

The Pride of 

HANCOCK  HIGH SCHOOL
MARCHING BAND

Parent Handbook

The Pride of Hancock Staff

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Information Sources

CHARMS - We use an online system called Charms Office Assistant (www.charmsofficeassistant.com) to organize everything from schedules for practices, football games, contests, basketball games, concerts, and any other activities that come up during the school year. Your student will be given a log in name and password to access this information. Group emails are sent out from this web site to all parents regarding any activities throughout the year. It is VITAL that your contact information (phone & email) are kept up-to-date on the “Charms” website, as this is the primary way we communicate. Log in name and passwords will be distributed during the “new band parent” meeting, and a short tutorial will be given. If you have any questions regarding use of Charms, ask one of your Band Booster officers.

FACEBOOK – One of the most successful ways we share information is on Facebook. Search for “Hancock Band Parents” on Facebook and then request to join the group (similar to sending a friend request). This will give you immediate access to the “latest & greatest”, real-time information. It is a closed group for parents and directors only.

TWITTER – Mr. Jenkins will often use Twitter to send reminders to the students, which are usually things you need to know as well. You do not need a Twitter account to receive these “tweets” via text message...just text the words “Follow HancockBand” to 40404. If you have a Twitter account, simply follow @HancockBand.

Band Boosters

The mission of the Pride of Hancock Band Boosters is to support the students and directors in their goal to achieve the highest standards of music education and music performance. The success of this program depends on your involvement! The only requirement for becoming a band booster is a willingness to help, in whatever capacity you choose. Boosters serve as chaperones for “away games” and band contests; work the concession stand during “home games”; assist in moving equipment on and off the football field for halftime performances; help distribute water to the students throughout the game and “3rd quarter snack” immediately following the half-time performance (this is addressed in more detail in a later section). Boosters will also be needed to help during the two weeks of band camp to make sure the kids stay hydrated, to assist the directors in recognizing students with signs of heat exhaustion and treating those kids as needed. We also help with fund raising and many other special events (to be announced) during the school year. Booster meetings are held on the **2nd Tuesday of each month** in the Band Hall at 6pm to plan upcoming events and exchange ideas. Please try to regularly attend Booster meetings and **BE INVOLVED!**

Parent Involvement

Our band directors can't do everything and can't be everywhere – the band needs our parents in order to function! When your child is in band, YOU are in band too! Our kids work hard and having parents around insures things run smoothly. It's as simple as that! Getting involved in the band program will give you the opportunity to share these last few years of your child's education. The years go by FAST! Your child might say they'd rather not have you around, but most parents learn that in reality, they appreciate your involvement. Our band students are very grateful for all that we do - and when you hear that "thank you", it's SO worth it! Your help is voluntary, of course – if you can help a little, great! If you can help a LOT, even better! We work hard, but we do have fun, and it's a great way to get to know other parents ☺ If all of our parents would pick a few activities per year (and there's plenty!) in which to help, it would be very beneficial! We don't want just a handful of parents doing all the work - there is something for everyone! Please fill out the Parent Information sheet and let us know what areas interest you!

Time Management

This will be the most important tool that your band student will acquire now that they are members of The Pride. School all day, after school practices, football games on Friday nights, contests every weekend in October, and the list goes on – your student will learn that they must use every minute of their day wisely. Time not spent in practice needs to be spent doing homework and studying for other classes. Your student will learn to keep a schedule, to set priorities, and above ALL, be PUNCTUAL. They will learn the meaning of the phrase...

If you're early, you're on time, If you're on time, you're LATE"

Summer Band Camp

Some families may not realize that there is a summer rehearsal schedule, aka "BAND CAMP" and it is **REQUIRED**. Band camp is held at the high school during the last two weeks of July. It is **MANDATORY** that all students attend and we ask that you schedule family vacations, doctor's appointments, and summer jobs around these weeks. Band is a **GROUP** activity and if one member is missing, it has an effect on the entire group. Band Camp is a very strenuous, very physical activity that is held outside during the hottest part of the summer. Please remind your student to use their summer break to prepare themselves for these two weeks. During camp, it is easy to distinguish between the kids who have been active during the weeks leading up to camp and those who have been sitting on the sofa playing video games. The readiness of each

individual student to endure the physical challenge of band camp is vital to the success of the band as a whole. Please see the attached “*How to Prepare for Band Camp*” for some useful tips.

