



The Sound of Liberty

Band & Color Guard

Henderson, NV

BAND HANDBOOK

2025 - 26

Revised 7/1/25

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SoundofLibertyBands.com

The director reserves the right to make any necessary changes to this handbook to compensate for unexpected circumstances which may occur throughout the year.

Dear Parents and Students,

We would first like to welcome you to the Liberty High School Band family! This handbook is designed to assist you in understating our procedures, beliefs, and policies of the band program.

The Liberty High School Band is an organization comprised of the most talented students in the school who wish to enrich their lives through the education and enjoyment of music. Members of the Liberty Band program will have the opportunity to perform at athletic events, parades, contests, competitions, festivals, concerts, and other events in and around our community. The students may also travel to perform at clinics, competitions, and concert tours outside of our great state.

The Band program at Liberty consists of multiple performing ensembles: The Sound of Liberty Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band I, Jazz Band II, Percussion Ensemble, Marching Winds and Brass, The Colors of Liberty JV Winter Guard, and The Colors of Liberty Varsity Winter Guard.

The Liberty Band program thrives on dedication and teamwork from all its members. We are anxious to see what great things we can accomplish and the lives that we will surely touch with our talent and commitment to excellence.

We are proud to welcome you to our wonderful program!

Sincerely,

Dr. Donald W. Malpass
Director of Bands

Ms. Sarah Patnesky
Assistant Director of Bands

MISSION STATEMENT

The Liberty High School Bands are dedicated to the mission of continuous improvement, culminating in a significant, memorable, and rewarding musical experience for ourselves and our audiences. With patience, courage, and devotion, we will develop in each of our members the ideas of leadership, personal responsibility, pride, respect, and honesty so that we may be a model for our school and community.

Shared Objectives of Performance Classes

To provide citizenship through group endeavors by developing leadership abilities, responsibility, cooperation with other team members through personal diligence and respect.

To provide cultural growth by attaining knowledge of music history through performance of various types of wind and jazz band literature.

To provide mental and physical discipline through developing strength, stamina, endurance, and coordination.

To provide valued musical judgments by developing skills to critically listen to music.

To provide creative self-expression through performance.

To positively represent our school in all functions.

To promote school spirit.

BAND LAWS

1. Respect
2. Listen
3. Thou shall not have public displays of affection
4. Thou shall not chew gum
5. Thou shall not hack
6. Thou shall not eat or drink in the Band Room
7. Thou shall not wear hats or sunglasses indoors
8. To be early is to be on time. To be on time is to be late. To be late is UNACCEPTABLE.

PERFORMING ENSEMBLES

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Intermediate Band/Advanced Band (A Day Concert Band Classes)

These ensembles include Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble. Symphonic Band is divided into two courses that will perform together at concert. Students enrolled in band at Liberty High School have the opportunity to perform with one of these concert ensembles. These ensembles meet on A days and perform concerts in the Liberty Theatre, the CCSD Concert Band Festivals, and other special events and concert tours. Students are asked to participate in after-school practices and sectionals periodically. Students will be placed in either Symphonic Band (Intermediate Band) and/or Wind Ensemble (Advanced Band). Students are placed after performance auditions at the end of each school year. All students are required to own black dress pants, a black long-sleeve button-down shirt, solid red tie, long black socks, and black dress shoes.

Marching Band (B Day Classes, and 8th & 9th Period Semester I)

These ensembles include Marching Winds and Percussion (8th period) and the 9th period after-school class. The Sound of Liberty Marching Band performs at all home football games, special events, and numerous competitions and parades throughout the year. This ensemble meets 8th period on B days and also rehearses certain evenings after school from 4:00 – 8:30 pm throughout the marching/football season. Our schedule is slightly modified depending on home football games. These requirements will provide credit both 8th and 9th period courses. Students participating in Marching Band should be enrolled in both the 8th (B days) and 9th period marching band courses. Additionally, the marching band rehearses for several weeks prior to the start of school. Band camp starts two weeks before the start of school on Monday, July 21. Both Marching Band and Percussion Ensemble (when available) are substitutes for Physical Education II. See the calendar on the website for additional dates.

Jazz Ensembles (B Day, and 9th Period Semester II)

Jazz Ensembles are open to any member of the Liberty Band, Orchestra, or Choir. The auditioned Jazz Band (Jazz I) meets on B Days and the non-auditioned Jazz Band (Jazz II) meets 9th period on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30 - 3:00 pm after the marching season has ended. Even though Jazz II is non-auditioned, students must be approved by Ms. Patnesky.

Color Guard (Rhythmic Precision B Day & Marching Band 9th Period)

This year long course is designed to promote dance training for an intermediate/advanced level student. The student will perform with the band during football games and Marching Band competitions. After marching season, students are placed in one of two Winter Guards. Students must audition for this course and must be concurrently enrolled in Marching Band. This course fulfills the P.E. II requirement.

