

# ***Pride of Taylor Bulldog Band***



## ***Band Handbook 2010-2011***

Stewart Schlazer, Director of Bands  
Michael Thompson, Principal

## Table of Contents

Preface	2
Philosophy	2
Band Camp Information	3
Grading Policy	4
Marching Discipline - Demerits / Merits	4
Attendance Policy	5
General Rules and Procedures	7
Band Room Regulations	8
Student Leadership	8
Rehearsal Procedures	9
Football Games	10
Public Appearances	11
Uniform Requirements	12
Make-Up Requirements	13
Instruments	14
FBA Solo & Ensemble / Semester Exam	15
Trips	16
Equipment List	17
Fee Schedule	18
Financial Requirements	19
Student Accounts	20
Band Administration	20
Awards	21
Lyrics to Memorize	22
Order Form	23
Contract of Participation	24

## Preface

- The prosperity of any organization depends on the commitment of its membership to work tirelessly towards the goal of **excellence**, no matter how exhausting the challenge.
- Though absolute perfection may never be attained, the **persistence** in attempting to reach perfection is what strengthens ourselves, and our commitments to each other.
- The **dedication** of every band member towards reaching our goals as a team is the most critical element of our success.

These principals will guide the course of the TCHS Band during this kind of new era as we begin this year. Our past is a one of great success and history, and one in which we will continue to write new chapters. This handbook has been designed as a reference for every band member to understand how our band program functions, and to what degree he or she is responsible for its success. Knowledge and understanding of what's explained in this handbook is the expectation for every band member. Taking the time to read and understand this information will lead to maximum productivity and the best quality of individual experience in our band this year.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask. We want everyone to have the knowledge and understanding to be successful, productive members of our band. It's going to be a great year!

Musically yours,

*Stewart Schlazer*  
Director of Bands

*Michael Thompson*  
Principal

## Philosophy

The TCHS Band Program is dedicated to guiding its students to reach their highest possible level of excellence. The ultimate goal is to instill a life-long appreciation and love for music and to teach character building and valuable life-skills.

The Symphonic Band is the foundation of the band program here at TCHS. Although we provide several different opportunities for music performance, this ensemble provides the full range of music education from which all other opportunities stem. This class is where fundamentals are taught and musicianship flourishes.

Although performance is a major goal for our courses, it is not the only one. It is our belief that “**the process is just as important as the product.**” Most musical concepts are taught through the rehearsal of quality literature for performance. There are standards, however, that are not met through performance. Student objectives include listening to, discussing, and writing about music as well as acquiring a basic knowledge of music history and theory.

All students are encouraged to participate in as many musical opportunities as they can both through and outside of TCHS. Private lessons are strongly recommended. If a student is interested in continuing with music beyond high school, private lessons and involvement in as many musical opportunities as possible are essential for success.

## Band Camp Information

- Band camp is required for all members of the band program. This is our most important training event of the year. Returning members refresh marching and playing fundamentals while new members learn how to march and play and learn the music for our first show. We also work to become a team during this camp.
- **Location:** Taylor County High School. All students must stay on the camp premises at all times. To leave camp for any reason you must receive the **Director's approval**.
- **Transportation:** Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from camp. Cars may be kept in the student parking lot.
- **Clothing:** For marching rehearsals, students must wear lace-up shoes (either leather or tennis shoes) with socks. No one will be permitted to march barefoot or without socks. Shoes must be laced and tied. It is strongly recommended to bring sunglasses, a hat, and sunscreen for protection against the sun and to leave valuables at home. T-shirt and shorts are recommended.
- **Visitors:** Parents are encouraged to attend camp at any time. Students will not be excused during working periods to be with visitors. **No student may leave the campgrounds during camp times.** There will be no social visitors, including boyfriends, girlfriends, and former band members.
- **Meals:** Eat breakfast before you get here. All meals will be eaten in the assigned location. Band members will sit together as a group. All students are required to attend all meals. No bathing suits, bare feet, or chewing gum will be permitted in the cafeteria (or anywhere else during camp). Band members will need to bring a packed lunch each day. Refrigeration and water are provided. All lunch bags must be labeled with student's name. Dinner will be provided by the Band Boosters during camp. On the last day we will have a potluck, where all parents will bring a main dish and one side dish. Cell phones are not permitted during meal times.
- **Water is always available.** Students are encouraged to bring their own water jugs. ***Absolutely no milk, soda, or other caffeinated beverages during camp. Milk reacts poorly to being in the sun and Caffeine dehydrates the body and will make you sick. Water or sports drinks only!***
- **Instrument Repair:** Preventative maintenance will help avoid repair problems at camp. Check your instrument now to be sure that pads, springs, screws, corks, valves, slides, and mouthpieces are in excellent condition. Tuning slides should work freely. Stock up on reeds! Without a properly working instrument your musical experience will be much tougher and not as enjoyable. **PLEASE HAVE YOUR INSTRUMENT LOOKED AT DURING THE MONTHS OF JUNE AND JULY FOR ANY MAJOR REPAIRS.**
- **Attendance:** Attendance at camp is **MANDATORY.**

## Grading Policy

As the curriculum and content of band classes is primarily performance-based, so will the means by which students will earn their nine weeks grade. A grade will be assigned for every performance event including concerts, festivals, football games, and pep rallies. Students who are absent from a performance event without prior approval will receive a zero for that event. Additionally, playing evaluations will take place approximately once a week. The content of these evaluations will always be announced in advance.

