

**RIISING 8TH GRADE FOOTBALL GAME
MARCHING BAND HANDBOOK**



THE REBEL REGIMENT

HANDBOOK FOR RISING 8TH GRADERS

Welcome to the Rebel Regiment Marching Band. Participation in an organization such as this will provide opportunities for you to take part in concerts, performances and other events. These activities will greatly enrich your school life. The guidelines in this handbook will help us better work together and create outstanding performances. Being a part of the band is a positive experience you will never forget!

**JAMES F. BYRNES
REBEL REGIMENT
P.O. Box 761
Duncan, SC 29334**



DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ *High school music students score higher on SATs in both verbal and math than their peers*
- ◆ *Music lessons boost a child's capacity for verbal memory*
- ◆ *Students who were exposed to music-based courses scored higher on fractions tests than those who learned in the conventional manner*
- ◆ *Music majors are the most likely group of college grads to be admitted to medical school*
- ◆ *Data from the National Educational Study showed that music participants received more academic honors and awards than non-music students*
- ◆ *Research shows that instrumental students are better equipped to comprehend mathematical and scientific concepts*
- ◆ *College-age students who studied music are emotionally healthier than their non-musician counterparts and less likely to have substance abuse problems*
- ◆ *A ten-year study, tracking more than 25,000 students, shows that music courses improve overall test scores and boost problem solving skills*
- ◆ *"The nation's top business executives agree that arts education programs can help repair weaknesses in American education and better prepare workers for the 21st century."*

"The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather in a lack of will."

Vincent Lombardi

OBJECTIVES OF THE BAND PROGRAM



- *To teach instrumental music education through performance*
- *To develop valuable life skills*
- *To develop performance skills and techniques*
- *To develop leadership skills*
- *To provide an ensemble/group experience requiring commitment*
- *To be a source of pride and ambassador for the entire community*

SOME OF THE BENEFITS OF BAND

Teamwork- *No matter what you do in life, working together is essential. Band is a great way to work as a group and learn to reach goals.*

Extracurricular- *Colleges and Universities are impressed when students have participated in activities such as marching band. Most scholarship applications require participation in extracurricular activities.*

Life Skills- *Students learn dedication, commitment, perseverance, acceptance and responsibility (to name a few). These are necessary skills for life no matter what you choose as a career.*

Friendships- *Many band members make friendships that last. Most students will tell you that the band is their second family. Students will find a group to be part of – band is much better than running with the wrong crowd.*

Leadership- *Students learn to become excellent leaders through performance and activities.*

Time Management Skills- *You learn how to manage your time and make the most of it.*

FUN!!!

Don't forget we have lots of fun in Band. We play all kinds of music and have a great time no matter where we are.

REBEL REGIMENT SCBDA AWARDS

Upper State Champions:

CLASS AAAAA 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021

CLASS AAAA 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2006,

CLASS AAA 1990

State Champions:

CLASS AAAAA 2016, 2018

CLASS AAAA 1994, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2006

CLASS AAA 1983, 1988

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR FOOTBALL GAME MARCHING BAND?

- *Rising 8th graders by invitation*
- *Rising 9-12th By Audition/Director Recommendation*
- *Percussion- By Audition*
- *Color Guard- By Audition (Auditions in Late April)*

HERE ARE KEY FACTORS IN TAKING OUR BAND TO THE NEXT LEVEL:

Students are required to be registered in a band class at their middle school in order to participate in Football Game Marching Band - There is no way students will be able to perform at their maximum potential without taking band class.

Be at practice: Every member is part of a giant machine- just one person missing throws everything off (and also hurts the success of others). Each student is vital to our band. Please plan your schedule so that you can be at all practices. This teaches everyone the value of commitment.

Attitude: Approach this as if you know it's going to change your life for the better. You may even astound yourself at what you are capable of when you put your mind to it.

