

Claudia Taylor "Lady Bird" Johnson
High School Band



Informational Guide
2020-21



Claudia Taylor "Lady Bird" Johnson High School
Fine Arts Department

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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 most exciting, innovative, and successful high school band programs in the United States.

In our brief history, the Claudia Taylor Johnson Band's name has become synonymous with excellence and entertainment, as we have been recognized consistently by the University Interscholastic League (UIL), Bands of America (BOA), and the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) for the high quality of our students performances since we have opened.

Our band members enjoy fantastic performance experiences, which have included marching in the 125th Tournament of Roses/100th Rose Bowl Parade in 2014, as well as 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. Looking to 2020-21, the band will not travel out of state. The winterguard will return to WGI World Championships in Dayton, OH in April 2021.

Our families have come to trust and rely on our program to foster a love of music within our band members but, more importantly, to prepare our band members for their post grade school endeavors by developing the character of our young performers. Band members at Johnson learn the value of team-work, 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. It is a win-win combination, and while undoubtedly you may have questions about the time commitment, academics, cost, and other like concerns, we hope to answer these questions through open communication in the coming months, starting with our website. Please do not hesitate to reach out to set up a face-to-face meeting or email me at your convenience.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jarrett Lipman".

Jarrett Lipman
Director of Bands

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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 the State of 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 Jarrett Lipman, Alan Sharps, Rob Lozano, and Dan Musacchio. The Colorguard is under the direction of Mr. Darryl Pemberton. Mr. Kris Hartman is the Batterie Percussion Director, and Mr. Aaron Barnes is the Marching Caption Supervisor.

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.org>

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 one of the reasons listed above. Many band members experience anxiety over marching because it is something new and it looks difficult, or seems time consuming. We will work through this together, and more often than not students come out the other side thrilled with their experience and ready to continue for years at a time.

You may always setup 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 are enrolled in 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, and many of our students are involved in 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 audition?

Incoming 9th graders do NOT have to audition 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 middle school director 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 off of musical recommendations from the middle school directors, as well as high school director observations during their visits to the middle schools. We assign marching positions based on auditions held each year. We hold our auditions in March, after Spring Break. We will make final decisions on marching positions, as well as “shared spots, and those who will be placed into an alternate role.

What other band activities are available at Johnson?

We offer several Jazz Bands and Full Orchestra. Students must participate in concert band in order 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 through raising revenue, providing support through chaperones and road crew, and managing various events throughout the entire 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 special 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.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1) ***Are we traveling to nationals in 2020-21?*** No. The band will not travel to Grand Nationals in 2020-21. When surveyed, our community has shown support of traveling to nationals every other year to reduce the cost burden on all involved. We will return to Nationals in 2021-2022.

2) ***Why the payment plan system?*** On a year we would travel, the band would normally begin payments for the trip in January of the year prior. Although we are not traveling out-of-state, we are going to permanently shift to an extended payment schedule to ensure that all families are paid in full BEFORE their band member participates in the year. We have struggled the last three years with families stretching payment plans longer and longer into the current year, and sometimes falling behind. 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. This will help us ensure that we do not carry any delinquent balances through the school year. 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 2020-21?*** Tentatively, yes pending approval from administration and avoidance of test conflicts.

4) ***Will there be any other travel for 2020-21?*** Only the travel to Midland, TX for the Bands of America Regional in October.

5) ***Why is band so expensive?*** Claudia Taylor Johnson High School fields one of the most innovative, engaging, and competitive marching bands in the world. The band program has become a role model in terms of developing emotionally compelling field shows, producing top- notch musical ensembles, as well as preparing its students for the challenges they will face entering the real world. To produce our shows, 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 in the program 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. Similar to the clinicians, North East ISD covers travel only to the UIL Marching (1) and Concert (1) Contests each year. Any participation in Bands of America Regionals,

including competition travel expenses such as buses, hotels, or meals are covered through band fees. 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, as well as purchase electronics and amplification equipment, uniform parts, uniform fittings and more. Your band member receives a world-class experience through their time in band.

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 band. 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. The fee in place help us provide those experiences.

