

BAND GLOSSARY

All-State Band – See Region Band and TMEA.

Secondary Marcher – These are participants in the marching show are not the primary marcher for their drill assignment. These students may be asked to learn a different spot than they were initially assigned to fill a hole left by an ineligible member. If at any time a secondary marcher wants to challenge a member of the band for their spot, they should fill out a challenge form and turn it in to Mr. Saldana the Monday of the week they want to do the challenge.

Remind Alerts – The Ridge Point High School Band uses a smartphone app called “Remind” to communicate with both Parents and Students. There are two different communities in the Remind App - one for Parents and one for Students. We do this so that Parents are not bothered by frequent schedule, practice, and homework messages that are sent to Students. Parents are sent relevant messages such as last-minute changes in schedules, arrival and departure ETAs, upcoming event information, and so on. **Sometimes the Remind App is the ONLY way certain messages are conveyed. Installing the Remind App is REQUIRED for all band members and is HIGHLY recommended for all Parents.** Additional information regarding the Remind App can be found on the Current Band Students and Parent pages on this website.

Band Fees – These are mandatory fees that are collected from every band member. These fees are to help pay for travel (hotels and meals when we travel), bus rentals, competition entry fees, master classes, clinicians, and a host of other expenses that a band of this caliber must face.

There is a fee payment schedule set up with deadlines for each payment. You can find the due dates on the calendar. Please note that the first payment is due during the summer and must be paid or a marching spot cannot be offered without an established payment plan. From time to time, different parts of the band will be invited to perform at something like a showcase or a convention (see PASIC and Midwest), but these additional fees will only be charged to the group involved. (For example, if percussionists travelled to PASIC, only percussionists who attend the trip pay those fees.) In addition, the guard will have their own fees related to equipment and costumes (see Guard Fees). The directors and Booster Board work year-round to not only keep these fees as low as possible by working with vendors, but also by organizing ways to help defray the costs through a band scholarship. Students can apply for a “need-based” scholarship that covers 50% of their band/guard fees for the year. Applications are due before the start of summer band to our RPBB Scholarship Committee. Please contact Mr. Saldaña for more information. (note: scholarships only apply towards annual band/guard fees, NOT towards Band Spring Trips)

Information about how to pay Band Fees can be found at [here](#).

The Band Hall – The band hall is where the directors’ office, band lockers, guard room and booster mailboxes are located. It is the home base for the band. Booster meetings are held here. It is in the southeast corner of the building.

The Band Lot – This is the section of the parking lot where the marching band practices. It is in the back of the school in the southeast corner of campus. It's easily found by looking for the band tower. Because of the way it faces, we highly recommend wearing sunglasses and a hat to after school rehearsals to protect your eyes. Parents are also welcomed to watch practice quietly and without interruption. As a side note: we share this space with the RPHS Marine Corps JROTC and the Royals Dance Team. You may see them out there doing their drill when we aren't using the space.

Band/Guard Leadership Team – These are director appointed student leaders who help run the guard, the band, and the different band sections. There are drum majors, caption captains (Woodwind, Brass, Percussion, Color guard), section leaders, and squad leaders. Auditions are held each spring for the upcoming year.

The Band Tower – This is the tall two-tiered metal structure with the ladder in the parking lot. The directors use it to view the band from above during marching practice.

Bands of America—Sometimes referred to as BOA or Music for All, a competition circuit separate from USBands, TMEA, and UIL.

Banquet – This is a ticketed event organized by the Band Boosters. Ticket information will be sent out as the events get closer. The banquet is traditionally during the last month of school. All are welcome at these events.

Battery – also known as Drumline. These are the percussionists who march. (See also The Pit)

Booster Board – The band booster board is made up of several volunteers elected by the booster club to serve for a pre-determined amount of time to help run the band organization. The list of who is currently on the board can be found on the website under "Booster Club" [here](#). You will see many emails from the various divisions of the board, but they will all come through the Band Secretary. We strive to keep emails short and to the point, but there is a lot of information for a band this size, so please take the time to read these communications or at least save them so you have them for future reference. Please do not hesitate to contact any board member with your questions. We are happy to help you navigate all that is band and guard.

