

# Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City I.S.D. High School Band Student/Parent Handbook

**CONGRATULATIONS on your decision to be a part of the fine tradition of the  
SCUC ISD HIGH SCHOOL BANDS!**

This Handbook is designed as a guide for parents and students. It includes specific details concerning all aspects of the Band program, including the Color Guard (Flags). The Color Guard will also have its own specific Constitution and Rules in addition to the Band. Every effort has been made to make this handbook as complete as possible, however the Band Director and/or school administration have the right to make revisions during the school year. All information in this handbook is superseded by SCUCISD school board, district administration, and campus administration policy.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

It is the intent of the SCUC ISD Band programs to offer every student a well-rounded and enriching music education through participation in individual and group performance-based activities. Throughout their band experience, members develop the values of teamwork, commitment, pride and accomplishment. By successfully developing these skills, the SCUC ISD Bands proudly represent our school district and community.

## **BAND ORGANIZATIONS**

### **MARCHING BAND**

The Marching Band is a combination of all Concert Bands. Marching Band members receive a P.E. waiver for membership in the Marching Band as well as a Fine Arts credit. The SCUC ISD High School Bands perform at all pep rallies, varsity football games, and various marching contests. Membership in the Marching Band is required of all Band students. Positions on the field for the Marching Band are determined through audition by the Directors based on memorization of the required music, marching skill, attendance, and the overall attitude and self-discipline of the student.

Special Note: Marching shows are developed during the previous spring semester. Due to this, drill design and positions on the field are determined based on enrollment projections. Drill design cannot be re-written for the exact number of students who are enrolled in the program in the late summer and fall semester. When there are more students in particular sections than positions charted for the field, students may be assigned a shared or temporary position with another student. Students may be assigned to setting and moving props as an integral part of the show.. Unfortunately, due to “No Pass, No Play”, extenuating circumstances, and/or the above mentioned, a position cannot be guaranteed for each and every student on the field for competition.

### **DRUM LINE**

Drum Line auditions are held during the spring semester of the previous school year. The percussion instructor at each High School assigns students specific percussion instrument parts for the upcoming fall Marching Band. The decision of the Percussion Instructor concerning instrument/part assignments is final. Many double reed players play in the Front Line Ensemble as well as a few chosen woodwind students. There are numerous extra rehearsals required of members of both the Front Line Ensemble and Battery Percussion.

### COLORGUARD

The Colorguard is a competitive performing art. Performers combine their equipment (flags, rifles, sabres) with interpretive body movements (dancing/marching/acting). During the Fall, Colorguard members perform with the band at all football games, UIL competitions, and contests as selected by the directors. Colorguard members perform in Winterguard contests at various schools in the Spring. During Winterguard, members develop an indoor show and perform at multiple competitions leading to the state finals. Members will audition for Winterguard teams at the end of the fall semester. Please view the Colorguard handbook for more specific information.

### TWIRLING

Twirling is a competitive performing art. The performer combines his/her equipment with interpretive body movements (dancing/marching/acting). The twirler is not used in the competitive marching show; however, he/she may perform at various times during halftime performances throughout the football season at the discretion of the Head Band Director. Since a twirler is not used in the competition show, he/she must be a participant in the Marching Band or Colorguard for one year before he/she is eligible to audition as a twirler in the High School Band. The twirler audition will be held in conjunction with the Colorguard officer try-outs in the spring. Once selected as a twirler, he/she must remain as a participant in Marching Band or Colorguard for the competition show. Twirler(s) who are in the Colorguard must participate in all Winter Guard competitions in the spring semester, as well as all recruiting demonstrations and performances as a member of the Colorguard. Twirlers in the Band must participate in all band activities in both the fall and spring semesters. A twirler may see a director to inquire about the U.I.L. Twirling Competition held in the Spring each year.

### CONCERT BANDS

Band students are placed into concert bands by audition according to their performance level, attitude, participation, eligibility and instrumentation needs. The concert bands provide for a wide range of playing abilities and require a certain time commitment. The director's decision on band placement is final. Students may have the opportunity to change band placement at certain points throughout the school year.

### JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Membership in the Jazz Ensemble is by audition and/or invitation only and must be approved by the Directors. A student must be enrolled as a member of one of the High School Concert Bands to qualify for entrance to the Jazz Ensemble.

### APPLIED MUSIC CLASS

All students who wish to be in an Applied Music course must be a member of the Wind Ensemble for the entire school year. Students are required to participate in all TMEA and UIL events. They must perform a UIL Class I Solo and Ensemble, mentor other music students in our school district zone (providing written documentation for accountability). Other requirements may be included within the scope of the course. There must be a minimum number of students enrolled in Applied Music class for the course to be scheduled.

### AUDITIONS/CHAIR PLACEMENT/CHALLENGES

Placement in all Bands is on the basis of playing auditions and/or by decision of the Director. Placement auditions are held at the discretion of the directors. Audition material is selected by the directors.

Chair placement in all concert bands is on the basis of playing auditions. Chair placement auditions are held throughout the year, at the discretion of the band director. Students are placed in chair-order only on the basis of how he/she performs the audition music. District/Region Band Auditions may play a role in chair/band replacement.

Students are highly encouraged to challenge throughout the year. Challenges allow students the opportunity to earn higher chairs within a concert band, as well as opportunity to move into a more challenging concert band. Only students who consistently earn 1<sup>st</sup> chair within their current concert band will be afforded the opportunity to challenge the last chair in the higher level band. Since this type of challenge requires a schedule change, students may have to wait until the end of the semester before a schedule change is made.

### **BAND FEES & OBLIGATIONS**

There are fees and obligations required of each member that are due at the annual Mandatory Parent Meeting held usually in early August. These fees and obligations are described in detail on the band website and/or in an information handout distributed at the meeting. The amounts of these fees vary with the needs of the individual student. Freshmen and first year students to the program usually have the higher totals due to the need to acquire Marching Band shoes, band shirt, etc. The amount usually decreases each year for upperclassmen, assuming that there would not be a need to replace reusable items. Some fees such as the show fee, show shirt fee, and uniform cleaning/maintenance fee will be a yearly obligation throughout a student's career in High School Band.

### **BAND SHIRT/UNIFORM ACCESSORIES**

Formal band uniforms are provided by SCUCISD for the musicians and will be kept at the school between events. The uniforms will be sent out together for cleaning several times during the year. Students are fitted for a uniform during summer band rehearsals. Students are responsible for ensuring they have all appropriate parts of the uniform for performances. Students must also purchase band shirts as part of an informal uniform.