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?*** Actual cost of band at Johnson is between \$1,800 - \$2,000 per student. The BPA fundraises aggressively to help lower these fees by several hundred dollars on a normal year. We are continuing to explore new opportunities to raise revenue to help bring down fees even more. Going forward, we are working to establish an alumni board to help us with pursuing donations and grants.

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 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 band maybe eligible for a discount on fees. Please schedule a conference with the Head Band Director to discuss what options are available.

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

Marching Band Year	Marching Band Fee	Marching Band Additional Travel Fee (Alternates every other year)	Note
2020-21	1375.00	0.00	No Travel
2021-22	1375.00	1800.00	Nationals Trip
2022-23	1375.00	0.00	No Travel
2023-24	1375.00	1800.00	Nationals Trip
Total	5500.00	3600.00	9100.00

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

Marching Auditions for the Competition Team

March 19th, 23rd, and 24th, 2020. These auditions will be held from 5:30 - 8:30pm on the band parking lot. Dress for outdoor rehearsal.

Optional help sessions for incoming 9th graders to prepare for marching

Thursday January 23rd

Thursday January 30th

Thursday February 20th

Thursday February 27th

Thursday March 5th

Auditions: March 19th, 23rd, 24th

When and where is the FIRST REHEARSAL IN MAY?

Our first rehearsal for this year is Saturday May 23rd, 2020. This rehearsal will be held at JOHNSON HS for members of the **2020-2021** 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 Camp” and what is “August Summer Training”?

May Band Camp and August 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 will go to *Schlitterbahn* again this year.

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 camp 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 **2020-21** Competitive Marching Band woodwind, brass, percussion, and colorguard sections. All materials will be distributed at camp.

Thursday May 28th 4:00pm - 8:00pm at Johnson High School

Friday May 29th 9:00am - 9:00pm at Johnson High School

Saturday May 29th 9:00am - 9:00pm 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 are 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.

2020-21 BAND REGISTRATION FOR ALL BAND MEMBERS

INCOMING FRESHMAN - Choice #1	Saturday May 23rd	9:00am
CURRENT/RETURNING BAND MEMBERS	Thursday May 28th	
Grade 10 at 5:00pm	Grade 11 at 6:00pm	Grade 12 at 7:00pm
INCOMING FRESHMAN - Choice #2	Friday May 29th	9:00am

All current and incoming band members should come to registration to submit medical paperwork, pick-up fundraising materials, and receive information pertinent to band for the 2020-21 year. Registration paperwork will be available to fill-out ONLINE this year. Fees are due according to the payment plan outlined on page 15.

May & July Rehearsal Commitment

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

MAY 28TH	4:00 - 8:00pm Rehearsal (Eat before rehearsal)
MAY 29TH AND MAY 30TH	9:00am - 12:30pm Rehearsal
	12:30pm - 2:00pm Lunch (**meal service available)
	2:00pm - 5:30pm Rehearsal
	5:30pm - 7:00pm Dinner (**meal service available)
	7:00pm - 9:00pm Rehearsal

July Summer Band Events 2020

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 All members of Johnson Colorguard attend (Same week as drum camp)

Monday July 20th - Thursday July 23rd, 2020

Percussion Camp - All members of Batterie & Front Ensemble (Same week as guard camp)

Monday July 20th - Thursday July 23rd, 2020

Wind Ensemble/1st Band Performance at Texas Bandmasters on Friday July 24th all day

Band Leadership Training **All student leaders

July 24th and July 25th, 2020

**One additional date TBA - leadership clinic with Ms. Joni Perez

Friday	July 24th	6:00am - 9:00pm	Sessions at Johnson High School
Saturday	July 25th	9:00am - 9:00pm	Sessions at CTJ in the morning, then tube

July/August Summer Training Events 2020

Competitive Band Members attend ALL rehearsals.

