

*SMITHSON VALLEY  
HIGH SCHOOL*

***RANGER  
BAND***



***MEMBERS HANDBOOK  
2022-2023***

# **RANGER BAND MEMBERS HANDBOOK**

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

The Ranger Band is the proud nickname applied to all the bands and color guard in the Smithson Valley High School band program. Included are the marching bands, several concert bands, jazz bands and color guard. Additionally, Ranger Band members have the opportunity and are encouraged or required to participate as Band representatives in UIL solo and ensemble contests and in the District, Area and State band competitions.

Furtherance of the Ranger Bands' efforts toward excellence and accomplishment requires cooperation and dedication from the students, parents, directors and administration. The purpose of this handbook is to acquaint members and parents with the Ranger Band Program and to provide information on its operation. This handbook sets out the Band goals, responsibilities and commitment of Band members, a clear, concise statement of the rules and requirements of the Band, and other general information, which will be of use to students and to parents. If you have any questions or concerns about any information in this handbook or about the Band generally, you may contact the Band directors.

All Band members and their parents are requested to read this handbook thoroughly and must sign the consent and agreement form to indicate their consent to and commitment to comply with the Band rules and requirements, as a condition of participation in the Ranger Band. While a signature is required, willful enrollment and participation by a student also indicates consent and agreement of students and parents to the terms in this Handbook. Please download and keep this handbook for future reference and return the acknowledgment as required.

**Some abbreviations and terms that will be used throughout this handbook and their meanings are as follows:**

**UIL** – University Interscholastic League

**CISD** – Comal Independent School

District **SVHS** – Smithson Valley High School

**Ranger Band OR Band** – unless otherwise indicated, the SVHS band program

**Band functions** – all official activities of the Band, both scheduled and called, and include all rehearsals (including during class periods and after or before school) sectionals, performances, competitions, exhibitions, required fundraisers, and trips.

**Band director** – the singular term is usually used in this Handbook, but in many such instances, either the Band director or any of the assistant Band directors or the Band director and one or more of the assistants acting together do or can take the discussed action, etc.

## BAND ORGANIZATIONS

Band is a full year course consisting of two “seasons.” The fall semester is primarily considered the marching season while the spring semester is considered the concert season, although there is considerable overlap. The following is a brief description of the various groups that are associated with the Ranger Band:

### **MARCHING BAND**

The Ranger Marching Band includes every student in the High School Band program and Color Guard. The Ranger Band has a long history of great traditions, pride and excellence. The marching band performs at all SVHS pep rallies, varsity football games, marching contests, and exhibitions. Membership in the Marching Band is required of all band students. In addition to the regular scheduled class, the Marching Band maintains a weekly rehearsal schedule outside of the school day. Marching Band students are eligible to receive a physical education waiver for membership in Marching Band.

### **COLOR GUARD/WINTER GUARD**

**Director: Mr. Robert Andrade**

The Color Guard is the primary visual component of the Marching Band. Membership in this organization is by audition and is open to all students at Smithson Valley High school. Emphasis is placed upon the development of movement and visual artistry through the use of equipment, props, and dance techniques. The Color Guard rehearses/performs in conjunction with all Marching Band related activities. Students will be required to attend all marching band rehearsals and additional separate rehearsals set by the director. Winter Guard is the spring semester version of Color Guard and is open to current Color Guard students. Winter Guard rehearses and performs independently of the marching band. Students and parents should refer to the band handbook as the primary governing document for this organization. Due to the group’s unique nature, however, the director may provide more specific information and expectations in the form of separate handbook addendums.

### **TWIRLING**

Twirling is offered at Smithson Valley High School as an auxiliary unit to the marching band. Twirlers must be a member of either the Band (play an instrument), or a member of the Color Guard. If a member of the Band, the twirler(s) will perform their primary instrument with the band during half-time performances and in the stands. The twirlers showcase their skills along with the dance team during half-time shows. Twirlers may also be asked to perform at parades at the final decision of the band director. The Smithson Valley High School Twirler must be taking private lessons or coaching and attend an approved Twirling Summer Camp/Clinic every year. Costuming and expense of twirling lessons is the responsibility of the student/parent. The Smithson Valley High School Band Directors/Administration will need to approve the Twirler(s) Costume(s) prior to any decisions made for wear or purchase. The costume should be flattering to each individual person’s body type and be modestly appropriate for public performances. The candidates for Twirler will go through an audition process at the same time as the Color Guard Audition

Day. It is not mandatory for the Smithson Valley High School Band Program to have a Twirler every year. The Twirling position is to be auditioned for every year.

