

# Atlee High School Colorguard Handbook 2009-2010

Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year at Atlee High School. Being a part of the marching band is an experience that I hope you will cherish for the rest of your life. Being a part of any group of this magnitude it takes a commitment, teamwork, cooperation and discipline from everyone. The Atlee Marching Raiders is one of the premier organizations at Atlee High School. Our actions are not just judged by ourselves and our families but by other schools and localities where we perform. **Parents, your support is imperative to the success of this program.**

It may seem like this handbook is full of rules and regulations on what you, "*can't do*". It is necessary in any organization to have structure and guidelines to be an effective team. I can tell you that with everyone's cooperation and participation, what we "*can do*", and that is have a fun successful year. I am looking forward to a great season with all of you.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me, my information is listed below. I look forward to working with each of you in making this an effective year for the Atlee Marching Band. I hope that you will find that these will be some of the best years of your life!

Sincerely,

R. Paul Rozecki, Jr.  
Atlee High School  
Director of Bands  
[rrozecki@hcps.us](mailto:rrozecki@hcps.us)

# **I. Attendance**

## **A. Performances**

It is the expectation that each Raider Band guard member will be in attendance at all performances and rehearsals. Being absent from band functions of any kind is an indicator of a low level of commitment and is looked down upon by the director and members of the band. Students who miss band activities, may not be eligible for their band awards, and can lose their eligibility to go on a trip or perform at a game and or competition. **Attendance at ALL performances is an expectation!!!!** Members that are absent from any performance or rehearsal let down the people in their section as well the entire band. A successful band, team, or any group effort, is built upon people who are committed to its success.

A call time will be issued for each performance. This is the time at which you are to be fully dressed in your uniform, equipment ready and in your designated warm-up area. Tardiness to a performance call time is distracting to the entire group, keeps everyone from being prepared properly and is not acceptable to the director or students.

**Students missing a performance unexcused will be dismissed from the marching band-NO EXCEPTIONS!**

## **B. Rehearsals**

Attendance at all rehearsals is expected of each member. The band director will have the final authority on all decisions.

### **Consequences regarding unexcused tardies from a rehearsal:**

- 1. If a student is tardy to (1) rehearsal unexcused, they will receive no 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter break in the next football game.**
- 2. If a student is tardy to rehearsal (2) times unexcused, they will not be allowed to participate in the next performance.**
- 3. If a student is tardy to rehearsal (3) times unexcused, they will not be allowed to participate in the next performance and a parent conference is requested.**
- 4. If a student is tardy to rehearsal (4) times unexcused, they are dismissed from the marching band.**

During the performance that they are not participating, they will be required to be present and in uniform at that performance, standing at attention on the sideline of the field.

### **Consequences regarding an unexcused absence from a rehearsal:**

- 1. If a student is absent from (1) rehearsal unexcused, they will not participate in the next performance.**
- 2. If a student is absent from (2) rehearsals unexcused, they are dismissed from the marching band.**

During the performance that they are not participating, they will be required to be present and in uniform at that performance, standing at attention on the sideline of the field.

### **C. Band Camp**

A band camp schedule is attached to this handbook. During band camp the guard learns valuable skills, routines and drill for the season. Each rehearsal is structured and important. Attendance to ALL band camp rehearsals is mandatory! The same attendance rules apply to band camp. In the event of missing a day of band camp written notice MUST be provided to the band director in advance as appropriate. No unexcused absences will not be tolerated and may result in dismissal from the marching band. The final discretion is up to the band director.

### **Unexcused and Excused Absences**

We understand that there will be a rare occasion that will require a student to miss a scheduled performance for an excused absence.

When illness of the band member or a family emergency, (i.e. a death in the family) arises, the student will receive an excused absence from the performance provided proper documentation occurs which includes written notice to the band director. Most other absences are considered unexcused. Please be aware that work, baby sitting, hair appointment commitments etc. are **NEVER** an excused absence from a rehearsal or a performance.