Booster Club and Meetings – As a band parent, you are part of the Booster Club. We highly encourage you to attend the monthly Booster meetings starting in August. This is where many questions are answered, and a lot of information can be learned in a short amount of time. The meetings are generally on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the band hall but check your band calendar for details or exceptions. Each month there will be brief updates from the Booster Board members and Head Band Director will give vital band information as well as address any questions.

Buses/Busing/Shuttles – For band travel, the band arranges regular school buses to and from football games and local events. In the case of longer travel, the band will hire travel coaches.

Calendar – your number one go-to guide for what’s going on and when. The calendar will be updated from time to time. Updates are highlighted in yellow. The calendar “lives” on Charms and can be downloaded/printed from that site once you log in.

Camps – See Guard Camps and Percussion Camp.

Challenges – marching spot challenges. See Marching Spot.

Ridge Point Solo Contest/Ridge Point Ensemble Contest – This is the high school’s solo & ensemble competition in the Spring. It is only for RPHS students. Each student is required to prepare and perform an ensemble piece and has the option to also perform a solo piece. Accompanists are provided, but parents are responsible for their fees. The confidence this festival instills in our band students is immeasurable. They learn they can stand up in front of people and perform and this teaches them that they can stand up in front of anyone and speak. Students also may participate in the UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest to advance to the Texas State Solo & Ensemble Contest held in the spring in Austin.

Chaperoning – Please consider chaperoning for the band. We need chaperones for buses to and from football games. We also need chaperones on our spring trips. Chaperones pay for their own travel (unless we go by bus), meals and accommodations, but if you really want to see the band up close and personal, this is a good option. Watch for emails about chaperoning opportunities.

Charms – Charms is our band-only, password-protected site that consolidates all internal band information for parents and students.

Click [HERE](#) for more information on logging in to Charms. If you need assistance, please email amanda.marquart@fortbendisd.com. If you have any difficulties the direct link for Charms login in is <https://www.charmsoffice.com/public/parents.asp> The school code is: RidgePointHSBand, and your password is your student’s six digit student ID number without the leading 0. You will be required to change your password on your first login to Charms.

Communication – The band is large, and the directors and booster board will have a lot of information to share with you. We send out a weekly newsletter on Sunday evenings to consolidate that week’s information into one email. All band email communication is sent through our band secretary, so our emails will come from info@rpband.org. Please take the time to read these emails. The directors also communicate via text for quick things (See Remind Alerts). There is also a monthly booster meeting (See Booster Club and Meetings) at which you can ask questions for any band issue. In addition to all these ways to get information, we have our public band web site at rpband.org and our password-protected Charms page which has several documents, forms, and volunteer listings. (See Charms). The band calendar is frequently updated with changes, so please make note of changes sent out or check it for updates. If you

are unclear about anything, please contact the appropriate booster board member or anyone in a band t-shirt. (See Booster Board) Everyone is happy to help.

Communications Officer – The band has a board member who handles contacting the local media and so forth. All our media contact should come from this person and with the approval of the Head Director. With a band this size, we know it's very exciting when we do well and we want everyone to know, but these things need to come from the directors, please. If there is an event or an acknowledgement that you feel should be addressed and isn't, please contact our publicity person at info@rpband.org.

Competitions/Contests – The marching band and the individual concert bands all compete at various levels. Please refer to Marching Contests, UIL, and TMEA. Please also see Region Band/Region Orchestra. The Guard competes as part of the Marching Band in the fall and has Guard-only contests in the winter and spring (See Winter Guard and WGI).

Concert Bands/Season – Generally speaking, this is the spring semester. We have three concert bands at RPHS: Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band. Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band prepares for and competes at UIL Concert & Sight-Reading competition in April. RPHS Bands consistently perform at the highest levels, and all work to score top marks at concert competitions.

