

SHINER HIGH SCHOOL BAND



2009-2010 HANDBOOK

BAND DIRECTORS
MR. STEPHEN KRUPICKA
MR. JUAN SALDANA

WELCOME

Welcome members of the Shiner Comanche Band! We look forward to having a great year as we strive to take pride in ourselves by continuing to set and reach incredible goals! Band is an activity that requires much hard work and preparation throughout the *ENTIRE* year, but we also believe that band is one of the most rewarding and fun activities you can involve yourself in. It is also an activity that you will gain lessons to last a lifetime. We look forward to working with each of you this year and want to remind you to never hesitate to talk to us if at any time you have any concerns, problems, need help, etc. Good luck to all this year!

STUDENT LEADERSHIP 2008-2009

Drum Majors: Rachel Kalich & Trevor Stluka

Woodwind Captains: Jennifer Campagna, Alllee Gomulka, Nicholle Tieken, Chelsea Zissa

Brass Captains: Randi Berkovsky & Bobby Logsdon

Percussion Captains: Tyler Pfuhl & Marlon Wallace

Loading Crew Captain: Ethan Nevlud

PURPOSE / MEMBERSHIP

This brief manual has been composed to help all students and parents understand the expectations they must adhere to as a member of the High School Band. All students enrolled in the 8th - 12th Grade of Shiner ISD have the option of participating in the high school band program. Currently there are no audition requirements in becoming a member of the band class, however **you must have at least one year of band or music experience** (either in 6th or 7th grade) to participate in the high school band class.

SHINER ISD STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT / POLICIES

All expectations and regulations that have already been presented in the Shiner ISD Student Handbook and Student Code of Conduct must be followed at all times and precede all expectations set in this band handbook. Students are to follow all rules and policies set in the handbook at all band practices as well as when traveling off campus with the band for a competition or other music related event sponsored by Shiner ISD. A copy of the Shiner ISD Code of Conduct will be issued to every student at the beginning of the school year.

WEBSITE

Parents and students are encouraged to frequently visit the SHS Band Website found at www.shinerisd.net/hs. Follow the link to "H.S. Band".

CONTACT INFORMATION

Band Hall: (361) 594-3131 x 462

FAX:

(361) 594-4295

Stephen Krupicka: krupickas@shinerisd.net

Juan Saldana: saldanaj@shinerisd.net

ADMINISTRATION

Trey Lawrence
Superintendent
594-3121

lawrencet@shinerisd.net

Don Wild
H.S. Principal
594-3131 x 367

wildd@shinerisd.net

Renee Cejka
H.S. Secretary
594-3131 x 355

cejkar@shinerisd.net

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

1. Always TRY!!
2. Maintain a positive attitude and believe in yourself. Take PRIDE in what you do!
3. Strive for your best every practice and every performance.
 - Be musically prepared!
 - Take your instrument home for additional practice.
4. Set reachable yet challenging goals.
5. Create a consistently disciplined environment.
(Mouths closed and ears opened!)
6. Respect each other. We must all work TOGETHER to reach the same goal.
7. Respect and take care of all property.
 - Take care of your instrument.
 - Take care of school and other students' instruments.
 - Take care of NEW band hall and help keep clean!
 - No food or drinks in band hall.
 - No chewing gum during rehearsals.
8. Attend ALL practices ON TIME. To be early is to be on time.
9. Attend ALL practices and performances with all required equipment. This includes instrument, pencils, music, uniform, etc.
10. Represent Shiner ISD in the most positive manner possible. Inappropriate and disrespectful behavior toward anyone will not be tolerated.

TARDY POLICY

Students are expected to be ready for class when the regularly scheduled tardy bell rings. Students are expected to be in the band hall or on the band practice field (during marching season) when the tardy bell rings. Students who are not in their seats or position with their proper equipment prior to this time, are not ready for class and are considered tardy. Please note SHS tardy policy in handbook.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Failure to follow the expectations listed above will result in disciplinary action. Offences will be handled in the following manner:

Minor Offences: (Talking, No Supplies, Disrupting Class, Tardy, Failure to Complete Assignments, Food, Drinks, or Gum etc.)

