

Dear Students and Parents

Welcome to the Wildcat Marching Band and Guard! Participation in the band or auxiliary is a demanding yet very rewarding experience for any student. By sharing the common goals through superior musical and technical performances, working hard, and supporting one another, we can achieve *TOGETHER* what none of us can do *ALONE*. The Columbia Wildcat Band has had a successful program in the past, and I want to build on from what has been previously done. This year will be great opportunity to grow and mature not only as a musician or guard member, but also as a person. The more you involve yourself, the more you will receive.

There is very little luck involved in success. Bring your best effort to each rehearsal or performance and expect the same from others. In doing so we will find 2020 – 2021 to be a most rewarding year.

Welcome to “Columbia Wildcat Marching Band and Color Guard”

Musically

Paul T. McEntee – Director of Bands

# Mission Statement

The mission of Columbia Band and Guard is to provide young adults an activity that instills; pride, teamwork, motivation, leadership, self-esteem, values and respect recognizing the individuality in talents and contributions of all members. These traits are then carried forward in all future endeavors. Each Band and Color Guard member is regarded as a key player in a highly respected musical unit, reflecting a credit upon the entire organization and school which it represents.

## Description of Activities

### Wildcat Marching Band & Color Guard

This is one of the hardest working groups in the school. The band is a very dedicated and visible part Columbia High School. The year begins with band camp in August. This is the time that you learn music fundamentals, marching fundamentals and start to learn the music and guard work for the show. **This camp is required for all members. If you miss band camp, you do not march in the band.**

The Band & Guard rehearse during regular class time and on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. They perform at all home varsity football games. Each fall the band will travel regionally to a marching band competition. The Wildcats also compete locally at Ridgevue High School, Caldwell High School, and Boise State University. All of these competitions are in September or October.

## Expectations:

Be Wildcats – It is expected that you will represent our district, school, band, and yourself in a positive way. Every action of yours directly affects people's perception of our school and band.

Be On Time – I really want to stress this area. Let's use our time wisely. Students are expected to show up on time by being five minutes early to rehearsals. During that five minute period, students will get everything ready so that we can *start* each rehearsal on time.

Be Prepared – Have everything that you need at every rehearsal, class time, and performance. Pretty simple, but very important. This will help us to optimize our rehearsal time and look our best when we perform.

Be Musical – Our class is first and foremost a music/performance class. You are expected to know all of your music/routine and have it performance ready at the stated times. This will help our band be best that it can be.

Be at Rehearsals – Members are required to be at all scheduled rehearsals. This includes evening rehearsals, sectionals, and any extra rehearsals deemed necessary. If conflicts arise, please make certain you have contacted your section leader *and* the band director to communicate. During marching season, rehearsals are of the utmost importance. We can not succeed as a band when we have holes in the drill.

Members are required to attend performances. It takes a sizable commitment from students and parents to insure successful participation for each student. These performances are one of the main reasons why we practice in the first place. If a conflict arises please make sure that you communicate with your section leader *and* the band director. Missed performances will directly affect a student's grade.