Private Lessons Taking private lessons will greatly help you become a better player- This is NOT required but is encouraged. There is a private lesson teacher list available at **ByrnesBand.org**

DISTRICT FIVE BAND STAFF

DISTRICT FIVE DIRECTOR OF FINE ARTS

Matthew Wofford- matthew.wofford@spart5.net

DIRECTOR OF BANDS (JAMES F. BYRNES HIGH SCHOOL)

Bryan Bone Bonedog95@aol.com or Bryan.Bone@Spart5.net

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS (JAMES F. BYRNES HIGH SCHOOL)

Tom Padgett - tom.padgett@spart5.net

Jarrod Mabrey – Jarrod.Mabrey@Spart5.net

MIDDLE SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Florence Chapel- Alicia Crutchlow alicia.crutchlow@spart5.net

D.R.Hill- Thomas Cotter thomas.cotter@spart5.net

D.R.Hill and FCMS – Eric Bell eric.bell@spart5.net

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Lori Lynne Hurst- Berry Shoals lorilynne.hurst@spart5.net

Matthew Gill- Beech Springs Matthew.Gill@Spart5.net

Liam Montiel- Berry Shoals & Beech Springs liam.montiel@spart5.net

DISTRICT FIVE PERCUSSION STAFF

Director of Percussion Studies – Austin Sanders austin.sanders@spart5.net

Assistant Director- Tyler King tyler.king@spart5.net

Assistant Director- Joanne Ma joanne.ma@spart5.net

DISTRICT FIVE COLOR GUARD DIRECTOR

Phillip Cohen- Phillip.Cohen@spart5.net



THE REBEL REGIMENT

ATTENDANCE



*Unlike many other classes and activities, this group cannot function properly without every student present. Please make every effort to be present and on time for each event. Remember, **“To be early is to be on time; to be on time is to be LATE!”***

1) ATTENDANCE AT ALL PRACTICES AND PERFORMANCES IS MANDATORY UNLESS SPECIFICALLY DEEMED OPTIONAL BY THE STAFF!

2) Students should be in their spot ready to begin with all necessary music and/or equipment when official call time begins. Students who are present, but not ready, will be considered late. Students who arrive late without a valid excuse will be assigned extra training or other consequences.

3) An unexcused absence from practice or performance may be grounds for dismissal from the marching band (or cause a student to lose their full-time spot). A doctor's excuse is required for a performance missed due to illness.

*4) **Non-emergency** dentist, doctor and counselor appointments will **not** be considered an excused absence. Please schedule regular appointments at a non-band time.*

5) In case of bad weather, report to the band room or call time location and wait for further instruction. Do not assume cancellation unless an official staff member calls you or if it's posted by a director online.

*6) If a student is absent from school, they will be excused from band practice on that day. If a student is present at school, they are expected to attend band practice and will not be excused from any after school rehearsals. **AT SCHOOL = AT PRACTICE.***

7) Absences for the reasons listed below will be excused provided the directors are notified well in advance when possible. Please email the director and discuss this with them outside of practice time.

- Illness (Doctor's note needed for missed performance)*
- Marriage in the immediate family (2 month notice required)*
- Death in the immediate family*

Extenuating circumstances, such as church-related events or family situations will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. They must be discussed well in advance with the directors (the more advance notice, the better chances of it being excused)

8) Not having a ride is not an excuse. Please plan ahead and carpool if necessary.

9) Students with excessive tardiness and absences to school and/or rehearsals (excused or not) run the risk of losing their full-time spot. The band directors will decide when and if they return to a starting position. Rotator positions are explained later in this handbook.

10) Most absences can be avoided by planning ahead. Check your band schedule because...

Your attendance is vital to the success of the entire band!

