Student and Parent Handbook

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Dear Band Members and Parents,

Welcome to the Windermere High School Band program! We have developed this Band Handbook to help students AND parents gain a better understanding of the workings of the Band program, what we do, how we do it, and your responsibility to the success of the program.

To the Students:

This Handbook is designed to give you information that will enable you to have a highly successful year as a member of the WHS Band program, and give you a better understanding of what it means to be a Band Member. Please read this handbook carefully so that you may understand what is expected of you as a Band Member and what you can expect from the Band program in return. The success of YOUR Band program requires that YOU be 100% dedicated to doing your part to ensure that success. YOU are the most important part of the Band program, and the guidelines, regulations, and information contained in the Handbook are designed to help YOU ensure the success of YOUR Band!

To the Parents:

The success your child enjoys in Band is largely due to your support as a parent. Encourage your child to practice regularly at home, and see to it that they are prepared and punctual for rehearsals and performances. If possible, arrange for private lessons and show your support by enthusiastically attending every performance. You are their most important audience!

In addition, your role in the success of the Band program is immeasurable. No large organization can achieve success without the help of dedicated, enthusiastic, and caring individuals who are willing to help behind the scenes with all that goes into a successful Band program. From attending parent meetings, to fitting uniforms, to helping raise funds, to moving equipment on performance days, chaperoning trips, cooking, sewing, or cheering enthusiastically in the stands; the Band program simply cannot survive without the help of a strong, dedicated parent volunteer group.

Finally, as the Director, I am dedicated to the success of the Windermere High School Band program. I will strive for excellence in all aspects of the organization, and will work to communicate information efficiently and effectively, to conduct rehearsals in a positive and productive manner, and to model the ideals of integrity, responsibility, attitude, passion, and character for which we feel the Band program stands.

Sincerely,

Rob Darragh, Director of Bands
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Membership In The Band

Any student with an interest in music, a quality work ethic, and the ability to meet both the financial and time requirements necessary will be considered for the Windermere band program. The band available to each student will depend upon individual dedication, and audition results. Color Guard and Percussion positions are determined by audition. Instrumentalists may audition for positions in either the Color Guard or Percussion ensembles, but are expected to continue their instrumental studies in a regular band class in addition to their added responsibilities with either auxiliary ensemble. Those who are involved only with the Color Guard are required to enroll the Eurythmics Class. There are financial obligations involved with participation in the band program. Students are expected to be current on all financial responsibilities before being granted membership and acquiring new financial obligations.

Continued membership is contingent on the following:

1. Following guidelines set forth within this handbook.
2. Have a satisfactory attendance record and grades, not be on the fail list.
3. Demonstrate a satisfactory level of improvement, including earning passing marks for any band class taken.

Communication

The WHS Band program has developed several means of relaying important information to students and parents. Each of the following are important links between the Band Director, students, and parents. Please make a note of each our communication lines and stay in the loop.

The Band Office:
Call or E-mail the Band Office with questions or if you should have a conflict. The most reliable way to contact Mr. or Mrs. Darragh is through E-mail at robert.darragh@ocps.net, or lynsey.darragh@ocps.net

The Band Website: www.windermerewolverineband.com

The Band Website should be your number one stop for information about the Band. Newsletters, rehearsal schedules, announcements, music, forms, and the Band Handbook are all available online. Bookmark this page and check it often!

The Band Website also features a “Members Only” section where we post music, recordings, photos, practice tracks, and other important information for members. For security and copyright purposes, the “Members Only” section is password-protected. Contact the Band Office if you do not have the password.
**The BandApp:**

The BandApp is a free downloadable communication application for iOS, Android and desktop. We use this for urgent notifications, schedule changes and breaking news. All students will have their own band app and account login and will be responsible for managing their own information. Parent should have a separate login from their student. Routine communications and updates to drill, music and other essentials will be sent through the band app. Students and parents can access the BandApp at https://band.us.n.aaa014AedeH5V you will need an invite code for access. Ask Mr Darragh or see the Claw Newsletter for a current code.

**The Claw:**

The Claw is a weekly newsletter that is sent to all on the Band student and parent E-mail list, and is also available on the Band website. Most often, the Claw will serve to remind students and parents about upcoming performances, meetings, and announcements, or will direct you to the Band website for further information. A couple of minutes to read through the Claw on the part of students AND parents will go miles towards keeping everyone informed about all of the great activity within the Band program.

**WHS Marching Band page on Facebook:**

Social media sites such as Facebook have become powerful communication tools. The WHS Marching Band has a public page of Facebook to share information and updates about our ensembles to our fans. Click the link on the Band homepage to go to our public page and “Like” us on Facebook!

**Band Parent Meetings:**

These meetings are specifically designed for the parents. You will hear the plans for upcoming events, what our needs are, and how we plan to meet those needs. This is also where we address the “business” of running a Band program. The Parent meetings are one of the best ways for parents to stay involved, participate in discussion, have their opinions heard, see old friends, and meet new ones.

Band activities require numerous volunteers in a variety of functions to be successful. These duties include chaperones; assistance with instruments; uniform fitting and maintenance; “construction” projects; communications; and numerous other responsibilities.

Band fund raising activities are planned by the Band Director and implemented by parent volunteers. They are scheduled throughout the year on an as needed basis.

Additionally, the organization strives to create and foster better channels of communication among all WHS Band parents, and to develop a sense of community and “esprit de corps” among the parents.
Student Organization

Drum Majors
The Drum Majors are the student conductors of the Marching Band. The Drum Majors are selected for their experience and leadership within the Band program, and are given the responsibility of leading their peers in performance, rehearsal, and through their representation of the Band program on and off of the field. The Drum Majors are usually the first line of communication between the Director and the students of the Band during each rehearsal.

Section Leaders
The Section Leaders are responsible for coordinating each individual section of the Band and help the Band Director assess student performance, handle many of the day-to-day “nuts and bolts” of rehearsal, and also help with maintaining a productive atmosphere during rehearsal. Section Leaders may coordinate times outside of the full band rehearsal for their section to get together to work on music, marching, or other “social” events for your section to get to know each other.

Band Leadership Team (BLT)
The Band Leadership Team is comprised of a variety of veteran members of the Band who assist the Drill Instructors, Section Leaders and Drum Majors. These students are selected to the BLT based on their experience as performers and for their knowledge of how the Band program works. Students should use their Section Leader and BLT members as a resource for the Band program. If you have a question or a conflict, need help with a part or need a ride to rehearsal, your Section Leader will probably have the answer.

Parent Volunteer Opportunities
The Windermere High School Band is made stronger with the help of parent volunteers. Parents of all WHS Band and Color Guard students are encouraged to get involved. The Band Director provides the vision and the direction of the band; the parents help support the Band Director and the students to bring the vision to fruition.

Appointed Parent Leaders
The Band Director appoints parent volunteers each spring to the key parent leadership roles. These appointments are made following an application process. The Band Directors make appointments based on applicants’ passion, commitment and dedication to the Windermere Band. All parents interested will fill out an application for the position. The Band Parent Organization Consists of the following positions:

Band Parent Co-Leaders (3-4 people):

- Support Mr. Darragh’s vision. Facilitate communication between band director and band students/parents. Oversee and support all committees’ chairs. Coordinates with student leadership as needed. Meet with Mr. Darragh weekly to keep him on task and gather information for The Claw and any other communications with the band.
- Create and maintain chaperone assignments for football games and competitions. Communicate with WHS ADDitons coordinator to verify chaperones status. Communicates with chaperone weekly during marching season to make sure they know call times and duties. Attends each football game and is able to arrive in time to organize all needed areas for volunteers.
- Create and Maintain Student Bus Lists
• Book rental truck(s) for the football/competition season. Provide Penske with list of locations and mileage (see 2019 WHS Marching Penske Word). Confirming booking each week.
• Maintain Mailchimp band contacts. Work with Secretary on obtaining updated student registrations.
• Respond to Band Emails. If unsure of answer, confirm with Mr. Darragh.
• Write The Claw (band newsletter). Gather information from Mr. Darragh and all committee chairs for upcoming week…this includes researching such as; football opponents, competition details, etc. Proofread by Mr. & Mrs. Darragh, other Band Parent Leadership. Send out Sunday nights or Monday mornings. 5 hours a week
• Create a Sign Up for volunteers to be present at band camps and practices to assist with student needs. Band Parent Liaison should provide training to all volunteers or be present.
• Maintain First Aid supplies for band room and travel backpack.
• Maintain active communication with color guard instructors.
• Work with Mr. Darragh with coordination of any band trips.
• Concert Program

Secretary:

• Takes notes at all Parent Meetings. Posts Parent Meeting notes in The Claw. Works closely with Band Parent Liaison to facilitate registration, band agreements and other administrative functions. Maintain a master registration list and add/drop students as necessary. Assign lockers at beginning of school year. Provide attendance lists to Student Section Leaders during all camps. Make any changes to registration if students drop or add.

