

Claudia Taylor “Lady Bird” Johnson High School Band



Informational Guide



Claudia Taylor “Lady Bird” Johnson High School
Fine Arts Department

23203 Bulverde Road San Antonio, TX 78259

Phone (210)-356-0400 Fax (210)-356-0430



Welcome Prospective Johnson Band Family,

We are excited you are considering membership in our program and look forward to the opportunity of working with you over the coming years as you look at joining one of the most exciting, innovative, and successful high school band programs in the United States. The Claudia Taylor Johnson Band’s name has become synonymous with excellence and entertainment. Since 2008, we have been recognized by the University Interscholastic League (UIL), Bands of America (BOA), and the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) for the high quality of our performances. The band was named the 2020 UIL 6A State Marching Champion and was a National Finalist for the fourth time in 2021.

Our band members enjoy fantastic performance experiences, which have included marching in the 125th Tournament of Roses/100th Rose Bowl Parade in 2014 and performing at the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic in December of 2019 and Carnegie Hall in March 2016. The band most recently traveled to Indianapolis, Ind., where they competed at the Bands of America Grand National Championships held at Lucas Oil Stadium. While the band will not travel out of state in 2024-25, we will compete at the UIL State Marching Contest again in the fall of 2024. Additionally, families may plan to return to Nationals in the fall of 2025.

Our families have come to trust and rely on our program to foster a love of music within our band members and, more importantly, prepare our band members for their life journeys by developing the character of our young performers. Band members at Johnson learn the value of teamwork, the importance of commitment and dedication, the benefits of setting goals and creating systems to achieve them, coping skills to handle both successes and failures, and of course, how to work hard.

The benefits of membership allow band members to grow as individuals while participating in an activity that they love. We understand you may have questions about the time commitment, academics, cost, and other concerns. We will answer these questions through a series of meetings and e-mails in the months to come. Please do not hesitate to reach out to set up a face-to-face meeting or email us at your convenience.

Thank you,

Robert Lozano

Director of Bands

rlozan2@neisd.net

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. Introduction & Frequently Asked Questions (Page 3)**
- 2. Band Camp Dates/Important Rehearsals (Page 10)**
- 3. Band Fees (Page 11)**
- 4. Reserve Marcher (Alternate) Policy (Page 18)**
- 5. Instrument/Rehearsal Supplies, & Uniforms (Page 20)**
- 6. School Rented Instruments (Page 23)**
- 7. Letter Jackets (Page 24)**
- 8. Private Lessons (Page 25)**

1. Introduction & Frequently Asked Questions

Purpose of this book

The Informational/New Family “Welcome Book” has been created as a resource to help new families understand membership in the Claudia Taylor Johnson High School Band. The book is not intended to be a “cover-to-cover” read but more a place you can go for answers to questions that may come up in the months leading up to your first rehearsals.

Mission

The mission of the Claudia Taylor Johnson High School Band is to provide each student with a well-rounded musical experience in a family-oriented and supportive environment that fosters learning, growth, and the development of practical life skills.

About the Band

The Johnson Band was founded in January of 2008 as a curricular/co-curricular offering of the North East Independent School District’s newest high school, Claudia Taylor “Lady Bird” Johnson High School. Johnson opened for its inaugural year in August 2008. In its brief history, the Johnson Band has established itself as one of the premier band programs in Texas and endeavors to become a role model for music education and student leadership in the United States.

The Band Directors at Johnson High School are Robert Lozano, Julia Donnel, Bethany Smith, and Gordon Handte. The Colorguard is under the direction of Chelsea Arenas. Kris Hartman serves as the Batterie Percussion Director.. The Director Emeritus is Alan Sharps.

The Bands of Johnson High School include the marching band, concert bands, jazz ensembles, percussion ensembles, and chamber groups. Under the “band family,” we also include the Colorguard and the twirlers.

The band website is <http://www.johnsonjaguarband.com>

What is the difference between “Marching” and “Concert Band?” Marching Band/Season rehearses and performs August through November 10th or so. The marching band is made up of all students in the band program. Concert Band/Season rehearses and performs from November through the end of the school year. We have four concert bands at Johnson. Students are placed into one of these groups based on ability level, which we determine through semester auditions in December and May of each year.

Is Marching Band required?

All students in the band program at Claudia Taylor Johnson High School participate in marching band unless they request exemption from the band director for one of the following reasons

1. ***Participation in fall athletics or dance that conflicts with fall marching band rehearsals.*** This includes club sports. We DO have athletes who participate in both marching and athletics, but want to work with families to ensure students can participate in band and athletics
2. ***Financial Concerns.*** Finances will not prevent a student from participating in band at Johnson. We have other non-marching options available. Please speak with the Head Director about this.
3. ***Medical Issues that Prevent Physical Activity.*** If you have a medical condition that prevents participation in marching band, we have other non-marching options available.

Students who are athletes may opt to participate in PEP BAND, which allows them to perform at football games in the stands/play pep tunes, and also play with the concert groups (indoor band) in the spring.

My band member doesn't want to march. Now what?

All students in the band program at Claudia Taylor Johnson High School participate in marching band unless they request exemption from the band director for reasons listed above. Many band members experience anxiety over marching because it is something new and looks difficult or seems time-consuming. We will work through this together. In most cases, students come out the other side thrilled with their experience and ready to continue for years at a time.

You may request a conference with the Head Band Director to discuss concerns unique to your band member.

My band member has a rigorous academic schedule and multiple Pre-AP or AP classes. Can they still balance band?

Yes. More than 2/3 of the program takes AP or Pre-AP classes. We maintain the highest number of Summa Cum Laude graduates each year out of any organization at Johnson High School. Many of our students are members of the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, etc. We also have several students achieve distinctions on the PSAT, including National Merit Finalist, National Merit Scholar, National Hispanic Scholar, and more.