Football Game Responsibilities



- I. Before each event there will be a “call time.” This is the time you are to be ready in your designated spot to begin. We will have an inspection to check uniforms, instruments, and other equipment to be sure they are in proper condition. We will then do a very short rehearsal/warm up to get ready for the performance.
- II. The band will enter and exit the stadium together as instructed.
- III. Each section will have a designated area in the stands.
- IV. Only Band Members and staff will be allowed to sit in the band section. Non-band members will only be allowed with permission from a band director. Alumni must have permission from the band staff to enter the band section.
- V. Be in proper uniform at all times unless otherwise instructed by the staff.
- VI. Do not play instruments when the band is not playing together. Section/group stands songs need to be approved by the staff before the game.
- VII. If a student must leave the band section for an emergency, please notify a staff member to get permission.
- VIII. Restroom breaks will be given during the game. You must be back in your assigned area by the designated time.
- IX. As a representative of your school, everyone is expected to act in a way that reflects positively upon our school, band, and community. Demonstrate that the Rebel Regiment is always a class act no matter what!



Typical Schedule for a Home Game Friday

	<i>An activity Bus will bring 8th graders from the middle school to the high school</i>
4pm	Stadium Practice (Full Band)
6pm	Concession Stand Break (Students must stay in the stadium or band room- students may bring food from home if they don't want food from the concession stand)
7pm	Call Time in the band stands for the game (We play music before the game)
7:30pm	Kickoff – We play in the stands for the 1 st and 2 nd quarter
Halftime	Football games marches their halftime show facing the home stands
3 rd Quarter	Students get a restroom/concession break for the 3 rd quarter
4 th Quarter	Full band back in the stands to play music during 4 th quarter
10pm	Approx. pick up time (Occasionally we have a later time if game goes into overtime)

Equipment needed for performances and practices

- 1) Three-Ring Binder notebook with show music/warm ups/hand-outs (will be provided)
- 2) Instruments and any needed accessories/equipment
- 3) Flip folder and lyre (will be provided)
- 4) All music-- if we get rained out we may come inside and work on music (provided)
- 5) Water Cooler- during warm weather a personal water cooler is essential (you provide)

Warm Weather "Summer" Uniform

- 1) Tennis shoes* (NO Flip flops or sandals)
- 2) Black Shorts* (must meet school code...no Daisy Dukes!)
- 3) Band T-shirt (provided)
- 4) White socks* (no stripes please...not wanting to have that "band geeks unite" look) ankle socks are OK-

****Must be provided by the student. Most of you may already have these items at home. If not, area department stores carry these inexpensive items. Summer uniform will be worn for some events during early season (Like football games in August)***

We will wear marching band uniforms once the weather cools down- other than shoes, all full uniform items are provided by the school.

REGULAR AFTER SCHOOL PRACTICE

Rising 8th graders that participate in the Football Game Marching Band only have practice once a week: 4-5:30 on Wednesday is the Tentative time. A bus will bring middle school students from their school to the high school.

Since we only practice once a week, it is crucial that students don't miss practice. Students who have excessive absences may be placed in an alternate spot.

Start and end times for all after school rehearsals will be finalized once the school bell schedule for next year is set. This time could change slightly if the bell schedule changes (but probably not more than 15 minutes) We will provide this info as soon as the school bell schedule is finalized.

Regular appointments such as dentist, doctor, therapy, etc. should be scheduled around band practice. Please schedule appointments and other activities on a non-band practice day Please make the commitment to be at every rehearsal so that we have a chance to succeed. Each rehearsal is vital to our success!

BAND STAFF (BEFORE AND AFTER PRACTICE)

If you need to schedule a time to speak with a band staff member please email or call to schedule a time. The band staff will be off limits before, during and after practice. During those times the staff is busy focusing on giving the students our undivided attention. Unless it is an emergency, please set up a time to speak with them during a time that does not conflict with practice. We care about whatever you need to discuss, we just want to be able to focus on the students before, during and after practice. Thank you for your understanding.



