

Rex Putnam High School KINGSMEN THUNDER DRUM LINE Drumline Rules and Conduct 2018-2019

*Please take time to read the following and sign the commitment letter and fill out registration on last pages. PLEASE RETURN P. 8 & 9 to your Caption Head, René Ormae-Jarmer

Mission Statement & Philosophy: *Music is an essential part of life, integral in the development of the whole person, and a vital component for the advancement of civilization. A person's quality of life is improved by physical, emotional, social and cognitive growth experiences through a meaningful, sequential study in music.*

The Rex Putnam KINGSMEN THUNDER Drum Line Program strives to provide an environment where students prepare for success in future, whether or not they will become professional musicians. Music class exercises the whole mind, and develops necessary life skills such as empathy, pattern recognition, design/creativity, problem solving, cooperation/competition, long term planning/goal reaching, and self-motivation/discipline. The skills and technical qualities involved in composing, recreating and interpreting works in the fine arts provide for lifelong appreciation.

All students at any level of expertise are accommodated, from the very beginner, to the gifted, future professional musician.

Guiding Principles:

- Learning through music is a lifelong process.
- Some level of competition is necessary. Cooperation is also necessary. Both must be present in equal balance.
- All humankind is inherently musical, therefore, all students, no matter what apparent natural aptitude, can create, experience, and enjoy music making.
- Music reinforces all other curricula by connecting concepts and processes to everyday life.
- Music fosters an environment of acceptance and understanding of cultural diversity. Excellence in music grows from a shared commitment by students, teachers, parents, administration and the community.
- Music making on a daily basis increases one's enjoyment of life therefore, such activities should be joyous in nature.

EDUCATION

Our mission is to educate the students of the Rex Putnam High School. This education extends beyond academic construction to rules and laws imposed by the authorities to maintain a safe learning and extra-curricular environment. Students and their families must be provided with a copy of the handbook and be made aware of expectations of participating on our team. Parents and students should be strongly encouraged to attend any meetings to understand the roles, responsibilities and expectations of the team and the student participating. The parent and student must sign an acknowledgement stating that they understand and will support the expectations set for the program, and that any violation of the expectations could result in being removed from the program.

Like the school district, it is our policy not to discriminate on the basis of religion, race, national origin, sex or handicap in educational programs, activities or services. All students have an equal opportunity to participate and benefit from all academic and extracurricular activities and services. Should your student have any learning disabilities or illnesses, please let the staff know prior to the start of the season so that we may be aware of all needs of our members.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Academics come first before any extra-curricular activity. Good students make great leaders and participants. Your grades come first, so good time management is a skill that must be taught and enforced both with parents and students as well as staff. If we find out a student is making poor decisions as far as time management is concerned, the staff will have a discussion with the parents and that student to find the best solution to be able to participate in our program and keep the grades up. If the student is unable to maintain passing grades in all their class, they may be removed from the group with no refund.

SUBSTANCE FREE

The use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, etc. will not be tolerated. This includes anything outside of practices and competitions. If a student is engaging in illegal behavior of ANY KIND, your parents will IMMEDIATELY be called and you will IMMEDIATELY be suspended from the program upon further review. Not only is it against our policies, but it's against the law. MAKE SMART CHOICES. Drumline is a RPHS activity and is subject to the rules and regulations of the Rex Putnam High School.

INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR

Respect for school officials, coaches, parents and other students is mandatory. Disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated. The Rex Putnam Kingsmen Thunder Drumline staff will always come with a positive attitude and work their hardest for the students. It is also the student's responsibility to do the same.

Good sportsmanship is essential for students, parents and coaches to follow. Criteria:

- Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility, and the privilege of representing yourself, your school and your community.
- Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration, the Rex Putnam High School band program and the staff.
- In the event the drumline goes to competitions, members will learn the basic criteria for which we're judged on.
- Treat opponents the way you would like to be treated.
- Refrain from any kind of derogatory remarks, before, during and after competitions.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of the judges at our competitions.
- It's not about winning or losing – it's about the effort that goes into bringing our show to life.
- Give encouragement and recognition to outstanding performances for all teams.

