



# S.P. WALTRIP HIGH SCHOOL

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

1900 W. 34th Street Houston, TX 77018

(713) 688-1361 ext. 015236

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Band Students and Parents:

WELCOME to one of the most exciting experiences in which you can be a part – THE BAND! Now, more than ever, we have information to justify why we do this demanding, yet rewarding activity. Experts have concluded that the study of music helps with spatial reasoning, test taking, and overall quality of life! Factor in social skills, emotional development, leadership training, group interaction, aesthetic perception, music making, and the discipline of being in a band program, and I don't know why anyone would not want to be involved in a successful band program like the one here at Waltrip High School! The ultimate goal is a lifelong understanding and appreciation for quality music and music making!

EVERYONE SHOULD READ THE INFORMATION IN THE HANDBOOK, even veterans. Some of the information has changed, so make sure you're informed. For new folks, this is the "band bible" that keeps us running smoothly and efficiently. Most questions can be answered by consulting THE HANDBOOK and policies will be adjusted from year to year as the need arises to clarify issues within the program. It is my hope the contents of this handbook will be both INFORMATIONAL and INSPIRATIONAL! The advocacy articles, "What Is A Band Parent," and "How Parents Can Help," are both designed to give guidance to parents; read them carefully and with insight! Students need to know that we think that what they do is important. You will quickly find that band is truly a FAMILY in and of itself.

The 2020-2021 school year was full of successes by our students while overcoming much adversity during a global pandemic. In all areas of the program, we saw growth and indications that things are only going to continue to prosper. As of this writing, we are looking ahead to some wonderful opportunities for the coming year while recovering from last year's obstacles. We plan to work safely with the best interest of all students and staff.

- 2021 "Street Pop" Marching Show
- Jazz Ensemble I – Special Invitation to the JEN Conference in Dallas, TX
- 2021 Tomball Holiday Parade
- 2021 Downtown Houston Thanksgiving Day Parade
- 2022 Rodeo Parade/Galveston Mardi Gras Grand Night Parade
- 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Jazz @ 1900 – Waltrip Jazz Festival (featuring special guest artist, Jon Faddis)
- Waltrip Concert Band Festival
- Annual Spring Band Trip 2022 to Colorado Springs, CO (pending district approval)

I am excited about the student leadership team we have in place continuing the great tradition started many years ago by our Director Emeritus, Mr. Charlie Stephens. Our seniors are ready to leave their legacy for the future student band members and of course, we are all eager to get started with the 2021-2022 school year. In addition, we welcome back assistant band director, Mr. Daniel Ferreira, and welcome new assistant director, Mr. James Elam. We are excited about our Ram Band family!

This handbook is designed to answer any questions you might have concerning the program. Please read all of the information and sign the perforated form in the back of the book. I am honored to be your band director and am looking forward to an outstanding year!!

Sincerely,

Jesse D. Espinosa  
Director of Bands

*“If Better Is Possible, Then Good Is Not Enough!”*

## STUDENT HANDBOOK

2021 – 2022

### A STATEMENT OF POLICY

In order to assist band members and parents in understanding areas of responsibility, a statement of band policy is herein set forth. Becoming familiar with this policy will enable each individual to make the most of this great opportunity to be a member of the Waltrip High School band program, becoming a better person and a better musician.

We firmly believe that the student should improve through regular practice. In the Waltrip High School band program, we feel that when the student has lost the will to improve him / herself or make a better contribution to the band, he or she is wasting the time and efforts of his / her fellow members and the community by continuing in this program. The HAPPIEST student is the one who 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 principles. He / she must develop a high sense of purpose toward which he / she is willing to work. RESPONSIBILITY is the focus behind any level of achievement within this program. We intend to conduct ourselves in a manner that will facilitate all students in learning and bettering themselves.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE BAND PROGRAM

- To teach music by its actual performance
- To develop performance skills of the various wind and percussion instruments
- To provide for the musical needs of the school and the community
- To develop awareness of diversity, inclusion, and equity with the regards to the selection of music
- To acquaint the students with Music Theory / History and how history and musical composition relate to students' current life and musical experiences
- To provide all students with the opportunity for worthy use of their time, a means for self-expression, and a healthy social experience
- To develop the ability to function as a responsible member of a group, enhance interaction, and develop Esprit de Corps
- To foster leadership skills within each student

### OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

- Organizational information, descriptions and schedules are covered in this handbook. Please read these and discuss with your child.
- There is a Handbook Contract form that should be returned signed, as indicated, by the student and parent/guardian. It should be returned as soon as possible please.
- ***Due to marching band competitions, we are suggesting/requesting band members to take the ACT and SAT Tests in months other than October.***
- If you have any questions regarding the band program, call or email Mr. Espinosa, Mr. Ferreira or Mr. Elam for information or clarification at (713) 688-1361 Ext. 015236.
- Mr. Espinosa's email address: [jespinos@houstonisd.org](mailto:jespinos@houstonisd.org)
- Ram Band Website: <http://www.waltripramband.org>
- Band is available to ALL students that attend Waltrip High School...NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED.

*“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 of the United States.*

## **WHY MUSIC? WHY BAND?** (excerpt from Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser)

(FROM THE NON-MUSICIAN POINT OF VIEW) Who should study music? Who should be in band?

Music is a place for everyone. Our traditional music programs have inadvertently promoted a false concept of “music is for the musically talented students.” This elitist view has found its way to more people than we might expect. The study of music actually breaks down societal barriers from race to socioeconomic strata. Music often “reaches” the students who are struggling with their other academic studies. Advanced brain research continues to verify and confirm all brains are “wired for music.” Eric Jensen, research author on brain-based learning, writes,

“Music is part of our biological heritage and is hard-wired into our genes as a survival strategy.” (Jensen, E. 2001, *Arts with the Brain in Mind*, p.15.)

Do parents, administrators, community leaders, and teachers of other disciplines understand (even know) this information? Are we (as music educators) sharing this extraordinary news with our educational partners? Music is NOT for the “chosen few,” but music is for all those who want to pursue this exciting pathway of learning, and shouldn't that be everyone?

Why the study of music if my child isn't going to be a musician?