### **SCHOOL INSTRUMENTS**

SCUC ISD provides school instruments in the double reed and low woodwind sections as well as many marching, concert brass, and percussion equipment. These instruments are quite costly and are not normally owned by individual students. School instruments are checked out for a maintenance fee of **\$80.00**. The fee covers only the general maintenance of the instrument. *Any damage done to the instrument will be the sole responsibility of the student to have repaired.* Since SCUCISD carries no instrument insurance, it is highly recommended that the instrument be added to your household insurance policy to cover any theft or damage that might occur. If the instrument is stolen or damaged while checked out to a student, it is the student's responsibility to replace or repair the instrument.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Many band activities are designated by the state as extra-curricular. These activities are therefore governed by the state laws regarding participation (House Bill 72). The state law is such that a student shall be suspended from participation in all extra-curricular activities sponsored or sanctioned by the school district during the nine week period following a grade-reporting period in which the student received a grade lower than seventy in any one class.

The University Interscholastic League (UIL) mandates every school in the state to check student academic eligibility after the first 6 weeks of school. Since SCUC ISD schools are on nine week grading periods, our students are checked for academic eligibility after the nine week grading period as well. However, students who lose eligibility at any nine week grading period may regain eligibility at the three week progress report or the at the six week progress report. In order to achieve or regain academic eligibility, students must pass **ALL** classes with a grade of seventy or higher.

Students earning a grade no lower than 60 in a Pre-AP, AP, Pre-IB, IB, Honors, Dual Credit, or other advanced class are allowed eligibility.

Students are not suspended from practices, rehearsals or concerts unless the event is a pep rally, admission is charged or if the event is a competition. A few band activities are designated by the state as curricular. These activities are a natural extension of the learning taking place in the classroom. An example of this type of activity is a free, non-competitive public concert. This type of activity is not governed by state eligibility law.

### **GRADING**

SCUC ISD Band staff utilizes the SCUC ISD policy on grading. Please view the District's Grading Guidelines in the most current Student Handbook for details.

### **ATTENDANCE AND COMMITMENT**

Because SCUC ISD Bands function as a team and count on each member's presence at rehearsal to accomplish the goals of the group, prompt attendance at each and every band function is crucial to the success of the programs. *For attendance purposes, a band function is defined as: Any rehearsal, sectional, performance, trip, or event scheduled by a director.* Each member is responsible to be at the required location, properly attired, with his or her instrument and all of the necessary equipment *before* the appointed time (or call time).

***"To be early is to be on time ..."***

The directors will establish a call time for each band event. Students should arrive at least 10 minutes prior to this time to allow for unpacking, and other preparations for the rehearsal. Larger instruments such as percussion and Sousaphones/tubas should plan for arriving at least 15 minutes early to every rehearsal and event.

Specific guidelines are addressed within each campus band's attendance policy.

In Band rehearsals we not only are involved with a creative process, but also with many more students than other classroom teachers. Because of this, it is imperative that Band students be organized and prepared for every rehearsal. When an individual is not able to play his/her instrument during a rehearsal, it hurts the entire GROUP, as well as the individual. It is important that the student's instrument is in good working condition, has a pencil to mark music, and has important accessories such as mutes, reeds and/or valve oil for EVERY rehearsal. It is also conducive to the creative process that we maintain a quiet, attentive atmosphere in the classroom and on the practice field. Students who do not live up to the high rehearsal expectations of the SCUC ISD High School Band programs will be counseled, and if necessary, removed from the performing ensemble.

### **SECTIONAL REHEARSAL POLICY**

With college-level and upper high school level concert music being performed, section rehearsals for all Bands are vital to the successful performance of such a high level of music. Section rehearsals are scheduled either before school, after school to accommodate the greatest majority of students in a given section. Students receive a grade for participation at sectionals. Sectional absences are made up at the discretion of the Band Director.

**SPECIAL NOTE:**

*Student job commitments are not recognized as reasonable excuses from Band performances or rehearsals and are graded accordingly.*

Many Band students are employed and participate successfully in Band. We suggest that the Band student take a copy of the “Yearly Band Calendar” to their employer and clear all Band performances and rehearsals. The majority of employers understand and are flexible if they know of Band commitments well in advance, and they understand that Band performances are a *required*, graded and vital part of the course work (band directors are glad to talk to employers to validate student commitments.).

**SOLO AND ENSEMBLE PARTICIPATION**

The University Interscholastic League (UIL) sponsors both individual and group music competitions for high school band students. Competitions include individual solos as well as ensembles. Students are highly encouraged to perform at UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest. The exact performance requirements will be at the discretion of your student’s individual band director. Soloists must perform with piano accompaniment if an accompaniment is published with the solo. Each student must find his/her own accompanist. Your directors and/or private lesson teachers will gladly assist you in choosing appropriate music for this event. Wind Ensemble members are expected to perform a solo from the Class I UIL Prescribed Music List. Earning a first division superior rating on a Class 1 solo *by memory* qualifies the event for the Texas State Solo & Ensemble contest. *Participation and specific results at U.I.L. Solo & Ensemble Contest are considered in respect to certain levels of qualifying for a Band Letter Jacket.* Check the Letter Jacket requirements in this Handbook for specific information.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Normal school policy dictates that Band students ride to, and return from, Band performances as a group on school or chartered buses (on long distance contests or games). On occasion, parents desire to pick up their Band child at the conclusion of an event, rather than have them return to the Band Hall on the bus. The procedure that **MUST** be used is as follows:

Immediately **AFTER** an event is over and the Band has completed all performances, parents should meet their child at their designated bus and let the parent sponsor of that bus know that he/she is riding home with you. *The student is responsible for arranging for their instrument and uniform to be properly taken off the bus and/or truck and stored in the Band Hall in the appropriate place by a reliable student.* The parent is also required to show proper identification and sign your child out, indicating that you picked up your child from the event. *Parents must make sure that there is documentation in writing that their child is being released to them and is seen by the bus chaperone before leaving.*

THE CHAPARONE HANDS OUT THE BUS ATTENDANCE CARD TO EACH STUDENT, OR CHECKS THE STUDENT IN, AS THE STUDENT BOARDS THE BUS. FLIP FOLDERS/MUSIC, BLACK SOCKS, BLACK GLOVES, UNIFORM, ETC. WILL BE CHECKED **BEFORE** ANY STUDENT IS ALLOWED ON THE BUS. ANY STUDENT NOT ALLOWED ON THE BUS MUST RETURN TO THE END OF THE LINE, REGARDLESS OF SENIORITY.