Tardies are considered excused if the student has been with a teacher or staff member doing academic work or other school-related business and produces a pass from that teacher upon entering the rehearsal. Notice of previously scheduled medical appointments or other such things should be given to the director prior to the rehearsal missed. Please understand that no part of any rehearsal will be missed due to work obligations. **WORK IS NOT A REASON TO MISS REHEARSAL OR PERFORMANCE!**

## II. Performance Assessments

The colorguard instructor and/or band director may find it necessary to "test" the students on their individual knowledge of their part of the program including routine(s).

**Based on the results of these "tests" the Instructor and/or Band Director may decide to pull a student from a particular performance(s). Students will be allowed to "retest" their knowledge. If the band director still deems their performance unacceptable, they will face possible dismissal from the marching band.**

## III. Student Leaders

Student leaders are an important part of the program. They function to assist the staff and are designated to ensure a smooth operation at band camp, during games and competitions. They also serve as a source of information for the members. They are able to assist in teaching marching fundamentals, Colorguard fundamentals and they may also run a practice if needed. Their instruction should be followed at all times. If anyone has a problem with any student leaders, they are not to confront them, but report the problem to the band director at the next available opportunity, and let the director deal with any issues.

## IV. Band Camp Safety

Safety is our number one concern. At all times Staff will be making decisions based on the safety of the students. Examples of this may include game/performance attendance, performance in certain weather and travel arrangements.

To the extent of weather, the Band Director has scheduled rehearsals at night in order to avoid the heat of the day. However, please make sure that you drink plenty of water and wear clothing that is light and will not restrict movement. Another important article of clothing is footwear.

**DO NOT WEAR SANDALS. IF YOU DO YOU WILL NOT PARTICPATE.** It is impossible to march correctly in anything but tennis shoes and marching shoes.

The staff will do everything possible to ensure a safe, productive and fun marching band experience.

## V. Uniform Policy

Uniforms with exception of gloves and shoes are property of Atlee High School Band and should remain at the school when not in use. Please make sure to take care of these. At the conclusion of each performance please hang them in the designated cabinet in the band room in a neat and orderly fashion. **No uniforms are to be taken home.**

## VI. Cell Phones

**You are not permitted to use cell phones during practice or while in the stands at a game.** Please keep them on the **"silence"** mode and put away during practice or games. If you are seen using them they will be confiscated and will require a parent present at school for retrieval.

## VII. Personal Items

It is suggested that you secure all of your valuable items either in your car or in a locker. **The staff is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.** The band room may not always be locked while we are out. **Please do not bring personal items to a game/competition and expect a chaperone or a staff person to carry them and be responsible for them.**

## VIII. Performance Rules and Procedures

*Performances include: Football Games, Competitions, Parades, and any other specified performance.*

1. Students are given designated times to pick up and change into their uniform. Students are to be in the bus loop for warm up in full uniform at designated time. We will then march to the stadium in preparation for the pre-game performance.
2. While in the stands all bands members must sit in their own section at ALL times. No "non-band" members are permitted to sit in this reserved section at any time. Alumni and middle school band students are welcome to sit to the left of the band or along side the perimeters of the band section. The aisle is reserved for staff and drum majors.
3. While at football games and competitions, behavior should be exemplary. This means using good judgment in representing our school and yourself.
4. No profanity or obscene gestures or language are permitted at any time.

5. The uniforms will be properly worn in its entirety or as otherwise stated by the Colorguard Instructor. No jewelry can be worn!! Please leave this at home or lock it up in your locker to reduce the risk of it being lost or stolen.
6. Gloves are to only be removed when the instructor tells you to do so.
7. Directions given by the band director, colorguard instructor, drum majors, captains and assisting parents are to be strictly followed.
8. No food or drinks are allowed in the stands at anytime. The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter will be given as a time to visit the concession stand and for a restroom break. It is expected that everyone be back in his or her places by the beginning of the forth quarter according to the game clock. We should be in our stands supporting our team at all times. The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter break is a privilege and should be treated as such. It can be revoked at any time for one individual or the entire unit.
9. Restroom breaks- will be during 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter unless it is an extreme emergency in which case an assisting parent will escort you to and from the restroom. Please do not abuse this, parents are there to help us and not spend the entire time running to and from the restroom with you.
10. Group cheers are allowed with body movements, and encouraged. They must be done in an organized fashion and must be appropriate and approved in advance by the band director.
11. Stand dances – are allowed as long as they are done in an organized fashion. The Captains are in charge of developing, teaching and executing stand dances. The dances start according to when the drum majors start the band playing. When this happens is when the captains will start the dance. The band director and colorguard Instructor must approve all dances before they are performed at a game. All members will be required to participate in these dances.
12. T-shirts are part of the uniforms. The T- shirt will be worn to school on game day and to any competitions during travel.
13. All students are expected to ride to and from every performance with the rest of the band. They will only be given permission for alternate travel when it is with a parent and advance written notice is provided to the band director. Roll call will be done each time we travel to and from a performance.
14. Students are given approximate pick up and ending times for every event based on the location and performance times and are allowed and