Break Down of Grades:

Participation	40%
Performances	25%
Tests	20%
Written	15%

If a student misses a performance without approval (unexcused absence), the final quarter grade will be dropped a letter grade, and cannot be made up. I have given each person the full schedule for the whole year, therefore there is no excuse, except emergency *see attendance policy*. This is a team, a co-curricular activity, a class, and a grade!

Band is a **full-year** commitment. Students may not leave and re-join when it is convenient for them. Students who drop out of band mid-year will not be permitted to re-join later and will not receive any awards. The student will also be financially responsible for any and all fees and will not receive any refunds paid into trips, etc.

## Actions/Consequences

Marching bands use military structure to discipline. The truest form of discipline is self-discipline; however, in a community setting your actions affect those around you. This means that for certain actions there will be consequences of band-community service to make amends.

Action	Consequence
Late 0 - 5 minutes*	10 push-ups
Late 5 - 20 minutes*	20 push-ups + Run a lap after event
Skip rehearsal (unexcused) or late more than 20 minutes*	0 in grade book
Consistently disobeying commands	Grade lowered accordingly
Vulgar language / Disrespect	Grade lowered accordingly
Talking while at attention/ When a leader is talking	Push-ups, increasing in number; run laps
Inspection Issues	Lower grade 5% for each issue
Disrupting rehearsal	Push-ups, laps, dismissal and grade lowered
Surprise Locker Room Inspection	Clean up duty after school
Food / Drink in band room	Warning, Clean up duty after school

\*applies after school only

## Attendance Policy

The Taylor County School Board recognizes high school band as a co-curricular activity. This means that a student's grade can legitimately be held accountable for events that take place outside the normal school day. Therefore, attendance at all after school rehearsals and performances is considered mandatory. Just as athletic teams cannot practice or compete without a missing player on the field; likewise the band cannot effectively rehearse or perform with a missing player on the field or in the ensemble. Every band member carries equal importance to the integrity of the band, regardless of instrument, grade, or ability.

- All school time absences will be excused or unexcused through the school attendance office.
- Students who are absent from school may not come to after school events.

In order to accurately assess the active participation of all its members, the TCHS Band must employ strict attendance policies for these reasons:

- Participation in daily band rehearsals is the equivalent of class work in other classes
- Practicing outside of class is the equivalent of homework in other classes
- Weekly performances are the equivalent of tests in other classes
- Major performance assessments or festivals are the equivalent of exams in other classes

It is impossible to assign a grade to a student who is not present at an event. **There is no such thing as an "excused" absence from a band event. You're either there, or you're not!** However, requesting approval of absences in advance gives the student the opportunity to avoid negatively affecting their grade.

"Pre-excused or unexcused,  
there is no in between"

### ***Requesting an Approved Absence***

Illness and other conflicts may make it necessary to miss an event on some occasion. The **parent** must notify the Director in writing (please do not email) as far in advance as possible if a student must miss a rehearsal. Emergency requests, such as sudden illness or other unexpected events, can be made by calling the band office (838-2525) prior to the rehearsal or performance, and following up with a verification in writing afterwards. Prior notice is essential.

- An absence request must be submitted for both rehearsals and performances.
- An absence request for a **performance** must be submitted at least two weeks in advance to be considered for approval.
- If a student is absent from a performance because of severe illness, a doctor's note will be required to be considered for approval.

After turning in your signed request form, your absence will either be approved or denied. Approval of an absence means that students will be exempt from receiving a class grade for that event.

In general, the only reasons for an absence to be approved are sickness, death in the family, or other emergency situation. **Work, homework, haircuts, a headache, tiredness, shopping, etc., will not be approved.**

**Consequences for Unexcused/Denied Absences**

- Missing two band classes in one week may result in being removed from the performance for the week depending on what content was missed during their absence
- If you miss a Tuesday rehearsal, you may be allowed to perform that week granted you are caught up on Thursday (Director’s discretion)
- If you miss a Thursday rehearsal, or a Tuesday and Thursday rehearsal, you can perform in the stands only, and will stand on the sideline in parade rest during halftime (Director’s discretion)
- Following any trip, students WILL be in class the following school day. Students who are absent following a trip will receive an unexcused absence in band.

**Tardiness**

It is the student’s responsibility to plan to always arrive **fifteen minutes prior** to every announced inspection/warm-up time for band events. All tardies will be subject to the TCHS discipline code. In addition, tardy to an after school rehearsal during marching season will result in losing 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter break time. Students will also lose points from their participation grade for tardies. Excessive tardies will have a direct effect on your grade and standing in band. Being tardy by fifteen minutes or more past spot time to a rehearsal or performance will count as an unexcused absence and be subject to the consequences listed above.