THE CHAPARONE PICKS UP THE CARD, OR CHECKS THEM OFF, WHEN THE STUDENT GETS OFF THE BUS **FOR ANY REASON**. THE CHAPARONE TAKES NOTE OF ANY CARD LOST WHILE THE STUDENT IS ON THE BUS AND NOTIFIES THE DIRECTOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO A REPLACEMENT CARD CAN BE MADE. **A CHARGE MAY BE ASSESSED ANY STUDENT WHO LOSES OR DAMAGES HIS/HER ATTENDANCE CARD.** CHAPARONES WILL BE NOTIFIED OF ANY STUDENTS WHO ARE INELIGIBLE OR WILL NOT BE RIDING ON THE BUS BEFORE THE BUSES LEAVE THE SCHOOL.

## **PRIVATE LESSONS**

Students are strongly encouraged to take private lessons in order to improve their individual playing skills. Rehearsals during the school day provide students with broad goals on their instruments, concepts to improve upon, and train each band member in ensemble listening and performance skills. However, we cannot stress enough the importance of one-on-one private instruction with a *qualified* specialist to aid each student in his or her individual quest for musical excellence. A weekly lesson with a private instructor will provide students with individual attention on all state music, band music, and fundamental concepts, all of which will serve to improve the overall level of the band program.

We are extremely fortunate to have some excellent private lesson instructors in our area who are available during the school day for extra instruction. If you would like to enroll your child in private lessons, please call or e-mail for further information. *All private lesson teachers should be approved by the Band Director prior to the student beginning their lessons.* All consultants and private lesson teachers teaching on campus must be cleared through the school district background check process before having any contact with students.

## **BAND LETTER JACKETS**

The following guidelines have been established for awarding letters and jackets to students who meet the criteria. Letter awards will be given for exemplary representation of the school and the band program. All fee obligations must be paid in full before any student is eligible to be measured for a letter or letter jacket. All students must be eligible for all contests of their qualifying year to be eligible for a letter jacket and be in good standing in the program as determined by the Director and/or Administration. The status of “good standing” includes discipline and attendance/participation at band events. Band letter jackets are measured in May and distributed in October. The school district purchases the letter jacket *based on available funding*. *Students that have previously earned a jacket can only receive a Band letter. All extra patches, names, etc. must be paid by the student at the time the jacket is ordered.*

The criteria for earning a band letter jacket is as follows:

### Freshmen

- 2 semester member
- Successfully participated in UIL Marching, Concert and Sight Reading Contests.

#### **And**

- Selected to and participation in the TMEA All-State Band

#### **OR**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Division Rating on his/her UIL Solo at State Solo & Ensemble Contest. The solo performed must be on a traditional woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument.

### Sophomore

- 4 semester member
- Successfully participated in UIL Marching, Concert and Sight Reading Contests.

#### **And**

- Selected for the TMEA All-District Band

#### **OR**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Division Rating on a Class 1 or Class 2 Solo at UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest. The solo performed must be on a traditional woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument.

### Junior

- 6 semester member
- Successfully participated in UIL Marching, Concert and Sight Reading Contests.

## Senior

- 8 semester member.
- Successfully participated in UIL Marching, Concert and Sight Reading Contests.

## **GUARD LETTER JACKETS**

The following guidelines have been established for awarding letters and jackets to students who meet the criteria. Letter awards will be given for exemplary representation of the school and the band program. All fee obligations must be paid in full before any student is eligible to be measured for a letter or letter jacket. All students must be eligible for all contests of their qualifying year to be eligible for a letter jacket and be in good standing in the program as determined by the Director and/or Administration. The status of “good standing” includes discipline and attendance/participation at band events. Band letter jackets are measured in May and distributed in October. The school district purchases the letter jacket *based on available funding*. *All extra patches, names, etc. must be paid by the student at the time the jacket is ordered.*

The criteria for earning a band letter jacket is as follows:

### First Year Member

- 2 semester member

**And**

- Participation in all Marching Contests including UIL

**And**

- Participation in all Winter Guard Contests concluding with earning a State Championship in their circuit

### Second Year Member

- 4 semester member

**And**

- Participation in all Marching Contests including UIL

**And**

- Participation in all Winter Guard Contests concluding with earning a State Championship in their circuit

### Third Year Member

- 6 semester member

**And**

- Participation in all Marching Contests including UIL

**And**

- Participation in all Winter Guard Contests

### Fourth Year Member

- 8 semester member

**And**

- Participation in all Marching Contests including UIL

**And**

- Participation in all Winter Guard Contests

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP**

SCUCISD High School student leaders are chosen by application and audition. These students are extremely valuable to the success of the band program. Drum majors and Colorguard officers are also selected by application and audition. All returning students have an opportunity to apply for leadership positions.

Any student who holds an Officer, Leader or Drum Major position and does not demonstrate the responsibilities that are expected of their post as determined by the Band Director or school administration may be relieved of their position. In the case of removal, a replacement may be appointed by the Band Director with the approval of the school administration.

### **DRUM MAJOR/ GUARD OFFICER AUDITIONS**

Any returning student interested in auditioning for Drum Major or Colorguard Officer must attend the first Drum Major/ Colorguard officer audition preparation meeting. Candidates for Drum Major or Guard officer will receive an audition packet at this meeting, which will take place in late Spring. **THE DECISION OF THE DIRECTORS AND JUDGES IS FINAL.**

### **BAND OFFICERS**

Students who will be in the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grades for the next school year are eligible to become band officers. Band Officers are chosen by application and are selected based on references from teachers and band students. Interested students receive detailed information concerning these offices from the Band Director prior to the nomination and election process. Since Drum Majors are already considered members of the Band Council, they are not eligible to hold an officer position. *Any student nominated for a Band Officer position must be registered for Band and on the printed roster for the next school year and have all Band fees and obligations paid in full.*

## **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES AT FOOTBALL GAMES**

The following are the only students who will be allowed to visit with another school Band's representatives during the third quarter of a football game, if allowed by stadium officials or the Band Director. *Some stadiums and schools prohibit the meeting of student representatives during games.* Visitation will only be during the third quarter. All students will be back in the stands with the Band by the beginning of the fourth quarter.

The only band students allowed to serve as representatives are (one of the following in each officer title): Drum Major, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, one Guard Leader, and one Twirler (if the other program has a twirler).

Absolutely no other student will be allowed, and there will be no substitutions for the above mentioned students. The Head Band Director and/or school administration has the authority to restrict any of the above listed students from serving as a representative at any game.

The above listed students will check in with the Head Band Director as a group before being allowed to proceed to the Visitor Band. A Parent chaperone will be assigned to accompany the group.

Failure to comply with this policy may result in disciplinary for the student. The Head Band Director and/or school administration has the authority to amend this policy.