encouraged to call home via cell phone when returning from a performance to make sure a ride is there, if needed. The director cannot lock up the building until the last student has been picked up. The band director and or staff are not responsible for the supervision of students after the pick up time. Please make sure to pick up your students at the scheduled time.

## **IX. School Owned Equipment**

The equipment you will be using is owned by the band and should be treated with utmost care. The saying goes, "take care of your equipment and your equipment will take care of you." Replacing flag poles and flag materials is expensive. Please take care of our equipment!

Please respect our program's assets, property and equipment. Together, our band boosters have all worked hard through fundraising to provide the equipment that we have.

Take pride in the Atlee Band Program! It is what you make of it!

## **X. How much will it cost for my child to be in the Colorguard at Atlee High School?**

The Atlee Band Boosters charge a nominal fee of \$150.00 to cover costs for: transportation, clinicians and instructors and many other band camp expenses. This helps to take part of the burden off the booster organization and guarantees each student a spot in the field show.

Additional funds that will go directly to the Color Guard are being raised through fundraising. We are trying to do this as to avoid passing on the costs to families. It is very important, that all members participate in fundraising.

If there are any financial concerns or hardships please contact Mr. Rozecki in order to make other arrangements. A deposit of \$50.00 will be collected with the student information form and medical release form at registration. The deadline for the deposit and forms is **Monday June 1**. The remaining \$100.00 can be split into two payments. These payments are due **Wednesday July 1 and Monday August 3**.

All students must have completed medical and student information forms along with payment to participate.

## **XII. Atlee Band Boosters**

The Atlee Band Boosters are a vital part of the overall organization and help to support the band program. The boosters are in charge of fundraising, parent volunteers and assisting the director with various activities. The band boosters are bound by their own constitution and by-laws that govern their practice.

### **WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE ORGNAZATION?**

Being a member of the band booster's organization is fun and exciting. It offers parents a chance to participate in their child's musical activities during the school year and be a part of a great organization.

General booster meetings are held several times throughout the year. Check the website, [www.atleeband.com](http://www.atleeband.com) for updates. During these meetings the following items will be discussed: fund raising, volunteers, budgeting, and spring trip information.



# Contract for the 2009-2010 Season

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/Guardian) have received the 2000-2010 Color Guard Handbook. I have read through this handbook in it's entirety and understand the outlined polices, dates and rules set forth by the Band Director and Colorguard Instructor.

I agree to assist my student in abiding by these policies and procedures. In exchange for my support and cooperation, I will be kept informed of situations regarding my student, and notified of changes. I realize that failure to follow these guidelines may have consequences up to and including jeopardizing my student's participation in any one event, or the season as a whole.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Student) have received the 2000-2010 Color Guard Handbook. I have read through this handbook in it's entirety and understand the outlined polices, dates and rules set forth by the Band Director and Colorguard Instructor.

I agree to abide by these policies and procedures. I realize that failure to do so may have consequences up to and including jeopardizing my participation in any one event, or the season as a whole.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*\*\*\*Please return the signed contract to Mr. Rozecki on Friday May 1, 2009\*\*\**

# INFORMATION FORM

Name:

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Address:

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Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian's Name :

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Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Tryout Information

- Try outs will be held on May 1@ 4:00 p.m. in the band room at Atlee High School
- Please wear blue jeans or blue jean shorts and a white t-shirt for your audition.
- Results will be posted on Monday May 4 after school on the band room door.