## **CONCERT BANDS**

There are several concert bands at Smithson Valley High School. Students are placed in a concert band according to their playing ability, attitude, participation, eligibility and instrumentation needs. Students may move from band to band as deemed necessary or appropriate. The concert bands provide for a wide range of playing abilities and time commitments. Additional rehearsal expectations and membership requirements are noted in the following descriptors. The director of each ensemble will provide detailed information regarding these expectations at the beginning of the spring semester.

### **● SVHS Wind Ensemble – Director, Mr. Michael Childress**

The Wind Ensemble is the Varsity performing group within the Ranger Band program. This band performs college level literature and performs numerous concerts during the year. Wind Ensemble students are required to audition for District Band and participate in U.I.L. Solo & Ensemble Contests. Members of the Wind Ensemble are expected to participate in the private lesson program. These students are very serious about improving their musical abilities; therefore, most of these students have invested in professional quality musical instruments. The Wind Ensemble performs at UIL Concert & Sight Reading Contest, all SVHS Band Concerts, as well as other special programs that come up throughout the year (i.e. Veteran's Day, Graduation, etc.). In the Spring Semester, daily rehearsals will begin at 8:20am, and there will be once-a-week afternoon/evening rehearsals.

### **● SVHS Symphonic Winds – Director, Mr. Lane Palmer**

The Symphonic Winds is the second level concert band at Smithson Valley High School. This band performs upper-level high school concert band literature. Students are required to participate in U.I.L Solo & Ensemble Contest and highly encouraged to audition for District Band. Symphonic Band students are required to attend sectionals outside of school time each week. A majority of Symphonic Band members have invested in professional quality instruments and participate in the private lesson program. The Symphonic Band performs at UIL Concert & Sight Reading Contest and all SVHS Band Concerts.

### **● SVHS Symphonic Band – Director, Mr. Robert Andrade**

The Symphonic Band is the third level concert band at Smithson Valley High School. This band performs high school level concert band literature. Concert Band students will be required to attend sectionals outside of school time each week. Students are highly encouraged to audition for District Band and participate in U.I.L. Solo and Ensemble contests. Students are also highly encouraged to participate in the private lesson program. The Concert Band performs at UIL Concert & Sight Reading Contest and all SVHS Band Concerts.

### **● SVHS Concert Band (Spring Only)– Director, Mr. Jeffrey Yates**

The Concert Band performs high school level concert band literature. The primary

emphasis of this band is to focus on the development of fundamental technique and ensemble skills. There may be outside-of-school sectionals required of students in this band.

Members of this band are highly encouraged to participate in the private lesson program. These concert bands perform on the majority of SVHS Band concerts including the pre--U.I.L. concert. Participation in the UIL Concert & Sight Reading Contest will be determined by the directors on a year--to--year basis. For many students, this ensemble serves as a preparation for higher--level bands.

● **SVHS 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Band (Fall Only) – Directors, Mr. Childress, Mr. Palmer, & Mr. Andrade**

All 9<sup>th</sup> grade band students will meet together in this class during the Fall Semester only. The primary emphasis of this class is to focus on the development of fundamental technique and ensemble skills. Participation in private lessons is highly encouraged. This band will perform at the annual Holiday Concert before being moved into one of the other performing groups for the Spring Semester.

## **JAZZ BAND**

**Director: Mr. Lane Palmer**

The Jazz Ensemble will meet all year within the 6<sup>th</sup> period Applied Music class. The primary focus of this class will be learning a variety of jazz styles, ensemble skills specific to a big band, and improvisation. Membership in the Jazz Ensemble is by audition and approval of the directors only. The Jazz Ensemble may compete in a spring Jazz Festival, as well as many of the SVHS Band Concerts and other civic events.

## **APPLIED MUSIC**

This class meets 6<sup>th</sup> period and is designed to provide Ranger Band members with structured practice time, focused primarily on District/All--State audition music and Solo & Ensemble music, as well as their specific band parts. This is not a study hall, and members are expected to be actively engaged in improving their skills on their instrument. Some graded checkpoints on musical progress may be assigned throughout the year.