Concessions Chair(s):

• Season begins during Band Camp. Meet with Athletic Director to confirm sales times (Varsity & JV Football). Concession area needs to be cleaned and prepared for games. Request volunteers to help with clean-up process.
• Works closely with bookkeeper to get money for shopping and tracking expenses and items sold. Tracks and orders food/supplies to stock concession stand prior to each game.
• Attends home football games and is available to assist concession volunteers as needed. Is responsible for concession money and making sure money gets to band safe (with bookkeeper) following games.
• Will need to be available (or find a volunteer who can be available) during the week when Pepsi deliveries are made.
• Communicates with visiting school band director regarding truck parking, band location, and concessions requirements during football season. This is one of the most important aspects of band because a large portion of the money for band is raised from concessions.

Fundraising Chair(s):

• Works with Mr. Darragh to create the fundraising calendar. This includes fundraising to support the whole band and individual student accounts.
• Takes the lead on all fundraisers by working with the vendors. Communicates as needed with students and parents regarding fundraisers.
  o Arnold Palmer Invitational Booth
  o Band Garage Sale
  o Vertical Raise
  o Friends of Band Disney Volunteers Ears to You
  o Community Sponsors
  o Spirit Wear
  o Pancake Breakfast

Uniform Chair(s):

• Manages measuring students for marching uniforms and concert attire. This includes shoes, uniforms, shakos. Uniform planning begins during mini band camp where students are measured for uniforms and shoes.
• Determine which uniform fits each student. During band camp fit students into uniforms. Provide uniform alterations after fitting.
• Organize volunteers to help with alterations/ironing.
• Manage student leadership with distributing uniforms at events.
• Be available at all games in case of a uniform crisis. Coordinate dry cleaning uniforms at least twice a season. Heaviest during July-August.
• Need to be able to be at school.

Food Crew Chair(s):

• Creates plan to provide meals to WHS band students during hard core band camp, before football games, and competitions.
• Communicates with Mr. Darragh about the plan. Communicates with students and parents ahead of the season with the food plan. Best if there is a crew of volunteers to help.
• Maintains lists of student food orders weekly.
• Makes sure coolers are filled with ice and water before all football games and competitions.
• Puts together small snack pack for students for away games only…needs to be uniform friendly.
• Plans and facilitates concessions during band concerts. This process may change for 2020-2021 school year.

Pit Crew Chair(s):

• Works closely with Mr. Darragh to learn rules of competitions to communicate to crew.
• Confirm truck parking at home stadium.
• Creates group of rotating parents who assist the band during the halftime show and competitions.
• This group brings props, front ensemble instruments and drum major podiums onto/off the field. This is a very physical job.
• This area works closely with props and truck drivers.
• Estimated time commitment: 9 hours per football game, up to 12 hours per competition…could be shared.

Props Chair(s):

• Works with Mr. Darragh on vision of props for marching show.
• Become familiar with competition guidelines for prop specifications. Purchase materials within budget.
• Gather a volunteer committee to build/decorate any props for the show.
• Works very closely with Pit Crew and truck drivers. (Need to find a central place to store and work on props)

Truck Drivers: (Team of 2-3 drivers)

• Drives equipment trucks to all games during marching season, MPA, competitions any other trip requiring transport of equipment that won’t fit on buses.
• Assists student Loadmasters and Pit Crew to load trucks. Picks up trucks from specified location and has at school by call time for each game/event.
• Returns truck to designated place.
• Estimated time commitment: Day of game/competition-pick up truck at 2:30/3:00 stay with truck through game-return truck after unloading.

Senior Night Committee (Team of 3-4 parents (parents of seniors)):

• Team that coordinates senior night events. Communicate with Senior parents and have them make a poster for their student. This is displayed in the band room and then in the stadium the night of Senior Night. Have sashes made or purchase.
• Arrange photographer to take pictures on field before the game.
• Arrange a dinner pre-pictures (optional).
• Work with Uniform Chair to have Senior uniforms available early. Mr. Darragh will have them announced at the end of halftime show.
• For last concert of season, request Senior baby pictures and a SHORT description of student’s achievements and future.
• Estimated time commitment: 2 hours a week from start of football season till Senior Night. Available the day of Senior Night and entire night.
Banquet Committee Chair:

- Banquet is in March/April. Planning starts in December or earlier.
- Secure an offsite location.
- Set budget/ticket pricing. Put together a committee that Mr. Darragh approves.
- Awards are ordered per Mr. Darragh, school letters, special awards, section awards, centerpieces.
- Estimated time commitment: 1 hour a week while securing location. 2-3 hours weeks leading up to banquet.

Middle School Parent Liaison:

- Answer questions and provide help to incoming freshmen.
- Work closely with Mr. Darragh planning Middle School Night (establish date prior to football season beginning).
- Assist Mr. Darragh and middle school directors with New Marcher Camps.
- Work with Secretary to gather registration from incoming freshmen.
- ***New position…time commitment low

Awards and Regalia Chair:

- This volunteer will be the primary contact for all banners, plaques, letters and trophies that are presented to students, sponsors or others. You’ll work with the banquet committee and the fundraising volunteers to secure awards and regalia.
- You will support the band director in collecting students records for school lettering and added pins and bars to be presented to students at the end of the year.
- You will request quotes from trophy companies and request purchase orders from the band directors.
- The majority of the volunteering can be done on your own schedule and at your convenience.
- Estimated time commitment: 2 hours per month except during spring lettering 10 hours.

**Parent Committees**

The Band has several Parent Committees, each focused on a specific need of the Band during the school year. We encourage Band Parents to volunteer their time when able, as the services provided by the Band Parents are crucial to the success of the Band, and help to connect individuals to the larger community of Band Parents. Please consider helping the band out and supporting your child’s musical experience.

- **Uniform Committee** - helps maintain the uniform inventory and fit all students for their uniform.
- **Food Committee** - helps to coordinate the food needs of the Band on performance days.
- **“Pit Crew”** - involves the loading/unloading and transportation of equipment on show days, as well as the actual set-up and tear down during performances.
- **Chaperones** - help supervise the students during travel to games and performances.
- **Fund Raising Committee** – helps coordinate fundraising ideas and opportunities to ensure we have money for trips or additional cost as needed.
- **Prop Committee** – helps plan for and build necessary props for the marching band show.

In addition to the committees above, we often have project-specific needs, such as sewing, construction, grant-writing, and office work that parents help with. Please let the Band Office know of specific skills that may be of benefit to the Band program.
The Schedule

The Band program at Windermere High School is very active, especially during the fall. Having said that, the importance of the rehearsal schedule and monthly calendar of events and meetings cannot be overstated. PLEASE take time to look through the schedule on the band webpage, read the Claw for the weekly schedule and upcoming events, and subscribe to the BandApp for last minutes alerts and updates. We try very hard to make as few changes as possible, and do our best to convey information about the schedule as many ways as possible. Keep the calendar handy and refer to it often.

“Spring Training”

These rehearsals are designed specifically for students who will be participating in the Percussion or Color Guard sections of the WHS Marching Band, and occur throughout April and early May. The “Spring Training” rehearsals allow the Band Staff to introduce the skills needed for performances in these sections, as well as accurately place individual students within each section. See the Band Calendar for specific dates and times.

New Marcher Camps

This rehearsal is designed specifically for all students who will be new to the WHS Marching Band. The Band Staff and BLT members will introduce all new students to the various techniques, terminology, and traditions students will need to master as a member of the Band.

Pre-Season “Mini Camp” Camp

We will kick off the Marching Band season with two full band rehearsals. This is a great opportunity to meet your section members and lay a great foundation for success in the fall! Marching numbers will be set at this time. If you miss camp this camp or band camp, you may not have a dot in the show.