“Early is on time, on time is late,  
Late is **UNACCEPTABLE!**”

- NOTICE -

**Do not schedule events such as ACT, SAT, etc. on band events.  
Absences will NOT be excused. Plan ahead!**

*Example:*

**Taylor County Bands**

*REQUEST FOR ABSENCE*

Name: John Johnson

I request to be absent or tardy for the following event(s):  
(Circle the appropriate choice)

REHEARSAL                      DATE(S) 10/01/09

PERFORMANCE                      DATE(S) \_\_\_\_\_

For the following reason (be specific) \_\_\_\_\_ I am going to the orthodontist to get braces on my teeth. My appointment is right after school and it will last about 2 hours.

Attendance has a direct effect on your standing in band. If you are requesting an absence from a performance, this form must be turned in at least **two weeks** prior to the performance. For sudden illness, etc., this form must be submitted within two days of your return to school. Please be as specific as possible in your reason for requesting an absence. “Personal event” is not enough information and the absence will be denied. This form must be submitted for absences from both performances and rehearsals. Keep in mind that this is a request and may not be approved. **Forms not submitted within the outlined timeframe will be considered unapproved.**

Student Signature John Johnson                      Date 09/29/09

Parent Signature Joe Johnson                      Date 09/29/09

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FOR DIRECTOR USE ONLY

\_\_\_\_ APPROVED                      X DENIED

COMMENTS: *You submitted this request two days before the event. The policy is two weeks as this is no sudden illness. Your grade for this rehearsal will be a 0. Next time let us know earlier. Your absence affects us all.*

## General Rules and Procedures

- All school policies are in effect for all rehearsals, performances, and trips.
- If you are on time, you're late! Always be at least 10 minutes early.
- Bring your instrument, music, and a pencil to every rehearsal.
- No gum, food, or beverage is permitted inside carpeted areas of the music building. No gum is permitted on the football or practice field.

### Procedures for Football Games, Away Events, and Public Appearances

- You will sit, spaced, in assigned sections. Only band members are to be in our assigned area.
- There will be no food or drink in the stands. Finish your food and drink before returning to the stands.
- We will remain in the stands and not "stroll" the area. During 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter break you will be permitted to go to the concession stand.
- Except in cases of an illness or emergency, do not use the restrooms. We cannot have people wandering about the stadium, especially away from TCHS. When going to the restroom (except during 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter break), always tell the Director, and always go with a chaperone.
- There is to be no confetti or other types of "celebration" materials in the stands. This adds to everyone's safety.
- **We will remain until all activities are concluded!**
- Contents of the band bag during Band events will be regulated by the Director and are subject to search.
- No food or drink on the buses, unless otherwise noted.
- No radios/CD players/MP3 players, etc., without headphones.
- No singing in groups of one or more.
- Absolutely no cell phones during band events unless express Director permission is given. If cell phones are seen, even if they are off, they will be confiscated and turned in to the Dean's office.
- All students MUST travel to band events on provided transportation.
- Students MUST also travel back to TCHS on provided transportation, UNLESS -
  - The parent may sign out a student by turning in a signed note to the director no less than ONE DAY PRIOR TO THE EVENT. **No last minute notes will be honored.**
  - Students may **only** leave with the immediate parent or guardian. No brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, grandparents, neighbors, etc.
  - *This is a safety and liability issue for your child. If the above guidelines cannot be met, then no students will be permitted to leave an event without coming back to school first on provided transportation.*

### **Conduct for Public Appearances**

Band members must remember that when in public, they no longer represent only themselves. They represent themselves, their band, their friends, their parents, their school, and their community. Band members are expected to conduct themselves in a way that impresses only a most positive image on those who see us. Band members must act in a professional manner at all times. There is to be no PDA during band functions. Period. Violation of this policy will result in grave consequences.

## Band Room Regulations

- NO FOOD, DRINK, GUM, CANDY, ETC. allowed in the band room (except water in a closable container)
- Director, or guest, on podium = **SILENCE**
- The band room should be kept neat and orderly. It should emit a sense of pride and organization at all times. If you use something, **PUT IT BACK** (i.e. stands, chairs, music, folders, percussion, etc.) Each member is to clean up around his own area. Store your instrument and music in assigned places - **NOT ON THE FLOOR**. Do not leave books or other personal belongings in the band room.
- The instrument storage room is for instruments only! Students are not to loiter in the storage room. All instruments are to be stored in their assigned cabinets - **NOT ON THE FLOOR**. There is never to be books, personal belongings, or trash in the storage room. Only Band related materials.
- As a band member you have the privilege of being allowed in the band room. Non-band students are not allowed in the band room. They would be the first to be accused if any instrument were to be damaged.
- Instruments are not to be played by anyone other than the owner, renter, or designated user. If it is not yours, **DO NOT** touch it. This also goes for percussion instruments and Auxiliary Guard equipment.
- NO Cell Phone use during class, for any purpose.