BAND SOCIAL MEDIA



The BAND App

- Go to your app store and download BAND
 - Students, use your CCSD email to sign up, parents may use any email.
 - Once you have an account created, click on the magnifying glass (not the +) request to join the following:
 - o The Sound of Liberty Marching Band
 - o Sound of Liberty Concert Bands
 - o Sound of Liberty Jazz Bands
 - o Sound of Liberty Band Parent Page
- This is the informational hub for the entire band program at Liberty High School. Audition results, announcements, reminders, and everything in between will be posted here!
 - o PARENTS are not only allowed to sign up, we WANT you to sign up! Be a part of the Sound of Liberty BAND app.



Receive Text Reminders Through Remind 101:

- This is a two-way communication service that allows us to send text message reminders to students and parents regarding class-specific information
- A message will appear asking for your name. Please put in your FIRST and LAST name.
 - o PARENTS! We WANT you to sign up for this service.
- Text the code listed below to this number: 81010
 - o @2025SOLMB for Marching Band
 - o @2025SOLWE for Wind Ensemble
 - o @2025SOLSB for Symphonic Band
 - o @2025SOLJ1 for Jazz I
 - o @2025SOLJ2 for Jazz II



Become Familiar with our Website:

www.soundoflibertybands.com

- Observe the LHS Band Calendar located on the bottom of the home page with every date, time, and location of every event throughout the year.

This makes it easier to plan with your schedule.

Many parents and students sync this calendar with their smartphone.

- Located right above the calendar is an announcement board where you can find details on any large-scale event we host or participate in, such as marching band competitions, and many more events.
- Check out the Parents & Students area of the website.
 - o Here you will find music for all ensembles, marching drill, practice resources, and forms you may need to complete for the season.



We Keep All Financial Accounts CutTime

CutTime allows for the Band program to monitor student fees and inventory.

- o An informational packet will be sent home for students and parents to enroll.

Special Note: The above apps are great for general information and student communication. However, please send emails (located on the first page) to Dr. Malpass or Ms. Patnesky if you need to get in touch with the directors. Messages sent to us through the apps oftentimes get missed.

REHEARSAL/PERFORMANCE POLICIES

Our rehearsal time is limited. Performances without all members present fall short of their full potential. Therefore, all band students have an obligation to their fellow students to attend and to be on time, to be prepared, and to bring all necessary equipment to each rehearsal or performance. Absences to the band class period will be deemed excused or unexcused based on the school policy.

All Marching Band members will rehearse during their B Day class as well as on given evenings. This schedule is modified to accommodate home football games.

As a result of us having a new field, we are sharing the space with other programs. It is imperative that we use the field as much as possible. See www.soundoflibertybands.com for specific dates and times. Students are expected to be prepared for hot weather for all outdoor rehearsals. We **STRONGLY** recommend that each student have lots of water, hats, sunglasses, and plenty of sunscreen.

All band students must know and abide by the school attendance policies. Attendance is required at ALL rehearsals, director-scheduled sectionals, and performances. Absences and tardiness will be excused, assuming proper notification, in the following cases:

- Medical emergency, personal injury, personal severe illness (follow up with doctor's note when applicable)
- Death in the family (with a note from parent)
- Unavoidable doctor appointment conflicts (follow up with doctor's note)
- Family weddings (see notification policies)

Examples of unexcused absences and tardiness include but are not limited to:

- Student's work-related conflict
- Over-sleeping
- Transportation not arranged
- Babysitting
- Scheduling conflicts with other activities or events that are not communicated with the band directors
- Anything deemed unexcused by school policy
- Absences that are unreported according to band guidelines

Notification of Absence

For known absences (weddings, doctor appointments, etc.), students must fill out the Google Absence Request Form which can be found on our Band Google Calendar at least two weeks prior to a rehearsal, event, or performance for it to be considered excused. To find the form, go to the calendar, find the date you will be absent and select the scheduled event. The Absence Request Form is located within that date. A follow-up doctor's note is required within three school days of the absence when applicable.

For unplanned, emergency absences (personal illness, death in the family, etc.), parents will need to email or send a note to Dr. Malpass (malpadw@nv.ccsd.net) or Ms. Patnesky (patnese@nv.ccsd.net) within 3 days after the student's return. Unexcused absences and tardiness may result in, but are not limited to:

- Grade deduction
- Loss of performance status
- Removal from the band program – no refunds will be given

Rehearsal/Performance Policies Continued

Late Arrival/Early Departure

Any unexcused late arrival or early departure will result in loss of Rehearsal Progress Points. Multiple tardies or early departures can result in loss of performance status. A late arrival/early departure of 30 minutes or more will count as an absence.

Unexcused Absences

Students will receive “0” points in the Rehearsal category. Three (3) unexcused absences from after-school rehearsals can result in the student being placed on “probationary” status. Students that are on probation will not be allowed to perform but are still required to attend rehearsals, performances, etc. Students may be removed from after-school activities if unexcused absences are persistent.