Corporate Donations/Sponsorship – RPHS band actively seeks corporate donations to offset the expenses of the band program. The band has 501(c)(3) status. Your company may offer matching funds as well as volunteer hour matching. If you or your company would like to donate to the band, please email our sponsorships chairperson at sponsorships@rpband.org.

Dance Block– The Dance Block is how the band students get ready to work before every practice and competition during marching season (musicians only, guard have their own warm up). It is a few minutes of choreography which they do in unison to a pop tune. It changes every year and incorporates several of the fundamentals which will be vital moves in the show for the year. So not only does it act to loosen them up and start working as a team, it also serves to reinforce the choreography for the year. They will start summer band learning this routine. (See also Fundamentals)

DCI – Drum Corps International is a non-profit summer drum corps competition circuit. While RPHS band does not compete in any of their events, students have auditioned for and received marching spots with one of these prestigious drum corps. They generally spend two and half months in the summer training, traveling, performing, and competing. These bands are for bell front brass, percussion, and guard only (no woodwinds like saxophones, clarinets, and flutes). Students must be 17-21 years of age to participate. To read more about DCI: <http://www.dci.org/parents/>

Directors - For more information click [HERE](#)

Dots – Dots are the specific points of each individual person in the show at any given moment.

Dot Books – A Dot Book was a spiral bound 3x5 or 4x6 index card book in which students wrote all their sets and wore around their neck during practice. (See also Sets and Drill.) Dot Books were replaced by the mobile phone app "UDPApp Pro". (see UDBApp Pro)

The Drill – or just Drill. Collective dots make up a set. Collective sets make up the drill. (See also Dots/Dot Book and Sets). The Drill is the complete show.

Drumline – also known as The Battery. These are the percussionists who march (see also The Pit).

Drum Majors – Student conductors/leaders for the Marching Band when they are on the field. The squad is made up of a head drum major and assistants. Drum major auditions are held in the spring. Drum majors are selected by the directors.

Email – Please make sure you have a working email correctly entered in Charms (see Charms). This needs to be an email you check daily. NOTE: Parents MUST sign into their student's Charms account and add an "Adult" record with your current email address to receive emails from the band. You will get a lot of email from the band from various committees. Please read them all as this is our number-one way of communicating with the very large band family. Emails come from info@rpband.org (See Communication.) Please be sure to whitelist the "rpband.org" domain in your email client to receive all emails.

Etudes – An etude is a short piece of music designed to show skill and fundamentals. TMEA (Texas Music Educators Association) selects three etudes each summer which will be the audition pieces for Region Band and Region Orchestra. The high school band also uses them for their own audition process. For more information and for etude selection in mid-July, please visit www.tmea.org.

Fees – See Band Fees and Guard Fees.

Football and Football Games – One of the main duties of the band is to support our Panther sports teams. In addition to pep rallies held throughout the school year, the band performs at every varsity football game from August through playoffs (with year-to-year exceptions for competition conflicts). They only play at varsity games. They play stand tunes, perform the marching show at halftime and play for the Royals halftime performance. The show will vary from week to week depending on what the students have been learning during the week. The band stays for the entire game and is bused back to the main campus after the game. All students must return to campus following a football game to put their uniforms away (See Football Game Day Schedule, Truck, and also Uniforms).

Football Game Day Schedule – On game days, all students need to go to school with everything they need for the evening (clothes, garment bag, water jug, instrument, etc.). Students do not go

home at any time between school and football games. The band rehearses, eats, and loads the buses to head to the game. (See Meal Crew.) They are bused back to the main campus after the completion of the game to drop off their uniforms and for parent pick up. Those students with items on the truck are responsible for helping to unload the truck after the games. (See Truck and Uniforms.)

Football Stadiums – See Mercer Stadium and Hall Stadium.

Football Tickets – Students in the band do not need a ticket when they are with the band. However, parents do. For most games, you can get tickets at the gate. Another option is purchasing season tickets. Season tickets get you into every home game, but not the away games. Note that sometimes games are at Hall stadium but RPHS is not the home team. Check the RPHS football website for further ticket information in late summer.

