



Carrizo Springs High School

Mean Purple Band

Handbook 2020-2021

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FOREWORD

We are proud to welcome you as a member of the Carrizo Springs High School Band. You are now a part of one of the school's most important and respected groups. The Mean Purple Band has a long tradition of excellence and has a reputation as one of the top bands in the South Texas area. As with all 'teams', the success of the MPB depends on the loyalty, cooperation, and dedication of each member.

How do you show these traits to the organization? First, you must make up your mind to be a proud and contributing member; second, you must give the organization all you can in interest, effort, and attention; and third, you must observe and follow the policies and procedures of the organization, a necessary part of any outstanding program.

Remember that as a member of the Mean Purple Band you should be proficient, confident, respectful, and, above all, proud. Show your pride by doing the best you can, arriving on time, and always trying to become a better musician.

The guidelines outlined on the following pages are simple, sound, and easy to understand and follow. They reflect years of experience and hours of careful thought and planning. By following them, you are meeting an obligation that you owe to your community, your school, the organization, and most importantly - **TO YOURSELF**.

Remember, you can accomplish any goal if you have perseverance, persistence, determination, steadfastness, and, especially, dedication. Never quit trying, never give up!

We wish you the best of luck and we hope that what you learn from participating in this organization will help you in your future endeavors.

MPB Staff

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PHILOSOPHY

The Mean Purple Band strives to provide every member the opportunity to learn the importance of self-discipline, cooperation, loyalty and respect for others, as well as the importance of responsibility, thereby creating a desire and appreciation for excellence in the performance of any endeavor. By learning the skills to perform to the best of their abilities, MPB members learn how to accomplish goals and become stronger community citizens.

THE MPB STAFF'S RESPONSIBILITY TO THE STUDENT

The MPB staff is dedicated to the responsibility of the MPB having the proper rehearsal facilities, storage space and other equipment as is necessary to aid in the development of their musical abilities. Teaching, listening, rehearsals, proper supervision, adequate information, testing and performance with the addition of appropriate discipline will encourage daily progress towards a full musical education.

THE BAND MEMBER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO THE BAND

- To make a genuine effort to learn and improve daily
- To be regular in attendance and account for all absences and tardies
- To be responsible for and to assume the consequences for his/her actions
- To have the proper respect for those in authority
- To be responsible for maintaining school equipment and to report any damage immediately to the director
- To maintain eligibility by passing all classes each six-week grading period.
- To follow all classroom rules and school regulations during the school day and during band activities
- To be honest and fair with others concerning equipment, music, and school life in general
- To cooperate with fellow band members and share with them the responsibilities and privileges that are part of the band program
- To read and to play music with insight and expression
- To follow instructions
- To read all posted announcements and to follow their instructions. Announcements are posted daily.
- To ask for help or answers from the Directors when there is a question or concern about any aspect of the program
- To use common courtesy and notify the Director in person if, for any reason, the member has to drop the class

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the MPB is open to all students who began their role in the band program at the Carrizo Springs Intermediate or Carrizo Springs Jr. High School and continued in the program through 8th grade. Students not in band during 8th grade who wish to become MPB members must have Director Approval.

MPB Color Guard membership is by audition or with the approval of the MPB Color Guard Director and the MPB Director.

Students who may be new to the district may join the MPB only with the approval of the High School Band Director. All new students accepted to the MPB are to follow all MPB policies and regulations.

All MPB members are to remain members throughout their high school career. If a member has quit, then he/she must have written approval from the Head Director for readmission into the MPB. **All MPB members will be in both the Marching Band (Fall Semester) and a Concert Band (Spring Semester).**

MPB members who wish to be in the Mariachi can do so only if they play an instrument that conforms to the group's instrumentation and with the Director's approval. Wind players in the Mariachi must be current members of the MPB.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

All MPB members are to be enrolled in Band class the entire school year. Anyone who quits or has been removed from the program must have written approval from the Head Director for readmission into the MPB.

MARCHING BAND (FALL SEMESTER)

The Marching Band is open to any student in Carrizo Springs High School who has had at least one year's experience in band on a recognized band instrument. A high school beginner may be in the marching band with the Head Band Director's evaluation and approval. Every student enrolled in Band will be a participating member of the Marching Band unless there is a physician-verified condition that does not permit participation, or if the student has been removed from the Marching Band by the Head Band Director or has become ineligible due to failures.

The MPB performs at all pep rallies, football games, parades, other community functions, Invitational Marching Contests, and all UIL Marching Band Contests.

Not all MPB members will have a marching role in the UIL marching show. There will be a group of Alternates in case there are openings in the Contest Show due to ineligibility, discipline, or other problems. If the Contest Show was written with a marching role for every member, by the time Contest takes place unforeseeable circumstances would create many "holes" in the Contest Show. We cannot present a proper UIL performance with "holes". The role of an Alternate is to

learn a "hole's" role thereby eliminating the "hole". Alternates are required to follow all the policies and duties as required of every MPB member. Alternates will participate at all non-contest performances (including halftime shows). They are required to attend all contests with the rest of the Band and may have other duties as assigned by the Director, but unless filling a "hole" they will not have a performance role.

SYMPHONIC/CONCERT BAND (SPRING SEMESTER)

At the end of the Marching Season, all students who enrolled in the Marching Band are required to be in Symphonic/Concert Band. Members of these bands participate in UIL activities including UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest and UIL Concert & Sightreading Contest (Concert Band's participation in C/SR Contest depends upon eligibility and instrumentation).

At the end of the Marching Season, students are assigned to either Symphonic Band or Concert Band. Placement in these groups is determined by instrumentation needs, chair order, audition, and/or challenge placement. First chairs in Concert Band can challenge the last chair of the Symphonic Band. There is a cut-off date for these challenges.

Enrollment numbers and instrumentation numbers can determine if there will be two performing bands. When either or both of these numbers are insufficient for the formation of two performing bands, all students will remain in one band. This band will be reconfigured at a certain point during the spring semester (usually 6-8 weeks before a Contest) to support the instrumentation numbers necessary for major Contests (UIL, etc.).

All band students are encouraged to participate in the All-Region Band competitions. An additional concert is required for members selected to an All-Region Band.

MARIACHI ENSEMBLE (All Year)

Membership in this organization will be open to any CSHS student, upon approval by the Director, playing an instrument that conforms to the ensemble's instrumentation. ***Wind players in Mariachi must be current members of the Band.***

This group provides an opportunity for students to learn about the Mexican culture and music history through the playing of its folk songs in a traditional Mariachi setting. The group's focus and primary purpose is to provide the community with these types of performances.

Students who cannot sign up for the course due to class restraints may be allowed to enter this group and practice after school with the Mariachi with Director Approval.

School policy prohibits performances at funerals and at establishments where alcoholic beverages are consumed. Mariachi will perform as much as possible during the year; however, the school does limit the amount of times that students can miss classes for these performances. Most performances will be outside the school day.

New members should be aware that there are a limited number of uniforms available, so there might be a time when new members will not have a uniform. When a new uniform is ordered, it usually takes a few months to receive it. If none of the available uniforms fit, then a new one might be ordered depending on availability of funds.

Instrumentation for this ensemble will include Guitar, Guitarrón, Vihuela, Violin, Trumpet, Flute, and Keyboard Percussion. All members will be expected to sing. Rehearsal schedules outside the school day will be set up at the beginning of the year and may change at any time.

