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Preface

Welcome to the CISD band program!! If this is your first year, congratulations on making the choice to participate in one of Celina's finest organizations! If you have previously been a member, welcome back to another year in the pursuit of musical excellence!! Our goal at the Celina band program is to give the highest quality of music education possible, and have fun making great music. In other words, it is hoped that your experience with CISD bands will provide you with memories that you will cherish for the rest of your life. Really!!

Along with our commitment of quality comes the necessity to make the student responsible for certain materials and behaviors and accountable for learning those elements that are necessary to achieve those goals. Those items will be outlined for you in the pages that follow. Once again, WELCOME!!!!

Band Hall Phone: (469) 742-9119
www.celinaband.com

Communication

In order to communicate effectively and efficiently with our band parents, we use our band website www.celinaband.com. This website is updated regularly for the high school and middle school and it is recommended that parents and students check it often.

You can also reach the directors by calling (469) 742-9119 or you can e-mail them at their band e-mail accounts.

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Booster Club Memberships

It is hoped that all parents and friends of CISD Bands will take the opportunity to become members of the Celina Band Boosters. As a parent there is nothing that you can do (besides insisting that your child practice.... discussed later) that will aid your child's band experience more directly than to join the booster club. Through this organization, you will help the band with representation, funding, activities, and encouragement. Please take the first available opportunity to join. Information can be attained at any booster club meeting by contacting any booster club board member or coming to the band office.

Private Lessons

Private lessons are an opportunity for your child to study individually with an instructor that specializes in your child's instrument. It is impossible to emphasize enough the value and importance of this part of a student's development. No band director can be an expert on every instrument. Even if that were possible, there isn't enough time to be able to give every student the individual attention that they need and deserve to reach their full potential. This is an excellent way to overcome this obstacle and greatly enrich your child's music experience. In addition, this provides the best possible opportunity for your child to prepare for and succeed in participation in solo and ensemble contests, auditions, and other such activities. Lastly, the relationship that develops between the teacher and student is very unique, in that the teacher spends time with him/her individually on a weekly basis. This forms a very strong rapport, and becomes a very important element in the child's life.

Lessons are given once per week at the band facility for a relatively low fee. Some scholarship assistance is available through the booster club and can be applied for by contacting the band office.

It is assumed that all students who participate in private lessons will participate in solo and ensemble contests. When a parent enrolls their child in private lessons, they are paying the instructor to develop that child to their fullest potential. The contest experience is an absolutely crucial element in that development, and cannot be replaced by any other activity. Exceptions to this should be made only as a result of a conference between the instructor, the parent, and the student. The band director, based on the recommendation of the instructor, reserves the right to disallow any student from participating as a result of lack of preparation, or other reasons as he/she sees fit. Instructors are advised to be in close communication with parents in these circumstances. Participation in the Celina Music Enrichment Program (private lessons) is NOT a mandatory requirement for participation in the band program.

Purchasing Instruments

All interested students will be allowed to try several different instruments and chose which one fits them best physically, best uses their natural abilities, and is to their liking. It is critical that a student be correctly matched with an instrument!! Most students arrive with some idea of what they would like to play. Over half of them change their minds before the trial process is over.

There will be an evening announced that will enable the parents to come, meet the director, ask questions, and obtain instruments from the music company. A sincere effort will be made to conflict

with as few other activities as possible. If a parent wants their child to be in band, but cannot make the meeting, it is imperative that they contact the director **before the night of the meeting**, so that other arrangements can be made. Items obtained at the meeting will include the instrument and accessories as described above. A beginner band book corresponding to the student's instrument choice will be ordered during the first week of school.

Those who choose to do so are perfectly free to obtain instruments from other sources. Those parents, however are still requested to attend the meeting in order to obtain information, accessories and text materials, but will not be expected to remain for issuing of instruments.

At such a time when a student and parent decide to purchase a "step-up" instrument, these instruments should be purchased through the band program. This is due to a substantial discount from what the parent can get by purchasing from a retail music dealer. Parents, please arrange a conference time with the band director to discuss the specific needs of your child. This will result in a purchase that will best fit his/her needs. CISD Bands will not be held accountable for purchases made by those persons who make purchases without assistance. Students who take private lessons should make instrument purchases under the close guidance of the private instructor!

Use of School Owned Instruments

CISD Bands has an ever-growing number of instruments available for student use. There is a yearly fee for the use of these instruments. This fee may be paid in its entirety at the beginning of the year, or may be paid in installments over a period of the first seven months of school. This fee is to help defray the cost of maintenance of the instrument.