First Offense:	Warning
Second Offense:	Detention
Third Offense:	Detention w/ Teacher-Student Conference
Fourth Offense:	Office Referral w/ Parent Conference
Fifth Offense:	Teacher/Parent/Principal Conference

- Offenses will “reset” each six weeks allowing for a fresh start.
- If too many offenses are accumulated, a student could face the loss of their place in marching/concert band. A parent conference would precede this action.

Major Offences: (Fighting, Profanity, *Property Destruction / Vandalism, Alcohol / Drugs, etc.)

All major offenses will be immediately referred to the office. A parent / teacher conference will also be scheduled.

*If property destruction occurs (especially to band property), the student will be expected to help pay for any costs of repair and/or replacement.

GRADING PROCEDURES

Students will receive a grade for participating in band class. The six weeks grading structure will be set up in the following manner.

Daily Grades	50%
Test Grades	50%

Daily Grades = 50 %

Daily grades will consist of a grade given for every rehearsal *before, during, or after* school. Students will start with a grade of "100" and will lose points based on lack of preparation, lack of practice, poor performance, lack of necessary supplies, poor behavior, and tardiness. If the student is in attendance at the practice, the lowest possible daily grade is "50."

A student will receive a daily grade of "0" for any **before or after school** rehearsal absences. Even if the absence is excusable, students must make up the time missed in the rehearsal before the end of the following week of the missed rehearsal, otherwise the grade of "0" will become permanent. Before and after school rehearsals are extremely important in the success of the Shiner Band and all students must attend.

If a student is absent from the band class during school hours, the student will not receive a grade for that day. An "ex" will be placed in the grade book to excuse the student from receiving any other grade for the day missed.

Test Grades = 50%

Test grades will occur in band, although they may not involve a tradition testing environment. During the first semester, test grades will be given for every football game and marching performance attended. A student will receive a grade of "100" unless they lose points based on lack of preparation, lack of practice, poor performance, lack of needed supplies, poor behavior, or failure to attend the game or competition at the scheduled time. A student in attendance will not receive a grade lower than "50." However, failure to attend a game or performance without prior notification to and approval from the band director will result in a test grade of "0." It is at the band director's sole discretion to allow a student to be excused from a test grade situation or to allow the student to make up the grade.

Students will also receive test grades throughout the year by being asked to pass off portions of their music. During the fall, students will receive test grades based on passing off their marching band music by memory. Students will be given a minimum of three weeks to plan for this event and will be given a strict deadline. Failure to pass off the music on time will result in the loss of 10 points per school day that the music is not passed off. Failure to pass off the marching music by memory within the set schedule will also result in the student losing their spot on the marching field.

During the spring semester, students will be required to pass off excerpts of their concert music. This music is not required to be memorized, but the grading procedures will still meet the same expectations as listed above.

TUTORIALS / ADDITIONAL HELP

Any student needing any additional help at any time is encouraged to attend tutorials. Mr. Krupicka and Mr. Saldana typically will hold band tutorials before and after school if no band practice has been scheduled. Tutorials are great times for additional help on All-Region or Solo & Ensemble Music or any other music! Please do not hesitate to come to us for help!

ELIGIBILITY

By ruling of UIL, students must pass **all** classes (grade of "70" or higher) to be eligible for all extra-curricular activities (athletics, band, cheerleading, etc.). If a student receives a failing grade in any class ("69" or lower), they will not be allowed to participate in any games or competitions for three weeks following a seven day grace period at the end of the six weeks. However, students are still allowed and **required** to attend all practices. A student becomes eligible once they are passing all classes at the time of the three week progress report. If a student is placed instead of promoted to the next grade, that student is not eligible for the first six weeks of the school year. The student may become eligible to participate during the second six weeks only if they pass all classes for the first six weeks. For further information regarding UIL eligibility you may visit the UIL website at www.uil.utexas.edu.

