

S.P. Waltrip Senior High School

RAM BAND HANDBOOK



2009 – 2010

CHARLES STEPHENS, BAND DIRECTOR
JESSE ESPINOSA, ASST DIRECTOR
DE'MONTRAY WHEAT, PERCUSSION INSTRUCTOR

Steve Siebenaler, Principal
1900 West 34th Street
Houston Texas 77018
(713) 688 – 1361

RAM BAND STUDENT HANDBOOK

- This handbook is provided for your information. We hope it will make your **RAM BAND** experience as beneficial as possible.
- Organizational information, descriptions and schedules are covered in this handbook. Please read these AND discuss with your child.
- There are two sheets at the end of the Handbook (Band Handbook Contract and Parent Permission Form) that has to be signed, as indicated, by student AND Parent/Guardian. **These should be returned AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to the Band Office.**
- **DUE TO BAND COMPETITION, WE ARE SUGGESTING/REQUESTING BAND MEMBERS TO TAKE THE ACT AND SAT TESTS IN MONTHS OTHER THAN OCTOBER.**
- If you have any questions, call Mr. Stephens or Mr. Espinosa at (713) 688-1361 Ext. 310 for information and/or clarification.
- Directors' email address: cstephens@waltripramband.org
jespinosa@waltripramband.org
dwheat@waltripramband.org
- Ram Band Website: <http://www.waltripramband.org>
- Ram Band office fax: (713) 957-7757
- **The Band is a part of the Arts and Communication Academy. The principal for this academy is Rodolfo Lertora.**
- **Band is available to all students that attend Waltrip High School, regardless of assigned academy.**

WELCOME

As we prepare ourselves for the early stages of planning and getting ready for the upcoming school year, I would like to extend a very hardy welcome to each student and parent. It is indeed going to be my pleasure working with you in the near future. The Ram Band has a lot to be grateful for; and you are a very important part of the past, present and future. This band also has a winning tradition of excellence and offers an opportunity to everyone. On behalf of Waltrip High School, Ram Band Staff and current Band Members, you are welcome and we hope your stay and visit with the Band will be a most joyful and everlasting experience.

**Musically,
Charles Stephens**

"The study of music is an important part of a complete education. It engages students in individual and group activity, develops creativity, problem solving, and critical and evaluative skills. Music education helps students acquire talent in the production and performance of music, as well as an understanding of history and culture." - George W. Bush, Former President

DIRECTOR'S CORNER:

Words to Live By

PERSEVERE - to continue in some effort, or a course of action in spite of difficulty.

The first semester of our music program is filled with many challenges that one must have a special quality of character in order to maintain the course. It takes special people to be **in the band!** As Band Directors, we have the wonderful opportunity to teach through music so many elements of a good character. One element of a good character is persistence. This music genre called *Marching Band* provides many chances for students to give up and quit. The temptations are felt by everyone, including myself. However, one must seek out that special strength that is ours for the taking. Phrases like "never give up," "whatever it takes," or "just do it," are more than just words to many of our students- it is a way of living. I tip my hat to those parents who teach their son or daughter that way of living. Keep up the good work. **What is success when it comes to music?** It is hard to determine our success by looking at a wall full of trophies. Instead, you need to look closer to see the real success of our Band Program. **The learning that goes on each and every day is more valuable than any trophy that can be won or any award that can be given for a job well done. NEVER GIVE UP!**

- Mr. Charles Stephens & Mr. Jesse Espinosa

BAND STAFF & OFFICERS 2009-2010

DIRECTORS & STAFF:

BAND DIRECTOR

CHARLES STEPHENS

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

JESSE ESPINOSA

PERCUSSION

DE'MONTRAY WHEAT

COLORGUARD

MARY KNOX

MARCHING TECH

JEREMY DIGGS

MARCHING TECH

ANDREW MILLER

OFFICERS:

HEAD DRUM MAJOR

JAQUELINE DELEON

ASST DRUM MAJOR

LUCY KOEN

RESERVE DRUM MAJOR

GLORIA TAVIRA

2ND RESERVE DRUM MAJOR

NICK ARCOS

FIELD CAPTAIN

ANIBAR GONZALEZ

FIELD LIEUTENANT

GUSTAVO LEOS

2ND FIELD LIEUTENANT

TERRY EDMOND

HEAD TREASURER

ADRIENNE SAMOS

ASST TREASURER

YOVANA VELAZQUEZ

HEAD SECRETARY

MAGALY GONZALEZ

ASST SECRETARY

DANIELA RAMIREZ

RESERVE SECRETARY

SETH DURAN

4TH SECRETARY

CARNELL SIMMONS

CO-HEAD LIBRARIAN

CINTIA QUEVEDO

CO-HEAD LIBRARIAN

DANIEL COVARRUBIUS

ASST LIBRARIAN

CHRISTINA PENA

RESERVE LIBRARIAN

ASTRID BONILLA

4TH LIBRARIAN

KATHRYN RUIZ

EQUIPMENT CREW MANAGER

LUIS VASQUEZ

ASST EQUIP. CREW MANAGER

FRED GUICHARD

HISTORIAN

STEPHANIE MORALES

ASST HISTORIAN

SKYLER SCHOLTES

“OUR WALTRIP HIGH”

