

# Connally High School Cougar Band Handbook 2008-2009



**Matt Atkinson, Head Director**

matthew.atkinson@pflugervilleisd.net

**Anna Rodriguez, Assistant Director**

anna.rodriguez@pflugervilleisd.net

**Jason Russell, Assistant Director**

jason.russell@pflugervilleisd.net

**Allen Truong, Colorguard Director**

allen.truong@pflugervilleisd.net

**Michelle Kalagher, Administrative Assistant**

michelle.kalagher@pflugervilleisd.net

Connally Cougar Band  
13212 North Lamar Blvd.  
Austin, Texas 78758  
(512) 594-0865

August 15, 2008

Dear Parents and Students,

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that we introduce the Connally High School Cougar Band program. Much thought and many hours have gone into the preparation of this handbook and we hope that you will always find it useful in explaining the policies and procedures for this school year. As always, if you need more information, please do not hesitate to call us.

After reading the material carefully, please be sure to **sign and return** the Statement of Understanding found at the end of this book by Friday, August 29th. Please display the calendar in your home, as each student will be responsible for knowing the dates of every activity. Please know that updates to the calendar will appear in your weekly e-group messages.

Cordially,

Matt Atkinson

Anna Rodriguez

Jason Russell

Allen Truong

**Connally Cougar Band Course Syllabus  
Fall 2008**

**Course Goal:**

To stimulate musical and personal growth through music

**Course Objectives:**

1. To learn advanced techniques of playing your instrument
2. To learn advanced techniques of playing in an ensemble
3. To learn to appreciate the value of quality music in society
4. To develop qualities of leadership, citizenship, and pride in performance

**Course Requirements:**

1. Participate in all rehearsals without causing distractions
2. Participate in extra rehearsals, concerts, contests, and other official class activities
3. Obey all rules inside the classroom and while representing Connally High School
4. Give your best effort at all times

**Course Grading Policies:**

**1. Performance - 40%**

To receive credit for this part of the grading policy, students must participate fully in all Cougar Band activities, unless otherwise agreed to by the director, student and parent. In addition, students must have all supplies listed below at **all** rehearsals and performances.

**2. Instrument Technical Competency - 40%**

Students will receive grades on the following:

**a. All-State Audition Music - 20%**

All Varsity and JV Band students will have playing tests based on the All-State Audition Etudes every two weeks. Symphonic Band and Applied Music students will be tested every two weeks on comparable etudes selected by the directors. All Varsity Band students are required to participate in the Region Band Audition process. JV and Symphonic Band students are highly encouraged to participate in this process. Tests on these etudes will take place during after-school sectionals. If a student is not present for these weekly sectionals, they must perform their test for the entire class on Friday. Students who perform their test at the sectionals may use the Friday test as a second chance to make a higher grade on their assessment. Students will be evaluated on note accuracy, rhythmic accuracy, appropriate tempos, proper tone, intonation, correct articulations, and musicianship.

**b. Marching Music Pass-Offs - 20%**

In a Pass-Off, students will perform, for the directors, portions of their show music (memorized,) with the appropriate foot and horn movements. Each movement of the show will be graded separately. Students must pass-off their music by the assigned dates. Time will be given in class that day for pass-offs, but students are highly encouraged to attempt their pass-offs before the assigned dates to ensure a grade of 90 or higher. Points will be deducted from the student's score for each playing or marching error. Grades will be assigned based upon the following scale:

<b>No errors</b> – 100	<b>4 errors</b> – 83	<b>8 errors</b> – 67	<b>12 errors</b> -51
<b>1 error</b> – 95	<b>5 errors</b> – 79	<b>9 errors</b> – 63	
<b>2 errors</b> – 90	<b>6 errors</b> – 75	<b>10 errors</b> - 59	
<b>3 error</b> – 87	<b>7 errors</b> – 71	<b>11 errors</b> – 55	

An official pass-off is a grade of 90 or higher, **Students may only attempt to pass-off for any director once a day.** If the student does not receive a grade of 90 or higher, they must wait until the next day to make another attempt. If a student has still not received a grade of 90 or higher after two attempts with a director, they must successfully pass-off their music for their section leader before they will be allowed another pass-off attempt for a director. Once a student has completed their pass-off, they will receive a sticker to place next to their name on the Pass-Off Chart located in the Band Hall. Students who do not complete their pass-offs on time will not be able to use their

instruments for that week's performances. If a student is continually behind on their pass-offs, they may be moved to a "B" spot. Here are the due dates for this year's pass-offs:

Part One (All) – Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup>

Part Two (All) – Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup>

Part Three (All) – Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>

Part Four (1<sup>st</sup> half) – Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

Part Four (2<sup>nd</sup> half) – Thursday, September 25<sup>h</sup>

**c. Audition For Spring Concert Bands – 20%** (in place of Pass-Offs for the 2nd 9-weeks)

In November, all band students will audition for the Spring by performing either a portion of the All-State Audition Etudes (Varsity and JV Band), or comparable etudes selected by the directors (Symphonic Band and Applied Music). These auditions will take place after school, and the results of these auditions will determine band placement and chair order for the Spring semester. In some cases, Region Band audition results may also affect these placements. Students will be placed in their new Band classes beginning in January, and will then audition again in May for Fall placement.