***“Do not follow where
the path may lead...
Go instead where
there is no path
and leave a trail”***

George Bernard Shaw



RULES AND GUIDELINES



Always follow School District rules while at any band function. See school handbook For a detailed list of school/district rules.

Each member should show respect for staff, band boosters and student leaders at all times. The reasonable requests of band boosters, officers and staff members should be honored without question.

Have a good attitude! Always give your best!

Students are not to enter any part of the school or building not being utilized by the band when school is not in session.

Keep areas utilized by the band neat and clean. Discard all trash. No food or drink in the band room without permission. Do not leave non-essential items out in the band room. Please keep those materials in your locker, vehicle or proper storage area. Let's keep the best band room in SC looking great.

The band room will open at least 20 minutes prior to any call time. The band room will close 30 minutes after the end of rehearsal or events- Students should allow 10-15 minutes following each rehearsal to put up their instrument and/or equipment. In other words---if practice is scheduled to end at 4pm...students will probably take until 4:15pm to put up their equipment and get to their ride. Students who have an unexcused tardy will need time to stay for extra-training.

Extra-Training – is a 15 min. session following each rehearsal in which students give extra practice to make up for being late or causing any discipline problem during practice. Band staff will make decisions on whether or not it's appropriate for a student to attend this session.

Do not touch play an instrument that does not belong to you on school grounds without permission (this includes color guard and electronic equipment)

Follow all classroom rules and guidelines issued for band events

No unnecessary noise or talking while rehearsal is in progress.

“Hazing” of students (including rookies) is never permitted.

It is not possible to list every delinquent action. Please use your common sense and remember that we are representing our school and community

Students who follow the rules and work hard are the students that enjoy band the most. Try your best to be one of these students!



\$150 BAND PARTICIPATION FEE- RISING 8TH GRADERS

Required for all 8th graders in Football Game Marching Band

Please note that this is different than the fees paid by rising 9-12th graders

All students who participate in football game marching band are required to pay the \$150 participation fee.

This fee is paid to the Rebel Band Booster Club (RBBC)

\$75 is Due May 12th

\$75 is Due July 1st

This first payment is NON-REFUNDABLE after June 1st. This fee will be processed immediately for expenses so that we have supplies, music, drill, etc. by the time summer practice begins. Only checks, money orders or credit card payments will be accepted for any payments. Please do not send cash.

Some examples of some items that can be covered by the marching band fee, fundraising and the booster club:

Summer Uniform T-Shirt

Custom Designed Drill for the show

Custom Arranged Music for the show

Stands music for football games

Summer practice adjunct staff

Use of Band Uniform Jacket

Use of Band Uniform hat

Use of Band Uniform Plume

Use of Band Uniform pants

Lyres (music holder) for brass and woodwind players

Drum-heads/supplies for Percussion

Flip folders for brass and woodwind students

Equipment and supplies for the band

Color Guard Flags, poms and costumes

Sound system equipment

Technology items for the band program

Newsletter/info packs/communication expenses

Band Awards Night: awards, medals, certificates

Our cost is minimal considering most band programs of our level charge \$900 to \$1500 to participate in marching band. Please volunteer to help with booster club so that we can continue to keep our out-of-pocket costs down through fundraising. Percussion and Color guard will have some additional fees that are not listed in this handbook.

How to Pay the fee:

Checks should be made payable to RBBC (Rebel Band Booster Club).
Checks can be given to Mr. Cotter or Mrs. Crutchlow and they will get it to the band boosters
These can also be turned in to the lock box in the BHS band room.
This fee can also be mailed to Rebel Band Booster Club PO Box 761 Duncan, SC 29334
or paid online at **ByrnesBand.org**

If you need to work out a different payment plan, please contact the band booster club treasurer
Treasurer@byrnesband.org – We are more than willing to work with anyone due to any financial
situations. We are happy to make accommodations and this info will be kept confidential.

