**CHINA SPRING MIDDLE SCHOOL BANDS**

***“Excellence By Example!”***

                                                                        2019-2020  Rules & Policies

The following rules and policies are listed to help all of our band members experience success that will lead to a lifetime pursuit of excellence.  These are generally the same rules that apply throughout the school. Therefore, it should not be any problem with students complying unless it is their personal choice not to do so.

**CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:**

 Respect the Director

 Respect Each Other

Respect the Learning Process

Always Do Your Best!

Respect Our Learning Space

**ACTIVITY FEE- A Band Activity Fee of  $25.00 per school year will need to paid to CHINA SPRING MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND by the end of the first week of school. Band Activity Fees provide  an objective text book and band uniform shirt.**

**TEXTBOOKS**-All Band members will purchase a textbook at the beginning of the  school year. This will transfer with you into high school. We will use this textbook for our Objectives pass-offs, and for daily use in band rehearsal.  The cost of the books are $10.00 and are part of your Band Activity Fee. You will need to bring a check made payable to the China Spring Middle School Band by the end of the first of the first week of school.

**UNIFORMS** - During pep rally season we will wear Cougar Band Dri-Fit shirts & regulation band caps for spirit performances. Our UIL Uniform consists of a white button-up dress shirt with collar, black dress belt, black pants, black dress socks,  & black dress shoes that can be polished. Girls can wear either black pants or a knee-length black skirt with no side slits. Hosiery can be either plain skin-tone or plain black. Shoes need to be dress flats—no high heels. I encourage you to shop budget-mindedly for these items. **We will wear this  for Band Photos, all concerts and  UIL band contest in the Spring.**

**GRADING**

**The Six-week’ Objective Sheet   (25%)**

  The CSMS Band will maintain the “The Six-week’ Objective Sheet” as a vital part of your grade.  This will be in conjunction with the regular class instruction. Each six-week’ grading period a new set of Skills and Objectives will be distributed to you with a date for completion.  You will play your Skills and Objectives for the directors who will then determine if the Skill is up to standard. You will know if you have completed that skill when the director signs your Skill and Objective Sheet.

**Tests and Performances (25%)**

This will consist of class tests (either written or played) or performance (concerts, pep rallies, or special events requiring a concert, etc).  Performances are a vital part of your band experience---it is like taking a test in public. Therefore, extenuating circumstances are the ONLY excuse for missing a performance.  (Extenuating circumstances are an occurrence out of the control of most reasonable people.) A missed performance for anything other than an extenuating circumstance will result in a “0” for that event.  Remember, you are part of a team, and if you are not there, the team cannot be excellent. If you cannot attend a concert because of an extenuating circumstance, we need notification IN ADVANCE (EMAIL IS BEST**-mloudermilk@chinaspringisd.net)** from your parent/guardian explaining the reason for your absence.  Performances are posted well in advance so that you can make arrangements to be at the performance.

**Daily Grade (50%)**

This is the most reliable indicator of the progress you are making in class.  It is an ongoing process of evaluation that will lead to success and excellence.  The daily grade will reflect your full participation in daily rehearsals. By “full participation” we mean:  instrument and everything you need for band at your seat on time to begin rehearsal and stay completely engaged in the band objectives for the full 50 minutes.   Assignments and deadlines for completion are posted on our Parent Portal websites linked to Mr. Mitchell & Mr. Loudermilk through the chinaspringisd.net website.

**EQUIPMENT**

All students need to have their personal instruments in top working order.  Professional repairman at Tarpley Music (1300 Lake Air Dr. Suite 1, 235-1127),  Ellis County Music Center (972-937-5300) in Waxahchie, and Freedom Music Services (749-1961)  provide repair services and instruments. Please bring in your repair ticket if your instrument needs repair as proof that it is at the shop and will be ready on a certain date.  Students will need everything to keep their instrument in working order—

**Brasses**: oil, slide grease, cleaning snake, mouthpiece brush, and cleaning cloth., and tuner/metronome.

**Woodwinds**:  cork grease, swab, and at least 3 good reeds in the case at all times, and tuner/metrnome.

**Percussionists** need a  personal stick  bag and tuner/metronome.  These will contain the strikers generally used by

       percussionists in all of the UIL pieces, solos, and ensembles that we will be performing.  These will also transfer to high  school when you enter 9th grade. These will be available through any of the above dealers.

***\*ALL 8th GRADE BAND MEMBERS WILL NEED A FLIP-FOLDER and MUSIC LYRE FOR MARCHING BAND and PEP    RALLIES***---This is standard equipment for high school that will transfer with you in 9th grade. These are available at any of the  above music dealers.

