

R • E • D • O • A • K

band program

154 Louise Ritter Blvd • Red Oak, Texas 75154
972.617.4617 or 4618 www.redoakband.com

“Good to Great ~ The Quest for State Begins...”

Full Summer Band Basic Schedule

August 1	Freshman/New Marcher “Boot Camp” 7:00 am to 3:00 pm (lunch provided this day only)
August 2-5	FULL SUMMER BAND begins!! Everyone! <ul style="list-style-type: none">• “2-a-days” 7:00 am -10:30 am and 12:00-2:30 pm each day• Lunch each day from 10:30 – noon. Bring a lunch or you may leave for lunch• <i>Guard—check your schedule with TJ and Dianna</i>
August 2	Full band/guard PARENT MEETING at 6:00 p.m. (to go over calendar, pay fees, etc.) * ROISD Mandatory Drug Testing Date on this date also. For ALL band/guard students.
August 8-12	Summer band continues with everyone each day (2-a-days continue) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7:00 am -10:30 am and 12:00-2:30 pm each day (lunch as before)• Leadership Team Conference in Dallas on Thursday the 11th (pm)
August 15 and 16	Switch to evening summer band rehearsals ~ EVERYONE 6:00-8:30 p.m. (no morning or afternoon full band—band directors in staff development)
August 17	no rehearsal
August 18	Last day of Summer Band! “Open Rehearsal” from 6:00 – 8:00 pm (parents and family invited ~ bring a lawn chair and enjoy seeing how the band has progressed during Summer Band!) —————> <i>To be followed by a post-summer band social! Ice cream, fun, and games!</i>
August 19	no rehearsal
August 24	First day of school—TENTATIVE normal rehearsal schedule will begin: <i>Mondays 6:00-8:30 p.m.</i> <i>Tuesdays 4:15-6:45 p.m.</i> <i>Wednesdays off</i> <i>Thursdays 4:15-6:15 p.m.</i> (*some Mondays and Tuesdays will be reversed depending on JH football schedules)

What to bring – wear –etc.

- for non-drivers: LUNCH for each day (or \$ for lunch and carpool with older students)
- marching instrument/flag (starting on day one!)
- personal water jug with water (with your name on it) * *required of all students*
(an alternative: a camel-back “hydration pack” such as this one at Walmart:
<http://www.walmart.com/ip/Hydration-Backpack-50-oz./4645499>
- currently showing as in stock at the Desoto, Midlothian, and Grand Prairie stores)
- sunglasses and a hat (both are very important!)
- light-colored clothing (helps reflect the sun instead of soaking it up)
- comfortable tennis shoes/sneakers (no sandals, flip flops, slip ons, skater shoes, etc.)
- PLEASE put on sunscreen! Not optional! We don’t need any sunburns or skin cancer!
- something also to try: Frogg Togg’s “Chilly Pad” – check at Academy or Dick’s Sporting Goods. See <http://www.froggtoggs.com/#cooling/details/CP100/> to learn more!

***Special note about the heat:** *We’re looking at some VERY warm days ahead, and we all need to be prepared. Dress correctly. There will be frequent water breaks. Be sure and begin hydrating the night before and the morning of each outside rehearsal with plenty of water. Nutrition is also very important – don’t skip breakfast, and don’t substitute something like an energy drink for breakfast. Avoid too much dairy and greasy foods. Breads are good, bananas are good.*

Summer Band Attendance

VERY important! This is a STATE year first of all (!) and we have the earliest UIL marching contest in the entire state of Texas. This year, we will use either the A block/B block system or the Alternate/Shadow System (undecided at this point). The competitive marching show is written for a very SET number. Students will be auditioning for a spot in the competition block throughout the first week of summer band, and we will have the initial assignments done probably by the end of the week. If you have to miss any of summer band, it could affect your initial placement!

Note that none of the placements are necessarily permanent. If there IS a legitimate summer band conflict, and you end up with a B block/Shadow/Alternate placement, you should still have opportunities to move up based on your skills. LIKEWISE..... if you are placed in the competition block, you can still be moved down. You're evaluated on how well you play your music, how well you march, your attendance, dedication, hard work, etc.

