

2026 CHS Winter Guard Fees and Information

Good Evening!

In this packet, you will find information regarding all elements of our Winter Guard season. While marching season, the guard was part of the larger band program's show. What makes Winter Guard special in my opinion is that it is just the guard doing what they do best, and shining as the talented performers they are! The Canyon High School Winter Guard has been a powerhouse the past few years and we hope to continue that tradition of excellence that we have set up. We will be competing all around the Area, and for Varsity all around the State! Having familiar faces in the crowd is so helpful to the students so please, come and see them as much as you can!

Please read this packet all the way through, as there is important information for new and returning members.

FEES:

Attached is an invoice of our Winter fees. These fees are to help buy costumes / flags / props / floors / design team / entree fees for each group. We try to keep our fees down from the other groups in the area and still have some of the lower fees in comparison. The payment plans are:

- Pay in full February 3rd
- Pay half February 3rd and the other half March 9th
- Pay $\frac{1}{3}$ February 3rd, $\frac{1}{3}$ March 9th, and the final $\frac{1}{3}$ April 6th

If you still owe from the fall season, you will be getting a separate email about that soon. This is past due, and it is needed to come in to help cover the expenses from the Fall season.

PRACTICE:

We need every student at every practice! Illness and family emergencies are the only reason a student can miss. Any missed rehearsals need to be communicated to a director by a parent or guardian to be excusable with appropriate documentation. Competitions are also mandatory test grades. If you have a serious conflict, let me know as soon as possible so we can adjust drill accordingly. Design is a big part of our scoring, and shows with holes unfortunately negatively affect our scores.

COMPETITIONS:

Competitions are open for parents/family to attend, and they do cost a fee for you to come and spectate that changes per competition / site. When I get the schedule / general information for each show, I will send a message with everything you need as well as where to buy tickets. These schedules are not released until the week before the competition, so please wait for the email / BandApp post. We encourage you to attend throughout the season to watch the show grow and develop! The kids grow so much, and the shows become larger than life! There are also fun concessions and merchandise that is all guard related, and the kids have loved buying mini flags/rifles and t-shirts from the competitions.

COMPETITION ATTENDANCE:

Competition days are long, similar to marching season. On the occasions we have both guards, they will be all day events. All students need to stay at the competition to help the other group with floors and props. Both guards help one another with entry as there are penalties if we go over the allotted set-up time. This way, the performing group can focus on setting up their equipment and mentally preparing for their performance. The other benefit to our students staying in attendance for the entire team is the opportunity to learn by viewing! The students will get to watch some amazing shows at varying levels of ability that are truly amazing. If there is a reason or an emergency that requires a student to leave, please let me know as soon as possible.

CHAPERONES / TRAILER HELP

Below is the sign up for volunteer help at our competitions. We need adults to come with us to manage the students we have participating in these events, as there will be moments the team gets split. We will give you a ride to the competition and a wristband to get you in for free! You get to go backstage with us to warm up areas and see a deeper view of what your student is a part of. They are very fun days!

Our CHS Color Guard trailer is a major player in making competition days successful! We will also get you in for free for assisting with this important element of our competitive season. Please be on the lookout in the sign-up for trailer pulling needs if that is something you are interested in assisting with. It is a fun day as well, and all you have to do is drive!

Sign Up Genius:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044CAFAD29A4FBC25-60487679-winter>

*****This will also be sent out in an email and posted in the BandApp*****

ELIGIBILITY:

Being a competitive ensemble, we must abide by district and UIL rules and standards. It is essential that your student remains on top of their coursework and homework to keep their grades in good standing. If your student fails any class during the season, they will be ineligible to compete with the team until regaining eligibility in the following progress report or report card. Students in on-level classes must keep their grade average above 70% to remain eligible. Students in Pre-AP, AP, or College credited classes must remain above 70% to remain eligible, and must remain above 60% to be eligible for a failure waiver. If your student needs to use a waiver to maintain eligibility, they can only use it once per semester per class.

GRADING:

Students will receive a grade in their Color Guard class based around a variety of assignments and events. Below I have included the breakdown for convenience and clarity:

Major Grades: All performances will be graded as tests, so attendance is essential not only to the team but also to your students grade average. This includes but is not limited to competitions, exhibitions, recruiting, etc..

Quiz Grades: Students will perform pass-offs in class covering important choreography, counts, skills, etc.. This will be a pass / fail grade with unlimited retakes.

Daily Grades: This category consists of rehearsal attendance, classroom participation, and video assignments. Rehearsal attendance and classroom participation grades start at 100%, and will be deducted by 5 points for each respective item missing or participation issue, such as tardiness. Video assignments are a participation grade. Any assignments turned in after the due date will be an automatic 70%. If turned in over a week late it will deduct to a 50%, and over 2 weeks late will result in a permanent 0%.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE POLICY:

While we understand that life sometimes gets in the way of other responsibilities, to remain consistent and fair to the team at large we have a 0 tolerance policy for unexcused absences. For contest season, attendance is crucial to our success as a team since we only rehearse each respective team twice a week. One unexcused rehearsal absence, or running off in the middle of a rehearsal during a competition week, will result in a revocation of the student's ability to perform that weekend. In the case of 6 unexcused absences, your student's participation in our program will be reassessed.

UNIFORMS:

Varsity: We are ordering uniforms for their season. While we wait for them to come in, we will perform in all black for competitions. This type of uniform is tight to the body (so judges can see technique) and interesting to look at. Solid black leggings along with interesting and form fitting solid black tops are what you should be looking for. I will send some examples in the BandApp soon for reference. We usually have this uniform for the first few competitions while the uniforms are being made, so please be prepared with these items for our first show on February 7th.

IV: Students will be performing in their Fall uniforms. Because these uniforms are already in student possession, we will use them for the entire season. Please be prepared with the Fall marching uniform for the first show on February 7th.

FLIP FLOPS:

One extra thing the students will need for the season before the first competition is a pair of solid black flip flops. These don't need to be fancy or particular, just something cheap for the students to wear for warmups before they perform. Please put initials on these shoes for students to find them easily. After warm up, they will put all their flip flops into a red cart and need to quickly recover them after they perform to fold the floor / roll flags. Target carries a \$5 pair of black flip flops that would be perfect for the occasion.

Please feel free to reach out about any questions or concerns that may arise as we approach the season! We are excited to start up this season and watch your students grow!

Acknowledgement Form

Student Name (Print): _____

Grade: _____ ID # _____

I have read the CHS Winter Guard Information and Fees handout for the 2026 season, and I understand the rules / policies as outlined.

➤ I understand that by committing to the CHS Winter Guard, I agree to have full participation for a full semester with the terms outlined in the document.

I understand that participation in Winter Guard is a physical activity that can be strenuous and involve physical risk in equipment usage. I verify that my student is in a healthy state, capable of physical activity, and been cleared for activity by a medical physical examination.

I understand that the Canyon High School faculty, staff, and consultant staff will always do their absolute best to maintain student safety while students are under their direct supervision. However, I am releasing Comal ISD, its employees, and contracted staff of any personal liability in regard to any injury that could occur while participating in a guard related activity.

I have read the Winter Guard fee schedule as outlined. I agree to pay assigned fees, or have discussed with a director any potential alternatives that might exist.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____