Forms and Documents – There are several forms that the band must have on file. Please make sure you have each of these completed and turned at the start of summer band. These forms include the medical history, physical examination, administer medication, asthma medication, and emergency contact forms. The Band uses an online form system and all Band forms can be found [HERE](#).

Fundamentals – The marching basics (posture, body carriage, marching technique, step size, etc.) that the directors teach and the students will apply to the marching show. (See Dance Block)

Fundraising – The band does a lot of fundraising to help defray the cost of band fees, competition, and running the band. In addition, occasional one-time costs are encountered.

Gauntlets– Gauntlets are school-owned marching uniform pieces worn over the wrists of marching band performers. Please note that lost gauntlets, as well as any other uniform part, will need to be replaced at the expense of the parent.

Guard Attire – During Guard Auditions in April/May, guard members will be measured for costumes and mandatory attire/equipment will be ordered. The guard parent liaison takes care of the ordering, but forms will be sent to parents outlining the cost breakdown for the students in advance. The duffel will be ordered during registration.

There are four separate orders placed for the guard:

- 1) Jazz Rags (measured and paid for in June): Jazz shoes, Body tights
- 2) McCormicks (measured and paid for in June): Gloves, Rifle
- 3) Corporate Incentives (measured and paid for in June): Guard jacket, Member shirt

4) Totes: Extra-large monogrammed travel duffel with personalization.

All new members must purchase all items their first year. Members may choose to purchase extra gloves, member shirt(s), body tight(s), or jazz shoes. Returning members must purchase a member shirt, body tight, jazz shoes. All members must own black jazz pants but must purchase on their own. Winter Guard costume will be ordered and paid for in January after the semester break.

Guard Dress Code – What to wear when...

Regular rehearsals: White T-shirt or tank, Wide strap sports bras for women, any color, Black spandex, Athletic Shorts, Tennis shoes

Football Games, Band Competitions, Winter Guard Contests: Dress varies and is communicated in advance

Guard Camps – There will be two summer camps for the guard. The first is in June during the first week after school gets out for summer. The second camp takes place the week before summer band starts in July. Please check the calendar for exact dates and plan your summer activities accordingly.

Guard Equipment – Equipment includes flags, rifles, and sabers. Guard members must carry their own equipment to events in an equipment bag. The equipment is a mandatory purchase which are made during June camp.

Guard Fees – In addition to the band fees (see Band Fees), the Guard pays fees to cover the costs of equipment and costuming. There are two annual costume orders placed – one for marching season and one for winter guard season.

Guard Officers – See Band/Guard Officers.

Hall Stadium/Hopson Field House—3335 Hurricane Ln, Missouri City, TX 77459 This is our home stadium in FBISD. This is where our home football games and some of our away games take place. We do our best to schedule stadium rehearsals out of Hall. Sometimes conflicts arise, and we must use alternate stadiums.

Handbook – There is a digital copy of the FBISD Fine Arts handbook available under the Current Students Tab on rpband.org.

Honor Band/Honor Band Year – Every other year, the Wind Symphony records their concert music and submits it to the TMEA to be considered for the Texas Honor Band. This is awarded to one band for the entire state. Honor Band years are currently the spring of the even years. Recorded submissions go through Regional judging and, if they advance, then to Area judging. If

they advance past Area, they go to State judging. If a band is selected as the Honor Band, they perform at the TMEA Clinic and Convention the following school year. (Record in the Spring of 2022 perform at TMEA 2023 Clinic and Convention)

Hydration – Replacing fluids with both water and with a sports drink helps students maintain hydration as well as electrolyte levels. Signs of dehydration can include dry sticky mouth, thirst, hunger, sleepiness or tiredness, decreased urine output, dry skin, headache, constipation and dizziness or lightheadedness. See also Juguzzi.