School Song: Jon Enloe wrote the lyrics, Joe Stuessy wrote the music; Class of '61

**WALTRIP HIGH, WE SING TO THEE,
OUR LOYALTY WE RAISE.
STRONG AND NOBLE ALWAYS,
THESE TRIBUTES WE NOW PRAISE;
HONOR, FAITH AND COURAGE,
THESE WE TESTIFY.
THEE WE’LL ALWAYS HONOR,
OUR WALTRIP HIGH.**

**S. P. WALTRIP HIGH SCHOOL
2009-2010 VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE**

DATE	DAY	HOME	VISITOR	LOCATION	TIME
Aug 28	Fri	Waltrip HS	Sam Rayburn HS	Delmar	7:00pm
Sep 3	Thurs	Pasadena HS	Waltrip HS	Pasadena Memorial	7:00pm
Sep 12	Sat.	Northbrook HS	Waltrip HS	Tully	7:00pm
Sep 17	Thurs	Waltrip HS	Huntsville HS	Delmar	7:30pm
Sep 25	Fri.	Sharpstown HS	Waltrip HS	Butler	7:30pm
Oct 3	Sat.	Waltrip HS	Reagan HS	Delmar	1:00pm
Oct 17	Sat	Westbury HS	Waltrip HS	Butler	7:00pm
Oct 24	Sat.	Davis HS	Waltrip HS	Delmar	1:00pm
Oct 30	Fri	Austin HS	Waltrip HS	Barnett	7:30pm
Nov 7	Sat.	Waltrip HS	Yates HS	Delmar	1:00pm

The Waltrip Ram Band performs at all Waltrip HS Varsity Football games. The Band will perform stand music during the game and performs their contest marching show during halftime. The band provides entertainment, spirit and pride to each of the games. These performances are important because they allow the band an opportunity to perform in front of a live audience in preparation for our marching contests.

2009 - 2010 RAM BAND PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

SUBJECT TO VARIOUS CHANGES

JULY

13-15 PERCUSSION CAMP, 9AM – 1PM
13-15 COLORGUARD CAMP, 2PM – 4PM
16-17 DCI @ BERRY CENTER, 6PM
20-22 COLORGUARD CAMP, 2PM – 4PM
20-24 PERCUSSION CAMP, 9AM – 1PM
21 OFFICER VIDEO SESSION, 9AM
30 9TH GRADE BRIDGE PROGRAM (*OFFICER PEP BAND*)
PRACTICE FIELD MAINTENANCE
31 OFFICER MEETING, 8AM – 3PM

AUGUST

1 DR. TIM'S LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP, 9AM – 2PM
3-7 SUMMER BAND CAMP, 8AM – 12PM
3 NEW MEMBERS REPORT 8AM
6 RETURNING BAND MEMBERS REPORT 8AM
6 DCI @ EDWARDS THEATER, 5PM-10PM
10-13 SUMMER BAND CAMP, 8AM – 2PM
12 BAND SHOE ORDER
13 BAND PICNIC
14 FISH CAMP (*OFFICER PEP BAND*)
18-20 FULL BAND PRACTICE, 3AM – 5PM
24 FIRST DAY OF CLASS
28 WALTRIP VS RAYBURN HS, 7PM

SEPTEMBER

3 WALTRIP VS. PASADENA, 7PM
7 HOLIDAY - LABOR DAY
11 GENERAL BAND FEE DUE, \$50
12 WALTRIP VS. NORTHBROOK, 7PM
TBD OPEN HOUSE
17 WALTRIP VS. HUNTSVILLE, 7:30PM
23 EARLY DISMISSAL – REHEARSAL 1:30PM – 3:30PM
25 WALTRIP VS. SHARPSTOWN, 7:30PM
TBD SPECIAL MARCHING REHEARSAL, 8AM-12PM

OCTOBER

2 ALL BAND FEES DUE
3 WALTRIP VS. REAGAN, 1PM
3 BLINN MARCHING CONTEST
LCISD MARCHING CONTEST
6 REGION 23 JAZZ AUDITIONS @ HSPVA
10 KATY ISD MARCHING CONTEST
17 ALIEF MARCHING CONTEST
HISD MARCHING FESTIVAL
17 WALTRIP VS. WESTBURY, 7PM
20 U.I.L. MARCHING CONTEST
22 EARLY DISMISSAL
24 WALTRIP VS. DAVIS, 1PM
24 AREA MARCHING CONTEST
SHSU MARCHING FESTIVAL
30 WALTRIP VS. AUSTIN, 7:30PM

