



Welcome to the Central Jr. High Band Program!

Our primary responsibility is to provide students with fundamental instruction in the aspects of instrumental music including proper playing technique, as well as music reading and writing skills and prepare them for participation in the LD Bell and Trinity Band. At the same time, it is our hope that students acquire a lifelong love and appreciation for music.

Through their participation in band, students will receive the training necessary to be successful in music while also being prepared for situations and responsibilities they will encounter in other classes and in life.

This handbook contains information regarding expectations, procedures, and performances for the CJH Bands. **It is extremely important that all details are understood by both students and parents.** Please keep this handbook as a reference should you ever have any questions. Your time, energy, and cooperation in continuing our tradition of excellence are appreciated. We look forward to an excellent year with each and every one of you!

Dedicated to your success,

Jacob Groening and Gbohunmi Fawehinmi

Contact Us!

Band Website: CJHBand.Org CHECK THE WEBSITE AND CHECK IT OFTEN FOR ALL BAND INFO

School Phone: 817-399-3360

Extensions: Mr. Groening 7550 | Mr. Fawehinmi 7551

Emails: jacobgroening@hebisd.edu | gbohunmifawehinmi@hebisd.edu

2022-2023 Schedule of Classes

1st - Concert Band I
2nd - Flute and Concert Band II
3rd - Clarinet & Horn
4th - Symphonic Band
5th - Double Reed & Low Brass
6th - Percussion
7th - Trumpet & Saxophone

Grading Policy

60%- Test Grades

- Music performance pass-offs
- Participation in required performances
- Written tests
- Weekly sectional attendance (Symphonic & Concert Bands)

40%- Daily Grades

- Warm-up and technique pass-offs
- Supply checks
- Written assignments

Band Hall Hours

The band hall is open at 6:45 AM every day that sectionals are happening for athletes to drop off their instrument and students to attend rehearsals. The band hall is available for student practice before school beginning at 7:30 AM with a note from the director and after school until 4:30 PM. Band hall hours are subject to change (due to meetings or teacher absence), a change in hours will be communicated using the BAND app(make sure to join for important updates)!

Course Descriptions

Beginning Band- Mr. Groening, Mr. Fawehinmi, and Mr. Flores

The Beginning Band is made up of seventh grade students with no prior instrumental experience. Students are taught in homogenous classes where they receive instruction on fundamental tone, rhythmic concepts, and basic music reading skills. The Beginning Band **performs at two concerts as well as a spring festival. There will be two/three required rehearsals prior to each full band performance.**

Concert Band II - Mr. Groening and Mr. Flores

This band is made up of eighth and ninth grade students who have demonstrated proficiency on their instrument. Members of this ensemble **participate in Ensemble Contest, concert performances, UIL Contest, and a festival performance.** Concert Band members are strongly encouraged to take private lessons and to participate in solo contest. Those students wishing to be considered for Symphonic Band must attend Honor Band Sectionals, complete the Honor Band Audition, and place in the HEB Honor Band.

Concert Band I - Mr. Fawehinmi, Mr. Groening, and Mr. Flores

This band is made up of eighth and ninth grade students who have demonstrated proficiency on their instrument. Members of this ensemble **participate in Ensemble Contest, concert performances, UIL Contest, and a festival performance.** Concert Band members are strongly encouraged to take private lessons and to participate in solo contest. Those students wishing to be considered for Symphonic Band must attend Honor Band Sectionals, complete the Honor Band Audition, and place in the HEB Honor Band. **The director will assign required weekly sectionals for those students in Concert Band I.**

Symphonic Band- Mr. Groening, Mr. Fawehinmi, and Mr. Flores

This band is made up of eighth and ninth grade students who have demonstrated an advanced level of proficiency on their instrument. Students are selected for Symphonic Band based on audition. Members of this ensemble **participate in HEB Honor Band auditions, Ensemble Contest, Solo Contest as well as concert performances, UIL, and festival performances throughout the year.** Members are strongly encouraged to take private lessons. **The director will assign required weekly sectionals.**

Required Materials

All CJH Band students are responsible for the following items.