Summer Band Camp (cont.)

The band camp schedule will be distributed during the new band parent meeting. Students will need to bring their lunch each day, along with a water cooler. NO soft drinks or energy drinks! Students should only be drinking water or sport drinks (i.e., Gatorade/Powerade). Other “must have” items will be discussed during the new band parent/student meeting.

The Band Boosters will provide supper during the 2nd week of band camp, as the schedule is more strenuous that week. In the past we have had different menus (e.g., hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza). Students may be charged a nominal fee to help cover the costs of meals each night (\$2-3). Parents are needed to help serve our students (this is usually done “buffet style”) – if you are available, we’d LOVE to have you! More information to come in the future!

Football/Marching Season

Marching season is a BUSY time for our band AND our band parents. After school practices, Friday night games, pick up, drop off, and the cycle starts over. The game schedule is attached will be available on Charms and the Hancock High School web site. The first few games begin at 7:30pm. Each week there will be a set time for band members to be dressed in uniform, ready for roll call, and warm up. A lot of students stay after school on game days – you may want to bring your child something for supper (if possible) or have them pack a snack/extra meal to eat prior to the game. For home games, parents will be needed to help get water coolers, snacks, first aid kit, and other supplies to the football stadium. We like to do this early (i.e., before the band marches in.) If you plan to help during the ballgame, we will provide you with a “chaperone” badge. This will keep you from having to pay an entrance fee into the game. HOWEVER, please do not take the badge (and free entry) and then go sit in the stands and NOT help. There is always something to do! The Band Boosters run the concession stand on the *visitor’s side* during home games – please sign up to work! It’s a great way to get to know other parents! It’s also air conditioned (an awesome perk for those first couple of games when it’s so HOT outside!)

Your band student will play music and cheer in the band stands during first and second quarter, and then perform the halftime show. Parents are ALWAYS needed to help get equipment on and off the football field during halftime. Please ask “how can I help?” and we’ll point where it needs to go! Band members have the third quarter “off”. The Band Boosters provide water/soft drinks and a snack to all band members during 3rd quarter. They can also purchase food from the concession stand if they wish. Band members will be required to be back in the stands before third quarter ends – the time will be set by the Band Director. They will again play and cheer during fourth quarter and once the game is over, they will march out of the stadium. This is standard practice for all games! During home games, the band will march to the band hall, where

Mr. McLain will take a few minutes to address all members. This is his time to go over the events of the night and parents are requested to remain outside the band hall.

Football/Marching Season (cont.)

For out of town games, the band will march to the buses and be dismissed to load equipment, get out of their uniforms, and load buses for the ride home. We try to give an accurate return time for out of town games, but please keep in mind that things happen (e.g., game goes into overtime, heavy traffic, etc). Your student will be instructed to call you when we are close to the school so that you can be on your way and/or know our location if you're already waiting. We also post updates on our Facebook Band Parent page.

Please be prompt in picking up your child – our Band Director CANNOT leave until all students are picked up.

Uniforms

If you have been to any high school games during August and the first part of September, you will notice that the band students (including ours!) wear a “show t-shirt” and khaki shorts due to the heat. Information about the “Pride” uniform fittings will be discussed during the new parent meeting, as well as information about uniform accessories such as gloves and band shoes. The uniform assignment process can be tedious and patience from your band student is very important. After uniforms are issued, students MUST report any problems (current or future) as soon as possible so that repairs can be made! This can include a button that comes off, or a zipper that breaks, etc. Our uniform contact person will be Patti Carver (see booster info). We have set an email address for uniform questions: hancockuniformsquestions@yahoo.com.