## Student Leadership

**Drum Major** - In charge of Music, Teaching, and works in conjunction with the Band Captain

**Band Captain** - In charge of Attendance, Inspections, Discipline, Teaching

**Percussion Captain** - In charge of all things percussion

**Guard / Majorette Captains** - In charge of all things auxiliary

**Section Leaders** - In charge of their sections (woodwind or brass)

**Uniform Manager** - Responsible for uniforms hung up correctly and organized

**Historian** - Documents band activities using different media

**Equipment Manager** - Checks for all needed equipment at events, Takes inventory at end of year

**Librarians** - Organize and maintain the band library, only these people can use the band library / copy machine

**Reporter** - Sends out information to local and school newspapers, yearbooks, etc.

**\*All students are leaders if they choose to be. Seniors are leaders due to their seniority.**

## Rehearsal Procedures

The marching band rehearses every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30-6:00 PM during marching season. Any changes to the rehearsal schedule will be announced in class and emailed to students and parents.

Rehearsal time is short and every moment must be used for actual rehearsal purposes. If you delay the rehearsal even for one minute, you have caused every other member of the band to be forced to waste one minute. The following guidelines are the foundation of our rehearsal procedure:

1. Band members must have all required materials present for all rehearsals. (See Instruments and Uniforms section)
2. For band class rehearsals, a student is considered TARDY if not in place and ready to perform within two minutes of the tardy bell. For after school marching rehearsals, students are considered TARDY if not in place and ready to perform when the band is called to attention. For after school concert rehearsals, students are considered TARDY if not in place and ready to perform by the designated rehearsal time. We go by the band room clock!
3. When the Director or someone in charge steps on the podium, ALL ACTIVITY MUST CEASE. Your full attention must be given to that person and nothing should be allowed to distract you. Use “High Intensity Listening” for an effective rehearsal. **There is no talking during a rehearsal.** Inattentive or disruptive students will lose points from their participation grade.
4. Do not leave your seat unless given permission to do so.
5. Eating, drinking, or gum chewing are strictly PROHIBITED during any rehearsal or appearance by the band.
6. Cell phones are strictly PROHIBITED during any rehearsal or appearance by the band. Violation of this policy will result in the phone being confiscated and turned in to the Dean’s office.
7. Students who do not have an instrument or music will be assigned alternate work for the rehearsal.
8. Prior to the start of each rehearsal students are to get their instruments out, take care of any reed/valve/etc. problems and warm-up. This is not the time to socialize or waste time.
9. Students will not be permitted to leave the building to get their instruments. Do not ask.

## Football Games

- **Meet in the band room for all games with all equipment, music, etc. at the designated report time.** Percussion should arrive earlier to get equipment ready. The band room will remain secured during the game until the band has returned from the performance for the evening.
- **Stand at attention during inspection.** No playing of instruments. Section leaders should check their sections uniform, instruments, and equipment. Come to attention when called *and stay at attention until you are given another instruction by the director or other leader.*
- **Sit in your sections.** Line up behind the person in front of you. Straight lines. Hats off together on command.
- All instruments and music are to be in ***constant readiness for use.***
- **NO FOOD OR DRINKS** in the stands except water from the band boosters. You *may* have 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter off at the director's discretion.
- Uniforms shall be hung properly after each performance. (part of the performance grade)
- **NO one is dismissed early.** Plan to remain for the full evening's performance including any post game playing, march out, and performance discussion.
- All equipment is your responsibility and must be properly cared for and stored by you after the performance. (part of the performance grade)
- **ONLY CURRENT BAND MEMBERS are allowed in the band section.** Visitors and alumni are **NOT** allowed in the band section unless director approval is obtained. You may visit with friends during 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter break or before or after the performance.
- **We will return to the stands when 1 minute is left in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.**
- Be courteous to visiting bands, directors, officers, and anyone who you would have contact with.
- Rowdiness or misconduct within the band or between band members and outsiders will **not** be tolerated. Report any problems to the director at once.
- Cheer with the cheerleaders. Part of our show is to be a contributor to the spirit of the school. **PARTICIPATE!**
- At halftime, kneel down and watch quietly as the other band performs. **DO NOT** whisper or gesture during the other bands performance. It can easily be taken wrong, even if you are being positive.
- **Remain seated during the game.** Stand only during kickoffs, touchdowns, and cheers where you are supposed to stand.
- While at games, we are constantly in the public view and your conduct must reflect the highest standards.
- **NO USE OF TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, OR DRUGS** while you are in any way associated with the band or the school.

## Public Appearances

- Students will be given a detailed schedule for each band event (usually available 5 days prior to the event).
- Students are to be ready for inspection, rehearsal, or the performance at the scheduled time. Students not ready to play, rehearse, etc. at the designated times will be considered tardy.
- A monthly schedule will be written on the white board in the front of the band room.
- It is the responsibility of each student to keep up with his or her calendar and events written on the white board.
- All rules of conduct and order, which apply to rehearsals, will also apply to public appearances except that students WILL NOT play their instruments until instructed to do so.
- Never, under any circumstances, should the band engage in informal playing or warm-up of any type where they can be seen or heard by outsiders. This would create the worst possible impression of an organization.
- Let your conduct at all times **BE ABOVE REPROACH**. This means before and after an appearance and everywhere else you go. ***YOUR CONDUCT REFLECTS ON YOUR FELLOW BAND MEMBERS, THE SCHOOL, AND THE COMMUNITY.***
- After dismissal from any appearance, be sure that you have properly taken care of your uniform, instruments, music, etc. before leaving the place of the concert or appearance. This is part of your performance grade. Always leave a place cleaner than you found it.