ELIGIBILITY

All MPB members must meet the eligibility requirements as set forth by the University Interscholastic League (UIL). The UIL is a state entity that governs the activities of Texas public schools.

All students who earned enough class credits promoting them to the next grade level are eligible at the beginning of the school year. At the end of any 6-week period, any student who fails one or more classes may become ineligible. CSCISD has a waiver policy that allows students who fail an advanced class to possibly retain eligibility.

Ineligibility takes effect one calendar week after the end of the 6-Weeks. A student can regain eligible status if, at the end of the third week, he/she is passing **ALL** classes. **Regaining eligibility takes effect one calendar week after the 3rd week.** All students are eligible during a school holiday of one week or longer. Any questions regarding eligibility should be directed to the Head Band Director.

Ineligible students are allowed to participate in some activities. Unless otherwise directed, **all members are required to attend the following activities whether considered eligible or not, unless the Director instructs otherwise.** These activities include the following:

1. All Rehearsals (After-School Sectionals/Rehearsals & Night Rehearsals)
2. Christmas Concert
3. Spring Concert
4. Graduation Ceremony

HAZING/BULLYING

HAZING IS AGAINST THE LAW AND WILL NOT BE TOLERATED BY THE MPB.

Anyone involved in hazing or bullying will be immediately referred to the Administration for disciplinary measures, which may include removal from the organization. Hazing and bullying is not limited to verbal situations, but also includes social media and other forms of communication (see Social Media Guidelines).

If any MPB Member is threatened with an "initiation" of any sort or any other kind of harassment, it must be immediately reported to the Band Director. MPB Members should **not** become a willing participant by agreeing to this sort of conduct. If you feel that you are being threatened in any way, you must let one of the Directors know immediately so that the problem can be resolved. Your safety is our number one concern and we will do our best to help you.

Carrizo Springs High School strongly urges parents to talk to their sons and daughters about what hazing/bullying involves and the procedures that they should follow when threatened with any form of "initiation" or intimidation.

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES FOR MPB MEMBERS

First and foremost, students are encouraged to always exercise the utmost caution when participating in any form of social media or online communications, both within the MPB community and beyond.

Students who participate in online interactions must remember that their posts reflect on the entire Carrizo Springs High School community and, as such, are subject to the same behavioral standards set forth in the Student Code of Conduct.

Playing and competing with the Mean Purple Band at CSHS is a privilege. Student members are held in the highest regard and are seen as role models in the community. As leaders you have the responsibility to portray the MPB, your Directors, our school, your family, and yourselves in a positive manner at all times. Facebook, Twitter, SnapChat, and other social media sites have increased in popularity globally, and are used by the majority of students in one form or another.

Student members should be aware that third parties--including the media, faculty, future employers and college officials--could easily access your profiles and view all personal information. This includes all pictures, videos, comments and posts. Inappropriate material found by third parties affects the perception of the student member and our school. This can also be detrimental to a student member's future options (i.e. college, profession, etc.).

Bullying is one of the most serious problems in schools today. Vicious treatment and hateful words between students often lead to violence, suicide, depression and discrimination among the student body. When a student turns to social media, blogs or virtually any online space as a forum for hurtful speech, the risks are immeasurable. Not only does that student face expulsion, but also serious criminal prosecution.

MPB members are expected to be responsible when using social media. Do not use social media to the detriment of others. When you are posting information and/or messages as a member of the MPB you have a moral obligation to be a responsible and respectful contributor. Examples of inappropriate and offensive behaviors concerning participation in online communities may include depictions or presentations of the following:

- Photos, videos, comments or posters showing the personal use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco.
 - Photos, videos, and comments that are of a sexual nature. This includes links to websites of a pornographic nature and other inappropriate material.
 - Pictures, videos, comments or posters that condone drug-related activity. This includes but is not limited to images that portray the personal use of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.
 - Content online that is unsportsmanlike, derogatory, demeaning or threatening toward any other individual or entity (examples: derogatory comments regarding another school; taunting, comments aimed at a member, Director, or Band at another school and derogatory comments against race and/or gender). No posts should depict or encourage unacceptable, violent or
- illegal activities (examples: hazing, sexual harassment/assault, gambling, discrimination, fighting, vandalism, academic dishonesty, underage drinking, and illegal drug use, etc.).
- If you are ever in doubt of the appropriateness of your online public material, consider whether it upholds and positively reflects your own values and ethics as well as those of Carrizo Springs High School and the MPB. Remember, always present a positive image and do not do anything to embarrass yourself, the MPB, your family, or Carrizo Springs.
- Failure to adhere to this policy and guidelines may result in consequences that include suspension or expulsion from the MPB, and you may be subject to additional penalties imposed by the school.

Electronic Device Policy (Cell Phones, iPods, etc.)

MPB members are to follow all the directives concerning usage of electronic devices (cell phones, iPods, etc.) as stated in the CSHS Student Handbook.

In addition to the policies stated in the CSHS Student Handbook, MPB members will also be required to adhere to the following guidelines during class or after-school rehearsals and performances:

1. No phones or other electronic devices will be used during after-school rehearsals without permission from one of the Directors.
2. Devices being used without permission will be confiscated. When asked for, MPB members will relinquish the device promptly to the Director.
3. Devices will be returned to the student or parent at the discretion of the Director.
4. Multiple infractions of this rule will require the member to turn in the device(s) to the Director at the beginning of any rehearsal/performance. The device will be returned at the conclusion of the rehearsal/performance.

MPB Member Dress Code

Members will be required to follow the dress code as stated in school policy. Dress for after-school rehearsals and travel will be more relaxed, but must not violate the stated code. Any member found in violation of the code will be asked to change. Consistent violations of the Dress Code will result in a parent conference and the student being referred to the school administration for appropriate action.

Alternate Dress for Performances

Sometimes during the Christmas and Spring Concerts, members will not wear their band uniform; instead, dress will be semi-formal with adherence to the school dress code. **Blue jeans, t-shirts and very short skirts or shorts are not acceptable.** Members should dress in attire suitable for a special (church) event. Members not dressed appropriately will be asked to go home and change into something more appropriate and return for the performance. Failure to do so will result in loss of performance points and a parent conference.

SUMMER REHEARSALS

Summer rehearsals start before the school year begins and attendance is required of every student planning to be a member of the CSHS Mean Purple Band. These rehearsals are very important. The few weeks before the start of school is the only available time on the calendar available to work on marching fundamentals and to learn music for the upcoming marching season. **ALL MEMBERS ARE STRONGLY URGED TO ATTEND THESE REHEARSALS.** Unexcused absences from these rehearsals may result in the member not having a place in the Contest Show and/or Halftime Show.

Each member will receive a written schedule with information regarding rehearsals and sectional times for Summer Band. This information will also be published in the local newspapers. When there is a conflict, the Director should be notified as soon as possible. Since Summer Rehearsals Schedule is mailed to the members, please make sure that the current address and telephone number is on file in the band office at all times. Any changes in the address and/or telephone number should be reported to the Band Director as soon as possible.

