OF \$10.00 WILL BE CHARGED FOR A REPLACEMENT TAG.

Jazz Band Shirt

Jazz Ensemble members will be required to purchase the official Bloomingdale Jazz Ensemble shirt. They may use it yearly as long as it fits and is in clean condition. It will be \$35.

Crimson Guard Membership Fees

New members will pay \$425 for Marching Season in the fall and will include much of the apparel needed for first year members. Returning members will pay \$300 for Marching Season in the fall. Winter Guard dues will amount to \$320 which includes, costumes, design, FFCC fees, and instructional staff.

SCHOOL INSTRUMENT RENTAL POLICY

As our school instruments must be kept in good condition, we have strict guidelines for use of school owned instruments. The instrument rental fee for Hillsborough County is \$43.00. Certain instruments may not be available for renting from the school, in which the student and parent can utilize one of the many local music stores rental programs. If a student is unable to afford the rental payments, please see the Director ASAP and something will be worked out, we want you in the music program! Here are our guidelines for use of school owned instruments:

1. Once rented, you will have to read and sign a rental agreement. Parents must sign this as well. No instrument will be rented without the proper signatures.
2. Instruments must never be used by anyone other than the renter. If this should happen, the instrument will be taken back. The renter will not be allowed to rent from the school until the issue is resolved between the student, parents, and Director.
3. Instruments must be maintained properly. If an instrument is not being maintained properly, it will be taken back. The issue must be resolved between the student, the parents, and the Director.
4. Occasionally, instruments need repairs. If an instrument is in need of repair, it is the student's responsibility to bring it to the Director's attention as soon as possible. The BSHS band will NOT pay for damage caused by negligence or irresponsibility.
5. If an instrument is stolen, lost, or damaged to the point of mutilation, the renter is fully responsible and must pay for replacement. There are no exceptions to this rule.

INSTRUMENT MAINTENANCE/EQUIPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

It is important that all instruments receive regular maintenance. Basic care will prolong the life of your instrument. Woodwinds should be sure to oil the keys and wipe the instrument down with a soft cotton cloth after playing. All reed players should have no less than three reeds broken in at one time and should be kept in a reed case to avoid damage to them. Double reeds should soak their reeds before playing to avoid any cracks. Brass instruments should clean their instrument at least once a month with lukewarm water and polish it down with an appropriate cloth for your instrument. Valve instruments need to use valve oil as needed and remember to play with your fingers curved so that the valve action is straight up and down and will avoid uneven wear on the pistons.

Contact your Director if you would like to purchase your own instrument or are wanting to move up on a model so they can provide you with recommended brands and models, and possibly a connection to get your instrument at a reasonable price.

Remember, moving up to a better mouthpiece and reeds will allow you to play in tune with better tone quality and develop your embouchure. All reed players are expected to have at least three working reeds on you at all times. Clarinets should be on a 3-3.5 Vandoren Reed with preferably an M13, M15, or B45 mouthpiece and saxophones should be on a 3 Vandoren or a 3.5 Hemke reed for alto saxophone (3.5-4) for tenor and baritone saxophones). All saxophones should be using a Selmer S-80 C* mouthpiece with a metal Selmer ligature or BG Traditional ligature. Having a quality reed and mouthpiece helps assure a good sound and again, helps with intonation. Reed players are encouraged to rotate their reeds throughout the day to ensure the reeds last longer. Trumpets are to be played on a Bach 3C, Horns on a Giardinelli C8 or Farkas MDC, Trombones on a 5G, Euphoniums on a Schilke 51D, and Tubas on a Conn-Helleberg. The quicker you get these new mouthpieces, the quicker you get a better mature sound and the band gets a more unified and mature sound.

STUDENT ACCOUNTS AND FUNDRAISING

The Band Booster Organization operates as a nonprofit entity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. All fundraising activities are conducted to support the band program and must comply with all applicable laws and regulations governing non-profit organizations.

All funds raised are the property of the Band Booster Organization and are not owned by any individual student or family. Contributions are not tax-deductible if earmarked for a specific individual.

To encourage participation in fundraising activities, the Band Booster Organization may track student involvement and may allocate a portion of fundraising proceeds to offset eligible band-related expenses. Any such allocations:

- Are determined at the sole discretion of the Band Booster Organization
- Are based on participation in approved fundraising activities
- Are applied only to approved band expenses (such as fees, travel, or uniforms)
- Have no cash value and are not refundable or transferable

At no time are funds distributed directly to students or families, and participation in fundraising does not guarantee a dollar-for-dollar benefit.

Participation in fundraising is voluntary. Students who do not participate may be responsible for covering the full cost of their band-related expenses. Students agree to receiving scholarships provided by fundraisers by signing this handbook.

Scholarships earned or overpayments to student accounts by way of monies collected and fundraising will stay valid until graduation or until the student is no longer a member of the program. Any credits left in student accounts upon their graduation/termination of membership will be absorbed back into the Band Booster's General Account. Debt will also accumulate from year to year and must be paid. Please make an appointment with the Director to discuss payment options.

