

# BANDBOOK

2025-2026



Central High School Marching Band  
[www.thesoundofcentral.com](http://www.thesoundofcentral.com)

# WELCOME TO THE 2025/2026 SCHOOL YEAR!

EVERYONE SHOULD READ THE INFORMATION IN THE HANDBOOK, even veterans. The purpose of this book is to keep our band running smoothly and efficiently. Most questions can be answered by consulting THE HANDBOOK. Policies will be adjusted from year to year as the need arises to clarify issues within the program. It is my hope that the information contained in this handbook will be informative, inspirational, and bring uniformity to the program. **Please read all the information and sign the forms in the back of the book.**

## STAFF DIRECTORY

**Geoffrey Mack-** cell 704-242-6283

**Berton Taylor-** cell 843-337-0071

**CHS Bandroom** 843-672-2623

**Amber Moser-** cell 843-517-3646

**New Heights Bandroom** 843-658-6810

**Kristen Kingen-** cell 980-579-4987

Wear show shirt visible on all trips. 3rd quarter punishment sit front rows.  
Don't do Walterboro again. Bad luck, too long of a day, and too late getting home. We got home at 1:15am in 2025.

## STAY INFORMED

Our band program uses 2 main ways to keep PARENTS and STUDENTS informed.

### BAND App

We use the BAND App for most of our daily communication. BAND App is a group platform that helps us communicate and plan our schedule. It works like other social media platforms, where you can upload photos, videos and chat; but the biggest difference is it's only for our group and it's monitored and safe! BAND App is completely free. Simply sign up with your email address, Facebook account or phone number.



### Website

Our website is updated weekly with a calendar of the upcoming events.

**[www.thesoundofcentral.com](http://www.thesoundofcentral.com)**

# The Sound of Central Marching Band

Membership in the marching band requires strenuous physical activity and the ability to play difficult musical literature. In order to build upper body strength, stamina, and breath support, members will be given sets of 10 push-ups or crunches, from staff and/or student leaders.

## THE BAND RULES

1. **TREAT EACH OTHER WITH KINDNESS AND RESPECT.**
2. **STOP WHEN THE DIRECTOR SAYS "STOP."**
3. **NO GUM, food or drinks.** Only water is allowed during rehearsals.
4. Wear tennis shoes and socks at marching band practices.
5. No cell phones during rehearsals.
6. Be On Time. "Calltime" is when you need to be in your seat.
7. Keep a uniform look when performing. No visible jewelry or excessive makeup.
8. **When traveling, boys and girls, or couples, will not sit together. When we travel with two buses, boys and girls will ride separate buses.**

## BAND MEMBERS SHOULD

- Come to rehearsal with a GOOD ATTITUDE.
- Make a real effort to improve everyday and establish a good practice routine.
- Put all materials in their proper place.
- Be extra-careful with instruments and keep in good shape. Repair costs are high!
- Keep your grades up in all classes.
- Take responsibility for your mistakes. We all make them.
- Practice how you perform.

## Home Football Games

- Only band members in the bandroom when we are in uniform.
- Sit in the stands in your section. No visitors will be allowed to sit within the band block.
- Always keep your eyes on the Drum Major and listen for instructions.
- Be careful with equipment and of others moving in and out of the stands. Remember, you are responsible for any damage you have caused, even if it was an accident.
- Everyone will be given a 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter break for food. You must be back in the stands when the scoreboard clock shows 1:00 minute left in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Anyone returning late will remain in the stands during the third quarter of the next football game.

## Pep Band

Sometimes we travel to away games using one bus for cost saving measures. Seating is limited and consideration will be given to overall band balance and seniority. Therefore, the pep band usually consists of upperclassmen from each section, all drumline members, and all senior band members and staff. Colorguard and pit are rarely involved with Pep Band. **Members must stay until the end of the game if riding back with parents.**

## HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

- Communicate with the director if the student will be absent from rehearsal.
- Check behind the student to make sure that they have what they need to be successful.
- Have your child picked up from rehearsals on time by working out carpools with other parents.
- Visit rehearsals and attend concerts, games, and competitions.