ATTENDANCE

Members are expected to attend all classes and extra rehearsals (night rehearsals, sectionals, etc.) with all necessary equipment. Rehearsals are scheduled well in advance, and all members are expected to make any necessary arrangements to be on time. Students absent from after-school rehearsals need to bring in a written note from a parent or guardian within two school days stating specifically the cause of the absence. If it is deemed excused by the Director, the student will be allowed one week to make-up the absence for a grade. If it is not made up within one week's time, the grade will remain a zero. If it is deemed unexcused, then a zero will remain for that rehearsal and it may result in the denial of participation in that week's and/or any other performance (resulting in a zero for that grade).

Unexcused absences from class will be considered as skipping and will result in a zero for that daily participation grade and may also include denial of participation in that week's and/or any other performance (resulting in a zero for that grade) plus any disciplinary action required by the administration. Students are allowed two school days in which to bring in an excuse.

Attendance is required at all Band performance events (marching shows, parades, concerts, contests, etc.). Lack of transportation is not an excuse, unless it is caused by a sudden emergency. Members are strongly encouraged to notify the Director beforehand of any possible problems which may result in their being late to a performance.

NOTE: When a member is absent from school on the day of a performance, he/she needs to bring in a note from the attending physician. If the student is absent due to extenuating circumstances, the principal, along with the Director, will determine if the student is eligible to participate. If the Principal is unavailable, then an Assistant Principal will make the decision. This note must be presented to the Director before leaving the school for the performance. If excused by the Director, then the student may participate in the performance. If deemed unexcused by the Director, the student will not be allowed to participate and will lose those performance points. If a note is not presented then the student will not be allowed to participate. Parents are encouraged to schedule doctor's appointments on days other than performance days.

Students assigned to ISS on the day of a scheduled event or activity will not be allowed to participate. If an event or activity is scheduled for the weekend, the student must be clear of ISS assignment by the end of the school day on the designated weekend in order to participate.

The Director should be notified as soon as possible if there is an illness which will cause a student to be absent. A written excuse must be presented for ALL absences. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action and a zero for that event. (Read the section on Attendance)

Since everything done in band is geared towards performance, this is the most important part of being in the organization. Therefore, any unexcused absence from a performance may result in dismissal from the program.

GRADING SYSTEM

The grading system will be based on, but not limited to, the following weighted categories:

1. Daily Participation
2. Sectionals
3. Night Rehearsals
4. Performances
5. Responsibility
6. Music Memorization
7. Playing/Written Tests/Assignments
8. Instrument/Uniform Care

The weights of these categories will vary depending on the events scheduled for that particular grading period. Not all categories will be used every 6-Weeks period.

Full participation means that the student is on time for the whole rehearsal/performance. Failure to be on time means that the student is not participating fully. The penalty for partial participation will result in a grade no higher than 80.

An absence from any of the participation grades will require a parent-signed written excuse to be turned in to the Director in a timely manner (one or two days after the infraction) in order to be allowed to make up the time for a grade (See the section on Make-Up Policy).

Daily Participation - This part of the grade consists of the member's participation in the class, which includes having all necessary materials. Full and complete participation begins when the second bell rings. If participation is not full and complete, the grade is reduced. Unexcused absences from class will result in a zero for that day. Excused absences will receive a grade of "E" which will not affect the student's grade. Members who forget their instruments will receive a 50 for their daily participation grade if they are following instructions. Unexcused partial participation will result in a grade no higher than an 80.

Sectionals - This grade consists of participation in the weekly sectional rehearsals after school. During Sectionals, members are to participate fully in the learning process and to be on time with all necessary materials. Any member who is absent from a sectional must bring in a written excuse. *If the excuse is acceptable to the Director, then the member has one school week in which to make-up the full sectional time* (See section on Make-Up Policy). Unexcused partial participation will result in a grade no higher than an 80.

Night Rehearsals - Included in this category are grades for participation in evening band rehearsals. All students are to be on time with all necessary materials and to participate fully in the learning process. Unexcused absences will result in a zero for that rehearsal. *All excused absences have to be made-up within one school week* (See section on Make-Up Policy).

Unexcused partial participation will result in a grade no higher than an 80.

Performances – Since the greatest majority of the learning process is geared towards Performance, this is the largest percentage of the overall grade and the most important part of being in the program. Members are to be on time with all necessary materials. Absences from a performance will require a signed written note from the parent/guardian with specific information as to the reason. This note is due within 2 days after the student returns to class. If reason is accepted, there will be no penalty. **All unexcused absences will result in a zero and possible removal from the performing group.** Absences from Performances cannot be made up. Members should note that the last performance grade is participation in the Graduation Ceremonies. All members are required to participate in this last performance. Unexcused partial participation will result in a grade no higher than an 80.

Responsibility - This category deals with the normal duties associated with rehearsals and duties before/after performances. The storage of equipment, music, and other materials is part of this category. After every trip and/or rehearsal, members are responsible to store their instruments properly inside the Band Hall in their assigned places. All music used is to be stored in its assigned area. All other materials (mallets, covers, cases, etc.) must be stored in their proper places. Assigned uniforms are to be properly hung up and returned to the appropriate uniform cabinet. All issued music must have the member's name on it. Points are deducted from this grade when the student does not complete these tasks after performances or before the given deadlines to fulfill these tasks.

Music Memorization - This grade deals with all assigned memory work. Music must be played off from memory to one of the Directors or the Drum Major(s). The music assignment must be signed and dated by the Director or Drum Major as proof that it has been played off. ***It is the responsibility of the student to bring this signed piece of music to the band office to get credit for this grade.*** There will be a deadline set for each piece to be played off. Starting on the day after the playoff deadline, ten points are deducted for each week the music is late. After the third week past the deadline, music may be played off for a grade no higher than a 70. Music cannot be played off after the end of a 6-Weeks period in which the assignment was due.

Playing/Written Tests/Assignments - This category consists of music that is played for a grade and/or other written tests. Written tests may consist of theory, musical terms and any other information deemed necessary by the Director. Playing/written tests may be assigned at any time. An assignment can consist of anything from having a red pencil, to having the measures numbered, to writing essays.

Instrument/Uniform Care - This grade is set for assigned Instrument and Uniform inspections. All instruments should be in good working condition and uniforms should fit properly. It is the responsibility of the student to bring to the attention of the Director any problems with the instrument and/or uniform.

Make-Up Policy - Make-up grades are only accepted when arrangements are made with a Director. Within two (2) days of a rehearsal absence, a written excuse signed by a parent or guardian must be turned in to the Band Director. If the reason is deemed excused, then the grade can be made-up. However, the make-up must be done no later than one calendar week

from the absence. In case of absences of more than two consecutive days and/or running into holidays, special arrangements can be made with the Director for make-ups. **If an absence is not made up, then the grade will remain a zero.**

Students assigned to ISS will need to make-up the missed rehearsals in order to receive credit for them. **It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements with the Director for this make-up.** The make-up must be done within one (1) calendar week upon release from ISS, unless other arrangements are made with the Director.

Absences from performances cannot be made up. If the excuse for a performance absence is turned in on time and the reason is accepted, then there will be no penalty for the absence.

Make-Ups can be done before school or after school afternoon in one-hour increments. If a make-up is to be done before the start of school, because of the time of the start of school, a full hour cannot be done; therefore, if the choice is to do the make-up in the morning, it **MUST** start by 7:00 a.m. No make-ups can be started after this time (students are urged to get to the Band Hall at least 5 minutes before 7:00 a.m. so that they can start on time). After-school make-ups need to be scheduled with the Director. **Before beginning any make-up, the student must check in with the Director to make sure that the time is recorded as made up. Time spent on make-up will consist of steady practice with the instrument on the assigned music.** Failure to remain on task during the make-up may result in a zero, which cannot be made up; therefore, the student is urged to make sure to use the time wisely.