Marching Band Attire

Students should prepare to wear t-shirts, athletic shorts or pants - lighter colors help reflect the sun (although many sections coordinate section short colors), a spiral bound note card on a shoestring around their bodies to be used as “dot book”, athletic lace-up shoes, a hat, sunglasses, and an insulated water jug at least one gallon large for marching band rehearsals.

Performance Assessments and Evaluations

Band members will be responsible for various performance assessments. These may include marching, movement, or playing evaluations. If students fail to pass these assessments, they may be placed on “probationary” status until they are able to achieve the required repertoire. If students do not complete all assessments, students may be asked to not return to the program.

Probation/Ineligibility

Students placed on probation/ineligible are still required to attend class, attend all functions, and are graded in the same manner as everyone else. However, a probationary student does not have a permanently assigned spot in the competition show, or the concert. Students on probation will have specific functions in the class and are required to participate in all practices and attend performances. Probationary students can be reinstated based on a review from the Liberty Band Staff.

Special Considerations

Parents and students must be aware and acknowledge the importance of attendance to the performance and morale of the band. As such, any absence (excused or unexcused) may affect a student’s performance standing in the ensemble and eligibility to perform at a given performance or competition.

Extreme Weather Conditions

We make it a practice to go inside when lightning occurs multiple times in a small amount of time within a few miles of our location. Discretion is used to determine immediate threat, as we take lightning and the safety of our students very seriously. Under rainy conditions, the band may still rehearse and/or perform at the discretion of the band staff. During extreme heat conditions, we decrease the amount of time between water breaks and/or increase the amount of time used for the break.

Marching Band Nutrition

It is important for all students to eat healthy and well-balanced meals every day. During summer band camp, stay away from milk and greasy foods for breakfast. Students should continue their healthy diet throughout the day. Eating healthy meals and drinking plenty of water is essential so students can remain in good health.

GRADING POLICIES

Performances

LHS Music Performance classes are performance based. Performances can range from 100 - 250 points depending on the function. The points are based on participating in competitions, festivals, and concert performances. Students may complete a self-evaluation after performances that will be factored into their grade. If a student cannot attend a scheduled performance, a parent must contact the director and indicate the reason and provide a handwritten note. Students may be excused pending director approval.

Rehearsal Progress

Rehearsal Progress: 10 points per rehearsal

If applicable: After-school Rehearsals: 10 - 50 points per rehearsal.

Each student will automatically receive points based on their preparation and participation in daily ensemble rehearsals. Students are expected to start on time and be prepared for every rehearsal. Following that, the instructor may deduct point(s) for any situation that lowers the ensemble member's ability to participate fully in the rehearsal. Situations may include, but are not limited to forgetting an instrument, pencil, music, or tuner, as well as missing hats, sunglasses, drill, or shoes for marching band. Students who do not bring the necessary materials cannot be properly evaluated and will lose points accordingly.

Assessments

Tests and quizzes are tools to assess progress toward the end goal of performance. Assessments can range from 5 to 50 points depending on the context. These are benchmark indicators of where a student is at that moment in developing a particular skill.

Homework

Homework in Performing Arts classes may come in the form of written assignments, playing assignments, or even listening assignments. Homework can range from 5 to 50 points depending on the context.

Late-Work Policy

Here at Liberty High School, we hold all students to the same high standards. We believe student success will be maximized by consistent daily practice and meeting required deadlines. Therefore, it is the expectation that all students will turn in all assignments on or before the due date. No late work will be accepted for credit. Understanding that emergencies arise, students will be allowed one late class work or homework assignment per semester, per class to be turned in late for full credit. All tests, projects, and essays are excluded from the one-day grace period and must be turned in on or before the due date.

Grading Scale

A = 90 - 100%

B = 80 - 89%

C = 70 - 79%

D = 60 - 69%

F = 59% or below

Semester Grades

Quarter 1/2 = 40%

Quarter 3/4 = 40%

Semester Exam = 20%

Grading policies continued

SPECIAL NOTE ON PRINTED MUSIC

Sheet music is a necessary requirement for every music student. This music is used daily and it is required that students are marking their music. These marks remind students of various musical edits including: dynamics, phrasings, tunings, tempos, etc. This helps the student both in class and at home when they are practicing. Due to the importance of these markings, music will be regularly checked and graded by the teachers to ensure each student is learning and paying attention in class.

Students will be provided 1 copy of music for each rehearsed piece. Extra copies will NOT be printed in the band office. The band department is not able to handle this cost. Students who lose or misplace their music will need to print off music at home or in the library for a small fee.

CITIZENSHIP GRADES

Students will receive a citizenship grade at the end of every quarter. The teacher will determine this grade after having referred to the Liberty High School Citizenship Rubric below.