NOVEMBER

3 UIL STATE 4A MARCHING CONTEST
7 WALTRIP VS. YATES, 1PM (*PARENT NIGHT*)
13 ANNUAL FALL BAND DINNER & AUCTION (*TENTATIVE*)
18 EARLY DISMISSAL
21 TOMBALL HOLIDAY PARADE (*TENTATIVE*)
23 HISD ALL-CITY AUDITIONS (*TENTATIVE*)
25-27 HOLIDAY – THANKSGIVING

DECEMBER

3 WINTER HOLIDAY CONCERT, 6PM
 4-5 REGION JAZZ CLINIC & CONCERT @ WALTRIP HS
 12 REGION BAND AUDITIONS @ CINCO RANCH HS
 14-17 AUDITIONS FOR SPRING BAND PLACEMENT
 21- 1/04 WINTER HOLIDAYS

JANUARY

5 RETURN TO CLASS – 2ND SEMESTER
 9 AREA AUDITIONS – (*SITE TBD*)
 15-16 REGION BAND CLINIC & CONCERT
 18 HOLIDAY - MARTIN LUTHER KING
 TBD HISD ALL-CITY CLINIC & CONCERT
 28 EARLY DISMISSAL

FEBRUARY

2 ALL-CITY JAZZ AUDITIONS (*TENTATIVE*)
 TBD TEXAS STATE UNIV. JAZZ FESTIVAL
 10-13 T.M.E.A
 14 GALVESTON PARADE
 15 HOLIDAY – PRESIDENT’S DAY
 20 UIL SOLO & ENSEMBLE
 21 GALVESTON PARADE
 23 ALL-CITY JAZZ REHEARSAL, 7PM-9PM
 26 ANNUAL SPRING BAND DINNER (*TENTATIVE*)
 TBD U OF H JAZZ FESTIVAL

MARCH

2 ALL-CITY JAZZ REHEARSAL, 7PM-9PM
 5 ALL-CITY JAZZ REHEARSAL, 7PM-9PM
 6 3RD ANNUAL WALTRIP JAZZ FESTIVAL
 11 BLINN COLLEGE JAZZ FESTIVAL
 15-19 SPRING BREAK
 25-27 WALTRIP/HISD CONCERT FESTIVAL
 TBD SHSU JAZZ FESTIVAL

APRIL

1 TSSEC ENTRY DEADLINE
 2 SPRING HOLIDAY
 6 SPRING CONCERT (*TENTATIVE*)
 8 UIL C/SR CONTEST – VARSITY
 TBD WILLOWRIDGE JAZZ FESTIVAL
 15 UIL C/SR CONTEST – NON-VARSITY
 21-25 BAND TRIP – ATLANTA, GA
 30 SENIOR PROM (*TENTATIVE*)

MAY

3-10 DM/OFFICER TRAINING
 3-6 COLORGUARD TRAINING
 7 COLORGUARD AUDITIONS
 TBD UNDERGRAD AWARDS – JAZZ II
 12 DRUM MAJOR AUDITIONS
 TBD SENIOR AWARDS – FULL BAND
 14 BAND BANQUET
 18-21 SENIOR FINAL EXAMS
 24-27 UNDERGRAD FINAL EXAMS
 27 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
 TBD GRADUATION EXERCISES
 TBD TSSEC @ UT-AUSTIN

JUNE

TBD TSSEC @ UT-AUSTIN
 1-2 MINI CAMP FOR NEW MEMBERS
 TBD BAND LEADERSHIP CAMP
 TBD DRUM MAJOR CAMP
 TBD D.C.I.

RAM BAND OVERVIEW

OVERVIEW:

1. The duration of this activity is six (6) consecutive six week grading periods for a total of thirty-six (36) weeks (the whole school year).
2. The primary objective of this activity is to prepare responsible, proficient musicians through independent practice, group rehearsals, and performance opportunities.
3. The philosophy of this activity is that Waltrip Band students are the top musicians enrolled at Waltrip High School. You are expected to be exemplary, not only in musicianship, but also in academics and social settings. At all times, you represent the Houston Independent School District, Waltrip High School, and the Ram Band. Your actions, in and out of the Band Hall, must be governed with this in mind. You are expected to be respectful, responsible, and punctual. You are expected to conduct yourself at all times with the highest of standards. Students who adhere to this philosophy will continuously maintain an expected standard of excellence, and will, therefore, remain members of the Waltrip Band.

SCOPE:

The essential elements as prescribed by the Houston Independent School District are as follows:

1. Develop mental and physical discipline.
2. Develop citizenship through group endeavor.
3. Develop physical conditioning.
4. Develop cultural growth.
5. Develop the ability to make musical value judgments through critical listening.
6. Learn music theory.
7. Develop proper musical technique.
8. Develop creative self-expression.