DISCIPLINE

Exemplary behavior is expected at all times. Members represent their families, the band program, the school district, and the community.

Disciplinary action and/or severe reprimand will result for the following infractions of the rules:

1. Uncooperative behavior and failure to follow instructions.
2. Disrespectful behavior such as foul and/or abusive language to students and/or teachers.
3. Any misuse of school property such as instruments, music, equipment, and/or school facilities.
4. Excessive tardy or absence problems at rehearsals or performances.
5. Skipping school or class (any class).
6. Alcohol, tobacco, or drug use at any school function such as band practice, performance or competition. **THIS MAY RESULT IN IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM THE PROGRAM AND ANY OTHER ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE ADMINISTRATION.**
7. Public Display of Affection (PDA).
8. Other infractions of the rules as stated in the Carrizo Springs High School Student Handbook and/or the Band Handbook.

All disciplinary action will follow the steps as stated in the CSHS Student Handbook. Severe reprimands will consist of suspension from the program until the completion of conferences held with the student, the administration, and/or parent and a satisfactory solution is reached.

The outcome may include loss of privileges including participation in certain events **and may go as far as being removed from the program.**

Any student who is suspended from the program will receive a zero for those practices and/or performances missed. The only exception is for those who are suspended due to ISS assignment (please read Make-Up Policy).

In all cases, the severity of the consequence will be equal to the severity of the infraction.

PERFORMANCE CONDUCT

Members' behavior at any performance event will follow the guidelines as stated in other sections of this handbook and the CSHS Student Handbook. As representatives of Carrizo Springs High School and the community, members will maintain a dignified manner in everything they do. While with the band at any event, members are expected to remain with the group unless they have permission from a Director. Expected behavior shall include courtesy and obedience to any instructions given by Directors, Sponsors and/or any other designated authority figure (including Drum Majors).

It is expected that when wearing the MPB uniform, members should always present themselves neatly. Unless otherwise directed, all parts of the uniform are to be worn as intended. Members are **NOT** to eat food while in uniform unless given permission by a Director.

Conduct During Football Games

During out-of-town football games members are given a meal after the halftime performance.

Food and drinks other than water will not be consumed at other times during the football game. **ONLY WATER IS PERMITTED TO BE CONSUMED WHILE IN THE STANDS.** Sport drinks or other kinds of drinks will not be allowed while in the stands. For obvious reasons, absolutely no food is to be consumed while in uniform whether in the stands or during breaks, unless one of the Directors grants specific permission. **(If a medical condition requires a student to have to eat at this time, there should be a doctor's note turned in to the Director to allow for this.)** If a member is caught with food or any beverage (except water) without permission, they will be reprimanded and may lose some of their privileges including participation at other events.

Members are not allowed to go to the concession stand at any time during the football game unless he/she has specific permission from one of the Directors. Anyone caught at the concession stand without permission will be severely reprimanded and may lose some privileges including participation at other events. Members are not to go beyond the fenced area.

Bathroom privileges while in the stands will be limited to very small groups and students must have permission from the Director or their designee. It is highly recommended that students take care of their restroom needs before going up to the stands. During the 3rd Quarter break, members must have Director permission to go to the bathroom.

While in the stands during football games, members are required to stay with their section in their designated place unless otherwise instructed by the Directors or designee. Members are not allowed to move about freely in the stands.

There is to be no miscellaneous playing of instruments while in the stands. Members must be ready to play when called upon and have their music and lyre ready. They should frequently look at the Drum Majors and/or Director to check for any playing instructions.

Use of foul or unacceptable language including taunting of other students, fans, or players at any time while with the band is strictly prohibited. We are representing our school and community. There is no excuse for foul language or unacceptable behavior at any time when representing the school. Everyone should keep their language clean at **ALL** times and be courteous to all they meet.

Members are expected to wear all parts of their uniform correctly while in the stands unless directed otherwise by the Directors or designee. We cannot represent our school and the MPB by looking sloppy and unkempt. We have an image to maintain and that image is one of a disciplined and proud organization.

Third Quarter Rest Period

During the third quarter of home football games the band is given time off to rest and have a soft drink. No one is to consume these drinks in the stands unless given permission by one of the Directors. Members provide the drinks by bringing them in to the Band Hall office before the first game of the season. Each member brings in a 12-Pack of sport drink or water.

During most out-of-town FB games, members will be given a meal during the third quarter. Remember that no food is allowed in the stands. All members are to stay together in the area designated by the Director. Bathroom breaks are allowed with permission from one of the Directors.

Alternate Transportation Form

Alternate Transportation Forms (ATF's), are written permission forms that allow a member to return from a trip with someone other than the group. Forms can be picked up at the Band Hall office and must be filled out and signed by the Parent (or Legal Guardian) and the Principal. Information on the ATF includes the name of the person who will take charge of the member after the event and the reason for the change in transportation. Only the person whose name is on the form (except a Parent) can take charge of the member after the event. It is strongly recommended that Parents fill out these forms before the scheduled event and have the Principal sign it. If after the ATF has been turned in, there is a change and the student will not be picked up, he/she can always ride back with the group.

Before leaving, the member must come to the Director with the authorized person who will be taking charge. For security reasons, the student will not be allowed to leave with anyone whose name is not on the form (other than the parent or guardian) unless arrangements have been made prior to the trip with approval from the Principal and Band Director. **Non-Parents who will be taking charge of the student must be prepared to show a picture I.D. to the Director.** (In case of emergencies, Director's discretion will be used.)

A member using an ATF must take their uniform and, if possible, their instruments with them when leaving. Students with larger instruments and those with Percussion equipment should

arrange for another band member to be responsible for putting away their instrument and the student must notify one of the Directors as to who that member will be.

BAND TRAVEL

All band members will travel to performances on school-approved transportation. Students may be allowed to ride back from a performance with a parent or guardian if a completed Alternate Transportation Form (ATF) has been turned in to the Director. ATF's may be picked up at the Band Hall office.

Full instructions for most trips will be announced and/or posted before leaving for the destination. Members will be reminded to call home before arriving at the school so that there will be a minimum waiting time for pick up rides.

Members need to be at the Band Hall early enough to have time to check out their uniform before roll call. Always check uniform numbers to make sure you are taking the correct one.

All baggage, ice chests, coolers, etc. taken on school transportation may be inspected by school personnel. Only audio equipment utilizing headphones will be allowed on the bus.

The Loading Crew will load and unload instruments for performances. The Loading Crew is **not** responsible to bring equipment into the Band Hall. It is the responsibility of every MPB member to make sure that their instrument or equipment is in the proper place for loading and when unloaded upon return, to bring it into the Band Hall and put it in its proper place. **Students who leave instruments and/or equipment outside will be responsible for any damage or theft.** The Director may call the student at home to come back to the school to take care of the problem.

Proper behavior is expected at all times while on band trips. Guidelines as set forth in this handbook and the CSHS Student Handbook will be followed. All infractions of the rules will be dealt with according to school policy and the Band Handbook.

