

WAKELAND HS BAND

HANDBOOK

2018-2019



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MARCHING BAND PRACTICE SCHEDULE

The Wakeland High School Marching Band is comprised of all members of the Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, Concert Bands, Percussion and Color Guard classes. Please post the following schedule at home and keep a copy for reference at school.

Please check the calendar on the band website for specific information.

Our *typical* rehearsal schedule throughout football season will be:
(*note: all rehearsals called are mandatory*)

Monday – 6:00-9:00pm*

(Usually at Memorial Stadium – other locations will be announced)

Tuesday – No full band rehearsal

(Section Leaders will schedule one required 30 min sectional per week)

Wednesday - Friday – 7:00-8:30am

**If Monday is a school holiday, a new rehearsal time will be announced for that week.*

Occasional Saturday rehearsals take place. Please view the google calendar for updates.

Contest Days

1 Hour –Times TBA

Make sure that you check the calendar on the website, www.wakelandband.org for the most up-to-date information regarding rehearsal locations and times.

Games are scheduled every Thursday or Friday from August 27 through November 5 (with the possibility of playoff games beyond that date).

FALL SEMESTER **CONTEST PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE**

Please make sure that these dates are clear on your calendars and check the WHS Band website for the most up to date information.

Saturday, September 15	HEB Drumline Contest Pennington Field 1501 Central Dr, Bedford, TX 76022
Saturday, September 29	HEB Marching Contest Pennington Field 1501 Central Dr, Bedford, TX 76022
Saturday, October 6	Bands of America: Dallas Regional Pennington Field 1501 Central Dr, Bedford, TX 76022
Saturday, October 13	Bands of America: Waco Regional Waco ISD Stadium 1401 S New Rd, Waco, TX 76711
Saturday, October 20	UIL Region Marching Contest Clark Stadium – Plano ISD 6600 Stadium Dr, Plano, TX 75023
Saturday, November 10	Frisco Community Parade Frisco, Texas
Saturday, November 10	Lone Star Drumline Contest

THE SCHEDULE ABOVE DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL PERFORMANCES AND IS TENTATIVE AT THE TIME OF THIS PUBLISHING. ATTENDANCE AT ALL PERFORMANCES, INCLUDING FOOTBALL GAMES, IS MANDATORY. CHANGES IN THESE DATES AS WELL AS OTHER CONTESTS AND OTHER CIVIC EVENTS WILL BE SCHEDULED AT A LATER TIME ON THE BAND WEBSITE. BE SURE TO CHECK IT ON A REGULAR BASIS. AN ABBREVIATED REHEARSAL SCHEDULE WILL BE FOLLOWED AT THE END OF THE REGULAR FOOTBALL SEASON.

GENERAL BAND PROCEDURES

This handbook will spell out several expectations that are necessary to have a successful band program. However, there are some general guidelines to follow in all situations.

- 1) All rehearsals/events called by directors are mandatory.
- 2) To be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late, to be late is to be very sorry.
- 3) Respect the property of the school and of others.
- 4) Respect other band members and directors.
- 5) Always project a positive attitude in your words and actions.
- 6) Be at the right place at the right time, and do your best.
- 7) For security reasons, only band students are allowed in the band hall.
- 8) **Gum is not allowed at any band function.**
- 9) **NO FOOD OR DRINK (OTHER THAN WATER) IN ANY PART OF THE FINE ARTS FACILITIES AT WAKELAND HIGH SCHOOL!**

MARCHING BAND

General Requirements and Expectations

ALL PERFORMANCES ARE MANDATORY FOR STUDENTS THAT ARE ACADEMICALLY ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE. All students who (1) Pass off all music by memory (2) attend all rehearsals, and (3) make a conscientious effort to improve will be considered to perform during the marching season. *However, contest performances will be limited to those students who demonstrate the most advanced skills for performance.*

Every academically eligible student will be assigned a marching spot in the 2018 show. All eligible students will perform at the weekly football games. In regards to marching contests, students who exhibit the highest proficiency and performance level will march a position in contest. Contest marching spots are highly competitive and will be assigned based on attendance, experience level, and proficiency in marching and playing. At any point in the season, students may be moved into these contest marching spots when circumstances change. If a student is removed from a contest marching spot, he or she may be worked back into the contest lineup as places open or as may be necessary to replace those who are not fulfilling requirements. In this way, it is hoped that everyone will have ample opportunities to gain experience.

If a student is in "In School Suspension" on the day of a football game and is to be in ISS on the following school day, he/she may not be allowed to be present at the stadium according to FISD rules. Therefore, he/she may not participate with the band at the game or the contest on the following Saturday. If a student's last day of ISS falls on the day of a football game, he/she may be an alternate for the game and contest.

Students who are not assigned to contest marching spots are an integral part of the performance and will assist the directors with field equipment and organizational needs provided they are academically eligible at contest.

If a student has an unexcused absence from a marching band rehearsal, he/she may be held out of the next show performance on the schedule. If a student has two or more unexcused absences during a week, he/she may not be allowed to travel/participate with the band at the next performance event. Two unexcused tardies to a rehearsal are the equivalent of one unexcused absence.