## **II. GOALS, RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMITMENT**

### **RANGER BAND GOALS**

CISD places strong emphasis on individual musical awareness and enrichment. The Ranger Band provides this awareness and enrichment through and prides itself on concert, marching and jazz band programs. The Band offers students all levels of music literature and musical skill that are both enhancing and challenging. The Ranger Band has been and will remain an active part of the SVHS campus life and SPIRIT! The Ranger Band continually strives for excellence by building upon past successes to achieve even greater success and accomplishment in marching, concert, jazz band, and in individual performance. Each individual Ranger Band member should develop and mature in character, loyalty, dependability, dedication, leadership and musical skills while substantially contributing to the success of the Ranger Band. The Ranger Band seeks to enhance each member's high school experience, to provide each member the best possible

music education and band experience and to help develop character traits that will positively serve those members throughout their lives.

### **BAND MEMBER RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMITMENT**

The opportunity to participate in co-curricular activities in the CISD, such as band, is a privilege. Students who accept the privilege of participating in co-curricular activities must recognize that they are representatives of CISD and SVHS and will be held to a higher standard of conduct in both school related and non-school related activities. Furthermore, the privilege of participating in the Ranger Band requires that each member be fully committed to the goals of the Band and to do all that is necessary to achieve those goals.

**All Band members must follow all applicable state laws, CISD policies, SVHS rules, UIL rules and Ranger Band rules and requirements at all times (even outside of Band Functions). Those laws, policies and rules, however, establish only the minimally acceptable behavior. To achieve the goals of the Band, far more than minimally acceptable behavior and minimal effort is required. All Band members must strive to further the goals of the Band and to meet their responsibilities to the Band. All Band members must, at all times, assume personal responsibility for improving their individual musical skills and each of the bands of which they are members by their actions and attitude. Specifically to those ends, all members should use every Band function, rehearsal and sectional to further their knowledge and ability as much as possible and to promote the Band's excellence overall. In every performance, all members should be prepared to, and should strive to give their best possible individual performance and to make a significant and positive contribution to the best possible performance of the Band.**

**Members must not undermine the efforts of the Band and the Band Directors, Drum Majors, instructors, officers, and student leaders through poor attitude or effort, or disparagement of any individual or undertaking, but rather, at all times, all members must cooperate with the Band directors, Drum Majors, instructors, officers and student leaders and approach every undertaking with a positive attitude and full and sincere effort.**

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### **III. RULES AND REQUIREMENTS**

To achieve the Ranger Band's goals, it is essential that all members comply with all Band rules and requirements. This section of the Handbook explains the rules and requirements of Band membership and clearly identifies and gives notice of the conduct for which Band members may be disciplined and the possible disciplinary measures that may be imposed. There are specific rules and requirements applicable to certain circumstances. The general violations specified in the following section may be covered or explained elsewhere but are included in that section to provide a general overview of prohibited conduct. It is the intent to provide in this handbook notice that any improper conduct in any circumstance may subject a Ranger Band member to disciplinary action.

Under CISD policy, the Ranger Band rules and requirements are independent of the student code of conduct of SVHS and CISD. Violations of the Band rules and requirements that also constitute violations of the student code of conduct may subject a member to independent disciplinary action under both.

## **BAND DISCIPLINE PLAN (BDP)**

For a violation of any State law, CISD policy, SVHS rule, UIL rule, Ranger Band rule or requirement, the following disciplinary actions may be imposed:

1. Correction or counseling
2. Parental conferences or notification
3. Exclusion from a Band function or functions
4. Loss of marching band spot or concert band chair
5. Exclusion or removal from Band office or other position
6. Exclusion or removal from the Band

The disciplinary action imposed in each instance will be at the discretion of the Band director considering the nature and severity of the conduct, the circumstances of the conduct, its frequency and prior warnings or action, consistency of action considering other situations, and other relevant factors.