- **Flute-** Cleaning swab, polishing cloth, and tuning rod
- **Oboe & Bassoon-** At least **three working** reeds, silk cleaning swab, reed case, water cup (an empty prescription bottle works great!)
- **Clarinet & Sax-** At least **four working** reeds, Reed Guard to hold four reeds, swab
- **Trumpet, Horn, & Tuba-** valve oil (rotor oil for horns & rotary tubas), slide grease
- **Euphonium-**valve oil (rotor oil for horns & rotary tubas), slide grease, Rolled up black towel
- **Trombone-** tuning slide grease, slide cream, spray water bottle
- **Percussion-** Practice pad, stick bag containing all sticks/mallets for snare, bells/xylo, marimba, and timpani

STUDENTS SHOULD ALSO BRING DAILY

- Symphonic and Concert Band Binder
- Beginning Band (woodwinds & brass)- *Essential Elements 2000* Book One AND Binder
- Beginning Percussion- *A Fresh Approach to Snare* and *A Fresh Approach to Mallets* both by Mark Wessels
- Pencils
- A metronome and tuner – the smartphone app **Tonal Energy** or a **Korg TM-60 with clip** are acceptable.

Sectional Attendance

In order to achieve and maintain a high standard of musicianship, it is necessary to have some rehearsals outside of the school day. Any sectionals or outside rehearsals serve as “group tutoring” sessions which are invaluable to our band’s success **and are a required part of class**. A specific schedule will be posted at a later date in the band hall, as well as on the website.

Please plan tutorials, doctor’s appointments, etc... around their sectional schedule whenever possible.

Sectionals missed due to a student’s excused absence from school will be counted as excused, but students must make up the sectional one week from the return to school. Whenever possible, please let the band director know if you must miss.

Performance Attendance

Students are required to attend all performances. Band is a performance-based class and uses performances to fulfill state required TEKS. Absences of any kind negatively affect the other students in the band. Absences from a performance will be excused for **ONLY** the following reasons:

1. Illness (absent from school the same day)
2. Family Emergency
3. Approved school conflict

*****Outside of school activities such as club sports, medical appointments, etc... are NOT considered excused.*****

Excused absences can be made up by completing an alternate assignment given by the directors. Performance make-up assignments must be completed within one week of the missed event **OR** within one week of the student’s return to school. Any other absences are **UNEXCUSED** and **CANNOT BE MADE UP**. Unexcused absences will result in a performance grade of “0”.

Concert Attire

The CJH Band takes great pride in projecting a professional, uniformed appearance at all of our events. If any student has a problem acquiring the proper attire, please contact the directors for assistance. Any student who is inappropriately dressed for a performance may not be permitted to perform.

Informal Attire- ALL

Each student will receive a CJH Band T-shirt after they have paid their band fees to be worn with blue jeans at some performances including pep rallies, football game, spirit days, etc...

Formal Attire- Symphonic & Concert Band only

- White tuxedo shirt and black bow tie (Purchased by Parent).
- Black tux jacket and pants (Provided by school).
- Black socks and solid black **dress** shoes (Provided by student). Please make sure shoes are formal, low heel, and completely black.
- Black formal dresses (Provided by school).

Concert Attire – Beginners only

- Beginner students wear “Sunday Best” for performances. No specific color. Please make sure dresses are below the knee or worn with leggings/tights.
- Students must be in dress code or they may not be allowed to perform.

Eligibility

Eligibility for participation is defined in the Texas Education Code, Section 33.081, referred to as “**No Pass, No Play**”. Students who participate in the CJH Band are subject to eligibility rules set up by the state in order to encourage good grades. All members of the band will be subject to the following:

If a student has a grade on their report card lower than a 70 (in any class), they are considered ineligible. Ineligibility lasts for a minimum of 3 weeks and can last as long as 6 weeks. **When a student is ineligible, they are not allowed to participate in certain band activities, including region activities, trips, reward activities, ticketed performances, and festival or contest performances.** Concerts in the district as well as before/after school sectionals are considered co-curricular and are allowed regardless of eligibility.