Parents must sign the appropriate forms for issuing the instrument. It is preferred that the parent come to the band office to do this personally. Students may not sign for the use of any school owned instruments. All elements of liability are contained on the forms. Damage beyond normal wear and tear will be assessed as soon as possible after the instrument is returned to the district, and grade cards will be withheld until payment is made. Damage incurred to school instruments while the instrument is improperly unattended is the responsibility of the renter. Students who do not settle instrument fines will not be eligible for school instruments in the future.

The director reserves the right to consider academic and citizenship grades, and past band history when making the decision to issue a school instrument. Students must retain an average of 80 in band, and show consistency in passing all of their classes to be eligible for a school owned instrument. Those students who are issued instruments and fail to meet these guidelines will be placed on probation, and possibly have their instruments recalled. Parents may or may not receive notice concerning this matter.

Purchasing Supplies

Supplies, such as reeds, oils, etc. may be purchased from the band office **with CASH ONLY!!!** We can no longer use the student account system; therefore students must have cash with them at the time of purchase. Purchases should be made at times other than immediately before, during, or immediately after class!!!! You may also purchase basic supplies from Jim's Auto Shop here in Celina.

Classroom Supplies

Students are responsible for having the following items at every class period:

Instrument (this includes reeds, and all supportive supplies)

Music and Method Book

Pencil

Binder

6th graders will need the method for their instrument. During the second semester, sixth graders will need to purchase a band shirt. (see performance attire)

7th & 8th graders will need to purchase a band ensemble method book. They will be available through the band office. They will also need a flip folder, and a lyre. Flute and percussion players will not need a lyre. The same shirt will be used from the previous year and will only need to be replaced if it is no longer presentable, or outgrown.

Practice Requirements

Most students and parents are aware that success in learning a musical instrument is impossible without regular practice habits enforced. Exceptions to this are extremely rare. Learning to play an instrument is something that you can give your children for the rest of their lives. Adults are aware of the long-term value that children are not typically aware of. Innumerable times people will tell of how when they were children, their parents made them practice an instrument, absolutely against their will. However, later in life, when they had that skill, they were grateful over and over again for parents who made them follow through with their musical development.

Following are some suggestions for making this process a positive, rewarding one, instead of a daily battle:

- Set a daily practice time. This should be at the same time every day. The student should know that the TV goes off, and it is at this time that they are expected to practice. The student should be in on the decision making process. They will have a better inclination to follow through if they feel like they helped make the decision. It also gives the parent some leverage over an unwilling student!
- Be sure that they have a place that is conducive to them being able to concentrate, be uninterrupted, and have adequate space (especially for low brass players).
- Be sure that the instrument is in proper repair. Nobody likes to practice with an instrument that is in disrepair and does not function or respond properly.
- Set a time once a week (two nights before test night is best) for your child to play for you. Do not, however force the child to play for anyone else unless he/she feels comfortable doing so.
- ALWAYS be positive and encouraging to the student about how they sound, especially in front of other people. One negative comment can literally destroy a month of progress! Sincere praise can never be overdone!!!!

Classroom Behavior and Discipline

This is perhaps the single most important area that will determine how successful a band program will be. It is the goal of all CISD Band staff that every student will have the best possible environment in which to learn. In order to attain this goal there are specific guidelines that will be followed in the classroom.

Promptness - Students are to be in their seats with all of the above described materials, and instruments ready to play when the tardy bell begins to ring. This includes valves oiled, slides greased, keys oiled, reeds attached, etc. Students who use class time to prepare instruments, or have instruments that will not perform correctly in rehearsal due to unpreparedness, will receive a tardy.

Attentiveness - Students are expected to be attentive at all times that class is in session, and will be held responsible for all information given from the podium. This includes instruction that is given to sections other than your own! The instructor has the option of repeating or not repeating instructions that were missed due to lack of attentiveness; pop quizzes may be given to reinforce this point. Students should be aware that distracting other students will result in disciplinary action. Outside materials such as homework from other classes, books, letters, etc. should not be out in rehearsal. Students who have beepers, cell phones, watches with alarms, or other auditory devices should have them turned **off** in rehearsal (inside and outside of the school day). These and other inappropriate items will be confiscated if they are seen or heard.

Talking - It is impossible for a student to be attentive to what is going on in rehearsal if he/she is talking, or if someone is talking to him/her. Talking in class will not be tolerated. If, however a student has a question, they may raise their hand and it will be answered at the first appropriate moment. The atmosphere of the classroom will be largely determined by how well the students can discipline themselves on this matter. Students should at **no time** volunteer any opinions regarding discipline to other students. This behavior will result in immediate disciplinary action. Any student who feels they have been disciplined unfairly may confer with the director in private after the class is concluded, or may set a conference with the instructor outside of class.