INSTRUMENTS (SCHOOL OWNED & PERSONAL)

Students are expected to take extreme care of all instruments whether the instrument belongs to any student or Shiner ISD.

Students bringing personally owned instruments to school are expected to keep the instrument in good playing condition and will be responsible for any repairs needed. Students of these instruments will need to furnish their own supplies and keep these supplies with them at all times: mouthpieces, reeds, cork grease, valve oil, slide oil, polishing cloths, drum sticks, etc. A list of serial numbers will be kept on file with the band director in the event a personal instrument becomes misplaced.

Many students will have the opportunity to use a school owned instrument. Such instruments include low woodwinds, F horns, trombones, baritones, tubas, and percussion. Students using these instruments will be required to sign a contract stating they will take the best care of the instrument and will be responsible for any damages due to neglect or improper use. Shiner ISD will be responsible for repairing all damages to the instrument due to normal aging or wear and tear. Once a school instrument has been issued to a student, the student becomes responsible for the instrument. If the instrument becomes lost or stolen, the student will be responsible for replacing the instrument.

Students using a school instrument will be charged a maintenance fee of \$5 per month (\$40 for the entire year.) This fee may be paid in full at the beginning of the year or a payment plan may be set up. This fee assists in the cleaning of the instrument at the end of each year to help prevent the spread of any germs, viruses, bacteria, etc. Percussionists will not be charged this fee as cleaning is not necessary for percussion equipment.

SUPPLIES

Students are expected to have all required supplies with them at every practice, game, and performance. These supplies must be purchased by the student. Many of the uniform supplies are "one time" purchases that will last each student their entire high school band career. Below is a list of supplies needed:

<u>Uniform:</u>	Black Marching Shoes (kept polished and clean) Black Socks Solid White Undershirt Purple Polo Shirt with Band Logo (kept washed and clean) Khaki Pants (no cargo pockets) Band T-Shirt
<u>Marching:</u>	Flip folder with music in it and lyre for instrument. Sidewalk chalk for marching practices. Pencil Drill charts
<u>Woodwinds:</u>	1 Box of Reeds Cork grease Polishing cloth
<u>Brass:</u>	Valve Oil or Slide Oil (Spray bottle for trombones.) Polishing Cloth
<u>Percussion:</u>	Snare drum sticks Mallet sticks Proper sticks / supplies for drum line instrument.

UNIFORMS

During marching season, each student will be issued a uniform. The uniform will have already been cleaned prior to the start of the year and will consist of black pants, a jacket, and a hat. Students will be shown the proper way to wear the uniform and when instructed to do so, students will be required to wear the uniform as shown at football games, marching contests, or other scheduled performances. When dressed in full uniform, no jewelry, watches, or ear rings are to be worn. All hair longer than the collar of the band jacket will need to be tucked in the hat.

Students are required to keep the uniform clean and take best care of it. If the uniform becomes damaged due to improper use or neglect, the student will be held responsible for repairing or replacing the uniform. If the uniform becomes excessively dirty, the student is responsible for cleaning it. If any part of the uniform becomes damaged due to normal aging or wear and tear, it is the student's responsibility to notify the director that the uniform needs to be repaired. In this case, the school will take care of the repair.

TRIPS & TRAVEL

The SHS Band will travel many times throughout the year to various contests and football games as is the requirement of being a member of the band. Shiner ISD will provide transportation to all band activities taking place outside of Shiner ISD.

DRUM MAJORS / CAPTAINS (DUTIES)

The Shiner band would not be successful without the help of its student leaders. Students with high leadership qualities may choose to audition for the position of drum major or captain. Audition requirements and procedures have been listed below. Drum majors and captains are expected to be helpful, positive influences on all band members as they are role models for everyone. While students in these positions see much of their work taking place in the fall, the leadership opportunities last all year. Duties for both positions are stated below. Failure for a drum major or captain to fulfill these duties will result in the removal from their position.

