

Band Handbook

2017-2018
Titan Thunder



This Handbook contains Information of
EXTREME importance!

Schedule, Guidelines, Forms

Welcome to the **Titan Thunder**:

On behalf of the Collins High School Instrumental Program, I am pleased to welcome each of you to THE Tradition of Excellence. It is very important to remember where you come from and where you are going. We, as the Titan Thunder, have but one place to go - - FORWARD!

I look forward to each of you to participate in what will be the best program here at Martha Layne Collins High School. Please realize, as we do, that YOU are the future of the Titan Thunder. We encourage you and your family to take an active part in the Titan Thunder' experience and participate. It is an activity that takes some extra effort, but is extremely rewarding.

Our Journey is more important than the Destination!

I am counting on each and every one of you to create a positive environment so we can continue to grow and become better in the years to come.

The attitude you bring with you to the summer rehearsals and camps will be the attitudes that our band will live with during the entire school year.

Warning - HOT COFFEE

The Marching Band is unique in the idea that there is no bench and everyone participates at the same time. Every student has an equally important role, and the other members rely heavily upon their band mates to be there. If someone is missing, every member next to them will have trouble guiding due to the hole that will be present in the drill, or trouble playing due to the missing voice in the instrumentation. If an individual quits mid-season, EVERY student must relearn the entire drill, which usually sets the group back by two weeks of practice or more. Due to the nature of the ensemble, students should be aware that there will be an element of physical endurance to participate. For these reasons, I ask potential marching members to seriously consider the level of commitment to perform in this group, and only sign-up with an understanding of the level of commitment required for this ensemble.

FORWARD

The band program at Collins High School will be a vital part of the total high school experience. Our mission is to represent Collins High School at the citizens of Shelby County in everything that we do.

The main emphasis of the Titan Thunder is on musicianship and character. Our main goal is to build strong musicianship through band and to develop character.

Our main goals are simple:

1. Build good individual character
2. Build strong self-discipline
3. Improve every time we perform
4. Build friendships that will last a lifetime
5. Prepare our students for life by teaching important life skills

Our Thunder Values:

1. Selfless
2. Character
3. Integrity
4. Attitude
5. Accountability

The success of the Titan Thunder will lead to the success of its members and vise-versa.

**KEEP THE TRADITION SOUNDING...
*TITAN THUNDER!***

DEDICATION MEANS:

- Developing quality in EVERY part of the band program
- Developing an appreciation for ALL forms of music
- Being the BEST musician possible
- Developing a GREAT work ethic
- Having GREAT rehearsal habits
- Having RESPECT for yourself
- Having respect for YOUR fellow band members
- Having respect and appreciation for ALL bands and THEIR musicians

ATTENDANCE POLICY

F.Y.I. – ALL rehearsals and performances ARE required for the Titan Thunder Marching Band. **An unexcused absence will result in missing the following performance. A second unexcused absence will result in dismissal from the marching band program. Any performances that are unexcused will result in DISMISSAL from the Titan Thunder Marching Band. There will not be any refunds if a student is dismissed from the program.**

ADDITIONAL REHEARSALS

After the beginning of the year, we will have additional after-school rehearsals that each student will be required to attend. Each rehearsal will be factored into the overall participation grade for each student. Additional dates/schedule will be given at a later time.

INSTRUMENT RENTALS

There will be a **\$75.00** rental for **any** student using a school-owned instrument. This rental covers normal wear and tear on the instrument throughout the year. If an instrument is beyond normal wear and tear, it is the individual's responsibility to have the instrument repaired by a professional technician, such as Conrad Music or Miles Ahead. This is a one-time fee of **\$75.00** for the year regardless of how many instruments a student plays or uses. (i.e. a student pays one fee to play all the percussion instruments for the year) **Forms available from Mr. Osborne.**

Band Camp/Marching Band Fee

The fee for band camp/marching band will be \$400.00, due on the first day of camp. If you pay for band camp before the school year is over (2016-2017), the price will be discounted to \$350.00.