ALL TRIPS ARE OPTIONAL. If a student participates in a fundraiser for a trip and still has band fees, all credits earned will be deducted from band debt FIRST

The average cost for band fees for an entire year are \$250.00. Students are in school 198 days of the year; therefore, your band fees equal \$1.26 per day while in school. Please plan accordingly to meet your financial obligations. (The average Starbucks drink is over \$5.00.)*
**freshmen fees may be a little higher*

REHEARSAL PROCEDURES

Each and every rehearsal is valuable and thus important that every student attend ALL rehearsals. If you miss a rehearsal or are tardy, you are not only wasting your time, but you are wasting every other band student's time as the band can only function at their best with everyone there.

INSTRUMENT STORAGE LOCKERS

1. Only instruments and music folders are to be stored in the lockers. No food, books, or backpacks are to be placed in the lockers. On Friday's students may put their book bag in there for storage only until after the game and must be removed before you leave Friday night.
2. Do not go through another locker if you do not have an instrument in there.

BAND ROOM REHEARSALS

1. Students must have their instrument in working order including their mouthpieces and at least 2 extra reeds, any required mutes, valve oil, pencil, music, etc. Percussionists should each have a pair of concert snare sticks. Although the band owns many of its own mallets, percussion players should obtain their own stick bag with an assortment of mallets.
2. Before rehearsal begins, students are to be warming up individually on their own and to stop once the Director steps on the podium.
3. Cases will be left in lockers of the band room during rehearsal. We need all the room we can get!
4. Correct posture at ALL times so that you are focused. Percussionists are to be standing if they are playing on the piece we are working on, or in a chair in the back of the room if they are waiting for the piece(s) they perform on.
5. There will be NO talking during rehearsal. If you have a question about the music, raise your hand and wait for the Director to acknowledge you.
6. If you must use the restroom, you will trade your phone for a pass.
7. No food or drink (except bottled water) is allowed inside the band room.
8. If it is not yours, DO NOT TOUCH IT! (This includes all school instruments you do not have explicit permission to handle.)
9. Keep your language clean! You never know who is listening.

MARCHING REHEARSALS

1. During football season, full marching rehearsals are scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday evenings 6pm-8pm (Percussion will begin at 5pm). Additional sectionals may be requested by section leaders to provide additional opportunity for improvement.
2. Please be advised that the rehearsal is scheduled to end at 8:00pm. However, if the students choose to waste time during the allotted rehearsal schedule, the Director will add time to the end of practice until the students are back on task and they have made up for the time that was wasted.
3. EVERY student is required to dress out wearing appropriate clothing and sneakers. This is for your safety. Students will wear cool, casual, non-restrictive, non-revealing clothing, and shoes with support. Students are required to wear socks to prevent blistering. Things like sandals, flats, pumps, boots, jeans, pants, skirts, dresses do not lend themselves to comfort or ideal execution of marching and maneuvering and are not recommended. CROCS ARE NOT ALLOWED. Students' grades will be deducted if they do not wear appropriate clothing. This is necessary due to Florida's extreme temperatures.
4. To be early is on time, to be on time is to be late!
5. The Drum Majors and Band Captains have authority until the Director and/or staff reach the field.
6. Practice is normally held on the Driver's Ed lot behind the faculty parking lot on the east side of the school. Practice will not be canceled for rain. In the event of inclement weather, students will report to the auditorium for rehearsal.
7. The first whistle will let everyone know that they have 60 seconds to get into the attendance block. The second whistle signifies the beginning of stretching. Those not in the attendance block will be reported as tardy.
8. There will be no playing to and from the practice field except for percussion under the supervision of the percussion captain/instructor.
9. Be alert all the time. Everyone needs to be focused not only for instruction but also in case of a weather emergency.
10. Marching rehearsals will be most efficient if all members are diligent in correcting mistakes quickly and thinking ahead to the next move. Above all, take pride in every minute of rehearsal so that we can all take pride in our final product – the performance.
11. Water breaks are mandatory. Students should be reminded of the hydration safety education provided via athletic clearance.

PERFORMANCES & PUBLIC APPEARANCES

1. All members are expected to attend every performance in which the band participates. If you are unable to attend a performance, you must inform the Director in advance. Severe illness or death in the family are usually the only legitimate excuses for missing a performance.
2. Notices of all performances/appearances will be posted on the calendar in the band handbook and online. It is the responsibility of each student to check the calendar and website regularly for all pertinent information.
3. Rules of conduct/order regarding rehearsals are in effect during all public performances. Let your conduct both before and after the performance be above reproach. Your conduct reflects on your band, your school, and your community. Proper language is to be used AT ALL TIMES.

4. Appearance must be neat at all times when in uniform or while under observation as representatives of the band program and school.
5. A performance or appearance is not completed until students are officially dismissed from pertaining activities. No band member is permitted to leave the organization in advance of group dismissal at any time unless excused by the Director prior to the performance.
6. Be sure that you have properly taken care of instruments, uniforms, music, etc. before leaving.