## **BATTERY PERCUSSION PERFORMANCES DURING FOOTBALL GAME THIRD QUARTERS**

Battery percussion performances during football game third quarters is a privilege and not a right. A Director or School Administration may prohibit a student from performing during the third quarter at any football game. Some stadiums prohibit track performances. There will be expectations with behavior and uniforms as required by the Band Director. Failure to adhere to any behavioral or uniform expectations may cause a student to be not allowed to participate and could result in disciplinary action.

## **BAND LOCKERS**

Each student will be issued a locker and lock prior to the beginning of the school year. They must use one of the school supplied locks, so directors or school administration can open the lock if necessary. Any personal locks, unless approved by the band director, will be removed (“cut” off the locker). All students must keep their instrument and personal belongings in their locked lockers. Storage of money and/or valuables in lockers *at any time* is highly discouraged. Every effort is made to maintain a secure facility, however the directors and the school district are not responsible for items that are missing or stolen from the Band Hall or lockers. *Students’ belongings can be safe only if the students lock their lockers.* Students will be financially responsible for lost or stolen locks or damage to their lockers. *There will be a \$20.00 replacement charge for missing locks.* Lockers are never considered personal property and are always subject to inspection by the Directors and/or school Administration. *Unless absolutely necessary, and assigned specifically by the Band Director, the sharing of lockers is not allowed.*

## **USE OF BAND HALL FACILITIES**

Students are welcome to use the Band Hall practice rooms for practice either before school, after school or during lunch if the facility is available. Sometimes, however, the number of available places is limited, since both sectionals and private lessons take place in these rooms.

We require all Band students to be responsible and keep their equipment and personal items *LOCKED UP* in their lockers at all times. Do not risk the theft of valuables and/or money from purses or backpacks that are left on the floor or in the restroom. *We must stress again that every effort is made to maintain a secure facility, however the Directors and the school district are not responsible for items that are missing or stolen from the Band Hall (including lockers).* The Directors may temporarily remove and confiscate any equipment or personal belongings left unsecured.

The beverage machine in the main Band Hall is for the convenience of our Band students at appropriate times (decided by the Director). We stress individual responsibility in properly disposing of containers and other trash. School district policy restricts the use of the machines during the school day.

*Absolutely no hats are to be worn in the Band Hall facility (complies with the official School Handbook policy).*

## **REMOVAL FROM THE BAND PROGRAM**

A student may be removed from the Band program for severe disciplinary action as determined by the Band Director and/or school and district administration, especially when placed in an alternative location (BAC, DAEP, Suspension, etc.). This will include, but not be exclusive to drug, tobacco and/or alcohol use or possession, use of anything considered a weapon, criminal mischief, or any other unlawful act towards any property or towards another student or adult. Unacceptable communication including the use of social media may also result in removal from the Band program. Band fees paid will not be refundable. All outstanding Band fees will remain due to the Band organization.

## **BAND BOOSTERS**

SCUC ISD has very active, supportive Band Booster Organizations. Without the hard work and dedication of our parents, the Band programs would not be as successful and productive as they are. There are numerous areas in which parents are involved in supporting the activities of the Band. Most of the work of the Booster Organization is done through numerous committees.

With a few exceptions, general meetings of the Band Boosters are held monthly in their school's Band Hall. Everyone is encouraged to consult the Band Calendar to confirm each scheduled meeting.



**Steele Band**  
**Rules and Guidelines**  
**2019-2020**

**Steven Deater**

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**Miguel Martinez**

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**Buck Palmer**

Assistant Band Director/Director of Percussion Studies – [jpalmer@scuc.txed.net](mailto:jpalmer@scuc.txed.net)

**Linda Guerra**

Colorguard Sponsor – [lguerra@scuc.txed.net](mailto:lguerra@scuc.txed.net)

**William Daniel**

Director, Dobie Junior High – [wdaniel@scuc.txed.net](mailto:wdaniel@scuc.txed.net)

**Russell Barbee**

Assistant Band Director, Dobie Junior High – [rbarbee@scuc.txed.net](mailto:rbarbee@scuc.txed.net)

**Stephanie West**

Director, Schlather Intermediate – [bpenshorn@scuc.txed.net](mailto:bpenshorn@scuc.txed.net)

**Laurie Esparza**

Director, Jordan Intermediate – [lesparza@scuc.txed.net](mailto:lesparza@scuc.txed.net)

## **ABOUT THE BAND**

The Steele Band was founded in August of 2005 as a curricular/co-curricular offering of the Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City Independent School District's newest high school, Byron P. Steele II High School. The band directors at Steele High School are Head Band Director Steven Deater, Assistant Band Director Miguel Martinez, and Assistant Band Director Buck Palmer. The Colorguard sponsor is Linda Guerra. Adjunct staff includes William Daniel, and Russell Barbee. The bands of Steele High School include the Steele Knight Marching Band, Competition Marching Band, concert bands, jazz, and percussion ensembles. Under the "band family," we also include the Colorguard and the twirlers. In its brief history, the Steele Band has established itself as one of the finest band programs in Central Texas. We endeavor to be a role model for music education and student leadership.

The Steele Knight Marching Band consists of all students enrolled in band. This band performs at various venues including (but not limited to) parades, pep rallies, and football games. The Steele Knight Marching Band performs the dance team tune on the field during halftime of all but one football game. Additionally, this band performs the entire halftime show after the marching band competition season has concluded.

The Competition Marching Band is the Varsity marching band and is composed of select members of the Steele Knight Marching band. This band represents Steele High School at the UIL marching evaluation every year as the varsity band and competes at marching band competitions from September through November.

The Concert Bands are determined through audition and are entered into UIL Concert and Sightreading Evaluation as Varsity, Non-Varsity, Sub Non-Varsity A, and Sub Non-Varsity B respectively. All students have the opportunity to audition into these concert bands in December. Concert season typically runs from January through April. All band students selected for a band attending the UIL Concert and Sightreading Evaluation will have sectionals before or after school. These sectionals are required in order to perform the high level of music the Steele Concert Bands are preparing.

## **BAND BOOSTERS**

The Steele Band Boosters are a very active, supportive organization. Without the hard work and dedication of the band parents, the band program at Steele would not be as successful and productive as it could be. There are numerous areas in which interested parents can be involved in supporting the activities of the band. General meetings of the Band Boosters are held monthly in the Steele Band Hall. Most of the work of the booster organization is done through various committees. For questions, contact one of the band booster officers. For information, or if you need to contact a booster officer, feel free to e-mail:

Booster e-mail: [steelebandboosters@yahoo.com](mailto:steelebandboosters@yahoo.com)

## **BAND BALL**

All band students enrolled in band during the Fall and Spring semesters are invited to attend the Band Ball held in the Spring Semester of each school year. Only students who complete both semesters of band will be invited to the Ball. Due to capacity limitations, the ball may be limited to students and immediate family only. The Ball is a venue for the students to perform their ceremonial traditions as well as a celebration of all their hard work. All individual band awards will take place during the Spring concert, so parents have the opportunity to celebrate their student's accomplishments.