Return from Performance Trips Procedures

It is the responsibility of each MPB member to make sure that all personal items (pillows, radios, ice chests, etc.) are taken off the bus as quickly as possible because the buses will leave as soon as everyone has deboarded. All equipment and music must be brought into the Band Hall and stored properly. This includes all uniform parts.

Members are to store their instruments in their assigned location and properly hang their uniform in the correct Uniform Cart. All Band Uniforms must be returned to the correct uniform cart. Uniforms will be inspected by the Uniform Crew to insure that all uniforms are correctly hung and are in the correct location. If a uniform is hung incorrectly, it will be returned to the member to be rehung correctly.

Only after taking care of all of the above is the member is free to go home.

BAND AREA ENVIRONMENT

BAND HALL

Band members are to keep the band hall clean and neat. Keep the chairs and music stands in place and put your trash in the wastebasket. Use all equipment such as chairs and stands as they are intended. No gum is allowed in any area of the band hall. Students are not allowed to consume food or drinks in any area.

Please be considerate. If an item is moved put it back where it belongs. To borrow an item, ask permission and make sure to return it in a timely manner. Do not handle items that belong to others or are not properly checked out.

PRACTICE ROOMS

Practice rooms are to be used for practice only. All members should help to keep the rooms clean and neat. If, upon arrival, a student finds a problem in the practice room (broken stand and/or chair, graffiti on walls, etc.), please notify a Director immediately. This will help in removing liability for the problem from the student.

Food or drinks are not allowed in the practice rooms. The food and drink rules set for the band hall also apply to the practice room areas.

INSTRUMENT STORAGE CAGES

Storage cages are supplied for wind instruments. Students are assigned a cage for use during the year. It is the responsibility of the student to purchase a combination lock to secure his/her instrument cage. The student must make sure to supply the Band Director with the combination. This information will be used only in situations when there is a need to retrieve equipment and/or supplies from the instrument cage.

INSTRUMENTS

The Carrizo Springs CISD supplies several instruments for use in the band program at no charge and issues these to students after an Instrument Loan Agreement Form has been signed by both the parent and student and returned to the Band Office. These instruments are basically the larger, more expensive ones.

Students using school-owned instruments are personally responsible for the instruments' care. If a school-owned instrument is damaged, lost, or stolen due to misuse or neglect on the part of the student to whom it is issued, he/she is responsible for the cost of any repair or, when required, replacement of the instrument.

All members are responsible to have all equipment (instruments, music, and all other necessary gear) in good working condition at all functions (regardless of ownership). Any problems with school-owned instruments need to be reported to the Director as soon as possible. Failure to do so may result in the student being responsible for the repair.

Band members will refrain from unauthorized use of school equipment and/or instruments. Students who make unauthorized use of any equipment and/or instruments will be responsible for any damage or loss. Any student who participates in this type of behavior will be severely reprimanded and a parent conference will be held. Director's permission should be acquired before students use any equipment not issued to them.

INSTRUMENT SUPPLIES AND REPAIRS

The acquisition of instrument supplies, such as reeds valve oil, cork grease, etc., is the responsibility of the student. Every student in the program is required to have sufficient supplies to keep his/her instrument in good working order. These supplies may be purchased at any music store with the only requirement being to get the brands that are in general use by this department.

The music department also carries supplies to sell to students. Students are able to purchase these on a cash basis or they can set up an account with the department. Accounts are set up as a convenience and should be paid as soon as possible so as not to run up a high debt. The department will set a limit on the amount that can be carried on a student's account.

When an instrument needs repair, the student should bring it in to the office so that one of the Directors can examine it. The Director can fix most minor repairs such as cork replacement, pad replacement (except flute pads), valve string replacement and minor dents and leveling. Major repairs are handled through a music store repair service. Parents can take the instrument to any music store of their choice. On any instrument that is sent in for repairs by the department, the company will let the parent know the estimate for the repair and will begin work only after getting approval from the parent. In some instances, the cost of the repair can be paid off in installments to the music department through the student's account. Arrangements for payment installments can be made through the Director. Parents are strongly urged to payoff these debts as soon as possible so that this service can continue to be offered.

UNIFORMS

Band Uniforms

Band uniforms are furnished by the School District. Students using uniforms are responsible for their care during use. Uniforms will be checked-out before each performance and checked-in upon return to the band hall under the direction of the Uniform Crew.

When receiving the uniform, each member is responsible to make sure that all parts are there. Only the black shoes issued by the department are to be used with the uniform. Students are not allowed to use other types of shoes with the uniform. It will be the member's responsibility to furnish black socks to use with the uniform.

Members are strongly urged to keep a record of or to memorize the numbers of the different parts of their uniform and to make sure that they check for these numbers each time they are issued the uniform. If there are any discrepancies or problems, he/she should inform a member of the Uniform Crew immediately. Members will also need to make sure that the shoes are clean and in good condition.

Uniform bags will also be passed out to the members. These bags are the property of the school and must be returned with the uniform when it is checked in upon arrival from

performances.

Complete uniform and bag will be checked-in by the member upon return to the band hall after each performance and/or trip. When returning the uniform, he/she needs to make sure that it is hung properly. Uniform Crew members are required to **DENY** the acceptance of uniforms that are hung improperly. It is imperative that members take the few extra minutes needed to make sure that the uniform is hung properly. This will help take care of the uniform so that it can last longer.

Uniforms will be cleaned as a unit by the school. Any problems with the uniform (missing buttons, tears, etc.) should be reported to a member of the Uniform Crew or the Band Director immediately. Any alterations should be made by the parent according to Band Director's specifications. **UNIFORM MATERIAL SHOULD NOT BE CUT FOR ANY REASON.** Correct length should have the pant legs touching the top portion of the shoes with no visible folds. Uniform pants should **NOT** fit snug on the legs. Parents are asked **NOT** to alter the pant legs to make them fit snug.

Should the student wish to send the uniform in for cleaning on his/her own, he/she should consult the Director for specific instructions. Members who send in uniforms without consultation and/or permission will be held responsible for any damage to the uniform.

Alternate Band Uniform

All information regarding the Alternate Uniform will be given during Summer Band. For performances during the first part of the school year (usually the hottest time), the band will wear an alternate uniform. The alternate uniform will consist of the Band shirt, pants or shorts (color and type announced at the beginning of summer band), shoes and socks as specified by the Director. Students are required to purchase these items. Other items may be required as deemed necessary by the Director. **IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT PARENTS PURCHASE THESE ITEMS BEFORE THE FIRST PERFORMANCE. IF PARENTS HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, NEEDS, OR CONCERNS, PLEASE SPEAK TO ONE OF THE DIRECTORS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

Mariachi Traje

Mariachi traje will be furnished by the school district. Individual mariachi members may be required to provide their own botines and other traje accessories such as, but not limited to, earrings, hairbows and undergarments. When receiving the uniform, each member is responsible to make sure that all parts are there. All botines worn with the traje must be black and in a traditional style. Performance hair and make-up styles will be communicated to the mariachi before each performance and will be adhered to by every performing mariachi member.

Any problems with the uniform (missing buttons, tears, etc.) should be reported to the Mariachi Director immediately. Any alterations should be made by the parent according to Mariachi Director's specifications. **UNIFORM MATERIAL SHOULD NOT BE CUT FOR ANY REASON.** Should the student wish to send the uniform in for cleaning on his/her own, he/she should consult the Director for specific instructions. Members who send in uniforms without consultation and/or permission will be held responsible for any damage to the uniform.