Eligibility

Most of the activities associated with Band (Marching and Concert) are extra-curricular including football games and contests. In order to be eligible by TEA, UIL, and FISD requirements, students must pass ALL classes each six weeks. Students who fail any single class at the end of six weeks will become INELIGIBLE seven days after the last day of the six-weeks in which they failed. Students who fail at that time will be able to regain their eligibility by PASSING ALL CLASSES AT THE END OF THE 3RD WEEK OF THE NEXT GRADING PERIOD. If passing, students regain eligibility seven days after the last day of the three-week period. A STUDENT WHO DOES NOT REGAIN ELIGIBILITY AT THAT TIME WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE FOLLOWING SIX WEEKS GRADING PERIOD.

BAND CLASSES

All the members of the Band Program are assigned by audition to one of four concert bands that meet as academic classes. In addition to music preparation, academic performance (in regards to eligibility) and attendance history are considered when determining ensemble placements for each school year. Please remember that band is a year-long commitment. **Schedule changes may only occur within the various band classes offered.** New students are auditioned and placed into the appropriate ensemble upon arrival.

Wind Symphony (grades 9-12)

The Wind Ensemble consists of 40-50 serious musicians who focus on some of the highest quality wind literature. Participation requires a high level of dedication and performance from each member. Enrollment in private lessons is expected. Performances will include UIL, one or more invitational festivals, a Holiday concert, two or more spring concerts, and special events. In addition, extra rehearsals and clinics are occasionally scheduled outside of the school day along with sectionals in the spring semester. Students in the Wind Ensemble will be required to audition for the All-Region Band in November/December and to perform an appropriate level solo at the UIL Solo/Ensemble contest in February. This is a “double blocked” class.

Symphonic Band (grades 9-12)

The Symphonic Band is an ensemble consisting of musicians who perform quality wind literature. Participation requires a substantial amount of dedication on the part of its members. Enrollment in private lessons is strongly encouraged. Performances will include UIL, one or more invitational festivals, a Holiday concert, and one or two concerts in the spring. In addition, extra rehearsals and clinics are occasionally scheduled along with sectionals in the spring semester. Students in Symphonic Band are required to audition for the All-Region Band in November/December and to participate in UIL Solo/Ensemble contest in February with an appropriate level solo. This is a “double blocked” class.

Concert Band I/II (grades 9-12)

The Concert Band is an ensemble consisting of musicians who perform quality, appropriate level wind literature. Participation requires a substantial amount of dedication on the part of its members. Enrollment in private lessons is strongly encouraged. Performances will include UIL, one or more invitational festivals, a Holiday concert, and one or two concerts in the spring. In addition, extra rehearsals and clinics may occasionally be scheduled. Students in Concert Band are strongly encouraged to audition for the All-Region Band in November/December and required to participate in UIL Solo/Ensemble contest in February with a solo or ensemble. This is a “double blocked” class.

Jazz Band (grades 9-12)

This is a small ensemble that meets on Tuesdays & Thursdays after school during the spring semester. Jazz Band membership is by audition and open to WHS students who are a part of the parent large ensemble within the fine arts. Jazz Band membership is open to students outside the band program only when there are no qualified band member candidates for keyboard, rhythm guitar, and/or bass guitar. Jazz Band consists of playing many styles of jazz music, improvisation, and jazz theory. Please check the band website for Jazz Band performance information. Upperclassmen with a strong interest in Jazz are encouraged to participate in the All-Region Jazz Ensemble auditions in September.

Color Guard (grades 9-12)

This is a year-long, “single blocked” course open to any student interested in participating in the visual ensemble portion of the Marching Band and Winter Guard. Students enrolled in this class are considered a part

of the Marching Band. Therefore, all Marching Band rehearsals and performances are MANDATORY.

Percussion (grades 9-12)

This class is “double blocked” for all percussion students in the first semester. During the second semester, students will be enrolled in the percussion class for a “single block” and an ability based band class for a “single block”.

ATTENDANCE

Work schedules, family trips, and other non-school activities must not interfere with the rehearsal and performance schedule that you are given at the beginning of the school year. The band directors will work together with the other teachers, coaches, and directors of various activities to give each student every opportunity to be a part of other groups and have a balanced schedule.

NON-SCHOOL SPONSORED ACTIVITIES, TEAMS, ORGANIZATIONS, OR JOBS MUST NOT CONFLICT IN WITH THE PRACTICE/PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE OF THE BAND.

The Band is dependent on ALL of its members. Unlike most other classes where individuals are accountable only for their own success or failure, band students' success is, in large part, dependent on the full participation of all the members. The following attendance policies will affect the students' grades and chance to participate. Unexcused absences include, but are not limited to doctor's appointments, organization meetings, work, family vacations, etc.

Please view the rehearsal / performance calendar on the website before scheduling doctor/dentist/orthodontist appointments.

ABSENCES FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS ARE NORMALLY CONSIDERED EXCUSED:

- SEVERE ILLNESS OR MEDICAL EMERGENCY (DOCTOR'S NOTE REQUIRED)
- DEATH IN THE FAMILY

IF YOU ARE WELL ENOUGH TO BE IN SCHOOL, YOU ARE WELL ENOUGH TO ATTEND REHEARSALS AND/OR PERFORMANCES.