FOOTBALL GAME PROCEDURES

1. Attendance will be taken at Call Time in the auditorium. Check in with your Section Leader and then the Section Leader will report to the Band Captain(s). Arrive wearing your current band shirt and band shorts with everything needed for the game.
2. Make sure your instrument is in working order, shined, extra reeds, and mouthpiece is all prepared for inspection.
3. Section Leaders will retrieve uniforms from the uniform room and have them ready at least 30 minutes prior to inspection. Remember, dressing areas in the auditorium **MUST** be kept in an orderly fashion, remind your section of this requirement.
4. Inspection time will be on the board in the band room and will take place in the auditorium. Once you are called to attention by the drum major(s), you are to line up (dressed or not) for inspection. If you are not dressed on time, or have the appropriate attire, your grade will be adjusted accordingly. Band Parents, Section Leaders and the Band Captain(s) will oversee inspection and document any tardiness or uniform that is not on properly.
5. **FOR HOME GAMES** - In order to receive full credit for inspection, each student must have the following: **CURRENT** year band t-shirt, band shorts, gloves, long black socks, Dinkles, uniform on correctly, shako & shako box (ball cap for tuba players), extra reeds (if applicable), mouthpiece, a clean instrument, absolutely no jewelry or bandanas, no colored makeup or nail polish, and all long hair is put up under the hat so as not to touch the collar of the uniform. The Band Captain(s) will take note of any deductions and make sure directors have it before they leave for the game.
6. **FOR AWAY GAMES** students will wait for the Director to give the okay to load the buses. You are responsible for your own instrument and making sure it is in the loading area and unloaded when we return. Students will report to the auditorium and dress in their uniform pants, Dinkles, ball cap and socks. Students will carry their uniform jacket on the bus on its hanger. Shakos will not need to go to any away games unless otherwise stated.
7. Once on the buses, you must remain seated at all times. Talking should be kept to a decent decibel level. Respect the band parents and the bus driver in charge.
8. For home games, students will be dismissed to line up in the Pregame/Attendance Block outside and there will be no talking as we march to the stadium. Once at the stadium, we will either ascend into the stands for away games or prepare for pre-game for home games.
9. Once we leave the band room/auditorium, the lines will remain straight both vertically and horizontally and you must act **PROFESSIONAL** at all times.
10. Always listen for directions on which piece to play and when; **DO NOT** play without permission.
11. Remain in your section when in the stands. The band area is off limits to everyone except band members and chaperones. There will be no food or drink brought into the seating area except water or ice.

12. Chewing gum, candy or use of electronic devices is NEVER permitted while in uniform.
13. In the middle of the second quarter, the band will start its descent onto the track for warm up. After the halftime show, the students will report to the stands and then will be given the third quarter to use the restroom, receive their snack and drink provided by the Band Boosters, and socialize (within reason). Remember you are still in your uniform and must act PROFESSIONAL.
14. Use your own judgment about what to eat or drink, but if an accident occurs, you will be charged for an extra uniform cleaning whether or not you are at fault.
15. You must be back in your seat ready to play when the clock hits 0:00 of the third quarter (Early is on time, on time is late!). If you are not back by 0:00 you will lose your third quarter privilege for the following week. Remember the buddy system!
16. After the game, we will march from the stands to either the band room or to the buses. Have fun, but remember PROFESSIONALISM.
17. Once arriving back in the auditorium, you must check in your uniform and check out with your section leader before leaving. Only you are to be responsible for your uniform.
18. The band room and auditorium must be cleaned before anyone leaves; this is a job for every band member. If we take the time to show pride in our band room then we will not have to assign sections to keep the room clean!

PARENTS!

Please be on time to collect your child at the stated return time. The school can only stay open for a short time. It is imperative the campus is vacated as soon as possible or school security will be called.

MARCHING BAND ASSESSMENT

The FBA Marching Assessment is mandatory for all band students. Like all performances and assessments, please mark your calendars now by checking our online website calendar. (So, mark your calendars now!) The FBA marching assessment usually occurs on either the last Saturday in October or the first Saturday in November.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER FOOTBALL SEASON?

The emphasis of concert ensembles begins with a holiday concert before our winter break and continues throughout the second semester. Students will be involved in preparing for concerts, assessments, and individual solo and ensemble performances. In the spring, the FBA holds a concert assessment at an area high school. Also in the spring, the entire music program may plan a trip with performance opportunities. Students will have many opportunities throughout the year to earn money towards their trip. By participating in the band's fundraisers students can actually earn enough to cover the entire trip!

Previous trips have been in Gatlinburg & Nashville, TN, Myrtle Beach, SC, Williamsburg, and New Orleans. Every 4 years, we have made an international trip to Europe. In the early spring, there is a Casino Night and/or Band Auction - a great evening to purchase bargains and also a great way to earn funds for the band trip. We round out the year with our Annual Band Banquet and Awards Ceremony with the always entertaining end-of-the-year video. Our final concert of the year is the "Prism Concert" which provides a showcase of each ensemble and individual performance.

TRAVEL

The Bloomingdale High School band travels frequently during the year, in county, out-of-county, and out of state. Trip fees pay the cost of transportation and lodging. In the event of an overnight trip, a detailed itinerary will be distributed to all students and parents. All Hillsborough County, Bloomingdale High School, and Bloomingdale *Rajun' Bull Band* policies are in effect for the duration of the trip. We will be representing ourselves, Bloomingdale High School Band, Bloomingdale High School, the city of Valrico, Hillsborough County, and the State of Florida whenever we step off the bus; we will all do our best to maintain the highest of standards.

