



# ROCKVALE BAND

rockvaleband.com | rockvaleband@gmail.com

## 2026-27 Rockvale Band Handbook

### Band Membership

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To be a member of the Rockvale Band, students and parents must:

- Enroll in the proper band class period
- Remain in good standing, both academically and behaviorally, with Rockvale High School teachers and administration
- Complete all forms and payments by the due dates
- Agree to comply with the terms of this handbook
- Agree to comply with the rules and regulations of Rockvale High School
- Attend all camps, rehearsals, performances, and other scheduled band functions

### Materials

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**Class Materials-** have the following items at each rehearsal:

- 3 ring binder w/ page protectors
- Pencil
- Instrument, in good working condition
- Woodwinds- Reeds and reed case (3 spare reeds minimum at all times)
- Brass- mutes, as needed
- Percussion
  - Large practice pad (Offworld Invader, 12" Evans ReelFeel, etc)
  - Marching snare sticks (1 pair provided at drumline auditions)
  - Concert snare sticks (IP-LD, SD-1, or equivalent)
  - Marimba mallets (IP-240 or equivalent)
  - Timpani mallets (IP-GT3 or equivalent)

**Marching Band Materials-** have the following items at each rehearsal:

- Music (in 3-ring binder w/ page protectors)
- Instrument
- Coordinate sheets on lanyard (provided)
- Appropriate shorts/athletic pants
- Low top athletic shoes and socks (no crocs or sandals)
- Water bottle/jug

**Uniform Parts-** students are expected to provide the following to complete the uniform:

- All-black athletic shoes (every part of the shoe must be black; must be athletic shoe, i.e. no Converse, Vans, etc.)
- Long black socks
- Black athletic shorts

## Fees and Forms

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**Member Contribution- \$400** each year of membership, broken up into three payments. Payable with cash, check (made out to Rockvale High School Band), or online (Donate option on [rockvaleband.com](http://rockvaleband.com)). Contributions are non-refundable.

This contribution provides 70% of the operating budget necessary for a successful high school band:

- Bus transportation to events (~\$12,000/year)
- Band shirts and uniform parts (~\$10,000/year)
- Music and equipment purchases (~\$4,000-12,000/year)
- Staff for camps and sectionals (~\$7,000/year)
- Marching band show design (~\$8,000/year)

**School Instrument/Stick Fee- \$50** additionally for all percussionists and anyone using a school instrument (oboe, bassoon, tenor sax, bari sax, mellophone, marching baritone, tuba, etc.). This covers regular instrument maintenance costs.

**Sibling Discount- \$50/student** for any family with more than one student in the band.

**Installments** (see calendar for exact dates)

<b>Late May</b>	Contribution #1 - \$100 School Instrument/Stick Fee - \$50 (if applicable, see above) Commitment Form Registration Google Form Medical Form
<b>Band Camp</b>	Contribution #2 - \$150
<b>First Game</b>	Contribution #3 - \$150

**Forms-** available at [rockvaleband.com](http://rockvaleband.com)

- Commitment Form (resubmit each year)
- Registration Google Form (resubmit each year)
- Medical Form, notarized (resubmit each year)

To drop off forms & payments during the summer, contact the directors at [rockvaleband@gmail.com](mailto:rockvaleband@gmail.com)

## Expectations & Grading

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### Marching Band Uniform

- Uniform fittings will occur during band camp.
- The full uniform shall include: band shirt, black athletic shorts, long black socks, jacket, pants, band hat, all black athletic shoes.
- A uniform inspection will occur prior to every game or performance.
- When in uniform, students are expected to:
  - Act professionally and respectfully
  - Keep uniform in pristine condition
  - Not wear excessive makeup that will leave residue on uniform
  - Not remove uniform pieces in public unless the entire band is instructed to do so
- The uniform remains property of the Rockvale Band

### Concert Band Uniform

- For Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and Percussion classes - "Concert Black"- black collared shirt and slacks for gentlemen, and similarly formal blouse/pants/skirt/dress for ladies
- For Wind Ensemble and Honors Percussion classes - "Dress Black" - white button-up shirt, black bow tie, black suit or tuxedo jacket and black pants for gentlemen, and similarly formal blouse/pants/skirt/dress for ladies

### Bus Expectations

- Students will travel by bus for most off-campus performances. Check the calendar for call times and travel plans for all events.
- Bus sign up lists for the year will occur prior to the first bus trip. Rutherford County Schools' rules and regulations for bus behavior will apply on all band bus trips. Chaperones will supervise each bus on trips.
- If we travel by bus, students must return by bus unless **THEIR parent/guardian** signs them out in person. Bus sign out slips will be available on trips and must be signed by the parent/guardian and the bus chaperone.

### Grading

- Student grades will be derived from attendance at all rehearsals and performances, assessments (playing & written), and a daily grade.
- The band daily grade will be affected by the absence of proper materials for class (instrument, binder, book, etc). Participation in class cannot occur without instruments and music.
- The grading scale will follow the system currently in place by Rutherford County Schools. Grades can be viewed anytime by visiting the school's Skyward portal.

## Required Events

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The following events are required of members of the Rockvale Band. Check the calendar at [rockvaleband.com](http://rockvaleband.com) for current dates & times for all events.

**Band Camp-** This "camp" allows us to prepare properly for the marching band season. We learn music for the stands and field, bring in additional staff to teach sectionals, and learn how to march for the half-time show.

**After School Rehearsals-** After camp is completed, we have weekly after-school rehearsals throughout the fall, and dress rehearsals before each concert. Rehearsals are never canceled due to inclement weather unless specifically communicated. In the event of rain or lightning, we will rehearse indoors.

**Football Games-** We play at every home and away game. Students will meet in the band room (or other designated location) at the designated call time in full uniform and will stay for the entirety of the game.

**Concerts-** students will meet in the band room at the designated call time in proper dress code.

Schedule all vacations and appointments around these events. Additionally, students must set their work schedules around these events. Work is not an excusable reason for absence.

**Excessive absences from rehearsals and/or performances will result in a student's dismissal from the band program.**

**Contact Us-** Life happens (i.e. unforeseen illnesses and emergencies); contact the band directors as soon as possible (24hr notice preferred) if you know your student will not be able to make a rehearsal or performance.

### **Private Lessons**

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In order for our band to reach the highest levels of achievements, every member must seek to improve their individual musicianship. We are very fortunate to have a high-quality private lesson program on campus both during and after school hours. All Rockvale Lessons Staff are vetted through Rutherford County Schools' background check program and are leading professionals on their instrument.

All band students are highly encouraged to participate in the lessons program. We can work with our teachers to find an affordable solution for all students.

To enroll, to find more information, or to contact our lessons staff, visit the band website.

### **Band Boosters**

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The Rockvale Band Booster organization exists to support and fundraise for the operations of the Rockvale Band. All parents of band students are members of the boosters and are asked to volunteer in the capacity that they can.