

AHS Color Guard 2008-2009

Director Maria Lewis Rohr

Welcome!

Welcome to the Allen High School Color Guard! Color guard members are members of the Allen High School Band and will abide by the same guidelines outlined in the Allen High School Band/ Color Guard Handbook. If you have any questions concerning the Allen High School Band please consult the band handbook. This addendum is provided to further clarify the expectations and guidelines for the members of the AHS Color Guard.

Purpose of the Color Guard

- To provide effective experience, training, and growth in basic visual performance, dance, music, theater, art and emotion through practice and performance.
- To foster the growth of good citizenship and life-skills such as teamwork, loyalty, dependability, and pride through discipline and organization.
- To display these qualities by representing the school and community through participation in marching events, festivals and other performances.
- To maintain and expand the traditions and high standards of excellence enjoyed by this organization.
- To bring artistry, understanding, and respect to music and dance and to school visual programs through performances and through support of other groups pursuing the same goal.
- To provide students with an opportunity for enjoyment and the development of lasting friendships through these endeavors.

Our Principles

RESPECT

Respect yourself

- Take care of yourself. Eat and rest well.
- Present yourself to others in a way that reflects well on you, your family, your school and your community.

Respect Others

- Your teammates
- The staff
- The Band Boosters and Chaperones
- People in general

Respect your craft

- Strive to be GREAT at what you do, whatever that may be
- Attend all rehearsals and performances
- Be on time
- Come to rehearsals prepared with all of your materials (equipment, tape, appropriate attire, etc.) and a positive attitude

RESPONSIBILITY

- Keep track of your belongings
- Keep track of your progress
- Take ownership in the team

Color Guard Expectations

Basic Expectations

- All expectations stated in the Allen High School Band/Color Guard Handbook are in effect at all times.
- To be early is to be on time, and to be on time is to be late! To be late is to be left!
- Dress appropriately for rehearsals. You will have assigned days to know which rehearsal uniform to wear; refer to your rehearsal calendar for clarification. Hair must also be up or back so as not to be in your face.
- Fingernails must be kept short to avoid injury.
- Cell phones will be turned off or silenced and placed in your bag while in rehearsal.
- A “thank you” or “yes ma’am/sir” is appropriate after every correction. Do not make excuses or talk back.
- Raise your hand for permission to speak.
- Allow the student leaders to do their job in helping lesser experienced members.
- Guard equipment must be properly stored in designated areas. Each student must be responsible for her own equipment.
- Inform your ride ahead of time when you will need to be picked up. Do not wait until the end of rehearsal to call for a ride.

Participation Expectations

A yearly band calendar may be found at allenband.com for your use in planning your family schedule for the 2008-2009 school year. **Each** guard student is important to the success of our many activities. We **must** be able to count on 100% attendance at these rehearsals and performances. If a family emergency occurs unexpectedly, PARENTS, please call Mrs. Rohr's office at 972-727-0400 ext. 7752. Occasionally, there may be family commitments (weddings, graduations, etc.); in which case, we will **try** to be flexible and work with you on an individual basis. This must be discussed in detail well in advance (a month or more!). Please also send notifications of any absence **in writing**.

Student job commitments and "select sports" are **NOT** reasons for an excused absence from band performances or rehearsals! Many band students work and participate in "select sports" and participate successfully in band. We suggest that these students take a copy of the "Yearly Band Calendar" to his/her employer and/or coach and clear all band performances and rehearsals. Ninety-nine percent of employers are very understanding and are flexible **if** they know of band commitments well in advance, and they understand that band performances are a **required** and vital part of the course work. Work with employers to clear the Monday night rehearsals from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. (We are glad to talk to employers to validate student commitment.) ***If a band student has an unexcused absence from a performance/rehearsal, they are subject to immediate removal from the band program.***

Letter Jacket Eligibility

Color Guard students will be eligible to receive a letter jacket after completing two full years of guard. A full year shall be defined as fall guard (marching band) and winter guard. Students will attend all performances and UIL activities. Exceptions will be granted at the discretion of the band director (illness, deaths, etc.). Students not adhering to written disciplinary policies of the school and band will forfeit their eligibility for the senior award jacket. It is understood that withdrawal or dismissal from the band prior to graduation of his/her senior year results in forfeiture of the jacket.