

Hello 2019 Crimson Regiment Member!!!

The 2019 Crimson Regiment season is officially about to step off! We are so excited for this upcoming year. This informational letter is intended to give you a brief overview of the marching band program, as well as explain the expectations, fees, and schedule associated with participation in the group(s).

First and foremost, Welcome to Cedar Valley and more importantly welcome to the Crimson Regiment. The first year of any new organization is so important. Through your effort, integrity, and resiliency we will shape the future success of the Crimson Regiment. We are going to define what it means to be a member of the Crimson Regiment family. Everything from how we hold our instruments, spin our equipment, hold our sticks, right down to the way we play and move will be defined this year. This year’s effort will determine our success. With all of this being said it is important to understand that above all our marching band is a family. A family that cares and looks out for one another. It is a place that is a sanctuary away from all of the trials and troubles that inevitably fall upon students during their high school years. There is no room for ego, maliciousness, or clicks. Over the course of three short months we will spend many hours perfecting 8 minutes of music and drill. During that time, we will grow as a band learning each other’s strengths and weaknesses, likes and dislikes, all the while growing closer as a family that build one another up. Everyone who desires to be a part of the Crimson Regiment family should strap in and get ready for a wonderful year at Cedar Valley.

**GENERAL INFO**

It’s important to understand that unlike many schools around the country, marching band is NOT required here at Cedar Valley High School – it is a completely optional group separate from the concert and jazz groups in the band program. All students can join our marching band and march in the parades and pregame shows at halftime, but only those who pass off all of their music and drill requirements and pay their fees in full by the prescribed time will be eligible for an actual drill spot in the competitive field show. Some students in the band may be chosen for an “A.B. Spot.” Those who are in an A.B. Spot share a drill coordinate with another member of the band. These students will be chosen based on ability to play, march, eligibility, attendance, etc… During rehearsal students will rotate reps with their fellow A.B. Spot in order to learn the show. Prior to a performance the directors will choose who will march the spot based on an overall review of the student’s rehearsal, attitude, and adherence to previously stated criteria. If students are achieving at the same level, then they will split the number of performances as evenly as possible. It is the desire of the directors and staff that every student in an A.B. Spot will perform at least once. Students who are not chosen to perform will still travel with the band to every competition and performance. They will fill in as aid to either move props or help with other logistics which will still serve a vital role in the performance. The justification behind the A.B. Spot is that each student still rehearses the same as any other student. They have the same opportunity to grow in musicianship, skill, and marching while still placing the top performing ensemble on the field for competition.

The competitive field show is learned in the summer and the group performs the field show at various competitions throughout the state and region. If you choose to “opt in” and have your student participate in the marching band, you and/or your child will be responsible for the fees and travel costs associated with the group. These fees are disclosed in this letter on the contract that must be signed and adhered to, and traveling with the group is REQUIRED for those that choose to “opt in” to be a member of the marching band.

Practices during the school year are entirely after school. Since it is a school activity and sport, for those that choose to, your student may register and pay for the PE elective class “marching band,” so that they can receive actual credit for their involvement. Registering for the class is not required. The district fee to register for all performing arts classes is $50.

Fundraisers will be limited and geared towards those that will be the most profitable for your student. The Cedar Valley Band Booster’s Association is working tirelessly on putting these together and information will be provided to all participants in the band as soon as it becomes available. Information regarding this year’s fundraisers, and how the profits will benefit your student, will be provided later. At least one fundraiser is generally geared towards the individual student to offset their fee costs, and others will be for the whole band. Your participation is not required, but rather highly encouraged and expected.

**LEADERSHIP**

A great leadership team is essential to the success of any marching band. The Crimson Regiment will not be any different. Members need so much more than two band directors could provide. Directors rely upon the help of student leaders throughout the season in order to aid members in their success. Leaders focus on a variety of items. They assist in things as simple as loading and unloading equipment, helping parents with uniforms, and copying music and drill to name a few. The largest portion of focus for leaders is morale within the ensemble and seek to grow a positive culture within the program. Some will also be asked to aid in rehearsing sectionals, helping with pass offs, and even directing the band in a conducting capacity. No one position proves to be more important than the other. Success is based upon every person contributing their best effort. It will take everyone to define the culture of the Crimson Regiment. Please also note, there is no favoritism in choosing leadership positions. Members who go through the audition process will be given the same opportunity to earn a leadership position. Again, leadership positions are earned based on merit, not given.