## **ATTENDANCE AND COMMITMENT TO "BE THERE"**

Because the Steele Band functions as a team and counts on each member's presence at rehearsal to accomplish the goals of the group, prompt attendance at each and every band function is crucial to the success of the program. *For attendance purposes, a band function is defined as: Any rehearsal, sectional, performance, trip, or event scheduled by a director.* Each member is responsible to be at the required location, properly attired, with his or her instrument and all of the necessary equipment *before* the appointed time (or call time).

*"To be early is to be on time ..."*

The directors will establish a call time for each band event. Students should arrive at least 10 minutes prior to this time to allow for unpacking, and other preparations for the rehearsal.

The following guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies for the marching band:

### ***Tardiness***

Students not in the attendance/warm-up block at the Call time will be marked tardy.

### ***Excused Tardiness***

Tardiness will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Tutorials, appointments, homework, etc. will not be an excuse for tardiness unless prior arrangements are made and approved by a director.

### ***Unexcused Tardiness***

Students that accumulate more than one unexcused tardy per semester are subject to one of the following consequences, issued at the discretion of the directors. One of these consequences may also be issued for each additional tardy:

1. Lowering of weekly participation grade
2. Loss of marching privilege (for one game) at a football game.
3. Stay after rehearsal or report early to next rehearsal to make-up lost time.
4. Make up 15 minutes of fundamental marching with his/her section leader.
5. Removal from the competition band.

### ***Absence***

A tardy will be converted to a mark of “absent” 15 minutes after the rehearsal begins.

### ***Excused Absence***

The student’s grade in the Steele High School Band will reflect successful performance in rehearsal as well as performances. Coming to rehearsal prepared continues to reign paramount over all things, enabling students to enjoy successful performances.

Excused absences are limited to:

1. Medical Emergency (doctor’s note required)
2. Death in the Family
3. Academic Intervention
4. School Sanctioned Competition/Athletic event (prior approval from band director required)
5. Absences deemed excused as defined on pages 1-6 in the SCUC ISD High School Student/Parent Handbook

For advanced notice absences, students should submit a note, signed by a parent/guardian, no later than 48 hours prior to the missed event. For illness/emergency, students should submit a note, signed by a parent/guardian no later than 48 hours after returning to rehearsal. Students who are continually ill should provide a doctor’s note in case there are special instructions the directors need to follow. When in doubt, an absence should be checked with a director.

*Special note: Beginning with the 2013-14 marching band season, students will be assigned 4 days of morning rehearsals per week. As a result, students will have one assigned morning free per week to be used for appointments, tutorials, and routine professional visits. Adjustments are made to this schedule during preparation for competitions as needed.*

Without question, schoolwork and academics remain the number one priority for all students at Steele High School, whether or not they participate in a varsity sport or co-curricular ensemble. With that said, “I had a lot of homework last night ...” or “I had family over last night...”, will not suffice as an acceptable excuse for missing a rehearsal. It is up to the student to learn how to balance their time responsibly. Directors will help with this, but planning is key!

### ***Unexcused Absence***

Participation in the Steele Band means a commitment to not only one’s own time management, and personal improvement, but also to other members of the team. All students shall receive detailed information on the amount of hours of rehearsal each week to plan for. In signing this handbook, students and parents agree to develop a time management plan that would allow balance between school and band.

Barring unforeseen medical emergencies, loss of a family member, academic intervention or prior approval of another school sanctioned event, no further conflicts are expected or accepted. Should an academic conflict arise, parents should schedule a meeting with the Band Director immediately to discuss possible scenarios. Absences considered as unexcused may include, but are not limited to, events such as driver's training, work, orthodontist/doctor's scheduled appointments, family reunions/get-togethers, and non-school sanctioned events (club sports). Please view the previously stated excused absences for clarification.

Students that acquire an unexcused absence, including any playoff games, may be subject to one of the following consequences at the discretion of the directors:

1. Lowering of weekly participation grade.
2. Receive a zero for the performance grade.
3. Loss of marching privilege for one performance.
4. Loss of attendance privilege at one performance.

Students that acquire multiple unexcused absences will receive a zero for each missed rehearsal/performance in the grade book and may also be subject to one of the following consequences at the discretion of the directors:

1. Loss of marching privilege for one or more performance(s).
2. Loss of attendance privilege at one or more performance(s).
3. Removal from the competition band.
4. Removal from the marching band.

### ***Concerts / Performances***

Concerts and performances are frequent with all bands. Students should consult their schedules for dates and times. Periodically, the schedule will change and updates will be made on the band website, in the Charms calendar, sent home, and/or emailed. Concerts are considered to have three parts: warm-up, performance, and listening. The concert begins for the student at the warm-up. Punctuality is essential. A concert concludes when the last group performs and directors have given permission for students to be dismissed. A report, or call time will be given.

### ***Concert / Performance Guidelines***

1. All concerts are a group effort, thus, attendance is required.
2. All concerts are an extension of the classroom and will be graded accordingly.
3. Students should be punctual and prepared for each performance / concert.
4. In the event a performance causes a student to miss another class, the student is responsible to make up all missed work.
5. The appropriate dress for all concerts will be a formal uniform. (See "Uniforms")
6. Students are expected to stay the entire concert to appropriately support all bands.

## **GENERAL CONDUCT/EXPECTATIONS**

Band members will observe all policies set forth by the Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City Independent School District and Byron P. Steele II High School, in addition to the following guidelines, as they pertain to the instrumental music setting. Students that violate these guidelines may result in disciplinary action as outlined in this handbook under the "Band Discipline Plan".

1. All students are expected to conduct themselves properly at all times. Display of affection, profanity, temper, flagrant violation of rules, etc., will not be tolerated. Individual behavior during a band function is a reflection of the entire group.
2. Students will follow director's instructions.
3. Students will be in their assigned rehearsal area ready to work at the set rehearsal or call time.
4. Students will bring all equipment including music, pencil, instrument, and all supplies to rehearsals daily. (See detailed supply list for each instrument.)
5. Students will keep hands, feet, and other objects to themselves.
6. Students will not consume food, drinks, candy or gum during any rehearsal or class.
7. Students will not play on equipment they do not own or have permission from a director to use. Students will not touch, handle, borrow, or use anyone else's instrument, uniform, or personal belongings.
8. Students should ask for permission to speak by raising their hand and waiting to be acknowledged. All rehearsals are expected to be extremely quiet so our time will be utilized efficiently.