Drum Majors

Two drum majors will be selected each year, the head drum major and assistant drum major. While the head drum major will direct the UIL marching performance, it is at the discretion of the band directors as to the extent of directing duties of the assistant drum major. Overall, the drum majors' duties include:

- Directing marching band performances during half time or contests.
- Directing stand tunes during football games.
- Assisting band directors during practices or performances.
- Maintaining a positive, helpful attitude at all times.
- Arriving early or staying after all practices.
- Scheduling meetings with captains.
- Attending every practice and performance.
- Auditioning for All-Region Band and/or Solo & Ensemble.
- Maintain eligibility at all times.

CAPTAINS

While each captain is equally important. Each will have specific individual duties. All Captains are expected to serve as leaders and role models for the band helping implement all that is required of a successful band program.

Woodwind/Brass/Percussion Captains:

Are responsible for assisting with the teaching and leading of their assigned sections.

Loading Captain:

Is responsible for the organizing the loading and unloading of the band trailer

Uniform Captain:

Is responsible for the organization of the band uniforms and performing uniform checks before performances.

Fundraising Captain:

Is responsible for assisting in the organizing of band fundraisers, which may include the distribution and keeping track of each students fundraising totals.

DRUM MAJORS / CAPTAINS (AUDITION REQUIREMENTS & TRYOUT)

To audition for the position of drum major or captain, the student interested must meet the following requirements:

1. Marched for a minimum of 2 years **OR** entering the 10th grade with at least one year of marching band experience.
2. Must have been eligible and marched in the UIL Region Marching Contest.
3. Must have been eligible and participated in UIL Concert & Sightreading.
4. Must be able to attend a summer band camp. (Drum major candidates must be able to attend a summer band camp which includes a drum major workshop.)
5. Must have been eligible for 4 full six weeks periods.
6. Must show leadership qualities and the ability to be a teacher and role model.
7. Must be able to attend all practices.
8. Must be able to attend all football games, performances, and concerts.
9. Head Drum Major must be able to conduct all marching band performances.
10. Must have a positive attitude and willingness to maintain a strong work ethic.

The following items are not requirements, but could help with choosing individuals for drum major or captains:

1. Participation and advancement in the All-Region Band process.
2. Participation and advancement in the UIL Solo & Ensemble (Instrumental) process.
3. Prior leadership experience.

The audition for drum majors and captains will be held each May. Drum majors and captains will audition in front of at least two to three judges. These judges are to not be affiliated with Shiner ISD and have no prior knowledge of any of the students auditioning. The final decision for drum major and/or captain rests with these judges and will not be challenged. **One Drum major, one assistant Drum major, and up to eight captains will be chosen.**

MARCHING BAND & CONCERT BAND

Students enrolled in the high school band class during the fall semester will participate in the marching band program. Students are required to attend all practices and performances (including football games) on time in conjunction with the marching band. Students will receive P.E. credit for participating with the marching band during the fall semester as much physical activity does take place.

Students enrolled in the high school band class during the spring semester will participate in the concert band program. Students are required to attend all practices and performances on time in conjunction with the concert band.

POLKA BAND & JAZZ BAND

The SHS Polka Band and Jazz Band is an extra activity outside the regular band schedule. While the Polka Band meets during the Fall semester, the Jazz Band meets during the Spring. Neither band is an actual class and no school credit is given. Anyone may audition for the bands.

The Polka Band will be scheduled to perform at all home football games as well as a possible visit to the nursing home and during the Christmas Concert. Practices will be flexibly scheduled one night per week as needed. Students choosing to participate in the Polka Band need to be able to show up to all practices and performances if they wish to choose to be a member of the group.

The Jazz Band will be scheduled to perform at least once for the residents of the nursing home as well as the Spring Concerts. Practices will be scheduled one night per week. Students choosing to participate in the Jazz Band are asked to attend all practices and performances.

BAND LETTER JACKET POLICY

You will automatically earn your letter jacket for band if you accomplish any one of the following:

INDIVIDUALLY...