Hyponatremia – You should also ascertain that your student is getting some sort of electrolyte replacement during the day. Replacing fluids with water only can lead to hyponatremia, which is when the body has too little sodium or it has been diluted by drinking too much water. Signs of hyponatremia include nausea and vomiting, headache, confusion, loss of energy, fatigue, restlessness, irritability, muscle weakness, spasms, or cramps. In extreme cases hypernatremia can lead to seizures and coma. We don't tell you these things to scare you because many of those symptoms also look like the result of a hard day on the practice field in August. What we are saying it to be aware and to help your student stay hydrated. You know your student best. See also Juguzzi.

Juguzzi—If your student is new to the program, or just needs a replacement, they can order a water jug and/or a Juguzzi with their band fees. Student's are required to bring and wear their water jug in their Juguzzi to every marching rehearsal. The Texas heat is no joke, and it is incredibly important for students to hydrate throughout the school day and the rehearsal.

Letter Jackets – See letter jackets in Band Handbook.

Lock Box, RPBB – There is a large metal box with a mail slot outside the band directors' office in the band hall for students to drop off payments for various things. All payments need to be placed in an envelope and labelled with the student's name, then amount, and what the payment is for.

Marching Band – The Marching Band is comprised of everyone in the band and color guard.

Marching Season – From May through potentially early December depending on the football schedule. Performing the show will end in mid-November at the completion of competitions. However, we continue to support the football team until the completion of their season. (see May Day and Football.)

Marching Spots and Challenges – Every member of RPHS Marching Band has an assigned spot in our competition show. A drill writer must work with certain parameters for each section for the mathematical parts of drill writing to work effectively and smoothly. With a band as big as RPHS Band, during most years there are more students than spots available on the field. To determine what each individual student will do in the competition show, several factors come into play. In summer band, spots are generally issued based on prior experience and background, but all

students will either have a full-time primary spot or they will share a secondary spot. This means that two performers will alternate marching the spot during drill practice so both can learn the drill. As we approach the first football game, generally around the end of August, one person must be assigned to a single drill spot. After these assignments have taken place, students have the option to challenge for individual spots starting in late August/early September. Anyone can challenge someone for a spot, and everyone gets approximately four weeks to challenge. Challenges end sometime mid-September, and once they are over every single member of the band will have their own individually assigned part of the show to learn, master and perform. Students will learn about the challenge process during summer band. (See also Secondary Marchers.)

Marching Techs - They are usually college music students who help us during summer band and throughout the marching season.

May Mini Band Camp – This is usually a Saturday morning and afternoon in late May or early June when the kids come together as a new band for the first time. Incoming freshmen are given new music for the upcoming school year's competitive show and start on other football "stand tunes".

Meals Chairperson – This committee oversees the marching band's meals in the fall, hosting of the meals for Ridge Point Solo and Ensemble Contest judges, and any other events for which we may need to provide a meal.

Meals Committee– These volunteers take care of the enormous job of making sure our kids don't go hungry on game days or when they are away at competition. Because the students don't go home after school on game day (see Football Game Schedule), Meals Committee offers a pre-game meal to make sure your child is fed dinner before the game. The cost of meals is included in your child's band fees. Our Meals Committee chair works hard to keep the food costs as low as possible while offering a decent meal. If you feel the meals provided aren't enough for your child, you are, of course, welcome to send food with your child or even bring them a meal during dinner time. Students are not allowed to leave campus during the dinner time. After school, students rehearse, eat dinner, and then load the truck and buses and go to the stadium. Students are not allowed to eat at the game or while in uniform.

Meals Committee also takes care of feeding the band when they are traveling overnight and occasionally at events far from home. Food costs for the overnight trips are covered in the band fees, however you are always welcome to send additional meal money and/or snacks with your student if you feel this is necessary.

Please email the Meals committee chairperson if your child has special dietary needs or restrictions (gluten intolerance, food allergy, religious or other restrictions.) – found on www.rpband.org → Boosters → Officers & Committees.

Media (contacting) – see Communications Officer.

Medication/Medical – Please also refer to the Band Handbook.

