



THE BANDS OF
RIDGE VIEW
HIGH SCHOOL

2019-2020

BAND HANDBOOK

Dear Blazer Band Students & Parents:

Welcome to the 2019-2020 Ridge View High School Band program! As a part of this organization not only will you play music, but you will also grow and become a part of a special group of students who represent Ridge View High School & Richland School District Two.

Everyone needs to read the information in this handbook, including veterans, so that you are informed. For those new to the program, this handbook is what keeps the program running smoothly and efficiently. Most questions can be answered by consulting the handbook, and protocols will be adjusted from year to year as the need arises to clarify issues within the program. Upon reading, all students are required to sign and return the Mutual Consent Form and complete the Medical forms, and Trip Permission Form online. Failure to turn in these forms by the beginning of full band camp may result in you not being able to travel with the band to events and/or dismissal from the band program.

We are looking forward to this year's opportunities and possibilities. This year's student and professional staff are highly qualified and will help take this program to the next level of success. All parents are encouraged to be active in the program through the Band Parent Organization, pit crew, fundraising activities, and supporting the band at competitions and concerts. Championship level bands start with championship level parental support at home and school.

To be successful in this program, we suggest being on time, taking pride in yourself and this organization, getting involved in ensembles and student leadership, practicing outside of school, and respecting others. Remember that band is not about one person; it takes everyone's involvement 100% of the time. If we all work together, we can achieve greatness.

Sincerely,

Dustin King
Director of Bands
Ridge View High School

Wesley Hipps
Associate Director of Bands-Director of Percussion
Ridge View High School

ATTENDANCE

100% attendance is vital to the entire band's success. Every person is important, and the entire band suffers when even one person is not there. Band Camp, mini-camp, after-school rehearsals and performances are **REQUIRED!** The following procedures are in place for all after-school rehearsals so please read them carefully.

Tardiness

We understand that you will be involved in activities outside of band and will have other school commitments. You must understand that these activities are NOT excused. Rehearsals will begin on time! For each minute that a member is tardy, a consequence will be invoked. After school detention and/or tutoring is not excused.

Absences

The following is a list of excused and unexcused absences for the entire year. If you are absent, you must have a note signed by a parent by THE NEXT PRACTICE. All appointments (doctor, orthodontist, hair, nails, pet appointments, make-up tests, etc.) should be scheduled on the day we don't have practice (Wednesday). Start planning now! We know appointments are tough to schedule this way, but it can be done!

Unexcused:

Doctor/Dentist/Orthodontist/etc. appointments; Work; Attended school, but not practice; Driving school; Social events of any kind; Marriage or death of non-relatives.

Excused (with a note):

Personal illness (with a parent contact); an emergency conflict that you have approved with the director in advance; Marriage or death in immediate family; Student observation of religious holidays of the student's faith

For ALL absences, the following procedure must be followed by the student and parent:

1. Director must be notified via email or phone call.
2. For illness, a parent note or doctor's excuse must be submitted the next time a student is present.

-If a Marching Band rehearsal is missed for an unexcused reason, the member will not be allowed to perform the next performance. If this occurs a second time, the member may be assigned to an alternate spot or permanently dismissed from the ensemble.

-If a Marching Band performance (ex. Football game, mini camp, competition, parade) is missed for an unexcused reason, the student will receive a zero (0) for the performance grade and will be assigned to an alternate spot. If a second performance is missed for an unexcused reason, the student will be removed from the ensemble immediately.

-If a student misses a Concert performance for an unexcused reason, the student will receive a zero (0) for the performance grade..

-The band director(s) reserves the right to grade participation at all band events.

GRADING

Band 2, Band 3, Band 4, & Percussion Ensemble grades are weighted as Music = 40%; Class Preparation=10%; and Performances = 50%.

Marching Band grades are weighted as Music = 40%; Football Games = 10%; Contests = 40%; Uniform cleaning/maintenance=10%.

If a student does not have 100% of their music passed off prior to a performance (marching or concert), they will not be allowed to perform.

Tutoring will be available during lunch and before/after school as the directors are available.