**Leadership Positions:**

* **Drum Majors (DM)**: Liaison between Directors and All other Leadership Positions
* **Percussion, Brass, Woodwind, and Colorguard Captains**: Over the Entire Respective Section, Reports to DM
* **Section Leaders** (Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Mellophone, Trumpet, Clarinet, Flute, Saxophone, Pit, Drumline, Flag, Saber & Rifle): Leader of Individual Sections, Reports to Captains.
* **Percussion Loading Crew Chief (PLCC)**: Head of Loading Percussion and Trailer, Reports to DM.
* **Brass Loading Crew Chief**: Head of Loading Brass Instruments, Reports to PLCC
* **Woodwind Loading Crew Chief:** Head of Loading Woodwind Instruments, Reports to PLCC
* **Colorguard Loading Crew Chief:** Head of Loading Colorguard Equipment, Reports to PLCC
* **Clean Up Crew Chief**: In charge of maintaining organization in Band room, cleaning up after meals, and parking lot after competitions. Reports to DM
* **Field Lining Crew Chief:** In charge of lining field for rehearsals and cleaning field after rehearsal. All things general welfare of field. Reports to DM
* **Uniform Crew Chief:** In charge of keeping uniforms organized and maintained. Reports to DM
* **Librarian(s):** In charge of making copies for drill coordinates, music, and anything else we might need. Also in charge of filling music and maintaining organization of the Band Library.
* **Historian(s):** Tasked to keep an account of rehearsals, events, and performances throughout the year. They take pictures and gather pictures to be used for banquets as well as tasked to create a location for all band members to be able to access each years history, either by website, scrap books, etc…

If you are not chosen for one of the following Leadership positions do not worry. Every member of the marching band will be expected to be a part of a crew. Members will work together to take care of logistical necessities. The leadership audition will be held on April 9th at Frontier Junior High Band Room beginning at 4pm. Students should bring an essay of no more than two pages in length detailing why they would like to be considered for a particular leadership position and what qualifications they possess for the position. Students should also bring 3 letters of recommendation. Please refrain from family members writing your letters of recommendation. More details about this to follow at the Step Off meeting.

**SCHEDULE**

Each year to start off the season we have a “Step-Off” meeting for all the students and their parents. This meeting is mandatory and is extremely important so please do whatever you can to be there. This year it is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 12th, at 7pm** in the Frontier Junior High auditorium.

The marching band’s practice schedule is as follows:

- Two after school rehearsals from 3:00-6:00 pm on Mondays and Thursdays.

- One evening rehearsal from 5:00-9:00 pm on Tuesdays

- 3:00-5:00pm the day of every home football game if rehearsal isn’t already happening

 that day (games are usually on Fridays).

Fundamental weekly sectionals/rehearsals will begin in May and continue throughout the spring and early summer. Basics camps will be held on May 11 & 18 from 8AM to 4PM. A parade rehearsal will be held on May 31st (8AM-5PM) with parades following on June 1 & 8. Your student is allowed **3 total absences to be used at your discretion throughout the season**. They can be requested according to the guidelines in the contract but remember they cannot be during any of the required camp weeks listed below. Please do whatever you can to be at most, if not all, of the practices and performances throughout the season.