**3. Leadership and Citizenship - 20%**

To receive credit for this part of the grading policy, students must participate fully in the Cougar Band. Students will be graded on their contribution to the organization and the ideals the Cougar Band strives to attain through all performances and events by maintaining a positive attitude, cooperating with directors at all times and being on time and prepared for all band events.

**Course Materials:**

**Woodwinds/Brass:** Instrument, 3 reeds (for WWs), mouthpiece and B.E.R.P. (for brass), music, lyre, flip folder, shades, hat, shorts, T-shirt, athletic tie shoes, water bottle, sunscreen, metronome/tuner, coordinate sheet, pencil

**Percussion:** set of 4 marimba mallets in good condition, a pair of medium timpani mallets in good condition, a pair of snare drum sticks in good condition, music, shades, hat, shorts, T-shirt, athletic tie shoes, water bottle, sunscreen, coordinate sheet, pencil

**Course Philosophy:**

The Connally High School Band strives to demonstrate outstanding *Musicanship* through performance. This is achieved through intensive study of quality wind literature in private lessons, performance solos, small ensembles and full ensembles. Perseverance and commitment to the CHS Band leads to *Excellence* in the individual members and the community. Participation in large ensembles requires students to interact effectively and efficiently with their peers while learning *Respect* for themselves and others through diligent work and cooperation. *Musicanship*, *Excellence*, and *Respect* in the band community lead to personal and community *Pride*, which becomes an integral part of every student's outward and inward self. *Pride* in yourself and your band increases effort and appreciation for the great art of music, which is an essential part of every student's education.

## **Connally Cougar Band Course Syllabus Spring 2009**

**Course Goal:**

To stimulate musical and personal growth through music

**Course Objectives:**

1. To learn advanced techniques of playing your instrument
2. To learn advanced techniques of playing in an ensemble
3. To learn to appreciate the value of quality music in society

4. To develop qualities of leadership, citizenship, and pride in performance

**Course Requirements:**

1. Participate in all rehearsals, without causing distractions and always having your instrument ready to play
2. Participate in extra rehearsals, concerts, contests, and other official class activities
3. Obey all rules inside the classroom and while representing Connally High School
4. Give your best effort at all times

**Course Grading Policies:****1. Performance - 40%**

To receive credit for this part of the grading policy, students must participate fully in all Cougar Band activities, unless otherwise agreed to by the director, student and parent. In addition, students must have all supplies listed below at **all** rehearsals and performances.

**2. Instrument Technical Competency - 40%**

Students will receive grades on the following:

**a. Music Pass-Offs - 40%**

Students will perform selections from their UIL contest music, with a metronome, for a director. Pass-offs will be graded for accuracy (correct notes and rhythms, articulations, dynamics, tuning, etc.). A student will receive 100 points for each selection successfully passed-off. Student pass-offs must be approved by the director prior to any performance by the student. If pass-offs are not successfully completed, the student will not be permitted to perform with the ensemble.

**b. Audition For Fall Band Classes – 20%** (in partial place of Pass-Offs for the 4<sup>th</sup> 9-weeks)

In May, all band students will audition for the Fall by performing etudes selected by the directors. These auditions will take place after school, and the results of these auditions will determine band placement for the Fall semester.

**3. Leadership and Citizenship - 20%**

To receive credit for this part of the grading policy, students must participate fully in the Connally Band. Students will be graded on their contribution to the organization and the ideals the Connally Band strives to attain through all performances and events.

**Course Materials:**

Instrument (in good working condition), 3 reeds (for WWs), mouthpiece and B.E.R.P. (for brass), concert music, scale and fundamental sheets, Korg TM-40 Metronome/Tuner, pencil

## **Connally Color Guard Course Syllabus Fall/Spring 2008-2009**

**Course Goal:**

To stimulate growth in the art of performance through the understanding of dance, acting, color, music, movement, and equipment

**Course Objectives:**

1. To learn intermediate and advanced techniques involved in standard Color Guard equipment
2. To learn techniques in different aspects of dance and movement
3. To understand the aspect of performance within the individual as well as the group
4. To develop qualities of leadership, citizenship, and pride in performance

### **Course Requirements:**

1. Participate in all rehearsals, without causing distractions and always having equipment properly taken care of and ready to use
2. Participate in extra rehearsals, concerts, contests, and other official class activities
3. Obey all rules inside the classroom and while representing Connally High School
4. Give your best efforts at all times

### **Course Grading Policies:**

#### **1. Performance – 40%**

To receive credit for this part of the grading policy, students must participate fully in all Cougar Band activities, unless otherwise agreed to by the director, student, and parent. In addition, students must have all supplies listed below at **all** rehearsals and performances. Students will be graded on their contribution to the organization and the ideals the CHS Band strives to attain through all performances and events.

#### **2. Choreographic Competency – 40%**

Students will receive grades on the following:

- a. **Practice Logs/Dot Books – 20%:** Students will be required to keep a weekly practice log that must be signed off on each day of practice. A minimum of 20 minutes a day must be maintained. If circumstances arise that prevents a student from practicing they may make up on other days, but not to exceed 3 days (unless otherwise approved by director).
- b. **Choreography Play-offs – 20%:** Students will perform, for the director or assigned captain, their choreography memorized, with appropriate body underneath or foot movements. Each movement of the show will be graded separately. Completion of each section with 3 mistakes or less will result in a pass-off and a 100 for that section.