2017 Marching Band Schedule

PG (Percussion/Guard) – July 10-14

9:00am-5:00pm (Lunch @12:00pm) – Bring lunch, tennis shoes, sunscreen, hat, and Red Water Jug

R (Rookie Camp) – July 12-14

1:00pm-5:00pm (Dinner @5:00pm) – Bring dinner, tennis shoes, sunscreen, hat, instrument, music, and Red Water Jug

M (Music Rehearsal) – July 12-14

6:00pm-9:00pm – ALL WIND PLAYERS – Bring instrument, music, binder, and Red Water Jug

BC (Band Camp) – July 17-21

9:00am-9:00pm – ALL MEMBERS (Lunch @12:00pm) (Dinner @4:00) – Bring lunch, tennis shoes, sunscreen, hat, instrument, music, and Red Water Jug

After-School Rehearsals – ALL MEMBERS

Mondays – Guard/Percussion/Sectionals (as needed) 4:00-6:00pm

Tuesdays – 4:00-6:30pm

Thursdays – 4:00-6:30pm

Home Football Games

August 25 – Football vs. Moore

Sept 15 – Football vs. Boyle Co.

Sept 29 – Football vs. Franklin Co. (Homecoming)

Oct 13 – Football vs. North Oldham

Oct 20 – Football vs. Shelby Co. (AWAY)

Oct 27 – Football vs. Pulaski Co. (Senior Night)

Tournaments are TBA

Competition Weekends (Competitions *could* occur on the following Saturdays)

September 9 TBA

September 16 TBA

September 23 TBA

September 30 TBA

October 7 TBA

October 14 TBA

October 28 TBA

November 4 – Mid States Championships

Parades and Events

August TBA – Back to School Bash

September TBA – Simpsonville Parade

December 2 – Christmas Parade

2017 REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

July...

24...	5-9pm
25...	5-9pm
27...	5-9pm
31...	5-9pm

August...

3...	4-6:30pm
7...	4-6pm
8...	4-6:30pm
10...	4-6:30pm
14...	4-6pm
15...	4-6:30pm
17...	4-6:30pm
21...	4-6pm
22...	4-6:30pm
24...	4-6:30pm
28...	4-6pm
29...	4-6:30pm
30...	4-6:30pm
31...	4-6:30pm

September...

5...	4-6:30pm
7...	4-6:30pm
11...	4-6pm
12...	4-6:30pm
14...	4-6:30pm
18...	4-6pm
19...	4-6:30pm
21...	4-6:30pm
25...	4-6pm
26...	4-6:30pm
28...	4-6:30pm

October...

2...	4-6pm
3...	4-6:30pm
5...	4-6:30pm
9...	6-9pm
10...	6-9pm
12...	6-9pm
23...	4-6pm
24...	4-6:30pm
26...	4-6:30pm
30...	4-6pm

November...

2...	4-6:30pm
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Please plan appointments and other after-school activities accordingly and not on Rehearsal days. **We can only achieve greatness with 100% attendance.**

REHEARSAL TECHNIQUE/REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE

BE PRESENT AND ON TIME – this does **NOT** mean walking in at 4:00pm if practice is at 4:00. “To be on time is LATE, to be early is to be on time!” Don’t make plans that involve leaving rehearsal early or arriving late. Often some of the most important teaching in a rehearsal happens at those times.

Be actively and intently involved in the rehearsal

- Just going “through the motions” during rehearsal is a bad as not being there. Always be thinking about your performance.
- Your only focus should be the objectives the ensemble is trying to achieve during that rehearsal. **There is to be no unnecessary talking.**
- Members are expected to give their utmost efforts during rehearsals. **Everyone needs to contribute 110% effort at all times – any less is an insult to your peers, your staff, and yourself. This is a team effort.**
- Instructions given by directors and staff should be followed and not questioned.
- Horseplay, throwing ice or water, or other such activities **will not** be tolerated.

The proper attitude during rehearsal affects the value of the rehearsal

- **An instruction that has to be given twice robs the band of rehearsal time and focus.** Pay attention during rehearsal.
- **Be cooperative.** Even if you don’t understand the motivation for a rehearsal activity, have confidence that your staff does and execute as you are asked.
- **All students should show the proper respect for their peers, staff, and leadership.** Disrespect towards directors, staff, and student leadership will never make the band more successful. It will do the opposite. Avoid exhibiting disrespectful attitudes such as eye rolling, pouting, talking back, being unsupportive of directors and staff or in any way questioning any instruction or direction given.
- **Being negative in rehearsal is a sure way to lessen the effectiveness of that rehearsal.** If you say things like “this will never work” there will probably be people around you that either believe what you say or are at least influenced by your opinion, and in either case they (like you) will be less productive.

- **Offer encouragement to your peers, instead of criticism.** “It takes a lot of pats on the back to erase the sting of a kick in the pants.”