ATTITUDE

Those students who have a positive attitude, regardless of their individual skills, will always have a place in the drum line. Regardless of your ability, if your attitude is not positive and you are not doing your personal best to make the group successful, you should not be a part of this organization. Almost all shortcomings can be overcome with the right attitude and perseverance. Those who have pride in themselves will usually project a positive mental attitude. Characteristics of a positive mental attitude include a generally cheerful outlook towards rehearsals and performances, cooperation in the preparation and maintenance of equipment and facilities, and an eagerness to do whatever is necessary to be successful. The ideal drum line member is someone who will always give his or her best for the good of the team.

CONFLICT OF RESPONSIBILITY

Being a member of our program is an extra-curricular activity for the student, just like an athletic program. There may be occasions when the student will have a conflict of responsibilities. This is the suggested priority list.

- Family & religious responsibilities
- Academic responsibilities
- Drumline responsibilities
- Other school and social responsibilities

It is our expectation that when a student CHOOSES to participate in our program, he/she will fulfill the meeting, practice and competition requirements of our activity. Simply stated, although we understand you have outside commitments, you are choosing to commit to this program. Any activities you are planning to participate MUST be discussed with the staff prior to their occurrence and season. Failure to do so could result in removal from the program. We do need to act in the best interest of the entire team. The staff will act in a fair and professional way doing what is best for the overall group's success.

ATTENDANCE

- Drumline members are required to attend ALL performances. Missing a performance could result in removal from the group. If a student misses a rehearsal on the same day as a performance, they may not be able to participate in that performance. Special circumstances may be reviewed by the Percussion Director and/or Band Director.
 - Missing a rehearsal could result in non-participation of the next scheduled performance, and/or being removed from the group. The student must contact the director, for any absence prior to the rehearsal. Informing another student of an absence is not tolerated and will be considered an unexcused absence.
 - If a student is absent more than half of the regular school day, they are not allowed to attend rehearsal that day. They must provide a letter from their Parent/Guardian of the absence at the next scheduled rehearsal. An absence marked excused/unexcused is the discretion of the band director.
 - Excessive absences, excused or unexcused, could result in being removed from the group without a refund.
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COMMUNICATION: It is very important that all members respond to drum line emails and BAND APP notifications. Often they contain detailed info regarding performances and schedules. Also, a good group always communicates with the director. If there is an issue, I am available to discuss it openly within the group or privately. Please do NOT hesitate to let me know. This is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT and helps the group to interact smoothly. Communication is key to a group's success and avoiding any misunderstandings.

The following are considered EXCUSED absences:

- **Death in the family**
- **Illness (absence from school is a requirement)**
- **Religious observance**
- **Legal Proceedings**
- **School related event cleared in advance.**
- **Sickness involving a fever or contagious virus or a serious injury.**

The following are examples of UNEXCUSED absences:

- **Employment of the student (students are expected to make prior schedule arrangements regarding activities and employment responsibilities).**
- **Oversleeping**
- **Transportation problems**
- **Appointments not cleared in advance**
- **Simply not following the schedule that is handed out. Each rehearsal ends with a confirmation of the next rehearsal, upcoming performances, or sectionals.**

It is crucial that students participate in ALL rehearsals/performances due to the complexity of this activity. If you miss a rehearsal, you **MUST** get together with another drum line member **BEFORE** the next rehearsal to learn what was missed.

REHEARSALS

Rehearsals are 6:30-9pm Monday and Wednesdays and a monthly Saturday block (SEE SCHEDULE). Students are expected to arrive 10 minutes early to set up and be ready to warm up when rehearsal begins. Watch your email for updates or changes to the schedule. After rehearsal students are expected to put away all equipment after rehearsal has ended. Pad-Out sessions are not required, but highly encouraged. A sliding donation of \$1-5 is suggested. They are held sporadically throughout the year and offer training for all drummers in a more relaxed setting at my studio. I open these up to private students and will use the funds to go towards supporting drum education and smaller drum line expenses (like mileage) that I don't typically get reimbursed for.

NEW: SECTIONALS—Each sectional will be responsible for arranging a weekly sectional to learn material and new music OUTSIDE of drum line. These sectionals are crucial for the drum line to learn music, get used to playing within their own section and for working together as a section. Section leaders will be responsible for scheduling these outside of scheduled rehearsals.