O: OUTSTANDING (Most students who earn an A or B)

- Always demonstrates respect for self and others
- Always on time
- Always brings required materials to school
- Always engages in learning
- Always follows classroom expectations and routines

S: SATISFACTORY (Most students who earn a C)

- Usually demonstrates respect for self and others
- Usually on time
- Usually brings required materials to school
- Usually engages in learning
- Usually follows classroom expectations and routines

N: NEEDS IMPROVEMENT (Most students who earn a D)

- Occasionally demonstrates respect for self and others
- Occasionally on time
- Occasionally brings required materials to school
- Occasionally engages in learning
- Occasionally follows classroom expectations and routines

U: UNSATISFACTORY (Most students who earn an F)

- Rarely demonstrates respect for self and others
- Rarely on time
- Rarely brings required materials to school
- Rarely engages in learning
- Rarely follows classroom expectations and routines

FEES & PURCHASES

Uniforms and Concert Apparel

Liberty Band Members will be responsible for several uniforms throughout the year. One uniform will be worn during warmer weather and more casual performances such as pep rallies and basketball games. The Competition Marching Band Uniform will be worn during most football games and all competitions. These uniforms are explained below.

Casual Uniform - one time purchase for high school

- Pep Jacket - Red/Black Warm Up Jacket (\$50)
- Pep Pants - Black Athletic Warm Up Pants (\$50)
- Shoes - Marching Shoes (\$40)
- Socks - Long, black socks (purchase on your own)

Competition Marching Uniform

Students are issued a marching uniform that is to be worn at select football games, competitions, and other specific events. The formal Marching Uniform includes the following.

- Jacket/show top, vest, bib pants, shako, gauntlets, uniform bag, and hanger

These items are to be returned at the end of the year. Any damage or misplaced items will be billed to the student.

- Shoes - Marching Shoes (\$40) -same as Casual Uniform
- Shirt - Black Band Show T-Shirt - provided by the band program
- Socks - Long, black socks (purchase on your own) (same as Casual Uniform)
- Gloves - provided by the band program

Concert Uniform

Students are responsible for purchasing black dress pants, a plain black collared, long sleeve dress shirt, plain red tie, long black socks, and plain black shoes. Absolutely no other shoes will be allowed.

Fundraising

Successful bands require a budget far beyond what is provided by the school district. We strive to provide the very best instruments, music, staff, and instructional equipment possible for our students. Therefore, we ask for your cooperation in our fundraisers. During the summer we sell fireworks, and we typically have a variety of fundraising options throughout the year. Individual student accounts are set up in the Band Office on CutTime. Often students can pay all course fees and travel expenses entirely through fundraising efforts.

Lockers

Lockers in the Band room are for instrument storage only. Lockers are the property of Liberty High School and may be searched at any time without prior consent of the students. Locks other than the issued lock will be removed without notice. Replacement locks are \$10. It is recommended that families insure all privately owned instruments on homeowner policies. This is an inexpensive, yet worthwhile investment as Liberty High School is not responsible for theft or damage to your property.

Marching Band Financial Obligations

Marching Band Student Fee: \$450

- Competition Entry Fees
- Instructor/Tech Fees
- Show Fees
- Drill Fee
- Show Shirts
- Gloves
- Travel
- Props

Other Possible Fees (if applicable):

***No purchase necessary if your student already owns the Liberty Pep Jacket, Pep Pants, approved Marching Shoes, a tuner and a metronome.**

Pep Jacket - Red/Black Warm Up Jacket	\$50
Pep Pants - Black Athletic Warm Up Pants	\$50
Marching Band Shoes	\$40
Korg TM-50 Tuner/Metronome	\$30
Stick Bag *percussionists only	\$25
Double-Sided Practice Pad *percussionists only	\$30

Other Possible Fee Totals \$205

Maximum Total for 2025 - 26 Marching Band \$655

\$150 Due - Aug. 8

\$150 Due - Sept. 5

\$150 Due - Oct. 3

*Amounts are subject to change depending upon changing rate costs from competitions and fees.

Any student who is behind on a student fee or has missed payments will be ineligible to participate in the upcoming performance(s). At the discretion of the director, the performance(s) can include football games, competitions, and other showcasing events. Students will still be required to attend - and assist - the performance to receive credit for their grade. This will be strictly enforced. Parents and students are strongly encouraged to reach out to Dr. Malpass to set up a payment plan should ANY issue arise. Payment plans can then be created on a case-by-case basis with the student's guardian. Dr. Malpass will remove the student's ineligibility status once an agreement via communication has occurred, and the approved schedule is adhered.

You can keep track of your balance by going to www.CutTime.net and log into your profile to see all payments, credits, and balances.

All students are expected to participate in every trip and competition. No refunds will be given for travelling if the student does not attend. Percussionists will have stick requirements that are set by the band director and depends on what role the student participates in that year. This may be an extra cost. Wind Players are strongly encouraged to own at least THREE extra reeds at any given time, any and all oils that may keep their instruments in good working order, and a Dennis Wick metal straight/cup mute combo (brass players).