Class Preparedness - In order for any band program to succeed, students must practice and be prepared for all rehearsals. At times, specific assignments will be made. At other times, the student should assume that if the music is in the folder, they should be prepared to rehearse it when it is called. Reasonable amounts of time will be given for students to prepare music. Pop tests can and will be given to evaluate student' level of class preparedness.

Consumables - Food, candy, gum, etc. are strictly prohibited from the band hall. This is largely due to the potential damage to very expensive instruments and equipment. Warnings will rarely be given regarding this matter!

Switching Instruments - Due to liability pitfalls, students are forbidden to play other students' instruments without written consent of the parent. This consent should include a releasing of CISD from liability for the condition and welfare of the instrument.

Care of Music - Students are issued music for rehearsal, practice, and performance purposes. These copies are property of CISD Bands, and must be returned in acceptable condition. All music should be kept in a band folder. Music should never be folded, rolled, or placed loosely in an instrument

case. Students are required to erase any and all pencil marks on their copies of music before they are turned in. Students who destroy, deface, or abuse music copies will be required to pay a replacement fee of 5 cents per copy.

Band Hall Lockers - Students are assigned lockers in the band hall for the storage of instruments and supplies that pertain to band. Students are not allowed to place non-approved items in band hall lockers. Approved items are: Instrument, music folder, and pencil. Students may not bring in outside locks and place them on band lockers. Any unauthorized locks will be removed and discarded at the student's expense. Students should not leave instruments in slots over weekends and holidays. All instruments must be out of the band hall over the summer break. Students who do not use their instrument slots for instrument storage should still check them daily for messages, returned papers, etc., especially those who take private lessons.

Band Membership - Students should come to class ready to rehearse, rather than ready to find the most creative ways possible to "get away with" breaking the rules. Our purpose is to become the best band possible, for our school, our community, and ourselves. If, upon self-evaluation, the student realizes that this is not their goal, it is recommended that they re-evaluate their involvement in the CISD Band Program.

Inappropriate Activities - If a student engages in drugs, alcohol, or tobacco use or engages in criminal activity, said student may be subject to removal from the band program. This rule is effective regardless of whether the offense occurred on or off school property and/or during or outside of school related activities.

Grading

Grades are determined largely by the amount of practice time a student turns in. All middle school students will need to practice at least 30 minutes per day, six days per week to get an 'A' for that practice week. Less time will get a lesser grade. Practice time will be recorded on practice chart and turned in on the first day of the school week; the chart is due the first day the student returns. Parents are asked not to sign the chart until the end of the practice week; and it is preferred, when possible, that parents write in the times.

There will also be various tests throughout the school year, including final exams at the conclusion of each semester. Tests will be over scales, and other playing and written materials that are covered in class. Grading criteria for playing tests will reflect the amount of time allotted for preparation and the concept being graded.

Because of the time restriction involved with giving final exams to band students, the director may ask those students who are willing to take exams outside of the school day to do so. Students with transportation problems and other after school commitments will still be allowed to take tests during the school day.

Students who take private lessons are allowed to ask the private instructor for help with the test material. However, if the test material does not fit in with the plans for the student for that day, the instructor may decline in favor of other lesson materials. The scores on these weekly tests will periodically determine seating. This effectively serves to motivate students to practice and be prepared.

Other grading factors include class participation, positive attitude, and consistent daily effort in the “non-playing” aspects of class. These include posture, correct horn position, display of proper breathing habits, bringing the proper materials to class, and other such skills that are taught throughout the class period.

Performance Attire

All Students will be asked to purchase a band t-shirt during their 6th grade year. The shirt will be worn to Sandy Lake Contest, and to football games in the 7th and 8th grade years. If any 7th or 8th graders have lost or damaged their shirt, they may purchase a new one.

6th Grade Band

Students will need to have nice dress clothes for concerts. Young ladies will need to be in skirts or dresses. Length needs to be below the knee. Ladies hair should be pulled back so that it is not in their eyes. Gentlemen should have slacks, dress shirt, and a necktie. Gentlemen should have hair that is cut so as to be off the collar, and the ear lobe is clearly visible. Neither girls nor boys should wear t-shirts, tennis shoes, or denim attire. If this presents a financial difficulty, please contact the director. Students should understand that this is a formal occasion, and the appropriate dress and behavior is required.