**Camps/Clinics Days:**

* + Basics Camps—May 11 & 18;
	+ Percussion Camps—TBD;
	+ Band Camp Week #1 - July 29-August 2nd;
	+ Band Camp Week #2—August 5-9;
	+ Cleaning Camps- September 7 & 21

**Performances:**The competitive-field-show band is scheduled to perform at and/or

compete in the following competitions:

* + Nebo Tournament of Bands at Payson H.S—September 28th
	+ Bridgerland Band Invitational at Utah State University—October 5th
	+ BYU Rocky Mountain Invitational--- October 8th
	+ Wasatch Front Marching Invitational at Herriman H.S.—October 12th;
	+ Davis Cup at Davis H.S.--- October 26th
	+ Mt. Timp at Pleasant Grove H.S.--- November 2nd
	+ Red Rocks State Marching Band at Dixie State--- November 8th
	+ BOA St George at Dixie State--- November 9th

**COSTS**

Like many other programs, the costs of buses, trips, competitions, uniforms, instruments, equipment, staff, food, etc. amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars. We have the biggest operational activity budget in the high school due to the number of students involved. We do everything in our power to budget carefully and spend every dollar wisely and for it’s intended use only. If your student wishes to “opt- in” be a part of the marching band, the fee is **$825**. This fee includes the basic marching band fee for participation, the trip to state finals in St. George, and a uniform rental fee. Here is a breakdown of the fees for your reference:

**Competitive Field-Show Band Fee Breakdown**

Uniform rental fee (to offset future uniform purchases) $25.00

Uniform- polo shirt, gloves, etc. (students keep) $102.00

Equipment, Drill, Music, Supplies, Misc.  $131.00

Camps and Clinics $282.00

Transportation  $75.00

Competitions and Application Fees  $35.00

State Championships/BOA Regional (St. George) $175.00

**TOTAL $825.00**



In addition to the fee’s above, if needed, a charge of $38 will need to be paid to get the marching shoes. The marching shoes brand and design need to be the same for all the students and we want the cheapest price, so we will order them for your child in bulk in the spring. Students playing a school marching instrument will still need to pay the $70 rental fee (for the year- per instrument) as designated by the district for all equipment/instrument rental use. There will be an order placed for all color guard necessary items as well for those new students.

**REGISTRATIONS AND DEADLINES**

To register your student for marching band is the same for all UHSAA athletic teams. Go to the “Register My Athlete” website and follow the instructions indicated on the attached handout. You will notice that one of the required items that need to be completed this year is a physical. This is standard for most athletic teams and is now required for marching band. Due to the physical demands, we want to ensure that all students get checked and cleared by their primary care doctor before the season begins. The actual physical form needed to be filled out is on the register my athlete website. Please only use this form. Others will not be accepted. **More information about the Deadline for the physical will be given at the Step Off meeting on March 12th**.

**All basic registration information on “Register My Athlete” must be filled out by March 12th.** Along with completing this information, a required non-refundable deposit of **$100** should also be paid by May 1st. More information on how and where to pay your deposit will be given at the step off meeting. **All remaining fees will not be due until July 9th**. **Please do not attempt to pay these fees until after July 2, 2017.**

**In Summary- How To Join Marching Band?**

1. Fill out the marching band contract online at Register my Athlete (by March 12th)
2. Pay $100 by May 1st.
3. Completed Physical form due to athletic office
4. May 1st- drop deadline for MB (after this deadline you will be responsible for all basic fees)
5. After July 2nd, pay remaining $725 fees for marching band- NO PAYMENT PLANS!!  (Must be paid in full by July 9th)  \*\* Please turn in a copy of your receipts to the band room office.

Music will be distributed to your student at the weekly sectionals throughout the spring to begin practicing. We as a staff will listen to each student play the music they have been working on periodically. We are merely checking to make sure each student has taken this opportunity seriously, and that considerable work has taken place to learn the warm-ups, parade tunes, and field show music. We do not expect the music to be memorized yet or be 100% accurate and complete. Drill numbers need to be finalized the beginning of May so we are listing the drop deadline as May 1st if you wish to remove your student from participation.

We realize this is a lot of information at once. Emails will be sent out regularly to give you important updates, reminders, and information to keep you and your child in the loop and informed. Please read these emails consistently in their entirety.

Again, we are so excited for this year! You will be the inaugural members of the Crimson Regiment and the first marching band to represent Cedar Valley High School. Let’s set the tone, the passion, and the future of what it means to be an Aviator and a member of the Crimson Regiment.



Respectfully,

Orien Landis Director of Bands, Cedar Valley High School