Do incoming 9th graders have to do a music audition?

Incoming 9th graders do NOT have to audition in May coming into high school unless they wish to place into the Wind Ensemble (top concert band). We will place all other incoming 9th graders based on the middle school director's recommendation and our own experiences visiting the middle schools.

How do you determine who is a primary marcher or an alternate? We base these decisions on marching auditions in the spring of the prior school year and musical recommendations from the middle school directors and high school director observations during their visits to the middle schools. We assign marching positions based on auditions held each year. We have our auditions in March, after Spring Break. We will make final decisions on marching positions, as well as “shared spots, and those who will serve in an alternate role.

What are other band activities available at Johnson?

We offer several Jazz Bands and a Full Orchestra. Students must participate in concert bands to participate in Jazz or Full Orchestra. Jazz and Full Orchestra rehearse and perform November through May of each year, and students audition for acceptance into these groups.

What is the Claudia Taylor Johnson Band Parent Association?

The CTJBPA's mission is to support the Claudia Taylor Johnson High School Band program by raising revenue, providing support through chaperones and road crew, and managing various events throughout the year. Membership in the association is open to all current band families and alumni, and meetings occur monthly at Johnson High School. The CTJBPA is always seeking volunteers to help manage the many aspects of the band program at Johnson. If you have a unique talent in building or construction, sewing, art, or are a nurse, engineer, or small business owner, please reach out to a band director or CTJBPA Executive Board member on ways to get involved.

What is the Bands of Claudia Taylor Johnson Foundation?

The Bands of Claudia Taylor Johnson Foundation provides financial support to help all children benefit from the comprehensive music education provided by the award-winning Claudia Taylor Johnson High School, Tejada Middle School, and "Tex" Hill Middle School Bands. The Foundation also encourages Middle School families to interact and learn what to expect from the rigors of a nationally ranked marching arts program like the CTJ Band. With the help of alumni and current band families, incoming parents can learn what to expect when they join the CTJ family, including information about volunteer opportunities and how to start fundraising early.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1) ***Are we traveling to nationals in 2024-25?*** No. The band will not travel to Grand Nationals in 2024-25, though this remains a strong possibility for 2025-26. When we last surveyed in 2020, our community supported traveling to nationals every other year to reduce the cost burden on all involved.
- 2) ***Why the payment plan system?*** In January of the proceeding school year, we begin payments to ensure all families have paid in full BEFORE their band member participates in the season. We have uniform and equipment costs to prepare for the season ahead during the spring. We have struggled with families stretching payment plans longer and longer into the current year and falling behind in some years. Additionally, we have received feedback from families that the large lump sum payments due in June and August are sometimes difficult to swallow. The payment schedule addresses this concern while also ensuring that all families pay before the season begins, allowing us to pay our consultants and vendors on time. Students may not participate in band camp now unless accounts are up to date. Finally, senior families can finish fundraising during the spring of the junior year, and our eighth-grade families can begin fundraising to contribute towards their fees in high school.
- 3) ***Will the winterguard travel to Dayton in 2024-25?*** Pending the state EOC Testing schedule, it is possible. We will finalize this discussion during the summer of 2024.
- 4) ***Will there be any other travel for 2024-25?*** No overnight trips, only day travel to competitions and performances.
- 5) ***Why is band so expensive?*** Claudia Taylor Johnson High School fields one of the most innovative, engaging, and competitive marching bands in the country. The band program has become a role model in developing emotionally compelling field shows, producing top-notch musical ensembles, and preparing its students for the challenges they will face entering the real world. To create our contest productions, we employ multiple additional adjunct instructors and clinicians - somewhat like the many coaches you see on the sidelines at our athletic events - that help prepare students for performance and competition. These clinicians work with each student throughout the year to help coach them in smaller groups than the 3 ½ band directors can. Each instrument family has a specialty coach, and we have many additional instructors who work on visual fundamentals as well. Additionally, North East ISD does not provide a full-time Colorguard instructor or percussion salary, and band fees cover the cost of this. Like the clinicians, North East ISD covers travel only to the UIL Marching (1) and Concert (1) Contests each year. These fees cover participation in Bands of America Regionals, including competition charter buses or hotels if needed. Finally, North East ISD provides a modest sum to purchase and replace school-owned instruments each year. The money allocated by the district does not remotely begin to cover the cost of keeping up with our instrument inventory. Fees help purchase and replace instruments and purchase electronics and amplification equipment, uniform parts, uniform fittings, and more. Your student receives a world-class experience through their time in the band at Johnson.

6) ***Why is band more expensive at CTJ than some of our sister schools in North East ISD?*** Each campus in North East is unique in terms of its competitive goals and the experiences the students receive in the campus band program. At CTJ, we strive to be the best and provide the best experiences for our band members. This includes the best instruction, the best equipment, the best uniforms, the best shows, and the best opportunities for learning, performance, and growth for our band members, both on the field and off.

7) ***Is band this expensive at other top programs?*** Yes. The top programs around the country charge anywhere from \$1,000 to \$2,000 to participate in marching band. We work with our band parent association to help manage costs each year.

8) ***What does the Band Parent Association do to lower fees?*** The actual cost of membership in the band at Johnson is between \$1,800 and \$2,000 per student. The BPA fundraises aggressively to help reduce these fees by several hundred dollars on a typical year. We are exploring new opportunities to raise revenue to help bring down costs even more. The Bands of Claudia Taylor Johnson Foundation also provides grants for need-based students.

9) ***What if finances are a concern for my band member?*** You may schedule a conference with the Head Band Director at your convenience to discuss options for fundraising. We have many students who have fundraised their entire four years in the band through HEB Card sales or raised fees through donations and even part-time jobs.

