

Clarification of Clayton High School Band Pit & Props Policy and Procedures

Following the introduction of the CHS tractor trailer a few years ago, and following a potentially serious accident at West Johnston High School shortly after its introduction, a number of policies and standard operating procedures were put into place to ensure the safety, security and well-being of the students, band instruments & equipment, and the pit crew. These included having a trained team to load / unload the trailer and to assist the band through the competition process.

Each year following a recruitment evening held on the last night of Band Camp new people are added to the team to be trained in order to replace those retiring from the program as senior parents, however, there are a limited number of places available. Training takes place 'on the job' during Band Camp, Saturday Camps and at Home Football Games. By the time we go to competitions the team is fully trained in our objectives to ensure the safety of students, instruments, equipment and staff. If, due to scheduling conflicts, illness, etc we are short-staffed at a competition, chaperones may be asked to support the crew on and off the field only – for safety reasons they will not be required for the loading and unloading of equipment. This is arranged by the Head Chaperone and the Pit and Props Coordinator on an 'as needed' basis.

To date, in the 2010 Marching season, we have had several 'near misses' with bystanders in the loading area, and have experienced a number of injuries to pit crew members who were distracted by having to look out for the best interest of bystanders around the trailer and ramp areas, or from having unsolicited help from people who do not know what they are doing. We must therefore reinforce the request for all parents, family members, and band visitors to remain a safe distance away from the trailer loading / unloading area for their own safety and the safety of the students, pit crew and the band instruments & equipment.

Many parents and family members like to visit with the students at the bus parking area prior to and following competition performances, and while this is always welcomed, they are asked to stay out of the equipment loading area, away from the truck ramps and to give plenty of room to the pit crew to enable a safe move of instruments & equipment and to do the job they have been trained to undertake.

While volunteers are always needed and welcomed in many areas for events run by the CHS Band Boosters throughout the year, to ensure the safety of the students, instruments, equipment and staff involved with Pit and Props activity, we ask parents and volunteers to please always follow the above procedure.

Thank you for your understanding. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Greg Worley
Pit and Props Coordinator

CHS 2010/2011 Pit and Props Team Members

Greg Worley	Paul Kimble
Alison Worley	Mike Cole
Ed Withers	Lori Cole
Donnie Moore	Rebecca Cole
David Cawthorn	Jamie Carroll
Jeff Kennemur	John Lipscomb
Jordan Worley	Zan Lipscomb
Laurie Kimble	Carla Cawthorn