TRAVEL POLICIES

1. Possession/consumption of alcoholic beverages and/or any drugs not prescribed by a physician (over the counter medications will have a parent note and will be turned in to the Director) will not be tolerated. Administrative action will occur in addition to notification of the proper authorities.
2. No tobacco or electronic inhalants will be tolerated.
3. Students will behave in the hotel at all times. Any student who cannot behave and/or follow directions will be sent home at the expense of the parent.
4. Band members are not permitted in any other rooms other than their assigned rooms after hours. At no time will students be allowed onto/into a floor/room of the opposite sex. No unauthorized persons will be allowed to visit.
5. Parents and students will be held responsible for any property damaged or lost (this includes room keys).
6. Proper dress code will be required at all times.
7. Please refrain from playing instruments while in your room.
8. Students are **NOT** allowed to leave the hotel unless given permission from the Director.
9. Students will always travel in groups of at least three or more.
10. Follow all instructions of Directors and chaperones at all times. If you do not understand, ask.
11. Shoplifting will result in consequences set forth by the establishment, the local authorities, Hillsborough County authorities, and Hillsborough County Schools.

The Director is ultimately responsible for the students' safety and well-being. Therefore, the Director reserves the right to dismiss and send home any student who disobeys the rules and whose general conduct and attitude towards the trip and its participants is determined to be detrimental to that individual or to the rest of the group. In the event a student must be sent home, all travel expenses to send the student home will be the responsibility of the parent.

ENFORCEMENT OF REGULATIONS

The simplest method of enforcing regulations is to withhold the privilege of participation in our band for a specified period of time. Only the Director may take this action. Withholding may be done in several ways:

1. Replacing a person in the show. This would be done primarily in the case of disruptive behavior, negative attitude, not being prepared, or absence.

2. In the case of extreme misbehavior or disrespect, for the good of the band, the student may be expelled from the band program.
3. A penalty will be administered for all tardies, misbehavior, disrespect, disruption, defiance, disobedience, off-task activity, inattentiveness, destructiveness, or any acts that cast discredit and/or embarrassment upon the band or the school, no matter the reason. Other consequences may be assigned as determined by the Director for each offense.
4. For serious or continual infractions, band members may also be placed on Probationary Status, meaning that they will be expected to attend all rehearsals and performances of the band, but will not be allowed to participate until the problem causing the suspension has been rectified. Failure to comply with the terms of Probationary Status may result in expulsion from the band program.

INFRACTIONS OF CONDUCT

Infractions of conduct mentioned above or those listed below are grounds for severe disciplinary action including suspension or dismissal from Bloomingdale High School and/or the band program:

1. Destruction or theft of school property and equipment.
2. Possession or use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, nicotine, or any mind-altering substance on or before a band activity.
3. Any actions, which are illegal or prohibited by Hillsborough County Schools.

ELECTRONIC MISBEHAVIOR

‘Electronic Misbehavior’ is defined as any use of cell phones, the internet, or technology that publicly or privately degrades the image of the music department, its staff, or its members IN ANY WAY. This includes (but is not limited to) Social Media of any kind, texting, email, pictures, video etc.

Therefore, electronic misbehavior will not be tolerated and will result in immediate disciplinary action. Parents are encouraged to read the school district’s policy on Bullying which includes ‘electronic bullying.’

WHAT IS BAND ETIQUETTE?

As spectators, it is courteous to refrain from talking during any band’s performance, at either an indoor or outdoor event. It is also customary not to enter or to exit the viewing stands or concert hall during a performance. Comments about other band performances will be of a positive nature. It is impossible to know who may be sitting nearby. Not to mention how unprofessional and immature it is to poke fun at another organization that has the same interests and goals as Bloomingdale. All band students work very hard to represent their schools and we applaud their efforts. Students, while in your band uniform or theme t-shirt, use your best manners. Your actions as an individual represent the entire band and your school. During your third-quarter break at football games, please be careful of others’ instruments on your way out of the stands. If any student who is unable to make it back to the stands before the end of the 3rd quarter break, the entire band/guard will lose 3rd quarter off privilege the following week. Also, please be courteous on your way to and from the concession stand. There will be no public displays of affection between students. Any inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.

BAND STAFF & BAND BOOSTERS

Running a successful marching band program is like running a sports team. Not only do you have a coach, you have an assistant coach and many trainers specializing in each area of that sport. The Director relies on having many eyes within the program.

Special technicians in drill design, marching, visual design, color guard, drum line, woodwind, brass, and music are areas that must be taken into account in the marching band season. The students are required to give each technician, whether a guest or a permanent staff member, the respect they deserve. Some of the technicians will be paid and some will be devoting their time to enrich the lives of the students, so in order to continue having help to strive toward our goals, these staff members need to be respected just as much as the Band Director.

Band Boosters are extremely important to our band program. These people are the backbone of support for each and every student and most importantly the Band Director. Some of these adults are parents, some are past parents, and some are people donating their time to help out the band. Every parent who helps out needs to complete and submit the HCPS “SERVE” form online.

Without the support of these wonderful people, the marching band program would not be where it is today. They help out with moving, loading, and setting up equipment when we go places, they help out and keep our uniforms clean, provide food after long rehearsals, and are always there for the students.

