

2018-19 New Caney High School Band Handbook



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Band Website: <http://www.newcaneyband.org>

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NCHS Performance Groups

1. Marching Band

Marching Band is a very important and vital element of the band program. During this portion of the year, the band is viewed and heard by more people than at any other time of the year. A successful marching season sets the tone for the entire year; therefore, every effort must be made by all to insure the success of the marching band. Dedication and maximum effort in all aspects of marching, playing and performance are expected.

The Marching Band performs at all New Caney High School football games, pep rallies, and marching contests. The season will last from August through November pending playoffs. The following schedule are the required rehearsals unless prior notification is given. If modification is needed in the this schedule, prior notification will be given.

Monday:	4:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday:	4:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday:	4:15 - 5:15 p.m. (Sectionals - TBA)
Thursday:	4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

2. Wind Ensemble / Symphonic Band

Membership in the Wind Ensemble or Symphonic Band is for all grade levels by audition or placement by the band director. Students must exhibit a high level of musicianship, responsibility, and academics. Students should show qualities of dedication, responsibility, and commitment.

Both bands make up part of the Marching Band. We perform three concerts per year, UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contest, and any other performances that may be required. Students in the both ensembles are encouraged to audition for District/Region/State Band and participate in the UIL Solo/Ensemble Contest. During preparation for UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest season, students will be required to attend after school sectionals. Auditions for each ensemble are held in the spring each year for placement the following year.

3. Concert Band

Membership in the Concert Band is for all students who do not meet the requirements for Symphonic Band or Wind Ensemble. The Concert Band is also a part of the Marching Band. The Concert Band performs three concerts during the school year, along with any other performances that may be required. The Concert Band will participate in UIL Concert and Sight-reading if eligibility and instrumentation allows. Students in Concert Band are encouraged to participate in District/Region/State Band auditions and participate in UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest. Emphasis in Concert Band will be to work on fundamental skills to improve each individual student to meet their level of potential, and to advance to Symphonic Band or Wind Ensemble the following year.

4. Jazz Band

Jazz Band is offered weekly after school during the second semester. This allows students another medium in which to enjoy the process of making music. Jazz Band will perform one to two concerts, along with any other performances that may be scheduled. Instrumentation in Jazz Band is limited to saxophones, trombone, trumpet, keyboard, guitar, bass guitar, and percussion. The schedule for Jazz Band will be announced at the end of football season.

5. Pep Band

Pep Band is open to all eligible students who would like to perform at the home basketball games. Pep Band will perform weekly at home basketball games during the season. Students must pass all their classes to participate in the Pep Band.

Band Competitions

The New Caney Band will attend the following contests. All eligible students are expected to be at all competitions which include:

- Pre-UIL Galena Park Marching Festival (**October 6, 2018**)
- UIL Marching Contest (**October 20, 2018**)
- Additional Marching Competition (**TBA**)
- All-State Band Auditions - *Participation is encouraged* (**December 7-8, 2018**)
- UIL Solo/Ensemble Contest - *Participation is encouraged* (**February 9, 2019**)
- UIL Concert and Sight-Reading (**April 23-24, 2019**)

Performance Obligations

All performances are a recorded grade. Missing a performance without prior excuse or medical illness will result in a loss of grade. The following performances are required for all students, subject to eligibility requirements:

1. All Varsity Football Games / Playoffs
2. Pep rallies (eligible students)
3. Contests and Concerts
4. Graduation (Wind Ensemble/additional members from the other bands)
5. Other performances that may be scheduled during the year.*

*Dates, times, and locations of these performances will be given to the students as soon as they are available.)

Football Procedures/Parent Requirements

Home Games

Students will meet at designated time to dress in the high school band hall. They will then be transported to and from the stadium by bus. Upon return to the band hall, the student will hang the uniform in the uniform room. The student will not be allowed to leave until the band director or designee checks in the uniform and puts their equipment away.

Away Games

A student may return from an away game or competition with his/her parents only if they have brought a note from their parents the morning of the game. When leaving the game the student must first check his/her uniform in with a band director before leaving. The uniform will not go home with the student.

End of Game Procedure

All students are expected to return complete uniform parts neatly in their bag. Students are also responsible for helping unload the truck, putting instruments, music, and other marching accessories (i.e. water bottle) in the proper place. We will dismiss together as a band when all students have completed the proper end of game procedures.

Parent/Guardian Requirements

Please be available, or make arrangements, to pick your child up after football games at the appropriate time. The directors and student leadership team is required to stay until every student has a ride home. **All students should be off campus within 45 minutes after the band arrives back at the high school.**

Grading Policy

During football season, a student's grade is based on classroom participation, after school rehearsals, and halftime performances.

60%- Friday/Saturday performances

40%- After school rehearsals/Classroom Participation

After football season, a student's grade is based on classroom participation, sectional rehearsals, and concert performances.

60%- Sectionals, extra rehearsals and concerts

40%- Classroom participation/ Daily Work

Fundraisers

All bands will participate in two fundraisers during the year. All profits earned by students will go in their personal accounts to be used for their participation on band trips, to be held every 2 years. All money earned is the property of the band, and will not be returned to the student for personal use except for payments on their trip. The next band trip is scheduled Los Angeles in March 2019.

Band Fees

Band fees are assessed for the following items that each student will need to have throughout the year. Some items that are purchased from a previous year may not be required.

Due Date for all FEES

All fees are expected to be paid by **September 14, 2018**. A payment plan is available on our website. (www.newcaneyband.org)

Fees for all Students

Uniform Cleaning Fee	\$40
Gloves (except percussion)	\$5
Show Shirt	\$20
General Band Fee	\$85

Additional Fees for Freshman / Replacement Items

Band Polo Shirt	\$45
Band Shoes	\$45
Water Jug	\$12

NCISD School Instrument Fee

Instrument Usage Fee	\$75 (except percussion players)
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Concert Etiquette

1. **Students and parents are expected to stay for the entire length of the concert.** Listen and be supportive of all groups in the band program.
2. If it is necessary for you to leave during the performance, please leave between musical selections or between the band changes.
3. If you arrive late, do not enter the auditorium during a performance. Wait until the selection ends and take your seat quickly during the applause.
4. Do not walk around or talk during a performance. You are to stay seated and quiet when a group is performing. Be respectful to each performing group; they have all worked hard.
5. Whistling and cheering are not appropriate for a concert performance. Show your appreciation for a band performance by clapping.
6. Please turn off all electronics and cell phones during the performance.
7. **No food or drink will be allowed in the auditorium.**

Band Officers

The governing student body of the band shall consist of the following members:

Elected Officers:

- President
- Vice-President of Administration
- Vice-President of Logistics
- Vice-President of Uniforms
- Secretary/Treasurer
- Historian

Auditioned Positions:

- Drum Majors
- Guard Captain & Lieutenants

Band Letter Jacket Requirements

The point system for earning a letter jacket is in the NCISD Band Handbook. Anyone who has entered his or her fourth year in the program will receive his/her jacket under the assumption that he/she will be in band the full year. If the fourth year is not completed, the jacket must be returned to the Director. Their school obligation will not be considered clear until the jacket is returned.