7th & 8th Grade

Students will need to purchase a black tie and cummerbund set. The school will provide tux pants and a white pleated shirt. Please also provide your child with a pair of black socks and black shoes (no tennis shoes, please). Ladies may substitute black hose for black socks. These will be worn at all formal performances. This is the performance uniform that will be worn through high school. Ties and cummerbunds may be purchased through the band office. Pants and shirts should be professionally cleaned after each performance. Please inform dry cleaners **not** to write student’s name on the uniform! Tuxes will be turned in at the conclusion of the final formal performance of the school year. Students should bring a change of clothes to wear home from that performance.

With parental approval, ladies are encouraged to wear appropriate and conservative make-up, due to stage lighting. Ladies and Gentlemen, PLEASE refrain from wearing any fragrances!!! Gentlemen should be clean-shaven and have hair that is cut off the collar, and the ear lobe is clearly visible. Ladies should have their hair pulled back so that is not in their eyes.

Solo & Ensemble and Banquets

Young ladies will need to be in skirts and dresses. Gentlemen should have slacks, dress shirt, and a necktie. Neither girls nor boys should wear t-shirts, tennis shoes, or denim attire. Parents, please make sure that your son/daughter has the proper concert attire. If this presents a financial difficulty, please contact the director. Students should understand that this is a formal occasion, and the appropriate dress and behavior is required.

Performances

Attendance at ALL performances is absolutely required. The performance itself is an extension of the classroom. Performances count as a test grade. The winter and spring concerts will count as two test grades and two performances. Exceptions will be made for deaths in the family, sickness, etc. In order for an absence due to illness to be excused, it **must** be documented!! A note from a doctor is preferred. The director may, upon request hear an appeal from the student and parent. Conflicts due to church related activities, religious beliefs, etc. should be brought to the attention of the director no later than the end of the first week of the semester of the conflict, or immediately upon availability of knowledge of the conflict. One unexcused absence will result in the lowering of the final band grade by 20 points (two letters) for that six-week period. Two unexcused absences will result in a failing grade for the semester. If an unforeseen circumstance occurs that in the parent's opinion merits special consideration, a hearing may be arranged with the director and principal.

Students who are academically ineligible from performance participation will be asked to do extra assignments to offset any grade deductions. It is the responsibility of the student to acquire these assignments. Students who do not acquire the make-up assignments for missing a performance will take an unexcused absence from the performance!!!!

Solo and Ensemble Contests

This opportunity is provided for students who wish to have the opportunity to develop their ability to play solo literature, become better acquainted with their instrument, and become a more independent player. Participation is **not** limited to those who are taking private lessons, although these students are easier to accommodate.

Participants will play a solo, with piano accompaniment, for a judge. The judge will give them a rating from one to five (one being the best) and several constructive comments on how they can improve their playing and/or performance. Usually medals are awarded for a "one" rating. We will attend both UIL and non-UIL solo contest events. An accompanist will be provided for a fee that covers two rehearsals, the making of a tape of the accompaniment, and the contest itself. Students who wish to use their own accompanist may do so, upon approval by the director.

The school district will pay the entry fees for all participants. As a result, it is **very** important that participants be prepared for all contests. Students who commit to contest entry then nullify their entry, either by choice, conflict, failing grade, or lack of preparation must reimburse the district for the entry fee. Please check the band calendar as you make plans for family and church events.

Dress for Solo and Ensemble contests is as follows: Young ladies will need to be in skirts or dresses. Gentlemen should have slacks, dress shirt, and a necktie. Neither girls nor boys should wear t-shirts, tennis shoes, or denim. Gentlemen should be clean-shaven and have hair that is cut so as to be off the collar, and the ear lobe visible. Ladies should have their hair pulled back so that it is not in their eyes. Parents, please make sure that your son/daughter has the proper concert attire. If this presents a financial difficulty, please contact the director. Students should understand that this is a formal occasion, and the appropriate dress and behavior is required.

Football Games

Attendance at football games when the band is playing is required, not optional!!! These are considered to be performances, and are graded accordingly. Please review the section on performance attendance to be acquainted with the grading policy. Students who participate in football will be excused during their games. During the 7th grade game, 8th grade football players are expected to play with the band, and during the 8th grade game, 7th grade football players are expected to play with the band.

Students are expected to be prompt to all games. Arrival should be no later than the time assigned in class. A student will be considered present when he/she is in his/her proper place in the bleachers with their horn out and ready to play. Students who are tardy may receive extra work, a lowering of the grade for that game, or both. Parents, please have your child at the game on time!!

Students are instructed to avoid playing other's instruments and only play their instrument when the band is playing. Playing out of turn is disturbing and sloppy, and is not the image that is healthy for the band program. Only band students are allowed in the band area.