So many parents (at the point of registering a student for beginning band) do not understand the extended value of learning music. There's far more to this than investing in an instrument, scheduling lessons, driving to-and-from rehearsals, and/or attending concerts. The discipline of music making is transferable to every learning situation in and outside the academic community. We have pointed to music students as “the smartest and most responsible students in the school.” We now understand it is really the study of music that puts them in this favorable posture alongside their non-musical counterparts. We must be cautious not to suggest “music makes you smarter,” but we certainly can point to the overall accomplishments of the students of music and find a similar high level of achievement in both academic and non-academic arenas; this is NOT an accident or a coincidence. Arguably no other discipline in school can better prepare the mind and spirit for the challenges of, medical study, law school, classes in engineering, education/teaching, business college, etc. Ultimately, don't we want MUSIC to be a part of every person's life? From singing in the church choir to playing in the community band, music should not be relegated to the school environment, but music becomes our trusted friend-of-expression forever.

Framing the message for the welfare of the child.

What is the most important priority for all parents? THE FUTURE HAPPINESS OF THEIR CHILD! Mothers and fathers around the world dedicate their lives to creating an even better life for their children. In a highly competitive society they want to see their sons and daughters have every possible advantage in their educational climate, their chosen profession, and their selected community-of-living where, once again, the cycle will repeat itself with-and-for the next generation. The complexity of society's evolutionary standards (some favorable, some not) puts responsible parents “on alert” 24/7. What is the best use of their child's time and energy, both in the classroom and outside the classroom? Might I suggest the study of music is a cultural imperative fulfilling all the wants, needs, and wishes of every caring-sharing parent.

Instead of being overly cautious about emphasizing the “off the podium” benefits of music learning and music making, we might consider SHOUTING this news to every accountable parent, and to every administrator who seeks a better school environment, and to every student who wants to enjoy a life of happiness and success. This is not to replace or overshadow “music for the sake of music,” but to reach out to all students so they can avail themselves to the rewards of MUSIC. We know we have the most convincing recruitment information available to bring them to our rehearsal rooms: MUSIC CREATES SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE. The “learned outcome” of music study is a certain success blueprint. What parent could say NO once he/she understands the immeasurable value of music study?

WHY MUSIC? WHY BAND? It might be more appropriate to ask: WHY NOT MUSIC? WHY NOT BAND? It is evident music education should be experienced by every student. We, as a culture, will be best served if the hearts and minds of our youth are filled with the knowledge and the understanding of MUSIC. The time has come, the time is now: **STRIKE UP THE BAND! MUSIC MAKES THE DIFFERENCE!!**

**GENERAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

(See [www.waltriprband.org](http://www.waltriprband.org) for specific dates/times)

- July / Aug: TBA/Leadership  
Camp and RAM Rally  
School starts / football begins
- September: Football season  
Back to School Dance  
Region Jazz Auditions
- October: Football games  
Competition Season  
**UIL Marching Contest**
- November: NovemberFEST Fundraiser  
Parades  
All-City Auditions
- December: Winter Concert  
Region Band Auditions
- January: Area Auditions  
All-City Clinic/Concert  
All-Region Clinic/Concert
- February: TMEA Convention  
**UIL Solo/Ensemble**  
Jazz Festival Season Begins
- March: Spring Break  
WHS Concert Band Festival  
Band Fish Fry
- April: **UIL C/SR Contest**  
Spring Concert/Jazz Festival  
Honor Band Taping
- May: Leadership Auditions  
Band Banquet  
Graduation
- June: Graduation & Annual Band Trip  
Mini-Camp & Leadership Camp

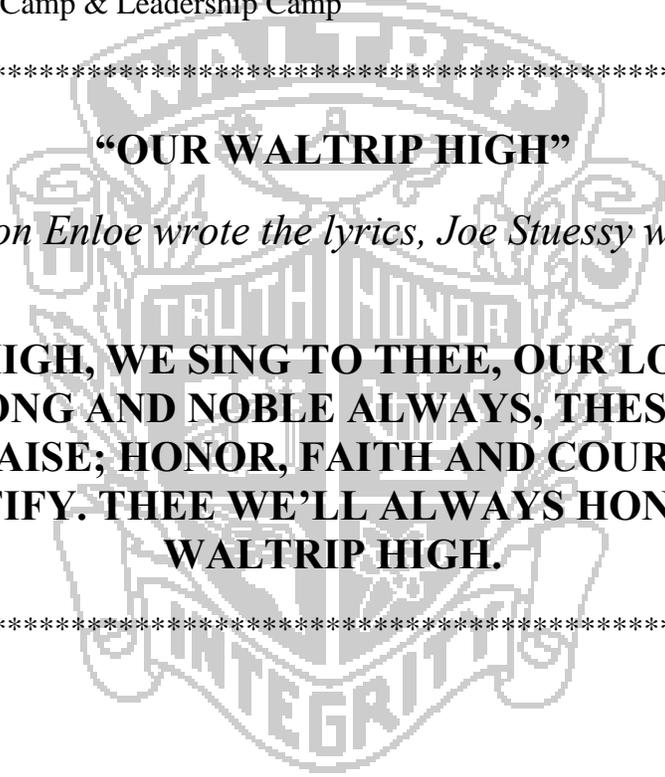
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**“OUR WALTRIP HIGH”**

*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.**

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## **BAND CURRICULUM IN BRIEF**

### Wind Ensemble

The Wind Ensemble is the primary performing organization in the instrumental music department during the winter and spring. Membership is by audition and/or placement at the discretion of the band director. The Wind Ensemble will be comprised of students with the performing ability necessary to play up to Grade V literature or higher. Wind Ensemble must audition for All-Region and All-City Band.

### Concert/Symphonic Band

The Concert/Symphonic Band is comprised of students with the performing ability necessary to perform Grade I/II/III music. Membership is by audition only and/or placement at the discretion of the band director. Auditioning for All-City is highly recommended. All-Region auditions are optional.

### Marching Band

Membership in the marching band requires strenuous physical exercise and the ability to play the difficult literature encountered in the activity. All students enrolled in the band program are required to march, which includes students who are eligible to audition for the color guard. The marching band performs mostly in the fall with parades and special performances scheduled throughout the school year.