10) ***What if I have more than one child in band?*** Families with three or more children enrolled in the band may be eligible for a discount on fees. Please schedule a conference with the Head Band Director to discuss available options.

Sample Marching Band Expense Table - a sound investment in your band member's future

Marching Band Year	Marching Band Fee - PAID TO JHS	Travel Fee (every other year) PAID SEPARATELY TO TRAVEL COMPANY	Note
2022-23	1275.00	0.00	No Travel
2023-24	1250.00	2300.00	Nationals Trip
2024-25	1275.00	0.00	No Travel
2025-26	1300.00	2450.00	Nationals Trip
Total	5125.00	4750.00	9895.00

***Please note progressive fee increases due to rising costs of goods and services*

***Travel fees are paid separately to a travel company to be announced each year NOT to Johnson HS*

2. Spring Dates & May, July, August Band Camp Dates

Marching Auditions for the Competition Team

April 15, 17, 18, 2024. To be considered for a primary spot, you would need to attend two(2) of these three days. Auditions will be held from 6:30 - 8:30pm on the band parking lot. Dress for outdoor rehearsal.

Optional help sessions for incoming 9th graders to prepare for marching - meet in the Johnson Band Hall

Tuesday, March 19th, 6:30 - 8:30pm

Monday, March 25th 6:30 - 8:30pm

Monday, April 8th 6:30 - 8:30pm

When and where is the FIRST REHEARSAL IN MAY?

Our first rehearsal for this year is Saturday May 18th, 2024. This rehearsal will be held at JOHNSON HS for members of the 2024-2025 Competitive Marching Band Woodwind, Brass, and Percussion sections only. All materials will be distributed at camp.

*****Incoming 9th graders should attend this rehearsal***

What is “May Band Rehearsal” and what is “July/August Band Camp”?

May Band Rehearsal and July/August Band Camp/Summer Training are extended periods of rehearsal held during the spring and summer months to prepare the Johnson Band for the upcoming Competitive and Football Season. We will spend time rehearsing marching and music fundamentals, as well as learning the material for our fall Field Show and football shows. We also do a variety of team building exercises during the camp, and some years have attended *Schlitterbahn*.

Beyond rehearsals, the camp and summer training serve as an opportunity for the students to come together to get to know the other members of the Johnson Band Family. Bonding opportunities take place throughout the week, as sections will spend time eating together, gathering at one another’s houses for social events, and ultimately perform together for the first time as members of a World Class Program. Camp and summer training are always an enjoyable time and are key ingredients for the success of the program.

When are May rehearsals for this year?

The May band rehearsals are required for all students participating in marching band for the upcoming school year. These rehearsals will be held at JOHNSON HS for members of the 2024-25 Competitive Marching Band woodwind, brass, percussion, and colorguard sections. All materials will be distributed at camp. Lunch will not be provided this year.

Saturday May 18th 10:00am - 5:00pm at Johnson High School

*****COLORGUARD INCLUDED IN THESE REHEARSALS**

Is attendance at all May, July, and August rehearsals mandatory?

Barring emergency or academic conflict, all members of the Johnson Band should attend all scheduled rehearsals. Incoming 9th graders/current 8th graders may be excused from the MAY BAND REHEARSALS if it conflicts with any middle school events (band, athletic, UIL, ETC). If you have a conflict, please reach out to the Head Band Director as soon as possible to discuss.

Why are summer rehearsals so long?

Our camp/summer training schedule is comparable to those programs competing at the highest level of UIL and Bands of America, and is designed to allow us to learn the fundamentals necessary to perform at a World Class level. We learn a great deal of our fall field show during summer training. Once school starts, we are limited to 8 hours of rehearsal a week outside the school day. In a normal summer training day, we will rehearse as much in one day as we do an entire week when school starts. Many programs outside of Texas that we will compete against rehearse anywhere from 14-16 hours a week outside of school, compared to our 8. It is critical for us to learn as much as possible during summer training, as we are limited when school starts.

Physical

All marching band members are required to have an annual physical and a form on file signed by a Physician. This must be current in the CALENDAR year (*EX. A physical in 2023 is good for all of 2023, but a student would need a new one for 2024 calendar year, etc*).

2024-25 BAND REGISTRATION FOR ALL BAND MEMBERS

Registration will be completed ONLINE for 2024-25 using JOTFORMS to submit medical and travel paperwork. This includes an NEISD Physical Form and a copy of the Medical Insurance Card. Band members will also submit Code of Conduct Forms and Financial Agreements online. Fees are due according to the payment plan outlined on page 15. **All paperwork must be on file before band camps starts.**

May Rehearsal Commitment

May Rehearsal Schedule for Woodwinds, Brass, Percussion, & Guard

MAY 18th

10:00am - 12:30pm Rehearsal

12:30pm - 2:00pm Lunch (no meal service available)**

2:00pm - 5:00pm Rehearsal

July Summer Band Events 2024

Over the summer, we will offer various evenings where the band hall is open for practicing. Due to the difficulty of their skills, Colorguard and Percussion hold these additional camps in July:

Colorguard Camp Early Start - All members of Colorguard start band camp 1 week early

Monday July 15th - Friday July 19th, 2024

Percussion Camp - All members of Batterie & Front Ensemble star band camp 1 week early

Monday July 15th - Friday July 19th, 2024

Band Leadership Training ***All student leaders*

Friday July 19th, 2024 5:00pm - 7:30pm

Saturday July 20th, 2024 9:00am - 3:00pm

July/August Summer Training Events 2024

Competitive Band Members attend ALL rehearsals.