All 7th and 8th grade band students will need to purchase a band shirt if they have not already done so, or if their band shirt is no longer in acceptable condition. These will be worn at the football games with a pair of blue jeans. Parents, please do your best to fit your child with a pair of jeans that are the dark blue or "indigo" color. Please refrain from the stonewashed or "pre-faded" jeans that are light blue or white. Band shirts and jeans will also be worn at other informal performances given by the band. Band shirts will be available through the band office.

Band Trips

The CISD Band Program tries to offer as many field trips as possible to its students. These trips are offered to students who meet eligibility and disciplinary requirements. Trips include but are not limited to contests, auditions, and other various activities.

Students' behavior is expected to be above question on all trips. Students are expected to know and follow all instructions from the director or sponsor. Students who behave, in the opinion of the director, in such a way as to negatively reflect on CISD Bands will receive suitable punishment, and possibly be sent immediately home at the parent's expense. Very little tolerance will be extended in this area.

Dress code limits of the appropriate campus will remain intact on all school trips. Reasonable exceptions of this will exist for things such as swimming, etc.

Fundraisers

Once per year, students will be asked to participate in a fundraiser to raise money for clinicians, guest bands, additional equipment, and various other expenses and projects. Since these funds benefit the entire band, all band students are encouraged to participate. If a parent does not wish their child to participate, please call the director at the band hall, or send a note with your child. Effort will be made to spend funds raised in band-sponsored fundraisers on items that will benefit the entire band.

Annual Events

July:

New Student Orientation - this activity is for students who are upcoming freshman or any other students who have not previously attended this session (such as those who joined the organization after the conclusion of the orientation during the previous year). These sessions are also open to returning students who want to receive a refresher course to improve their basic skills.

August:

Full Day Rehearsals - Full day rehearsals are intense sessions that prepare high school student for the upcoming season. Material will include marching and playing materials for fall season performances.

Band Camp - Band camp is required for all students who wish to march with the high school band. Students have the option to work to offset the cost for the camp, or pay the fee in full. Employment opportunities usually are available through the booster club. However, the booster club is not responsible for securing work opportunities for all students.

November:

ATSSB Barriers - Students who wish to audition for the All-Region band must play the audition material for one of the faculty. This allows the staff to insure that students so are representing our school are prepared sufficiently for a positive experience.

December:

ATSSB Region Band Auditions - Students may choose to audition for the Association of Texas School Bands All-Region band. Audition music is available through the band office, and is posted on the ATSSB web site. Students who wish to audition must sign on the sign-up sheet in the band office before the deadline. In order to be eligible to audition, students must first pass a barrier hearing during the last week of November.

March:

UIL Concert and Sight-reading contest - Both high school and middle school band will participate in this event. Students will perform prepared music as well as sight-read at this event.

April:

Celina Solo and Ensemble Contest - All students are highly encouraged to participate in this event. Students will play an appropriate solo, chosen by the director or private teacher with an accompanist. Students may choose to pay an accompanist fee and use the provided accompanist, or students may use their own accompanist. The director must approve all accompanists. Participation in CSEC may count toward the final exam grade. Students who receive a first division rating receive a grade of 100 for the solo portion of the final exam. Students who receive a second division rating will receive a 90 for the solo portion of the final exam. Students who do not perform in the CSEC will be allowed to play their solo for the class in order to receive the solo portion of the final exam grade.

May:

Awards Receptions - The Celina band boosters sponsor a reception for the purpose of honoring band students. Students are expected to attend and parents are encouraged to join us as we honor their students. Dress for the banquet is as follows: Young ladies will need to be in skirts or dresses. Gentlemen should have slacks, dress shirt, and a necktie. Neither girls nor boys should wear t-shirts, tennis shoes, or denim. Parents, please make sure that your son/daughter has the proper attire. If this presents a financial difficulty, please contact the director. Students should understand that this is a formal occasion, and the appropriate dress and behavior is required.

Beginner Drive - The beginner drive is for all beginning students and parents. This meeting allows all students and parents an opportunity to meet the directors, become acquainted with the Celina Band Program and our expectations, and order instruments from our music representative. By ordering your instrument through our representative, we can insure the quality of the instrument, as well as a fair price.

June:

Sounds of Summer Band Camp - this is a summer band camp hosted by the Princeton Band. This is a wonderfully positive opportunity and experience for your son/daughter to continue their growth as a musician, as well as meet students from other schools who share a similar interest for music. It is a very affordable camp and some scholarships are available.