Under no circumstances should any band student ever talk back or disrespect any of these wonderful people. If a student is caught, or complained about disrespecting a band booster, you will be issued a referral, dismissed from the marching band and will not be allowed to participate with the band the rest of the year.

By definition, the role of the booster organization is to “boost” the band program in a positive manner. The purpose of the Bloomingdale High School Band Boosters is to advance the best interest of the Bloomingdale High School bands by providing support, as requested by the Director. All parents of students enrolled in the BSHS Band program become members of the Band Boosters automatically. However there are a variety of additional levels of booster membership that may be purchased through our Membership Committee. Maintaining a thriving band program requires support year-round and funding beyond that provided by the school system. The Band Boosters organization is a non-profit corporation and help with:

1. Purchase and maintenance of uniforms
2. Furnishing chaperones/volunteers for band events
3. Organization and implementation of fundraising activities
4. Encouragement of new parent involvement
5. Stimulate and maintain an enthusiastic interest and support for all phases of the band program
6. Support and advocate for music programs in the public schools

BOOSTER EXECUTIVE BOARD & COMMITTEES.

The Bloomingdale Band Boosters has an executive board as well as committees/committee chairs dedicated to more specific needs of the program. Please contact Mr. Frazee or our current booster president about serving on the board or one of the following committees.

AUCTION NIGHT

This committee is responsible for organizing the event, providing information to the students and publicity committee. Assists in pre-planning, “tagging” all items, and works the night of the event.

AWARDS

This committee is responsible for senior awards and presentations and communicating with the Banquet committee for the pacing and scheduling of the evening events.

BANQUET

This committee assists in the coordination of printed information, ticket sales, set-up, decorations, caterer, and needs to be available to help at the event. Senior Night, a home game event dedicated to honoring Seniors, is handled by the Banquet coordinator and/or Special Projects coordinator.

CHAPERONE

This committee has many “hats,” as there is much involved in making our events successful. The overall responsibility is for the well being and safety of the students as they represent Bloomingdale High School. Volunteers are called on a rotating system and the committee chairs handle instructions concerning each event. Some responsibilities include serving water in the stands and sodas during the third quarter, handing out Band- Aids, passing out “chickens,” supervising on the buses, and much more. Assistance for the sick and the monitoring of behavior will be needed. But ultimately Mr. Frazee will modify any behavior issues and have the final say on medical treatment. Chaperoning is an easy way to get involved and be a part of your child’s music education. Please note, this is a very popular volunteer position and every effort will be made to include as many chaperones to volunteer. We are, however, limited to the number of chaperones based on band size. If you sign up on the volunteer form to be a chaperone & don’t get a call – please email Mr. Frazee!

COOL BAND STUFF

This committee raises funds for band activities by organizing and selling band t-shirts, hats, and much, much more!

CRIMSON GUARD (Band Auxiliary)

The Bloomingdale High School Crimson Guard is a nationally recognized group that offers activities to showcase the talents of our color guard members during the winter and spring months.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraisers are an important tool used to obtain funds for the band program as well as a way for students to earn funds for their band trip. Several fundraisers will be held throughout the year and you and your student’s participation is strongly encouraged. Fundraisers will include some product sales, Nothing Bundt Cakes, the BBQ dinner at

Homecoming, and the Auction Night. In most sales, a portion of the profit will go to the band program and a portion may go into the student's account for the trip. It really is possible to earn the cost of your entire spring trip! In the past, the portion of the profits that goes to the band program has bought new music, new instruments and instrument repairs and other items the band needs to continue our successful program. Adult volunteers are needed to assist with the fundraisers, such as preparing packets of sale information, BBQ dinner tickets and serving, help with the auction, etc.

HISTORIANS

Historians keep a scrapbook and create our end of the year keepsake video.

HYDRATION STATION

This committee handles the sale of soda and water during break at Marching Band practice, scheduled for Tuesday and Thursdays (as noted on your band calendars). The clean up and return of coolers is required at the end of each practice. They also work with chaperones to keep the band members properly hydrated during game performances.

MEMBERSHIP

The Membership committee's goal is to get parents involved! There is no secret or magic formula to Bloomingdale's success. The hard work, dedication, and tireless commitment of our staff, students, and booster organization have brought us great success. To be an informed band booster we recommend attending all booster meetings and keeping up with Cuttime. PLEASE VOLUNTEER! A SIGN-UP SHEET IS AVAILABLE AT UNIFORM FITTINGS OR UPON REQUEST! Your help is crucial to this organization and is needed during the entire school year! In addition to helping the band, you will have the opportunity to meet the parents of your student's friends. There are many jobs that need to be done and some are only a one-time commitment. Your participation is needed to continue the success of our program. Our students need our support to be the best that they can be.

PUBLICITY

This committee helps in contributing interesting or helpful news to our local community that involves the Marching Band or Crimson Guard. They work closely with all the local newspapers, and plan to utilize the Internet.

TRANSPORTATION/EQUIPMENT

This committee is in charge of making sure all the large equipment and instruments get to our location, whether it be on our home field or away. We always need parents to help.