# Policies and Expectations

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

EXCELLENT BANDS ARE MADE UP OF MEMBERS WHO HAVE A COMMITMENT TO FAITHFUL ATTENDANCE. Attendance at all band functions (practices, football games, parades, etc.) is mandatory, unless specified otherwise. Exceptions to this rule will be limited to family emergencies or other extenuating circumstances and will be decided on an individual basis by the director. In the event of a family emergency, the director must be notified by the parents. UNEXCUSED MISSED PERFORMANCE WILL RESULT IN REMOVAL FROM THE PROGRAM! The only excusable absences are pre-arranged school conflicts and those that would be excused by the school for attendance records. You will always have the dates of performances well in advance. Work is NOT an excuse for an absence! You can't expect your employer to work around your band commitments if you don't give them our schedule in advance. Be responsible - avoid hassles.

\*Students must fill out an absentee form if they know they will miss a practice. These forms will be kept on file and reviewed as necessary. For illness, a parent note or doctor's excuse may be requested.

## EXAMPLES OF NON-TOLERATED BEHAVIOR

Excessive talking in rehearsal	Tardiness to rehearsals	Missed Performance
Unexcused missed rehearsal	Missing Materials/No Instrument	Conduct unbecoming of a member

## DRESS CODE

THE DRESS CODE FOR PERFORMANCES AND PRACTICES WILL FOLLOW THE CHESTERFIELD COUNTY SCHOOLS DRESS CODE FOR STUDENTS: "STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE CLEAN AND NEAT EACH DAY ... CLOTHING ON THE UPPER BODY MUST COMPLETELY COVER THE SHOULDER WITH ONLY THE ARMS EXPOSED..."

SOME EXAMPLE OF UNACCEPTABLE ATTIRE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

NETTED JERSEY TOPS WITHOUT AN UNDERSHIRT, HALTERS, OPEN BACK DRESSES OR SHIRTS, SHEER DRESSES OR SHIRTS, OPEN BACK MIDRIFF SHIRTS, TANK TOPS, LEOTARDS, TIGHTS, SKIN-TIGHT CLOTHING, SAGGING PANTS, SUGGESTIVE WRITING ON CLOTHES. NO "SHORT" SHORTS.

JUDGMENT OF QUESTIONABLE DRESS WILL BE MADE ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. TATTOOS SHOULD BE LIMITED TO INSIDE YOUR EYELIDS. BOTTOM OF FEET, AND UNDER YOUR TONGUE.

## TRAVEL ON BUSES

District policy concerning bus travel will apply on all field trips: Remain in your seat at all times. Males and females (or couples) will not be permitted to share seats on the bus. Boys and girls are required to sit on opposite sides of the bus isles. No inappropriate games, music, or language. Total silence at RXR crossings. The bus driver has final authority on bus matters. The District, School, and band program **are not** responsible for lost or stolen items. Members must **travel to events** with the group on buses. Students may leave with parents. **Students who leave with their parents are responsible for securing their instrument, uniform, and any other property.**

## RECURRING FIELD TRIP PERMISSION FORM

Parents, your child's involvement with the band requires many trips on the bus. All special activity trip regulations, local school rules, as well as the Chesterfield County Schools Student Code of Conduct will be enforced. The school will take every precaution to provide for the safety of your child on each trip. You are requested to sign a single form (located in the back of the Bandbook) to grant permission for your child to attend and participate throughout the school year.

# Uniforms

## Provided By The BAND

Marching Uniform (Bibbers, Coat, & accessories, Hat & Plume), Show shirt, sweat, lyres, flip folders, body odor, repairs, sticks, heads, a lifetime of wonderful memories, ligatures, sheet music.