Instrument Overviews

Following is a brief synopsis of comments that are indigenous for each instrument. Parents, please read the section(s) that apply to your child(ren). If there are any questions, please feel free to contact the director at the Band Office.

All band students will need a metronome and a music stand in order to develop properly. These can be purchased through the band office for a nominal fee. Failure to supply these can result in poor physical and musical habits that can be difficult if not impossible to correct. Instruments should be taken to a qualified repairman every summer for cleaning, repairs, and adjustments. This will result in a much longer life span for the instrument, thus giving the parent a better return in their investment. The cost of doing this is far less than the cost of replacing a neglected instrument.

The Woodwind Family

FLUTE

Playing the flute requires the use of large amounts of air. This however does not exclude those who suffer from respiratory problems. If there is a concern, parents should consult their family physician.

Flute students should possess a cleaning rod and a cloth from the very beginning. If the instrument you obtained from a music company does not have a cleaning rod, contact the music company or the director. It is important to swab the instrument after each use to prevent pads from cracking and needing replacement. Parents should periodically check their child's flute to inspect condition of pads.

If there is a question or a concern, contact the director, or the private instructor. Care of the instrument requires a thorough swabbing, and wiping the instrument clean of water, oils, fingerprints, etc. immediately at the conclusion of a playing session.

OBOE

Learning to play the oboe requires an extra amount of patience and determination. Parents of oboe students will need to give extra amounts of encouragement, and extra amounts of praise even for small steps forward. These "extras" will pay off in many ways. The oboe sound is a crucial part of the overall band sound, and the oboe student sees many more opportunities than many of the other instruments due to the relative rarity of the instrument.

Oboe students should possess a reed case, at least three playable reeds, and a swab. Upon entering High School, oboe students should purchase reed-making tools. It is almost impossible for a student to succeed at the oboe without private lessons. Besides the difficulty factor discussed above, oboe students need to be trained in the making of their own reeds. Both of these processes need the close scrutiny of a specialist.

Care of the instrument requires a thorough swabbing, and wiping the instrument clean of water, oils, fingerprints, etc. immediately at the conclusion of a playing session. Reeds should be stored properly in reed cases.

BASSOON

Bassoon students will need a swab, reed case, and at least three playable reeds. Upon entering high school, bassoon students should purchase reed-making tools. Parents of bassoon students should check regularly and often to insure that students are taking proper care of the instrument. If the student fails to do so, expensive repairs are a certainty.

It is almost impossible for a student to succeed at the bassoon without private lessons. There are problems that are unique to the bassoon that are extremely difficult to address in a classroom

situation. Also, bassoon students, like oboe students, need to be trained in the making of their own reeds. Both of these processes need the close scrutiny of a specialist.

Care of the instrument requires a thorough swabbing, and wiping the instrument clean of water, oils fingerprints, etc. immediately at the conclusion of a playing session. Reeds should be stored properly in reed cases.

CLARINET

Clarinet students will need a swab, four reeds, and a four-compartment reed guard. These are all available through the band office, or from the music company at the time of the instrument purchase. Students are required to keep four good quality reeds on hand at all times. Students must be aware that reeds are not ready to play when they are new, but require a "breaking in" period. Two of the reeds in the reed guard should be well broken in and ready to play. The student should be working on the other two during practice time. As a result, when a student breaks a reed or wears one out, there is another one ready to play, and a new reed is placed with the other reed to finish breaking in.

Please check periodically with your child to insure that they have four reeds at all times. Much rehearsal time is lost because a student breaks his/her only reed just prior to class time. Then, that student is several days of "breaking in" away from being able to play at their potential, because they are trying to play on a new reed. The ramifications of this same thing happening just prior to a concert could be disastrous!

Care of the instrument requires a thorough swabbing, and wiping the instrument clean of water, oils fingerprints, etc. immediately at the conclusion of a playing session. Reeds should be stored properly in reed guards, and should **never** be left on the mouthpiece. The mouthpiece cap should be placed on the mouthpiece for storage, and should also be kept over the reed during times when the instrument is assembled, but not being played. Reeds should never be left on instrument when the students are not playing the instrument.

SAXOPHONE

All saxophone students will need a swab, four reeds, a four-compartment reed guard, and key oil. These are all available through the band office, or from the music company at the time of the instrument purchase. Students are required to keep four reeds on hand at all times. Students must be aware that reeds are not ready to play when they are new, but require a "breaking in" period. Two of the reeds in the reed guard should be well broken in and ready to play. The student should be working on the other two during practice time. As a result, when a student breaks a reed or wears one out, there is another one ready to play, and a new reed is placed with the other reed to finish breaking in.