### Jazz Band/Big Horns

Students may elect to audition for Jazz band. The premier group in the jazz program is Jazz Ensemble #1. This group is comprised of students auditioned by the band director. The other jazz groups are strictly on a volunteer-basis and rehearse only after school. The jazz band plays for community events and performs throughout the year. Big Horns is a newly formed group with members appointed by the band director.

### Colorguard

Students who are interested in dance, choreography, and movement may choose to audition for our marching auxiliary unit. The Guard is an extension of the band program and requires all members to learn a musical instrument. Auditions are usually held in early August and in May.

### Leadership Camp

The leadership camp prepares students to become effective leaders within the band program and beyond. This camp is usually held during the month of June either here on campus or at a nearby university campus. This camp is required of all students that gain a leadership position in the band.

### Private Lessons

As one might expect, private lessons on a musical instrument are the best way to improve performance skills. The one-on-one approach allows the student to benefit from the individual attention as opposed to a teacher monitoring a class of over fifty. A recent survey of students in the All-State Band revealed that approximately 80 % of the students in the band studied privately. Students are generally more inclined to practice diligently for a weekly music assignment and this discipline increases the student's enjoyment with their instrument. The Waltrip High School Band Director will be more than happy to assist in the selection of a private teacher.

### All-State, Area, Region, All-City Band, UIL Solo & Ensemble

Members of the band program are eligible to audition for the Texas All-State and (Region or District) Bands. Regional auditions are held in December with Area auditions held later in January. The Region Band clinic is held in *Katy ISD* and the All-State Clinic at TMEA in San Antonio, TX. The All-City Band auditions are held in November at Heights HS. The All-City Band clinic is held at Waltrip HS in January. UIL S&E is usually held in February. A solo or ensemble performance is required for all band members.

## MERIT SYSTEM

After School Practice (personal or scheduled)	2 points
Private Lessons	2 points per lesson
Region Band Audition	3 points
All-State Audition	4 points
Region Band Member	5 points
All-State Member	6 points
Solo and Ensemble	2 points per event
Leadership Workshop	2 points
Jazz Band	2 points per rehearsal
Outside Clinics	2 points
All-City Band	2 points per rehearsal

## DEMERITS

Excessive Talking	10 points
Unexcused Missed Rehearsal	20 points
Tardiness	2 points per ten minutes
Missing Materials / No Instrument	10 points
Missed Performance	40 points

\*The Merit/Demerit system will be used in conjunction with grades issued for each six weeks. It is very important for all band students to participate daily.

## MAKE – UP FOR UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Students will make-up unexcused absences by doing one hour of supervised practice per absence to be scheduled with the band director.

## TARDIES TO MARCHING BAND

Students will serve the amount of time of their tardiness at the conclusion of rehearsal.

## SITTING THIRD QUARTER

During marching season, students will sit during third quarter of football games for the following reasons:

- Failure to Pass-off Music by the allotted deadline
- More than one Unexcused Rehearsal or Tardy per week
- Any Infraction of Disrespect

THE DIRECTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INTERPRETATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE MERIT AND DEMERIT SYSTEM AND MAY HOLD A STUDENT OUT OF A PERFORMANCE.

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

THE ONLY EXCUSABLE ABSENCES ARE PRE-ARRANGED\* SCHOOL CONFLICTS AND THOSE THAT WOULD BE EXCUSED BY THE SCHOOL FOR REGULAR ATTENDANCE RECORDS, I.E. ILLNESS, DEATH IN THE FAMILY, RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY.

\*Individual needs will be addressed as they occur. This system is subject to modification by the director.

NO SHOWS!            The student will have 40 demerits and a lowering of one letter grade on his / her report card.

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

- Director must be notified in advance via email or Band App message.
- An absentee request form must be filled out and on file. (band website)
- For illness, a parent note or doctor's excuse must be submitted.
- Although cleared by the school office, absences from a band activity that same day must be cleared with the director as well – please use the Band App.
- In extreme cases, a phone or text message may be left on the band director's cell phone, with a follow-up personal call or email (preferred). Mr. Espinosa's cell number is 281-788-3032.
- Follow-up is the sole responsibility of the student!

The mere filing of an absentee request form does not constitute whether an absence is excused. Please communicate directly with a band director. The above policy is cut and dry in regards to what is excused.

### CONFLICTS WITH BAND

Conflicts between band and other activities or events are the responsibility of the student. Rehearsal and performance schedules are given out in advance (via website) so that arrangements can be made. Students should not become involved with activities that may directly conflict with band activities. When outside activities create hardships concerning band, unless it is a rare and unusual situation that may only happen once, the student will need to consult with the director about alternatives that may be possible. Students should have access to our **calendar** online and be aware of all band dates well ahead of schedule. It is the policy of the band to assist students when conflicts occur within the scope of the band policy. Students are reminded that band is a very demanding activity and that involvement in outside activities should be limited to those that are compatible with the band schedule. All conflicts in regards to **performances** must be worked out in favor of the student's responsibility to band. Work is not an excuse for missing any band activity.

## GRADING POLICY

Grades are assigned for the band class and performances, which are co-curricular.

Class participation:	60%	This includes after school rehearsals which are on the schedule. Students must have their instruments every day, a pencil at every rehearsal, and show maximum effort to earn the best grade.
Auditions, Performances, Sectionals, Festival Attendance, Rubrics, Self-Assessments	40%	It is the student's responsibility to turn in all assignments, prepare for auditions, and make all scheduled events.

## DUTIES OF THE BAND MEMBER

- Be on time to all rehearsals and performances. EARLY IS ON TIME, ON TIME IS LATE, LATE IS UNACCEPTABLE.
- Upon entering the rehearsal setting, acquire your instrument and go directly to your seat.
- When the director or staff member steps on the podium or asks for your attention, all talking should cease.
- Come to rehearsal with a GOOD ATTITUDE.
- There is no excess playing (i.e. horsing around on the instrument); only good solid material.
- Make a real effort to improve on a daily basis and establish a good practice routine.
- At the end of rehearsal, put all materials in their proper place.
- Maintain a strong academic standing in all course work.
- Become responsible for and assume responsibility for your own actions. Admit when you are wrong.
- Have a proper respect for yourself and those in authority.
- Read and play music with insight – have musical expectations.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF ATTITUDE

The greatest single factor that will determine the success of any individual or organization is **attitude**. The kind of person that you are is an individual choice and how we feel about something, which involves attitude, is one of the few actual independent choices that we have in life. It takes intense dedication to reach goals. Students should learn to discipline themselves to daily practice on fundamentals. The “right attitude” must be present along with sincerity, concentration, and dedication as the basic foundation. Such an attitude makes an artistic performance inevitable and is the difference between a winning organization and a mediocre group. The band can do much for you. Make the most of it in every rehearsal and performance.