The Summer Sectional Program

Throughout the summer, we may schedule various "full band" and "sectional" rehearsals to help prepare for the upcoming season. These are very important, as they help set the foundation for the Band in the fall. Emphasis is placed on proper technique (marching and playing), learning the music for the show as well as parades, getting to know each other, and most importantly, developing a sense of community and family within the Band. Attendance is expected at all full band and sectional rehearsals. We ask families to try to schedule family trips around the posted band schedule. Should conflicts come up, but we expect you to submit a Prearranged Absence Form as soon as possible.
**Band Camp**

Band Camp is probably the most important time for the Marching Band. The Band really comes together during this time, and we move into high gear with both the music and the marching programs. We start learning the drill for the show, memorize the music, and take care of all the "nuts and bolts" that need to be mastered before the school year kicks off. The Band Camp sets the foundation for the entire fall season. If we get behind or don’t have a successful camp, we spend the rest of the season playing catch-up. **Attendance at Band Camp is REQUIRED.** Attendance at Band Camp is mandatory for participation in the WHS Marching Band, and students who miss camp will not receive a spot in the Marching Band and will be placed on “alternate/reserve” status. Students with conflicts should contact the Band Office as soon as possible so we can try to fix the problem.

**The Fall Season**

Once school starts, the Band starts weekly rehearsals. **For the most part,** rehearsals are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00pm- 8:30p.m., and Saturday mornings from 9am-6pm. There are some exceptions to this rule due to holidays, sectional rehearsal days, or other school functions, so check the calendar. This is the only time we put together the full Marching Band, so they are absolutely crucial to the success of the Band. Attendance at all rehearsals is REQUIRED. If you are not there your spot may be filled with someone else. The Windermere High School Marching Band is part of band class, for which students will receive credit, as it is part of their overall band grade. Attendance will be taken and graded and reflected in your overall grade. If you miss a rehearsal, regardless of the excuse, you will lose the participation points for that day and possibly your dot. Students with attendance problems may lose the privilege of performing on a full-time basis with the Marching Band. Just because you submit an absence form, does not mean it is excused!

**The Marching Band season begins with Band Camp, and concludes following the State Championship performance, BOA Grand National Performance OR last home football game/playoff appearance. Even though it is typically a 1st semester activity, there may be activities that occur in other parts of the year such as various parades or appearances.**

**To be EARLY is to be on time.**

**To be on time is to be LATE.**

**To be late is to be WRONG!**

**Some General Rehearsal Guidelines**

- Be early to rehearsal. Allow time to gather your music and equipment, check in the Band room for instructions, and be in the proper place ahead of time.
- All students need a pencil at each rehearsal.
- All students need a three-ring binder with sheet protectors for all hand-outs, including music, exercises, drill charts, etc. The binder needs to be at every rehearsal.
- Talking must be kept to a minimum. Raise your hand during rehearsal to have questions answered.
- WATER, WATER, WATER! Avoid caffeine (soda, coffee) prior to rehearsals. Caffeine leads to dehydration. Bring a water jug to rehearsal.
• SUNSCREEN, SUNSCREEN, SUNSCREEN!
• Wear comfortable, supportive tennis shoes. Tevas, Birkenstocks, flip-flops, etc., clunky hard-soled shoes, or bare feet, are not acceptable at any time.
• Baseball hats or other wide-brimmed hats and sunglasses are suggested
• EVERYTHING YOU OWN MUST HAVE YOUR NAME ON IT!!

Rehearsal Guidelines For Students:

1. Each student is expected to be on time for all rehearsal/performance functions; By on time, that means early enough to uncase instruments, assemble, warm-up properly and have all equipment ready to begin rehearsal. If you are on time, you are late! If you are late or absent, you may lose your dot.

2. The student is expected to have both their instrument and music ready prior to starting for all rehearsals and performances. You will need to practice on your own. If you show up unprepared, you may lose your dot.

3. Students will answer all staff members with Yes/No Sir/Maam at all times.

4. Students should have a .07 mechanical pencil ready to mark rehearsal suggestions (No ink pens!).

5. Students should behave considerately to whomever is on the podium, whether it be the director, drum major or a guest of the band.

6. When a student or section is being talked to on the marching field by a director, the individual or section will put one hand in the air so the other students and director know who it is being addressed and how it may relate to them.

7. Students should treat school owned instruments like their own. Any loss or damage of the instrument will be the student’s liability and will be assessed accordingly. See Band Equipment Rental form on page 29

8. There are four (4) places your instrument should be (school owned or privately owned)
   • In your hands
   • Lined up in a section
   • Lined up in the cases
   • In your band locker

9. Cell phones are NOT ALLOWED during rehearsal. They may be in your car, locker, backpack or purse. If you need to contact your child for an emergency, you may call Mr. Darragh. The only exception for this is to use the ultimate drill book app for marching band.
**Performance Conduct and Guidelines for Students:**

All members of the WHS Band are expected to conduct themselves with the highest degree of integrity, professionalism, and character at all times when we are in the public for a performance. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated at any time while in or out of uniform or in public and may result in dismissal from the band program.

- Band members are expected to be in the Band room (or other designated area), dressed for the performance, with everything they need, at the call time designated by the Director.
- Make sure all of your uniform parts are clean and fitted properly every time we have a performance. Improper uniform care will not be tolerated. Everyone is in full uniform or everyone is out. Nobody does their own thing, everyone is the same.
- You MUST wear your band t-shirt under your jacket.
- You will be required to wear shorts or spandex shorts, such as a biker shorts, under the uniform pants.
- Make sure your instrument is in good repair so that you can perform to the best of your ability.
- When in uniform: No PDA, No smoking, No swearing, No running (unless told to do so by a Director or staff member). Eating while in uniform is a privilege. Students may not have any food or drinks with color or that are sticky. If this policy is abused, it may be revoked at any time. Soiled uniforms will be dry cleaned at the student’s expense. All school rules apply for everything we do!
- We will always move as a group, and sit as a group.
- Non-Band members are not allowed to sit with the Band (excluding chaperones). Non-Band members are not allowed in the band room.
- While at a performance venue, be considerate of other groups or ensembles that may be performing. Be attentive, considerate, and respectful. We expect them to do the same. Do not ever talk, hoot, or make noises during a band's performance, regardless of marching or concert band.
- Once the performance is complete and we return to WHS, properly put away all equipment and your uniform. If the equipment trailer is being used, all students will stay and help unload. Attendance will be taken and students will be dismissed from the Band room once all equipment is unloaded, and all areas of the school that we have used have been cleaned and checked by the section leaders.

**Uniform Guidelines**

Band Members – During Mini-Camp you will be measured for a uniform and sized for Dinkles and gloves, if needed. At Band Camp, uniforms will be fitted and assigned. Each member will purchase a pair of black gloves and black Dinkles shoes. There is an additional charge of $35-$45 for any child requiring shoes, either for the first time or due to growth. Band members will wear band show t-shirts and dark colored bike type shorts under their uniforms, and wear their black socks for ALL performances. If you do not have required items, you will not march. Drum Majors will need white Dinkles and white gloves and white socks and white bike type shorts.

Guard See Guard Specific information later in the handbook
Uniform/Guard Costume Care Procedures

The following procedures are to be followed by each band/guard member.

• The proper way to wear the uniform is either on or off.... never in-between!!! (unless specified by the Director to be in “half uniform”). At that time the jacket is off and folded over the arm. When wearing the uniform, please look before you sit (even on the bus) to be sure you do not sit in something that will stain the uniform.

• Absolutely NO gum or drinks other than water AT ANY TIME while you are in your uniform or in the band room. Students are not permitted to eat while in uniform, unless otherwise instructed by the directors.

• No baseball hats, tennis shoes, nail polish, jewelry, etc. while in uniform.

• Students (male or female) with hair that extends below the collar of the jacket will be asked to have their hair appropriately put up with hairpins, a hairnet, etc., while in uniform.

• All uniforms/costumes are kept at the band uniform closet. At NO time will uniforms be kept hanging on your locker or anywhere else in the band room, nor will you take your uniform home unless told to do so.

• All pieces of each uniform are numbered and assigned to a student; Each student is financially responsible for the care and accountability of their uniform. The uniform consists of blue bib pants, jacket, black shoes, black socks, band T-shirt, black gloves, gauntlets, and hat with plume.

• No swearing or “public displays of affection” while in uniform.

• Along with the issued uniform, the band student is to wear uniform shoes, black socks, black gloves, dark colored spandex type shorts and a short sleeve band T-shirt at each performance.

• Each student is responsible for hanging his/her own uniform/costume back on the hanger properly and returning it to the uniform closet. If you need instruction on hanging your uniform, ask the uniform officer or your section leader.

• Personal items should not be put into your uniform bag. All students need a backpack or shoulder bag for personal items on performance days

• The Guard will wear black nylon/polyester or yoga pants(as prescribed by CG Staff), in conjunction with the Guard warm-up jacket as part of the “uniform” during the season. The guard will wear the pants/jacket to and from competitions. Guard Jackets are an additional cost to guard members.