RESOURCES:

Scale and/or chorale books and band music will be chosen by the Band Director.

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT PARTICIPATION:

Student Participation guidelines are setup with the merit/demerit system. Each student's band grade depends on the point system starting at 100 points. As the student participates in band functions, do good deeds and earn extra credit (example best section of the week), he/she will receive merit points.

On the other hand, points will be taken from the initial 100 points if the student has an infraction ongoing, disorderly conduct, missing band performances, insubordination of officers and worst section of the week.

Discipline Management Plan:

In order for the Waltrip Band to operate smoothly and fairly, a high level of discipline must be maintained. Expectations, rules, policies, and procedures are in place so the teaching/learning process can take place in an orderly environment. Violations of the expectations, rules, policies, and procedures outlined below will result in the student being required to serve thirty (30) minutes **detention in the Band Hall per violation**. Failure to serve detention will result in another thirty (30) minute detention for a total of sixty (60) minutes.

Failure to serve this sixty (60) minutes detention will result in the parent(s) and/or guardian (s) being contacted, and the student referred to the assistant principal for disciplinary action. The student will record the violation on his or her page of the discipline log, which will be kept on, in, or near the band director's desk.

THE EXPECTATIONS, RULES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR WALTRIP BAND ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- You are subject to the H.I.S.D. student code of conduct.
- You will follow the guidelines and procedures of the Waltrip High School Student Handbook.
- The Waltrip Band rehearses Monday-Friday during band class. After-school practice is Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 4pm-6pm. **Attendance is required.**
- Generally, there will not be rehearsals on Wednesdays. You should use this day for all doctor's appointments, tutorials or other activities that may interfere with band. Some rehearsals may be rescheduled for Wednesdays due to inclement weather, Thursday night games, holidays, etc.
- Football game performances are usually on Fridays or Saturdays and some Thursdays. **On game day, you will report to the Band Hall at 5:00 PM unless directed otherwise by the Directors.**
- The Waltrip Band performs at Varsity Football games, parades, competitions and other special events. **Attendance is required.**
- If you have a job and/or other activity outside Waltrip High School, you are required to notify your employer and/or activity leader about rehearsals and performances and make arrangements to attend.
- Before missing or being late for a rehearsal or performance, you must provide the Band Director with a written excuse signed by your parent/guardian. As a general rule, an acceptable excuse is any excuse which is in accordance with H.I.S.D. attendance policies.
- Upon entering the Band Hall, you are to remain in the Band Hall. Get your music, music stand, your instrument, and/or your equipment. Immediately sit down in your seat and prepare yourself for rehearsal by beginning to practice your instrument, and/or practice your equipment. Be certain to have paper, pen and a sharpened pencil at all times.
- You are responsible for **carrying and playing** only your assigned instrument.

- **Keep** the Band Hall **neat and clean** at all times. Save all trash at your seat. Throw it away as you leave the Band Hall.
- Food, drinks, candy, combs, brushes, lotion, hair spray, nail polish, mirrors, and makeup are to be consumed and/or **used outside** the Band Hall.
- **Horseplay** (hitting, wrestling, running, chasing, etc.) is to be enjoyed away from the Band Hall and away from band functions, and at times other than when the Waltrip Band is traveling.
- When you hear the sound of a whistle, you will immediately stop moving, and you will get quiet instantly. Listen quietly, politely, and intently for instruction. In addition to the Band Director, his Assistant(s), and Chaperones, your Drum Majors are your leaders. Follow their instruction.
- Profane, derogatory, and/or abusive words in any language, whether directed toward anyone or not, will not be tolerated.
- When the Band Director or his designee is on the podium, you are to remain quiet. You will remain seated, and give your undivided attention and complete cooperation.
- You will always show respect to the Band Director, his Assistant(s), Parents, Chaperones, other students, yourself and to the Faculty and Staff of Waltrip High School.
- Sit in your chair properly without rocking it or tilting it in any direction.
- Remain silent during rehearsals.
- Raise your hand for permission to speak or leave.
- Listen to, and mark with your pencil, all instructions given concerning musical interpretation.
- Put your name on your instrument case, your music folder and your music.
- Practice your instrument daily. Take your instrument home on the weekends.
- **MAINTAIN PASSING GRADES IN ALL CLASSES.**
- Everything you do and/or say that involves and/or concerns the Waltrip Band, will be done and said with pride.
- Woodwind players must provide their own mouthpieces, reeds, reed guards, neck straps, swabs, grease, lyres and flip folders.
- Brass players must provide their own mouthpieces, oil, grease, lyres and flip folders.
- Percussionists must provide their own sticks and mallets. They will be financially responsible for replacing drum heads that breaks on their assigned instrument.
- You will be issued a Band Uniform valued at \$400.00. The uniform consists of:
 - Coat/Overlay
 - Pants
 - Cape
 - Hat
- **You are to wear your Waltrip Band shirt, band shorts, black socks and Band shoes while wearing the uniform. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**
- No physical display of affection while in uniform.