**“If the band was made up of 100 of you, what would that band be like?”**

## Uniform Requirements

The Pride of Taylor wears uniforms that were new in the 2008/2009 season. The investment in these uniforms was over \$27,000 and we therefore expect that students give the utmost care to the uniform and in no way become careless with it. The TCHS band uniform should provide each member with a spirit of unity and a sense of purpose and pride. Consequences will be assigned for students who do not respect the uniform and this organization enough to care for it. **No uniform is a uniform unless it is worn fully and correctly. No one should ever see you in anything less than your full uniform unless instructed by the Director.**

If you encounter problems with your uniform (lost articles or buttons, tears, broken seams, etc.), you should immediately report this to the Uniform Manager. **The hour before a performance is not the time for repairs.**

The student's band activity fee must be collected before the uniform is issued. This fee covers uniform rental and dry cleaning. The loss or destruction of a uniform, or any part thereof, will be financially assessed and charged to that student. **Each uniform costs approximately \$450.**

Each student is responsible for having and maintaining the following:

1. **Black Gateway marching shoes** (available only through Band Boosters)
2. **Black socks** (higher than ankle length)
3. **TCHS Band T-Shirt** (available only through Band Boosters)
4. **TCHS Band Polo Shirt** (available only through Band Boosters)
5. **Plain black shorts of appropriate length** (available at Wal-Mart, K-Mart, etc.)
6. **White long-wrist gloves** (available only through Band Boosters)
7. **Tux Shirt - wing-tip collar** (available at Crossroads)
8. **Black concert dress** (available only through Band Boosters)
9. **Closed-toes ladies dress shoes** - heels of no more than ½ inch

### Uniform Regulations

- Do not take uniforms home for any reason. Uniforms are to be properly hung on a form-fitting hanger and returned to the Uniform Manager after each performance. Uniform staff will do all alterations.
- Members should wear their uniform with PRIDE. When wearing the uniform:
  - Always have it buttoned and zipped up
  - No wrinkles
  - Gloves white and shoes polished
  - TCHS Band T-shirt and Black Shorts must be worn
  - Remember: Wear the uniform correctly or not at all!
- NO visible jewelry, hair ornaments, colored nail polish, or earrings. No make-up in the marching uniform - it will run and stain the uniform! Concert uniforms - light make-up only.
- No decorative items will be allowed to be attached to the uniform.
- No additions may be worn with the uniform such as baseball caps, bandanas, etc.
- Hair must be worn so that it is off the collar of the uniform, either cut or pinned up (with black pins), well-groomed, and kept out of the face. Hair color or style must not draw attention to the individual.
- Boys are to be clean shaven. Sideburns no lower than the ear are acceptable but must be kept trimmed and neat.

- Band hats are to be worn correctly at the appropriate angle. Never wear the band hat backwards or carry it by the strap. Hair must fit under the hat and the hat brim must be level with the eye brows.
- Band hats are to be kept in their corresponding hat boxes. Keep trash out of hat boxes.
- In situations where the band is traveling and the uniform is not being worn, you are to properly hang and cover the uniform in your garment bag.

<b>MARCHING UNIFORM</b> Band T-Shirt Black Shorts Marching Pants Marching Coat Hat White long-wristed gloves Black Socks Black Gateway Shoes	<b>CONCERT UNIFORM</b> Black Dress Skin Colored Panty Hose Tuxedo Wing-tip collared shirt with studs Blue Bow Tie Blue Vest Black Socks Black Gateway Shoes Closed Toe, ½” Max Heel Shoe	<b>PEP RALLY/TRAVEL UNIFORM</b> Band Polo Shirt Blue Jeans/Khaki Pants White Socks Sneakers/Tennis Shoes  <b>REHEARSAL UNIFORM</b> Band T-Shirt Black Band Shorts Sneakers
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## Make-up Requirements

Any females wishing to wear make-up to complete their concert uniform must abide by the following rules:

1. Foundation must match skin tone as closely as possible and must be thinly applied.
2. Blush must be applied with good taste, not clownish-looking.
3. Eye shadow must be of a neutral color (browns, whites, creams) and only be applied to the eyelid.
4. Eye liner must be of a black, gray or brown color. Eye liner should be applied only as thick/wide as the pencil lead. If using liquid eye liner, the line must not be thicker/wider than the brush. Eye liner should only outline the eyes, not extend from the sides of the eyes. If eye liner appears too thick and bold, you will be asked to wash your eyes off and not wear any make-up.
5. Mascara must be of a brown or black color. Mascara must also be applied in a tasteful manner - that is, no clumps should be seen.
6. ABSOLUTELY NO LIPSTICK/LIPGLOSS!!!

## Instruments

Every student is responsible for **having** required equipment and accessories, **maintaining** the condition of his or her instrument and uniform, and **returning** any and all items that are school property at the end of the year.