9. When allowed in the band hall, either before or after school, students will not disturb any rehearsal in progress.
10. Students will respect the property of others, and return their equipment, including shoes, to its proper storage place when not in use. Each student is responsible for keeping his or her storage area clean.
11. Students will not enter the directors' offices without permission.
12. Students will not deface or mark on music stands, walls, chairs, etc.
13. Students should keep their equipment in the designated storage area, and keep said storage area clean and neat in appearance. Students who demonstrate great difficulty with this may lose the privilege of having a storage area in the band hall.
14. Students will utilize their assigned storage slot/locker for instrument cases during rehearsals. Cases should not be brought into rehearsals areas unless requested by a director.
15. Any behavior, which is not representative of good citizenship, as perceived by the band staff, may result in the student's dismissal from the activity at hand as well as the band program. This also applies to the actions of student leaders in both public and private events.
16. **NO CELL PHONES ARE TO BE USED OR SEEN** in the stands at football games or in concert or marching performances. Since games, rehearsals and performances outside of the school day are a natural extension of the classroom, the district policy regarding electronic devices will be extended to functions outside of the school day. This will eliminate unnecessary distractions. Cell phones maybe used on the buses or after a practice to phone home, but will be collected by the Band Director if seen during a game, or performance. Please view the section regarding electronic devices under District Rules and Regulations in the SCUC ISD High School Student/Parent Handbook for clarification.
17. At no time should a student be in the practice rooms, uniform room, or ensemble rooms without permission from a director.

In addition to these band guidelines, students are expected to abide by the Byron P. Steele II Extracurricular Code of Conduct. The following Extracurricular Code of Conduct was implemented during the 2012-2013 school year. In order to eliminate future problems, we highly recommend that students and parents familiarize themselves with this information. A copy of the Extracurricular Code of Conduct is quoted below.

### **Byron P. Steele II High School Extracurricular Code of Conduct**

Byron P. Steele II High School provides comprehensive extracurricular programs for the benefit of Steele students. The underlying belief is that participation in extracurricular programs provides students the opportunity to learn and develop responsibility, dedication, leadership, work ethic, discipline, tenacity, respect for rules, respect for authority and many other positive qualities. Regulations are established to promote these qualities and to help build and maintain high quality programs. All participants must understand that some of the expectations for students involved in extracurricular activities exceed the expectations for the general student body. These students are expected to follow district policies and all program-specific guidelines and procedures set by the director/sponsor, school, district, University Interscholastic League, and state. Violations of the rules will result in corrective and/or disciplinary action. The facts and circumstances will be taken into consideration when determining consequences for rule violations.

It is the desire of Steele directors and sponsors to educate and counsel our students on the harmful effects of a violation of the Code of Conduct and the potential consequences inflicted upon themselves, their families, and their respective teammates should they choose to breach the Extracurricular Code of Conduct. It is also the intent of the Extracurricular Code of Conduct to provide a clearly defined course for our students to follow and instill a belief that a one-time infraction need not result in a permanent pattern in life.

In all instances of an alleged violation of the Extracurricular Code of Conduct the student will be provided due process. The process for determining a violation of the Extracurricular Code of Conduct will be established by the director/sponsor in conjunction with school administration. Any student involved in an extracurricular activity who is found to be in violation of any of the infractions mentioned below will face disciplinary action.

- No extracurricular participant shall, while on or off school premises, use, possess, distribute or be under the influence of tobacco.
- No extracurricular participant shall, while on or off school premises, sell, give, deliver, use, possess or be under the influence of alcohol.
- No extracurricular participant shall, while on or off premises, sell, give, deliver, use, possess, or be under the influence of any controlled or illegal substance.
- No extracurricular participant shall be involved in theft on or off campus.

Maintaining a higher standard of conduct will also include ensuring that Steele’s extracurricular participants’ personal electronic communication is appropriate. The internet is a worldwide, publicly accessible form of communication. Any communication including, but not limited to, MySpace, Twitter, Facebook, blogs, photosharing, inappropriate texting that is published or appearing on the internet is public domain even if it is marked private. Extracurricular participants will be held responsible for their texts and other electronic communication on the internet through their personal websites as well as posting on other students’ websites. The areas of appropriateness will include, but are not limited to, language (abbreviated or alluding to negative, lewd, vulgar or obscene comments about any individuals and/or any extracurricular programs), pictures, suggestive poses or clothing, and reference to alcohol, drugs, or tobacco. Published communication on the internet or by electronic means by extracurricular participants which cause disruption or damage to any school property or equipment are also considered unacceptable behavior.

Any member of a Byron P. Steele II extracurricular program who is involved in posting comments, pictures or statuses on any social networks such as, but not limited to, blogs, MySpace, Twitter, or Facebook which are inappropriate, disruptive, negative, lewd or obscene may result in suspension or dismissal from the extracurricular program.

Students must remain aware that being a part of an extracurricular activity is considered an honor and a privilege and not a right. Therefore, it requires observance of all discipline policies whether or not a student is at school or school-related activities. The discipline consequences for violation of the Extracurricular Code of Conduct may include suspension or dismissal of the student from the extracurricular program. A behavioral contract may be used following any infraction of the rules and regulations set forth by the extracurricular program or the Extracurricular Code of Conduct. Consequences for some rule violations may be addressed by directors/sponsors through discipline within the extracurricular program. Additional disciplinary consequences may also be imposed by the appropriate school officials for conduct or behavior that violates the District’s Code of Student Conduct.

### **BAND DISCIPLINE PLAN**

For a violation of any State Law, SCUCISD policy, Steele High School rule, UIL rule, Steele Band rule or requirement, the following disciplinary actions may be imposed at the discretion of a director:

1. Student correction and/or counseling
2. Parent notification
3. Placement on Behavior Contract
3. Office referral
4. Loss of band privileges/performances
5. Exclusion or removal from the band program

The previously stated information outlines the general plan for most disciplinary issues. However, the disciplinary action imposed in each instance will be at the discretion of the Band Director, who will consider the nature and severity of the conduct, the circumstances of the conduct, its frequency and prior warnings or action, consistency of action considering other situations, and other relevant factors. All appeals must follow the “Chain of Command” listed below. Following discussion with a Director, appeals may then go to the Vice-Principal. Appeals to the Principal’s office should be made only after the Band Directors and then the Vice-Principals have responded.