In addition to possible disciplinary action for violation of or failure to comply with other specific rules and requirements, disciplinary action under the BDP may be imposed for any of the following:

1. Violation of any state law, CISD policy, or SVHS rules regarding drugs, alcohol or tobacco.
2. Unexcused absence from any Band function.
3. Unexcused tardy from any Band function.
4. Failure to be properly prepared for any Band function.
5. Failure to properly care for or loss of any Band property including music, instrument or uniform.
6. Failure to play-off music.
7. Using, tampering with or improper treatment of another Band member's instrument, music, uniform, or other property.
8. Failure to perform a timely check-in of equipment.
9. Poor participation in any Band function.
10. Improper behavior at any Band function.
11. Improper treatment of the Band hall or any Band or school property.
12. Disrespectful actions or other improper treatment of ANYONE.
13. Failure to follow the instructions and directions of Band directors, instructors, parent chaperones, officers, or student leaders.
14. Conduct, which has a negative effect on the morale or discipline of other Band members.
15. Conduct which has an incidental, but real, adverse impact on the reputation of the Smithson Valley Band, SVHS or CISD.
16. Actions that result in a member being placed in CDC (Alternative School).

## **24/7 Ranger Policy**

Members of the Ranger Band are always considered to be on duty. Any actions that fall under the aforementioned categories for Discipline are in effect for all membership at all times and are subject to adherence to the BDP. This includes but is not limited to: nights, weekends, holidays, summers etc.. Members represent the Ranger Band at all times and must do so with appropriate behavior and respect at home and everywhere they go.

## **ATTENDANCE AND BAND CALENDAR**

To assist Band members in planning and scheduling, the Band calendar will be given to every band member. **In addition, parents and students can go to the [www.svrangerband.org](http://www.svrangerband.org) website to see the calendar at any time.** Band members will be given advance notice of any changes in the monthly calendar. Band members are solely responsible for being familiar with the calendar and attending all scheduled Band functions.

Because the Ranger Band functions as a “team” and counts on each member, each member’s prompt attendance at all Band functions is crucial to the success of the Band. Each Band member is responsible to be in the required location, properly attired (in the full proper uniform as required), with his or her instrument and all necessary music, equipment, etc. at or before the appointed time and in sufficient time to answer Roll Call.

Absence from or tardiness to a Band function, particularly a rehearsal, sectional or performance, may subject the member to discipline under the BDP, including the lowering of the member’s grade or loss of spot or chair for a first occurrence.

A member’s work/ employment, club meetings, or other rehearsals are NOT an excuse for absence from or tardiness to a Band function. Elective doctor’s appointments are to be scheduled at times other than when band has rehearsals.

**The nature of the activity is such that no amount of individual effort can substitute for group participation. Any absence, whether due to illness or other circumstance, is impossible to make up. Therefore, students who miss rehearsal repeatedly, regardless of the reason, compromise the progress of the group and cannot be allowed to continue to participate.**

**Students missing two rehearsals for any reason may be subject to losing their marching spot**

Regardless, directors should be notified of any absences in advance.

## **BAND HALL/REHEARSAL RULES**

Band members should care for the Band hall as if it were their own home. Much time and effort are spent in our Band hall, thus proper care and treatment of the facilities will make its use more enjoyable. Rules applicable to rehearsals and to the use of the Band hall are as follows:

1. Rehearsals and classes start ON TIME. Have your instrument and proper equipment (mallets, reeds, etc.) and be ready to start on time.
2. You must have your music, coordinate sheets, mutes, and pencils. You may be assessed a fine for replacing missing items.
3. Follow all applicable laws and rules and teacher instructions.
4. Do not talk during rehearsals unless asked to do so.
5. Do not leave class without permission.
6. Instruments, music, and equipment must be stored in the correct place. In the case of instruments, this means LOCKED in a locker with a school provided lock.



7. Do not deface (write on, etc.) walls, stands, equipment or furniture.
8. Have respect for others and their property.
9. Do not use the Band hall as your playground.
10. Non--Band members are asked to stay out of the Band hall.
11. Do not consume drinks or food or chew gum in the Band hall.

Any failure to comply with these rules may subject the member to discipline under the BDP.

### **CELL PHONES**

Cell phones are an important piece of communication in today's society. While the use of cell phones to contact a ride prior to arrival home after an event is encouraged, cell phones are not to be visible during any rehearsal or performance (including football games).

### **INSTRUMENT INSURANCE AND DAMAGED OR LOST PROPERTY**

Members who use any CISD provided instrument must complete all the necessary forms required by CISD. Failure to complete the paperwork in a timely manner may result in the member losing the privilege of using CISD instruments and other possible action under the BDP. All students who use any Comal ISD provided instrument are obligated to pay an \$80.00 annual rental fee imposed by CISD. This includes all percussionists. Any student that does not take care of their school instrument will be assessed a fine to cover the additional cost of maintenance for an instrument that is not cared for.