Jazz Band Financial Obligations

Students who wish to participate in jazz are required to pay a \$40 course fee. This fee goes to pay for travel expenses, music, guest artists, and other costs associated with a class of this caliber. Students are required to have an instrument in working order and all applicable accessories. This includes reeds, mutes, neck straps, valve and slide oil, and any other necessary equipment.

Brass: you are required to purchase your own mutes! Mutes will be required at every rehearsal.

Saxophones: Extra reeds, neck strap, and key oil.

Trumpets: Straight Mute, Harmon Mute, Plunger, & Cup Mute

Trombones: Plungers, Cup Mute, & Straight Mute

Bass/Guitar: Strings in working order

Drumset: Jazz Drumsticks (not concert sticks) and brushes.

Vibes: Mallets in good working order.

NOTE: Denis Wick makes a straight mute and cup mute combo. It is one item that can be converted to either mute choice. These can be purchased on Amazon or at a local music shop. Dr. Malpass or Ms. Patnesky can provide assistance if needed.

Trumpet: Adjustable Cup Mute for Trumpet SKU: DW5531.

Trombone: Adjustable Cup Mute for Trombone SKU: DW5529

INSTRUMENTS & ACCESSORIES

Students who intend to use a school instrument will bring home a rental contract during Pre-Season Marching Orientation. There is no rental fee for school instruments. However, students are required to have the checked out instrument cleaned and repaired before the end of the school year. Students are also responsible to pay for any damage incurred while in the student's possession including loss or theft. A limited number of instruments are available. Signing the instrument rental contract and this handbook contract doubly verifies that you understand these policies. Special Note: Should you be in the market to purchase your own instrument, please DO NOT purchase through companies like Ebay. Dr. Malpass or Ms. Patnesky can help you find a reliable and affordable instrument.

Flutes – Yamaha, Gemeinhardt, Emerson, Resona, Jupiter, and Sonare are preferred brands. Accessories should include a cleaning rag, tuning rod, metronome, and a digital tuner.

Oboe and Bassoon – Yamaha, Selmer, Mooseman, and Fox are preferred brands. Accessories should include cane reeds, cleaning rag, key oil, metronome, and a digital tuner.

Clarinets – Buffet, Leblanc, Selmer, and Yamaha are preferred brands. Accessories should include a Vandoren 5RV mouthpiece, a minimum of 4 good reeds (Vandoren) at all times (rotated daily they will last longer and save money), metal or plastic reed clip that holds 4 reeds, a cleaning swab (used after each playing period), mouthpiece cover, cork grease, teeth guard, metronome, and a digital tuner.

Saxophones – Yamaha, Selmer, and Yanagisawa are preferred brands. Accessories should include a Selmer C* or Larry Teal mouthpiece, a minimum of 4 good reeds (Vandoren) at all times (rotated daily they will last longer and save money), metal or plastic reed clip that holds 4 reeds, cleaning swab (used after each playing period), mouthpiece cover, cork grease, neck straps, teeth guard, metronome, and a tuner.

Horns – Holton, Bach, Yamaha, and Conn Selmer brands are preferred. Accessories should include an approved mouthpiece (Holton Farkas), valve/rotary oil (Al Cass - Marching Horn) (Holton Rotary - Concert Horn), slide grease, mouthpiece brush, soft polishing cloth, mutes, metronome, and a digital tuner.

Trumpets – Bach, Yamaha, Getzen, and Conn Selmer Brands are preferred brands. Accessories should include a Bach 3C mouthpiece, valve oil, slide grease, mouthpiece brush, soft polishing cloth, mutes, metronome, and a digital tuner.

Trombones – Bach, Shires, Edwards, Getzen, and Yamaha are preferred brands. Accessories should include a Bach 6 ½ AL (for small bore trombones) or a Bach 5G or 4G (for large bore trombones), Slide-O-Mix, slide grease, mouthpiece brush, soft polishing cloth, mutes, metronome, and a digital tuner.

Euphoniums – Besson, Willson, Miraphone, and Yamaha are preferred brands. Accessories should include a Schilke 51D mouthpiece, valve oil, slide grease, mouthpiece brush, soft polishing cloth, mutes, metronome, and a digital tuner.

Tubas – Miraphone, Besson, Conn, or Yamaha are preferred brands. Accessories should include a Helleberg 7B mouthpiece, valve oil, slide grease, mouthpiece brush, soft polishing cloth, mutes, metronome, and a digital tuner.

Percussion Student Requirements

-Practice Pad

-3 Ring Binder & Sheet Protectors for music

Sticks and mallets are supplied by the school for use in the ensembles. It is highly recommended that a serious percussionist has their own:

-Stick/Mallet Bag

-Concert Sticks

-Marimba Mallets

All students should have a music stand and an open place to practice at home. Propping music on a case or chair promotes poor posture and will impede progress. Other recommended equipment includes a metronome and a small digital tuner. These devices are inexpensive and can be purchased at most of our local music stores or downloaded on a smartphone.