## **PARENT CONFERENCES**

The preferred method of contacting the Band Directors is by e-mail. Addresses can be found on the front page of the handbook as well as on the band website. Should a conference be necessary, parents/guardians may e-mail a band director to schedule a conference. Parents/guardians may not simply show up in the band hall and expect to have a conference with a band director, as we have classes to conduct and responsibilities throughout the day. We ask parents/guardians to use common courtesy by following the Chain of Command (listed below) if a question or concern should arise.

Chain of Command:

1. Director involved in question or concern
2. Head Band Director
3. Vice-principal for your child
4. Principal
5. Director of Extracurricular Activities
6. Director of Student and Academic Services
7. Superintendent
8. School Board

## **TRAVEL GUIDELINES**

The band will frequently travel on both school and commercial busses. Student conduct is expected to be at the highest level on all trips.

1. Students must travel to events and return from events on the bus. Any student wishing to arrive or leave with their parent must notify a director in writing prior to the event. A decision will be rendered based on the circumstances provided. After being approved by a director, the student must inform the bus' parent chaperone of their intent to leave with their parent after the event.
2. Students must have all necessary forms completed and returned in order to travel on any trip with the band.
3. While on the bus, students will:
  - A. Remain seated at all times
  - B. Sit properly in a forward position
  - C. Keep the bus clear of food, drinks, and debris
  - D. Keep all body parts inside the bus
  - E. Remain silent when addressed by person in charge on the bus
  - F. Refrain from loud, boisterous talking, screaming, whistling, etc...
  - G. Refrain from public displays of affection

## **MEDICAL, CONSENT, AND OTHER FORM REQUIREMENTS**

To enjoy the privileges of engaging in certain Steele Band functions, SCUCISD policy requires that members turn in medical forms, consent and/or permission forms, and other documentation as needed on each occasion. It is the responsibility of the band member to obtain the required documents, seek the necessary signatures, and return them to the proper person or place *by the specified time*. To function effectively, the Steele Band relies on each of its members to follow through on all of the necessary paperwork.

*Without all documentation, members will not be permitted to attend functions, trips, or other events.*

## **CHAPERONES/VOLUNTEERS**

Our chaperones bring together the finest volunteers at Steele High School to ensure the safety of our band students while on trips. Students should afford chaperones the same respect they would a Band Director or member of the Steele High School Administration. Chaperones and volunteers are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner. Volunteers that are unable to conduct themselves appropriately will be asked to leave the event and will not be allowed to volunteer in the future. Depending on the severity, a conference with school administration may be arranged.

## **PERFORMANCE / REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS FOR CONCERT ENSEMBLES**

Each of the concert ensembles will perform at various times throughout the school year. Students are expected to participate in the performances of their assigned ensemble. Failure to participate in either rehearsals or performances will result in student removal from the organization at the discretion of the band directors. (See attendance policies as stated under “Unexcused absences”.)

Performances of the concert ensembles will include but are not limited to the following:

- Fall Concert
- Winter Concert
- SCUC Celebrate the Arts
- Spring Concert
- Band Festivals / Pre UIL Contest
- UIL Contest

## **INSTRUMENT SUPPLIES**

The following is a list of supplies member must have at each rehearsal. This list is not all inclusive:

- A. All issued music
- B. Pencil
- C. Instrument
- D. All supplies relative to their instrument.
- E. All marching related equipment (during marching season)
  - 1. Band shoes
  - 2. Drill / chart book
  - 3. Lyre / plastic sheets
  - 4. All issued music in a flip folder (black binder with plastic sleeves for percussion)
  - 5. Other marching equipment as needed.
- F. Tuner & Metronome
- G. Technique Book as required by student’s director

### Flutes

- Tuning and cleaning rod
- Cleaning cloth
- Key oil
- Approved type instrument
- Screwdriver Set

### Oboes / Bassoons

- Three good playable reeds
- Reed soaking container
- Reed holder
- Bocals (bassoon)
- Key oil (Case Storage)
- Bore oil (Home Storage)
- Cleaning swab
- Approved type instrument
- Cork grease

### Clarinets

- Three good playable reeds (Vandoren or Rico Reserve – not the orange box)
- Reed guard
- Ligature (Rovner Dark preferred)
- Proper mouthpiece with cap (Vandoren 5 RV Lyre)

- Key oil (Case Storage)
- Bore oil (Home Storage)
- Cleaning swab
- Approved type instrument
- Cork grease

Saxes / Low Reeds as applicable

- Three good playable reeds (Vandoren or Rico Reserve – not the orange box)
- Reed guard
- Ligature (Rovner Dark preferred)
- Proper mouthpiece (Selmer C\*)
- Pad and neck saver
- Approved type instrument

Trumpet

- Valve oil (Al Cass)
- Polishing cloth
- Slide grease (case storage)
- Mouthpiece (Bach 5c / 3c) or other director approved mouthpiece
- Approved type instrument

French Horn

- Rotary / Valve oil (Al Cass)
- Polishing cloth
- Slide grease (case storage)
- Approved mouthpiece (Holton Farkas)
- Approved type instrument

Trombone

- Slide cream (for slide)
- Spray Water Bottle
- Polishing Cloth
- Slide grease (for tuning slides stored in case)
- Mouthpiece (Bach 4G or 5G) or other director approved mouthpiece
- Approved type instrument

Baritone / Euphonium

- Valve oil (Al Cass)
- Mouthpiece (Bach 4G or 5G) or other director approved mouthpiece
- Polishing cloth
- Slide grease (case storage)
- Approved type instrument

Tuba

- Rotary / Valve Oil (Al Cass)
- Mouthpiece (Bach 24 AW / Miraphone Rose Model)
- Polishing cloth
- Slide grease (case storage)
- Approved type instrument

Percussion

- Snare sticks - Vic Firth General
- Xylophone mallets (Musser M-4, 213)
- Vibes / Marimba mallet (Blue Medium)
- Timpani mallets, 2 pair (Vic Firth General and Staccato)
- Stick bag
- List of approved equipment provided by the percussion instructor.