Non Competitive Band Members attend 10:00am - 4:00pm WEEK #3

BAND CAMP BEGINS FOR ALL COMPETITIVE BAND

MEMBERS Monday July 22nd, 2024

WEEK #1 - July 22nd - July 27th (Monday through Saturday)

8:00 - 12:00pm Rehearsal

12:00pm - 1:30pm Lunch Break

1:30pm - 6:00pm Rehearsal

WEEK #2 - July 29th - August 3rd (Monday through Saturday)

9:00am - 12:00pm Rehearsal

12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch

1:00pm - 4:00pm Rehearsal

4:00pm - 6:00pm Dinner

6:00pm - 9:00pm Rehearsal

WEEK #3 - August 5th - August 10th (Monday - Saturday)

9:00am - 12:00pm Rehearsal

12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch

1:00pm - 4:00pm Rehearsal

4:00pm - 6:00pm Dinner

6:00pm - 9:00pm Rehearsal

Final schedule for week through based on the start date for 2024-25 TBA in January

****WE WILL OFFER A MEAL SERVICE AT CAMP - MORE DETAILS TO COME IN JULY*

2024-25 Competitive Marching Band/Colorguard Fees

*****This includes alternates/reserve marchers*****

Competitive Marching Band Enhancement Fee \$1275

*****Includes NEISD Uniform Fee covering Use, Dry Cleanings, & Repair***

*****Includes Colorguard Uniform Rental Fee***

*****Includes purchase of WW, Brass, & Percussion Uniform components***

Instrument Fee (If using school owned instrument) \$35

- *Covers instrument usage through the year*
- *One fee for concert AND marching horn*

Performance/ Travel 25%

- Charter Bus - BOA Regional 1
- Charter Bus - BOA Regional 2
- School Bus Transportation BOA San Antonio Regional Saturday
- Trucking expenses for all competition events
- Marching contest entry fees
- Concert contest entry fees
- Copyright expenses

Instruction/ Clinicians 40%

- Colorguard Director Salary
- Percussion Director Salary
- Visual Caption Manager Salary
- Marching Band Drill design (Visual Routine) • Marching Band Woodwind and Brass Book Design • Marching Band Batterie Percussion Design
- Marching Band Front Ensemble Design
- Marching Band Electronics Design and Consulting • Marching Band Choreography for WW, Brass, and Batterie
- Colorguard Assistant Instructor Position
- Marching Instructor Positions
- Brass and Woodwind Masterclass Clinicians

Equipment/ Uniforms 35%

- Purchase and upgrade of school owned instruments
- Purchase of marching uniform components • Rental of colorguard costume components • Marching uniform fittings
- Rental of Tuxedo (1st/2nd band boys)
- Purchase of props, screens, and visual aides for marching show
- Purchase of colorguard flags, rifles, sabers
- Purchase of percussion mallets, sticks, heads • Purchase and upgrade of electronics and amplification equipment including cables, speakers, wires, and microphones

2024-25 Non-Competitive Band Fee Structure

Non- Competitive Marching Band Enhancement Fee \$1000

****Includes NEISD Uniform Fee covering Use, Dry Cleanings, & Repair**

****Participation at all football games, parades, and first two half-time shows**

Instrument Fee (If using school owned instrument) \$35

- Covers instrument usage through the year
- One fee for concert AND marching horn

Instruction/ Clinicians 50%

Equipment/ Uniforms 40%

Performance/ Travel 10%

- Optional contest travel participation; students who attend would serve in crew role/non performance role
- Concert contest entry fees
- Copyright expenses
- Trucking expenses for parade and football performances

- Colorguard Director Salary
- Percussion Director Salary
- Visual Caption Manager Salary
- Marching Band Drill design (Visual Routine) • Marching Band Woodwind and Brass Book Design • Marching Band Batterie Percussion Design
 - Marching Band Front Ensemble Design
- Marching Band Electronics Design and Consulting • Marching Band Choreography for WW, Brass, and Batterie
- Colorguard Assistant Instructor Position
- Marching Instructor Positions
- Brass and Woodwind Masterclass Clinicians

- Purchase and upgrade of school owned instruments • Rental of classic school marching uniform
- Rental of colorguard costume components
- Marching uniform fittings
- Rental of Tuxedo (1st/2nd band boys)
- Purchase of props, screens, and visual aides for marching show
- Purchase of colorguard flags, rifles, sabers
- Purchase of percussion mallets, sticks, heads
- Purchase and upgrade of electronics and amplification equipment including cables, speakers, wires, and microphones
- Purchase of reeds, oils, corks, and supplies
- Purchase and or rental of sheet music/method books

2024-25 Marching Band & Colorguard Payment Plan

Band fees are due by check payable to Johnson HS Band or payment by Credit Card by the date listed below. Please contact Mrs. Chelsea Arenas, our Accounts Manager, at StudentAccounts@johnsonjaguarband.org.

If you need to make a payment, you can pay online with a credit card by visiting: <https://www.jotform.com/240166979971169>

Competitive Band - Returning 10th-12th grade WW, Brass, & Percussion

February 1st \$275
March 1st \$250
April 1st \$250
May 1st \$250
August 1st \$250

Competitive Band - Returning 10th-12th grade Flags/Colorguard/Dancers

April 1st \$275
May 1st \$250
June 1st \$250
May 1st \$250
August 1st \$250

Competitive Band - Incoming 9th grade band members

February 15th \$275
March 15th \$250
April 15th \$250
May 15th \$250
August 1st \$250

Non-Competitive Band Members

May 15th 50% of fees
August 1st Remaining balance of fees

Competitive Band "Fabric Puller" Band Fees

August 1st \$60 Fee

We have a refund/cancellation policy in place for students who are unable to continue with band after they sign-up. *Voluntary termination of membership* includes students who change their mind after signing up, decide to pursue other interests, or find themselves in a disciplinary situation that causes them to be removed from band. *Involuntary termination of membership* includes students who are injured, move to another school, or a family member experiences a loss of employment or serious life issue. ***Terminations of membership must be in writing to the Head Band Director; refunds issued based on the date on this termination notice.*** See refund structure below.