CHAIR PLACEMENT AND CHALLENGES

The Director sets chair placement at the beginning of the year based on the previous year's placement. The Director may hold auditions to determine chair position within a section.

Members can challenge up one chair at a time by following these steps:

1. Notify the student being challenged and together inform the Director of the challenge.
2. The Director will set up the challenge date and music, usually one week after the music has been received
3. On the day of the challenge, it is the students' responsibility to come in for the challenge. The Directors will not be calling on students to play their challenge.
4. The Director will listen to the challenge with the higher chair going first. A decision will be made on the outcome and it is understood that the decision is final for that challenge. The challenge may be recorded. If it is recorded, then the Director will listen to the recording and pass on the final results to the students.
5. The winner has all of the following school day to challenge the next person in rank. If not, he/she can be challenged again the day after that.
6. In the event that a student has an unexcused absence or refuses to accept the challenge, he/she loses the chair and will be unable to challenge for 6-Weeks. However, others can challenge this student. If the absence is excused, it is understood that the challenge will take place on the day that the student returns to school unless there are circumstances that will not allow this to happen. In this case a practical solution will be reached by the Director.
7. The next person down in rank may challenge the loser if the same two people have challenged each other two or more consecutive times. The person challenging the loser must inform the Director before the challenge takes place so that both persons know that the loser will have an automatic challenge.

Challenges will not be scheduled to take place during the week of 6-Weeks tests, STAAR Testing, EOY Exams, or Semester Exams. This time is reserved to allow students to study for exams. ***It is understood that the Director's decision is final for challenges and/or tryouts.***

INSPECTIONS

Inspection of instruments and uniforms may take place before each performance. Additional instrument inspections may be made at any time. Instruments must be clean and in good condition with all parts intact. Uniforms must fit properly and consist of all the appropriate parts. If a member has a problem with his/her instrument and/or uniform, they must report it to a Director as soon as possible.

Members are not allowed to decorate their instrument and/or school-owned case with any sort of labels, tapes, or any other materials. Only music department approved stickers will be on the instruments and these will be for the sole purpose of inventory identification.

END-OF-YEAR BAND TRIPS

End-of-year band trips are planned as a recreational and educational experience for all students. Fundraising opportunities are planned throughout the year to offset the individual cost for each student. The Band Boosters may help organize the major fundraising activities. All students are encouraged to do their part in these fundraising activities if they plan on participating in these trips. If a student does not earn enough profit to go on the trip, then he/she can pay the remainder of (or all) the money needed for the trip. All students need to be completely clear of any outstanding debts to the Music Department before they can go on a trip.

The trips not only provide a rewarding situation for students who work hard all year, but also are planned to provide an educational experience as well. **Since these trips are a reward for what is done during the school year, students may lose the privilege of participating if there have been severe discipline problems or any other infractions to school and/or Band policy. Students assigned to AEP at any point during the school year will not be allowed to participate in end-of-year trips.**

It is understood that any unexcused absence from any performance will automatically result in the student not being allowed to go on the trip(s). Due to the fact that the band is a non-profit organization, if a student does not go on a trip, then the money he/she raised during the year will stay in the Band account. No fundraiser monies will be refunded back to students. Money accumulated will not carry over from one year to the next year. ****Any student who is sent home from the end-of –year trip because of disciplinary reasons will not receive a refund of any monies paid out of pocket towards the trip and may not be allowed to attend future End-of-Year trips. Director and/or Principal will have the final decision on this matter.**

CONTEST DESCRIPTIONS

Invitational Marching Contests

These Contests provide the Marching Band with an opportunity to showcase its UIL Marching Evaluation drill to a panel of judges for critique before the UIL Contest. At most of these Contests awards are given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places; there may also be awards for Best Horn Line, Best Percussion Line, Best Auxiliary, Outstanding Soloist, and/or Best General Effect.

UIL Region Marching Evaluation

This event evaluates if a Marching Band performs according to UIL standards. A band will receive a rating of 1 to 5 (I, II, III, IV, V). A 1st Division is considered a Superior performance; a 2nd Division is Very Good; a 3rd Division is Average; a 4th Division is Below Average; and a 5th Division is Poor. Bands that receive a 1st Division at the Regional Contest will advance to the UIL Area Marching Contest. From there, on even numbered years, top bands will be chosen to

advance to the UIL State Marching Contest where the State Champion is determined. On odd-numbered years 1A, 3A and 5A bands advance to State.

UIL Region Concert & Sightreading Evaluations

These two evaluations take place on the same day. The purpose of the Concert Evaluation is to assess how a Concert Band performs according to UIL standards. This evaluation has the band performing three selections in a Concert setting. As in the Marching Band Evaluation the bands are given a rating of I, II, III, IV, or V.

The Sightreading Evaluation assesses how well students can read music. They are given a piece of music they have not seen before and allowed seven minutes in which to look at it. After the time is up, the band performs the selection before a panel of judges. They, in turn, rate the performance with an I, II, III, IV, or V.

In odd-numbered years, all 3A and 5A bands which receive a 1st Division rating at the UIL Concert Evaluation may submit a recording for TMEA Region Honor Band. The top two bands chosen have their recordings sent to the Area Level and there, the top two bands chosen advance to the State Level where the TMEA State Honor Band is selected. On even-numbered years 1A, 2A, and 4A bands advance.

Bands receiving a 1st Division rating overall in Marching, Concert, and Sight-reading during the same school year are awarded a UIL Sweepstakes Trophy. This is considered a very high achievement for any band and a goal that all Texas High School bands focus on.

Because this event is an Evaluation and winners are not selected, the UIL has determined that each district shall determine the eligibility standards for its' band program. CSCISD has decided that all band students must be academically eligible to participate in this event.

UIL Regional Band Solo & Ensemble Contest

This Contest is for small ensembles (groups of three or more) and individual solos. Members wishing to participate must sign up in the band hall office. An eligible MPB member may perform in two different events. A member can do a solo and/or be a part of an ensemble or a member may be a part of two ensembles if the majority of ensemble participants are different. If, after the entry forms have been sent in, the student chooses not to go or, if the student becomes ineligible, or if the Director denies participation because of lack of practice and lessons, the student will be responsible to pay for the entry fee and the accompanist fee (if any). A member of an ensemble who becomes ineligible will be responsible for the entry fee for the entire group if no other person(s) can be found to take his/her place.

Music selected will be from one of three categories. Class I music is the most difficult level. Class II music is of the intermediate level in difficulty and Class III is the easiest level. In order to advance to the State level on a solo, a student must perform a Class I solo by memory and receive a 1st Division rating. Students not wishing to advance to the State level can perform a Class I solo with the music for a rating and medal only.

Information on ensemble size and contents can be obtained from the Directors. There are no duets at UIL Contest. Any student wishing to be in an ensemble needs to sign up in the Band office. Ensembles are grouped by student preference and availability. The Director(s) will have the final say on the music selected. Only Class I ensembles that receive a 1st Division rating can advance to the State Contest. Only students receiving a 1st Division rating from the judges are awarded a medal. Class I medals have a blue ribbon; Class II medals have a red ribbon; and Class III medals have a white ribbon.