LETTERING

The purpose of the Band Letter is to encourage and reward students' self-discipline, hard work, sacrifice, loyalty, dedication, responsibility, and above all, interest, and desire. The Liberty Bands have a fine tradition of quality performance combined with a comprehensive musical education. This demands interest and involvement on your part. Be proud of your band and make the band proud of you as a member. Band letters are given to those who participate in the Marching Band. The numerous rehearsals, after-school practices, competitions, summer practice, football and basketball games are deserving of a band letter. Students must be in good academic standing and have no unexcused absences from any marching band rehearsal, practice, competition, or event. Letters will not be awarded should there be any behavior or discipline issue in ANY class at Liberty High School.

Lettering Policy:

- 2 consecutive years in marching band: Band Letter
- 3 consecutive years in marching band: Band Pin
- 4 consecutive years in marching band: Instrument Pin

SENIOR CORDS

Concert Band (all pink)

To qualify for a Concert Band senior cord, the student must be in the band program every semester enrolled at Liberty High School through his/her senior year. Every semester must receive a passing grade. A cord may be withheld from a student if he/she has poor attendance or a poor attitude.

Marching Band (pink, black, gold)

To qualify for a Marching Band senior cord, the student must be in the Marching Band for a minimum of 3 years and must include his/her senior year. A cord may be withheld from a student if he/she has poor attendance or a poor attitude.

Jazz Band (pink, white, silver)

To qualify for a Jazz Band senior cord, the student must be in the Jazz Band for a minimum of two years, one of which must be their senior year. The student must receive a passing grade every semester. A cord may be withheld from a student if he/she has poor attendance or a poor attitude.

Senior cords must be paid for by the student. Last years' prices were \$12 for a one-color cord (Concert Band) and \$20 for a three-color cord. Money is due by mid-February.

FOOTBALL GAME PROCEDURES

1. Home games are at the Liberty Patriot stadium.
2. Games will begin at 7:00pm (or 8:00pm) with a Band rehearsal beginning at 1:30pm.
3. Students will be given time to change before heading to the stadium. Make sure you are in black socks.
4. No band member is permitted to leave the organization in advance of group dismissal at any time, unless excused by the director at least one day before the event. Points will be deducted should this rule not be followed.
5. While seated in the stands, only current band members are allowed in the ranks.
6. While seated in the stands, students will sit in their respective sections.
7. Solo performance or "hacking" is strictly prohibited
8. No food and only water is allowed in the stands. And never eat while wearing your marching jacket.
9. Attention must always be given to student leadership, and staff. You are encouraged to have fun and cheer at games but always be aware of the chain of command and discipline associated with the LHS band. Never find yourself in a position that would cause you to miss a command or instruction.
10. **Phones are not allowed during games: both football & basketball.** Students will be given reminders to message family members for rides as we approach the end of our games.

Uniform/Instrument Inspections

All band members must conform to the following guidelines:

1. Your instrument is clean inside and out and in good working order.
2. You have long black socks.
3. Your hair is off the collar. Students with hair longer than shoulder length should put their hair up in a bun, ponytail, or braided, and tucked into jacket.
4. No jewelry of any kind is permitted while in uniform.
5. Only natural tone makeup is acceptable for the ladies.
6. Do not take off any part of the uniform unless instructed to do so.

Always conduct yourself in a manner becoming of the Liberty High School Band. Remember, when you are in uniform, you represent your band, school, parents, community, and yourself. No inappropriate behavior or public displays of affection while in uniform.

TRAVELING PROCEDURES

1. Alcohol consumption and or use of non-prescription drugs will not be tolerated and will be immediate reported to administration for further review.
2. Any form of tobacco use is strictly prohibited.
3. Band members are not allowed in any room other than their own after hours. No unauthorized persons will be permitted to visit.
4. No members of the opposite sex are allowed in hotel rooms.
5. Students are expected to always behave in the hotel. You are representing Liberty High School and Henderson, Nevada. Any misconduct or misbehavior will be reported to the school administration for review.
6. All students are expected to participate in all activities.
7. Absolutely no hazing or initiation in any form will be tolerated.
8. Parents and students will be held responsible for paying any property damages including lost key charges.
9. Shirts and shoes must be worn at all times unless swimming, bathing, or sleeping.
10. Rooms are to always remain locked.
11. There will be no breaking in line in restaurants and cafeterias.
12. Swimsuits are only to be worn at appropriate times, such as going to the pool. There is no wearing of hair rollers or sunglasses in any building.
13. No food, glasses, or dishes are to be taken from any dining facility.
14. No one shall play instruments in the hotel rooms.
15. All students should realize that for the duration of the trip, any personal desires, uniqueness of character, or other individualities must be considered secondary to the traits that facilitate large group control and management.
16. Under no circumstances will any student be permitted to leave the hotel, performance area, park, etc. except with the entire group or with an assigned chaperone.
17. Profanity is not a part of the Liberty Band Program. Make sure that your language is never offensive while with the band.

All school rules and policies will be enforced both on and off campus.