When a student becomes ineligible, the Band Directors will watch that student's grades at progress report time (at the three week period). If the student is passing all of their classes at that time, they may become eligible again for the remainder of that six weeks term (after the 4th week). If, however, the student is still failing any class, at progress report time, they will remain ineligible for the remainder of the grading period.

School-Owned Instruments

Students playing instruments not rented by local music stores will play on school-owned instruments. This includes oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, low saxes, French horn, euphonium, and tuba. Students with these instruments will pay a maintenance fee to CJH. **Please see page 5 for cost and due dates.** Students with school owned instruments will always go through band directors for repair, do not take to the repair shop/music store on your own. Instruments sent in for repair that exceed the \$80 maintenance fee (\$40/semester) will require that the balance be paid by the parent.

Rental Instrument Upkeep

It is important that all students' instruments are kept in good working condition. If a student's instrument develops any kind of mechanical problem, they should notify a director as soon as possible. In many cases, we are equipped to handle minor repairs. We are very fortunate to have several reputable music stores close by for all your supply needs and repairs that cannot be handled by a director. Be sure to request a loaner from your repair provider if the instrument is left for several days.

Music and Arts Center
1428 W Pipeline Rd
Hurst, TX
817-595-1511

Private Lessons

The private lesson program is an essential factor in improving the quality of individual musicianship and thus the band program in general. Parents are **highly encouraged** to consider private lessons for their child. Double Reed students are strongly encouraged to take lessons due to the specialty nature of their instrument. To experience the optimum amount of success, students should start lessons early and continue throughout the year. If financial concerns are preventing a student who is wanting private lessons from getting them, please contact a band director. In some cases, scholarship money may be available.

We maintain a staff of qualified private instructors available on each instrument. These teachers have been approved by the CJH Directors and have made music instruction their profession. Private instructor contact info is on the CJH Band website. Students will have one lesson per week. Cost of each lesson is \$20.00. Lessons will be scheduled before and after school and, in some cases, during the student's band class. Lessons are scheduled to accommodate the parents', students', and teachers' schedules. Payment for private lessons will be made directly to the private instructor according to our private lesson policy.

Band Hall Lockers and Locks

We will not require students to lock their band slots with a combination lock. Students may choose to do so BUT must bring their own lock. The school is not liable for damage to or loss of personal instruments left overnight. Personal locks are subject to being cut off if/when a student is unable to unlock a lock for the school day/to retrieve their instrument or at the end of the year if left locked.

Central Junior High Band Fees 2023-2024

In an effort to streamline payments for parents and students we have combined the fees into a singular class fee for Beginning Band and Concert/Symphonic Bands. These fees can be paid in full at the beginning of the year or by semester. Below is the fee breakdown and what is included.

Fee Breakdown (Due September 25th, 2023)

Beginner Band- \$60
This pays for: Band T-shirt, Binder, Method Book, Solo and Ensemble Contest Fees, Travel, Supplies
Concert/Symphonic - \$60
This pays for: Band T-shirt, Binder, Music, Contest fees, Transportation, Formal Uniform Rental
Instrument Maintenance Fee -\$80 (\$40/semester. Spring Fee Due 2/20/24)
owned instruments typically include: oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, low saxes, French horn, euphonium, and tuba. This fee applies to anyone using a CJH instrument.

Miscellaneous

1. Lyre and flip folder for football games and pep rallies. Students may purchase these from the music store. These are available at Music and Arts. **A link with the correct items will be provided on our website.**
2. Items covered under band fee, if lost, must be purchased again separately as need. Directors can provide individual prices.
3. Optional Band social events may require attendance/entry fee.

School Cash Online

School Cash Online will be available for use this year to pay band class fees. New to this year, students are required to pay for all fees for the online portal. Instructions for registering for School Cash online are available on our band website.

How to Stay Connected with the Band

- Weekly emails sent via Home Access Center (HAC). This will contain all events, fees, and upcoming important info for the week.
- BAND app – these are quick reminders and notifications for Band events, fees, etc.
- CJHBand.org is the best way to get all of your information in one place. We update weekly on Sunday with the coming week's events. You can access it on a desktop and through your mobile device from the Central JH Website.
- Band directors can be easily reached via email. We are rarely in our office, so email is best!