Over the Counter (OTC) medications: One of the forms you must complete for the band is an over the counter medication approval form. This form is your pre-approval for the band to give your student any of the OTC medications on the list. Regardless of whether you allow for your student to request all/some/none of the medications on this list, the band must have one on file or we cannot give them anything should they request it. Again, just like in school, students are not allowed to carry any medication when we travel, so if they need something for example, like Tylenol or Ibuprofen or Tums, they must get it from the adult in charge of medications on the trip. On the OTC form, you may disallow any of the medications. For example, you may want to approve Tylenol, but not Ibuprofen. There is a place for that on the form.

Prescription medication: If your student needs to take any prescription medication while traveling with the band, the medication must be signed into their chaperone committee chairperson. The medication must be in the labeled prescription bottle and only the amount needed for travel days should be checked in. A parent/guardian must sign in the medication. Your pharmacy can make you a separate bottle for just the amount needed for the trip if you request it. On our trips, we have a parent volunteer in charge of prescription medications. Most of the time we have an RN within our band family who can do this job for us, but it is within the volunteer standards that a director or FBISD approved volunteer may dispense medication. We can work with students who have inhalers or epi-pens on a one to one basis. While the band strives to make things easy for every student who needs medication, we must also act within legal parameters and the policies of the district. All school rules apply when we travel, and students are not allowed to carry any medication. Please understand the staff appreciates all student privacy when it comes to medications and we do the very best we can in the circumstances we are given to maintain that privacy concerning medications. If you are an RN and are willing to volunteer for our trips, please contact info@rpband.org.

Merchandise – Band stickers and yard signs and t-shirts for the whole family, we do all of that, too! There will be purchasing opportunities early in the marching season at the summer band parent performance, booster meetings and online beginning at the start of the school year. Watch your email for these opportunities.

Midwest – You may hear the term “Midwest” talked about from time to time. This is referring to the Midwest Clinic which is a music educators’ showcase conference held annually during December in Chicago.

Percussion Camp – The percussion section will hold a summer camp in the first week after school lets out in June. Please check the calendar for exact dates and plan your summer activities accordingly.

Percussion Ensemble – In the spring, the percussion section will have their own evening concert. They will begin preparations for this event in January and will have extra rehearsals to get ready.

Physicals – All band members must have an annual sports physical. The document that must be completed by you and your physician will be sent out by the head band director in January/March. Forms need to be turned into the band prior to the start of summer band. It is recommended you make a copy of this form for your records. Physicals for the upcoming school year must be no earlier than April 1st of the previous school year. The District will hold sports physical nights in partnership with Houston Methodist in the spring and while this event is very popular the cost is kept as low as possible, usually around \$20, but this is of course subject to change year to year.

The Pit – These are the front line percussionists in the show, and even though they do not march on the field they do rehearse on the same schedule as the Drumline and play an integral part in the band's overall performance and production. (see Drumline)

The Pit Crew – This fantastic crew of parent volunteers is responsible for the loading and unloading of all the instruments from the truck. They oversee getting the large pit instruments onto the field. They also help with the building and management of props and other items we use on the field. (See Truck.)

Region 13 – Our UIL region. (See TMEA and UIL)

Region Band and Region Orchestra – These two different ensembles for which our students audition against each other and other students in our region. Region Orchestra auditions are held late October, and Region Band auditions are held in late November & early December. Students audition by playing a TMEA preselected etudes. TMEA will release their selections in mid-July. This information can be found on the TMEA website: www.tmea.org. If a student places high enough at the Region level (varies by instrument), he or she advances to Area. If they place high enough at Area, they advance to be part of the All-State Band. For RPHS, Region Band auditions are mandatory for Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band. While not mandatory for Concert Band, all students are encouraged to audition. Region Orchestra auditions are not mandatory but always encouraged. (Note: saxophones and euphoniums are not part of the orchestra, so they are not eligible for audition to Region Orchestra.) The same etudes are prepared for both Region Band and Region Orchestra. (See also Etudes and TMEA)

Royals – This is the precision dance team at RPHS. The band plays their performance music for them at halftime of the football games.