#### **3. Grade Checks – 5%**

Students will be required to turn in grade checks every two weeks to keep abreast of their academic standing. Please note that they will not receive a grade based on the standing of their other classes, just for turning in the grade check signed by each teacher by the deadline. This will help ensure knowledge of academic standing for director, student, and parent.

#### **4. Journals – 15%**

Each student will be required to maintain a journal to be kept and updated for every class. Entries in the journal will include (but are not limited to): reflection on the week's performances, the material learned that week, and goals for the season. The student will receive credit for the completion of every entry within the journal once it is turned in.

### **Course Materials:**

- |                                  |                             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| - Equipment                      | - Personal Water bottle     |
| - 1 Roll of white tape           | - Sunscreen                 |
| - Show CD                        | - Personal Flag Bag         |
| - Formfitting clothing for dance | - Gloves                    |
| - Tennis Shoes                   | - Coordinate Sheet/Dot Book |
| - Mechanical Pencil              | - Journal                   |

### **Band Rehearsal Guidelines and Student Conduct**

1. NO food, gum, or drinks are allowed in the band hall!
2. Enter the band hall calmly and quietly
2. Students should not enter the band hall unless a director is in the vicinity.
3. Be seated with your instrument, music, and pencil one minute after the tardy bell has rung.

4. Show good rehearsal etiquette by being a good team player. Remain on task at all times; do not talk or interrupt the focus of the rehearsal. Raise your hand and ask questions if you need individual help. Maintain proper posture at all times.
5. Band Members are not allowed to touch, spin or play with Color Guard equipment.
6. Be mindful and respectful of groups that are rehearsing in the band hall and do not disturb their rehearsal time.
7. Do not leave books, purses or other valuables unlocked in the band hall or in your instrument slot. The Band Department is not responsible for personal items stored anywhere in the Band Hall. Students are advised to lock all valuables in their assigned school locker.
8. Students are solely responsible for the care and maintenance of their assigned equipment. All instruments and equipment are to remain in their cases, with shut latches, when not in use. Students should have their names on the outside of their instrument cases in a visible place. Be sure that your serial number, make and model are written down at home.
9. Take proper care of your band uniform. Failure to properly care for your uniform may disqualify a student from lettering that year (i.e. all parts in place, returned on time, etc.)
10. Instrument slots shall remain clean. No food should be left in the slots. Marching shoes and rehearsal clothes must be stored in your band bag during marching season. Any items left on the floor will be discarded at the end of the day.
11. The practice rooms are for the convenience of our private lesson staff and for those who use them for instrument practice. They are not to be used by any other person or for any other reason besides practicing or music pass-offs.
12. Students should not enter the directors' office without permission. Please knock and wait for a response. No student is to use the band office computers/phone/copier without permission.
13. Please be considerate of the directors' requests for assistance and/or performance of tasks around the band hall.
14. Band members serve as goodwill ambassadors for the school and the community. Polite and courteous behavior is a credit to the band organization, to the school, and to the parents. Be respectful at all times.
15. Follow all school and district rules. Any infraction of conduct, attitude, or responsibility will be dealt with in one or more of the following manners:
  - a. Conference with student
  - b. Conference with parent
  - c. Conference with grade-level principal
  - d. Probationary contract
  - e. Expulsion from band program
  - f. Other (as designated by school administration)

Our goal as a staff is to ensure that all students are treated fairly. Please call one of our directors if you have any concerns. We will work with you to resolve problems. We are here to provide a quality music education for all our students.

## **The Connally Cougar Marching Band**

The Cougar Marching Band is the largest organization on the Connally campus. It performs at all varsity football games, parades, contests and occasional other appearances. The Cougar Marching Band is open to any student who has passed a proficiency audition or has director approval.

### **Marching Band Assignments**

Once a student has been accepted into the marching band, he/she must pass a series of playing and marching evaluations and maintain passing grades in all courses. Since our marching band drills are pre-designed for a fixed instrumentation, it may be necessary to rotate some players in and out of a spot in the show from week to week. In order for a student to qualify for an “A” spot in our marching performances, they must demonstrate musical and marching mastery as determined by the directors. Students who do not meet the necessary criteria will be assigned to a “B” spot until the necessary criteria are met. Students will be evaluated based upon music pass-offs and marching fundamentals. Every effort will be made for every student to march in at least one performance, provided the student has demonstrated proficiency on their music pass-offs and marching fundamentals to a director.

### **Rehearsal Schedule and Attendance**

Summer band rehearsals begin approximately three weeks before school starts. Throughout the football season, full marching band rehearsals will be held Mondays (5:00pm-7:30pm) Tuesdays (7:10am-8:30am), Wednesdays (7:10am-8:30am), Thursdays (7:10am-8:30am), and Fridays (7:10am-8:30am).

Freshmen Band Camp will be held in May. The purpose of this camp is to teach basic marching and playing fundamentals, and to prepare new members for assimilation into full summer band. Attendance is mandatory for all freshman band members and all Connally Band student leaders.

As a member of the Connally Band, you have an obligation to your fellow band members to be at all rehearsals, on time, and with the necessary equipment and materials. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals, sectionals and performances. Unexcused absences will jeopardize one’s position in the marching band. Note the band calendar and clear all the performance dates now! Mr. Atkinson must be given at least one week’s advanced notice of a student’s absence from band practices and/or performances.