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF DISCIPLINE**

Because of the nature of the organization, band discipline must be strict! Band students and parents must believe in the ideals, principles, and philosophy of the organization. Each member must always be aware of good behavior and think for himself. Any misconduct casts a bad light on the school, community, and band program. Any member who casts discredit to the organization by his/her conduct or actions in band, in another class, or on a trip, shall be subject to dismissal from the band program or may lose a privilege within the program. This may include the chance to go on a spring trip. This decision will be at the director's discretion.

## **PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITY TO THE BAND**

It is the responsibility of every parent and guardian to see that the policies outlined in the HANDBOOK are followed and that the form at the end is signed and returned. This states that you UNDERSTAND the policies as set within, and that any questions are to be directed to the band director by making an appointment. Each parent IS responsible for the attendance of his/her child at all band functions. It is the responsibility of each parent to see that their child practices his / her instrument daily. The hands of the directors are tied without the help of parents.

## **HOW PARENTS CAN HELP**

When a "band question" arises, it is important that you get factual information before discussing it with others. We do more harm to ourselves, the band family, when we talk about things that contain one or more "falsehoods" but consider them facts. If questions arise, it is important to remember this axiom: If it is a performance issue or anything dealing with the band proper, contact Mr. Espinosa, Mr. Ferreira or Mr. Elam. If it is a fundraising question or anything dealing with parent issues, talk with the booster club president. Please realize the band needs all directors, students and parents to work together to be successful. Remember "it takes a village to raise a child".

- Show an interest in the music study of your child.
- Arrange a regular time for your child to practice.
- Find a quiet place where he/she can practice without interruption.
- Listen to performances of practice material, when asked to do so.
- Help the student keep a DAILY RECORD of practicing.
- Please arrange to pick up your student from rehearsals and performances in a timely manner.
- Keep the instrument in good repair and keep at least three reeds in the case; get a metronome!
- Be extra-careful with school-owned instruments. Repair costs are high!
- Teach your child to be prepared and on time to each rehearsal or lesson.
- Provide private instruction!
- Make faithful attendance at all band activities important.
- Buy your child a personal planner for marking important dates.
- Keep the Handbook bookmarked and refer to it often.
- Notify the teacher if the student is to be absent for rehearsals or lessons.
- Double-check behind the student to make sure that they have their instrument.
- If student is absent, make sure that their folder gets to school, if they share it with someone.
- Visit rehearsals occasionally.
- Attend booster meetings, concerts, games, and contests.
- Turn in fundraising money on time.

## **STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITY TO THE BAND**

As members of this organization, you have a great deal of responsibility. It is essential to any program that if certain expectations are to be met that they coordinate with the privileges, rewards, and duties of the band program.

### **TO OURSELVES**

YOU have the primary responsibility of developing your own abilities. The benefits of a good instrument and private instruction can never be underestimated. What you put into it is what you will get out of it. The director is ALWAYS available for your guidance and encouragement – just ask!

### **TO THE SCHOOL**

Waltrip High School provides us with some limited resources for rehearsals, performances, and equipment. The Band Booster Club also provides a support network, both financially and philosophically. WE have the responsibility to provide the best possible services to our community.

### **TO MUSIC**

Music has always been a part of our culture. We must take what we have and use it for the betterment of that culture. No one expects virtuoso musicians, only your very best! The great composer Gustav Mahler once said that only 10% of a piece of music is on the page. If that is the case, then we as musicians have the duty of creating and producing the other 90%. The joy of music is not in everything that is apparent. It must be discovered and created.

### **TO EACH OTHER**

We must always do what is best for the WELFARE of the group. There can be no selfish acts solely for the benefit of the individual, but for all. Respect each other. If there are conflicts, find a way to resolve them. Never insult another band member's integrity. The word "band" means that we are banded together and that there is no separation.

## **BAND PHILOSOPHY**

### **BE COACHABLE**

Each band student must keep an open-mind to learning. Allow yourself to be taught the many traditions, fundamentals and ideals our program has to offer. We want you to be the very best you can be. All of us must start as humble followers before we can lead.

### **THE BAND IS BIGGER THAN YOU**

Everyone associated with the band must understand the band's needs are much bigger than the individual. The band director leads this group with that very idea in mind at all times. No one person, student, or parent should try to undermine the group for their individual benefit. The Ram Band has a long tradition of excellence that has been around for a long time, so we must all believe that the band was good before us and will continue to be good when we are gone. Make the best of your time by giving your very best to continue this long winning tradition.

### **BE A SELF-STARTER**

Each band student should learn to take initiative. Don't always wait for someone to tell you what to do before you decide to do it. Your character as a person is determined by what you do not only when people are watching, but also more importantly when NO ONE is WATCHING.

## 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 3, 2021. The remaining fees are due no later than December 9, 2021. Payment options are available and listed on our band calendar. Please speak directly with the Director of Bands, Mr. Espinosa.

- General Band Fee: \$50
- Uniform Rental Fee: \$25
- Band Shirt: \$15 (Red spirit dri-fit style shirt)
- Band Shoes: \$40
- Contest T-Shirt: \$12 (Based on the marching show theme)
- Band Shorts (black mesh): You may buy these at any store. To be worn under the uniform.
- White Uniform Gloves: \$5
- Instrument Rental Fee (Any School-Owned and percussion instruments): \$50
- Marching Show Fee: \$40
- Instructor/Clinician Fee: \$50

**\*\*All students in band pay clinician/instructor fees. 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. 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. Espinosa.**

**COLORGUARD FEES** (If your child has any of the listed items from the previous year, please subtract that from the total fee amount.)