REMEMBER: Young adults do not roughhouse or damage property. As LHS band members, you reflect not only the values you learn at LHS, but those of your community.

BAND MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO BE AT THE RIGHT PLACE, AT THE RIGHT TIME, WITH THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT, READY TO GO!

The band director reserves the right to dismiss and send home at the parents' expense, any student who disobeys the rules and whose general conduct and attitude towards the trip and its participants is determined to be detrimental to the rest of the group.

GENERAL POLICIES

Substance Abuse Policy

Any student found to be in violation of the school substance possession/use policy will be referred to the dean and subject to strict disciplinary action. Students will be removed from the program for no less than the semester in which the infraction occurred, and after a thorough investigation, could be subject to permanent removal from the program and/or subject to legal action. “Substances” include, but are not limited to, alcohol, drugs, and tobacco.

Academic Dishonesty

All students are expected to do their own work.

Relying on unauthorized sources for answers on exams, quizzes, or other class projects is cheating. You will receive a zero grade for that exam, quiz, or project. You may also be subject to further disciplinary action.

Copying the work of others and attempting to pass it off as your own is plagiarism. You will receive a zero grade for that assignment. You may also be subject to further disciplinary action.

Students and parents must complete the “Academic Dishonesty” policy notification at the beginning of the school year.

If you are not sure, ask your teacher before you do it.

Attitude and General Rules

All rules and policies in the Liberty High School Student Handbook apply to every activity of every Liberty Band, whether during, before or after the school day and on or off campus. Personal responsibility and accountability for one’s actions is a life skill that is paramount to the success of our program. We have a great deal of respect for every member of this organization and for the value of music. We will not tolerate any one person attempting to diminish this respect by behaving in an unprofessional manner, which would be inconsistent with the goals of this organization.

Social Media

Many of us use Social Media outlets such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.

Your citizenship and behavior extend into these areas as well. The following will not be tolerated and can result in removal from the Band program:

- Inappropriate photos (PDA, alcohol, tobacco or drug use, perception that you or others are intoxicated, provocative attire, nudity, etc....)
- Inappropriate language—this includes the use of acronyms
- Trash talking—of others, of the school, or of any other program.
- Reposting and/or Liking any of the above items
- Negativity and other inappropriate discussion, especially in response to the Liberty Band Program.

You are what you Tweet!

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Student Leaders

The audition process for student leaders is a rigorous and intense ordeal that pushes the envelope on what a student can handle. Leadership and drum major clinics will be held in the months of April or May and students who wish to try out for a position must attend all the clinics in full. Students trying out for drum major must attend both the drum major and leadership Clinics to be considered for the position. A leadership audition packet must also be submitted on time to be considered for the position.

Drum Majors

The position of drum major requires a one-year commitment. They are expected to be the “Example Leader” in the band and help with starting each rehearsal, maintaining organization, discipline on the field, and are responsible for tempos during the field show. Being an effective drum major is one of the toughest jobs within our organization.

Captains

Takes attendance at all rehearsals and relays it to the band director, oversees visuals and drill issues within the Woodwind and Brass Section. Captains will stay in the ranks throughout all drill LEARNING, once all the drill is learned, captains will be asked to step out and help students. Captains can pull students out and help with marching if a student is struggling, can hold their own sectionals to help students marching, will be asked to print out extra drill and/or coordinates if a student is missing drill and issue the disciplinary writing sheet.

Section Leaders

Section Leaders are the nuts and bolts of the marching band. Responsibilities of section leaders include teaching drill, teaching music, printing music and drill charts, and communication with drum majors. They are also in charge of keeping their individual section accountable ensuring all students have required materials and reporting to the band director or staff members of any discipline issues or unpreparedness from members.

Band Council members

The Band Council consists of the Upper Leadership team and general members who will make many decisions of the band. The Band Council will meet once a week throughout the school year for at least 30 minutes per session. For council duties, see the website, www.soundoflibertybands.com. Go to About Us, Student Leadership, and click on Band Council Duties

Some Words to Live By

Attitude is the “little thing” that makes a big difference.

“In the end the great truth will have been learned that the quest is greater than what is sought, the effort finer than the prize, or rather that the effort is the prize, the victory cheap and hollow were it not for the rigor of the game.

-Justice Benjamin Cardozo

”

IMPORTANT DATES

Marching Band: All home football games, all home basketball games, and all scheduled competitions. Dates will be posted upon availability. We recommend that every parent join our LHS Marching Calendar located on the www.SoundofLibertyBands.com website.

*Dates and times are subject to change at the discretion of the directors.