UNIFORM COMMITTEE

This committee handles the measuring, sizing, and issuing of band uniforms. Throughout the school year, this committee is responsible for keeping uniforms in order, sending and receiving dry cleanings, and the general "upkeep" of the uniform room, "the dungeon." Help is especially needed before and after football games to ensure that every student is dressed in the proper full uniform.

BAND IS HARD WORK – HYDRATION/HEALTH TIPS

TIPS TO PREVENT HEAT RELATED ILLNESS DURING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

BEFORE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Drink plenty of fluids during the day* especially 1 ½ to 2 hours prior to physical activity. Fluids that are recommended are WATER, FRUIT JUICES and other approved energy drinks.

Note: Caffeinated beverages have a dehydrating effect on the body and will not aid in keeping you hydrated properly. AVOID CAFFEINATED SODAS, TEA and drinks containing other high processed sugars.

The easiest way to tell if you are hydrated enough is to check the color and quantity of your urine. If urine is dark and decreased in volume, then you need to drink more fluid.

Just prior (5-15 minutes) before physical activity drink 1-2 cups of water which will prepare your body to have enough extra fluid to replace your initial sweat loss.

DURING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

KEEP DRINKING WATER (or approved sports drinks such as Gatorade, Powerade, etc.) during your activity. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL YOU ARE THIRSTY – your thirst signal in your body will not be a good indicator to keep up with your needs. Always drink more than what quenches your thirst. Guideline: drink 8-16 oz. After 15-20 minutes of strenuous exercise. DON'T SKIP YOUR WATER BREAKS. DRINK, DRINK, DRINK!!!!

AFTER PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Be sure to cool your body by removing excess equipment quickly and place a cool wet towel around your neck and wipe your face. Get into a cooler environment as soon as possible and take a cool shower.

Replace fluid and electrolytes (sodium and potassium) lost during your activity. Drink water, fruit juices (i.e.: orange juice is high in potassium). Sprinkle a little salt on your food at your next meal (do not take salt tablets unless ordered by your doctor).

Note: For every pound you lose during physical activity, you need to drink 2 cups fluid to replace water loss from your body (i.e.: if weight lost is 5 pounds drink 10 cups - just over half gallon) fluids and remember to check how your urine looks and how much, if clear and plentiful, you are hydrating properly, if not DRINK, DRINK, DRINK!!!! Another indicator is how you feel physically. If feeling more tired than usual, headachy, and listless, you may be getting dehydrated and not replacing your fluids adequately. Be sure to discuss it with your parents.

Add foods to your diet which will give back potassium which you are losing with strenuous physical activity (see list of suggestions). Remember to add a little salt to your food at meals following strenuous physical activity especially when exposed to hot, humid weather.

Last and **most important**, know the signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion and do not ignore your body's warning to **STOP AND REGROUP!!!** Your health and life could be on the line.

(Information in this handout written by Ellen Gates, MagRD, LD/N (registered dietitian) using Nancy Clark's "Sports Nutrition Guidebook - eating to fuel your active lifestyle" as a reference.)

HIGH POTASSIUM FOODS

<u>FRUITS</u>	<u>VEGETABLES</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
Oranges Orange Juice Bananas Apricots Kiwis Pears Nectarines Cantaloupes/Melons Dried Fruit: Dates, Figs, Prunes, Prune Juice	Lima Beans White & Sweet Potatoes French Fries Potato Chips Mushrooms Avocado Pumpkin Asparagus Tomato Winter Squash	Dried Beans, Peas, and Peanuts Almonds Pecans Milk Tomato Sauce & Spaghetti

THE STAGES OF HEAT ILLNESS

Hyperthermia, or overheating of the body, can be mild and temporary, but in advanced stages, it can be life- threatening. The degrees of severity:

	<u>SKIN</u>	<u>PULSE</u>	<u>BODY TEMPERATURE</u>	<u>WHAT TO DO</u>
<u>HEAT STRESS</u> Occurs when hot weather puts strain on the body.	Normal Sweating	Normal	Normal	Move to a cool place, drink cool or cold water.
<u>HEAT EXHAUSTION*</u> Symptoms warning that the body is overheating: a person may be thirsty, giddy, weak, dizzy, uncoordinated, nauseated, or sweat copiously.	Cold and Clammy	Normal or Rapid	Usually Normal	Move to a cool place indoors or in shade. Loosen clothing; take fluids such as cool or cold water or sports drinks. Lie down to rest in a cool, breezy place.
<u>HEATSTROKE**</u> A life-threatening emergency; person needs immediate medical care; death rate is high after symptoms appear.	Dry and Red	Strong and Fast	Above 104 degrees F.	Call for emergency help. Move to a cool place. Place feet higher than head. Remove clothing and either wrap the person in a cold, wet sheet, sponge with towels, or spray with cool water. Perform CPR if needed.

*Heat Exhaustion is often caused by dehydration or sodium depletion, but don't take salt supplements without medical advice.

****With Heatstroke perspiration stops; person may faint or stagger, become confused or combative; coma begins if person is not assisted.**

Tribune graphic, Source: National Institute on Aging, The Warren Clinic of Northeast Oklahoma.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will I have enough time for my studies?

Studies show that students who participate in band activities perform very well by acquiring more efficient study habits.