• Guard will wear their warmup jackets and pants over their costumes when travelling, if the uniform permits, otherwise the uniform will be carried on a hanger in a garment bag.

Travel To/From Performances

All students will travel to and from all Band events with the Band, as a group. In the event that a student needs to make alternate travel arrangements, the student may be transported to and/ or from a Band event by their parents only, and only after completing a Travel Release Form. Students may not drive themselves or other students to and/or from any Band event without director approval.
Rehearsal Attendance

In order to maintain the high level of performance excellence, we must have full attendance at all rehearsals and performances. In a group activity such as band, every member matters, when you are gone, it hurts the entire group. Please clear your personal schedule so you can attend all practices, camps, and performances. If you are absent or late, your spot may be filled and you may become an alternate.

Missed Performances

The Band Performs as ONE GROUP. There is no “second-string,” and everyone plays “every down.” Every student is absolutely critical to the success of the whole...if you weren’t needed...we wouldn’t put you in the show in the first place! Therefore, attendance at all Band performances is REQUIRED, regardless of the performance activity or venue (ie: Pep Band, Concert Band, Competition, Football Game, Parade, etc.). Students who have an absolutely unavoidable conflict with a performance should contact the Band Office immediately (work, babysitting, etc., are not unavoidable!). Please submit a preapproved absence form and deliver it to the Band Director. Submitting this form does not mean it is excused! You may still lose your dot. Students may be given the opportunity to earn partial credit through completion of a music-related project, but the missed performance will have an impact on the students’ final grade in Band.

Marching Band “Alternates”

All students enrolled in the Windermere HS Band program participate in the Marching Band during the fall. Medical exemptions are dealt with on a case by case basis. Decisions about numbers for the drill have to be made early in the spring, and there is always some fluctuation in the enrollment over the summer. As the Band has grown significantly we have instituted an “Alternate” policy, in which we write the drill for a number slightly smaller in each section than the number of students enrolled. This ensures that we will not have any “holes” in the drill, and that students who are either not quite ready for the physical and/or musical demands, or who are excessively absent, still have the opportunity to participate in the Band while developing their skills for future participation. Students who are listed as “Alternates” (which could also include upperclassmen/veteran members of the Band) will continue to participate in all Band activities, including classes, all rehearsals and performances, but may not have a “marching spot” in the drill. We will make every effort to accommodate all alternates in the field show on a case-by-case basis, as student performance grows throughout the season. If students do not attend the Spring camps, this will adversely affect their spot in the show, meaning they may not have a spot in the show if they are not present at the camps. All band members will pay the band fair share regardless of whether or not you are assigned a dot.
Financial Obligations and Fair Share dues

Students within the WHS Band program are responsible for various fare shares associated with their participation. Please look through these carefully, as not all dues apply to all students.

**Marching Band**

$600.00 per member

Color Guard and Winter Guard may have additional expenses for specialty items.

Folks, running a band program is expensive! Unfortunately much of the cost has to come from the students or we just could not afford to compete. These fees go toward, transportation, camp instructors, color guard staff, percussion staff, music, show design, dot books, props, food, contest entry fees, instruments, and other needs of the marching band members throughout the fall season.

A minimum of $200.00 must be paid by Mini Camp in May. However you can pay the full amount at any time prior to band camp. You can pay on school pay located on the band website, this is the preferred method of payment. ALL BAND DUES MUST BE PAID BY THE END OF BAND CAMP, AND ARE NOT REFUNDABLE, UNLESS JUST CAUSE IS DETERMINED BY THE DIRECTOR, CHANGING YOUR MIND IS NOT JUST CAUSE. Your second installment of $200 is due at the beginning of camp, and the final installment of $200 is due by the end of band camp. If band dues are not paid your student can be dropped from the band program. These dues are the lifeline of the band, and we cannot function without prompt payment. Any issues will be dealt with on a case by case basis with the director.

If a student decides they do not want to participate in marching band, no refund will be made after hardcore band camp. Prior to hard core band camp, a full refund of fees will be made upon written request through the school finance office.

Suggested Payment Schedule for fair share is as follows:

May 29th - $200.00 – (At the Completion of Mini Camp)

July 20th – $200.00 – (Start of Band Camp)

May 29th – $200.00 -- (End of Band Camp)

- Marching Band Shoes: (cost TBA, approx. $35-$45) All wind and percussion students will purchase marching shoes through the Band Office. Drum majors will purchase white shoes.
- Black Gloves: ($3.00/pair) Black gloves are needed by brass and woodwind players only. Available through the Band Office. Drum Majors will purchase white gloves.
- Instrument Rental: ($50/semester; $100/year; $25 for summer) paid to “WHS Band” via school pay for all students requiring a school-owned instrument, to include percussion students.
- Participation: ($600) The costs associated with providing a first-rate Band program exceed $60,000 per year! In an effort to meet these financial needs, we are requesting that each student involved in the WHS Marching Band contribute $600 towards their participation. Funds will be used for, but not limited to, the following:
  - Contest Registration Fees
  - Transportation
  - Copyright Release and Performance Royalties
  - Visual Drill Design
We ask that all students and parents do what they can to contribute to the financial stability of the Band program. The WHS Band program will also provide students several options and opportunities to raise funds to offset dues associated with their participation. Please communicate with the Director any concerns about dues associated with participation in Band. All cases of financial need will be handled discreetly and confidentially.

_Understand that if your student participates in the activity and does not pay the fair share, this carries over on their student account and will be turned over to the county for collection. This may impact your student’s ability to walk at graduation, and subsequently graduate._

There may be other incidental costs members will incur such as the purchase of sticks/mallets, reeds, mouthpieces and/or instrument repairs and rentals. Students will also be responsible for individual fees for All State/All County Auditions, Solo/Ensemble entry fees, accompanists, etc.

**Concert Ensembles Formal Wear Purchase Fee**

All the concert bands will have a tux type of formal dress, these items will be purchased at the start of the school year and will also be setup via school pay. Your child will not be able to perform with the band unless they have the necessary formal attire for their ensemble.

- Wind Symphony - $100-$120.00 - Males; $100.00 - Females
- Symphonic Band – $100-$120.00 - Males; $100.00 - Females
- Concert Band –$100-$120.00 - Males; $100.00 - Females
- Jazz Band wears all black with a splash of color.

**Band Instrument Rental Fee**

- Summer - $25.00
- School Year – $50.00 per semester ($100 for the full school year)

Any Instrument maintenance will be the responsibility of the student throughout the duration of the rental. Any damage to the instrument will also be the responsibility of the student throughout the duration of the rental agreement.

Do not handle another Band student’s instrument or equipment. Any student found to have mistreated, damaged, or destroyed facilities, equipment, or instruments will be held responsible for necessary repairs. “If you break it…you buy it.”

**Instrument Rentals and Insurance Policy**

Students are expected to provide their own instruments, except for the larger or more exotic instruments such as percussion, tuba, baritones, bassoons, oboes, bass clarinets, etc. The School will be charging the students a $50.00 per semester rental fee for the use of a school instrument. Please make your payment on SchoolPay.

The attached rental agreement must be filled out and signed before a student will be allowed to take an instrument. Students & parents are required to sign a liability form for the school instrument they have been
assigned. Loss or damage of school property will be at the student’s expense. This form is found at the end of the Handbook.

Parents please make sure your homeowners insurance covers your student’s musical instrument. Unfortunately with the large number of students involved in this type of activity, accidents can happen. Carrying insurance on your student’s instrument may help if an accident occurs.

**Locker Lock Policy**

Every student will be assigned a locker. Each locker will have a combination lock assigned to it. Should this be lost, there will be a $10 charge to replace it. If locks are not available thru the school, the student will have to provide their own lock, and the combination will be given to the director. If a student forgets their lock combo and for some reason the director does not have the combo, the lock may be cut off with the master key.

**Winter Season Activities**

If your student participates in Winter Guard or Winter Drumline, there will be an additional fee charged at that time. Please note - your marching band fees must be paid in full before you will be allowed to sign up for a winter activity. The fee will vary from year to year depending on the group you are in and the amount of travelling that group does for competition.

**Solo & Ensemble Amounts, Due date TBA Costs may vary**

Solo (per student) $10.00.

Ensemble (per student) $10.00.

State Solo & Ensemble Amounts are estimated at $14 per solo or ensemble.

Additional fees may be incurred by various activities such as all-state band participation.

Students are solely responsible for hiring an accompanist and making arrangements to rehearse with them in preparation for Solo and Ensemble. Students will negotiate a fee and pay their accompanist directly.