- General Band Fee: \$50
- Uniform Rental Fee: \$75
- Band Shirt: \$15 (Red Spirit dri-fit Shirt)
- Band Contest T-Shirt: \$12
- Band Shorts (black mesh): You may buy these at any store. To be worn under the uniform.
- Pep Rally Uniform: \$50
- Marching Show Fee: \$40
- Equipment Fee: \$35
- Guard Shoes: \$40
- Guard Duffle Bag: \$30
- Clinician/Instructor Fee: \$40
- TOTAL = \$387

**\*\*ALL BAND MEMBERS WILL NEED A PAIR OF BLUE JEANS, KHAKI PANTS and KHAKI SHORTS.\*\***

## **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 Leadership Team Members, are extra expenses.

A student should not have to work for band fees if they proactively participate in our band fundraisers. Money should not be a reason for a student to quit or drop band. Financial hardships can be worked through.

### **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 \$100,000 - \$150,000 per year.

### **MARCHING SEASON**

The rental fee for marching uniforms and concert uniforms is \$25.00. DRY CLEANING FOR THE UNIFORM IS TAKEN CARE OF BY THE SCHOOL. 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 LONG black socks are required. Shoe cost is \$40 and must be ordered through the Ram Band.

### **CONCERT SEASON**

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

## **COLOR GUARD**

Expenses for the Color Guard are pro-rated among all members. A \$35 equipment fee will provide for practice equipment and supplies. Required items will be designated by the Color guard instructor or Band Directors. Summer Camp is encouraged and cost is determined by the chosen camp. Extra cost may apply to participate in Winter Guard. Those costs will be determined by the color guard instructor and band director.

## **DRUM LINE**

Expenses for the Drum Line are pro-rated among all members. A \$50 instrument 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 \$50 per wind instrument/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 as well.

## **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. It is recommended you speak with a director before making a musical instrument purchase. We want to help you find the correct value of instrument for your money. There are many instruments found online that are not of good quality.

## **OPTIONAL EXPENSES**

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



## TEN RAM BAND COMMANDMENTS

- I. **Thou shall NOT show PDA in uniform.**
- II. **Thou shall respect thy uniform.**
- III. **Thou shall NOT utter profanity in uniform on the field.**
- IV. **Thou shall NOT partake gum, candy, food or drinks in band room.**
- V. **Thou shall be on time to class.**
- VI. **Thou shall NOT sleep during announcements.**
- VII. **Thou shall pay band fees on time and in full.**
- VIII. **Thou shall attend ALL rehearsals, performances, and competitions.**
- IX. **Thou shall respect other band members and their belongings.**
- X. **Thou shall always conduct thyself in a manner befitting a...**

**WALTRIP RAM BAND MEMBER!!!!**

### USE OF THE BAND FACILITY

#### BANDROOM

The use of band facilities before, after, and during school is a privilege. Students who abuse the facility will be disciplined accordingly. Any abuse or damage will be considered vandalism. **NO OUTSIDE STUDENTS ARE PERMITTED IN THE BANDROOM or BAND AREA** except for business with the director. There will be no horseplay, i.e. throwing of things, in or around the band room. All percussion and guard equipment is off limits to anyone not specifically designated to use him or her. No storing of personal items – **THE BANDROOM IS NOT A LOCKER!** We have a NEW band hall...TAKE CARE OF IT!!

#### PRACTICE ROOMS

Practice rooms are to be used for **practice or private instruction**. Keep the room neat with the appropriate music stands in place.

#### LIBRARY, BAND OFFICE, PHONE

The **library** is private and is to be used only by the library student leaders. Materials may be checked out through the librarian; this includes Solos, Ensembles, and Etude Books. The **band office** is private and is not to be entered by any student without permission from the director or a staff member. All students should keep in mind that this is a place of business. **KNOCK AT ALL TIMES BEFORE ENTERING.** **Telephone** use should be kept to a minimum and is not for personal use. **Ask permission before using.**

### MARCHING BAND

#### Summer Band Camp

Held beginning August 2nd, summer band is **MANDATORY** for all new and veteran members. Summer Band “camp” week runs from 7:15AM – 5PM. Camp is taught by the Ram Band directors, camp staff, and student leadership. Camp is required of all students in the band. Approximately “seven weeks” of normal rehearsal time is crammed into the two weeks, so attendance is a must. Parent volunteers are welcome to attend to help out with whatever needs may arise.

#### PRACTICE

Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances. If there is a situation that will prevent this, an excuse form must be requested and filled out **BEFORE HAND**. After- school rehearsals will be every day, 4:10PM – 6:10PM. If a student is absent from school on the day of an after-school rehearsal, this does not automatically excuse the student for that afternoon. Someone must contact a band director at the band office, 713-688-1361 ext. 015236 or send a message via the Band App. Do not leave a message with a student. You may email as well.

## ALTERNATES

One of the most important members of the marching band is the alternate. Due to absences of others and the inability of some to work at their part, it is necessary to “fill in” these spots with alternates. Alternate members must be enthusiastic and willing to learn new material at a rapid pace. Alternates are critical to our success!!! The chances of an alternate working his/her way into a spot are very good if that alternate participates, works hard, learns the music, and does it with a good attitude. The following policy will be used:

The marching routine will be written for a set number of positions. Two members will learn the same spot and will rotate. Spot assignments will be assigned by the director based on attendance, preparation, attitude, behavior and music pass-offs. Some of these alternate spots go to our newest beginning members.

## UNIFORMS

**The band will provide the following in regards to the uniform:**

Hat and plume

Trousers

Coat and accessories

Please make sure that the trousers are hemmed so that the bottom of the trouser legs touch the top of the dress band shoes with a slight break in the crease. PLEASE DO NOT CUT ANY MATERIAL!!!!

**The student will provide the following:**

Khaki Pants, Khaki Shorts, Blue Jeans and black belt

Black socks

Black Mesh Shorts

***THE UNIFORM IS TO BE WORN PROPERLY AT ALL TIMES!***

## INSPECTION

Prior to a few performances of the band, all band members will stand inspection. Any member that does not pass the inspection will not participate in the given performance. Band members will be checked for the following:

- Cleaned, pressed uniforms
- Correct hems on trousers
- Cleaned, polished shoes
- Hair correctly worn-all hair will be up off of the collar at all performances
- **NO Jewelry, NO Make-up, NO Piercings, NO Un-Natural Hair Colors**
- Clean, lubricated instruments

***Do not get your ears pierced during marching band season!***

The Waltrip Ram Band performs at all or most 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.