Voluntary Refund Structure

I.e. "Change of heart," decides to pursue other interests; May also include removal from program due to disciplinary issue

Prior to June 1st - \$275.00 forfeited

June 1st - August 1st - 50% forfeited

After August 1st - 75% forfeited

Involuntary Refund Structure

I.e. Injury, moving to new school, loss of employment, etc.

Prior to June 1st - \$275.00 forfeited

After June 1st - 25% non-refundable, remaining balance refunded at the discretion of Head Band Director & Campus Administration

What is NOT included in the fee - WW, Brass, and Perc

1. **"Show" or "Classic Uniform" - Under armor shirt and compression shorts.** *Both COMPETITIVE and NON-COMPETITIVE Band wear these.* When we wear the uniforms, you will need a BLACK under armor or compression shirt to be worn under this. No sleeveless shirts or tank tops permitted. These are available through our Band Parent Association for purchase or you can buy at Wal*Mart.

Approximate total cost - Shorts \$15.00 per short, Shirt \$18.00 per shirt

2. **Marching Shoes & Black Socks** - MTX Marching Shoes. Orders will be taken in June. These shoes are required attire for ALL band members. You should also wear black socks.

Approximate total cost - Approx Shoes \$40.00 per pair, socks \$4.00 per pair

3. **Gloves** - All band members wear gloves with their uniform. These will be fitted during band camp. We wear WHITE gloves with the classic uniform and BLACK gloves with the new. Percussion members will not wear gloves.

Approximate total cost - Gloves \$4.00 per pair (Recommend 3-4 pairs)

4. **"Modern Uniform" - Capezio dance belt/dance underwear or Body Suit.** *Only required for Competition band members.* When we wear the new uniform, which the pants are made of extremely form fitting velvet and spandex, band members in VARSITY band will need to wear a Dance Belt/Dance Underwear. *Non-competitive Band members do not wear the show uniform and can use traditional black compression spandex shorts underneath.*

Approximate total cost - Men & Ladies \$38.00 per pair 14

5. **Music Binder & Sheet Protectors** - Required for music.

Approximate total cost - \$5.00 - 10.00

6. “Dot Book” Small Notebook about 3 X 5 inches in size - This can be notebook cards or index cards used to record coordinates and positions on the field

Approximate total cost - \$5.00

7. Show Water Jug/Ball Cap - The water jugs usually come with a decal that pertains to the show and are labeled with the student’s name. The fact that the jugs look the same makes them easy to identify when we bring students to games and contests. The ball caps are part of our “uniform” when we are not in our marching band uniforms.

Approximate total cost - \$35.00

Section T-Shirt & Show Shirt Cost

Each year, we will sell a “Show Shirt” that your band member can purchase. Many families purchase these as well and collect the set for 4 years. The shirts run \$25.00 - \$30.00 and orders are taken in August.

Each section in the band creates a shirt. These are not required, but many purchase. They run \$15.00 - \$20.00 depending on quantity ordered.

Private Lessons - Not Included in Fee, But Highly Recommended - Private Lessons from a highly qualified instructor are the best way our band members can improve on their instruments and contribute to the program. We certainly do not require these lessons as each band member will receive additional tutoring during sectionals and music checks, however, all of our students who achieve success in the All Region & All State Band Process take lessons. Approximately 70% of the program currently studies privately.

The cost of lessons varies depending upon the qualifications and experience of the teacher and ranges from \$40.00 - \$60.00 per hour.

A band member in the 9th grade might take a 30 minute lesson, whereas a student in grades 10-12 might take a 45 or 60 minute lesson. These meetings occur usually once a week through the year. A student/teacher might meet for 48 out of the 52 weeks.

This investment can range from \$1800.00 - \$3,000.00 for that time should you pursue regular lessons. And again, it is an investment in both your student AND the Johnson band.

What is NOT included in the fee - Colorguard members

- 1. Jazz Shoes** - Approximately \$50
- 2. Colorguard Gloves** - Different than marching band gloves. These cost \$20.00 per pair, and you will need 1-2 pairs for the year.
- 3. Colorguard Warm-up Outfit** - Pants and a jacket worn during warm-ups at shows. The total combines cost is approximately \$130.00 for the full set. This set should last 4 years.
- 4. Assets Undergarment** - \$35.00 worn under uniform.
- 5. Make-up** - We will provide specifics, but the cost is approximately \$30.00.
- 6. Guard Box Supplies** - Occasional \$5.00 collection to fill the guard box with supplies. In addition, tape for each band member will cost \$5.00 a roll, using 5 rolls.

OPTIONAL ITEMS FOR ALL NOT INCLUDED IN FEE

- 7. Instrument Rental Fee** - If you use a school owned instrument from NEISD, you will pay a rental fee for the year. It is a **one-time** charge of \$35.00 and includes use and maintenance.
- 8. Band Duffel Bag** - Many band members want to have an embroidered duffel bag to carry their items. These can be customized to have their name on them.