You can't be effective in rehearsal if you are unprepared

- **Arrive early (15 minutes)** enough to be in place, with all necessary equipment and materials BEFORE the start of the rehearsal.
- **Know all music/work that is due to be worked on in rehearsal.** It is YOUR responsibility to catch up should you be compelled to miss a rehearsal.
- **Have you materials organized** – music in sheet protectors in notebook, dot books in order and readily available.
- **Be certain your equipment is always in good working order.**
- **Be dressed for the weather.** Not having the proper attire is not a satisfactory reason for having a poor rehearsal. Wear low-topped tennis shoes and socks for rehearsal. Caps and sun block are recommended.
- **Never be an obstacle to the success of others.** If you keep someone else from achieving his/her goals or objectives, the entire organization is losing ground.

The Collins Titan Thunder can only reach its highest level of success when each individual, each section, each element are all at their highest possible effectiveness. We have to work together in order to achieve greatness. It is the responsibility of each member to do everything possible to reach that level and to do nothing that would keep themselves or others from reaching their goals.

Additional Points to Keep in Mind

- All cell phones are to be TURNED OFF during rehearsals and not seen.
- Students should bring a RED WATER JUG to all rehearsals
- Don't bring pop or other sugary drinks
- Do not chew gum at any rehearsal

Guard Specific Information

- Students will treat the equipment with respect. Each student should take responsibility to have his/her equipment properly weighted, taped, and clean. The captain(s) will hold regular equipment checks. Do not touch wind and percussion instruments unless loading or unloading.

Health Tips for Marching Band

Timely Recommendations to Ensure Band Members are Well Prepared for Activity

Source: National Athletic Trainers Association

NATA recommends the following tips for parents, band directors, medical professionals and marching band members:

1. **Prepare for Activity:** Parents should make sure that students are in good general health and fit to perform.
2. **Put a Plan Into Place:** Develop a written emergency plan in consultation with an athletic trainer and local emergency medical service. Share it regularly and review it with the appropriate band directors/supervisors, school administrators and medical staff.
3. **Get Ready to March:** Band directors, athletic trainers and parents should ensure that students are physically and mentally conditioned for marching band activities. Encourage students to start with 20 minute walks outside and gradually increase distance of time approximately four weeks before the marching band season starts. Limber up with appropriate stretches and warm ups and cool downs after practice. Increase rigorous routines gradually so students can tone their muscles and increase strength. This will help to reduce aches and pains as well as fatigue from long practices and challenging routines.
4. **Acclimatize to the Heat:** Acclimatize students to outdoor warm weather conditions. Start routines slowly and build endurance. By working out and walking in the heat or non-air conditioned environments, students can condition their bodies to adapt and better perform in the heat.
5. **What to Wear:** Wear light or white colored shorts and t-shirts to avoid overheating during practice. This is especially important for anyone carrying heavy instruments for long periods of time. Save the formal attire – heavy hats, dark clothing and shoes – for dress rehearsals and get comfortable in them before game day. Be aware that the weight of the material and dark colors keep heat “in.”

6. **Hydrate, Hydrate, Hydrate:** Establish a hydration plan that allows band members to drink water or sports drinks such as Gatorade throughout practice sessions (about 7-10 ounces every 10-20 minutes). It is important to hydrate before AND after routines. Without proper hydration, they are at risk of developing exertional heat related illnesses. Make sure that band members have sports drinks and water available. Don't assume they can share with sports teams.
7. **Seek Shade:** Be smart when it comes to the sun. Stand in the shade during rest breaks or half time to cool down before and after practices and performances.
8. **Fuel for Success:** Incorporate healthy foods in the daily diet including grains, fruits and vegetables, dairy and meat/poultry/fish to give them the fuel they need to exercise. A balanced and moderate approach is always the best bet.
9. **Make Use of Musical Instruments:** Students should hold and manage sousaphones, drums, flutes and other instruments correctly to avoid ergonomic injuries.
10. **Stay Fit in Formation:** Since bands are often in formation and standing still for long periods of time – especially when on parade routes or during practice – students should move fingers, knees and toes slightly to keep circulation flowing and joints loose and flexible.
11. **Monitor Band Members:** Band members should be monitored at all times on the field for signs of heat illnesses by a parent, band director, certified athletic trainer or other individual.
12. **Inspect Fields and Routes:** Remove debris, water, rocks and other hazards from the field or parade route. These small obstacles can lead to twisted ankles, bruised knees, scraped elbows or other more serious injuries.
13. **Stock the Kit:** Stock a first aid kit and keep it onsite for medical emergencies. Include supplies for wound management and bee stings, such as elastic wraps and band aids, disposable ice packs, tape and wound cleanser, among other items.

UNIFORMS

- **MARCHING**

The Collins High School Band Program is charged with the responsibility of maintaining the uniforms. Each member will be provided with a uniform, shako, and one (1) pair of gloves.