Color Guard

- Pole
- Flag

- Rifle or Sabre (as applicable)
- Electrical Tape
- Gloves

## UNIFORMS

Formal band uniforms are provided by SCUCISD for the musicians and will be kept at the school between events. The uniforms will be sent out together for cleaning several times during the year. Students are fitted for a uniform at the end of July, before summer band rehearsals begin. Students are responsible for ensuring they have all appropriate parts of the uniform for the occasion as listed below:

### Marching Performances

- Marching Jacket, Marching Pants, Shako (Hat)
- Black/White/Grey compression shorts (not included in band fees)
- Current year show shirt (included in band fees)
- Long, solid black socks, not “No Show” socks (not included in band fees)
- Marching shoes (not included in band fees)
- Black gloves (not included in band fees)

### Custom Uniform for Marching Competitions

- Marching Jacket, Marching Pants, Shako (Hat) (purchased by students in band fees)
- Black/White/Grey compression shorts (not included in band fees)
- Grey Steele Band shirt (included in band fees)
- Long, solid black socks, not “No Show” socks (not included in band fees)
- Marching shoes (not included in band fees)
- Gloves (not included in band fees)

### Pep Rally Performances

- School appropriate pants or shorts
- Show shirt (included in band fees) or section shirt (student led design & optional purchase)

### Formal Concerts

Gentlemen

- Tuxedos (provided by the band)
- Black dress shoes with long black socks

Ladies

- Formal dress / skirt (provided by the band)
- Close-toed black shoes with black hose

Each incoming band student must purchase a pair of black marching shoes. The band shoes are purchased one time only through the Band Boosters (unless the student must re-order due to a size change, normal wear and tear, or loss). *Marching shoes are worn with long, solid black socks at all performances. During concert season, with the formal uniform, ladies will wear closed-toe dress shoes with no more than a 3” heel.*

Students will order a T-shirt each year specifically designed for that season’s marching show, called a “show shirt,” which they will wear as a “summer” uniform for the first few games, pep rallies, various performances, and under the marching uniform. The show shirt is worn for competitions so everyone matches in and out of uniform.

The Section Shirt is an optional purchase. The design of this shirt changes each year and is designed by each section. Section Shirts are worn at pep rallies and football games. It is not to be worn for competitions, only the

### Uniform Guidelines

- No earrings may be worn during performances.
- NO fingernail polish is allowed (unless permission granted by Director).

- No bracelets may be worn, as they may appear at the sleeves, however; a necklace may be worn providing it cannot be seen from under the uniform.
- Make-up may be worn in the concert formal uniform in a conservative manner only (Discretion left with the band director). This does not apply to colorguard. No make-up is allowed when wearing the marching uniform.
- Black shoes and black socks are worn with the uniform (except for the ladies, who should wear black hose and low heel shoes while in the formal uniform). Black band shoes are a specific brand and model shoe and may be ordered during summer band each year.
- Shakos will be issued with the uniform. Students will be assigned a shako number and are responsible for taking their shako and shako box to and from events.
- Uniforms are stored at school. Students pick them up before each event and hang them up afterwards.
- Formal uniforms will be issued for ladies and gentleman. Further guidelines for concert attire will be given prior to performances.

### Uniform “DO’s” and “DON’Ts”

#### DO’s

- Inspect your uniform completely. Report any torn seams, hems or broken snaps immediately to parent volunteers or the uniform crew so the uniform can be repaired before the next performance.
- Keep track of all the uniform parts. Report any missing parts immediately. Very often they show up, but we need to know to start looking.
- Always check to see that you are indeed putting on your uniform. If for some reason the numbers get mixed up, it is very difficult to find the right uniform once everyone is already dressed and on the buses!
- Hang your uniform properly and completely on the appropriate rack every time. Also make sure to hang your uniform in numerical order.
- Put your name IN your band shoes with permanent ink. We have a big problem with shoes being misplaced. Don’t mark the soles of your shoes for ID – it shows when you march.
- Remember to bring YOUR shoes for every performance. In an emergency, old shoes are usually available to be borrowed from the uniform room.
- Wear the CURRENT YEAR show shirt, athletic shorts and knee high solid black socks under your uniform. If your seams rip (and it DOES happen), we want only black to show. If needed, black socks can be purchased from student leaders.
- Clean out your hat and hat box. Never store anything in your hat box! NO FOOD IN YOUR HAT BOX EVER!
- Respect the uniforms we have and understand they are a huge financial investment that must last us more than one year. Parent volunteers and the uniform crew spend a lot of time making sure the uniforms are ready to go for the next performance.

#### DON’Ts

- Do not wear headgear or covers of any sort with the uniform. Nothing, other than the official band hat, is allowed to be worn on the head while representing the Steele Band. No bandanas or any other headgear will be allowed.
- Do not drag your uniform on the ground.
- Do not wad up your uniform and stuff it in your locker, backpack, garment bag or car trunk.
- Do not touch the plume feather with your hands. Carefully remove the plume from the shako by the base and hand the plume to the band parents that collect them.
- Do not put on or take off your bibbers with your shoes on. Pant hems get torn out easily this way and the bibbers get dirty. Always put on your shoes AFTER your bibbers and always take off your shoes BEFORE your bibbers.
- Do not hang your jacket hanger (with the jacket on it) on the front or back of your bibbers while walking to/from the bus. This can damage the bibbers.
- Do not switch uniform parts with any other student without permission from a parent volunteer. For example, if you switch hats with someone and the hat is lost or damaged, YOU will be charged because that piece of equipment is YOUR responsibility.
- DON’T USE YOUR CELL PHONE while in public when in uniform (concert or marching). You may use your cell phone once back on a bus, or in the band hall.

### Inspections

Prior to student departure for a marching band performance, students must pass a uniform inspection. In order to board the bus, students must have complete uniform, music, flip folder, water jug, and other components for the marching performance. Students who do not pass the uniform inspection will not be allowed to attend the event.

### WATER JUGS

All students will receive a water jug when fees are paid. All students will need to have their jug during rehearsals and bring it to performances.

Students are expected to have a water jug at each rehearsal. Please make sure the jug is clean so the student does not get sick. Hydration is EXTREMELY important to student health and safety, so the water jug is one of the most important pieces of equipment the student must have at all times.

### Frequently Asked Questions

When will my band member use their water jug?

Members are have their water jug for all rehearsals, football games, pep rallies, competitions, and any other events where the need for hydration exists.

What about re-fills?

Chaperones and/or student leaders will help with re-filling water jugs during games, and band members themselves will have the opportunity to re-fill periodically during rehearsals and contest days. We will provide ice-cooled water for re-fills as it is available.

What if my band member forgets their water jug?

Bummer. The days are long and hot! Do not forget your water jug. The key here is individual responsibility! Steps will be taken to help the student stay hydrated.

Will water be available in case of medical emergency?

Of course! We will continue to carry a supply of water for medical emergencies, staff, and chaperones.

Can band members share water jugs?

No. Each band member should provide their own water jug with their name on it. Water jugs should never be shared in order to prevent the spread of illness.

What about washing the water jug?

Water jugs should be washed with BLEACH each week by band members at home - please ensure this happens to prevent illness.

## SCUC ISD Band Student/ Parent Handbook Agreement

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the guidelines set forth in the SCUC ISD Band Parent/Student Handbook.

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent printed name \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student printed name \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN BY *Wednesday, August 21, 2019.***