### **Marching Rehearsal Safety**

Students’ attire for all marching band rehearsals includes shorts, a light colored T-shirt, hat or cap, tennis shoes, and socks. Sunglasses and the use of sunscreen are also strongly encouraged. Students must bring an individual water bottle clearly labeled with their name to all rehearsals. Water bottles will be kept close, and frequent water breaks will be taken. Students should let a director know if they feel dizzy or weak. During rehearsals, the directors will constantly monitor the weather conditions and make adjustments as necessary for the safety of the students.

### **Band Uniforms**

The band uniform should always be worn with pride! The uniform must never be worn incorrectly. These uniforms are new and in good condition, and they must be kept that way. Band uniforms are maintained in the band hall and will not be issued to take home. They must be returned in the condition they were found after each performance. Each band member will be issued:

- a. Marching jacket
- b. Bib pants
- c. Shako (plumes issued at performance and are NEVER to be handled by students)
- d. Gauntlets

It is the responsibility of each band member to provide the following for every performance:

- a. Black MTX marching shoes
- b. Knee high black socks (no patterns or other colors)
- c. Black gloves
- d. “Carpe Noctem” Spirit Shirt

## **Football Game and Marching Contest Procedures**

### **1. FRIDAY AFTERNOONS:**

Here is the typical schedule for a Friday night home game:

4:15pm – School ends

4:45pm – Rehearsal at the stadium

- 5:30pm – Dinner
- 6:30pm – Inspection (have uniforms/instruments ready)
- 6:45pm - Meet at parade location
- 7:00pm – Pregame
- 7:30pm – Game begins
- 8:30pm – Half-time
- 10:00pm – March back to Band Hall

You will have little time between dinner and inspection, so you will need to come to school that morning with everything you need for the football game. It's a good idea to pack a sack lunch and a drink. Some parents also choose to bring their students something to eat during the break between practice and inspection. **No student is allowed to leave campus during this time.** Choose the plan that best suits your schedule, but whichever you do, be sure to eat something before we line-up for the parade into the stadium. **REMEMBER: THERE IS TO BE NO EATING IN THE BAND HALL – USE THE CAFETERIA!**

Make sure you have everything you need for the game before you come to school on Friday:

- Band:**
  - black marching shoes and black socks
  - spirit shirt for under your uniform
  - flip folder, lyre and music
  - instrument
- Guard:**
  - uniform
  - gloves
  - all equipment
  - tape
  - shoes
  - black socks
  - performance make-up (Color Guard)

2. **UNIFORMS:** All uniforms will remain in the uniform closet except when in use. Make sure you get to the band hall early enough on game and contest days so that you have time to get your uniform and everything else you need for a performance.

**Keep track of YOUR hanger!!!** Each hanger has a number that corresponds to your uniform number, so that you don't get yours mixed up. Leave your hanger on your assigned spot on the uniform rack so that it does not get lost.

After the game, make sure your bibbers are properly hung on the hanger and placed on the rack.

3. **INSPECTION:** When inspection is held, students will be inspected for the following:

- a. Proper wear, fit, and condition of uniform and all necessary uniform parts (socks, shoes, gloves, etc.)
- b. Condition of equipment
  - Brass: horns polished
  - Woodwinds: horns polished, at least three good reeds
  - Percussion: sticks/mallets (taped correctly)
  - Color Guard: all equipment properly weighted and taped; all silks checked for wear and tear
- c. Music folder in good condition, properly labeled, with all of the necessary music
  - a. No exposed jewelry
  - b. No distracting makeup (basic neutral facial makeup allowed)
  - c. No fingernail polish or visible pen/marker markings on hands or elsewhere
  - d. All hair should be neatly kept so that it does not reach the collar of the uniform

4. **LOADING:** For those whose instruments are loaded onto the equipment truck, be at the school at the designated time to have your instrument packed and at the loading area. Instruments are to be placed at the designated area by the back door of the band hall. The loading crew's responsibility is to load the equipment that is placed in the loading area, not to come into the instrument rooms to get anything. Upon return to the school after the game or contest, you are to pick up your instrument from the loading area outside. It is no one's job to bring your instrument into the band hall but yours. The following instruments are **not** to be loaded onto the equipment truck: Flutes, Clarinets, and Trumpets in gig bags. Take these on the bus with you.

5. **BUS RIDES:** All transportation to games and competitions (with the exception of some contests) will be on school busses. Even though there will be adult chaperones on each bus, the bus driver is the one in charge and we are to do whatever they say, PERIOD. Remember that some drivers are less tolerant than others. Here are some general rules to follow regarding bus transportation:

- Only private ipods, walkmans, or CD players with headphones are permitted. Those that have external speakers are not.
- No eating or drinking on the school buses (unless specified by the band directors for certain long-distance trips)
- Remain seated at all times
- Talking is to be kept at a reasonable level. Screaming, yelling, etc. is not acceptable.
- Keep all parts of the body inside the bus at all times
- Bus lists will be made prior to the first game and you must remain on your assigned bus

6. **ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION:** If for some reason you need to ride with your parents either to or from a band-sponsored event, you are **required** to give a completed One Way Form to Mr. Atkinson **AT LEAST TWO DAYS BEFORE THE SCHEDULED EVENT**. This should only be used in situations where no other transportation alternative is available. This policy may seem strict, but it is enforced to protect our students. Only an adult driver has permission to take you to or from an event. Student drivers holding a valid driver's license **MAY NOT** transport any student other than themselves. When leaving the event with parents, it is imperative that you let the band directors know you are leaving, so that we can be certain you have left with your parents. You must either take your instrument with you or see to it that someone will bring it in from the loading area for you.