**Ensemble Descriptions and Required Equipment**

**Fightin’ Wolverine Marching Band**

The marching band is the primary performing ensemble in the fall. The group consists of the wind students (woodwind & brass), color guard, and percussion (front ensemble & battery). The marching band will attend and perform at all home football games, various away games, pep rallies, parades, and competitions. Rehearsals outside of class will primarily take place on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and Saturday mornings. After the competitive marching and football season, rehearsals will be scheduled as needed to prepare for special events.

There is a financial obligation each student will be responsible for to be considered an active participant in the marching band. Specific fees will be known near the end of the school year for the upcoming summer and school year.
Required Materials for the Wolverine Marching Band and all concert bands include:

- **Brass**
  - Appropriate mouthpiece
  - Valve Oil
  - Slide Grease
  - Instrument Polish
  - Chromatic Tuner & Metronome Combo
  - Black 3-ring binder
  - Sheet protectors
  - Pencils - Mechanical .07 is recommended, minimum of two
  - For brass players a “BERP” is required. These are helpful when doing mouthpiece exercises.

- **Woodwinds**
  - Appropriate mouthpiece, ligature, and reeds
  - Cork Grease
  - Cleaning Swab
  - Instrument Polish
  - Chromatic Tuner & Metronome Combo
  - Black 3-ring binder
  - Sheet protectors
  - Pencils – Mechanical .07 is recommended, minimum of two

- **Color Guard**
  - As defined by instructor – See Color Guard section ****

Instruments/equipment provided. Rental fee of $50.00 are required for instrument per semester.

- Bass Clarinet
- Tenor Saxophone
- Baritone Saxophone
- Marching French Horn
- Marching Baritone/Euphonium
- Marching Tuba/Contra
- Battery (Snare Drums, Tenor Drums, Bass Drums)
- Front Ensemble Instruments (Pit)
- Color Guard Equipment (Rifles, Sabres, Flags/Silks)
**Wind Symphony**

The Wind Symphony is the top performing ensemble at Windermere High School. Students in this ensemble typically practice 5-7 days a week for 1-2 hours a day on their own time. Music is very challenging and expectations are extremely high. Members of this ensemble are enrolled in private lessons, and participate in all-county auditions, all-state band auditions, MPA, and other contests. Attendance is mandatory and will be graded. Students who do not meet performance expectations for this ensemble may be removed at the discretion of the director. Membership is by audition only and approval from the director. All students in this ensemble will be required to purchase formal wear.

**Symphonic Band**

The Symphonic Band is the intermediate ensemble at Windermere High School. Students in this ensemble typically practice 3-5 days a week for 1 hour a day on their own time. Music is challenging and expectations are high. Members of this ensemble are enrolled in private lessons, and participate in all-county and all-state band auditions. This band will compete in MPA contest as well as other off site contests. Contests and Concerts are mandatory and will be graded. Students not meeting performance expectations may be removed from this ensemble. Membership is by audition only and approval from the director. All students in this ensemble will be required to purchase formal wear.

**Concert Band**

The Concert Band is the developmental ensemble at Windermere High School. Students in this ensemble typically practice 3-5 days a week for 1 hour a day on their own time. Music is designed to build technique and skill to allow students to be competitive with other high schools. Students work scales, long tones, tuning, and technical studies through a variety of literature. Mastery of necessary skills is essential to move up into the next band. This ensemble is open to all students with middle school band experience. Students in the state band auditions. This band will compete in MPA contest as well as other off site contests. Contests and Concerts are mandatory and will be graded. Students not meeting performance expectations may be removed from this ensemble. Membership is by audition only and approval from the director. All students in this ensemble will be required to purchase formal wear.

**Typical Brass Mouthpieces for concert ensembles**

Trumpet: Bach 5C or 3C  
Horn: Holton Farkas MC or Yamaha 30  
Trombone: Shilke 51D or Bach 5G  
Euphonium: Shilke 51D or Bach 5G  
Tuba: PT-48?, Conn-Helleberg or Yamaha 18  
For brass players a “BERP” is required. These are helpful when doing mouthpiece exercises.  
Brass – Cup Mute, Harmon Mute, Straight mutes
Woodwind Players: All students should own their own mouthpiece regardless of whether you use a school owned instrument or not. The mouthpiece can be one of the most important investments in the overall sound of the instrument you play. Here are some brand and model suggestions from our staff:

Clarinet: Vandoren M30 or B45
Alto Sax: Vandoren AL3 (and ligature)
Tenor Sax: Vandoren TL3 (and ligature)
Bari Sax: Selmer C* or Yamaha SC

All woodwind players, including oboes and bassoon, should have at least 3-4 good quality reeds with them at all times. Vandoren and Mitchell Leary reeds are very high quality and consistent.

**Percussion Ensemble**

Percussion Ensemble is a course that will be offered during school hours and is listed as a band class. This class is open to all instrumentalist with director approval. This course teaches basic percussion skills, and performs a variety of literature designed specifically for a percussion ensemble. All students are required to purchase the items listed on the percussion needs page of this handbook. **Students MUST own their own mallets and sticks!!**

**Eurythmics**

Eurythmics class is designed for our color guard and emphasizes various body movement, flag, rifle, and sabre technic. All personnel in the course are required to be in marching band and winter guard. Additional purchase of warm-ups or other various equipment may be required.

**Wolverine Jazz (Jazz 1)**

The Wolverine Jazz band is the top performing Jazz ensemble at Windermere High School. All students in this ensemble must be enrolled in a concert band ensemble. This ensemble is by audition only. Students in this class have a very high standard of jazz technique, improvisation skills, and various styles utilized in a competitive nature at various venues throughout the nation. This ensemble competes at MPA contest both regional and state. Additional instrument specific equipment may be required to be purchased. There will also be a custom uniform that will need to be purchased as well.

**Jazz 2**

Jazz 2 is the intermediate Jazz Ensemble and is by audition only. Students must be enrolled in a concert band class to take any jazz band. Students in the class will learn various jazz theory concepts, soloing and improvisation techniques, and a variety of different style music. Students in this jazz class may be required to purchase additional equipment that is specific for jazz performance. Such items could be but are not limited to a different mouthpiece for woodwinds or brass mutes. There will also be a custom uniform that will need to be purchased as well.
Jazz 3

Jazz 3 is the developmental Jazz Ensemble and is open to all students that are currently enrolled in a concert band class. Students in the class will learn beginning jazz theory concepts, soloing and improvisation techniques, and a variety of different styles of music. Students in this jazz class may be required to purchase additional equipment that is specific for jazz performance. Such items could be but are not limited to a different mouthpiece for woodwinds or brass mutes. There will also be a custom uniform that will need to be purchased as well.

The Top 13 Things You Should Know as a Student
(BAND MEMBERS SHARE WISDOM AND SURVIVAL TIPS)

1. ALWAYS be on time, which really means 15-20 minutes early.
2. When in doubt, stop talking.
3. Show respect to everyone and listen to what ‘veterans’ have to say. They’re probably right.
4. Don’t expect to know everything the first day. Even people who have marched before still have things to learn.
5. Take things seriously, but not TOO seriously. In the end, understand that it is only high school marching band!
6. We are very good at what we do because we can focus when we need to.
7. Stay well rested, fed, and hydrated.
8. Always have all your materials on you or close enough that you can get them quickly.
9. Know how to work, but also know how to relax. Know that the two NEVER occur at the same time, EVER.
10. Keep up on your schoolwork. Take every opportunity to do your homework. On the bus, extra time in class, at appointments — do whatever it takes. Be as productive as possible.
11. You will be called out eventually. Don’t be afraid. When it happens, just speak up and don’t worry about being wrong.
12. Always trust the instructors. Especially when you think they aren’t right. They are rarely wrong.
13. You may want to quit. But DON’T! Dedication and hard work go along way! Practice!!
10. Please don’t complain in a public forum, remember you are probably only getting about 30% of the facts from your student. Complaining in public about things you do not understand is unprofessional. If you have an issue, please get the facts and ASK QUESTIONS.

9. Your student is probably more capable than you realize. Even if you have all the time in the world, you will start to feel like a personal servant if you don’t ask your kids to take some responsibility for their own stuff. Water jugs, lunches, props, laundry -- it never ends. Your student can make a sandwich, fill up a water jug, and set out their ‘stuff’. If you are inclined, help them create checklists so that they remember everything they need to bring. It will be a lot of stuff, so be ready.

8. Get out of the car and come join us. Adults can enter the band room after signing in at the main office. Be respectful of practices going on, but come on in and see what is happening. Frequently, there are parents working on projects or hanging around. It is a great time to make introductions and let people know you are new to the band program and would like to get involved. Park the car and come down to the field. The last 15-20 minutes of practice will be a run through of what the kids have learned so far, but you will find parents watching most rehearsals. Watching the evolution of the band and the kids is really inspiring.