RAM BAND GRADING POLICY

Students will be graded on the following scale:

1. Marching Band Season Grading Policy

- 50% Daily rehearsal attendance and participation.
- 35% Performances/Tests/Master Classes
- 15% Daily instrument/music/drill charts/Uniform/Supplies

Grading Policy for Football Game Performances

- Performance = 100pts
- Late for run-through or bus = -20pts
- Food/drink other than water in stands = -30pts
- Incorrect uniform = -30pts (this includes correct shirt, black socks, etc.)
- No Black socks = no performance at halftime
- No halftime performance = -50pts
- Moving or talking while at attention = -10pts for each offense
- Insubordination of directors, drum majors, section leaders, chaperones = -50pts
- Missing stand music = -30pts
- Not playing on stand music = -10pts each offense
- Moving from spot in stands without permission = -10pts
- You must get permission to use the restrooms from the drum majors or directors.
- Uniform, instrument, hat box and music are the only items allowed in the stands.
- Students must ride home from the games with the band. Only under special circumstances may students ride home with/only their parents. Arrangements must be made prior to the game or performance with the band directors.
- **NO** student will be released to anyone other than their parents without prior special approval from the band directors before the game.
- Missing a performance will result in a **FAILING GRADE** for that performance and will start the process of removal from the band program, i.e. probation, etc.

2. Concert Band Grading Policy

- 50% Performances/Tests
- 35% Rehearsals, Master Classes
- 15% Daily instrument, music and supplies

RAM BAND FEES

The fees listed below are for each Waltrip HS Ram Band Member to be responsible for in order to perform and participate with the band program. The initial band fee helps our band to establish a working fund for insurance against theft, repair, daily maintenance, etc. The General Band Fee of \$50 is due by September 11, 2009. The remaining fees are due no later than October 2, 2009. If there are any concerns about payment, arrangements can be made with the Director of Bands, Mr. Stephens.

- General Band Fee \$50
- Uniform rental/cleaning fee \$25
- Band Polo Shirt \$40
- Band Shoes \$35
- Contest T-Shirt \$10
- Band Shorts \$15
- White Uniform Gloves \$5
- Instrument Fee
 - School-owned \$35
 - Percussion \$45
- Marching Show Fee \$20
- Instructor Fee**
 - Wind Players \$30
 - Percussion \$45
 - Colorguard \$60

**All students in band pay clinician/instructor fees. Percussion students and color guard student pay higher fees as they are provided with additional specialized instruction. Band (instrumental) students pay \$30.00, percussion students \$45.00, and Colorguard students \$60.00. These fees help offset the total amount needed to utilize such instruction as these individuals are not paid for by the school district. If you have any questions or need further clarification on these fees, please contact Mr. Stephens or Mr. Espinosa directly.

****Please make all checks or money orders payable to****

Waltrip High School Band

NOTE: All students must provide their own black socks to go along with the performance uniform. Students may also purchase their own flip-folder to hold their marching band music. In addition, the student will be allowed to perform with the Waltrip Band as long as the general band fee of \$50 has been paid and/or when arrangements to pay have been made with the Band Director, Mr. Stephens.

COLORGUARD FEES

The following list is a breakdown of fees associated with the Waltrip HS **RAM BAND** Colorguard. If your child has already paid for anything that is on this list, subtract that amount from the total fee.

- General Band Fee - **\$25**
- Uniform Fee – **\$100**
- Band Polo Shirt – **\$40**
- Band Contest T-Shirt - **\$10**
- Band Shorts - **\$15**
- **Pep Rally Uniform - \$30**
- Marching Show Fee - **\$20**
- Equipment Fee - **\$40**
- Guard Shoes - **\$35**
- Guard Duffle Bag - **\$25**
- Clinician/Instructor Fee** - **\$60**

Total = **\$400**

The fees should be paid according to the following dates. Financial need is never the reason to not participate and every student who desires to participate will be accommodated. If you need additional time to pay fees or if assistance is needed in paying fees please contact Mr. Stephens or Mr. Espinosa.

- First Payment Due, August 7, 2009 - **\$75**
- Second Payment Due, September 18, 2009 - **\$100**
- Third Payment Due, October 9, 2009 - **\$100**
- Final Payment/Balance Due, October 30, 2009 - **\$125**

****Please make all checks or money orders payable to****

Waltrip High School Band

STUDENT EXPENSES

Each student shares equally in the responsibility of procuring money for the operational budget.