EQUIPMENT

RPHS Instrumental Music Department will provide all the instruments for the drumline. **All members are responsible for owning Ralph Hardiman MS2 Vic Firth sticks.** All Bass Drum mallets will be provided. The equipment needs to be kept in show condition at all times. Marching equipment is very expensive and students must take excellent care of their assigned equipment. Students will be fined the replacement cost for mismanagement of equipment. Students will not be able to take home any percussion equipment unless they are assigned to that instrument, and the student has completed and turned in an Instrument Loan Agreement with either the band or drum line director.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT & SHARING RESPONSIBILITIES

We strongly encourage every parent to be involved in some way in the Kingsmen Thunder Drumline. The RPHS Music Boosters need more drum line parent voices to advocate and help organize fundraisers to offset the expenses of performing and competition. Going into year TEN, help is needed to continue to grow the program through help with fundraising, transportation, and help at competitions. The more help we have the easier it is for all and the more rewarding it is for the members. There will also be opportunities for fundraising for students to earn funds towards their fees. Drum line programs also have general operational costs and many thousands of dollars will be required to grow this program into a more sustainable one. In the past an unfair burden has been placed on a very few people who have done an enormous amount of work.

This year members must participate in a minimum of three fundraisers TBD. Please make sure you are on the e-mail list and BAND APP because this is the most efficient form of communication for the directors and parents organizing fundraisers.

PROGRAM COST: checks made payable to Rex Putnam HS (drumline in memo)

Dues for the 2018-2019 season (August through April) will be \$600 for BATTERY & Front Ensemble (see schedule). This guarantees no less than 63 classes for the battery which includes additional time on Saturday blocks for drill and movement this year. Payments will be quarterly and covers two rehearsals per week AND the once a month Saturday block. PAYMENT IS DUE QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE SO THE INSTRUCTORS CAN BE PAID IN A TIMELY FASHION THROUGH PAYROLL. All pay dates are firm unless prior arrangements have been made directly with René Ormae-Jarmer, Drum Line Director. Failure to comply with the pay dates, without prior agreement, will result in the member being removed from the drumline. Some Grants and resources as well as fundraising are available to help offset these costs (see Director for more details).

Note: In the past, there have been many late payments. In order for this program to run efficiently, please ensure your payments are on time. The cost of this program is significantly less than many sports and arts programs and private lessons (for any instrument). Involvement in fundraisers are KEY. It is rare than any drum line student over the last 10 years has every had to pay full fees due to the options and grant-writing that the boosters and the director offers throughout of the year. This program strives for the highest value to dollar available with experienced specialty teachers, equipment support, and community support. The school district does not fund this program.

WHAT DRUM LINE MEMBERS WILL LEARN : An indoor percussion program is not only educationally sound, it can have a dramatic and positive influence on the total marching & orchestral band program if it is a part of a scholastic group.

In a school situation, the indoor percussion ensemble is a co-curricular or extra-curricular activity that offers participation to both girls and boys. Usually its purpose is similar to that of both a music ensemble and a sports team:

- - To learn how to play and perform
- - To strive for excellence
- - To develop teamwork
- - To learn sportsmanship
- - To achieve the highest possible ranking in your competitive circle
- - To interact with peers from other communities
- - To entertain
- - TO HAVE FUN AND BE AWESOME

Indoor percussion has become a completely unique activity that combines of many of the best elements of a jazz band, symphonic ensemble, marching band, theater production, stage musical, and sports team. These multiple influences combine to create a completely unique performing arts experience. Thus, indoor percussion is a blend of multiple co-curricular and extra-curricular activities that produces "The Sport of the Arts." A valuable experience for indoor percussion performers is an interaction with students from other communities throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia. The success of this activity is rich in those areas and growing in Europe and Asia. This social and competitive exchange with groups of their own age from different backgrounds, lifestyles, and educational experiences adds another facet to their self-perception while creating lasting friendships!

Percussion ensembles have the latitude to perform at a local level with much the same scope as an athletic team, or they may choose to expand and include performances in other parts of the country affording an opportunity for trips visiting historical and cultural sites. A combination of both types of schedules is also possible. Very few co-curricular activities offer students an experience which challenges and stimulates growth on so many levels:

- - Multi-physical
- - Mental
- - Social
- - Time Management
- - Artistic Perception
- - Creative Expression
- - Aesthetic Valuing
- - Team Work

- Group Cooperation: This activity demands musical growth and development involving a variety of core musical skills, standards, and abilities. Students learn to perform for peers and strangers alike. They perform instrumental literature often representing various genres, styles, and cultures. Students are responsible for performing with expression, technical accuracy, sound quality, and articulation. Students also learn how to perform in solo settings, with small segmental ensembles, and as part of a greater overall ensemble production.