1. Place in the ATSSB High School All-Region Band.
2. Receive a *First Division* rating on a Class 1 Solo or Ensemble at the UIL Region Solo & Ensemble Contest.
3. Earn a leadership role in the SHS Band as a drum major or captain.
4. Be in the spring semester of your junior year without having previously earned a letter jacket. (All seniors automatically earn a jacket.)

AS A FULL BAND...

Be awarded as the *State Champion* of the State Marching Contest or the State Honor Band Contest.

In the event the above does not take place, you can still earn your letter jacket based on the point system listed below. You must earn **100 points** to receive your letter jacket.

INDIVIDUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Audition for All-Region Band	10 points
<i>Second Division</i> Rating on Class 1 Solo	10 points
<i>First Division</i> Rating on Class 2 Solo or Ensemble	15 points
<i>First Division</i> Rating on Class 3 Solo or Ensemble	10 points
Audition for Solo & Ensemble	5 points

MARCHING BAND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

First Division at UIL Region Marching	5 points
UIL Area Marching Contest Finalist	5 points
State Marching Contest Participant	10 points
State Marching Contest Finalist	10 points

CONCERT BAND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

First Division UIL Concert	5 points
First Division UIL Sightreading	5 points
Sweepstakes	5 points
State Outstanding Performance Series Finalist	10 points (per song)
Advance to Area Honor Band Contest	10 points
Finalist in State Honor Band Contest	15 points

The band director will keep an ongoing record of points accumulated by each student. It is the duty of each student to help the director keep an accurate count of points toward their jacket. Once a student drops out of band, all points will be lost. Letter jackets will be fitted each spring with them arriving by the end of the school year. Therefore, the points will be reviewed annually within approximately two weeks of the fitting of the letter jackets.

CONCERTS

Concerts are a very valuable and rewarding activity of the band program showcasing the musical talents and hard work of the incredible students of Shiner ISD. In addition to all marching contests and performances during football season, a minimum of three concerts will be scheduled. The annual Christmas Concert will take place in early December. The Spring Concert will take place in early April and the Summer Concert will take place in May. All of the concerts are requirements of band and will be weighted as major "Test Grades."

Please note that the Christmas Concert and Summer Concert are not affected by UIL rules on eligibility. These concerts are state requirements of the music curriculum requiring students involved in a music performance class to publicly perform a minimum of once per semester.

FUNDRAISERS

Fundraisers are a vital role of the financial success of the band program. Several fundraisers will be scheduled throughout the year. Most fundraising will be organized through the Band Booster organization. However, the annual Band BBQ is one particular fundraiser which is run by the band students with the funds going directly to the Band Activity Fund.

All fundraising goes to assist the purchasing of new instruments, equipment, scholarships for seniors, students wishing to participate in a band camp, spring trips and festival performances. All students in band will be expected to help with fundraising. Failure for a student to help fundraise will result in their loss of a spring trip or other such privileges that are gained through fundraising.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Shiner Band Booster Organization works hard to raise funds for scholarships. Two types of scholarships are available for our band students, one for seniors and one for band camps. Seniors will be eligible for a Band Booster Scholarship that will be awarded at the end of the year. An application will be made available to all interested seniors. Seniors must be attending a college or university of some sort in order to receive the funds.

Any students interested in attending a band camp may also request financial aide through the band boosters. Scholarship money is raised through the annual Christmas Raffle Ticket sale held during the Christmas Concert. The amount of money a student raises from the raffle tickets will be made available to them if they choose to attend a band camp. (Sell \$125 in raffle tickets and you will be awarded with a \$125 check to help cover the cost of your band camp.) **Reminder:** *All 2010-2011 Drum Majors & Captains must attend a band camp prior to next year's summer band.*

ALL-REGION BAND PROCESS

All students are encouraged to participate in the All-Region Band process. Auditions for this event take place in the fall semester each year. At the beginning of the year, each student will be given the audition music for the contest. 8th grade students will compete in the Junior High All-Region Band contest held in November while the High School contest is held in December. Students will compete against other students in this audition for a limited seat in the prestigious All-Region Band.