Each student shares equally in the responsibility of procuring money for travel. The dollar amount varies each year depending on travel demands (hotels, bus, air-fare, food, etc.).

If a student is a Drum Major or Color Guard Member, he/she will have extra equipment and instructional costs. Summer camps, mandatory for Officers, are extra expenses.

STUDENTS AND PARENTS RAISE FUNDS BY:

- Participating in sales projects. FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO ALL STUDENTS.
- Participating in non-sales projects.
- Student/Parent out of pocket money.
- Combination of any or all of the above.

REFUND AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS

1. No project funds will be refunded.
2. Any student who is removed or withdraws from the Band Program (Band or Color Guard) will forfeit any and all deposited funds.
3. It is expected that each student fulfill his/her requirement of operational and travel funds.

REQUIRED EXPENSES

OPERATIONAL

Each student shares equally in the responsibility of procuring the money for the operational budget of the organization. The operational budget includes the purchasing of music, service of office equipment, and other necessary items required for the continued operations of the organization. The operational budget for the Waltrip Ram Band and Color Guard is generally between \$50,000 - \$70,000.

MARCHING SEASON

The rental fee for marching uniforms and concert uniforms is \$25.00. DRY CLEANING FOR THE UNIFORM NEEDS TO BE TAKEN CARE OF BY THE INDIVIDUAL. The initial cleaning is taken care by the band. Marching hats must be maintained by the student. All lost or damaged equipment will be replaced or repaired by the student at the discretion of the Director. The Band shirts are not included in the rental fee. Black marching shoes and black socks are required. Shoe cost is \$35 and must be ordered through the Ram Band.

CONCERT SEASON

Each student will receive a Concert Band Uniform. Everyone is to wear black socks and shoes. (This also includes Color Guard members.)

COLOR GUARD

Expenses for the Color Guard are pro-rated among all members. A \$40 equipment fee will provide for practice equipment and supplies. Required items will be designated by the Colorguard instructor or Band Directors. Summer Camp is encouraged and cost is determined by the chosen camp.

DRUM LINE

Expenses for the Drum Line are pro-rated among all members. A \$45 percussion fee will provide for practice equipment and supplies. Each member is required to supply his/her own mallets, sticks and stick bag as designated by the Director. Summer Camp is encouraged and cost is determined by the chosen camp.

INSTRUMENT RENTALS

The rental fee for instruments provided by the school is \$35 per wind instrument per year and \$45 per percussion instrument per year. The student/parent is responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the equipment during the school year.

INSTRUMENTS PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL ARE INSURED BY THE DISTRICT WHEN IN USE BY A STUDENT ON CAMPUS OR AT A SCHOOL SPONSORED ACTIVITY.

It is recommended that families who use instruments provided by the school either purchase instrument insurance or attach the instrument's serial number to your homeowner's policy. The student/parent is responsible for any deductible fees on insurance claims. This will protect any liability that the student and family may have in case of loss or damage of the equipment. Please contact the Directors immediately for replacement value of your student's instrument. This would be a wise step for everyone who owns his/her instrument.

EQUIPMENT

A quality program requires quality musical instruments. By the time a student is a sophomore at Waltrip, he/she will be expected to be using what is considered a semi-professional or a professional quality instrument. In most cases, these instruments will have been purchased during the eighth or ninth grade years.

A list of acceptable instruments is available in the Band Office. If a purchase is needed, the staff will be most happy to consult with the student and his/her parents in order to avoid an inappropriate purchase and to assist in obtaining the best possible price for the instrument.

OPTIONAL EXPENSES

Performance tapes and CD'S are also available for purchase. Contact the Directors for information regarding these items.

**HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT/S. P. Waltrip High School
2009-2010 Waltrip Band Parent Approval Form**

This is to certify that we the Parents/Guardians of _____
(Print Name of Student)

give our permission for our son/daughter to participate in scheduled Waltrip Band activities. I hereby release the Houston Independent School District, S. P. Waltrip High School, the Ram Band, Band Director(s) and Chaperone(s) from any and all liability, and from any and all claims against school authorities, individually and/or collectively, for any illnesses and/or injuries to my child which may occur during a Waltrip Band event, either at the point of origin, at the destination, while moving to and/or from the destination, or while being transported to and/or from the point of origin. I understand that the information regarding Waltrip Band events will be provided to me through my child and/or by written notice.

EMERGENCY AND MEDICAL INFORMATION
(Please Print)

_____/_____/_____/_____/_____
Mom's Name Home Phone Work Phone Cellular Email

_____/_____/_____/_____/_____
Dad's Name Home Phone Work Phone Cellular Email

(Emergency Contact & Relationship: Name/Phone # (If Parents cannot be reached))

Student ALLERGIES: _____

Student Medications:

Insurance Information

_____/_____/_____
Insurance Co/Carrier Effective Date Phone Number

_____/_____/_____
Employee(EE) & Relationship to Student (EE) SS# (EE) DOB

_____/_____/_____
Employer Policy Number Group Number

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DIRECTOR NEEDS TO BE AWARE OF:

- ATTACH COPY OF FRONT/BACK OF INSURANCE CARD.
- HAVE THIS FORM NOTARIZED.