## Marching Uniforms

We wear full uniform for important events, marching competitions, and home varsity football games. "Full uniform" consists of bibbers, jacket, dickie, tie, gauntlets, tail, gloves. Uniforms are cleaned and fitted during band camp.

## Show Shirt

The show shirt is unique every year. We will wear these as part of the summer uniform, under our full uniform and to school on Fridays. This is covered by the band fee.

## STUDENTS MUST PROVIDE

### White Shorts (Augusta Long Length Wicking Short W/Pocket - AG803)

All students will need to purchase a specific pair of uniform shorts. These are your shorts to wear whenever you'd like. You can have your name, the band logo, c/o '25, section, or leadership title put on them. We will use these shorts every year. Shorts can be ordered or purchased from Rivers Graphics in Pageland.

Red Shoes- Chuck Taylor All Star Classic All students will need a pair of red high-top Chuck Taylors. These are yours and can be worn anytime, but must be kept neat and clean.

## Summer Uniform

This includes the show shirt and white shorts. We will wear the "Summer Uniform" for public performances in the southern heat.

## School Colors

"School Colors" refers to any style shirt that represents Central High School colors and... "your Reds." We dress in "School Colors" for away games and some performances.

## INSTRUMENT STORAGE SECURITY

Every effort is made to provide a safe and orderly environment for the storing of instruments and equipment, both private and school owned. However, belongings kept in the band room are there at your own risk. Neither the School nor the District has insurance coverage for private possessions stored in our facilities. Even though we do not anticipate problems, we can avoid these if students will lock their cases, monitor persons entering storage areas, and report unusual activity to the band director. The director retains the right to use any instrument in the bandroom at their own discretion.

## **FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS**

Band fees cover the basic costs of marching band such as travel and instrument repairs (which are two of our biggest expenses) as well as music, drill, flip folders, lyres, reeds, valve oil, ect. The total band fee is \$150. \$50 marching deposit is due May 22<sup>nd</sup> to secure your child's spot. The band fee can be paid in full or broken into these payments:

\$50 May 22, 2025  
\$50 Aug. 1, 2025  
\$50 Oct. 1, 2025

Unpaid fees will be added to the student's school account by the end of each scholastic year. **No one will be denied the opportunities of our organization due to financial difficulties. Please talk with Mr. Mack if the band fee puts a strain on your family's finances.**

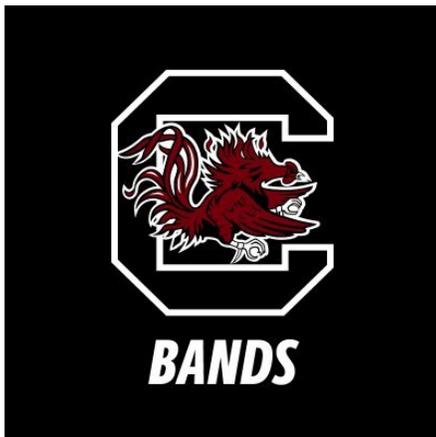
## **Sibling Discount**

Families with more than one child in the band will be awarded some financial relief.

1<sup>st</sup> Child- \$150, 2<sup>nd</sup> Child- \$100, 3<sup>rd</sup> Child- \$50

## **Carolina Band Day Sept 6, 2025**

A whole lot of FUN! The Carolina Band is hosting a band day again this year. This is an optional trip for marching band members. Students who decide to participate will spend the day with the USC marching band and play on the field in front of 77,000 screaming fans. The cost is \$45 and needs to be paid by the Watermelon Festival.