Non Competitive Band Members attend 9:00am - 5:00pm August 10th-14th

BAND CAMP BEGINS FOR ALL COMPETITIVE BAND MEMBERS

MONDAY JULY 27th, 2020

WEEK #1 - July 27th - August 1

9:00am - 12:30pm	Rehearsal
12:30pm - 1:30pm	Lunch Break
1:30pm - 6:00pm	Rehearsal

WEEK #2 - August 3rd - 8th

9:00am - 12:00pm	Rehearsal	
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch	
1:00pm - 4:00pm	Rehearsal	** AUGUST 5th... optional trip to SCHLITTERBAHN
4:00pm - 6:00pm	Dinner	
6:00pm - 9:00pm	Rehearsal	

WEEK #3 - August 10th - 14th

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

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

2020-21 Competitive Marching Band/Colorguard Fees

Marching Band Enhancement Fee (All Students)

\$1375

***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 instrument)

\$35

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

Performance/ Travel 30%

- Lodging - BOA Midland trip overnight
- Charter Bus - BOA Midland overnight
- Charter Bus - BOA Austin Regional
- Charter Bus - UIL Area Regional
- Contest day meals for BOA Midland and Austin
- School Bus Transportation BOA San Antonio Regional
- Contest Travel performances beyond UIL Marching Contest and UIL Concert Contest
- 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 30%

- 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

2020-21 Non-Competitive Band Fee Structure

Non-Competitive Marching Band 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 instrument) \$35

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

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

Instruction/ Clinicians 50%

- 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 40%

- 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
- Ball-cap & Water jugs

2020-21 Marching Band & Colorguard Payment Plan

February 1st	<i>Returning 10th-12th grade Deposit, Non Refundable</i> \$250.00 <i>**Determines number of marching spots for 20-21</i>
<i>February 15th families</i>	<i>\$250.00 Deposit due for incoming 9th grade</i> <i>**Extension due to course card selection</i>
March 1st	\$250.00 - Installment
April 1st	\$250.00 - Installment
May 1st	\$250.00 - Installment
June 1st	\$250.00 - Installment
August 1st	Balance of Fees due
Total due	\$1375.00 Checks Payable to Johnson HS Band

A 2% late fee may be applied to accounts that are past due. Student accounts must remain current in order for a student to audition for marching band for the 2020-21 season. We are not able to extend payment plans for the upcoming season beyond the schedule listed. Families wishing to extend payment plans beyond August 1st should pay balances using credit cards as we are unable to float these balances on our end any longer.

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 will be issued based on the date on this termination notice***

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 - \$250.00 forfeited
June 1st - August 15th - 50% forfeited
After August 15th - 75% forfeited

Involuntary Refund Structure

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

Prior to June 1st - \$250.00 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. **“Smart Music Subscription” for Woodwinds and Brass in Varsity Band** - This fee is approximately 20.00 for students to sign-up for the Music Evaluation software we use during the year to test Woodwind and Brass students on their music. Woodwind and brass students in marching band will purchase this.

2. **“Classic Uniform” - Under armor shirt and compression shorts.** *Both PEP and VARSITY Band wear these.* When we wear the original uniform, you will need a BLACK under armor shirt and black compression shorts to be worn under this. 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

3. **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

4. **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.

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

5. **“Modern Uniform” - Capezio dance belt/dance underwear.** *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.

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

6. **Capezio Black Dance Pants** - *Only required for VARSITY band members.* Band members may purchase one pair that they can continue to use. These black spandex pants will be used frequently for dance classes and early season performances.

Approximate total cost - \$34.00 per pair

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

Approximate total cost - \$5.00 - 10.00

8. **“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

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 \$18.00 - \$20.00 and orders are taken in August.

Each section in the band creates a shirt. These are not required, but many purchase. They run \$10.00 - \$15.00 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 60% of the program currently studies privately.

The cost of lessons varies depending upon the qualifications and experience of the teacher and ranges from \$36.00 - \$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 \$35.00 - \$40.00
2. **Colorguard Gloves** - Different than marching band gloves. These cost \$12.00 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** - \$30.00 worn under uniform.
5. **Make-up** - We will provide specifics, but the cost is approximately \$25.00.
6. **Guard Box Supplies** - Occasional \$2.00 collection to fill the guard box with supplies. In addition, tape for each band member will cost \$3.00 - \$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 \$25.00
	Large Bag \$35.00

9. **Band Practice Shirt & Shorts** - The BPA offers shirts and shorts with logos on them that many band members like to wear to practice. They are light weight athletic attire, and have the “J Swoosh” logo.