Students electing to participate in the All-Region Band process must provide the \$7 entry in a sealed envelope with their name on it. If the student participates in the event, the \$7 will be returned to the student. If the student does not participate, the \$7 will be used to reimburse the school for the student's dropping out of the contest.

UIL SOLO & ENSEMBLE CONTEST

The Solo & Ensemble contest is held each spring semester and all students are encouraged to participate in this activity. For this contest, students may choose to perform a musical selection by themselves (solo) or perform with a group of friends (ensemble). There are many different levels of music for the different capabilities each student has. In this competition you are not competing against any other students, only yourself!

High School students (9-12) receiving First Division ratings on a class 1 solo (memorized) or ensemble will have the opportunity to advance to the Texas State Solo & Ensemble Contest held at the end of the year. There are many different requirements for this contest, so if you are interested, please talk to your band directors. Music for this contest will be issued starting in November.

Students electing to participate in the Solo & Ensemble contest must provide the \$8 entry in a sealed envelope with their name on it. If the student participates in the event, the \$8 will be returned to the student. If the student does not participate, the \$8 will be used to reimburse the school for the student's dropping out of the contest.

TWIRLING

Twirling is an extra activity branched off from the band program. For information regarding twirling, please refer to the guidelines and expectations set forth in the Twirling Handbook. All questions may be directed to Linda Truman, Twirling Sponsor.

BAND CAMPS

Band/Music camps are available every summer from many colleges and universities across the state. Band camps typically last one full week as they are incredible educational opportunities for band students to gain more musical knowledge. Students attending band camps have the opportunity to meet faculty from different universities as well as meeting many new friends. Students choosing to take a leadership role in band are required to attend a summer band camp. Scholarships are available through the band boosters.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Students wishing to gain additional help or knowledge of their instrument may do so through private lessons. Private lessons are special instruction provided by a highly qualified musician of the particular instrument you are seeking help with. Private lessons may be used to assist students in preparation for All-Region Band, Solo & Ensemble, College or University auditions or just for the enjoyment of musical growth. Many times, local band directors are available for private lessons charging a minimal fee for their help. For highly advanced help, you may contact any number of local colleges or universities for assistance. For more questions on finding a private lesson teacher, please talk to the band directors.

MEDICAL RELEASE

All students must fill out the attached medical release form and it must be kept on file with the band director. Any changes made in the medical information throughout the year must be kept up to date with the band director. Students will not be allowed to travel with the band until a properly filled out medical release form has been returned to the band directors.

In the event of a medical emergency, Mr. Krupicka, Mr. Saldana, the administration of Shiner ISD, and/or any parent chaperones will help the situation in any way possible and will make sure anyone needing medical attention receives the proper medical attention with proper notification to the parents/guardians of the student. In the event of a medical emergency, Mr. Krupicka, Mr. Saldana, the administration of Shiner ISD, and/or any parent chaperones will not be held liable for assisting the student in need of receiving medical treatment.

BAND BOOSTERS

All parents, friends, and supporters of the Comanche Bands are encouraged to become a part of the Shiner Band Boosters organization. The band boosters work hard throughout the year to raise funds to help with supplies and activities for our band students. Such supplies and activities may include purchasing of new instruments or equipment, providing meals to the band for away football games, providing special treats and prizes throughout the year (band banquet), and providing scholarships to our seniors and band camp attendees. Parents may help as much or as little as you would like but all help will certainly be needed and appreciated!

Statement of Understanding

We have fully read and understand the contents of the Shiner High School Band Handbook. We understand what is expected for both students and parents and will adhere to all expectations, policies, and requirements as stated.

Signature of Parent

Date

Signature of Student

Date

Please return this signed form to Mr. Krupicka or Mr. Saldana as soon as possible.

SHINER HIGH SCHOOL BAND STUDENT INFORMATION FORM

Student Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Additional Contact (if any): _____

Parents' Names: _____

Parents' Cell Phones: _____

Parents' Work Phones: _____

Parents' E-mail: _____

Instrument _____ Serial Number _____

Circle one: Personal Owned / School Owned

Band Locker Number: _____