Please check periodically with your child to insure that they have four reeds at all times. Much rehearsal time is lost because a student breaks his/her only reed just prior to class time. Then, that student is several days of "breaking in" away from being able to play at their potential, because they are trying to play on a new reed. The ramifications of this same thing happening just prior to a concert could be disastrous!

Saxophone students will have the option of playing the tenor and baritone saxophones upon invitation, and possibly audition from the conductor.

Care of the instrument requires a thorough swabbing, and wiping the instrument clean of water, oils fingerprints, etc. immediately at the conclusion of a playing session. Reeds should be stored properly in reed guards, and should **never** be left on the mouthpiece. The mouthpiece cap should be placed on the mouthpiece for storage, and should also be kept over the reed during times when the instrument is assembled, but not being played.

The Brass Family

TRUMPET

Trumpet students will need valve oil, slide grease, a mouthpiece brush, a rag, a polishing cloth, and a cleaning snake. These are all available through the band office, or through the music store. Students are expected to come to class with their instrument in playing condition. Oiling of valves and greasing of slides should be done at home or before rehearsal begins. Students who have an instrument that is ill prepared for rehearsal will receive a tardy.

(See Brass Cleaning Instructions Below)

FRENCH HORN

French horn students will need valve oil, slide grease, a mouthpiece brush, a cleaning snake, a rag, and a polishing cloth. These are all available through the band office, or through the music store. Students are expected to come to class with their instrument in playing condition. Oiling of valves and greasing of slides should be done at home or before rehearsal begins. Students who have an instrument that is ill prepared for rehearsal will receive a tardy.

(See Brass Cleaning Instructions Below)

TROMBONE

Trombone students need slide **cream** (such as Superslick), a slide sprayer, tuning slide grease, a mouthpiece brush, a rag, a polishing cloth, and a cleaning snake. All of these items are available through the band office except the slide sprayer. It is recommended that rather than pay \$2.50 for a slide sprayer from the music company, parents should go to a discount store, such as Wal-Mart, purchase a sample size bottle of hair spray, clean it out **thoroughly** with soap and water, and use it for your slide sprayer. Not only is this cheaper, the hair spray bottles usually are smaller, and fit more easily into cases.

(See Brass Cleaning Instructions Below)

EUPHONIUM

Euphoniums are available for use from the CISD Band program. Students are expected to maintain the instrument as if it were their own. Parents sign for instruments, indicating their willingness to be responsible for damages. For routine maintenance, euphonium players should have valve oil, slide grease, mouthpiece brush, cleaning snake, rag, and polishing cloth.

(See Brass Cleaning Instructions Below)

TUBA

Tubas are available for use from the CISD Band program. Students are expected to maintain the instrument as if it were their own. Parents sign for instruments, indicating their willingness to be responsible for damages. For routine maintenance, tuba players should have valve oil, slide grease, mouthpiece brush, cleaning snake, rag, and polishing cloth. Tuba students are encouraged to also learn other bass instruments such as bass guitar and string bass when those instruments are available.

(See Brass Cleaning Instructions Below)

Brass Cleaning Instructions

All brass students should be well acquainted with the procedure of bathing their instruments. It is as follows:

1. Place a towel in the bottom of a bathtub to protect the instrument from the tub surface.
2. Fill the tub with luke warm water. If the water is too hot, it will crack the lacquer and ruin the finish. If it is cold, it will not adequately cut the oils and greases. Tub should be full enough to completely cover the instrument.
3. Add enough mild detergent (Palmolive, Dawn, or other dishwashing detergent works quite well) that the water produces a generous amount of suds.
4. Disassemble the instrument, wipe off the surface oils and greases, and place each individual piece into the tub. Trumpets, euphoniums, and tubas should **not** place valve pistons in the water. Doing so will wet the felts, and cause them to decay. Valve pistons should be removed and placed **in order** on a level, safe surface.
5. Allow the instrument to soak for 20 to 30 minutes.
6. Take this time to clean the pistons. Using a soft cloth, wipe the piston carefully. Use a cotton swab if necessary to clean the portholes.
7. Using flexible cleaning snake, thoroughly brush the insides of all accessible tubing. Never force the brush around sharp bends or "crooks." Simply approach the bend from both sides, and insert the brush until it stops. Extreme care should be taken with valve casings. Scraping these with the cable part of the brush can score them, resulting in expensive repairs.
8. Remove each piece individually from the soapy water, rinse thoroughly, and dry.
9. Reapply appropriate lubricants, and reassemble.
10. If the instrument is going to be stored for a long period of time, it should be allowed to dry completely, inside and out before reassembly.