Approximate total cost - Small Bag \$35.00
Large Bag \$50.00
- 10. Band Banquet** - Each year, band banquet tickets are not included in band fees. Band members are NOT required to attend, but most do. These tickets run approximately \$40.00 each.
- 11. Meals** - We offer a meal service at each football game and competitive event. Meals are between \$10.00 - \$15.00 and can be pre-ordered online with your credit card.
- 12. Solo & Ensemble Fee** - Solos or membership in an ensemble are approx. \$15.00 each.
- 13. Solo & Ensemble Accompanist Fees** - If your band member plays a piece that requires an accompanist, the fee is usually \$100.00 for a Class 1 Solo and \$80.00 for a Class 2 or 3. This includes 2 rehearsals and the performance. If your band member advances to UIL State Solo & Ensemble and opts to perform, the fee for a school

accompanist if \$100.00 additional, which includes a rehearsal and the performance in Austin. You are NOT required to use a school accompanist if you have one who can play your music and charges less.

- 14. TMEA Region Band Audition Fee** - If your band member is in Band 1 or 2, they are required to audition for All Region Band. This is a once a year charge of \$15.00 and covers all levels of audition they make from District to Region to Area to State.
- 15. Fiesta Attire - Special Attire for Fiesta Parades and Events** - Approximately \$15.00 for those participating. We marched in the 2022 and 2023 Fiesta Parades and will march next in the 2024 parade.
- 16. Optional Trips and Travel** - On years we take trips that are not mandatory, these are not included in band fees.
- 17. Student Leadership Camp** - Those student leaders who attend our camp may spend \$40.00 or so on meals and supplies if we hold the camp at Johnson.

Items percussion families may spend money on —

- 1. Stick tape** - Used on drum sticks for marching - like electrical tape \$5.00 a roll
- 2. Percussion Wristbands & Headbands** - \$20.00 - worn during marching season
- 3. Percussion Under Armor** - Custom - \$35.00 - worn during marching season
- 4. Percussion Section Jackets** - options - \$50.00 - \$75.00
- 5. Practice Pads** - For individual home practice, prices vary

Letter Jacket Expenses -

Students can earn their letterman jacket through being in band and meeting certain criteria. Those who do earn a jacket will find that NEISD pays for the Jacket and Letter. Additional patches and embroidery are extra. Should your band member earn a jacket, some families spend between \$25.00 - \$100.00 extra on additional patches, embroidery, or other items for the jacket. Again, this is OPTIONAL, but we want all to be prepared.

A Sound Investment in Your Band Member's Future

While band can appear on the surface to be a drain on your wallet, the quality of the experience provided to your band member is invaluable. There is no greater program at Johnson High School than band in terms of building character, self-esteem, supporting the core classes, and training students for the challenges facing them beyond high school. Band will provide them invaluable opportunities to learn team work, leadership, and marketing skills that will help them get into the college they want and land the job of their dreams some day.

4. A/B Marcher and Alternate Policy

What is an A/B marching position?

In some cases, we will split a position between two students and they will alternate performances every other week. They rehearse and learn the spots/routine together to gain experience, and will perform every other football games, and divide competitions. We determine a schedule in advance to allow families to plan ahead to know when their student will perform. When A/B students are not performing, they will help with props or bringing equipment onto the field. We usually split regionals into Prelims/Finals, and then alternate the competitions with single performances in a day. A/B Marchers are considered “sharing” a primary spot - and will compete/perform throughout the season. If another position opens on the field due to a student failing, quitting, or getting hurt, the A/B marcher will have first opportunity to fill those positions.

What is an alternate also known as a “reserve marcher?”

As with most competitive, large, high school marching bands, the Claudia Taylor Johnson High School Marching Band has a reserve marcher policy. In order to design a particular musical and visual effect, a competitive marching show is written for a specific number of marchers. A competitive show is always written with fewer positions than there are members in the marching band. A reserve marcher is a student who has not been assigned to a specific position in the competitive marching show. In some ways, a reserve marcher is analogous to that of a 2nd string player in competitive sports in that the reserve marcher is in good standing and ready to perform when called up to the field. ***9th graders who attend extra rehearsals and all of band camp are given every opportunity the 10th-12th graders receive to earn a primary spot in Competitive Band. Students are judged based on their ability but also their pace of improvement and how fast they pick up on concepts and ideas.***

Specifically, the reserve marcher will:

- learn all fundamentals
- memorize all music
- learn a position in the show (“shadow” a primary marcher)
- assist with props for performances
- be ready to take another marcher’s position
- be involved in all trips, football games, pre game, parades, and special performance opportunities
- In a short, a reserve marcher does everything that a primary marcher does except for marching 100% of the time in the varsity band show.

Who selects a primary marcher versus an A/B or reserve marcher? The staff that is hired by Claudia Taylor Johnson High School will consult with the Head Band Director and offer their recommendations. The Head Band Director will make all decisions on assigning primary or reserve marching status.

Attendance record, music and drill memorization, body coordination (marching and dancing), and a healthy cooperative attitude will be among the criteria considered for primary marcher status.

Why do we have reserve marchers?

There are two reasons for creating reserve marchers.

First, the show has been written for a specific number of students. In order to commission music and drill, an estimate of the number of students in each section and the entire band must be submitted months in advance. Otherwise, drill maneuvers and music will be received late, creating a “catch up” form of rehearsal. That process would always put our students at a competitive disadvantage compared to other bands. An effort to create a position for every student that registers for band at the beginning of summer band camp would mean that our drill may not be ready until as late as October, leaving only a few weeks of season remaining.

Secondly, we have occasionally experienced attendance difficulties, lack of music or drill memorization, and work ethic issues that make it impossible for the band as whole to remain competitive. When one person is missing from the field or out of position, it affects the entire group. It is vital that all marchers on the field be well prepared to march and perform as a cohesive unit. The reserve marcher policy will ensure that every marcher on the field is completely dedicated to the success of the entire band.