Indoor percussion demands physical involvement in both rehearsal and performance involving muscle tone, conditioned response with/to music and other stimuli, simultaneous coordination of head, arms, legs, body stature as well as poise and control while experiencing physical and mental pressure.

The mental training requires multi-levels of thought organization including each student's individual parts of music, how they sound with the other musicians, the portrayal of moods harmonious with other performers and musicians, an understanding of how and why they execute each move, and advance awareness of what the next move/note/step will be and why it is there. The cumulative result of such physical and mental discipline is a student with deeper feelings of understanding, a more disciplined focus (which finds its way into study habits in scholastic efforts), and a higher level of self-confidence.

An indoor percussion program will expand the techniques of those who comprise the music program's percussion section in just the same way that concert band, jazz band, chamber ensembles, and winter guards continue the development of those skills with subsequent impact on the excellence of the music program.

Socially, members learn to function in a group situation setting common goals, cooperating, and striving for success as a team.

The many outlets for performances available to a percussion ensemble, besides contests, include the regular school and sporting events, community showcases, assemblies for special events which will show the activity to the school community. Other students will become more interested in the program; faculty members are always impressed, and the tremendous support for the overall band program. Audiences enjoy the show for its entertainment value. Competition on the NWAPA and WGI circuit (local) is part of a historic, cultural, adjudicated program nationally and globally.

Competition as a Basis to Measure and Appreciate Excellence

Competition in and of itself generates a divided position on the part of many educators who fear a misplaced focus on winning at any cost. Because WGI is based on education, that subject has had careful study and ongoing scrutiny. Competition in this arena is the means whereby we teach the following:

- - Recognition and appreciation of the achievements of your competitors
- - A barometer whereby you may assure achievement against a set of standards
- - A means to recognize your own potential by achieving more than you thought you could
- - Putting competition in a light of discovery and growth rather than winning as a priority

Competition exists in today's world in every walk of life. To prepare our youth with techniques that will keep this aspect in a healthy focus while discovering and enjoying their own excellence may be our greatest gift to them. Within the abundant opportunities for growth, artistic and physical expression, leadership, and self-discipline for your members, the director/advisor also finds the satisfying reward of seeing youngsters realize their potential in such an exciting and positive manner.

CONTRACT

- I have read and understand all expectations listed in this contract.
- I understand that if I do not hold to my part of the contract my position in RPHS Kingsmen Thunder Drum Line may be terminated and all funds and deposits made will be forfeited.
- I also understand that each individual is an important part of the ensemble as a team and the whole ensemble will be hurt by any lack of commitment on my part. I commit to the outside practice requirements and attendance of classes to help make for a successful drumline experience.
- I agree to pay quarterly dues as indicated in the schedule.
- I agree to participate in group fundraisers TBD.

Student signature

Print student name

date

Parent signature

date

As the student's parent, I have read this contract and understand the commitment my student is making and will help him or her meet the requirements stated in order to have a positive drumline experience.

KINGSMEN THUNDER DRUM LINE REGISTRATION & PHOTO RELEASE FORM

Rex Putnam High School, 4950 SE Roethe Rd. Milwaukie OR 97267

It is important to have vital information in case of schedule changes, emergencies, and for accounting. Signature of this form also consents to use of photos of your drum line member for media, fundraising, and general promotion of drum line activities. If you have any special circumstances that prevent your permission of use of likeness, please see the director for an exemption.

Student Name:	Date of Birth:
Street:	City:
Zip Code:	EMAIL:
School Name:	Grade:
Primary Phone (cell or home):	Secondary Phone:
Mother's Name: Primary Contact? EMAIL:	Father's Name: Primary Contact? EMAIL:

Emergency Contact Name/Phone:
Relationship:

Known Allergies, Disabilities
etc: _____

I confirm that all information provided is correct to my knowledge.

STUDENT NAME _____

PARENT NAME _____

Signature of Student (or Parent/Guardian if Minor) _____

DATE: _____