All students are expected to bring their instrument to every rehearsal. If your instrument is not working properly, please bring it to a director to be inspected. In the event that an instrument must be repaired and has been delivered to a repair shop, please provide a receipt or repair estimate so that infractions are not assessed. In addition to your instrument and your music, you must have the following:

**Woodwinds:** Name tag for instrument, reeds (minimum of three playable at all times), reed guard or reed case, cork grease, cotton or silk instrument swab, lyre for marching instrument and flip folder, two pencils, metronome and folding music stand (for home practice).

**Brass:** Name tag for instrument, valve oil, slide grease, straight mute, cup mute, cloth for cleaning, mouthpiece brush, snake, lyre for marching instrument and flip folder, two pencils, metronome and folding music stand (for home practice).

**Percussion:** 2B or 5B sticks for concert, marching sticks/mallets as asked by percussion instructor, rubber and yarn marimba/xylophone mallets, medium timpani mallets, stick bag with name tag, two pencils, metronome and folding music stand (for home practice).

All school-owned instruments must be checked out through the appropriate officer by filling out an instrument rental agreement. Once issued, the instrument becomes the responsibility of the student for proper care, maintenance, and protection from damage or theft. Students using school owned instruments will be responsible for and charged for any damages to the instruments. Due to the “shared” nature of percussion instruments, all percussionists will share collectively in the responsibility for damage or loss of percussion instruments/equipment.

## FBA Solo and Ensemble / Semester Exam

**ALL** band students (winds, percussion, and guard) will participate in the FBA Solo & Ensemble MPA (Music Performance Assessment) by performing a grade III or higher solo on his or her instrument. Solo & Ensemble is one of the best ways to improve individual student musicianship and also fulfill the Sunshine State Standard for Music “to play alone and with others.” It is the most important festival of the year! Ensembles are optional and encouraged.

Students will adhere to the following procedure for the Solo & Ensemble MPA:

1. Wind and percussion students will choose and have purchased a solo on the FBA S&E solo list by **October 2010**. Choosing music on the SmartMusic list will allow you to practice with a computer, and even perform with it. This will be helpful and cheaper, but the best experience would come from performing with an accompanist. An accompanist will be able to accompany Taylor Band students for a couple of rehearsals as well as for the Festival. This will serve as a major test grade for the first grading period.
2. Students will prepare and rehearse their solos with the SmartMusic software and make at least two recordings of their performance which will be submitted to the Director. Students will then evaluate their solos based on an evaluation rubric provided with by the Director and meet with the Director at least once by the end of Finals week.
3. An exam rubric will be made available to students defining all expectations and requirements. This will determine each student’s semester exam grade.

### Solo & Ensemble MPA

The Solo & Ensemble MPA will be held on **Friday, February 11** for Auxiliary Guard at Madison County High School and on **Saturday, February 12** at FSU for winds and percussion. All TCHS Band students are required to participate. This will be a major exam grade for all students **that cannot be made up if missed**. Solo & Ensemble will count as both a stand-alone major exam grade and will also count as 50% of the final exam grade. Musicianship Tests will count as the other 50% of the final exam grade. Grading will be as follows:

Superior = 100%  
Excellent = 89%  
Good = 75%  
Fair = 65%  
Poor = 55%  
DNA (Does Not Appear) = 0%

Transportation to the S&E site will be provided by bus. Student registration for S&E is paid for by the band, unless you choose to DNA: you will be charged for reimbursement.

## Trips

The band will travel as much as budgets allow. The student's account will need to be out of debt or a payment plan must be set up in order to participate. Some special regulations are necessary for this type of activity.

- Mode of travel will be provided or approved by the school. Students traveling with the band must travel with the group in the vehicle provided. Exceptions, in grave emergencies, must be approved by the director.
- Students are to be on hand at the point of departure at the designated report time given by the director.
- **Each student** is responsible to see that his or her equipment is loaded at the departure point, after the performance, and unloaded upon return and stored properly.
- At least one band leadership member and one adult chaperone will be placed on each bus. They are in COMPLETE charge. Respect is imperative and expected. The leadership member or adult chaperone will issue instructions regarding conduct and also concerning the appearance and activity ahead.
- While travelling on buses you will obey the instructions of the bus driver.
- Never hang any equipment or any part of your body out of the bus windows.
- Never shout to people outside the bus from inside the bus.
- There may be times when we will need to change into uniform on the bus. During those times there will be ONLY males on the bus or females on the bus. Never both.
- While traveling on buses, students may talk quietly to the person next to them. No singing, chanting, wrapping, etc. Students may bring mp3 players, CD players, etc. but they must be on headphones. *Please respect the needs of your fellow band members to rest on late returns. Some of our band members work the mornings following performances. Inconsideration of others may cause you to lose your privilege to ride the bus and perform.*
- Students will ride both ways on a trip on their assigned bus.
- Remain seated while the bus is in motion. If you create trash, hold on to it until we unload the bus. Do not pass your trash to the front or walk to the front to throw it away.
- While out of town students will not ride in any private automobiles without permission from the director.
- Use of any tobacco, alcoholic beverages or drugs that could modify behavior is absolutely forbidden at all times. Violation will result in being dismissed from the band and a referral to school officials. Report any suspicion of abuse to the director immediately.
- On overnight trips, all students will be in rooms at or before the designated curfew hour. They will not leave the hotel or rooms without the permission of the director.
- While staying at a hotel, the students are to be courteous to all hotel employees and guests. They are to conduct themselves in a prideful manner to themselves, the band, school, and community.
- While staying overnight, students will not leave their rooms unless dressed to go out. While out of town, students should dress neatly and in good taste at all times. This is evidence of pride in the band and personal pride as well.
- While traveling out of town, be sure to eat properly, regularly, and get proper sleep. You will be of no use to the band and will certainly not enjoy anything about the trip if you are not well. **Good nutrition** is essential to good health and accomplishment.
- Use quiet voices while in restaurants.
- **Leave every place cleaner than you found it.**
- Special rules and instructions will be given to the students just prior to the trip to be taken.
- Anyone dropping out of band or being dismissed from the band will not be eligible to participate on further band activities or travel with the band or go on band trips. They will also be subject to cancellation charges.
- Any poor attitudes or discipline problems will negatively affect a member's leadership potential and/or continued membership in the band and will reflect in the grade.
- **ALL SCHOOL BOARD RULES AND POLICIES ARE IN EFFECT AT ALL BAND FUNCTIONS.**