The School – If something is taking place at “the school”, it’s happening at the Ridge Point campus at 500 Waters Lake Blvd., Missouri City, TX 77459.

Section – a group of musicians playing the same instruments.

Section/Squad Leader – These are student elected student leaders who help run the sections. (See Band Officers).

Sets – A set refers to the collective dots of individual marching show participants. It's the collective picture, if you will, that the band makes at any given time in the show. (See Dots and Drill.)

The Show – The marching competition show. The band hires a person to write our show drill every year. We work actively with the writer and other people such as a choreographer and music arrangers throughout the season to perfect our performance. The show is how we compete at BOA, USBands and UIL marching competitions in addition to entertaining at halftime of the football games. It is kindly requested that you DO NOT post any video of the show online during the season until direction to do so by the head band director. Shows can change a little here and there from one level to the next, so we never want to reveal our whole hand until it's time for the judges to see it at competition and our show is complete.

Show Shirt – Every year a t-shirt is designed with the name of the current year's show. Every student is required to have a show shirt when we travel. Some years the booster club can afford to pay for these, and some years we cannot. It depends on the needs of the band in any given year.

The Staff – the RPHS band & guard directors.

Stand Tunes – Music played in the stands at football games and pep rallies.

State Year or State – Also known as a UIL Year. This is a year in which we will compete at State. Currently these are the even numbered years (2014, 2016...) See also UIL and Year. The UIL board has voted to make the State Marching Competition to occur every year. More details are coming about when this will take effect.

Summer Band – SUMMER BAND IS A REQUIREMENT OF ALL BAND AND GUARD MEMBERS. Summer band starts at the end of July and runs everyday Monday-Friday right up to the start of school. Summer band is how the band hits the ground running for the fall marching contest season. Start dates will vary for guard and band, so please be aware of your student's start date. You can find a summer band checklist at www.rpbands.org. These are the items you will need by the end of July. Summer band is hard work, yes, but also a lot of fun. Please refer to the calendar for exact dates and times and please schedule summer appointments accordingly. (See also Camps.)

Summer Band Parent Performance—At the end of Summer Band, there will be an exhibition out on the band lot. Students will show what they have been working on during summer band. Band staff, student officers and drum majors will be introduced. Various booster board officers will be available before and after the performance for your convenience and questions. There will be on

opportunity to see what is currently on our “band needs” list and you can leave a donation with our Sponsorships booster board chairperson.

Summer Uniform– The band kids wear the summer uniform to go to football games and competitions. Students change into their marching uniforms/guard costumes for uniform inspection, on the buses, or in the stands for halftime, and these spaces are co-ed/public, thus they must be appropriately attired. Other times, for example the Homecoming parade or a pep rally, or early season games when it is still very hot the summer uniform will be their designated uniform. They also wear these when we travel. It is highly recommended that guard and band members have at least two sets of these items, if not three. When the band travels, they wear these items most of the time, and when we are at multi-day events, they will not have access to laundry facilities. (Also, when there are back-to-back events, it will save you doing laundry at 1am.)

Band: Grey or Black dri-fit band shirt and black sport shorts for the band. Musicians wear the dri-fit shirt and black sport shorts under their uniforms. Parents can order band shirts, black shorts, and other supplies when they register their child for band.

TMEA – Texas Music Educators Association. This the governing body for the concert level music. TWHS is in Region 13, Area H (different from UIL Area). Basically, this is the route to All-State Band, which is a true honor in the state of Texas. See Region Band. For more information and for etude selection in mid-July, please visit www.tmea.org.

UDBApp Pro – **Ultimate Drill Book Pro**. The mobile phone app used by the band as an alternative to a Dot Book to show band members their personal marching positions and the overall band positions. This app is required to be downloaded to a smart device (i.e. mobile phone) that can be carried with the band member during practices.