UIL State Solo & Ensemble Contest

This Contest takes place during the very last part of the school year. Students who advance to the State level in Solo & Ensemble will be expected to set up practice times during the final 6- weeks of the school year. If, after the entry fees and forms have been sent in, a student chooses not to go, or is denied participation because of lack of practice and lessons with a Director, or loses eligibility, then he/she will be responsible to pay for the solo entry fee and accompanist fee (if any) or the entire ensemble entry fee. If a student's denial of participation affects an ensemble, then he/she must pay the fee for the entire group.

Members should realize the State Solo and Ensemble Contest is a very difficult contest and needs much more practice time and effort than the Region Contest. Any member who is going to this contest needs to make sure to put in many extra hours of practice time during the last 6- weeks of school.

ATSSB All-Region Band, All-Area Band and All-State Band Contests

The Association of Texas Small School Bands (ATSSB) sponsors these contests in which students in Division 1A through 4A compete for the top chairs in an honor band. The All- Region Band Tryout is the first leg that ultimately leads to the ATSSB All-State Band. The music used in these auditions comes from a list that includes scales, a fast piece and a slow piece.

TMEA All-Region Band, All-Area Band and All-State Band Contests

The Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) sponsors these contests in which students in classifications 1A to 6A compete for the top chairs in an honor band. The All-Region Band Try-out is the first leg that ultimately leads to the TMEA All-State Band. The music used in these auditions comes from a list that includes two fast pieces and a slow piece.

MPB BAND COUNCIL

The MPB Band Council is composed of the following offices: Drum Majors, Color Guard Officers, President, Vice-President, Senior Representative, Junior Representative, Sophomore Representative, Freshman Representative, and Color Guard Representative. The entire band (including Color Guard) elects the President and Vice-President.

The Class Representatives are elected by their respective classes and the Color Guard Representative is elected by the Color Guard members. Elections are to be held at the beginning of the school year.

Band Council Officers fulfill the following responsibilities:

1. Report to Directors concerning problem areas.
2. Help maintain discipline in the band.
3. Coordinate any student duties.
4. Promote MPB activities.
5. Act as a student representative of the band.
6. Assist in marking the marching field.
7. Assist and perform other duties as assigned by the Band Directors.

Drum Majors are selected by audition and carry these additional responsibilities:

1. Assist in listening to and crediting memory work.
2. Assist in instrument, music, and uniform inspections.

MPB SUPPORT PERSONNEL

Support personnel members who are members of the Band Council will consist of volunteers approved by the Director. Section Leaders are selected by the Director. Support personnel consist of the following groups.

UNIFORM CREW

This group has the following responsibilities:

1. Assign uniforms to members and keep an accurate list of those assignments.
2. Issue and retrieve uniforms when needed for performances.
3. Help in sending and receiving uniforms when cleaned.
 4. Putting together all uniforms with their proper parts when returned from the cleaners and setting them up in the uniform carts.
5. Help in maintaining the uniform carts in an orderly fashion.

LOADING CREW

This group is responsible for the proper loading and unloading of equipment during band performance trips. The Director will assign a Loading Crew Chief who will be in charge. He/she will be responsible for making sure that all members are present at the assigned time to work and also to see that all instruments and equipment are loaded properly so as not to be damaged during the trip.

The Loading Crew **WILL NOT** be responsible to bring instruments and equipment into the Band Hall with the exception of the Percussion instruments and Tubas left by students using ATF's. At the end of every trip each MPB members is responsible for bringing in their own instruments.

SECTION LEADERS & MARCHING TECHS

All section leaders and marching techs are to be appointed by the Director and they will not necessarily be the 1st Chair in their section. Their responsibilities will include the following:

- 1) Help in conducting instrument inspections for proper care.
- 2) Check to see that music is prepared as follows:
 - a. Student's name is on every sheet of music.
 - b. All measures are numbered on required music.
 - c. Dynamics, key signatures, time signatures, and tempo changes are clearly defined and/or translated.
- 3) Assist in teaching marching routines.
- 4) Assist in marking the marching field.
- 5) Make sure that all instruments in their section are back in storage after trips.
- 6) Be available for make-up time with a section member if asked to do so by Director.
- 7) Be available to help members remain eligible year-round.
- 8) Be an ambassador/liaison for the band staff.
- 9) Participate in extra Band contests such as ATSSB Region auditions and/or UIL Region

- Solo & Ensemble Contest.
- 10) Be a patriot for the MPB, band staff, and members (be loyal to and promote the MPB).
 - 11) Be a positive role model for all students.
 - 12) Enforce all band rules and expectations (at rehearsals, in the band hall, and at performances).

BAND SWEETHEART AND BEAU

All Senior Band and Color Guard members who have been in Band for at least 3 consecutive years, including their Senior year, are eligible for this position. The Band Sweetheart and Beau are elected by popular vote from the entire band membership. These positions exemplify the high standards of character, spirit, hard work, and dedication associated with the Mean Purple Band. The Sweetheart and Beau participate in various parades and other activities during the school year.

AWARDS

Awards are given for achievements made during the year. All UIL rules are to be observed in the award process. Members receiving awards will be selected by the Directors to receive certificates in the following categories: Outstanding Freshman Member, Outstanding Sophomore Member, Outstanding Junior Member, Outstanding Senior Member, and, when deemed appropriate, Outstanding Improvement. Certificates will be awarded during the Spring Concert and/or Awards Night.

AWARD JACKETS - Band, Color Guard, Mariachi Qualifications

A student who is enrolled in the Carrizo Springs High School Band for a full four years of high school will be awarded a jacket during his/her senior year based on merit and his/her contribution to the program. *A student's behavior and attitude will also have a direct bearing on if and when the student will receive the jacket during the senior year.* Members with attitude problems, behavior problems, or unexcused absences from performances or Contests during the course of their years in the MPB may face the possibility of not receiving an award jacket. It is understood that the Director's decision is final.

A Color Guard member who has participated with the band for at least three consecutive years (including the entire senior year) will receive a jacket during his/her senior year based on merit and Director and Sponsor approval. Color Guard members are expected to participate in all Marching Contests unless excused by the Director and/or Sponsor. Attitude problems, behavior problems, or unexcused absences from performances or Contests during his/her years in the MPB may result in the Color Guard member not receiving an award jacket. The Band Director will make the final decision based on the recommendation of the Color Guard Director.

A Mariachi member who has participated with the group for at least three consecutive years (including the entire senior year) will receive a jacket during the senior year based on merit and Director's approval. Mariachi members are expected to participate in all performances and rehearsals unless excused by the Director. Attitude problems, behavior problems, or unexcused absences from performances during the years in the Mariachi may result in the member not

receiving an award jacket. The Director will make the final decision.

According to UIL rules, each student enrolled in a Texas high school may receive only one award of this type during his/her high school career. In addition, UIL rules places a limit on the amount the school may pay for the award jacket. Any cost over that limit is the responsibility of the student. No student will be given an award jacket until the Jacket Acknowledgement Form has been signed and returned and any other costs have been cleared. The form states the qualifications required to obtain an award jacket along with the following statement:

It is also understood that if a Senior member has been awarded a jacket and either quits or is removed from the organization (including Color Guard and Mariachi), then he/she relinquishes ownership of the jacket and must return it to the director along with any other materials that belong to the Music Department.