7/21/25 – 8/8/25: Marching Band Camp

Tue. Aug. 12	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	
Thur. Aug 14	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	
Tue. Aug. 19	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	
Wed. Aug. 20	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	
Wed. Aug. 27	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	
Thur. Sept 4	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	ADDED PRACTICE
Fri. Sept. 5	@ 3 - 8:30 PM	
Sat Sept. 6	@ 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM	SATURDAY PRACTICE
Tue. Sept. 9	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	CANCELED PRACTICE
Wed. Sept. 10	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	
Fri. Sept. 12	@ 1:30 - 9:00 PM	FOOTBALL (VS. DESERT PINES)
Mon. Sept. 15	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	PRACTICE/NO SCHOOL
Wed. Sept. 17	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	ADDED PRACTICE
Fri. Sept. 19	@ 1:30 - 9:00 PM	FOOTBALL (VS. FARRINGTON, HI)
Sat. Sept. 20	@ 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM	SATURDAY PRACTICE
Wed. Sept. 24	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	ADDED PRACTICE
Fri. Sept. 26	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	
Wed. Oct. 1	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	
Fri. Oct. 3	@ 3 - 8:30 PM	
SAT. OCT. 4	ALL DAY	DESERT OASIS MARCHING COMPETITION
Mon. Oct. 6	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	CANCELED PRACTICE
Wed. Oct. 8	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	ADDED PRACTICE
Fri. Oct. 10	@ 1:30 - 9:00 PM	FOOTBALL (VS. DESERT OASIS)
SAT. OCT. 11	ALL DAY	SIERRA VISTA MARCHING COMPETITION
Wed. Oct. 15	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	
Fri. Oct. 17	@ 1:30 - 9:00 PM	FOOTBALL (VS. BASIC)
SAT. OCT. 18	ALL DAY	CLARK MARCHING COMPETITION
Mon. Oct. 20	@ 4 PM - 8:30 PM	CANCELED PRACTICE
Tue. Oct. 21	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	
Fri. Oct. 24	@ 1:30 - 9:00 PM	FOOTBALL (VS. CORONADO)
Sat. Oct. 25	@ 7:00 AM - 1 PM	SATURDAY PRACTICE
Wed. Oct. 29	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	
Thur. Oct. 30	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	PRACTICE/TRUNK OR TREAT
Wed. Nov. 5	@ 4 - 8:30 PM	
Fri. Nov. 7	@ 3:30 - 8:30 PM	
SAT. NOV. 8	ALL DAY	ARBOR VIEW MARCHING CHAMPIONSHIPS

*Other performances/obligations may be scheduled. These events are subject to change at the discretion of the director. The most up-to-date performance calendar can be found at www.SoundofLibertyBands.com

IMPORTANT DATES Continued

All Students:

12/1/25:	Winter Band Concert
12/22/25 – 1/4/25:	WINTER BREAK
1/16/25 – 1/17/25:	High School Honor Band (UNLV)
1/29/25 - 1/31/25:	NMEA All State
2/13/25 – 2/14/25:	Essentially Ellington Jazz
2/26/25:	Band Pre-Festival Concert
3/5/25 - 3/7/25:	CCSD Adv. Band Festival (LVA) (Perf. Time TBD)
3/16/25 – 3/22/25:	SPRING BREAK
4/16/25:	Pre-fest Jazz Concert
4/23/25 – 4/25/25:	CCSD Jazz Festival (Location & Performance Time TBD)
5/7/25:	Spring Band Concert

*Other performances/obligations may be scheduled. These events are subject to change at the discretion of the director. The most up to date performance calendar can be found at www.SoundofLibertyBands.com

CONTRACT

Student Name: _____

Due: Friday, August 22, 2025 for full credit



I have read and discussed the band handbook with my parents/guardian and fully understand the procedures and information pertaining to the band program at Liberty High School. I understand the director reserves the right to make any necessary changes to this handbook to compensate for unexpected circumstances which may occur throughout the school year. I understand that my actions will be held accountable, and the band director(s) will administer discipline and rewards in a fair, thought-out manner in accordance with CCSD policies. I also understand that if I have any specific concerns with the band program that I have the right to discuss them with the director on a one-on-one basis. I will do my best to follow these procedures and make my experience with the band program the most positive and productive as possible given my abilities. I understand and accept that band is a one-year commitment as my part greatly affects the others of the group. Leaving in the middle of the year or semester will not occur without permission from the directors.

I understand these policies and realize that the success of the Liberty Band program is dependent on my dedication and commitment to individual excellence. My attitude and ability will combine with other members to create the spirit and precision of the Sound of Liberty Band. I agree to be removed from the show or program at the discretion of the directors if these expectations are not fulfilled.

Furthermore, please agree to this statement: I will be a part of the solution and strive to make a positive contribution and presence to this program.

Student main phone: _____

Student school email: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

I understand all the responsibilities that are expected of my child. I understand my role to ensure the success of my student in the band program.

_____/_____
Student/Parent I have read and agree to the rehearsal/performance schedule which can be found by reviewing the QR code located here.

Marching Band Students/Parents Initial Below.

Please initial below:

_____/_____
Student/Parent I understand the payment schedule: Aug. 8 - \$150, Sept. 5 - \$150, Oct. 3 - \$150

Parent/Guardian name: _____

Parent/Guardian main phone: _____

Parent/Guardian email: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