Special Notes:

- A marcher’s status will **NOT** be determined on the basis of parent involvement or donations.
- A delinquent, required payment may subject a marcher to reserve status. • A history of on-time full payment **does not guarantee** that a marcher will be given primary status at any time during the season.
- All part assignments and positions are subject to change for the benefit of the band and the individual.
- A primary marcher who misses multiple rehearsals and or practices maybe subject to replacement by a reserve marcher
- A primary marcher who falls behind or struggles to perform either the music or marching routine maybe replaced by a reserve marcher at the discretion of the Head Band Director

Challenges

A reserve marcher may challenge a primary marcher within their section up **through the first three week progress report**. After this time, it becomes difficult to switch personnel.

Challenges (Cont. from Page 20)

1. For our purpose, a reserve marcher may identify anyone within the section (I.E. a flute may challenge any other flute) for their position, if it is believed that the reserve marcher will perform at a higher level.
2. Challenges require a 48 hour notice.
3. The Head Band Director will contact the Parents of both students involved in the challenge before and after with the results.
4. A challenge will consist of band members playing their show with step outs for the Head Director, and two other staff members. This can be done at the conclusion of a rehearsal during the week.
5. In the event a reserve marcher wins a challenge, they will switch positions with the Primary beginning at the following practice.
6. A reserve marcher is limited to three challenge opportunities during the first three weeks.
7. A Primary who becomes a reserve marcher must wait 48 hours before either re challenging for their position, or challenging another band member.

All decisions on this are left at the Discretion of the band staff, and will be based on excellence both musically and visually.

5. Instrument/Rehearsal Supplies, & Uniforms

Rehearsal Supplies

The following is a list of supplies to have at each rehearsal. This list is not all inclusive:

- A. All issued music
- B. Pencil & Highlighter
- C. Instrument
- D. All supplies relative to their instrument.
- E. All marching related equipment (during marching season)
 1. Drill / chart book
 2. Lyre / plastic sheets
 3. All issued music in a blue binder
 4. Other marching equipment as needed.
- F. Tuner & Metronome

Flutes

- Tuning and cleaning rods
- Cleaning cloth
- Key oil
- Approved type instrument
- Screwdriver Set

Clarinets

- 5 good playable reeds. Vandoren blue box is the recommended reed.
- Reed guard
- Pencil Box with ziplock plastic bag for reeds
- Ligature
- Proper mouthpiece with cap (Vandoren M13 Lyre or Vandoren M15)
- Key oil (Case Storage)
- Bore oil (Home Storage)
- Cleaning swab
- Approved type instrument
- Cork grease

Saxes / Low Reeds as applicable

- 5 good playable reeds. Vandoren is the approved reed.
- Reed guard
- Ligature
- Proper mouthpiece (Selmer C star)
- Pad and neck saver
- Approved type instrument
- Pencil Box with ziplock plastic bag for reeds

Trumpet

- Valve oil (Al Cass or Blue Juice)
- Polishing cloth
- Mouthpiece (Bach 5c / 3c) or other director approved mouthpiece
- Approved type instrument

French Horn

- Rotary / Valve oil (Al Cass - Marching Horn) (Holton Rotary - Concert Horn)
- Polishing cloth
- Approved mouthpiece (Holton Farkas)
- Approved type instrument

Trombone

- Slide cream
- Spray Water Bottle
- Polishing Cloth
- Mouthpiece (Bach 5G or 4G) or other director approved mouthpiece
- Approved type instrument

Baritone / Euphonium

- Valve oil (Al Cass or Blue Juice)
- Mouthpiece (Bach 5G or 4G) or other director approved mouthpiece
- Polishing cloth
- Approved type instrument

Tuba

- Rotator / Valve Oil (Al Cass or Blue Juice -Valves / Holton - Rotors)
- Mouthpiece (Helleberg/ Bach 24 AW / Miraphone Rose Model)
- Polishing cloth
- Approved type instrument

Percussion

- Snare sticks - Vic Firth General
- Xylophone mallets (Musser M-4, 213)
- Vibes / Marimba mallet (Blue Medium)
- Timpani mallets (Firth Staccato)
- Stick bag
- List of approved equipment provided by the percussion instructor.

Color Guard

- Pole
- Flag
- Rifle or Saber (if applicable)
- Electrical Tape
- Gloves

Uniforms

Formal band uniforms are provided by NEISD for the musicians and will be kept at the school between events. The district pays for cleaning uniforms several times during the year. Students are fitted for a uniform and hat during camp.

Our marching band utilizes two uniforms - a “Classic Uniform”, which has a beautiful Columbia/Navy fade, and a “Competition Uniform” that students who are in Primary Marching Spots or A/B marching spots will wear to compete. The competition uniform changes from year to year, while the classic uniform remains the same.

Marching Performances

- Marching Jacket, Marching Pants, Shako (Hat)
- Dance Belt or Dance undergarment - can be a body suit
- Black Spandex/Underarmor type Shirt - purchase through CTJBPA or at Walmart, Target, ETC (WW, Brass, Percussion)
- Marching Shoes (MTX Brand purchased through Band Parents)
- Knee-high, solid black socks
- Gloves
- Johnson Band baseball cap (For football games, provided through band fees)

Pep Rally Performances

- Blue Jeans or Black Shorts
- White/Black CTJ Shirt (provided in band fees)
- Tennis shoes
- Black Belt if wearing jeans

Formal Concerts

- Gentlemen: Tuxedos for Band Members in Wind Ensemble; White Button Down Shirt, Black Tie, & Black Pants for Non Wind-Ensemble students
 - ⌘ Honors Wind Ensemble members wear a black shirt with Tux
 - ⌘ Black Shoes, Black Socks underneath
 - ⌘ Students are responsible for custom fittings on pants/jackets
- Ladies: Solid Black Shirt, Solid Black Pants, Close-toed black Shoes ⌘
No dresses, skirts, or gowns may be worn for formal performances

Pep-Rally or Casual Black/White CTJ Band Shirts

We will provide students with a black/white CTJ shirt used for casual performances throughout the year. These shirts are provided by one of our sponsors.