ALTERNATE SYSTEM

The director(s) reserves the right to implement an alternate system as the need arises to deal with discipline issues, excessive absences, and to ensure that every spot in the drill is filled for performances. If a student is chosen as an alternate, they must be at all rehearsals and performances! Alternates will play a role in the competition show as actors, prop controllers, etc. In addition, they will participate in all football related activities including pregame and stadium playing.

BAND FEES

(All fee payments are Non-Refundable)

-Band Fees for non-marching members (Cleared Fall Athletes): \$200

-Marching Band Fees: \$350

-Colorguard Fees: \$350

Additional Marching Band & Colorguard Expenses:

Marching Shoes (for winds and percussion only): \$40

Marching Gloves (for brass & woodwinds only): \$6 for two pairs

Flip Folder & Lyre to hold music: \$10

Colorguard Gloves: \$17

- All wind and percussion band members are required to have black shoes for their uniform, which will be ordered at band camp. Returning members may use shoes from previous years if they are in good condition.
- Colorguard members are required to wear specific shoes which will be ordered at band camp. Returning members may use shoes from previous years if they are in good condition.
- Other needed items by all band and colorguard members: kahki shorts, white tennis shoes, black knee high socks (brass, woodwinds, and percussion only), flip folders (brass, woodwinds, and percussion only)

-Winter Concert Band Camp (required for all band members enrolled in a band class except colorguard): \$120

-Fundraising Fee (required for all band members enrolled in a band class): \$200; fundraisers are used so that student can raise the funds for this fee if they choose to.

-Region Band Audition Fee (if a student chooses to participate): \$10

-Solo & Ensemble Performance Assessment (if a student chooses to participate): \$6/solo; \$4/person for small ensemble

-REQUIRED CONCERT ATTIRE (purchased on your own): Ladies Dress: approx. \$70; Gentlemen Tuxedo: approx.. \$111

**If you are under financial hardship, please contact the band director to discuss the matter. NO ONE will be excluded from band due to lack of funds to pay fees.*

*****Any unpaid marching, concert band, or winter camp fee will be attached to the student's account with the school on July 29, 2019. These fees can be paid at orientation or any time throughout the school year with the school book keeper in the front office. Note that all school accounts must be paid in full in order to participate in graduation.***

*****All Fundraising Fee balances are due on April 27, 2020.***

PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE BAND

It is the responsibility of every parent and guardian to see that the protocols outlined in the handbook are followed and that the forms in the back are signed and returned. Each parent is responsible for the attendance of his/her child at all band functions. It is the responsibility of each parent to see that their child practices his/her instrument daily (at least 30 minutes). The hands of the directors are tied without the help of parents. When a "band question" arises, it is important that you follow the chain of command by reaching out to the band director first. 99% of the time any issue that you have can be resolved by communicating directly with the band director. Please do not go directly to the school's administration whenever you have a concern or there is an issue; reach out to the band director first.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

The Bands of Ridge View HS is an active band program with many moving parts. In order for our program to run smoothly and efficiently, we need band family service power. This year, we ask that each family of a band member volunteer at least 15 hours to the band this school year. There are several ways to volunteer to help our band, including, but not limited to, attending BPO monthly meetings, fundraiser distribution/organization, chaperoning, props & equipment, Tournament of Bands, uniforms (fitting, altering, etc.), prepping/serving meals, assisting Mr. King during the school day, and much more! Jump in where you feel like your talents can be best put to use. Volunteer opportunities will be communicated to you via the band director or a member of the BPO executive board. You can sign up for volunteer opportunities on CutTime.

FUNDRAISING

All band members are expected to help in fundraising so that the band program remains in good financial standing, as we simply cannot have the type of program we desire with district funds alone. Every band student has a fundraising fee of \$200 that is to be met by April 27, 2020. Students that

participate in fundraisers will be able to meet this amount based on the profit they make each fundraiser (not the total amount they sell). *For example, is a student sells \$400 in fruit and the amount that the band gets to keep is \$200, then the \$200 will go towards the fundraising fee.* Students that do not wish to participate in fundraisers can simply pay \$200 out of pocket. Reminder that any unpaid fees will be forwarded to the front office after 4/27/20 to be put on the student's school account.

STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE BAND

As a member of the Bands of Ridge View HS, you have agreed to upholding the long tradition of excellence that this program has. This means that you must commit to getting better every single day! You do this through personal practice at home, immersing yourself during masterclasses, try out for honor band clinics, and if possible getting private lessons. While a member of the Bands of RVHS you will use common sense, respect yourself and your talents, respect your peers, and respect your staff. You are here because you chose to be in band, so if someone becomes a discipline problem, they will be removed. Individual problems will be dealt with at the discretion of the director(s). Every student will be treated equally when it comes to disciplinary action. No student is more important than another, thus the directors' expectations are for every band member regardless of seniority, rank in leadership, race, gender, or socio-economic status. We are a family and we must look out for one another and respect each other regardless if you "like" them or not. All school and district rules apply. If we are to be one of the premiere band programs in SC, then you must actively do these things in addition to the following:

CAMPS

MARCHING BAND: Rookie Camps (1st year members) & Full Band Camp

All percussion and colorguard members will have camp one week in July. These camps are mandatory for all members, wherein choreography and music will be learned. Wind rookies (1st year marchers) will be required to come to rookie camp in July. They will learn marching fundamentals, show music, and drill chart reading. Full Band Camp is held in late July/early August. Camp is required of all students in the band. Attendance is MANDATORY and participation will be graded.

WINTER CONCERT BAND CAMP: Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble members are required to attend Winter Concert Band Camp in late January/early February as we prepare for our annual state concert performance assessment.

FOOTBALL GAME PEP BAND

ALL students in the Bands of Ridge View are required to participate in home football game PEP Band unless you are on the varsity football or cheerleading teams (this includes marchers and non-marchers). Supporting the Blazers is a group effort and crucial in building school spirit & pride. It is the philosophy of the directors that every band student should be involved in supporting the athletic teams. Attendance is MANDATORY and participation will be graded.

MARCHING BAND COMPETITIONS

ALL students not involved in the marching band will be asked to help with moving props and equipment at marching band competitions on Saturdays during September-October. It is the philosophy of the directors that the band students support each other in all facets of the band program. Since marching band is the most visible ensemble and does much for promoting the band and school, all band students should be involved in this. If you are involved in a fall sport that meets on Saturdays, you will need to provide Mr. King with a schedule at the beginning of the school year.

CONCERTS

ALL students in the Band 2, Band 3, Band 4 & Percussion Ensemble classes are required to attend concerts throughout the school year. As performance based classes, there are not substitute or make-up concert experiences. Concerts serve as our tests and provide a venue in which to demonstrate our learning to our parents, friends, family, and community. Attendance is **MANDATORY** and participation will be graded.

AFTER SCHOOL REHEARSALS

With our class periods only being around 35 minutes and ensembles being split over multiple classes, the need for after-school rehearsals is crucial to develop the refined ensemble sound that Ridge View is known for. Whenever an after-school rehearsal is called by a director, it is required that the student attends. If there is a scheduling issue, you must let the appropriate director know immediately. After-school rehearsals will be graded (see grading section) and the director(s) have the right to remove a student from a performance if they miss after-school rehearsals for an unexcused reason.

PERSONAL PRACTICE

It goes without saying, that if you do not take time to practice on your own at home, then your success in band will be limited. Practice is your homework for band, and as you are expected to complete your homework for your other classes, so to are you expected to complete your homework for band. Students that make an effort to practice at least 30 minutes 5 days a week, enjoy band more and are more likely to be accepted to honor band clinics. Students that do not practice tend to struggle with quizzes and typically do not stay in band for long. So practice!

INSTRUMENT RENTAL

Each student who uses a school-owned instrument is completely responsible for the care of the instrument once it has been checked out to you. If an instrument is damaged due to negligence, the student is responsible for the entire cost to repair/replace.