7. Learn to manage your time and teach your student how to manage theirs. You WILL be busy -- especially from August until the beginning of November. You will receive calendars in the Claw and in emails, but you MUST find a way to keep track of everything. More importantly, your student will have to balance band and school work. Many of the band kids are honor students, and the time management skills they learn will help them throughout their life.

6. Bring cash, clothes for foul weather and something to sit on. Most school functions require that you bring cash. Invitations (defined later on) charge admission, anywhere from $5 to $10 per person. Children under 5 are usually admitted free. You MUST bring cash. Concessions are cash only, as are some souvenir vendors.

5. Take care of your Band Parent Volunteers. If you would make a drawing of the perfect Band Parent Volunteer, she/he would have six arms, three heads, and a heart of pure gold. Remarkably, Band Parent Volunteers accomplish amazing things without the extra appendages. These are the people who dress your student, fix their hair, and hand out band-aids. They dispense wisdom, encouragement and snacks with laughter and generosity. They are the people on the front lines who make sure your student is ready to go on the field. This is a job that deserves far more recognition than most understand, so please ask how you can assist.

4. Band Directors are people, too. But they are BUSY people. They work long hours and their main focus is the kids. If you have a specific concern about your child and the band program, set up a time to discuss it. If you need general information, directors are probably not your best resource. Check the Claw and the website or try a fellow parent first, or ask a Band Parent Volunteer. On another note: Marching band requires dedication and discipline from your student. The job of the director is to help your student excel in band. The director may speak loudly, pointedly and sometimes without pleasantries. When mistakes are made, especially due to
inattention or lack of effort, there are consequences. Try to relax and allow the process to work. Encourage your student to do their best, listen, and work hard. Everyone wants your child to be successful. You will learn this as you move through the season.

3. We can’t do it without you—volunteer and come to the parent meetings. You will be asked to commit time, energy, donations and the band fees to the band program. Unlike many sports programs, the Wolverine Bands must have parent volunteers for the programs to run smoothly, and it is the best way to get to know others. Plan to attend as many parent meetings as you can. Mr. Darragh usually addresses the parents with updates on the show and will answer parent questions. It is time well spent. About volunteering ... no experience necessary. No, REALLY! There are tasks that require specific skills, but most opportunities do not. If you can pull a water from a cooler, flip a burger, use scissors, sew or build props - you have all the skills you need. Better yet, there is so much to do, you are bound to find something you actually enjoy doing. You will be helping keep YOUR band fees down and have fun doing it. Trust us, we’ve been there.

2. READ THE CLAW, CHECK THE BAND APP, AND VISIT THE BAND WEBSITE!!!! When in doubt, ASK YOUR STUDENT. This could be said a thousand times and still not be said enough. As the season progresses, you will get multiple messages each day. READ THEM. CHECK THE BANDAPP DAILY AND HAVE YOUR STUDENT CHECK TOO. If you are completely lost, you can ask a Volunteer Band Parent for more info.

1. Yes, it’s worth it! All of the rides, time, and effort that as a parent, you put into getting your child to practices are worth every second. Your student may get discouraged at first. There is a lot of repetition, hot sweaty days, failures, and disappointments. Then the show starts to come together and everything changes. There is a new energy, a new excitement. This is the point where they will either LOVE band, or plan a different activity next year. Most of the kids LOVE band by the end of the season, so make them tough it out for the whole season. It will be worth it!

**BAND FEES AND FUNDRAISING OR “TAKIN CARE OF BUSINESS”**

Fundraising is a combination of things; Some activities involve selling product to your neighbors, family, and friends, publicizing an event and working at an event. Other activities require you to complete a task in order to enjoy the benefit. How you participate is based on your needs and your comfort zone. It is important to remember that fundraising is very important and can make the difference whether or not the band has an overnight trip or takes charter buses or yellow school buses. Fund raising makes a difference for everyone, max participation is HIGHLY encouraged!

This year, there will be a band app page for parents and students and one for just the students.

**COMMUNICATIONS: How Do I Find Out What is Going On?**

Marching Band Parent Meeting; Usually each quarter

Check out the band website at [https://www.windermerewolverineband.com/](https://www.windermerewolverineband.com/)

Sign up for the CLAW on the band website.

Sign up for the BAND APP at [https://band.us/n/aaa014AedeH5V](https://band.us/n/aaa014AedeH5V)
**Attendance Policy**

Attendance is **mandatory** at all band rehearsals and performances! Any problems will be dealt with on an individual basis. Any absences from all or part of a rehearsal, summer, fall or winter, spring will require a approval from a band director. A doctors note may be required for a student to be out and to return to the activity. Vacation absences are typically not excused. Most families vacation in June. Notes must be placed in the appropriate drop box outside the Mr. Darragh’s office door. Documentation for anything should be turned in 2 weeks prior to the event. Not all absences are approved. That will be at the discretion of Mr. Darragh. Students with jobs will be expected to be at all rehearsals, inform your employer accordingly. If the student is absent or late, it is the directors discretion to fill their spot or not. If you miss a rehearsal during the week you may be “benched” for any upcoming performance at the directors discretion. If there are alternates waiting for a spot and you have an unexcused absence, your spot may be given away to an alternate!

**Bus Carry-On Policy**

NO GLASS CONTAINERS!

You can have:

1. Bottled water or other sealed, clear, drink
2. Jacket or sweatshirt and pants for cool late nights
3. Necessary band items and personal items
4. Pillow and/or blanket

5. HOWEVER - NO BAGS ALLOWED IN FRONT OF EMERGENCY DOORS OR IN THE AISLE OF THE BUS. Please Note: There may be times the band performs twice in the same day at two different locations. This means that students must have enough food for more than one meal and may not have the opportunity to purchase food. Please make sure your child is prepared to make their day a success.
Physical Guidelines Policy

The Fightin’ Wolverine Marching Band requires a high degree of physical training and conditioning. It is part of the curriculum of this ensemble to develop and maintain a certain level of athletic coordination and conditioning. There are several guidelines the staff and students need to be aware of and follow.

- All students and parents are aware that physical conditioning, training and endurance are an integral part of the skill sets required for any type of success of the extra-curricular or co-curricular activities.
- All of these ensembles will require a certain level of physical ability to participate and thrive in the extra-curricular or co-curricular ensemble. Inability in certain areas of physical training or conditioning could jeopardize the student’s ability to actively participate in one of the extra-curricular or co-curricular activities. These issues could be because physical skill sets or medical reasons.
- Students who have medical issues should have their doctor’s permission to participate in any of these extra-curricular or co-curricular activities. In addition the student and or parent should discuss the situation with the director of the activity prior to any rehearsals or practices. It will be at the discretion of the Unit Director to proceed or disallow the student’s participation in any situation that might put the director, the band department, or OCPS at risk or liability for any injuries or medical situations.
- If there is a medical emergency, the Band Director will take appropriate steps and procedures to alleviate the situation to include contacting the appropriate authorities and/or parents.

Use of Physical Skills as Reinforcement.

- It is the tradition of the Fightin’ Wolverine Marching Band department to use physical skill sets as a way to reinforce positive and negative aspects of any of its extra-curricular or co-curricular activities. Students may give themselves one of these skill sets as a way to reinforce concentration and excellence. However that should not take away from, or disrupt the rehearsal. A standard reinforcement would be 10 pushups.
- Student leaders may deem it necessary to give reinforcement information at times, but should always do so with careful consideration. Under no circumstances should any student run more than 1 lap or be given more than 10 pushups as a result of this reinforcement.
- Staff members may deem it necessary to give reinforcement information at times, but do so with careful consideration. It is considered acceptable to give 1 lap, or a set of 10 pushups, or a set of 25 sit-ups, or a set of 50 jumping jacks as a result of this reinforcement.
- Students are not to be pushed beyond what would be considered a normal scope either for conditioning or reinforcements. This is a physical activity and all reinforcements are for strength and endurance building purposes.
- Students who feel they are being pushed beyond their ability to maintain a personal safety level of physical exercise should stop immediately. They will not be punished for being unable to complete the physical skill set that is being required of them. Alternative reinforcements can and will be found to alleviate the unsafe situation.
Rehearsal Clothing Guidelines

Students should wear comfortable clothing to all rehearsals. No open toed shoes or flip flops are allowed. Most students wear shorts and t-shirts during marching rehearsals. Males are allowed to remove their shirts (when outdoors) as the temperatures increase in the summer months. Please be careful to utilize sun screen and avoid damage to your skin. Females - School administration has said that acceptable female attire can be a sports bra, and spandex shorts (when outdoors), the same as the volleyball and soccer teams wear in their practices. All items of clothing MUST FIT CORRECTLY!!! Or you will be asked to change and/or cover up. Socks and good, supportive, athletic shoes are required attire. Please listen to weather reports in the morning or evening and plan your attire accordingly. In the evenings it can get cool, plan accordingly. Come prepared with insect repellant. When after school rehearsals begin, you must bring proper attire to change into if your school clothes for the day do not fill the requirements for rehearsal. Students in the color guard should check with their director for the appropriate dress style.