**REGION HONOR BAND AUDITIONS**-Students wishing to perform in an honor group may audition for placement in a Region Band sponsored by  The Association of Texas Small School Bands. All students will work on the audition sets as part of their Skills and Objectives requirements.  For the students who earn a place in the region honor band, commemorative patches are awarded to them after they perform at the region band concert.  The CS Solo and Ensemble Contest is held in April. This contest allows you to demonstrate excellence on a solo or as a member of a small group. Students who demonstrate excellence receive a medal for their achievement and Outstanding Performers are featured on an Honors Recital.

**Extra Items and Accessories**

 These are not required, but we offer them yearly for those students wishing to have them:   a cougar band shirt , a class and  individual portrait, cougar band hat, cougar band hoodie, and  the cougar band car window decal. These forms will be sent home as the offers become available.  Please observe the deadlines for returning these order forms as they are all limited production runs that cannot be repeated.

**Private Lessons**

Private Lessons are organized through the High School. Lesson forms will go home the first week of school.

**Fundraisers**

             The band will participate  throughout the year in fundraising efforts. Proceeds from the fundraisers help defray the costs of the various trips and activities during the year.

**Band Boosters**

Parental and Community involvement support is a key to our program at all levels. The instrumental music programs of  China Spring need your help to achieve our goal in providing the best music educational experience for our children. China Spring Band Booster Membership forms will be sent home the first week of school.

**Scholarships**

Each year the Band Boosters award scholarships to students to go to band camp. Be on the look-out in late March and April for scholarship applications. Scholarship recipients will be announced at the end of the year concert in May.

**Contact information**

Symphonic and 8th Grade band- Mr. M.E. Loudermilk (836-4611) e-mail: [mloudermilk@chinaspringisd.net](mailto:mloudermilk@chinaspringisd.net)

Concert Band- Mr. Ian Mitchell (836-4611) e-mail: [imitchell@chinaspringisd.net](mailto:imitchell@chinaspringisd.net)

Our District Band website is [www.cscougarband.com](http://www.cscougarband.com).   Check here first for the most up-to-date communications & schedules.Also, in the cscougarband.com webpage, we have a communication link provided by CHARMS to handle text messages, email blasts, and schedule changes. PLEASE REGISTER AT CHARMS from the CSCOUGARBAND.COM webpage as we use this platform for mass communications.

We’re also on Facebook @cscougarband.

**CSMS Band Handbook Receipt Acknowledgement**

**Please sign, detach, and return to school by Aug.  23, 2019**

Student Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Received, read, and agree to abide by all rules and procedures as explained in the CSMS Band 2019-2020 Rules and Policy document.  We also understand that failure to abide by the rules and policies will result in grade penalties or appropriate disciplinary action as determined by school personnel.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**CHINA SPRING MS BAND 2019-2020 Calendar**

**(\*High School Band contest events that MS are encouraged to attend.)**

Sept.6-F M/d m objectives due (pages 12-13, pg 18)

Sept. 13-8th gr band night at HS football game 6-11 PM, CS Stadium

Sept. 19-Band photos, MS band room 7:30AM to 2:30 PM. Black and white uniforms will be worn.

Sept. 20-Bb M/g m objectives due (pages 10-11, pg 16)

Oct. 4-Eb M/cm objectives due (pages 28-29, pg 14)

Oct. 18-Ab/f objectives due (pages 26-27, pg 12)

\*Oct. 19-UIL Region Marching Contest, Midway

Nov. 1-C M/a m objectives due (pages 14-15, page 19)

Dec. 10-ATSSB Region Band auditions, Robinson 2:00-9:00 PM

Dec. 12-MS Band  Christmas Concert , 7:00 PM, PAC   (OPS Recording)

Dec. 17-Joint Jazz band Christmas concert, 7:00PM, PAC

Jan. 18-ATSSB Region Concert, 7:00AM-11:00PM, Groesbeck

Jan. 23-F/d objectives due (pgs 12-13, 18)

Jan. 30- UIL Concert March pass-off due

Jan 31-TMEA Region Jazz Band auditions, Temple ISD 1:30-10:00 PM

Feb. 28-UIL contest pieces passed off

POSSIBLE PRE-UIL CONTEST PERFORMANCE TBA

March 17-Judged Pre-UIL Concert/Clinic (OPS  Recording)

March 24/25-MS Band UIL contest, Midway (OPS Recording)

March 28-TMEA Region Jazz concert, Temple ISD 7:30AM-9:00PM.

April 24-MS Solo & Ensemble contest, CSMS, 4:30-9:00PM

May 5-Beginner Band concert, 7:00 PM, PAC

May 7-MS Band Final concert 7:00PM, PAC

May 9-Band Banquet (8th grade only)

May 18-Joint Jazz band concert, 7:00PM, PAC