UNIFORMS AND CONCERT ATTIRE

MARCHING BAND UNIFORMS

Shoes, gloves, and uniforms will be sized/purchased during band camp. The instrumentalists' uniforms will be cleaned at home by the band members after every performance; if a uniform requires extra cleaning or repair, the student will be charged. We expect the students to do their best to take care of their uniforms and make sure they have everything they need when they arrive at a band event. Parts of the uniform are white and can get dirty very easily, so students must take extra care by not brushing/leaning on anything and cannot have food or drink near the uniform at any time.

THE UNIFORM IS TO BE WORN PROPERLY AT ALL TIMES!

You must be in full uniform for all band performances unless otherwise instructed. This will allow you to feel proud and to make a good impression when you are out in the public eye. Moreover, the band is judged and scored on appearance in all competitions. Each marcher must wear the uniform correctly. A complete inspection will be done before every performance the directors, student leadership member, or a parent.

1. Clean gloves, polished shoes, a shiny instrument and well-maintained equipment are required.
2. Your hat must be worn on the top of your head, slightly forward, so the bill is just above the eyebrows and the strap are firmly fastened under the chin.
3. All hair must be securely inside the hat or short enough that it does not touch the collar of the jacket. In addition, your hair must meet the following guidelines:
Girls: Hair must be a natural color (no red, blue, green, purple, etc); all hair must be securely inside the hat or short enough that it does not touch the collar of the uniform jacket. For colorguard your hair must be completely natural so that it can be styled the same way for everyone and you may be asked to style your hair a certain way so that the group matches from person to person.
Boys: Hair must be cut so that all hair fits inside the hat and does not touch the collar; hair must be a natural color (no red, blue, green, purple, etc.). Please keep any facial hair trimmed and clean looking.
4. No make-up around the neck/throat area, or jewelry is permitted. All earrings and other piercings must be removed or covered with a band-aid.
5. You must wear a band t-shirt under your jacket.
6. Shorts must be worn under the uniforms.
7. Hems **MUST NOT** drag on the ground. Tell a band parent **IMMEDIATELY** if your hem needs adjustment.
8. Plain black crew socks are required for all performances. "Shortie" socks or colorful socks are not acceptable. Socks are not supplied by the uniform committee. All band members must wear "Drill Master" marching shoes.
9. Band students (except percussion) wear gloves which are ordered during band camp. Please make plans to buy at least three pairs of gloves for the entire season. Clarinets & flutes may cut the finger tips out of their gloves. Extra gloves are available for \$4.

ALL students will need to have a pair of dress khaki shorts (no cargo or cut offs), white low top tennis shoes, white socks (may be low cut), and a brown belt for the summer uniform to be worn at early performances and football games.

ALL first year marchers will need to purchase a pair of black marching band shoes. Kathy Pickens will be at camp to fit students for shoes. For all new students the cost of these shoes is included in your band fees. If a veteran needs to purchase a pair of shoes, the cost is \$40.

ALL new guard members will purchase a gloves and shoes for the competition show. The items needed to be ordered will be determined during the first few days of summer camp.

CONCERT ATTIRE

Girls will be required to purchase a specific dress. Boys will be required to purchase or rent a basic black tuxedo. The purpose for Black Formal wear is to make the ensemble uniform without causing a visual distraction to the performance on stage. Please follow these requirements:

Ladies visit: <http://www.formalwear-outlet.com/d683.html>

- Item # D683: Oratorio Modest Velvet Choir Dress (Black)
- Optional Item # A902: Pearl/Austrian Crystal Necklace Set (<http://www.formalwear-outlet.com/a902.html>)
- Black Dress shoes are required & may be purchased outside of this website.