HOT FUN IN THE SUMMER TIME: SUMMER PRACTICE BEGINS!

Your child will need a blue one-gallon thermos, sunscreen, GOOD tennis shoes for marching, and gloves if they play a brass instrument. Make sure the shoes have good support and are in good repair. NO FLIP FLOPS, SANDALS, CROCS, BIRKENSTOCKS, or OPEN TOED SHOES. Consider a hat and maybe sunglasses to protect them from the sun. They need to be prepared for all types of weather. We do practice in the rain!

Most kids are required to have their dot book on a lanyard with them at all times. The students can even carry their black binder over their shoulder with a strap, messenger style, if they can find one, you can buy one. Otherwise you will have to adapt an existing binder with page protectors with a strap. Some kids use shoestrings wrapped around the binder. Some attach luggage straps. The point is it has to be sturdy because they will use it all season. It’s nice if they can zip the binder up so the pages don’t fall out.

The students will be responsible for buying an index card binder to be used as their dot book. This will be used to keep track of their drill sets. It will be attached via a lanyard shoulder strap and, ideally, a waterproof cover. Old purse straps, shoelaces, and cord make workable alternatives. A .07 Mechanical Pencil will be tethered to their dot book by a string or other method.

The Director will supply more information as the season progresses, but at times it feels a bit like a scavenger hunt. Wind players will be required to get a ball valve, for breathing exercises. Brass players will be required to have a “Berp” mounted on their instrument for buzzing exercises. Ball Valves you may purchase at most larger hardware stores.
A word of warning: Practice, especially the early days, can seem a lot like boot camp. Endurance training like running and push-ups help the kids get physically ready for some very long days ahead. For some children it is a very intense experience that can leave them feeling frustrated and off balance. How you handle this is likely based on your parenting style and your child’s personality. Try not to blow off your child’s concerns, but try to keep in mind there are some valuable life lessons to be learned about working with others. Talk to them, support them and encourage them to hang in there. Only you really know your child and whether this program is going to be a good fit. Before you make any final decisions, talk to the directors and maybe an experienced band parent. Perhaps they can offer insight and suggestions on how to get past this hurdle. Keep in mind that many times your child is more capable than we give them credit for.

Drop off times: On time is late. The band must be on the field (or their designated practice space) with their instruments, ready to go by the time practice starts. Please plan on having your child at the school at least 15 minutes before the start of practice. Earlier is even a bit better. Occasionally, a section will have an earlier than usual start or a scheduled sectional. Your child should know about this in advance and keep you informed. It helps to keep checking in with your child because they get busy and they do forget.

Pick up times vary after practice and a lot depends on what your child plays in the band. If practice ends at 8:00 pm, the band still needs to put their instruments away. Some sections have a brief section meeting right after practice, and members of the pit need to move their equipment from the field to the band room and put it away. Do not be surprised if 8:00 is really 8:15 or 8:30. The pattern is pretty consistent throughout the season and rarely do practices end early.

Saturday Mornings: Most Saturdays are great times to stroll into the stands and appreciate the band’s progress as we will usually be at the stadium. You will watch the show evolve and sit in awe of your child’s accomplishments. There is something really great about watching the Wolverine Marching Band from the home stands.

**GUARD SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

**Attire** - Each member should plan to keep extra practice clothing in his/her locker as well as a light jacket. Guard members are allowed to wear sports bras as well as spandex shorts. **All garments must fit properly!!** The Guard is expected to have appropriate rehearsal clothing for their 7th hour class; Do not come to practice in dress clothes. Black leggings (yoga pants) are also acceptable attire. Depending on the costume, Guard members will possibly need to purchase specialty undergarments such as shapewear and strapless bras, etc. Tennis shoes (with an arch) are required for practice (girls should be able to see their toe point in the shoe, so no converse, Toms, etc).
Percussion Needs For Band Classes

During your student’s time in the band program and percussion studio, they will be learning a number of different instrument. Each of these instruments require specific types of things to hit them with. As a result, the student will need to acquire a number of different sticks, mallets, and beaters through the course of their time with us.

Below is a “getting started” list that each student should have on the first day of classes:

- **Timpani Pitch Pipe**
- **Black 3-ring binder**
- **Sheet protectors**
- **Pencils - Mechanical .07 is recommended, minimum of two**
- **White Stick Tape for snare sticks**

**Drumsticks**
- 1pr Vic Firth SD 1 Generals General Use Concert Snare Drum Stick
- 1pr Innovative Percussion Field Series FSPR2 Paul Rennick Marching Sticks

**Timpani Mallets**
- 1pr Vic Firth T1 Generals All Purpose Timpani Mallets

**Percussion Mallets Including**
- 2pr (4 mallets total) Innovative Soloist Series IP300, IP240 or similar (subject to directors approval)
- Medium Vibe mallets and Xylophone mallets

Stick Bag (Standard) - A bag designed to hold on to all this stuff!! THIS IS A MUST!!!

It is very easy to misplace these items!

Vic Firth 12” Double Sided Practice Pad or Similar; a quiet, inexpensive alternative to a drum

As we get deeper into the program, they will be required to attain a few more items. As we progress through the years we will get into the larger repertoire and many different genres of music. Each genre requires a specific sound and because we hit the instrument, we need many levels of hard or soft sticks to play with the desired expression and volume for each genre.

Cost Break Down from Steve Weiss Website:

SD1 Generals $7.95  
FSPR2 Marching Sticks $9.95  
Timpani Mallets Vic Firth T1 $24.95  
2pr (4 mallets) Innovative Soloist Series IP300 or similar $30.75/pair = $61.50  
Stick Bag $16.95 and up depending on what you buy.


Timpani Pitch Pipe $18.95  
http://www.steveweissmusic.com/product/30067/metronome-tuner

Vic Firth Practice Pad $32.95

Windermere High School Band Uniform Agreement

This form has to be returned to the band department signed by both parent and student in order for a uniform to be used by a student.

I understand that the school has provided a complete uniform and garment bag for all high school band members to use. In order for this uniform to last a period of at least eight years, there are certain responsibilities that each student will have to assume.

Those responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Uniforms will not be taken home at any time.
2. All students will be required to change in and out of uniforms in the band room.
3. Any damage due to the negligence of the student will require replacement or repair at the discretion of the band director and at the expense of the student.
4. Students will NEVER eat in uniform
5. Students will wear the uniform as indicated by the band director, all on, all off, bibs only…etc.

Listed below is the cost of each item. Realize that this was the original bid price of the uniform and the current replacement cost may in fact be greater.

If individual items have to be ordered, the cost could be considerably greater than the amounts listed. (If you take care of your uniform, this will not be an issue).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issued Uniform Items</th>
<th>Uniform Replacement Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coat Number - _______</td>
<td>Coat - $210.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibs - _______</td>
<td>Bibs - $110.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gauntlets - _______</td>
<td>Gauntlets - $50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shako - _______</td>
<td>Shako - $65.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shako Box - _______</td>
<td>Shako Box - $50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plume - _______</td>
<td>Plume - $25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garment Bag - _______</td>
<td>Garment Bag – $25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Garment Hanger – $20.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Uniform Replacement Cost - $555.00
Uniform Wear and Care Instructions

1. Do not machine wash any of the marching band uniform items (They are dry clean only).
2. No one is permitted to take home their uniform without being instructed to do so by the band director. If the uniform becomes muddy or dirty, students may be asked to have it dry cleaned.
3. Hats will remain in their cases unless they are being worn.
4. Do not ever put your shoes in the same compartment as your uniform or gauntlets, they will stain them!
5. Understand that dry cleaning is at the student’s expense, approximately $12-$15. Uniforms will be dry cleaned regularly throughout the season. Usually halfway and then again at the end of the season, however this is an as needed basis, and it could be more often. Students may be issued their uniforms to have it dry cleaned at the discretion of the band director. Dry cleaning costs will be the responsibility of the student.
6. Uniforms will be inspected before all performances. Demerits will be issued for uniform discrepancies at inspections.
7. Never leave your uniform on the floor, or bus, or out of place (meaning not in the uniform room), uniforms must be on hangers at all times.
8. Uniforms will be worn properly and completely at all times required. This includes zipping zippers, no makeup, no jewelry, no nail polish, proper clean and polished shoes and gloves, nothing pinned on the uniform, and hair will be up above the collar and in the hat when hats are on.
9. All students will wear athletic shorts (could be biker shorts or spandex appropriate in length to be worn without uniform on), band shirt, or show shirt (this will be specified by the director), black socks, and polished black band shoes. In colder weather, long sleeves or pant may be acceptable as long as they do not cause the uniform to bulge, impede movement, or go past the extent of the uniform sleeve or pant.
10. Woodwind fingers must be cut at the first knuckle from their gloves.
11. Eating while in uniform is a privilege. Never eat or drink anything that has color, is sticky or could stain. Accidents may cause you to need to clean your uniform at your expense. This privilege may be rescinded if abused.