All members should insure their instruments; particularly members who use CISD owned instruments. Any damage to or loss of instruments, equipment or other property (other than normal wear) may subject the member to disciplinary action under the BDP and will be repaired or replaced at the sole expense of the responsible member.

### **RANGER BAND UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE RULES**

We have a beautiful uniform that needs to be well taken care of during the year. Pride in our organization is an attitude that develops success!

#### **-UNIFORM CHECK--OUT**

1. The Smithson Valley Band uniforms are the property of CISD. Your band uniform should be kept clean at all times.
2. The uniforms may need to be altered when they are issued to you. **Do not** cut any material and please allow our uniform moms to do the altering.
3. Clean black marching shoes (Dinkles) and plain, long black socks are to be worn with the uniform at all times. Clean white cotton gloves are to be worn during the marching season. Woodwind players may cut out the fingertips of the gloves in order to facilitate playing.
4. Always wear your current Smithson Valley Band t--shirt and light--weight shorts with your uniform.
5. Remove all jewelry and put it away before you put your uniform on. (Seniors

- may wear their senior rings.)
6. Colored fingernail polish and make--up is not allowed when wearing the uniform.
  7. When hats are worn, long hair must be pinned up. There should be no hair hanging down past the collar. Without the hat, hair must still be worn off of the collar with a ponytail holder that matches the color of your hair.
  8. Shoes should be cleaned and polished before EACH performance.

#### **-INSPECTION**

Prior to ROLL CALL for all Band functions, members must be dressed in the complete announced uniform in accordance with the Ranger Band Uniform and Appearance Rules.

Inspections are held before boarding buses and at performance sites. If any failure to comply with the Uniform Policies or failure to have the proper instrument, equipment and music cannot be corrected prior to boarding buses or a performance, the member **WILL NOT PARTICIPATE** in that Band function, and may be subject to further discipline under the BDP.

#### **MEMBERS MUST TRAVEL WITH BAND**

The Band frequently travels and participates in activities away from SVHS. All Band members are required to travel to and from Band functions in vehicles, which are provided or approved, by the school officials and/or CISD. Any exception to this rule must be:

1. Made **IN ADVANCE** upon a written request from the parent/guardian and approved by the Band Director and a High School administrator.
2. Arrangements for the member's equipment must be made before departure.
3. The member **WILL NOT** be surrendered to anyone other than his/her parent/guardian unless the written request signed by the parent/guardian directs that the member be surrendered to a specifically named, responsible individual. Forms are available on our website.
4. Before a member may leave the Band, the parent/guardian or other individual to whom the member is to be surrendered and the member must together report their departure to a Band Director.

If this procedure is not followed, the member must return with the Band or may be subject to discipline under the BDP.

#### **GENERAL TRAVEL AND EVENT RULES**

Activities away from SVHS require particular responsibility and cooperation from Band members. In addition to other applicable laws, policies and rules, the following specific rules are in effect for and applicable to all members for all such activities, unless instructed otherwise by the Band director. Band Parent Organization chaperones usually accompany the Band on these trips. On trips in which chaperones are not present, the Band director or other supervising adult will perform the functions of chaperones specified in these rules and should be consulted accordingly. Failure to comply with any of the following rules may subject a member to discipline under the BDP.

At any time while traveling or at an event or Band Function, each member must:

1. immediately notify a chaperone of illness or injury.
2. not possess any medication, prescription or non-prescription. Chaperones will give members medication allowed on the member's medical form.
3. refrain from loud or disruptive behavior.
4. follow any and all bus rules for CISD buses and Charter Companies.
5. not bring food or drinks or eat or drink except refreshments provided to all members.
6. not bring or have any personal property that is not required for the event (i.e., caps, hats, purses, backpacks, jewelry, electronics, etc.) CHAPERONES, BUS DRIVERS, ETC. CANNOT AND WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY SUCH ITEMS.
7. stay with the Band at all times unless escorted (i.e. to the restroom) by chaperones.
8. act respectfully at all times.