7. **ARRIVAL AT THE STADIUM:** The first people to get off the buses are the directors. Everyone else is to remain on board until instructed to unload. Once everything is unloaded, you are to quickly line up for stadium entry. **You must be completely dressed in uniform by the time we line up. No unzipped bibbers, jackets or baseball hats!** In general, we line up in the order that we sit in the stadium from top to bottom, beginning with tubas and low brass, followed by horns and trumpets. The Color Guard generally has the first two rows, depending on the stadium. As we march into the stadium, we will do so in a dignified manner and everyone will remain standing in their places in the stands until instructed to sit down. Water will be distributed immediately after the game begins.

8. **IN THE STANDS:**

- a. Once in the stadium, you are to remain in your designated place **IN YOUR SECTION** until time to depart for half-time or depart from the game. Non-band members are **NOT ALLOWED** in the band seating area at any time.
- b. All students must have their music in a flip folder. Always have your instrument ready and watch closely for cut-offs in the music, as the band will sometimes stop playing in the middle of a song.
- c. No food, drink or gum is allowed while the band is in the stands.
- d. You must have permission from a director or the Drum Major to use the restroom. Never go to the restroom alone - always go with at least one other person. Return quickly from the restroom so that others may go. Students are not allowed to visit the concession stands while out.
- e. Do not play your instrument unless the entire band is performing. Percussion is allowed to play drum cadences authorized by the Drumline Section Leader.

9. **CONDUCT:** You must remember that from the moment we are off the busses, we are performing. You are expected to act in a dignified manner. During pre-game, we will stand while the other school's alma mater is being played. We will also stand respectfully while the National Anthem is being played. While we are on the sideline waiting for the half-time performance, you are expected to stand quietly. After the half-time performance, we will either proceed in an orderly manner back to the stands, or you will stand quietly in a relaxed parade rest while the home band performs.

**You are part of a fine organization and are expected to act accordingly. At no time should anyone do anything or say anything that could reflect negatively on the group in general. Remember that these events are school-sponsored activities and general rules of conduct will apply, but because we are in uniform, you are expected to conduct yourself better than the average student.**

## Cougar Band Leadership Positions

### Band Council Officers

1. Band President:
  - a. Elected by their fellow band members
  - b. Must have been a member of the Connally Band for at least two years
  - c. Plans the annual Band Banquet in the Spring
  - d. Organizes all social activities for the band
  - e. Represents the band and promotes band unity
  - f. Plans and leads all Band Council meetings
  - g. In charge of organizing visits to visiting bands during football games
  - h. Takes delegation from directors
  - i. Delegates certain responsibilities to other band council members
2. Band Vice President
  - a. Elected by their fellow band members
  - b. Must have been a member of the Connally Band for at least one year
  - c. Assists the Band President with his/her duties
  - d. Acts as the president in the event that the president is absent or unable to perform his/her duties
  - e. Helps organize social events activities for the band
  - f. Attends all Band Council meetings
  - g. Takes delegation from the President
  - h. Participates in all council activities
3. Band Historian
  - a. Appointed by the band directors
  - b. Compiles band and guard pictures from throughout the year
  - c. Creates a slide show for the Band Banquet at the end of the year
  - d. Takes pictures of freshmen during Freshmen Band Camp
  - e. Attends all Band Council meetings
  - f. Takes delegation from the President and Vice President
  - g. Participates in all council activities
4. Color Guard Representative
  - a. Represents the Color Guard as a member of the Band Council
  - b. Brings Color Guard concerns, opinions and needs to council meetings
  - c. Elected by their fellow guard members
  - d. Attends all Band Council meetings
  - e. Takes delegation from the President and Vice President
  - f. Participates in all council activities

### **Field Positions**

1. Drum Major
  - a. Selected by a panel of judges based upon an audition
  - b. Serves as the communicator between the directors and students
  - c. Conducts the marching show
  - d. Runs the metronome at practice if necessary
  - e. Assists the directors in teaching marching fundamentals and drill
  - f. Maintains discipline on the marching field
  - g. Makes sure all sound and marching equipment is ready for rehearsal
  - h. Is 60 minutes early for every band function, and stays until the directors leave
  - i. Represents the band in a respectful manner
  - j. Ensures that the leaders of the band work as a team
  - k. Assists the band directors with organization
  - l. Attends all Band Council meetings
  - m. Participates in all council activities
  - n. Takes delegation from the President and Vice President
2. Section Leader
  - a. Serves as a role model for the section
  - b. Promotes unity within their section
  - c. Assists section members in learning their music and drill
  - d. Is 30 minutes early for every band function

- e. Takes responsibility for all section members and self
- f. Maintains discipline within the section
- g. Communicates with drum majors about any issues pertaining to their section
- h. Be able to play all section members parts (i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> part, 2<sup>nd</sup> part)
- i. Passes off music one week before the due date
- j. Makes themselves available to assist their section members
- k. Serves as a mentor to younger members of the section