Apple App Store: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/udbapp-pro/id1455826724>

Uniforms – It is important that parents understand that school issued uniforms are school property and replacement for loss or damage will be the responsibility of the parent.

Marching Uniforms: These are school issued and are fitted during summer band by our uniform crew. This is a fun time to get to know some band parents and some kids. Sewing & ironing skills not required, jobs can be taught on the spot. Marching uniforms stay at school. They only go home for cleaning purposes and are to be returned to the band hall, hung up on the uniform racks the Tuesday immediately following the weekend’s performance. Uniforms must be transported in their RPHS Band-issued garment bag.

Concert Band Attire:

Girls: Concert length dresses provided by FBISD issued to members RPHS Band Program. Students will be sized for these either in August or November. Students are responsible for providing their own black dress shoes (closed toe, flats-no heel)

Boys: Tuxedo Pants/Jackets, Bow Ties, and cummerbunds provided by FBISD issued to members of the RPHS Band Program. Students will be sized for these either in August or November. Students are responsible for providing their own black dress shoes, black socks, and tuxedo shirt (info will be given out during uniform fitting day on where to purchase the shirt) in order to complete their Concert Uniform.

UIL – The University Interscholastic League. This is the governing body for the state level of sports and music competition.

Marching: When the Band competes “at State” that refers to UIL competition. This is separate from BOA (see Bands of America) and USBands. Every year RPHS competes in UIL Region and Area marching competitions in October. Bands that place high enough at Area competition advance to the State competition in San Antonio. On that day, they will compete in the preliminary round and if they advance, also play in the finals round. (See also San Antonio).

Concert: Our concert bands also compete in UIL competition in the late spring. You may have seen this at the junior high level. They will perform their concert music and perform a sight-reading piece that they have never seen before. In the concert UIL, they only play for a ranking not a score. They’re performing against an established standard for excellence which is evaluated and determined by set of hired set of judges, not to beat other schools.

UIL Year – Traditionally the State Marching competition has only occurred on even numbered years (2018, 2020, etc.); however, COVID disrupted this schedule, and now the UIL board has voted for the State Marching competition to occur every year. When details about when this policy takes effect, we will update the glossary.

Video – It is kindly requested that you DO NOT post any video of the show online during the season until after our final contest performance. Shows can change a little here and there from one level to the next, so we never want to reveal our whole hand until it’s time for the judges to see it at competition and our show is complete. (See The Show and Publicity)

Volunteering – Yes and yes! We have so many fun and wonderful opportunities for you to help the band. Please keep an eye on your emails for volunteer opportunities. This organization is well run, but it takes a lot of willing hands and hearts to make it all work. Opportunities are wide ranging from helping to build props and load trucks to helping put together Homecoming goodie bags for the students. We need uniform fitting help in the summer, chaperoning help, merchandising help, pit crew help, meals committee help, and help on a one-time basis like at the Trunk or Treat, End of Marching Season Party, and Spring Band Banquet. Our booster board is elected every spring, so please watch for opportunities to submit your name to serve there as well. There is sure to be something that fits your time and talent.

Website – www.rpband.org . The website is our public internet presence. Here you will find links to Charms (for our band only password protected information) as well as links for lots of other

information. Chances are if you need to know something it's somewhere on the website or in Charms. If you cannot find an answer, contact the head band director or one of the booster board members. We've all had questions and we are all happy to help you.

WGI – Winter Guard International. This is contest circuit for guard once the marching season is complete (see Winter Guard). Like the USBands circuit, the guard will compete at the local and regional level throughout the spring. There will also be years where they will get to compete at the national level in Dayton, Ohio, but this is not on an established schedule.

Winter Guard – For the Guard, “Winter” means mid-November through mid- March, and this is when Winter Guard takes place. These are guard-only contests. The Guard will start auditions for Winter Guard fairly soon after marching season ends and will begin regular rehearsals for their contest season. Costumes for winter guard will be measured and paid for in January after the semester break. The Winter Guard will rehearse 2-3 times a week for up to three hours each. (See also WGI.)