### **BUS TRAVEL RULES**

Only Band members and assigned chaperones are allowed on the Band buses. Upon arrival at a destination, Band members should remain seated on the bus until instructed to exit the bus. When instructed to exit, members must, without unnecessary delay, talking and activity, exit promptly, get their instruments and equipment, and assemble in the designated area. Playing instruments while exiting or entering buses and assembling is prohibited. Students should return to buses immediately after each event unless otherwise instructed by the chaperone chairperson or the directors. Any failure to comply with these rules or the applicable General Travel and Event Rules may subject the member to discipline under the BDP.

### **FOOTBALL GAME STADIUM RULES**

Only Band members and assigned chaperones are allowed in the Band section at the stadium. Visitors may be allowed in special circumstances, but only with the permission of the Band director. Band members will remain in the Band section at all times unless accompanied by a chaperone. Members will be given a cold drink ONLY by the assigned chaperones. NO FOOD OR DRINK MAY BE BROUGHT TO ANY MEMBER BY ANY OTHER PERSON. Any failure to comply with these rules or the applicable General Travel and Event Rules may subject the member to discipline under the BDP.

### **FOOTBALL GAME DAY REQUIREMENTS**

Cheering in the stands is to remain positive and constructive. Offensive and/or abusive language or actions will not be tolerated. As the largest single organization in the stadium, you need to set a positive example for the rest of the audience.

### **GRADING SYSTEM**

Students will be enrolled in two classes in the Fall semester. A zero hour class will be used for the after-school marching band portion of their grade. They will also be enrolled in

a band class that will meet during one period in the school day. The grading system in both of these classes will be based on skill mastery.

### **BAND PLACEMENT**

The marching position or spot, or concert chair of each member is decided based upon musical ability, attitude, compliance with rules, and eligibility (under H.B. 72). All members must formally audition bi-annually for placement in a concert band and class period. Members' marching band performance will be evaluated during all rehearsals.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Understanding eligibility rules can be confusing. A student becomes ineligible if his/her grade in any one class is a 69 or below at a grading checkpoint. The penalty period, which begins one week after the grade is issued, lasts for 3 weeks. Eligibility may be re-gained at the end of 3 weeks if the student is passing all classes.

All music organizations adhere to the eligibility rules and regulations as stated by TEA/UII and CISD. To be eligible at the high school level at the beginning of the school year, students must have earned the accumulated number of credits in the state--approved courses indicated below.

- Beginning of 10<sup>th</sup> grade year – 5 or more credits toward graduation
- Beginning of 11<sup>th</sup> grade year – 10 or more credits toward graduation
- Beginning of 12<sup>th</sup> grade year – 15 or more credits toward graduation

The Ranger Band Staff will enforce all eligibility rules and regulations. Students who are ineligible will continue to rehearse during band class, are expected to attend before and after school rehearsals, and participate in curricular performances to earn a band grade. Ineligible students may not travel with the band or participate in extracurricular performances. An example of a curricular performance would be a spring concert and an extracurricular performance would be a football halftime or any type of contest. Students should always check on an event if there is a question of their participation. **Be advised that excessive absences from school may also result in a student being declared ineligible.**

The band staff and Smithson Valley High School work hard to assist and encourage band students to perform up to their potential in all classes. Since both Marching Band and Concert Band are group activities, each individual band student plays an important part in the success of the group. The band staff consults both with teachers and students for strategies for improving individual student performance. Obviously, we cannot be successful as a band unless our students are successfully passing all classes.

**Students who are ineligible for the first 2 eligibility checkpoints in the Fall or the first eligibility checkpoint in the Spring will be placed on academic probation within the band program. If they do not become eligible for the following eligibility checkpoint, they may be suspended from the band program. This will allow the student to focus on passing academic classes during the next semester. Students wishing to be considered for reinstatement in band following this probation must bring documentation (report card) to a band director proving academic success during each grading period of the succeeding semester for all classes. Academic success is defined as passing all subjects during every**

**grading period. Students must also maintain a clean discipline record with the school. This process is set up to help the academic success of the individual student.**

### **MEDICAL, CONSENT AND OTHER FORMS REQUIREMENTS**

To enjoy the privileges of engaging in certain Band functions, particularly the Band trip, CISD policy and Band rules require that members turn in consent and medical forms and other commitments, permissions or other documents properly signed and promptly returned as required by the Band director. It is the responsibility of each Band member to timely obtain the proper documents, to provide *all* the required information, to properly sign and have his/her parent or guardian sign any such documents and to return such documents to the proper person, or place, in the proper manner and *by the specified time*.