BAND SHOES

First year band members will need to purchase band shoes (unless an older relative or friend has some they can use). The cost is \$45 per student. **Shoe payment is due by Aug 15th.** Checks should be made payable to RBBC and placed into the band room lockbox or paid online at **ByrnesBand.org**. We do have some used band shoes available (while supplies last) for \$5 a pair. More details will be given in future newsletters with details addressing band shoe purchase.

Returning Members: If your shoes from last year still fit and are in good shape, there is no need to purchase a new pair. If you do need a new pair, make sure you sign up for a spot on fitting day during summer practice so that we can place an order for your size. If you have an old pair you would like to donate please bring them and let Mr. Bone know- he will add them to the school stock of used shoes.

SUMMARY OF EXPENSES FOR RISING 8TH GRADERS:

Expense	Total	Due	Checks Payable to:
Band Fee Payment #1	\$75	May 12th	RBBC
Band Fee Payment #2	\$75	July 1st	RBBC
Band Shoes (If needed)	\$45-new \$5 – used shoes	Aug 15 th Not required if you already have band shoes	RBBC

FUND-RAISING

We have several fundraisers to help cover our full budget. Without these fundraisers, we would not have such a low band fee (**REMEMBER, MOST SCHOOLS OF OUR CALIBUR CHARGE \$900-1500 TO PARTICIPATE**). Students will be expected to help with fundraisers that occur during the year. If we all do our part the fundraising can help keep our individual costs down. Successful fundraising allows us to compete and participate in all that we do. Please make every effort to do your part during every fundraiser. Fundraiser details will be provided in newsletters and on the band web site during the year.



SECTION SHIRTS/HOODIES/APPAREL

Some sections decide on their own that they want to design and purchase T Shirts, Hoodies and other items to show their pride. Although we do not discourage this... **Students are NOT required to purchase extra section apparel.**

Any section that would like to purchase section apparel must:

- Have a parent that is in charge of collecting money and ordering the items
- **Have a design approved by the band staff** (if it has anything to do with the school/band we are required to have it approved)
- ALL STUDENTS IN THE SECTION MUST BE CURRENT WITH THEIR BAND FEE PAYMENTS FOR A SECTION TO ORDER ANY "EXTRA" ITEMS SUCH AS SHIRTS OR HOODIES

SCHOOL STORAGE /EQUIPMENT

- 1.) Always show care towards school owned equipment, whether it is checked out to you or not.
We do not charge a rental fee for using school owned instruments.
- 2.) Anyone using school equipment will be responsible for any damage caused to that instrument while it is checked out to them.
- 3.) Any instrument or personal items left on school grounds or in a storage area is done so at your own risk. It is not possible for the staff to monitor these areas at all times. Valuables should be locked in a locker.
- 4.) Keeping your name clearly marked on your instrument case with a name tag discourages any problems.
- 5.) Do not play or touch any instrument that does not belong to you without permission from the director that day.
- 6.) Do not touch Color Guard or Percussion equipment that does not belong to you without permission from the staff that day.

Final note from the Band Directors:

This handbook includes a ton of information and if you are feeling a little overwhelmed.....relax, because that is normal. We will have many handouts and newsletters giving more details as the season progresses. The main final thought to leave you with is...

BEING IN MARCHING BAND IS WORTH IT!

It is a positive life changing experience. James F. Byrnes has a very proud tradition of having a powerhouse band program. Anytime I hear from past members they light up when talking about when they were in marching band. It becomes clear in the first few seconds that band was a highlight of their high school years.

Don't let life pass you by! Every student should find some activities to be involved in. Band can help you develop many extra life skills needed to succeed no matter what you choose as a career.

There is nothing else like marching band. We would not have over 200 students in our program if it weren't something amazing. Those who make the commitment to be a part of the 2022 Marching Band will not regret it!

Sincerely,

District 5 Band Staff

***"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take."
Wayne Gretzky***

If you don't try, You will never know. Give it a shot!