_____/_____
Signature of Parents/Guardians DATE

WALTRIP INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT
(713) 688-1361 Ext. 310

I/We understand that in order to participate in the proposed band trip to Atlanta, GA in the Spring of 2010, that I/we will have to abide by the following guidelines:

1. I will have all fees (uniform, instrument, shoes, gloves, shirt, and band fees) paid by October 2, 2009. I understand that I **will not** receive any of the items listed above until the fees are paid in full. I also understand that I **cannot participate** with the band until the fees are paid.
2. I will participate in the Back to School Dance, which means selling my allotted tickets and attending the function.
3. I will participate fully in the Annual Fall & Spring Band Dinner, which means selling enough of my meal tickets and/or door prize tickets to equal at least \$50.00, and attending the function. I understand that I will receive financial credit toward my trip **only** after the allotted amount is sold.
4. I will participate in all Band Inventory Fund-raiser and at least two Band Car Washes.
5. **I must maintain state eligibility in accordance with House Bill 72, and have a good and creditable record with band standards and guidelines. In light of not being eligible to go on the Annual Spring Band Trip, there will be no refund of monies, only if pro-rated applies.**
6. I will participate in the Band Candy Sale (Fall/Spring Semester) by selling my allotted amount, which means at least \$52.00 worth of candy.
7. **I must participate** in the HISD All-City Band Auditions, plus one other contest, such as U.I.L. Solo & Ensemble, Region Jazz Auditions, Region Band Auditions, or All-City Jazz Auditions.
8. I will participate when asked to provide drinks, and dessert for the dance, Band Dinners and Contest Concessions.

The following payment schedule has been set up for the spring trip. Each student has the opportunity to earn credit toward payment by his participation in the various band activities outlined above. Credit can be earned in the following ways:

1. Members will receive 50% of all ticket sales exceeding \$50 for the Barbecue Dinner.
2. Members will receive 100% of all money from ad sales for the Ram Notes after the initial \$100 is sold.
3. Members can earn extra monies from car washes and inventories, but the exact % will be set up at a later date.
4. Other fundraisers are designated at that time.

The money earned during the general car washes and the candy sale will be used for general purposes, benefiting the entire band. An **estimated cost of the Atlanta, GA trip, \$700**, has been projected as of June 2009, and is subject to minor change. Each Band Member will contribute to the complete trip cost. This will be done through individual fundraiser credit and personal funds.

Five (5) Trip payments of \$140 are due on the following dates:

- **SEP 18** **\$140**
- **OCT 16** **\$140**
- **NOV 17** **\$140**
- **DEC 17** **\$140**
- **JAN 15** **\$140**

All monies credited towards the trip should be turned in by the January 15, 2010 deadline.

I understand that if a shortfall occurs I will be asked to pay the additional amount before leaving on the trip. NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN. I further understand that if I do not completely fulfill this contract,

I am giving up the right to run for any Band Officer Position for the upcoming school year.

BAND POLICY AGREEMENT

Waltrip H. S. Ram Band

STATEMENT OF BAND POLICY

In order to help band members and parents understand their area of responsibility, a statement of Band Policy is herein set forth. Becoming familiar with this policy will help each band member make the most of this fine opportunity to become a better person through this association with music.

1. The Instrumental Music Department firmly believes that the student should improve through daily progress.
2. The Instrumental Music Program feels that when the student has lost the will to improve himself/herself in order to make a better contribution to his/her fellow man, he/she is perhaps wasting the time of the school, his/her fellow students, and the community by continuing in this program.
3. The Instrumental Music Department is firmly convinced that the happiest child is one that is improving through regular habits of practice and daily progress. He/She must not only know **Right** from **Wrong**, but must be able to stand for his/her principles. He/She must develop a high sense of purpose toward which he is willing to work.
4. The Instrumental Music Department intends to conduct the program in a manner that will encourage all students to achieve these goals.

THE BAND MEMBER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM:

1. Be regular in attendance and be able to account for all absences.
2. Become responsible for and expect to assume the consequences of his/her actions.
3. Have the proper respect for others in authority.
4. Follow all classroom rules, school regulations, and all travel instructions issued for trips.
5. Be honest and fair with others concerning equipment, music, and school life in general.
6. Read and play music with insight and expression.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT:

1. Plan each day's assignment and encourage daily progress of the entire band.
2. Provide the band with full musical education through rehearsal, performance, teaching, testing and listening.
3. Place any uncooperative members on probationary accordingly.
4. Suspend any uncooperative members from band programs accordingly.
5. Dismiss any member that is not adding to the band program due to **poor attitude** and/or **lack of improvement**.
6. Supervise the students in class or on school-sponsored band trips.
7. Grade the progress of each student on his instrument and his music education.