**You will need to order these items directly from the above listed website.*

Gentlemen visit: <http://www.formalwear-outlet.com/vest.html>

You will purchase the following items:

- Item # B721: Classic Notch Lapel Black Tuxedo (Black)
- Item # E305: Adjustable Pleated Tuxedo Pant; or Item # E306: Cavalier Pleated Trousers
- Item # G703: Wing Collar Tuxedo Shirt
- Item # V065: Iridescent Satin Cumberbund (Black)
- Item # U065: Iridescent Bow Tie
- Item # SM001: Dress shoes (Black-shiny)
- Long **BLACK** socks that go past the ankle

**You may use a local store to purchase your tuxedo materials. Please make sure they closely match the items listed above.*

BAND TRAVEL

Band members will be given itineraries the week of each trip (contest/game/concert) with departure time and arrival time. Parents should arrange to have their child picked up within 30 minutes of the arrival time from a trip. If there is an emergency and you will take longer than 30 minutes to pick up your child(ren), please let the director(s) know as soon as possible. Each band member is required to ride the bus to and from each event. A parent must make requests for exceptions to this rule with the director in advance. While on the bus, the chaperone & bus driver are in direct charge. You must observe all rules in order to assure a safe trip. These rules include:

- Keep the bus clean; pick up and properly dispose of all trash.
- Maintain silence at railroad crossings.
- When travelling to a performance, we implement “Silent Bus Ride”; No talking is permitted.
- If a conversation can be heard in the front of the bus, it is TOO LOUD!
- There will be no hanging out of or talking out of bus windows.
- Stay seated while the bus is moving.
- Do not board or load equipment on the bus until asked to do so.
- Stay on the bus until asked to unload.
- Leave windows up when exiting the bus.
- **ALL MEMBERS MUST TRAVEL WITH THE BAND TO ALL ENGAGEMENTS!**
- Please keep the bus clean; pick up after yourselves and always thank the chaperones and driver!
- Band members must not play instruments near unloading area.
- Students will be assigned to sit on certain buses and may be assigned to certain seats.
- **REMEMBER that anytime the band makes a trip that we are not only representing our organization, but Ridge View High School and the community.**
- If travel requires hotel stay, all RVHS & Richland District 2 rules apply. Any student that violates these rules will be sent home immediately and will be dealt with by the RVHS administration.

**The Ridge View Band Parent Organization and Ridge View High School will NOT be held liable for any lost, damaged, or stolen valuables.*

AUDITIONS/CHAIR PLACEMENT

If necessary, marching band placement auditions will occur during the first week of full band camp. Students will be judged by the band staff on their ability to play scales and parts of the show music. Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble auditions take place in the Spring to determine the appropriate band class for the following school year. At the beginning of the school year each ensemble will test for chair placements for the semester, with a second chair placement test at the end of the first semester/beginning of the second semester. Auditions and chair placement tests are based on the SCBDA All State Band auditions, and are done via a blind audition by the director. The decision of the director is final.

BAND AWARDS

At the end of the academic school year, the RVHS band program will host their Band Banquet & Awards Ceremony. This event is an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of the band students and the ensembles they are a part of. *In order to receive your senior award, you must be an active member of the band program (in both fall and spring) all 8 semesters of your high school career.

COMMUNICATION

CutTime: To set up profile visit: <https://cuttime.net/createProfile.cfm>
Subscribing group code is: 9749

Band website: www.blazerband.org

Facebook page: Ridge View bands

Remind Text Message System:

Parents (last name A-M)

Text **a22gk6** to the number 81010 to receive info via text

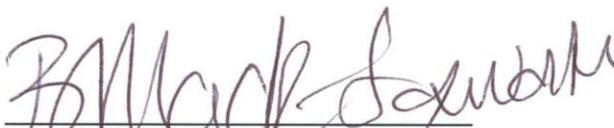
Parents (last name N-Z)

Text **cd79hd** to the number 81010 to receive info via text

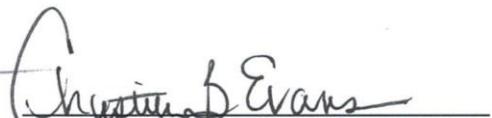
Students

Text **f27g2k** to the number 81010 to receive info via text

The procedures and protocols outlined in this handbook have been reviewed and approved by the following:



Dr. Brenda Mack-Foxworth, RVHS Principal



Mrs. Chastity Evans, RVHS API



Mr. Dustin King, RVHS Director of Bands



Mr. Wesley Hippi, RVHS Assoc. Dir. Of Bands

Mutual Agreement Form

This sheet must be signed by a parent/guardian and the student.