The failure to timely return, properly and fully completed and signed, any form, consent, commitment, permission or other such document as required by the Band director may subject the member to discipline under the BDP, including particularly exclusion from a Band function or functions, specifically the Band trip.

## **IV. OTHER INFORMATION**

### **PARENT CONFERENCES**

Band directors may be contacted by email:

[Michael.Childress@comalisd.org](mailto:Michael.Childress@comalisd.org)

[Lane.Palmer@comalisd.org](mailto:Lane.Palmer@comalisd.org)

[Robert.Andrade@comalisd.org](mailto:Robert.Andrade@comalisd.org)

[Jeffrey.Yates@comalisd.org](mailto:Jeffrey.Yates@comalisd.org)

### **STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM**

The SLT is made up of elected band officers, drum majors, section leaders and color guard officers. These leaders have displayed outstanding characteristics in performance, attitude, and leadership. They are selected by the band directors and/or band members to help lead the band to excellence. They must follow all rules and regulations that are stated in the leadership handbook.

#### **General Requirements for office:**

1. Be a current Band member.
2. Fill out and turn in the Leadership Packet by deadline.
3. Be able to attend all summer band rehearsals and activities.
4. Meet all requirements for the specific office sought (discussed below).
5. Must not have been ineligible more than once during the academic year.

#### **Duties and Requirements for officers:**

**President.** The President shall be a senior elected by Band members. Duties are to call and preside over the Band council meetings, to coordinate the Band banquet, and to act as student representative for the Band. As student representative of the Band, the President must represent the Band as appropriate and as instructed by the Band director.

The President is the first assistant in charge after the directors at all non--marching functions and on trips made by the Band. The President answers to the directors.

**Band Manager.** The band manager shall assist the President whenever possible, be able to assume all duties of the President if needed. The band manager is in charge of coordinating rehearsal setup on a daily basis. This position is chosen by the Directors.

**Secretary.** The Secretary shall be a junior or senior elected by Band members. Duties are to handle all Band correspondence, keep minutes of all officer meetings, check roll as needed, keep an accurate and updated list of all Band members, keep an accurate calendar posted, and to assist the Band directors with paperwork when needed.

**Historian.** The Historian shall be in charge of the Band video for the banquet, shall keep a scrapbook of all news articles, pictures, activities and design all publicity and poster making.

**Librarian.** The Librarian(s) shall be a sophomore, junior or senior selected by Band Directors. Duties are to make complete marching folders for each Band member, copy extra parts when needed, aid the directors in sorting and filing marching and concert music, and continuously keep the music library neat and orderly. The number of Librarians needed will be determined according to the size of the Band.

**Load Crew Captains.** The Load Crew Captain(s) shall be a sophomore, junior or senior selected by the Band Directors. Duties shall be to assist the band directors with the care of instruments and equipment. They shall supervise the loading of equipment, and be the set up crew for all concert performances.

**Spirit Masters.** The spirit masters plan social activities and the band banquet in the Spring

**QuarterMasters.** The quartermasters take care of the uniform room and all activities related to uniforms. This position is chosen by the Directors.

**Section Leader.** In order to audition for a section leader position, you must have at least one year of marching experience.

**Drum Major.** The Drum Major(s) shall be a junior or senior elected by Band members and a panel of impartial judges. Duties are to lead the marching band both on and off the field, to assist section leaders in marching section rehearsals, and to assist the Band directors in any way necessary

A member must meet the following requirements to be eligible to audition for the position of Drum Major.

1. Be a member of the Band for one year and a current Band member.
2. Enter a solo or ensemble contest and make a I or II rating or make District Band.
3. Must be approved by the Band Directors.
4. Perform in the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> band during the entire previous year.

The number of Drum Majors will be determined by the Band director according to the size of the marching band and the ability of those auditioning.

### **BAND LETTER JACKETS**

Receiving a letter jacket is a visible indication of dedication to personal musical achievement and loyalty to the goals of the entire band program. **Students must also be registered and participate in band for their senior year in order to be eligible for a jacket.**

All band members may be eligible to earn a letter jacket if they meet the following requirements:

1. Must be in band for four (4) years with at least 75% participation in full ensemble UIL competitions. (Move-ins will still be eligible when they are seniors)

OR

2. Make the All-State Band or earn a 1<sup>st</sup> Division rating on a solo at the State Solo and Ensemble in the Spring.

