

# Mabank Jr. High Guard

## Information Packet 2022-23 Season

### **What is Color Guard?**

Color Guard is an artistic and performance sport that involves the use of equipment, theatrics, and dance to interpret music. It's the flash of colorful flags; light reflecting off silver sabers and necks craned high counting revolutions of wooden rifles. It is leaps and turns along with eye-popping sets and costumes. When spinning equipment or holding nothing at all, a variety of dance is used in Color Guard including everything from ballet to jazz to modern. Always challenging the performer, Color Guard constantly redefines itself as the "Sport of the Arts."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SFN-fNq3MQ4>

### **Marching Band**

The Color Guard is the section of the Mabank Marching Band that supplies the color and visual interpretation of the music to the show. Most people would recognize this as the "flag corps" of the band. Today, the Color Guard spins so much more than just flags and it viewed as a very important part of a competition band's overall score and placement. Jr. High does not perform with the band, however the guard does perform during halftime at a football game.

### **Winter Guard**

Winter guard is a highly competitive activity where the Color Guard performs without the band. The season begins in November after marching season ends. This sport involves drill movements on a gym floor with members performing complicated dance and equipment routines. The music is usually pre-recorded and can be any style from classical to modern dance to alternative. This is the chance for Color Guard members to perform in a smaller group and learn to connect with their audience more.

### **Questions about the Program?**

**Contact Ramon Parker - Band Director**

[rdparker@mabankisd.net](mailto:rdparker@mabankisd.net) or 903-880-1600

**Eligibility:**

Color/Winter Guard is an extracurricular activity and does fall under the “No Pass- No Play” ruling. Students who are in the guard program MUST have passing grades in all of their classes in order to maintain both eligibility and membership.

**Content Standards:**

At this time there are no state standards for the color guard activity. However, we use the dance standards as a guide because of the close correlation between color guard and dance. During the year we will strive to meet the following standards:

- Learn and execute color guard technique including angles, drop spins, tosses, etc.)
- Use various equipment and props including tall flag, rifle/saber, banner, etc.
- Dance movement technique including lunges, jazz runs, etc.
- Visual realization of melodic line to coordination of elements.
- Understand the correlation and execution between music and routines.
- Assess performances using a criteria based assessment.
- Create a routine of portion of a routine to be used within a performance.
- Be able to explain how participation in dance develops creative skills for lifelong learning and well-being that are interpersonal and intrapersonal.
- Demonstrate knowledge of proper stretching and warm up.

**Course Materials/Financial Obligations:**

Materials are mostly supplied by the music department. All spinning equipment will remain the property of the Mabank High School Music Department and at no time is allowed to be used for anything other than a color guard function unless with Mrs. Haag’s permission. If the equipment used by the student is being mistreated, the music department may require the equipment to be replaced at the student’s expense.

One donation is required from each member: 2 rolls of Electrical tape- black or white. Group members supplying a donation make these supplies available for our Color Guard. Materials needed that are not supplied by the department: 3 brad folder, 5 pages of notebook paper, writing utensil, one athletic all-black outfit and flexible athletic black shoes. (leggings please, no girl shorts). A team t-shirt will be available later on and will be approximately < \$25.

**Behavior Expectations:**

A. **Attendance:** This class will strictly enforce the school tardy and attendance policies. You must be in class and on time to participate fully.

B. **Attendance at Performances:** Attendance at performances is mandatory. Failure to show up to the performance is equivalent to not taking your final exam in any other class. If you do not show up to the performance the highest grade you can expect for the semester is a D, with an N in Citizenship.

**C. Participation:** It is the determined focus of each member that makes for true excellence. Positive attitude is the most important quality. This cannot be measured in any quantifiable term; however, a member's progress, participation, performance, willingness to ask for help and general behavior are some ways in which this grade can be determined. Attendance alone is not enough. A willingness to try, make mistakes, and try again are key. Practice makes perfect! Practice the way the routine should be performed! These are necessary mantras for a squad that wants to attain excellence.

**D. Classroom Behavior:** Students are responsible to create an efficient learning environment. Students who consistently disrupt the class by talking during rehearsal will be warned twice before having detention assigned. Additional problems will be handled through the counselors and may result in the student being removed from the program.

**E. Rehearsal Attire:** Color Guard is an athletic activity. Students need to be in rehearsal appropriate attire every day during class. Athletic clothing should be worn (NO JEANS OR SANDALS WILL BE ALLOWED.) It is impossible for you to fully participate in the activity when you are not dressed appropriately. If this is a problem and becomes persistent, sitting out the entire rehearsal will happen and the participation grade will also be lowered.

**Grading Procedures:**

Participation/Clothing:	40%
Performances/Tests:	60%

Please return the following form to Mrs. Haney, the JH Counselor when you select your courses

If you have any questions please contact me, email is the best way.

**Parent Signature Page  
for Mabank JH Color Guard**

- I have read and reviewed the Mabank Color Guard Syllabus, which contains detailed information about the program at MJHS and agree to abide by all the information provided.
  
- I understand the financial obligations associated with the Mabank Color Guard.
  
- My child must make a serious time commitment to be a part of this organization, attending all rehearsals and performances throughout the year and is a part of their grade. A calendar of events will be distributed.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_