### Service Positions

1. Band Uniform Manager
  - a. Assists in fitting band members for their uniforms
  - b. Maintains and organizes both marching and concert uniforms
  - c. Makes sure that all uniforms are properly hung up after football games/contests/concerts
  - d. Appointed by the directors
2. Band Librarian
  - a. Keeps the music library organized
  - b. Makes sure that there are always extra copies of all music on hand
  - c. Catalogues and files all new music
  - d. Appointed by the directors
3. Loading Crew Manager
  - a. Makes sure all instruments and equipment are loaded for football games/contests/concerts
  - b. Knows how to properly handle all band and guard equipment and instruments
  - c. Appointed by the directors

### Connally Band Leadership Team 2008-2009

Position	Name	Cell Number	Home Number	Email
Drum Major	Thomas Landfried	623-0626	836-6280	titancoaster@yahoo.com
	Krystal Parsons	971-2263	873-7229	floner5@yahoo.com
	Don Tran	586-8048	671-9376	g0trice_15@hotmail.com
Flutes	Megan Hybner	771-7823	835-9277	cookiefan14@austin.rr.com
	Rebecca Ramser	828-9844	837-2467	Luv2smile828@aol.com
Clarinets	Holly Josserand	736-5324	834-2394	josserandholly@yahoo.com
	Angie Millar	971-5661	251-9735	of_the_angel@yahoo.com
	Michelle Zarse	217-4037	251-7112	kuraii_koneko@yahoo.com
Saxophones	George Chavez	296-4307	989-0830	georgec2011@yahoo.com
Low Reeds	Jessica Wright	431-1185	821-0080	maxsoloikecobeken@yahoo.com
Trumpets	Brian Allmond	914-7986	989-0789	allmondjoy09@yahoo.com
F. Horns	Julie Weller	659-9990	N/A	cowsrool@austin.rr.com
Trombones	Trey Medrano	363-2758	670-5012	akafresh2009@yahoo.com
Bar/Tubas	Jackie Ledesma	297-3354	N/A	jrled2009@yahoo.com
Battery	Evan Tiffany	964-1899	837-2270	evwatif@earthlink.net
Pit	Hunter Ross	470-6777	837-6248	chross@austin.rr.com
Guard Cap	Brooke Krivokucha	632-2969	834-7483	BrookeKriv@yahoo.com
President	Courtney Brindle	968-5672	873-8979	goldieroxmisox@yahoo.com
V. President	Kendall Smith	924-4704	252-1057	kendallama@gmail.com
Historian	Zoe Riemer	914-6430	252-9517	punkfairy218@yahoo.com
Librarian	Mikayla McMurtray	228-8740	670-9131	anyanoconeco@gmail.com
Guard Rep	Pamela Rowehl	N/A	339-6824	Pamela.Rowehl@pflugervilleisd.net
Loading	Max Peterson	913-7507	344-9677	maxorama01@yahoo.com
Uniform	Amy Tran	779-7430	832-9927	angel_with_horns28@yahoo.com

# **Concert Season and Trip Information**

## **School Instruments**

Certain instruments are available through PISD for rental for the school year. The cost of rental is covered by the school district. Any deliberate damage to an instrument may be charged to the student/parent.

## **Band Auditions**

There will be two major auditions each year to place students in band classes and/or to assign chair placement within each ensemble. Students will audition in May for the following fall semester and in November at the conclusion of the regular marching season for the following spring semester. Students will be evaluated by the directors at these auditions. Student chair placement within a band may change during the semester at the director's discretion based on performance, attitude, or lack of participation in the Region Band process (Varsity and JV Band only).

## **All District/All Region/Area/All State Band**

Students have the opportunity to audition for the All Region Band by preparing Varsity Band members are required to participate in the Region Band audition process. JV and Symphonic Band members are highly encouraged to participate in this process as well.

## **UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest**

Band members are encouraged to participate in the UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest. Students are responsible for preparing their music for the competition, as very little class time will be allowed for this. Students may schedule times before or after school to pick out music and to receive help with their preparation. They may also work on the music with a private lesson teacher. The deadline for entries is in early January. Almost all solos require piano accompaniment, and you may acquire your own accompanist or arrange one through the band directors. There will be a fee set by the accompanist. Students entering a Class I solo may qualify for the State Solo/Ensemble Contest by performing their solo by memory and receiving a Division I rating. Class I ensembles may also qualify if they earn a Division I rating.

## **Band Trip**

This year, the Connally Band will be taking an out-of-state trip. This trip will most likely occur in either March or April. Possible destinations for this trip include Winter Park, Colorado, Washington D.C., and Los Angeles, California. Each student and their family may vote for the trip they would like to take by ranking them in order of preference on the Spring Trip Voting Form. Formalized trip itineraries and exact package prices will be available in early September, once voting is complete.

## **Extracurricular Overnight Trip Rules for Students**

The sponsor shall function as the designated administrator in charge of the activity when an administrator is not present. Any violation of rules may result in penalties provided under the Connally High School Code of Student Conduct, the Connally Cougar Band Handbook and/or the student being returned to Pflugerville ISD or the nearest available transportation terminal at the parent's expense.

All district and respective campus rules apply as well as the rules of the Connally Cougar Band.

Use or possession of tobacco, alcohol or any illegal drugs will result in notification of proper authorities and possible immediate return of the student to the District at the parent's expense. If illegal activity results in detention by authorities, parents shall have responsibility for all intervention, counsel and transportation.

All medications shall be checked in with the designated trip chaperone who will oversee safekeeping and dispensing.