BASS GUITAR

Students who own a bass guitar will be accepted in beginner band as of 1994-95. These students must also participate on tuba. Bass guitar students are required to take lessons outside of the band program in order to learn chord symbol reading and improvisation.

PERCUSSION

Percussion is the most diversified and difficult of all the instrument choices. Percussion students must learn mallet instruments, snare, timpani, set, and all auxiliary percussion instruments. These students are carefully screened by audition at the beginner level. Private lessons are required for percussion players. These students become very visible in the High School Drum Line. Therefore, past behavior patterns are seriously considered before accepting students as percussion players.

Percussion students are required to purchase an equipped mallet bag with a prescribed set of mallets and sticks. This bag will contain several varieties of mallets, concert sticks, and drum set sticks. The cost of the mallet bags is still under the cost of most of the other instruments. High School students will need to add a set of marching sticks and a pitch pipe to their mallet bag.

Achievement Levels

Students who wish to advance their playing and musicianship beyond what is required in the band class may work to achieve performance levels under the following system. This is purely optional, and the only physical reward will be a certificate that will be awarded at the band banquet. Students are responsible for keeping a copy of the handbook that they used to achieve their level one. All future leveling may be achieved from that handbook and not be affected by subsequent changes. Students who do not do this will be required to use the current handbook. Any student who achieves a Level Eight will automatically be awarded a scholarship from the Celina Band Booster Club.

Scale exam procedure

Students will be given three attempts to play each scale or scale series. All scales or scale series must be played with no mistakes to pass. The examiner will announce mistakes by the declaration of the word "fault" at the point of the mistake. Faculty judgments are immediately final. Any student who tries to dispute the examiner will be automatically disqualified from the exam, and possibly the leveling process. All scales in level one or level two must be passed in the same exam. Scale series in level five and level six must be passed in complete keys. Students may attempt the exam as many times as time allows; however, any student who consistently schedules exams and is under prepared may be denied future examination. Exams must be scheduled in advance with the band faculty.

level one

- participate in the CISD band program for two years
- pass a test on ATSSB scales
- Score a 95% or above on a rhythm reading test
- Score a 100% on a note identification test

level two

- achieve level one
- Score 95% or above on a transposition test
- participate in the CISD band program for three years
- pass all major scales
- audition for ATSSB All-Region band
- participate in the Celina Solo and Ensemble Contest (CSEC)

level three

- achieve level two
- participate in the CISD band program for four years
- audition for ATSSB two years
- two years participation in CSEC

level four

- achieve level three
- participate in CISD band for four years
- audition for ATSSB three years
- three years participation in CSEC or two years CSEC and one year in UIL

level five

achieve level four
participate in CISD band for four years
audition for ATSSB three years
two years participation in CSEC
two years participation in UIL
pass all ATSSB key area scale series
make a 95% on an advanced rhythm reading test

level six

achieve level five
pass all scale series
complete five out of the following six:
audition for ATSSB three years
three years participation in CSEC
three years participation in UIL
make ATSSB all region band
participate in Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest (TSSEC)
attend leadership camp

level seven

achieve level six
serve as a band officer for two years
perform jury examination
complete five of the following six:
audition for ATSSB three years
four years participation in CSEC
three years participation in UIL solo contest
make ATSSB all region band
participate in Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest (TSSEC) as a soloist
attend leadership camp two years

level eight

achieve level seven
serve as a band officer for three years
perform jury recital
pass a comprehensive theory and sight singing exam
complete seven of the following nine:
audition for ATSSB four years
four years participation in CSEC
three years participation in UIL
make ATSSB all region band
make ATSSB area band
make ATSSB all state band
participate in Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest (TSSEC) as a soloist
attend leadership camp three years
rehearse, prepare, and conduct a band selection on the Spring Concert

Administrative Approval

Rob O'Conner
Superintendent of Schools _____ Date _____

Donny O'Dell
Asst. Superintendent of Schools _____ Date _____

Janet Calvert
Principal, Celina Middle School _____ Date _____

Student and Parent Acknowledgement

I, _____, have received a copy of the **CISD Bands Student Handbook**, and understand that my child will be held responsible for the rules therein so long as my child participates in the Celina band program.

Parent(s) Signature(s) Date

I, _____, have read the **CISD Bands Student Handbook**, and I understand that I will be held responsible for the rules therein in so long as I participate in the Celina band program.

(Student's signature)

I give my permission for my child's picture to be published in the newspaper and on the Celina Band web page.

(Parent's Signature)

This document must be returned to the band office before the end of the first six weeks of school.