Without trying to sound too blunt, this is our version of a football 1st string – the only difference being that our 1st string is much larger (about 3/4 to 4/5 of the band). We'd love to "play" everyone at the games and contests, but can't. This may sound a little harsh, but we are committed to being competitive in our run for the State contest this year, and we are going to do everything possible to do so.

Red Oak ISD Mandatory Drug Testing – Tuesday, August 2 or Tuesday, August 9

The Red Oak ISD requires EVERY STUDENT involved in extra-curricular/UIL activities to have an initial Mandatory Drug Test at the beginning of the school year at the family's expense (**\$15.00, checks made out to Red Oak ISD**) You **CAN NOT PERFORM** (or go) with the band anywhere without this test! Games, pep rallies, contests, ANYTHING!

The test is administered between 9 am and 3 pm in the ROHS gym. The students will have the chance to do their drug test during the lunch break, or as soon as our afternoon rehearsal is over (we will probably let out a little early to allow more kids to get down and test).

** The form for the drug test is here at http://www.redoakisd.org/docs/Drug_Test_Forms_copy.pdf This form needs to be signed by student AND parent and brought with you to the drug test at ROHS, along with your \$15 (this is turned in and paid at the drug test – NOT to the band directors)*

All-Band and Guard Parent Meeting – Tuesday, August 2

We are going to have our annual all-band and guard Parent Meeting on **Tuesday, August 2 at 6:00 pm**. There will be several forms to fill out to participate in band/guard – a medical authorization form, a UIL acknowledgement form, a student information form, etc. We'll also go over the upcoming season, calendar, etc. **This will also be when you need to pay the fees/costs for band this year.**

School Instrument Check-Out

If you play a school-owned instrument and haven't checked one out yet, you'll be able to do so this week. As a reminder, the School Owned Instrument Usage Fee is \$80 annually for brasses/woodwinds AND as previously announced (new starting this year), \$50 for percussionists. Please plan on bringing your \$80 or \$50 with you and turn in to a band director before Friday (checks made payable to "Red Oak Band" or you may pay in cash).

Band Website and CHARMS

The www.redoakband.com site is one of our regular means of communication, especially for posting handouts, forms, and documents. Please bookmark it and check it periodically. We will also have the calendar portions up to date very soon. This is also where you can go to your individual CHARMS database account to keep your contact information up-to-date and keep up with band fees, trip payments, and fundraising balances. Under the "Parent/Student" tab, go down to the "Charms login" entry. When the page comes up, enter your Red Oak student ID # and it should take you to your personal account. If that doesn't work, drop Mr. Thomas an email and we can reset the password.

R • E • D • O • A • K



154 Louise Ritter Blvd • Red Oak, Texas 75154
972.617.4617 or 4618 www.redoakband.com

Jazz Program

Mr. Cadenhead will be finalizing the two jazz bands the first couple of days of summer band. All jazz instrument students (saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, bass, drums) interested in playing in one of the two groups need to stay until 4 pm on Tuesday and Wednesday of the first week. *Students selected for the top/1st jazz band will then continue to meet until 4 pm each day of summer band to prepare for the upcoming Region Jazz auditions.*

Region/State Tryout Music

Go to www.tmea.org and click on the 2011-12 State Audition Material for BAND. You can then pull up a list of the books being used this year and a list of the actual etudes being used. If you don't own the book being used, you can go to either www.penders.com or www.jwpepper.com and order the book. At some point this week, we will also be able to pass out some photocopied study pages of the region etudes.

Schedules / Band Periods

Students will be able to pick their schedules up with the rest of the school on either August 10 or 11 after the afternoon band rehearsal is over (2:30 to 6:00 pm either day). The counselors are still working diligently to make sure everyone is in the correct band period (many are not in the right place right now), so please allow them time to do so. As a reminder, band placements are posted on the band website on the documents page.

PARKING and STUDENT DROP OFF / PICK-UP

All students must park in the student lot (C lot) during summer band, NOT in either of the driveways. Parents dropping students off or picking them up – PLEASE plan on doing this in the C student lot or in the front of the school rather than right in front of the band hall. It can get very congested in front of the band hall and affects student safety!