Curfew will be established nightly and adhered to strictly by all students.

Students must stay in assigned rooms. No sexual or other improper activity is tolerated from students on overnight trips. No students are allowed in rooms of the opposite sex. Only participating PISD students are allowed in PISD rooms. Students must notify sponsor/chaperone of their whereabouts at all times if they are in a location other than their assigned room.

No phone calls are allowed between rooms after curfew. No long distance calls are to be made from hotel rooms.

No pay-per-view is allowed.

The sponsor will conduct a mandatory meeting with parents/chaperones prior to the trip. Failure of the parent to attend the meeting may result in the student and parent not participating in the activity.

Malicious or willful damage/theft of property by a student shall result in the student being returned to the District. Parents and students shall assume full financial responsibility for damages, transportation and any other associated costs.

Luggage and personal items are subject to search shall result being returned to the District officials and/or chaperones have reasonable suspicion that the luggage or personal items contain illegal items.

## Connally High School Band Department Courses

### **Varsity Band (1<sup>st</sup> Period)**

Prerequisite: Audition and approval by Director

Varsity Band is a performance-based class for students who demonstrate advanced musical development. Students will perform musical compositions which are designed for concert performances. The Varsity Band performs at UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contests, and various state and national festivals when possible. There are opportunities for individual achievement through auditions for district, region, area, All-State Band and through UIL Solo and Ensemble competition. Fall Semester Marching Band is required.

### **JV Band (4<sup>th</sup> Period)**

Prerequisite: Audition and approval by Director

JV Band is a performance-based class for students who demonstrate intermediate musical development. Students will perform musical compositions which are designed for concert performances. The JV Band performs at UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contests, and various state and national festivals when possible. There are opportunities for individual achievement through auditions for district, region, area, All-State Band and through UIL Solo and Ensemble competition. Fall Semester Marching Band is required.

### **Symphonic Band (3<sup>rd</sup> Period)**

Prerequisite: Audition and approval by Director

Symphonic Band is a performance-based class for students who are developing their musical abilities. Students will perform musical compositions which are designed for concert performances. The Symphonic Band may perform at UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contest, and various state and national festivals when possible. There are opportunities for individual achievement through auditions for district, region, area, All-State Band and through UIL Solo and Ensemble competition. Fall Semester Marching Band is required.

### **Color Guard (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Period)**

Prerequisite: Audition and approval by director

Color Guard students will study intermediate and advanced forms of dance, choreography, color, and equipment. Equipment includes flag, saber, and rifle. Students will learn body movement and dance. During the fall semester, the Color Guard performs at football games and contests with the marching band. In the spring semester, the Color Guard members participate in Winter Guard. The Color Guard/Winter Guard will compete in local, state, and national competitions. Fall semester Marching Band is required.

### **Applied Music (5<sup>th</sup> Period)**

Applied Music is a fundamentals-based class that focuses on individual instrumental instruction. Students will develop their musical skills on their instruments by concentrating on mastery of scales, rhythmic instruction, tone production and sight-reading skills. This course is offered to any student needed individualized attention.

### **Marching Band (0 hour)**

Prerequisite: Audition and approval by director

Marching Band is the musical and visual production of the bands in the fall semester. Students will perform at the high school football games and local, state, and national competitions. Students will learn the basics of marching & maneuvering, and musicianship. Marching Band meets before and after school. All Band students should sign up for this class.

## Private Lessons

Connally High School offers a full staff of private lesson instructors. These highly qualified teachers are specialists on their particular instruments. Private Lessons offer the students the opportunity to study at their own pace. If they need extra assistance on fundamentals, the private lesson instructors help to supplement their daily assignments. If the student feels they would like to push forward to upper level studies, the instructors will help in this process. In either case, individual instruction can only help! If there is a financial hardship, please speak with Mr. Atkinson. We do not want money to be a barrier to any student getting the instruction they desire.

Private lessons are usually 21-26 minutes long, once a week. Most lessons are scheduled during band class period although some lessons will be before school or after school. Lessons are scheduled on a “First Come, First Served” basis, and most of our private instructors charge \$16.00 for each lesson. If a student is unable to attend a lesson, they are expected to communicate with the private instructor 24 hours in advance. If advanced notice is not given and the student does not show up for the lesson, payment for that lesson is still required.

### **Connally Band Store**

The following items are available for sale in the Connally Band Office. Strait Music has set up a Band Store for our students, and these items are sold through us at a 30% discount off the regular store price. Please see Mr. Atkinson to purchase any of these items:

Oboe Reed	\$10.00
Clarinet Reeds	\$20.00 (Box of 10) \$2.00 (each)
Bass Clarinet Reeds	\$25.00 (Box of 5) \$5.00 (each)
Bassoon Reeds	\$16.00
Alto Sax Reeds	\$25.00 (Box of 10) \$2.50 (each)
Tenor Sax Reeds	\$17.50 (Box of 5) \$3.50 (each)
Bari Sax Reeds	\$30.00 (Box of 5) \$6.00 (each)
Cork Grease	\$1.50
Reed Guards	\$5.00
Silk Flute Swab	\$6.00
Flute Cleaning Rod/Cloth	\$10.00
Silk Oboe Swab	\$6.50
Silk Bassoon Swab	\$8.00
Silk Clarinet Swab	\$8.50
Silk Bass Clarinet Swab	\$11.00
Silk Alto Sax Swab	\$10.00
Silk Tenor Sax Swab	\$11.00
WW Mouthpiece Brush	\$2.00
Bassoon Bocal Brush	\$6.50
Bassoon Bocal Swab	\$5.00
Blue Juice Valve Oil	\$3.50
Superslick Rotor Oil	\$4.50
Trombotine Slide Grease	\$5.50
Brass Mouthpiece Brush	\$2.00
Cleaning Snake	\$5.00
French Horn Cleaning Snake	\$6.00
Trombone Cleaning Snake	\$5.00
Baritone Cleaning Snake	\$6.00
Trombone Spray Bottle	\$4.00
SantiMist Disinfectant (Lg.)	\$7.50
SantiMist Disinfectant (Sm.)	\$3.50
Korg TM-40 Metronome/Tuner	\$30.00
Korg Tuner Pick-Up Cord	\$12.00
Lyres	\$5.00

Bass Clarinet Marching Neckstrap \$11.00

Flip Folder \$5.00

Flip Folder Windows \$0.50

## **2008-2009 REQUIREMENTS FOR LETTERING IN BAND**

### **You must successfully complete items 1-4 to earn a letter jacket:**

1. Earn 30 or more letter points
2. Make the District Band or place in the top 25% of the students trying out.
3. Attend 4 musical events such as concerts, musicals, or other fine arts related events (Students must have proof of attendance and director approval)
4. Solo and Ensemble
  - a. Freshmen must make a first division on a class 2 solo/ensemble or make a second division on a class 1 solo/ensemble
  - b. Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors must make a first division on a class 1 solo/ensemble

Note: The directors reserve the right to waive the region band or the solo and ensemble requirements under special circumstances.

### **Letter points are earned by:**

#### **Performances**

Before each performance, students must pass a uniform, instrument, and materials inspection to earn a letter point.

- 1 point for each marching performance (half-time/UIIL/parade)
- 1 point for each concert performance (UIL/seasonal)

#### **Eligibility**

- 1/2 point for each 6 weeks of eligibility through the first 4 grading periods

#### **Private Lessons**

- 1 point for each 10 private lessons taken with a director or private instructor

#### **Miscellaneous Events**

- 2 points for membership in the CHS Jazz Band
- 1 point for attending musical events (Limit: 6 points)
- 1 point for attending a summer band camp prior to the school year

#### **Auditions**

- 1 point for an audition for District Band/Region Jazz/Region Orchestra
- 2 points for earning a chair in District Band **or**
- 3 points for earning a chair in Region Band/Region Jazz/Region Orchestra **or**
- 4 points for earning a chair in Area Band **or**
- 5 points for earning a chair in All-State Band/Orchestra/Jazz
- 2 points for participation in UIL Solo and Ensemble
- 1 point for earning a second division at the Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest
- 2 points for earning a first division at the Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest

A student may be deemed ineligible by the band director to earn a letter jacket regardless of the accumulation of points if rules of CHS (as stated in the CHS student handbook) and/or the CHS Band are ignored or violated. If a student leaves the band by choice or by recommendation of the band director during the year, the student will forfeit his/her points. Students who have completed three years of high school band and are enrolled for their senior year will receive a letter jacket provided they are a member in good standing. Points will not be carried over to the following year.

## **2008-2009 REQUIREMENTS FOR LETTERING IN COLOR GUARD**

### **You must successfully complete the following to earn a letter jacket:**

1. Earn 28 or more letter points
2. Remain in the color guard/band class for the entire school year

Note: The directors reserve the right to waive one or more points under special circumstances.

### **Letter points are earned by:**

#### **Performances**

Before each performance, students must pass a uniform and equipment inspection to earn a letter point.

- 1 point for each marching performance (half-time/UIIL/parade/WGI/TCGC)

#### **Eligibility**

- 1/2 point for each 6 weeks of eligibility through the first 4 grading periods

#### **Miscellaneous Events**

- 1 point per winter guard performance
- 1 point for attendance of artistic events such as Ballet Austin, Austin Lyric Opera, etc. (Limit: 6 points)
- 1 point for attending a summer guard camp prior to the school year

Color guard students wanting to earn a dual band/color guard jacket need to earn a combined total of 30 points. At least four points must come from participation in Region Band auditions, UIL band performances, and UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest.

A student may be deemed ineligible by the band director/color guard instructor to earn a letter jacket regardless of the accumulation of points if rules of CHS (as stated in the CHS student handbook) and/or the CHS Band are ignored or violated. If a student leaves the band/color guard by choice or by recommendation of the band director/color guard instructor during the year, the student will forfeit his/her points. Points will not be carried over to the following year.

**STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING**

**for the**

**Connally High School Band Handbook**

It is the intention of the Band Directors to provide a safe and positive musical experience for every band student. Some behaviors, which include but are not limited to theft, sexual misconduct, possession of tobacco, illegal drugs or alcohol would constitute immediate removal from the Band program.

In the event of other inappropriate behaviors such as flagrant and/or repeated insubordination or persistent student misconduct in or around the bandhall or at band events, the directors will follow the guideline below.

1. Director- student conference
2. Director- parent conference (with or without the student)
3. Student behavioral contract
4. Removal of student from Band Program

I/We have read and understand all of the information from the Connally High School Band Handbook and agree to abide by the stated policies.

Student's Printed Name:

(Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_

Band Class Period \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

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