Show Shirts

Students may order T-shirts each year specifically designed for that season's marching show, called "show shirts."

6. School Rented Instruments

NEISD Instrument Policy & Fee

The North East Independent School District will provide a limited number of instruments for student use. These instruments include such highly expensive instruments as the Bassoon, Oboe, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, French horn, Euphonium, Tuba, and general Percussion equipment. This equipment is generally purchased by the school district for student use because of its extremely high value. ***Thus, all school owned equipment must be handled with optimum care.*** Students failing to care for, or take care of their school issued instrument will lose the privilege to use such instruments. The following is a list of general procedures for school owned instruments:

1. Students and parents must sign an instrument agreement form before the instrument can be used by the student.
2. The North East I.S.D. will assess a fee for routine cleaning and maintenance of school district owned instruments. ***All students issued a district owned instrument will be required to pay this fee.***
3. Each instrument will be issued in good playing condition. Each issued instrument will be checked and cleaned prior to issue. Students must maintain their instruments.
4. The band member is financially responsible for all equipment and/or materials checked out to him or her.
5. All equipment and materials must be kept in their proper storage location when not in use.

6. North East Independent School District does not provide insurance for individually or school owned equipment. It is required of all students utilizing school owned instruments to provide insurance coverage for the said instrument. ***Students will be held responsible for school owned instruments issued to them. This responsibility will include fire, theft, accidental damage, abuse and general maintenance not incurred through normal use.***

School Instruments Available to Rent

We offer Piccolo, Oboe, English Horn, Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, French Horns, Euphonium, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Percussion

We do not rent Flutes, Bb Clarinets, Alto Saxophones, Trumpets, or Tenor Trombones. You may rent these from a local music vendor.

7. Letter Jackets

Awards and Letter Jacket Policy

The following guidelines are established by NEISD for awarding letters and jackets to students who meet the criteria in the designated program. **STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING TRACK OF THEIR POINTS EACH YEAR earned towards letter jackets.** Please do not e-mail a Director to ask ... students and parents are responsible for keeping track of their point totals during the year.

1. The awards must be made within the academic year the student qualifies
2. A lettering guideline in each department will be followed. In order to letter, a student must participate as required, respect the school in a manner approved by the director and complete the season in good standing.
3. The director must recommend the student for an award and forward recommendations to the Executive Director of Student Activities for approval.
4. The Executive Director will keep on file a "letterman" list, which should be presented by the director within two weeks after the season is completed.
5. Awards will be given for exemplary representation of the school. Award recipients will continue to be subject to the rules and regulations of the school district.

There are now three ways to earn a letter jacket in band that are recognized by NEISD. Please circle the number that describes your qualifications to receive a Letter Jacket. Only one of the options is needed to qualify. Circle one:

1. Qualify for AND attend Area Auditions. This is the third level in the All-State audition Process.
2. Perform as a senior in band, having been in band for three previous years.
3. Earn 10 points from the following event list during a single year (Please complete the reverse side of this form)

<i>Event</i>	<i>Event Points</i>	<i>Possible Points</i>
TMEA District Band Placement in Early November	1	1
TMEA Region Jazz Placement in September	1	1
TMEA Region Band Chair Audition in Late Nov.	2	2
TMEA Region Clinic and Concert Performance	3	3
TMEA Area Audition in January	4	4
UIL Solo/Ensemble Contest Division 1	2 Per event	4
UIL Solo/Ensemble Contest Division 2	1 per event	2
UIL State Solo/Ensemble Contest Division 1	3 per event	6
UIL State Solo/Ensemble Contest Division 2	2 per event	4
Other participation/director discretion	1 per event	2

8. Private Lessons

In order to achieve a high level of excellence, the Johnson Band *strongly encourages* students to secure private instruction from one of the specialists below. Rehearsals during the school day provide students with broad goals on their instruments, concepts to improve upon, and train each band member in ensemble listening and performance skills. However, we cannot stress enough the importance of one-on-one private instruction with a qualified specialist to aid each student in his or her quest for musical excellence. A weekly lesson with a private instructor will provide students with individual attention on all state music, band music, and fundamental concepts, all of which will serve to improve the overall level of the Johnson Band. More information on preferred instructors can be found in the Band Hall or by contacting a Director.

DISCLAIMER — the instructors below have been vetted and are the very best quality for the money. We respect the investment you are making and want your student to have the highest caliber of instruction possible. If your band member is studying with someone not on this list, please check with us to make sure you are getting what you are paying for. Please do not fall into the trap of spending money on someone who is not helping your student be at their very best.

Johnson Band Recommended Private Instructors

Flute/Piccolo

Bev Frittelli
Emily Gurwitz
Stephanie Husley

Oboe

Mark Ackerman - Retired, San Antonio Symphony

Clarinet & Bass Clarinet

Dr. Nicholas Councilor, UTSA - *Primary Instructor*
Dr. Tyler Webster

Bassoon

Mark Rogers
Josh Ballinger

Saxophone

Keith Witt
Matthew Trevino
Josue Mora

Trumpet

Forrest Spengler - *Primary Trumpet Instructor*

French Horn

Dr. Brittany White - *Primary Horn Instructor*
Erin Amendola

Trombone & Bass Trombone

Joe Dixon - *Primary Trombone Instructor*

Euphonium

Joshua Johnson
Jarrett Lipman

Tuba

Joshua Johnson
Joe Dixon
Charles Agueros

Percussion

Craig Turner
George Garza
Kris Hartman