

Oologah High School Band
The "Stallion Battalion"
2017 - 2018 Handbook

EARNED NOT
GIVEN

Oologah-Talala Public Schools
High School Band

Director: Mr. Jon Matthews

Assistant Director: Mr. Clint Kubala

Additional Staff: Ms. Kate Pascoe, Ms. Natalie
Pascoe, & Mr. Colton Wagoner

Phone: (918)443-6218

REMIND: text @ohsband15 to 81010

Email: Jon.Matthews@oologah.k12.ok.us

Website: www.stallionbattalion.edublogs.org



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/stallionbattalion/>



Friday August 4th	6:30pm	Parent/Student Meeting
Monday – Friday Aug. 7th – Aug. 11th		Summer Band Camp @ OHS
Wednesday August 23rd	7:00am	School Starts (Yes, we are playing!)
Thursday August 24	4:00pm	Meet the Mustangs
Tuesday August 29	4:00pm-8:00pm	Evening Practice
Tuesday August 29	7:00pm	Booster Meeting
Thursday August 31	4:00pm – 7:00pm	Music Store Rental / Supply Sale (<i>MS band room</i>)

Friday Sept. 1	4:00pm	Away Game @ Collinsville
Tuesday Sept. 5	4:00pm – 8:00pm	Evening Practice
Friday Sept. 8	4:00pm	Away Game @ Skiatook
Tuesday Sept. 12	4:00pm – 8:00pm	Evening Practice
Friday Sept. 15	4:00pm	Home Game Vs. Glenpool
Tuesday Sept. 19	4:00pm – 8:00pm	Evening Practice
Thursday Sept. 21	4:00pm	Homecoming Parade
Friday Sept. 22	4:00pm	Home Game Vs. Vinita (HOMECOMING)
Saturday Sept 23	ALL DAY	11th Annual “Stallion Battalion” Marching Invitational
Tuesday Sept. 26	4:00pm – 8:00pm	Evening Practice
Friday Sept. 29	4:00pm	Away Game @ Catoosa
Saturday Sept. 30	ALL DAY	PRYOR BAND DAY

Tuesday October 3	4:00 – 8:00pm	Evening Practice
Thursday October 5	TBD (Daytime)	Verdigris Big Red Sound Off
Friday October 6	4:00pm	Home Game Vs. Grove
Saturday Oct. 7	7:00am-6pm	Glenpool Battle of the Bands
Tuesday October 10	4:00 – 8:00pm	Evening Practice
Friday Oct. 13	4:00pm	Away Game @ Wagoner
Saturday Oct. 14th	TBD (afternoon/evening)	Begg’s Marching Contest (Exhibition Band)
Tuesday Oct. 17th	TBD (daytime)	OSSAA NE REGIONAL MARCHING
Thursday Oct. 28	4:00pm	Home Game Vs. Miami (<i>Fall Break Game/Alumni night</i>)
Friday Oct. 27	4:00pm	Away Game @. McLain
Saturday Oct. 28	All DAY	OSSBDA All-State Auditions

Friday Nov. 3	4:00pm	Home Game Vx. Cascia Hall (GLOW SHOW / SR. NIGHT)
Saturday Nov.4	TBD	GCBDA / OMEA 1 st Round Auditions
Friday Nov. 10	TBD	PLAYOFF GAME (Possibility)
Saturday Nov. 11	10am-1pm	Claremore Veteran’s Day Parade
Friday Nov.17	TBD	PLAYOFF GAME (Possibility)
Friday Nov. 24	TBD	PLAYOFF GAME (Possibility)

Friday Dec. 1	TBD	STATE CHAMPIONSHIP (Possibility)
Saturday Dec 2	ALL DAY	All-State Final Round
Thursday Dec. 14	7:00pm	Christmas Concert

PLEASE POST ON YOUR FRIDGE
and share with your employer!

Oologah High School Band Handbook

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Oologah High School band handbook is to inform band members and their parents of the expectations of the high school band program. The following guidelines are designed to promote the constructive teaching and learning environment needed to develop and maintain a successful program at the highest level of excellence.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Oologah High School band department is dedicated to helping students become responsible adults through participation in musical ensembles. The band program is an important part of the total school like. This band represents a large, visible, and highly disciplined segment of the school groups. Being a member of the Oologah High School band requires commitment, responsibility, and organization. Members are given the opportunity to develop self-esteem, poise, and confidence in addition to strengthening their musical abilities. The band staff considers these personal traits vital to the success in adult occupations and professions. It is our goal to give every student the finest musical experiences available.