## Equipment List

The following items are purchased through the Band Boosters:

Black Gateway Marching Shoes	\$20.00
Additional Band T-shirts	\$15.00
Additional Band Polo Shirts	\$20.00
Band Bag	\$35.00
Additional Gloves	\$3.00
Black Concert Dress	\$65.00

The following items are purchased at MusicMasters in Tallahassee:  
1-800-848-6158

You may also purchase from the Woodwind & Brasswind:  
[www.wwbw.com](http://www.wwbw.com)

- \*Lyre
- \*Flip Folder
- \*Bell-Clamp Lyre/Flip Folder (trombone only)
- \*Extra Flip Folder Pages
- \*Reeds (Vandoren Brand ONLY) Check with directors for reed strength - 3 working reeds at all times!
- Neck strap for saxophone
- \*Valve Oil
- \*Slide Cream
- \*Tuning Slide Grease
- \*Cork Grease
- Mouthpieces - Check with directors before purchasing!
- \*Metronome
  
- \*Innovative Percussion / Vic Firth Sticks and Mallets  
Marching Snare, Concert Snare, Marching Bass Drum, Marching Tenor, Marimba, Vibraphone,  
Xylophone, Bell, Timpani

**\* = Required Items**

### FINE POLICY

- If you leave your stuff in a place where it shouldn't be, it will go in my office and you will have to pay to get it out – music, clothes, equipment, etc - \$1
- Sheet music is equipment...First copy free, \$1 a copy, thereafter. Each member will sign for the music they receive so it will be fair! You will pay for originals at cost, which is usually about \$3 + shipping

## Fee Schedule

The following fees must be paid in order to participate in the 2010/2011 band program:

Participation Fee	\$120.00
Dry Cleaning Fee	\$30.00
Total	\$150.00

Payment is to be made by check or money order. **No cash.** Make the check or money order payable to: **Taylor County Band**

Mail payment to:

Taylor County High School Band  
900 Johnson Stripling Road  
Perry, Florida 32347

All money and all paperwork are due no later than **Monday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>** in order to secure a spot in the 2010 marching band.

All supplies (mouthpieces, reeds, valve oil, flip folders, etc.) are required by the first day of band camp.

\*Please note: If your family has a financial hardship, please contact the Treasurer, Terri Clover, to discuss payment plans/alternatives.

## Financial Requirements

### Participation Fee

All band members are required to pay an annual participation fee. This fee covers the cost of camp instructors, your band t-shirt, and first pair of gloves.

Any student leaving the band during the course of the year for whatever reason must turn in all uniform parts, any school owned equipment, and pay their band fees owed. Failure to do so will result in the charges being added to the student's senior bill which will prevent report cards, transcripts, and diplomas from being released. All fees are non-refundable.

### Dry Cleaning Fee

All band members are required to pay a dry cleaning fee. This will cover the cost of cleaning the uniforms four times throughout the school year as well as the raincoat.

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### TOTAL FEE

For veteran band members, the total fee for the 2010/2011 school year is \$150.00. This does not include any replacement parts you may need to purchase, including band shoes.

For incoming band members, the initial amount for the 2010/2011 school year is \$150.00 plus any additional items you may want or need to purchase. A list of these items and prices is included on a separate page in the handbook.

**If you foresee a problem meeting your financial obligations for the band, please contact the Band Booster Treasurer or the Director immediately.** All information is kept confidential and we do not want this to be a reason for your child to miss out on this awesome experience.

**All fees must be paid in full, or arrangements made, before a uniform will be distributed.**

**Fees due date: Monday, August 2, 2010**

Students who wish to use band account money for fees may do so. HOWEVER, all students will be required to pay a deposit of \$50.00 to secure a spot in the band. Band account money may not be used for this \$50.00.