Can I work and participate in band?

Many Bloomingdale students hold jobs and are able to participate fully. Most employers are both supportive and cooperative with student scheduling. The student must communicate with their employers and the Director in order to be successful at both.

Can I participate in other activities?

Yes, students have always been allowed to explore their talents in other programs. Please communicate with the Director in advance so arrangements can be considered.

Do I have to audition to be in the marching band?

No, all students that are registered for band have the privilege of membership in this great organization, with exception of marching percussion (battery), Leadership, and the Crimson Guard.

Do I have to buy a new instrument?

No, however your instrument should be in playable condition and well maintained.

Do I have to be at all practices?

Yes! Unexcused absences and tardiness will adversely affect students' grades and their eligibility to travel in the spring with the band.

Will band help me get into college?

Possibly. Many colleges are looking for well-rounded students. Band is an activity of which many college admissions boards think highly. There are also leadership roles to which you can be elected—another thing colleges like to see.

BAND GLOSSARY

Adjudicator - Person who judges the show and awards points and placements. At marching competitions, judges are located either in the press box or on the field.

Assessment – Also known as ‘festival’ and often confused with ‘competition’, it is a performance opportunity where the band is given a rating or grade (much like the EOC’s) by adjudicators.

Auxiliary - Another term for the Crimson Guard.

Band Time – Any time students are performing, rehearsing, traveling, or representing the Bloomingdale High School Band.

Battery - Percussion line that consists of snare drums, bass drums, tenors, and cymbals.

Call Time - The actual time that you will report to the band room prior to a game or performance. This is announced at practice or during class or posted on the white board.

Chickens - See ‘Plumes.’

Color Guard - The Color Guard (*Crimson Guard*) members are chosen by audition. A very strong background in dance necessary to be a member of the color guard. The Color Guard is physically demanding but very rewarding.

Debt List - If a student does not pay for a band item, they may ‘charge’ the amount and have their name placed on the debt list. All debt list costs must be paid in full prior to semester exams.

Dinkles - Black patent leather marching band shoes.

The Dungeon - This is what we affectionately call our uniform room, located in the hallway near the Auditorium and the Music Dept. wing. Students are only allowed in the dungeon with adult supervision or permission from Mr. Frazee.

Exhibition - A performance by a group that usually is not assessed by a judging panel.

General Effect - A caption of judging. The judge looks and listens to the overall performance.

Gloves - Depending on what instrument you play, you may be required to cut-off the tips of the gloves. This is best done with pinky shears, or you can hem them. The gloves are a required part of the uniform.

Master Musician - A special musical achievement awarded by Hillsborough County in which students may choose to complete. See Mr. Frazee for an application and requirements.

The Pit - Refers to the area directly in front of the football field, between the forty-yard lines. Percussion members who play keyboard or electronic instruments occupy this area. AKA Front Ensemble.

Plumes - The feather toppers that go on the uniform hats (Shakos) for marching. They are given out just prior to the halftime performance and collected as you come off the field.

Roll-off - The part of the percussion cadence that cues the band when to play during a parade

Roster - A listing of each member in the band and auxiliary.

Sectionals - These are additional rehearsals, called by Section Leaders and/or Mr. Frazee to rehearse the music.

Section Leaders - They are in charge of their particular instrument section. They have many responsibilities throughout the year (i.e., uniform distribution, uniform inspections, sectionals, problems, scheduling, etc.) The students go to them with any concerns they may have.

Shako - Military style hat.

BSHS BAND PROGRAM 2026 -2027 CALENDAR

This calendar is maintained on Cuttime and bloomingdaleband.com where you can sync it with your Google Calendar.

KEY:

RBB = Rajun' Bull Band	SS = Select Students	WE = Wind Ensemble	CB = Concert Band
JE2 = Jazz Ensemble 2	JE1 = Jazz Ensemble 1	SB = Symphonic Band	CG = Crimson Guard
6/15-6/18 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Gebhardt Leadership Camp	Robinson HS	SS
7/27 8:20 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 3:40 PM	Uniform Fitting Day 1	BSHS - Building 1	Seniors, Juniors, & Leadership ONLY
7/28 8:20 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 3:40 PM	Uniform Fitting Day 2	BSHS - Building 1	Sophomores & Upperclassmen ONLY
7/29 8:20 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 3:40 PM	Uniform Fitting Day 3	BSHS - Building 1	Freshman & Upperclassmen ONLY
7/29 - 7/30 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Leadership Camp	BSHS Band Room	SS
8/1 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Freshman/New Member Camp	BSHS Band Room	All Freshman/New Members, Leadership, ALL Percussion, ALL Guard
8/3, 4, 5*,6, 7 3:00 PM -9:00 PM *3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	RBB Preseason Training (BAND CAMP!)	BSHS - Building 1	RBB/CG
8/7 Time TBD	RBB Preseason Showcase/Meet the Bulls Scrimmage Game.	BSHS	RBB/CG