GENERAL RULES

1. **Think before you act. When in doubt, don't**
2. No gum, candy, food, or drink (besides water) is allowed in the band room.
3. If you are not early, you are late. *Students should be in their seats/spots, warming up and ready to rehearse, ten minutes before the rehearsal is scheduled to begin.*
4. If it's not yours, leave it alone.
5. Leave the room in a neat and orderly condition. Return items to their proper place. Be responsible with school and personal equipment. *Instruments should be properly disassembled and stored in a band room locker. Clothes and other articles should be kept in your school assigned locker. The band room is locked after the directors have gone to the middle school – students should not expect to have access to items that they will need during the school day in the band room.*
6. Respect our band, our goals, and our members.
7. We are always and always will be a first class organization.
8. Always do your best. **EARNED NOT GIVEN**
9. Always be prepared musically and mentally. Anything can happen. *Band members must bring their instruments, music, and rehearsal materials to each rehearsal and performance. Every band member is expected to have their own accessories such as reeds, valve oil, mouthpieces and mallets.*
10. No **guts**, no glory. No **effort**, no glory.

SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS & EQUIPMENT

Some school-owned instruments and equipment will be checked out to students during the year. Student's band fees will be used for the normal upkeep and repair of the instruments. The high school band department will assume financial responsibility for normal maintenance and repair of school-owned school instruments and equipment. Students are expected to properly care for and maintain school instruments while it is in their possession. Any damage, loss, or neglect of an instrument that is not considered normal will be the responsibility of the student and their parents.

BAND ROOM STORAGE

Each student involved with the band program is assigned a “locker” so students may store instruments and materials. Students are to use only their assigned “locker”. “Lockers” should be kept in good condition. There are NO doors or locks on the “lockers.” While every attempt to secure the band room will be made, DO NOT store money, electronics, etc. in your band “locker.”

Rehearsals

I will do my very best to be at the band room EARLY so that you can have enough time to get everything you need ready before rehearsal starts. If you want a good band, you must ATTEND ALL REHEARSALS. I will do my best to notify you well in advance about rehearsal times. PLEASE make plans to adjust your schedule accordingly.

Marching Season: Students in high school band will be members of the marching band. During marching season, our rehearsals will start at **7:00 AM every school day until we complete our football schedule (including playoffs if necessary).** We will also have weekly evening practices on Tuesday nights during marching season. These rehearsals will start at **4pm and last until 8pm.** Additional rehearsals may be necessary. I will let everyone know WELL in advance.

Concert Season: Begins the week after the final football game. Rehearsals will begin every day at 8:00 AM. We will have less time, so we must work more diligently. I will schedule sectionals as necessary before or after school.

Jazz Band: Jazz band is part of the class schedule this year. Additional rehearsals may be required.

GRADING POLICY

Grades in band reflect the student’s performance in all aspects of being a responsible member of the performing organization. Every band member will be held accountable for their attendance, punctuality, materials, and most importantly, their musical preparation. A student’s grade in high school band will averaged from the following:

1. **Daily Grades** – Max. 20 points a day. Be on time, in class, and doing what you are expected to do.
2. **Extra Rehearsals** – Max. 50 points a rehearsal. Extra rehearsals include: game day rehearsals, sectionals, clinics, night rehearsals, etc. I will let you know in advance when these rehearsals will be.
3. **Appearances** – Max. 200 points per appearance. All concerts, clinics, contests, parades, football games, pep rallies, etc will count as appearance grades.
4. **Playing tests &/or written tests** – Max. 100 points. There will be the occasional playing or written test on an as needed basis. These can either really help your grade, or can really hurt your grade.
5. **Attendance and Punctuality** – Sectionals, rehearsals, performances, clinics and trips are NOT optional. They are a requirement. Not only for a grade but also for the success of the entire group. An absence may be excused for serious illness, death in the family, or

another school sponsored activity. Other commitments such as work or non-school sponsored activities will not be excused. Students that have an unexcused absence from a sectional, rehearsal, performance, or clinic will result in a deduction of points.