## Student Accounts

- Each student in the TCHS Band Program may maintain a trip account through the Band Boosters.
- Students may add money to their trip account through fundraising efforts or make a direct deposit to the Band Booster Treasurer.
- This money may only be used for paying band fees or trip payments.
- In the event of a trip year, students must pay their band fee before they will be allowed to use their trip account money for payments.
- Once a student graduates or leaves the band program, any remaining funds in his/her trip account will be deposited back into the general fund. By law students are unable to receive this amount back.
- If a graduating student has a younger sibling in the TCHS band program they may transfer their money to the sibling's account.

## Band Administration

Directors of Bands, TCHS .....	Stewart Schlazer
Director of Bands, TCMS . .....	Heather Whorton
Percussion Instructor .....	Emmanuel Cooper
Guard Sponsor .....	C'Mone Gillyard

### Band Booster Officers

President  
Immediate Past President  
Vice President  
Treasurer - Terri Clover  
Secretary  
Uniform Chairpersons - Terri Clover  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Alumni Representative

The role of the Band Boosters is to provide financial, logistical, and moral support of the band program. All parents who have students in the band program are Band Boosters. Monthly meetings are open to **all parents** and are held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM in the TCHS band room.

Taylor County High School  
900 Johnson Stripling Road  
Perry, Florida 32347  
(850) 838-2525

## Awards

Each year the hard working students are rewarded at the annual band banquet. Listed below are the awards and requirements that are awarded every year. There may be additional awards as the band staff sees fit. Not all awards may be given each year.

Pride Band Award	Certificate given to all members upon completing a year of band. Completing a year means you have attended all rehearsals and have a grade of C or higher.
Marching Medal	Awarded to all students who participate in the FBA Marching MPA.
Concert Medal	Awarded to all students who participate in the FBA Concert Band MPA.
Solo & Ensemble	Awarded to students who participate in the FBA S&E MPA.
Band Letter	Band letters are awarded to students who successfully complete two years of band.
Bars	Bars are to be given after completing years three and four.
Most Improved/Most Outstanding	Voted on by students. Categories include Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior, Senior, Majorette, and Flag.
Outstanding Service Award	Awarded to an individual showing outstanding service to the band program throughout the school year.
Outstanding Music Award	Awarded to students who qualify for the State S&E MPA. If no one qualifies for State S&E, then a student will be chosen based on musical accomplishments including All-District/All-State Band, district S&E, etc.
Director's Award	Awarded to a Junior or Senior. The Director's Award recognizes outstanding musical achievement and growth, service, and commitment to the band.
John Philips Sousa Award	Awarded to a Senior who demonstrates outstanding music achievement and growth, service, and commitment to the band.

## Lyrics to Memorize

*You will be tested on this!*

### Taylor County High School Fight Song “Washington and Lee Swing”

Whenever Taylor High comes on the line  
We're gonna win this game another time  
For Taylor High I yell, I yell, I yell  
For Taylor High I yell, I yell, I yell, I yell.

We're gonna fight, fight, fight for every yard  
We're gonna circle in and hit that line real hard  
We're gonna roll those \_\_\_\_\_ off the side, off the side  
Rah, Rah, Rah  
Hey!

### Taylor County High School Alma Mater

Dear old High School  
We Love Her  
Our ideal and Pride  
We will hold up Her Standards  
Whatever may betide  
We will follow Her Colors.  
Flung out to the Sky.  
We will give our Hearts Devotion  
To ole Taylor High.

# ORDER FORM

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

The items listed below can only be purchased through the Band Boosters. Please select the items you would like to purchase and turn in to Mr. Schlazer no later than **Monday, August 2<sup>th</sup>**. Payment must accompany this form. Make checks payable to **TCHS Band**. If needed, see the treasurer for a payment plan.

## Quantity

_____ 2010 Band Fee	\$150.00	(\$25 band camp fee included)
_____ T-Shirt	Free	
_____ Black Gateway Band Shoes	\$20.00	Size _____
_____ Band Polo Shirt	\$20.00	Size _____
_____ Band Bag	\$35.00	
_____ Extra Band T-Shirt	\$15.00	
_____ Extra White Gloves	\$3.00 each	
_____ Concert Dress for Ladies	\$65.00	

Total Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Items will be delivered as soon as they come in.

# CONTRACT OF PARTICIPATION 2010-2011

Student:

I have read and understand the handbook for the Taylor County High School Band for the 2010-2011 school year. By signing this contract I agree to uphold the terms and conditions written in this handbook. I understand that no handbook can possibly address all situations and that when situations arise not covered in this handbook; they will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. I understand that any more than three offenses against this handbook will be grounds to have me removed from the band programs at Taylor County High School.

In the event that I am removed from the band program, suspended from any trips, etc., I understand that I forfeit any and all awards and recognition and will not be refunded any money paid to the band.

I agree that I am willing to make this program the best it can be with much hard work and positive effort. Supporting those around me I will continue to pursue musical and visual excellence.

*Detach and return by August 2, 2010*

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I have read and understand the handbook for the Taylor County High School Band for the 2010-2011 school year. By signing this contract I agree to uphold the terms and conditions written in this handbook. I understand that no handbook can possibly address all situations and that when situations arise not covered in this handbook; they will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. I understand that any more than three offenses against this handbook will be grounds to have me removed from the band programs at Taylor County High School.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student (Last name, First name)

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date