### **What's included:**

- Full game day with the Carolina Band
  - Pre-game meal provided by 
  - Halftime on-field performance
  - Replica Carolina Band ballcap

## MASTER SCHEDULE 2025/2026

May 22	1 <sup>st</sup> Band Payment due of \$50. Marching band signup closes.	
<b>July 7-11</b>	<b>Full Band Camp (9:00am-9:00pm)</b>	<b>New Heights</b>
<b>July 14-18</b>	<b>Full Band Camp (9:00am-9:00pm)</b>	<b>New Heights</b>
July 19	Watermelon Festival Parade(Need Reds and White Shorts) \$45 Due for Carolina Band Day (optional)	Pageland, SC
July 30	First day of school	
July. 31	Afterschool Practices Begin Tues & Thurs (4-7pm)	CHS
Aug. 1	2nd Band Payment due of \$50	
<b>Aug. 22</b>	<b>vs Lewisville</b>	<b>HOME</b>
<b>Aug. 29</b>	<b>vs Carolina Bearcats</b>	<b>HOME</b>
<b>Sept. 1</b>	<b>Labor Day (No School)</b>	
<b>Sept. 5</b>	<b>vs Lamar</b>	<b>HOME</b>
<b>Sept. 6</b>	<b>UofSC Band Day \$45 (participation optional)</b>	<b>Columbia, SC</b>
<b>Sept. 12</b>	<b>vs West Stanley (Homecoming)</b>	<b>HOME</b>
<b>Sept. 13 Sat.</b>	<b>Saturday Band Camp (VERY IMPORTANT!) CCSD Marching Preview TBA</b>	<b>CHS</b>
<b>Sept. 19</b>	<b>Evening Rehearsal TBD</b>	
<b>Sept. 20 Sat.</b>	<b>Competition Irmo HS</b>	<b>Irmo, SC</b>
<b>Sept. 26</b>	<b>vs Cheraw</b>	<b>HOME</b>
<b>Sept. 27 Sat.</b>	<b>Competition Walterboro HS</b>	<b>Walterboro, SC</b>
Oct. 1	Final Band Payment due of \$50	
<b>Oct. 3</b>	<b>@ Buford</b>	<b>AWAY</b>
Oct. 6-10	Interession Week (Friday Practice TBA)	
<b>Oct. 11</b>	<b>Competition Cheraw HS</b>	<b>Cheraw, SC</b>
<b>Oct. 17</b>	<b>@ AJ (Pep Band)</b>	
<b>Oct. 25</b>	<b>Competition Porter Ridge HS</b>	<b>Indian Trail, NC</b>
<b>Oct. 24</b>	<b>vs Chesterfield (Senior Night)</b>	<b>HOME</b>
<b>Oct. 31</b>	<b>@ North Central (Pep Band)</b>	<b>AWAY</b>
<b>Nov. 1 Sat.</b>	<b>State Band Competition Semi-finals and Finals</b>	<b>North Central HS</b>
Nov. 11	Veterans Day Parade TBA	Chesterfield, SC
Nov. 24-28	Thanksgiving Break	
<b>Dec. 6</b>	<b>Chesterfield Christmas Parade</b>	<b>Chesterfield, SC</b>
<b>TBA</b>	<b>Pageland and Jefferson Christmas Parades</b>	

\* All events are subject to change. Other events may be added throughout the year.

\* *The band will perform at ALL home varsity football games, most away games, one NHMS/JV home game, homecoming parade and other events not listed. The above are known performances and are required.*

### CONFLICTS WITH BAND SCHEDULE

Conflicts with band should be kept to a minimum. Haircuts and doctor appointments should be scheduled on Mondays and Wednesdays to ensure few conflicts with practice.

# SUMMER 2025

## Watermelon Festival

July 18 Jazz Central/Percussion Ensemble/ Winterguard perform at Watermelon Festival

July 19 Watermelon Festival Parade

## BAND CAMP July 7 - July 18 9am - 9pm

This is the most fun two weeks of the year! Band Camp is held at New Heights Middle School. This is where the majority of the show is taught and therefore attendance is **absolutely mandatory**. Our goal this year is to have the entire show on the field before the end of camp. If you are absent from practice, not only are you missing an important rehearsal, but also it is much more difficult for everyone else to work around your empty spot on the field.

