

Band Information for Students Grade 8 – 12

All students in grades 8 – 12, considered the High School Band, are expected to participate in Marching Band. Students who make the commitment are expected to fully participate. I give as much information upfront as possible so that students can make an informed decision about making the commitment to be in band or not. If a student feels they cannot make the commitment in time, expense, and work required they should choose another activity. Band is not an activity that you do if you have nothing else going on that day. Band is a competitive UIL activity that requires 100 percent commitment and participation.

Band Calendar for Summer 2021

- 7/20 – Leadership Workshop – 2 to 5 pm
 - Callissa, Hallie, Rylan, Rieve, Joey, Sarah, Abby, Jared, Sara, Kynslee
- 7/21, 7/22 – Percussion Camp – 2 to 4 pm
- 7/26, 7/27, 7/28, 7/29 – Full Band Camp – All HS Band Students – 3 to 6pm
- 8/2, 8/3, 8/4, 8/5 – Full Band – All HS Band Students – 7 to 9 pm
- 8/9, 8/10, 8/11, 8/12 – Full Band – All HS Band Students – 7 to 9 pm
- 8/16, 8/17, 8/18, 8/19 – Full Band – All HS Band Students – 7 to 9 pm
- 8/23, 8/24, 8/25 – Full Band – All HS Band Students – 7 to 9 pm
- 8/26 – Uniform Fittings – 7 to 9 pm
- 8/27 – First Football Game – Away
- 8/30 – until the end of football season – Monday Night Practices 7 to 9 pm

Attendance Policy

The summer band schedule is designed to not interfere with other school activities. The only exception is for Volleyball away game tournaments. If you are going to miss band practice for any reason, you must communicate that with me in advance. The only acceptable reasons are medical, scheduled family vacations, and Refugio ISD sports games (Volleyball, Football). Students missing practices and not communicating in advance will not have a spot in the competing band and will not travel to away games nor contests. We will not march an empty hole if we can help it. We will have plenty of students that can fill that hole temporarily. After you have communicated in advance to me that you will miss a practice or performance, you are also responsible to make sure an alternate knows your spot.

Eligibility

In order to participate in this or any other UIL activity, the student must be UIL Academically eligible. This means that they must maintain at least a 70 in all classes to participate. Eligibility also affects if the student can participate in End of Year reward trips.

Expenses

- Black Shoes - \$10 to \$30
- Long Black Socks - \$10
- Band Shirt - \$25
- Uniform Cleaning - \$15
 - If the student does not take care of their uniform properly
 - Dirty because of a spill
 - Wrinkled because not hung up properly
- Blue Jeans - \$25
 - Worn for games before contest

*There may be other expenses come up. You will have as much notice ahead of time as possible. If you need help with these items, please let me know.

Varsity Contest Band

This group of students will march every week at football games and at marching contests. It requires traveling long distance to games, sometimes getting back well after midnight. This group represents the school and community and should be the most outstanding representatives we have.

NOT ALL STUDENTS MAKE THE VARSITY BAND!

Students make varsity because they know their music, attend practices, know their marching spots, demonstrate a positive attitude, and are well-behaved. Having one or two of these characteristics is not enough.

If a student does not make Varsity band, the student will perform at home football games, pep-rallies, and local parades. They will still need to come to practice to learn their marching spots, and they will still need to learn their music. These students can possibly move up to the Varsity roster at any point during the season. Reasons a student moves up includes that they have worked to improve their playing and marching skills, fill in for missing students, or an additional spot opens up in the show. Based on their positive behavior and attitude, they may also be offered alternative duties for the show like moving props and equipment or joining the color guard.

Communication

I use the students school email and the remind app to communicate with students. I can also add parents email addresses to the email list. I typically do not send a hardcopy letter home with the students. Most of the time, I do have information posted to the schools Facebook page and posted to the school's website. There is also a parents Groupme page that I highly recommend you join.

- To be added to the email list, send me an email – ted.buhrts@refugioisd.net
- To be added to the remind app, text @tbuhr to 81010
- To be added to the parents Groupme, go to the Groupme app and search for the group called
 - “Parents of the Refugio Mighty Bobcat Band”

Physicals

All band students in grades 8-12 are required by UIL to have a physical prior to participating.

If band sounds like a commitment that the student and parents can make, please feel free to have your student join band. Please make sure that they have made their intentions well known to Mrs. Meza and myself by the beginning of July. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me. The easiest way to contact me is by email.

Ted Buhrts
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