6. **Materials and Maintenance** – Students must have the proper materials and equipment at the proper time to have productive rehearsals and performances. Items such as instrument, drill book, music, pencil, and guard equipment should be readily available on a daily basis. Proper maintenance of instruments is also expected. Woodwind players should have enough reeds to use, brass instruments should be well oiled, and percussionists should have all necessary sticks and mallets. Daily grades will be deducted if there is a consistent lack of materials.
7. **Extra Credit** – Variable points. Participation in honor bands or solo & ensemble contest will count as extra credit. I will possibly allow you to do other extra credit assignments on an as needed basis.

The total number of points earned will be divided by the total number of points available. Your percentage and letter grade will be assigned per school policy.

Please understand that you are participating in a unique class. Many of our activities will be outside of the normal school day, and you are required to attend those activities for your grade.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

As stated in the grading section, a tardy or absence from a rehearsal or performance may be excused for serious illness, death in family, or school sponsored activity. It is the responsibility of the student to personally notify the director of the conflict. Notification must always be given. When possible, notification is to be given two weeks prior to the event. Notification needs to be in hard copy form. Verbal notification will not be accepted. Students in multiple activities will be expected to balance and prioritize their time for sectionals, rehearsals, and performances. Students should not assume that the band will be the only department to be flexible. Organization, responsibility, and accountability are essential for proper communication between students and activity sponsors.

BEHAVIOR

1. *We are and always will be a first class organization.* When you are with our band you are representing our school, our community, and our state. Every band member should be conscious of their behavior and the impressions that it makes. Your words and actions will be heard, seen, and interpreted by many people. Do not draw undue attention to yourself. Represent this program in a manner that it should be represented. Take pride in what you do and how you do it.
2. At football games, students move and are seated in an organized manner. As every stadium is different, some flexibility will be required. In general, students will be placed in rows according to their sections. Students are expected to stay in their assigned area with their section. There is to be no mixing of sections. Students are to be attentive to the directors, drum majors, and game. This is not primarily a socializing time. Non-band students will not be allowed to mingle within the band. Alumni may be allowed with director's approval.
3. Bus drivers, directors, and chaperones have disciplinary authority during games and trips. School policies will be observed at all times.
4. No student will exit a bus before the entire bus is determined to be clean by the chaperones on board. The responsibility of cleaning the bus is yours not anyone else's.

CONSEQUENCES

Students will be disciplined to the degree of the infraction and in accordance with band and school handbook policies. Some examples of disciplinary action are listed (but not limited to) below:

1. Students with gum, candy, food or drink in the band room will receive discipline and punishment ranging from menial after-school jobs to after-school detention.
2. Excessive tardiness and/or absences from rehearsals and/or performances will result in a deduction of grade, possible placement of alternate status or lowering of chair placement, and/or dismissal from a performing ensemble.
3. Band members who forget their instruments or rehearsal materials will also result in a deduction of grade, possible placement of alternate status or lowering of chair placement, and/or dismissal from a performing ensemble.
4. Band members that are not in full and proper uniform will not be allowed to perform with the group.

ELIGIBILITY

1. The standards mandated by the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association and those of the Oologah-Talala School District will be used to determine a student's eligibility for performances. An ineligible student will be expected to dress in uniform and participate within the regulations mandated by the O.S.S.A.A. During marching season, a student who is ineligible will be expected to dress, participate, and perform at all non-competitive events. ***However, ineligible students may not represent, participate, or attend and competitive performances.***
2. Students who have consistent eligibility problems may not be allowed to rehearse with the performing group, may be placed on alternate status (during marching season), or may be removed from the performance group.
3. Students are responsible for fully meeting the financial obligations as outlined in the Trip Fund / Band Fees Policy portion of this handbook regardless of academic status.
4. Absences due to ineligibility are considered unexcused and will be treated as such according to the grading policy outlined in this handbook.

UNIFORMS

The marching band uniform is the most visible symbol of our group as a legitimate school organization. Therefore, the uniforms must be kept and worn with pride and respect. A student should be in FULL uniform at all times during a performance venue (hats/berets, plumes, gloves, and gauntlets will be worn only at marching performances). Students should not at any time walk around in partial uniform, unzipped, etc. If the directors make the decision to allow students to take off their jackets due to heat, students will be instructed what to do with the jackets. The marching band uniform consists of a band hat & plume, band jacket & gauntlet, white gloves, black band bibbers (pants), current year's band t-shirt, black band shorts, long black socks, and regulation black marching shoes. Students not having these items will not be allowed to perform with the group. When changing clothes after rehearsal or during uniform check out, modesty is key.