Lunch will be provided everyday from our cafeteria (like school lunch). Seniors may leave for dinner with a signed note from a parent. All other students can have food dropped off or leave with a parent. A refrigerator and microwave are provided for students who bring their food. The band store sells sodas and snacks during breaks.

\*\*\*\*WE NEED PARENTS/COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS HELP FEEDING OUR BAND MEMBERS DINNER EACH NIGHT. PLEASE LET MR. MACK KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP ANY NIGHT.\*\*\*\*

Tuesdays- Wear a Blue Shirt

Wednesdays- Wear a White Shirt

Thursdays- Wear a Red Shirt

### **Band Camp Needs -**

Refillable water bottle or camelbak

Socks and tennis shoes

Hat

Sunglasses

Sunscreen!

Light, athletic shirts and shorts (school appropriate). No jeans or sweatpants outside.

Instrument / Flag

Any required medications

Pit members need a black 3 ring binder with page protectors.



**STUDENT NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**2025 – 2026 CONTRACT OF MEMBERSHIP**

**STUDENT:** I, the undersigned student, accept membership in the Central High School Marching Band and understand that I am responsible for all policies as set forth in the Band Handbook. I fully agree to carry out my responsibilities to the very best of my ability. If for some reason I am not able to fulfill my duties, I understand that I will be ineligible to participate in any future activities associated with the marching band. Furthermore, I understand the attendance policy – specifically, that an unexcused missed performance will lead to dismissal from the program.

Finally, I understand that I am making a commitment to myself, my peers, and my school.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT:** I, the undersigned parent or guardian, have read and understand the policies set forth in the Band Handbook. I also grant full permission for my child to be an active member of the Central High School Band. In addition, my child has full permission to attend all band functions. Furthermore, I understand that financial obligations must be met after May 26, 2026 even if my child does not complete the season.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_



Don't forget that you must **also** fill out the form linked in the above QR code!

**2025 – 2026 CONSENT FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT**

I, the undersigned parent or guardian of: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Student)

Hereby grant authorization to the Band Director/Staff or any chaperone of the Central High School Band standing in loco parentis, to obtain any emergency medical treatments from a physician or hospital emergency room physician on behalf of the above named minor.

For and in consideration of emergency services and goods rendered by or through the attending physician(s), the undersigned hereby guarantees payment in full, immediately upon receipt of the final billing.

Parent Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN THIS PAGE BY MAY 22, 2025**

## **FINANCIAL BOTTOM LINE**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
5/22/25	\$50	Marching Deposit
7/19/25		Marching Shorts and Red Converse Shoes purchased (Watermelon Parade)
7/19/25	\$45	Carolina Band Day (optional) (Watermelon Parade)
8/1/25	\$50	Band Fee
10/1/25	\$50	Band Fee

## **2025 – 2026 FINANCIAL FORM**

The total band fee will be \$150 for the first child in the marching band and a decreasing amount for each sibling. This will cover the basic cost of marching band (mostly transportation). All other fees will be charged per item and event. Any unpaid fee will be added to the students' school account at the end of the scholastic year.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

## **2025 – 2026 FIELD TRIP PERMISSION AND RELEASE FORM**

I, the undersigned parent/guardian, hereby grant permission for the above named student to participate in field trips sponsored by the Central High School Band Department. **Unless otherwise noted on trip itinerary, transportation will be by activity bus.**

"In consideration of the advantages of participation in this field trip, the undersigned agrees that the Board of Education of Chesterfield County School District, its agents and employees, and the driver/owner of the vehicle used for the field trip shall be released and exempt from any liability for damages for bodily injuries or property damages that may occur during the trip, except to the extent of insurance liability as provided by law."

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

**\*VISIT [WWW.THESOUNDOFCENTRAL.COM](http://WWW.THESOUNDOFCENTRAL.COM) TO COMPLETE THE MARCHING BAND REGISTRATION FORM.\***

**RETURN THIS PAGE BY MAY 22, 2025**