I have received the **2019-20 Ridge View High School Band Handbook** regarding the protocols and procedures of the RVHS Band Program as outlined in this handbook. I understand that this is a performance-based class and understand that attendance is mandatory, and participation is a part of grading. I also have a copy of the calendar of band events and will adhere to the events it lists as well as any changes/additions that may occur. With my signature I am stating that I have read all of the information presented in this handbook, agree to its conditions, will adhere to the protocols that it outlines, and will fulfill all of the financial obligations associated with this band program, including complete payment of all fees by the above mentioned dates.

Student Name (please print name)

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

Parent Guardian Signature

Date

2019-2020 RVHS Band Schedule

July 22-26	Leadership, Colorguard & Percussion Camp	8am-5pm
July 24-26	Rookie Winds Camp	8am-5pm
July 29-Aug. 2	Full Band Camp Week 1	8am-5:30pm
July 29	Mandatory Handbook Meeting	6:00pm
Aug. 5-9	Full Band Camp Week 2	8am-6:30pm
Aug. 12, 13, 15	Rehearsal	4:30-7:00pm
Aug. 19, 22	Rehearsal	4:30-7:00pm
Aug. 23	RV vs. Blythewood (@BHS)	4:30-11:00pm
Aug. 26, 27, 29	Rehearsal	4:30-7:00pm
Aug. 30	RV vs. Wayne Hills (@RVHS)	4:30-11:00pm
Sep. 3 & 5	Rehearsal	4:30-7:00pm
Sep. 7	Mini Camp & Family/Friends Preview	9am-9pm
Sep. 9, 10, 12	Rehearsal	4:30-7:00pm
Sep. 13	RV vs. Northwestern (@BHS)	4:30-11:00pm
Sep. 16, 17, 19	Rehearsal	4:30-7:00pm
Sep. 21	Rock Hill Competition	All Day
Sep. 23, 24, 26	Rehearsal	4:30-7:00pm
Sep. 27	RV vs. Keenan (8 th Grade Night @RVHS)	4:30-11:00pm
Sep. 28	RB/WK Competition	All Day
Sep. 30, Oct. 2, 3	Rehearsal	4:30-7:00pm
Oct. 5	Irmo Competition	All Day
Oct. 7, 8, 10	Rehearsal	4:30-7:00pm
Oct. 11	RV vs. RNE (Homecoming @ BHS)	4:30-11:00pm
Oct. 12	Tournament of Bands (@BHS)	All Day
Oct. 14, 15, 17	Rehearsal	4:30-7:00pm
Oct. 18	RV vs. Westwood (@ WHS)	4:30-11:0pm
Oct. 19	3A Lower State Championships (@WHS)	All Day
Oct. 21, 22, 24	Rehearsal	4:30-7:0pm
Oct. 25	RV vs. South Pointe (Senior Night @ BHS)	4:30-11:00pm
Oct. 26	3A State Championships (Chapin HS)	All Day
Nov. 11, 18, 25	Christmas Parade Rehearsal	4:30-6:00pm
Dec. 2	Christmas Parade Rehearsal	4:30-6:00pm
Dec. 8	Blythewood Christmas Parade?	Call time is TBD
Dec. 10	Holiday Arts Festival	6:30pm
2020 - Jan. 11	Region Band Auditions	TBD
Jan. 25	All State Auditions	TBD
Jan. 31	Winter Camp	4:30-9:00pm
Feb. 1	Winter Camp	9:00am-3:00pm
Feb. 21-22	Region Band Clinic	TBD
March 3	Pre-CPA Concert	6:30pm
March 12-15	All-State Band Clinic	TBD
March 17-19	Concert Performance Assessment	TBD
March 31-April 4	Wind Ensemble "President's Cup" D.C. Trip	
April 24	Percussion Ensemble Concert	6:30pm
May 2	Solo & Ensemble Performance Assessment	TBD
May 7	Spring Concert	6:30pm
May 9	State Concert Festival	TBD
May 11-13	Marching Band Training	4:30-6:00pm
May 16	Band Banquet	5:00pm

The directors reserve the right to add additional rehearsals not listed above or make changes to the calendar as needed