8/11 – 11/5	Tuesday/Thursday rehearsals 6-8pm	BSHS Auditorium and Drivers Ed Lot	RBB/CG
8/14	Away vs. Durant (BAND NOT ATTENDING)		RBB/CG
8/21	Home vs. Hillsborough		RBB/CG
8/28	Away vs. Middleton		RBB/CG
9/4	Home vs. Newsome (Middle School Band Night)		RBB/CG
9/5	USF HOT Day	USF	SS
9/7	Labor Day/Non-Student Day		
9/10 (Thursday Game)	Home vs. Leto (Military Appreciation)		RBB/CG
9/18	Away vs. Brandon (Band Picture Day)		RBB/CG
9/19	All State Auditions	Rodgers Middle School	SS
9/25	Away vs. TBT		RBB/CG
10/9	Home vs. Spoto (Homecoming)		RBB/CG
10/12	Non-Student Day		
10/16	Home vs. Armwood (Senior Night)		RBB/CG
10/23	Away vs. HB Plant (BAND NOT ATTENDING)		RBB/CG
10/30	Away vs. Freedom		RBB/CG
11/7	Marching MPA	Durant HS	RBB/CG

11/9 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Veteran's Day Concert Dress Rehearsal	BSHS Band Room	WE
11/12 7:00 PM	Veterans Day Concert	BSHS Auditorium	WE
11/11	Veterans Day/Non-Student Day		
11/10	All County Auditions	Strawberry Crest HS	SS
11/23-11/29	FALL BREAK/Non-Student Days		
12/3 - 12/6	Festival of Winds USF	USF	SS
12/3 - 12/6	Tri-State FSU	FSU	SS
12/10 7:00 PM	Holiday Under the Stars (HUTS) Concert		Bloomington/Burns Music Depts.
12/12	Brandon Parade of Lights		RBB/CG
12/19-1/4	WINTER BREAK		
1/5	Students return		
1/13-1/16	Florida Music Educators Association Conference - All-State	Tampa Convention Center	SS
1/25 - 3/1 Mondays 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Wind Ensemble Rehearsals	BSHS Band Room	WE
2/4, 2/18, 3/4 Thursdays 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM	Symphonic Band Rehearsals		SB
1/23	Running of the Bulls 5K Fundraiser	BSHS Campus	RBB/CG
1/26	All County Jazz Auditions	Blake HS	SS
1/18	MLK Jr. Day/Non-Student Day		

2/4-2/6	All County Rehearsal and Concert	Leto HS	SS
2/11-2/12	Jazz MPA/Solo and Ensemble Festival	TBD	SS, JE1, JE2
2/12	Fair Day/Non-Student Day		
2/15	President's Day/Non-Student Day		
2/25 6:30pm	Band Pre-MPA CONCERT	BSHS Auditorium	WE/SB/CB
3/8	Strawberry Festival/Non-Student Day		
3/9 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM	Wind Ensemble/Symphonic Band Final Rehearsal		
3/10 and/or 3/11 TIME/DAY TBD	Concert MPA	Morgan High School	WE/SB/CB
3/22-3/26	SPRING BREAK		
3/29	Non-Student Day		
3/14	Leadership Applications Released		
3/20-3/27	Prague/Budapest Trip		SS
4/2	Leadership Applications Due		SS
4/14, 4/15	All County Jazz Festival	Robinson HS	SS
4/16	Non-Student Day		
4/20, 4/21, 4/22 4 PM – 6PM	PRISM Concert Rehearsals	BSHS Auditorium	RBB/CG
4/24 Saturday 3PM Rehearsal 7 PM Concert	BSHS PRISM CONCERT	BSHS Auditorium	RBB/CG
4/28 6 PM Dinner 7 PM Awards	Band Banquet	BSHS Cafeteria & Auditorium	RBB/CG

5/11 6 PM - 8PM	RBB/CG Icebreaker Event	BSHS Auditorium	RBB/CG
TBD	Drum Major Auditions		SS
5/20, 5/21 5 PM - 8 PM	Drumline Auditions	BSHS Band Room	SS
5/18, 5/19, 5/20 5 PM - 8 PM	Crimson Guard Auditions	BSHS Cafeteria	SS



Bloomington High School Rajun' Bull Band

Jordan Frazee, Director of Bands

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RAJUN' BULL BAND

Student Handbook 2026-2027

bloomingtonband.com



STUDENT/PARENT AGREEMENT - SIGNATURE PAGE

We have read the Bloomington High School Band Handbook and we understand the procedures and expectations within it. The policies outlined in this handbook are intended to provide guidance for participation in the Bloomington High School Band Program. The Director reserves the right to interpret, amend, modify, or enforce any policy contained herein in the best interest of students and the program. We have set aside all dates listed on the [calendar](#), and understand that two weeks' notice constitutes fair warning for additions/changes to this calendar. We understand revisions can be made to this handbook via the website, e-mail communication, or a sheet sent home with the student. We understand that these procedures and guidelines will be handled at the Director's discretion and that the Director has the final approval in all situations.

Please follow this link to the [signature page](#), download it, fill it out, sign it and return it to the Director confirming you have read and understand all procedures set forth in this handbook. **Please return the completed form to Mr. Frazee at Jordan.Frazee@hcps.net by August 10, 2026.**

Date:	
Student Name (Print):	
Student Signature:	
Student Email Address:	
Parent/Guardian Name (Print):	
Parent/Guardian Signature:	
Parent/Guardian Email Address:	