THE IMPORTANCE OF DISCIPLINE

Because the nature of this organization, band discipline must, of necessity, be **strict**. Band students and parents must be willing to accept the ideals, principles and rules of the organization. Because band members are constantly on display, each must always be aware of the importance of good behavior. The student should remember that he represents his/her organization, school and community wherever he/she performs or appears publicly. Any misconduct casts a direct reflection on our school and community and may very well undo the good work of hundreds of loyal students.

BY-LAWS AGREEMENT

THE **BY-LAWS** FOR THE WALTRIP HIGH SCHOOL BAND WILL BE THE SAME AS THOSE STATED IN THE **OFFICIAL HANDBOOK FOR H.I.S.D. (CODE OF CONDUCT)**. **HOWEVER**, PERFORMING ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS BAND, MUST HAVE ITS OWN **SPECIFIC CONCERNS**:

ZERO TOLERANCE **IN** **ALCOHOL, TOBACCO,** **DRUGS AND POSSESSION OF FIRE ARMS!**

ALCOHOL: A student shall not use or have possession of a beverage containing alcohol during the school year or during the season of rehearsal, regardless of the quantity. Any student violating this rule shall be suspended from participation in all forthcoming school and public musical performances for eighteen (18) school weeks from the time of the infraction for the first violation and shall be declared ineligible for any musical awards for the school year. A second violation will be cause for dismissal from all musical organizations. The student will be reprogrammed accordingly.

TOBACCO: A student shall not use tobacco during the school year or during participation in any music activity. Any student who violates this rule shall be suspended from participation in all forthcoming school and public musical performances for six (6) school weeks from the time of the infraction for the first violation and shall be declared ineligible for any musical awards for the school year. A second violation will be cause for dismissal from all musical organizations. The student will be reprogrammed accordingly.

DRUGS: A student shall not consume, have in possession, but, sell or give away any drug defined by the law as a drug. Any student who violates this rule shall be suspended from participation in all forthcoming school and public musical performances for one (1) calendar year from the time of infraction and will be ineligible for any musical awards for the school year. The student will be reprogrammed accordingly.

POSSESSION OF FIRE ARM: A student shall not have in possession, give, or be in direct contact or involvement with a classified fire arm set aside by the H.I.S.D. **Zero Tolerance Policy**. Any student who violates this rule shall be suspended from participation in all forthcoming school and public musical performances for one (1) calendar year from the time of infraction and will be ineligible for any musical awards for the school year. The student will be reprogrammed accordingly.

REPORTED VIOLATIONS: **The word of a reliable adult or student witness who saw the violation** will be used when reported to the Music Directors or Administrators. If a violation of the rules is reported, a conference will be held with the following in attendance: The student allegedly violating a rule, the student's parents or guardians, the Music Director of the organization of which the student is a member and the person who reported the violation. These people shall discuss the infraction and all penalties to be administered.

NO PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTIONS.

***** CONTRACT *****

I have read and reviewed this Waltrip Band Document, **Band Policy and By-Laws**, which basically governs the band. **I agree to adhere to these by signing my name along with a parent/guardian signature ON THE BAND HANDBOOK CONTRACT PAGE.**

WALTRIP HIGH SCHOOL RAM BAND
BAND HANDBOOK CONTRACT

We, the Student and Parent/Guardian(s) of _____

(Print Student Name)

have read and understand the Waltrip High School 2009 - 2010 Band Handbook. This includes:

- Band Fees. **Checks payable to Waltrip High School Band.**
- My signature below indicates that I have read and understand the contract regarding participation in the proposed band trip to Atlanta, GA in the Spring of 2010.
- I will allow my child to sell tickets for various fund-raisers. My child **and** I agree to abide by the responsibilities of such.
- I have read and reviewed Waltrip Band Policy and By-Laws, which basically governs the band. I agree to adhere to these.
- **ABSOLUTELY ZERO TOLERANCE IN ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, DRUGS, POSSESSION OF FIRE ARMS AND PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION.**
- We will **direct any questions**, comments or concerns to the Band Directors, **Mr. Charles Stephens or Mr. Jesse Espinosa**, at (713) 688-1361 Ext 310.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT I HAVE STUDIED THE ENTIRE HANDBOOK AND UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS:

SIGNED: _____ **Date:** _____

Waltrip Ram Band Member

I HAVE READ THE PAGES OF THIS HANDBOOK AND UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS AND HOW THEY APPLY TO MY SON/DAUGHTER:

SIGNED: _____ **Date:** _____

Waltrip Ram Band Parent/Guardian