## **2021 Waltrip High School Varsity Football Schedule**

\* = 8<sup>th</sup> Grade/MS Band Night; \*\* = Homecoming/Alumni Night; \*\*\* = Senior Recognition Night

<b>Date</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>Visitor</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Time</b>
Fri., Aug. 27 <sup>th</sup>	Waltrip HS	Lumberton HS	Delmar	7:00pm
Thurs., Sept. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Waltrip HS	Klein Forest HS	Delmar	7:00pm
Fri., Sept. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Austin HS	Waltrip HS	Barnett	7:00pm
Sat., Sept. 18 <sup>th</sup>	Willowridge HS	Waltrip HS	Hall	6:00pm
Fri., Sept. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Waltrip HS	Marshall HS	Delmar	7:00pm
Thurs., Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Sterling HS	Waltrip HS	Barnett	7:00pm
Thurs., Oct. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Waltrip HS**	Madison HS	Delmar	7:00pm
Fri., Oct. 15 <sup>th</sup>	Galena Park HS	Waltrip HS	GPISD	7:00pm
Thurs., Oct. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Waltrip HS***	Northside HS	Delmar	7:00pm
Thurs., Nov. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sharpstown HS	Waltrip HS*	Butler	7:00pm

## **THE EXPECTATIONS, RULES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE WALTRIP BAND**

- You are subject to the H.I.S.D. student code of conduct.
- You will follow the guidelines and procedures of the Waltrip HS Student Handbook
- The Waltrip Band rehearses Monday-Friday during band class. After school practice is daily, Monday-Friday, 4:10pm – 6:10pm. **ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED.**
- Football game performances are usually on Fridays or Saturdays, and some Thursdays. On game day, you will report to the Band Hall at 4:45pm 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 HS, you are required to notify your employer and/or activity leader about rehearsals and performances. 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 that 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, instrument and/or equipment. Immediately sit down in your seat and prepare yourself for rehearsal by beginning to warm-up properly (long tones, lip slurs, scales, etc.). Be certain to have 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 and dispose of it as you leave the Band Hall. Take care of your **NEW BAND HALL!!**
- Food, drinks, candy, combs, brushes, lotion, hair spray, nail polish, mirrors, make-up are to be consumed or used outside the Band Hall.
- Horseplay is **PROHIBITED** at all times.
- When you hear the sound of a whistle, you will immediately stop moving and get quiet instantly. Listen quietly, politely, and intently for instruction. In addition to the Band Director, his Assistants 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 Assistants, 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 music.
- Practice your instrument daily. Take your instrument home on weekends.
- **MAINTAIN PASSING GRADES IN ALL CLASSES.** In order to participate, you need to remain UIL eligible.
- Everything you do and/or say that involves and/or concerns the Waltrip Band will be done and said with pride and in an appropriate manner. This also includes all social media interactions.
- 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 drumheads that break on their assigned instrument.
- Your issued marching band uniform is valued at \$500. Take care of it with pride!!
- You are to wear your band shirt, band shorts, black socks and Band shoes while wearing your marching band uniform. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- No physical display of affection (PDA) while in uniform.
- Students should wear the full uniform. It is **ALL** or **NOTHING.**

- For football games, students will be dismissed upon exiting the stadium. Students may ride home with a parent/guardian or another individual, but a band director must have a note signed by parents prior to departure and the said person must make contact with the director at dismissal time. This also applies to parents.
- When marching to and from the stadium, the band will remain at ATTENTION. When you have class IT SHOWS – when you don't, IT SHOUTS!
- Only uniformed band members are allowed in the band section.
- All members are to remain in their "section." Any stands "Go cheers" will not be played unless rehearsed and approved by the director.
- There will be an approved snack and water only in the stands. Ask for permission to go to the restroom. A chaperone or staff member must escort you to the facilities.
- All members should be alert as to what is going on down front. Be ready to react immediately to instructions given by the drum major or director.
- If a student must leave the band section, another student must accompany him/her and both must have permission from the director.

### **BAND TRAVELING**

- If a conversation can be heard in the front of the bus, it is TOO LOUD!
- There will be no hanging out of or talking out of bus windows.
- Please lower the volume level considerably when entering towns or stadiums. This is for your safety, is courteous to the bus driver, and an act of class!
- Please keep the bus clean; pick up after yourselves and always thank the chaperones and driver!

### **COMPETITIONS**

Competitions are special events where we get to perform for a sophisticated audience and very competent judges. WE ARE THERE TO DO OUR BEST – NOT TO WIN!! If we do our best, then everything will take care of itself. Specific information is given prior to competitions as to directions, departure and anticipated return time. All parents are encouraged to attend competitions and support the band. Students may use the band phone to call following a trip. Parents, PLEASE COME IMMEDIATELY when called.

### **MATERIALS GRADE**

Each student should have the following items in class everyday:

- a sharpened pencil
- your instrument (sticks, mallets)
- your music and folder
- at least three reeds (clarinets and saxophones) and water bottles (trombones)
- at least two reeds (oboes and bassoons) and water canisters for soaking.

From time to time during the school year you will receive a materials grade. If you have all the items listed above, you will receive a daily grade of "A." Your grade will be lowered one letter for each item you are missing, but students will be given two days to bring in any missing items. The easiest way to avoid this is to have everything that you need, at all times! After the second day, the letter grade may be lowered.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

There are a wide variety of scholarships available for both music majors and non-music majors on the collegiate level. Many universities grant partial scholarships or a one-time scholarship to students who simply agree to play in an ensemble, and some will waive out-of-state tuition. Information varies at each school. Ask in the band office and we will do all that we can to help in your future endeavors.

## LOST MUSIC

Each student will be assessed a \$1 fee for missing or torn music. See librarians or the director for any problems concerning music.