Approximate total cost -	Shorts \$10.00
	Shirts \$10.00

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 \$35.00 each.

11. **Meals** - We offer a meal service at each football game and competitive event. Meals are \$6.00 and can be pre-ordered online with your credit card.
12. **Solo & Ensemble Fee** - Solos or membership in an ensemble are approx. \$12.00 each.
13. **Solo & Ensemble Accompanist Fees** - If your band member plays a piece that requires an accompanist, the fee is usually \$60.00 for a Class 1 Solo and \$40.00 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 is \$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 \$10.00 for those participating. We marched in the 2015, 2016, and 2017, 2020 Fiesta Parades and will march next in the 2021 parade.
16. **Schlitterbahn Band Camp Trip** - Optional day trip to Schlitterbahn during band camp. This usually runs \$40.00 and includes bus transportation and ticket to Schlitterbahn. Band members may use their season passes and pay \$3.00 for the bus ride only.
17. **Band Camp Party** - Optional, but most attend. Usually between \$5.00 - \$7.00, or a donation of food is requested that usually costs about this.
18. **Optional Trips and Travel** - On years we take trips that are not mandatory, these are not included in band fees.
19. **Student Leadership Camp** - Those student leaders who attend our camp may spend \$40.00 or so on meals, the tubing trip, 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. **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.

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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.

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.

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

- Three good playable reeds. Vandoren V-12 is the approved reed.
- Reed guard
- Pencil Box with ziplock plastic bag for reeds
- Ligature
- Proper mouthpiece with cap (Vandoren 5 RV Lyre)
- Key oil (Case Storage)
- Bore oil (Home Storage)
- Cleaning swab
- Approved type instrument
- Cork grease

Saxes / Low Reeds as applicable

- Three 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)
- 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 4G or 5G) or other director approved mouthpiece
- Approved type instrument

Baritone / Euphonium

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

Tuba

- Rotator / Valve Oil (Al Cass -Valves / Holton - Rotors)
- Mouthpiece (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 Sabre (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 (more on page 16)
- Black Underarmor Shirt (for classic uniform only) - 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
- White/Black CTJ Shirt (provided in band fees)
- Tennis shoes
- Black Belt

Formal Concerts

- Gentlemen: Tuxedos (Issued through School)
 - 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

Black/White CTJ Band Shirts

We will provide students with a black/white CTJ shirt used for casual performances throughout the year.

Show Shirts

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

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 are expected to maintain their issued instrument accordingly.
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 a specialist on their instrument.

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.

Johnson Band Recommended Private Instructors

Flute/Piccolo

Bev Frittelli
Emily Gurwitz - Band Director, Bradley Middle School
Kay Southerland

Oboe

Mark Ackerman - Retired, San Antonio Symphony

Clarinet & Bass Clarinet

Philip May - *Primary Clarinet Instructor*
Ruben Escamilla
Sara Stolt
Melissa Wight

Bassoon

Mark Rogers
Sharon Kuster - Principal Bassoon, San Antonio Symphony

Saxophone

Keith Witt
Scott McDonald
Josh Bryant
Chip Burris

Trumpet

Mark Koehl - *Primary Trumpet Instructor*
Forrest Spengler - *Primary Trumpet Instructor*
Mike Palermo

French Horn

Marc Lumley - *Primary Horn Instructor*
Carrie Strickland

Trombone & Bass Trombone

Joe Dixon - *Primary Trombone Instructor*

Euphonium

Jarrett Lipman
Conrad Isenhour
Jason Buckingham
Michael Woods

Tuba

Jason Buckingham
Michael Woods - *Primary Tuba Instructor*
Conrad Isenhour

Percussion

Jordan Stern - *Primary Percussion Instructor*
Courtney Kirkwood
Kris Hartman
Manny Maldonado