Band Contests

During marching season, our band members perform at numerous contests (locations to be announced). Contests are held on each Saturday of October (and possibly the 1st Saturday of November), so CLEAR your calendars. Band contests are scheduled on Saturdays and they are an ALL day (and into the night!) affair. More information will be distributed in the coming months. We always need parents to chaperone the band to these contests and help with meals/snacks. It's a long day/evening for everyone, but it is so rewarding watching our kids perform and be recognized for their accomplishments!

Hydration, Hydration, Hydration!

Your band student will be strongly encouraged to stay hydrated during practices, games, and contests. Y'all know MS weather and it's HOT down here! Marching band is an OUTSIDE activity. The directors allow time for water breaks during band camp and after school practices. During all football games, band parents are needed to distribute water/Gatorade to the band at certain intervals. During those first few games, we watch our students closely for signs of overheating. If there are any medical professionals (doctors, nurses, EMT's/Paramedics) among our band parents, your assistance is always welcome!

Band Fees

While the middle school program does not traditionally have "band fees", the high school band program is very different. The Pride of Hancock band fees vary according to what section of the band (i.e., "Hornline", "Percussion", or "Color Guard") your child is in. Our band fees cover everything from equipment, props, food/snacks (it's ALL about feeding these kids ☺), dry cleaning fees for uniforms, contest fees, transportation costs, and a multitude of other things! The fee schedule will be discussed at the new parent meeting. Email reminders will be sent as payments are due. Due dates are not flexible, however, unique circumstances can be discussed with the Band Director or Band Booster Treasurer. *We do not want economic factors to keep any student from participating in band.* Throughout the year, there are many fundraising opportunities available to assist with band fees. The best way to learn about fundraising is to attend the Band Booster monthly meetings. If you can't attend, the meeting "minutes" will be distributed via email within a week of each meeting.

How to Prepare for Band Camp

- *Memorize Music.*
- Drink a LOT of water!
- No Fried Foods. You CAN make the healthy choice.
- Stretch often. A short stretch will help loosen/relax the muscles.
- *Memorize Music.*
- Exercise often. Become adapted to the heat. (Wear Sunscreen)
- Practice your instrument/flag every day, preferably outside. (Wear Sunscreen)
- Ensure there are no scheduling conflicts with Band Camp.
- *Memorize Music.*
- Do simple workouts a few times a week to build strength.
- Ensure you have everything you need for Band Camp.
- Become familiar with the Band Handbook.
- *Memorize Music.*
- Ensure that your instrument/flag is working properly prior to Band Camp.
- Stay in contact with your fellow band members.
- Eat right. (At least 3 meals)
- *Memorize Music.*
- Sleep right. (8 hours) Go to sleep at a decent hour, and don't sleep in too long.
- Break in tennis shoes prior to Band Camp.
- Develop a daily routine of practice, stretch, and exercise. (Wear Sunscreen)
- *Memorize Music.*

HANCOCK HIGH SCHOOL



2014 - 2015 BOYS VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULEVISTA.COM

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	TEAM	RESULTS
08/15	TBA	TBA	at JAMBOREE/SCRIMMAGE VS TBA	_____
08/22	7:00 PM	HOME	MHSAA CLASSIC VS ST. STANISLAUS	_____
08/29	TBA	TBA	at OPEN	_____
09/05	7:00 PM	HOME	EAST CENTRAL	_____
09/12	7:00 PM	AWAY	at SUMRALL	_____
09/19	7:00 PM	AWAY	at BAY HIGH	_____
09/26	7:00 PM	HOME	OCEAN SPRINGS *	_____
10/03	7:00 PM	AWAY	at ST. MARTIN *	_____
10/10	7:00 PM	HOME	GULFPORT *	_____
10/17	7:00 PM	AWAY	at D'IBERVILLE *	_____
10/24	7:00 PM	HOME	HATTIESBURG (HOMECOMING) *	_____
10/31	7:00 PM	AWAY	at BILOXI *	_____
11/07	7:00 PM	HOME	HARRISON CENTRAL (SENIOR NIGHT) *	_____

* REGION 4 CLASS 6-A GAME |

schedulevista