## PRACTICE

As with any activity, you get out of it what you put into it. Band will not be “FUN” unless you practice! There are many values in the study of music as a discipline that transfer to other areas of life. Although this will not immediately happen, persistent practice will lead to enthusiastic, driven practice. Remember: “Practice makes Permanent!” Here is a suggested plan of study:

Pick a set time each day  
session

Have an acoustically dry place of practice  
pianissimo)

Use our daily warm-up & think “tone”  
tone playing)

Play some form of scales at every practice session  
tone)

Take a break every 20 minutes

Work on technique (articulations, accents, etc.)  
increase to .....

Practice sight-reading

Use a tuner for a portion of your practice

Increase dynamic range (work on

Increase endurance (15 minutes of full

Increase range (highest note with good

Use a metronome for part of the time

“I will start with \_\_\_ minutes and



## **WALTRIP HIGH SCHOOL BAND STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM**

**2021-2022**

**Head Drum Major:** Emily Diaz  
**Resv. Drum Major:** Robbie Paniagua

**Asst. Drum Major:** Reychal Gray  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Resv. Drum Major:** Angie Flores

### **LOGISTICAL TEAM**

Quartermaster	Alayna Ferrin
Asst. Quartermaster	Vicente Portales
Treasurer	Briana Fowler
Asst. Treasurer	Judy Palestina
Public Affairs Officer	Jefran Butler
Asst. PAO	Juan Martinez
Secretary	Lesly Garcia
Asst. Secretary	Melody Longoria
Rsvd. Secretary	Evan Weltin
Librarian	Eliana Chavarria
Asst. Librarian	Andrea Alexander
Rsvd. Librarian	Nicole Garcia
E-Crew Chief	Abraham Morales
Asst. E-Crew Chief	Elijah Salceda
Historian	Kelsi Wilson
Asst. Historian	Mario Coronado

### **INSTRUCTIONAL TEAM**

Brass Drill/Music Instructor	Andrew Brugner
Asst. Brass DI	Jesse Espinosa
Woodwing Drill/Music Instructor	Jonathan Araniva
Asst. Woodwind DI	Joshua Diaz
Percussion Drill/Music Instructor	Sebastian Garza
Asst. Percussion DI	Angel Garza
<b><u>2021-2022 Section Leaders</u></b>	
Head Flute	Moises Gonzalez
Asst. Flute	Chyna January
Head Clarinet	Briana Fowler
Head Alto Sax	Emmanuel Pinney
Head Tenor/Bari Sax	Miranda Perales
Head French Horn	Chris Roman
Head Trumpet	Conlan Ramirez
Asst. Trumpet	Marvin Perez
Head Trombone	Christopher Castaneda
Asst. Trombone	Cesar Torres
Head Euphonium	Jesse Ramos
Head Tuba	Wesley Hudgins
Head Drum Captain	Isaiah Reed
Pit Captain	Riley Brugner
Colorguard Captain	Lesly Vargas

### **Private Lesson Scholarships**

Private lesson scholarships are available to students that need financial assistance. If financial assistance is awarded, it is expected for the student to remain in the program all four years or whatever remaining number of years of membership they have. If a student drops or quits the band program after receiving private lesson scholarship money, those funds must be returned or paid back in full. Please see a band director for more information.

## **LETTERMAN JACKETS**

The school district does not provide these jackets or letters for the band students. You may purchase them through the approved district vendor or another retailer. However, these jackets must reflect the school colors in order to be worn during or at school band functions.

## **EQUIPMENT NEEDS (Suggested)**

### **PERCUSSION ACCESSORIES**

Each percussionist should have the following materials as specified by our percussion instructor:

- A pair of marching sticks
- A pair of general snare sticks
- A pair of general timpani mallets or staccato mallets
- A pair of rubber xylophone mallets, Musser Blue or Musser Green
- A pair of yarn mallets, DS 16 or DS 18
- A stick bag

\*Percussionists will be assessed a \$50 instrument rental fee for use of school equipment, provided that all accessory equipment is obtained.

## **INSTRUMENT AND MOUTHPIECE UPGRADES**

### **MOUTHPIECES**

CLARINET	Van Doren B40 or B45 mouthpieces DEG Barrels Rovner Ligatures
SAXOPHONE	Selmer C*
TRUMPET	Bach 7C, 5C, 3C or 1 ½ C
HORN	Schilke 29 or 30
TROMBONE	Bach 5G or 4G Schilke 51 or 51 D
TUBA	Helleberg 120 S Bach 18

### **INSTRUMENTS (Intermediate and Professional Models)**

Piccolo	Yamaha YPC 62
Flute	Yamaha 581 H
Clarinet	Buffet E-11, Buffet R-13
Oboe	Loree or Fox 400
Bassoon	Fox Renard 220 or 222
Saxophone	Old Selmer Mark VI, Yamaha Custom, P. Mauriat
Trumpet	Bach Stradivarius, Yamaha, King
Horn	Conn 8D, Paxman M20 or Holton 179
Trombone	Bach 42 B, BO or Edwards
Euphonium	Yamaha 321 – S or Willson
Tuba	Miraphone, St. Petersburg or Perantucci

### **METHOD BOOKS**

FLUTE	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Altes Method Art and Practice of Modern Flute Technique – Kincaid Eck Method / Practical Studies / Tone Development
CLARINET	Rubank Intermediate Method

	Rubank Advanced Method Klose Celebrated Method for Clarinet Rose: 40 Studies for Clarinet, Book I Melodious and Progressive Studies – Hite
OBOE	50 Classical Studies for the Oboe - Joppig Rubank Advanced Method Andraud Practical and Progressive Method Barrett Oboe Method
BASSOON	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Weissenborn Practical Method for Bassoon
SAXOPHONE	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Universal Method for Sax – DeVille Gatti: 35 Melodious and Technical Exercises
TRUMPET	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Arban Complete Conservatory Method Herbert L. Clark Technical Studies Schlossberg Daily Drills and Technical Studies
HORN	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Kopprasch – Sixty Selected Studies for Horn (Vol. 1 & 2) Concone – Lyrical Studies for Horn or Trumpet Practical Studies – Getchell
TROMBONE / EUPHONIUM	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Rochut Melodious Etudes Book I and II Arban Method for Trombone / Euphonium Schlossberg Daily Drills Clark Method for Trombone / Euphonium
TUBA	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method