OR

3. Earn a place in the SVHS Wind Ensemble by the **DECEMBER AUDITION** (this is our Varsity group).

### **TMEA DISTRICT/REGION/AREA/ALL--STATE**

Band members are strongly encouraged, and some Band classes may be required, to prepare the prescribed music for these auditions, sponsored by the Texas Music Educators Association, to such a level that they may successfully compete and learn from the experience.

### **BAND TRIPS AND FUNDRAISING**

The Band is allowed to take Spring trips from time-to-time. Generally, these trips are taken over Spring Break. The Band performs or competes in a concert contest or clinic, and the remaining time is spent in enjoyable activities (most recent trip was to San Francisco, CA). The Spring trip is voluntary, although all of the Band members are encouraged to go.

The cost of these trips is not paid by CISD and is, therefore, the responsibility of each individual member. The Band helps provide members with a way of funding their individual cost of these trips by providing fundraising events.

Regarding the Spring trip generally, payments for transportation, lodging, etc. are usually required long before the trip and, hence, member's payments usually begin in the Spring of the school year prior to the year of the trip.

Each Band member is subject to and must comply with all applicable state laws, UIL rules, CISD policies and Band rules at all times during all Band trips and failure to comply with any such laws, policies or rules may subject the member to discipline under the BDP, and such discipline may include immediately sending the member home at the member's (or member's parent's) expense. Furthermore, each Band member is subject to having his entire luggage, bags, backpack, purse, other belongings and person searched at any time before or during the trip by any chaperone, Band director, or SVHS administrator.

### **BAND BOOSTER CLUB (BBC)**

The Band Booster Club is a Texas non--profit corporation that supports and assists the Ranger Band's members, staff and Band director. The organization provides direct assistance by providing chaperones for many of the Band functions and fundraising help to cover the cost of clinicians, contest entry fees, transportation, awards, patches, and special musical arrangements, to name just a few of the many costs that are not paid by CISD. All activities of the organization are carried out with the advice and consent of the Band directors and SVHS and CISD administration.

The Band Booster Club meets every month. Please check your monthly Band Calendar for dates. The Band Boosters play an important role in the success of the Band and we require all parents to visibly support their Band member(s) by joining the organization and actively participating in it and its work.

### **MUSIC ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**

Private lessons are a tremendous aid in the development of a student's musical knowledge and improve the overall quality of the band. We offer lessons during the school day for convenience in scheduling. Any student interested in studying privately should see the directors for information about private lessons ASAP. Some lessons can be scheduled before or after school.

### **V. Conclusion**

Over the years, many students and parents have contributed to the Ranger Band's success. It is our sincere wish that all present and future Ranger Band members enjoy the long-- lasting friendships and sense of pride that have been and will be passed down from year to year. We believe this can be accomplished with a job well done. It takes 10% talent and 90% hard work. Together with strong parent, student, and administrative support, this is possible.

**WELCOME TO THE SMITHSON VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL RANGER BAND!**



## Consent and Agreement

We are aware that the Smithson Valley Band Handbook is available from the Band's Website ([svrangerband.org](http://svrangerband.org)) and that review of this document is necessary for participation in the band program at Smithson Valley High School. We have read and understand the Ranger Band Member Handbook, particularly all the rules and requirements and the Band Discipline Plan (BDP), and, as a condition of the Student's participation in the Ranger Band, consent to and agree to comply with all rules and requirements therein.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name (printed legibly)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Name (printed legibly)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

This consent and agreement must be signed and dated, as indicated, and returned to the Band director before the student may participate in any Band function. Again, this document is available on the Smithson Valley Band website [svrangerband.org](http://svrangerband.org) or by hardcopy from the band director to students during class. Any failure to participate for failure to return this consent will be considered an unexcused absence.

**RETURN THIS COPY TO THE BAND DIRECTORS.**  
**FAILURE TO RETURN THIS DOCUMENT WITH SIGNATURE WILL**  
**NOT EXCUSE A STUDENT FROM GOVERNANCE OF THE**  
**HANDBOOK. ENROLLMENT AND PARTICIPATION WITH THE**  
**RANGER BAND IS CONSIDERED CONSENT AND AGREEMENT TO**  
**ALL TERMS OF THE SVHS RANGER BAND HAND BOOK.**