Parents will be responsible for any damaged caused by negligence on the part of the student, and will pay for repair or replacement of any lost damaged uniform item while in their child’s possession.

I Understand that I will be responsible the proper cleaning and maintenance of my uniform I understand that I will have this uniform dry cleaned on an as needed basis depending on usage.

Parents will be financially responsible for replacing any part of the uniform that is lost, rendered unserviceable, or destroyed through personal neglect or improper cleaning and usage. Any unpaid fines due to damaged uniforms will be turned over to Windermere High School administrators and OCPS for collection. Outstanding fines can affect registration and/or graduation.

Student Print/Signature ______________________________   Date __________________

Parent Print/Signature   _____________________    Date __________________
Windermere High School Band Equipment Check Out Form

The undersigned student and parent/guardian hereby acknowledge receipt of the school owned property listed below. In consideration for this property being issued to us, we do hereby agree to the following:

1. To accept full fiscal responsibility for the below named equipment.
2. To keep, at my own expense, said property in good repair and playing condition.
3. To surrender any Music Department property issued to me, upon notice by the Band Director or school authorities.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Instrument ___________________  Brand _______________  Model _______________

Factory Serial No. _______________  County I.D. No. ________________________

Condition: Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor
Instrument blemishes to note at the time of check-out: __________________________

INSTRUMENT IS EQUIPPED WITH THE FOLLOWING ACCESSORIES:

Case/Bag _____  Mouthpiece _____  Cap _____  Strap _____  Bocal ____  Swab _____

Sticks or Mallets _____  Cleaning Rod _____  Ligature _____  Bow _____

Other _________________________________________________________________

Student Name __________________  School ___________________  Grade _________

Date _____  Parent/Guardian _________________  Home Phone _________________

Address ____________________________________  Work Phone _________________

Approved by: _______________________________________  (property custodian)

I agree to the above agreement as listed above:

Parent Printed Name ____________________________  Parent Signature _______________________

Student Printed Name ____________________________  Student Signature _______________________

Instrument maintenance and Fee $ __________________ (Pay Via School Pay within 5 days)
EMERGENCY TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION CARD - ENGLISH (Please Print) SCHOOL BOARD OF ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Student’s Legal Name: ____________________________ School: ____________________________ Grade: __________
Student’s Date of birth: __________________________ Date of last tetanus shot: __________________________
My child is allergic to the following medications: ___________________________________________________
My child has the following allergies: _______________________________________________________________
Please identify any serious injuries or illnesses your child has had: ___________________________________

Alternate family member/friend to contact in case of emergency Name: ____________________________
Telephone Number(s): __________________________

Primary Care Doctor Name: ____________________________ Telephone Number: __________________________

You understand that the insurance offered by Orange County Public Schools is a secondary policy and will pay only after your personal insurance pays. Please write “none” if you have no personal insurance on this student.
Primary Insurance Company: ____________________________ Policy Number: ____________________________ Insurance Company Address: __________________________________________________________

You understand if a parent, guardian or student falsifies any signature or information on the emergency medical treatment card, the student will be declared ineligible to participate in any Orange County interscholastic activity for one full calendar year from disclosure date. You further give your permission for appropriate school staff and their designees to render medical treatment or authorize medical treatment by a hospital and/or doctor and agree to hold the School Board and its employees harmless in the administration of such assistance. I hereby acknowledge and certify that I have read the emergency medical treatment document, that I understand and agree with its terms. Florida Statutes (92.525) “Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing and that the facts stated in it are true.” I agree to be bound by its terms and I have reviewed and explained the notice with my child.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian ____________________________ Print Name of Parent/Legal Guardian ____________________________ Date __________

Telephone (H) __________________________ Telephone (W) __________________________ Other: __________________________
Street Address: __________________________________________________________ Email Address: __________________________
City: __________________________ State: __________________________ Zip: __________________________

TARJETA DE AUTORIZACIÓN PARA TRATAMIENTO DE EMERGENCIA -ESPAÑOL (Letra de Molde) JUNTA ESCOLAR DEL CONDADO ORANGE, FLORIDA

Nombre Legal del Estudiante: ____________________________ Escuela: ____________________________ Grado: __________
Fecha de Nacimiento del Estudiante: __________________________ Fecha de la última vacuna contra el tétano: __________________________
Mi hijo(a) es alérgico a las siguientes medicinas: _______________________________________________________
Mi hijo(a) tiene las siguientes alergias: _________________________________________________________________
Favor de identificar cualquier lesión seria o enfermedades que su hijo(a) ha tenido: __________________________
Miembro de familia/Amigo alterno que pueda contactarse en caso de emergencia Nombre: ____________________________
Números de teléfono: ________________________________________________________________________________

Nombre del Médico de Cuidado Primario: ____________________________ Teléfono: __________________________

Usted comprende que el seguro ofrecido por las Escuelas Públicas del Condado Orange es una póliza secundaria y pagará sólo después de que haya pagado su seguro personal.

Por favor escriba “ninguno” si no tiene seguro personal para este estudiante.
Compañía Primaria de Seguros: ____________________________ Número de Póliza: ____________________________
Dirección de la Compañía de Seguros: _________________________________________________________________

Usted comprende que si un padre, encargado o estudiante falsifica cualquier firma o información en la tarjeta para tratamiento médico de emergencia, el estudiante será declarado ineligi ble para participar en cualquier actividad interescolar del Condado Orange durante un año calendario completo a partir de la fecha del descubrimiento. Usted adicionalmente concede su permiso para que el personal apropiado de la escuela y sus asignados ofrezcan tratamiento médico o autorice tratamiento médico por parte de un hospital y/o médico y acepta librar a la Junta Escolar y sus empleados de responsabilidad en la administración de tal asistencia. Por la presente reconozco y certifico que he leído el documento de evaluación deportiva, que comprendo y acepto sus términos. Estatuto de Florida (92.525) "Bajo pena de perjurio, declaro que he leído lo anterior y que los hechos presentados son verídicos. Acepto estar sujeto a sus términos y he revisado y explicado la notificación a mi hijo(a).

Firma del Padre/Madre/Encargado Legal ____________________________ Nombre del Padre/Madre/Encargado Legal ____________________________ Fecha __________
Teléfono (H) __________________________ Teléfono (O) __________________________ Otro: __________________________
Dirección: __________________________________________________________ Dirección de correo electrónico: __________________________
Ciudad: __________________________ Estado: __________________________ Código Postal: __________________________
Band Handbook Compliance and Agreement

I ______________________________ have read and understand that I am expected to adhere to all items in the band handbook and pay all dues and fees associated with all band classes per set payment schedules. I understand that failure to abide by stated guidelines may result in dismissal from the band program and a subsequent failing mark in the course. Please sign below acknowledging you have read and understand all items in the band handbook and all expectations for the Windermere High School Band Program.

Student Printed Name ________________________ Student Signature ______________________ Date __________

Parent/Guardian Printed Name _____________________ Parent Signature __________________ Date __________

Student Name ______________________________ Instrument ______________________________

School Instrument Rental Amount Owed _______ ($50 per semester; $25 summer) PD Date _______ School Pay ______
Percussionists pay $50 a semester to use school owned instruments

Concert Band Formal Attire Amount Owed ___________ ($100-$120) Paid Date __________
All Freshman will have to pay this however returning members whose formal wear still fits do not pay this unless they need new outfits.

Marching Band Fair Share ($600) ______________ Date Paid ___________ Check _____ School Pay ______

Winter Guard Dues (TBA) _________________________ Date Paid ___________ Check _____ School Pay ______

Winter Percussion Dues(TBA) ____________________ Date Paid ___________ Check_____ School Pay ______