- **Members will have to purchase their OWN shoes**

- **CLEANING**

All uniforms will be cleaned and pressed at the same time by the local dry-cleaners. **No student is to clean his or her own uniform!**

- **UNIFORM RULES (MARCHING)**

1. Wear **LONG, SOLID BLACK SOCKS**
2. Hang uniform neatly on the hanger supplied with the uniform. The trousers should be neatly hung to insure a pressed crease at the next performance.
3. **DO NOT ALTER** a uniform yourself. If there is a problem with the uniform, let your BOX MOM know about it.
4. The uniforms will be kept in the Uniform Storage Room.
5. All winds and percussion members wear the same type of shoes. Color Guard members will be advised on shoes.
6. All shoes **MUST** be cleaned and polished prior to every performance.
7. BAND Dry-Fit or a T-shirt with sleeves must be worn under the band jacket to avoid stains; unless stated otherwise by Mr. Osborne.
8. **NO TYPE OF JEWELRY** may be worn with your uniform. **GUYS AND GIRLS. No Bracelets or earrings of any type, this includes piercings as well.**
9. Hair cannot be below the collar of the uniform.
10. Hair color needs to be of natural color and not cause un-needed attention.

By putting on the uniform of the Titan Thunder, you take on a great deal of responsibility. You are reminded to remember who you are and whom you represent at all times.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING FORMS

1. MEDICAL FORM

This is the most important form that you must fill out for band.

This form will be taken everywhere that we travel. It speaks when your son/daughter cannot. It serves as permission for us to have medical treatment provided for your son/daughter.

Take time to fill out the form completely. Do not leave anything out or blank.

You must also attach a copy of your insurance card to the back of the form.

2. PHYSICAL

Each student must have a Physical from a doctor or Little Clinic, etc. No student can participate until they have received their Physical. A copy must be given to the Band Office to file.

3. PERMISSION TO TRAVEL

This form is needed to allow each student to travel with the band to numerous events throughout the year.

4. PAYMENT AGREEMENT

Each parent/guardian needs to complete this form and needs to pay the Band Membership Fee by the date indicated.

5. PARENT/STUDENT COMMITMENT CONTRACT

This form must be filled out and signed by both the student and parent/guardian.

**COLLINS HIGH SCHOOL BANDS
PERMISSION TO TRAVEL
2017-2018**

I give permission for my student, _____,
to travel with the Collins High School Band during the 2017-
2018 school year. This includes activities with the marching
band, pep band, color guard, band class and any other
music activities that may take place during the 2017-2018
school year. I understand that my student will be
chaperoned by adults and Mr. Osborne each trip taken.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Contact Phone Number

Student Signature

Date

Contact Phone Number

Marching Band Fee 2017 – 2018 Expense Payment Agreement

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Parent/Guardian _____

For the 2017-2018 School year, the Marching Band Fee is as stated below per child. This fee pays for Band Camp, music, transportation, Staff Instruction, t-shirts, gloves, & other budgetary marching items.

The fees for each child are:

Band Expenses	\$400.00 – Member
	\$650.00 – (2 siblings or more)

A deposit of \$150.00 payment of the Band Expense will be due on **May 3rd**. **The Remaining Balance is due the first day of camp. If you pay for your Fee before school is out, the price will be discounted to \$350.00. Band Fees are non-refundable.**

I (we) understand that I (we) are responsible for the above cost and fees on or before the date posted above. I (we) understand that we will be responsible for any miscellaneous expenses incurred by my (our) child. I (we) also understand that participation in volunteer activities is required.

I (we) understand that failure to pay expenses on a timely basis may result in my (our) child not being allowed to participate in band activities outside the classroom and participating on the trip(s).

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

**PARENT/STUDENT COMMITMENT CONTRACT
2017-2018**

I, _____, the legal

parent/guardian of _____,
understand the level of commitment required for my child to participate in the Martha Layne Collins Marching Band. I will make sure that my child has transportation to and from the band room for each rehearsal and contest and is present at all times other than emergencies.

We understand that by signing this document, we agree to follow the regulations in the handbook and be in attendance at ALL band/guard functions. We understand the responsibilities that may/will occur during the season and we understand what the expectations are that come with this program. We understand that joining the marching band is a commitment that will affect multiple people, and we will do our best to ensure that my child finishes their commitment for this marching season. We also, understand that should my child break their commitment, they will never be allowed to participate in the marching band again and may not be able to participate in other events, such as trips, that require any level of commitment in the future.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date