Students are expected to take care of the uniforms. Pants and jackets must be hung properly and other parts of the uniform stored correctly in band lockers, trailer, or busses. Check out times for uniforms will be communicated. Normally we will check out uniforms during summer band camp. In the case of any type of accident, the student should notify the director immediately.

Concert attire, referred to as concert black, is utilized for all indoor concerts. Concert attire consists of a solid BLACK LONG SLEEVE dress shirt with a collar, BLACK dress slacks, BLACK socks, and BLACK shoes (marching shoes or black dress shoes, NO tennis shoes). The school will provide a royal blue neck tie for the performances.

Section T-shirt Rule**

All Section T-shirts MUST be pre-approved by Mr. Matthews BEFORE they are ordered.
Failure to do so could result in confiscation of the shirts.
We are representing the band, and must represent the band well.

HONOR BAND AUDITIONS

Band members are highly encouraged to audition for membership in honor bands. Membership in the Northeast Band Directors Association Honor Band and/or Oklahoma Small Schools Band Directors Association All-State and/or Oklahoma Music Educators Association All-State Honor Band is a great honor and holds much significance for university officials when distributing scholarship offers. Preparation for these auditions requires a great deal of initiative and self-discipline, as most of the practice is done out of class. Students auditioning for NBDA, OSSBDA, and/or All-OMEA are strongly encouraged to include sight-reading as part of their preparation for the audition. Sight-reading is a major portion of the audition process and has a direct impact on whether a student makes the honor band and how high they place

SOLOS & ENSEMBLES

Another opportunity for musical growth is through participation in solo and ensemble contests. It is another opportunity for exposure to challenging music of various styles on an individual basis or through a smaller group. Students will have the opportunity to compete at the District and State level contests. As with honor bands, a great deal of initiative and preparation is done outside of class. Students will need to secure an accompanist and arrange for regular rehearsals and/or payment to the accompanists. Ensembles will be responsible for regular after school rehearsals in the spring.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Students are also highly encouraged to study privately on their instrument. This gives the student the opportunity to study with a person who specializes on their particular instrument. A list of teachers and contact information will be available to students. Students who have successfully auditioned and participated in OSSBDA and/or OMEA All-State Band are eligible to teach private lessons to younger Oologah band students. Students who have also successfully participated in NBDA may be eligible also with approval from Mr. Matthews. Students interested in doing this should contact Mr. Matthews in order to obtain approval and receive additional information.

Fundraising Goal / Band Fee

Each HS band student is responsible for an additional \$150 for band operating expenses. This can either be achieved through fundraising or through payments made to Oologah Band. We will be doing several fundraisers this year!

1st payment/goal reached of \$50 – September 15th

2nd payment/goal reached of \$50 – October 15th

3rd payment/goal reached of \$50 – February 15th

IMPORTANT:

- **This fee is in addition to any Trip account payments.**
- This is considered a participation fee for high school band. That being said, if this fee is not paid, a student indebtedness form will be attached to the student's permanent record and records will not be released until the debt is removed.
- Only **fundraisers** through the HS band activity account will go toward this payment. Parents will still be asked to volunteer for concession, fireworks stand etc., but no money will go to your students account for you volunteering. Examples of activity account fundraisers are: tumbler sales, Cherrydale brochures, Allison's Fun Company events

Trips

The Oologah High School Band normally takes a big out of state trip every other year. Students who are in band their entire high school career should have one fall trip and one spring trip during their four years in high school. Trips are part of the curriculum as they provide both unique performance and educational opportunities. All students are expected to attend, participate, and be financially prepared for band trips. Costs and payment deadline information is given well in advance to assist students and their families to do so. Fundraising activities will be provided to help offset the cost and out of pocket expenses for the students and their families for these trips. Advanced and careful planning is necessary for trips of this nature to be successful for the individual and for the group. We are also relying on students to manage their academic studies in such a manner so that eligibility issues will not be a concern.

Statement of Acknowledgement

Please sign and return this page if the handbook to Mr. Matthews. Keep the remainder of the handbook throughout the year for reference.

I have read and understand the rules and regulations of this organization and agree to follow the guidelines herein.

_____	<u>2017-2018</u>
Student's Name (Please Print)	School Year
_____	_____
Student's Signature	Date
_____	_____
Parent/Guardian's Signature	Date
_____	_____
Parent/Guardian's Signature	Date

How do you intend to handle your band fees?

_____	One Payment of \$150 now
_____	Payment plan as listed above
_____	Fundraising w/ any outstanding balance paid by Feb. 15 th