Sometimes certain circumstances make it necessary for a Senior member to drop the course. In these instances, the Director will make the decision based on the reasons given by the student, parents, and School Administration. It is understood that the decision made by the Director will be final.

The Director may approve to award a jacket to a member who has not had the opportunity to participate in all four years. This decision will be based upon his/her contribution to the program, attitude, behavior, and any other conduct deemed appropriate.

BAND BOOSTER ORGANIZATION

The Carrizo Springs Band Booster Organization's purpose is to provide any needed support to our Band program and its students. Parents are strongly urged to join and participate in our program. Parental involvement in the education process has been shown to be a determining factor in students' success.

The Band Boosters meet monthly in the CSHS Band Hall. Notification of other specific times and places of meetings will be announced.

Our Band Boosters award scholarships to deserving Senior band members. This will be mainly based on the student's contribution to the MPB. To receive a Band Booster Scholarship, a MPB member must have a satisfactory recommendation by the Director (as far as discipline, attendance, participation, etc.), and meet the following Band Booster Scholarship Criteria:

1. Band student **must** attend CSHS Scholarship Interview Night when scheduled. Only family and/or medical emergencies are acceptable excuses for an absence.
2. Band student must participate in 4 years of band (students with less time will be considered on an individual basis depending on his/her contribution to the MPB).
3. Parents **must** volunteer to work in the concession stands. Minimum work requirement will be 2 games (total of 8 quarters, including 2 half times).
4. Student must not have more than 9 unexcused absences per semester (School policy).

DRUM MAJOR TRYOUT PROCEDURES AND DRUM MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

DRUM MAJOR TRYOUT PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents and candidates are reminded that the position of Drum Major requires additional expenses. This will include the purchase of different uniform items and for some expenses that occur during certain occasions.

GENERAL TRYOUT REQUIREMENTS

1. Candidates must be current members of the MPB and will have been academically ineligible no more than once during the current school year. A student who currently academically ineligible may still participate in the tryouts.
2. Must have been performing members of the Mean Purple Band during the previous marching season. (Incoming freshmen members cannot tryout for Drum Major) Transfer students must be a member of the MPB high school band a full year before trying out for Drum Major.
3. Must sign and have parents sign the Letter-Of-Agreement and return it to the Director prior to tryouts.
4. ALL candidates must sign and have parents sign the Eligibility Guidelines and return it to the Director prior to tryouts.

DRUM MAJOR TRYOUT PROCEDURE

1. Candidates will march in to the tryout area and complete an original salute.
2. Candidates will demonstrate conducting in the following time signatures.
 - a. 2/4 time
 - b. 3/4 time
 - c. 4/4 time
3. Candidates will conduct a recorded piece chosen by the staff. They will be judged on their conducting style and technique.
4. Candidates will demonstrate marching the "Box Drill" (left & right) which will incorporate correct marching techniques including "Shifts".
5. Candidates will present their group marching a drill routine written by the Director and previously taught by the candidate to the group. They will be judged on how well the group has learned the routine and the actual performance of the group. They will also be judged on how the DM interacts with the group.
6. Each candidate will be given a personal interview with the judges. A score will be given to each candidate based on this interview.
7. It is understood and accepted that the judges' decision is final.

DRUM MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Be a motivator/teacher for the band. Always be positive and encouraging when dealing with other members. Be a positive role model.
2. Take responsibility for the band's productivity: a) performance of music, b) performance of drill, c) rehearsal etiquette, d) performance etiquette
3. Oversee make-up time with any band member when asked to do so by Director.
4. Assist in the upkeep of the Band Hall and preparing music to be passed out, and preparing the practice field for rehearsals.
5. Be in attendance to all rehearsals and/or performance, making sure to be at the venue before most students.
6. Remain eligible year-round.
7. Be available to help students remain eligible year-round.
8. Be an ambassador/liaison for the band staff to the students.

9. Be a member of the band for the entire school year.
10. Participate in extra Band contests such as ATSSB Region Auditions and/or UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest.
11. Be a model for all students to aspire (follow 100% of all school rules).
12. Enforce all band rules and expectations (at rehearsals, in the band hall, and at performances).
13. Be a patriot of the MPB (be loyal to and promote the MPB).

DRUM MAJOR AND TWIRLER REQUIREMENTS

Once a candidate is selected for a position, the following requirements must be followed throughout the year. Failure to meet these requirements may result in removal from the position and forfeiture of eligibility for tryouts during the following years. The following requirements will apply to both Drum Majors and Twirlers:

1. Will attend a summer camp approved by the Director. The school district will pay camp fees in full. Parents will be responsible for transportation to and from the camp. Unexcused absences from a camp will result in the student/parent being required to reimburse the school for all fees.
2. Will be responsible for purchasing their uniforms. Style of uniform will be selected by participant and must have Director and/or Sponsor approval.
3. Must receive satisfactory conduct reports from all their teachers and maintain a passing grade in all courses in order to remain eligible.
4. Will attend and participate in ALL practice sessions and performances of the marching band as scheduled by the Director.
5. Will be responsible for the proper care of their uniform.
6. Must remember that he/she is a member of the Mean Purple Band **FIRST**, and the position is subordinate to this.
7. Since all their actions reflect on the entire Band program, Drum Majors and Twirlers must remember to represent the spirit and pride of Carrizo Springs at ALL times.
8. Twirlers will be required to practice together during the summer at least twice weekly, unless excused by the Director.
9. Any absences or tardies to practices and/or Performances need to be excused by the Director as soon as possible (preferably before absence or tardy).

SUMMATION OF BAND HANDBOOK

Through the years, the MPB has acquired a reputation of distinction when participating in Contests and other performances. The Band has not only represented CSHS, but it has proudly represented the community of Carrizo Springs as well. Whether performing at home or any other place around Texas, the MPB does it with style and PRIDE!

Being a member of the CSHS Mean Purple Band means that you must now conform to a tradition of excellence. By becoming a member of this organization, you agree to totally accept certain responsibilities to assure that this tradition continues. Accepting these responsibilities will help you establish values, such as teamwork and self-discipline, which will be of benefit to you later in life. Remember, everything you do will either help or hurt the organization. Do your part to help us continue to uphold the traditions of excellence left by those who have come before you. Do the right thing!

The final decision is **YOURS**. If we are to achieve excellence, each person must be responsible for his/her share of the load. There is no place for weakness or complacency in the Band program. An organization is only as strong as its weakest link. Let's strengthen each link by everyone doing his/her part.

The rules and guidelines stated in this Handbook are extremely easy to understand. We, the Band Directors and the administration of Carrizo Springs CISD, feel that these rules are fair and just and will benefit the school, the overall Band program, and each individual who participates. Abuses or infractions of these guidelines and rules will result in disciplinary action.

We realize that this Handbook does not cover each and every situation that may arise. Situations not covered in this Handbook will be handled in accordance with district policies and with administrative approval. Directors will always have the discretion of changing or modifying any part of this Handbook as is seen fit. Any and all changes to this Handbook will be announced verbally and posted.

We welcome you as a member of the CSHS Music Department and the **Mean Purple Band** and we hope that you will have a positive experience with opportunities to learn and grow musically.

Telephone Numbers: High School Band Hall -- 876-9393 x4318
 Junior High School Band Hall -- 876-2496 x6122

Please keep this Handbook for reference purposes. **CSCISD Music Department**