### **RECORDINGS**

Just as the blind child cannot paint a picture of the sunset, an instrumentalist cannot duplicate a characteristic sound on their instrument without an appropriate model to emulate. Below are suggestions of artists for each instrument. Every student in the (*School name*) band program should own at least one recording of the following artists:

FLUTE	Jean-Pierre Rampal, Jim Walker
CLARINET	Harold Wright, Larry Combs
OBOE	Joseph Robinson, John Mack
BASSOON	Bubonic Bassoon Quartet, Christopher Millard
SAXOPHONE	Jean Rousseau, Joseph Lulloff, Steven Mauk
TRUMPET	Phil Smith, Adolph Herseth
HORN	Dale Clevenger, Dennis Brain
TROMBONE	Joseph Alessi, Christian Linberg
EUPHONIUM	Brian Bowman, Roger Behrend
TUBA	Arnold Jacobs, Sam Pilafian

## **WALTRIP INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

**(713) 688-1361 Ext. 015236**

I/We understand that in order to participate in the proposed band trip to \_\_\_Colorado Springs, CO\_\_\_\_\_ in the Spring Semester of 2022, that I/we will have to abide by the following guidelines:

- **I will have all fees (uniform, instrument, shoes, gloves, shirt, and band fees) paid by December 9, 2021. 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.**
- **I will participate in the Back to School Dance, which means selling my allotted tickets and attending the function.**
- **I will participate fully in the Annual Fall & Spring Band Fundraisers, which means selling enough of my meal tickets and/or door prize tickets to equal at least \$50.00 for each fundraiser, and attending the function. I understand that I will receive financial credit toward my trip only after the allotted amount is sold at the discretion of the band director.**
- **I will participate in all Band Inventory Fund-raisers and at least two Band Car Washes. All Leadership Team members must participate in all inventory fundraisers and car washes.**
- **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.**
- **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. Wind Ensemble members are required to audition for All-City and All-Region Band.**
- **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 \$1 for all ticket sales exceeding \$50 for the Fall/Spring Dinner. After the initial book of Door Prize tickets is sold, each member will receive 50% of all sales exceeding the first \$20. These credits may only be applied to the band trip. These amounts may change based on the overall participation of the band.
2. Members can earn extra monies from car washes and inventories, but the exact % will be set up at a later date.
3. The Back to School Dance Fundraiser can be used to raise funds for a student's band fees. Each band student must sell 3 tickets. Every ticket sold after the initial 3 can receive 50% profit towards their band fees.
4. The Band Walk-A-Thon or other fundraisers may also be used for band fees in addition to contributing to your trip account balance at the band director's discretion.

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 Spring Trip is TBD**, which has been projected 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.

**Seven (7) Trip payments are due on the following dates: (Subject to Change)**

Payment 1: November 2021      Payment 2: December 2021      Payment 3: January 2022      Payment 4: February 2022  
Payment 5: March 2022      Payment 6: April 2022      Payment 7: May 2022

**All monies credited towards the trip should be turned in by May 1<sup>st</sup>. \*\* NO REFUNDS.**

## **BAND POLICY AGREEMENT WALTRIP H.S. RAM BAND**

### **STATEMENT OF BAND POLICY**

In order to help band students 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 Department 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 probation accordingly.
4. Suspend any uncooperative members from the band program 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 HISD 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 firearm set aside by the HISD 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 the rule, the student's parents/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.



EXCELLENCE TRADITION LEADERSHIP

## **WALTRIP HIGH SCHOOL RAM BAND**

### *BAND HANDBOOK CONTRACT*

I, the undersigned student, accept membership in the Waltrip High School Band and understand that I am responsible for all the policies as set forth in the Band Handbook. I fully agree to carry out my responsibilities to the very best of my ability. This includes:

- Band Fees. **NO CHECKS.** Money Orders, cash or school pay are acceptable.
- My signature below indicates that I have read and understand the contract regarding participation in the proposed band trip in the Spring of 2022.
- I will allow my child to sell tickets for various fundraisers. 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. Jesse Espinosa, Mr. Daniel Ferreira or Mr. James Elam at (713) 688-1361 Ext. 015298.
- All Fundraising will be dependent on guidelines set forth by the school district.

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(Student Signature)

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(Date)

I, the undersigned parent or guardian, have read and understand the policies as set forth in the Band Handbook. I also grant full permission for my child to be an active member of the Waltrip High School Band. In addition, my child has full permission to attend all band functions. Furthermore, I understand that I must meet all financial obligations.

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(Parent Signature)

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(Date)

**ABSENCE FORM**

This form must be completed and turned in two weeks in advance of any anticipated absence by a band student.  
(Excluding extreme emergencies)

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

Date of anticipated Absence \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Absence \_\_\_\_\_



- Please be specific! The policy is quite simple – if the school will excuse it, we will excuse it. If the school will not, we will not. The school does not consider “Important matters or family matters” excusable.

Waltrip High School will excuse for Death in the Family, Religious Holiday, and Illness with a doctor's excuse. The doctor's excuse must be submitted to the school attendance office and a copy placed on file with the band director.

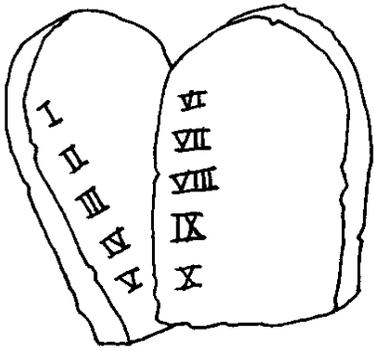
\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

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

All forms must be submitted to the Director of Bands and will remain on file in the band office for a period of a year.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director's Signature

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# The 10 Band Commandments

- I. Thou shall NOT show PDA in any uniform.
- II. Thou shall respect thy uniform.
- III. Thou shall NOT utter profanity in uniform on the field.
- IV. Thou shall NOT partake Gum, Candy, Food, or Drinks in the band room.
- V. Thou shall be on time to class.
- VI. Though shall NOT sleep during announcements.
- VII. Thou shall pay band fees on time and in full
- VIII. Thou shall attend all rehearsals, performances, and competitions.
- IX. Thou shall respect other band members and their belongings.
- X. Thou shall always conduct yourself in a Manner befitting a....



**WALTRIP RAM BAND MEMBER!!**