ABSENCES OTHER THAN THOSE LISTED ABOVE NEED TO BE ADDRESSED WITH THE DIRECTORS IN ADVANCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

If a student has an unexcused absence from a marching band rehearsal, he/she may be held out of the next show performance on the schedule. If a student has two or more unexcused absences during a week, he/she may not be allowed to travel/participate with the band at the next performance event. Two unexcused tardies to a rehearsal are the equivalent of one unexcused absence.

TUTORIALS

If it becomes necessary for a student to get extra academic help or make up work, the following options are available for students to attend tutorials:

FOOTBALL SEASON

- Any day after school (except Mondays & game days)
- Before school Mondays (or Tuesdays if Monday is a school holiday)
- During Activity/Tutorial Period

AFTER FOOTBALL SEASON

- Any morning or afternoon students do not have a rehearsal scheduled
- During Activity/Tutorial Period

GRADES

In determining the band grade each six weeks, three areas comprise the average:

- 1) Performance / major grades (50%)
- 2) Curriculum skills demonstration / minor grades (30%)
- 3) Behavior skills demonstration (20%)

ELIGIBILITY FOR CONCERT SEASON

Most of the work that our students do outside of marching is considered curricular and NOT SUBJECT TO ELIGIBILITY. Free concerts, section rehearsals, concert rehearsals, and private lessons are all considered curricular. Events that are considered extra-curricular include:

- 1) Any event with paid admission.
- 2) Any event that is inter-school competitive.
- 3) Any event that takes place off of the WHS campus.

Should a band student become ineligible for extra-curricular functions, he/she will still be eligible for curricular functions. Ineligible students will be given alternate assignments during contest preparation time.

DISCIPLINE

Discipline is a quality that must come from within the individual. Because of this fact, each student is responsible for his or her own actions as a member of the WHS Band. Any student who shows an inability to work effectively within the program may be re-assigned to another class at the discretion of the Band Directors or removed from the program if extreme measures need to take place.

As a school group, the band is governed by School and School Board policies anytime the band is together for any band function whether it involves all students or only one. ***The General Release form you sign at the end of this Handbook will be in effect throughout the year for trips related to the Band.***

Any student who violates school rules while with the WHS Band will be subject to all usual school disciplinary procedures. In addition, those students will be subject to dismissal and will not continue to perform or travel with the band.

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS

The ultimate goal of our program is the development of the individual musician to the limits of his/her potential. To assist in reaching this goal, we strongly recommend participation in the individual competitions and festivals offered during the year.

All-Region tryouts involve the finest students from schools in our region and are the first step in advancement toward All-State. All students in grades 9-12 may participate if academically eligible. All students in the Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band are required to audition; it is highly encouraged for the Concert Band students to audition. The music is announced in July, and the tryout process begins in November. Students must check their calendars carefully and make a complete commitment to all of the auditions and the performances before entering.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Band Leadership Team members and Drum Majors are selected by tryout in the spring and must meet the following requirements to tryout:

Drum Majors and Band Leadership Team Members:

- 1) Must be academically eligible at the time of tryouts.
- 2) Must complete an application that will be available during the spring semester.
- 3) Prerequisite is one enrolled semester in the WHS Band.

ALL STUDENT LEADERS, INCLUDING DIRECTOR SELECTED OFFICERS, MUST FULFILL THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS OR THEY COULD BE REMOVED FROM OFFICE:

- 1) Participate at the designated Solo/Ensemble contest. (winds and percussion only)
- 2) Tryout for All-Region Band. (winds and percussion only)
- 3) Attend ALL summer practices and meetings and have ZERO unexcused absences from band activities during the year.
- 4) Provide leadership through example; promote the highest expectations for band members; and show a zero tolerance for negative behavior. Band officers with a disciplinary referral in any class may be removed from office.
- 5) Remain academically eligible throughout the year.

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THROUGH WITH THE OUTLINED BAND LEADERSHIP TEAM JOB DESCRIPTION COULD RESULT IN A STUDENT BEING REMOVED FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR.

MARCHING UNIFORMS

The marching uniforms of the WHS Band are worn at most outdoor functions unless weather prohibits. These are issued to all marching band students. In addition, each student needs the following items to complete the uniform:

- 1) Black Marching Shoes - ordered through the band in the summer
- 2) All black athletic socks (no markings)- your choice, ankles completely covered
- 3) White marching gloves - ordered through the band in the summer
- 4) Band Compression Shirt - ***Worn under uniform at all times***
- 5) Band Compression Shorts – ***Worn under uniform at all times***
- 6) No visible jewelry or accessories can be worn at any time while in marching uniform.
- 7) Hair must be pulled up and secured (buns, pinned, etc.) prior to inspection and for the duration of wearing the uniform. Bows and extra hairpieces are not allowed while in uniform.

Uniforms will be checked in and out every game day. After every football game students will check their uniforms in to the band parent and uniform team in charge of uniforms. They will be cleaned several times during the marching season.

If you lose a piece of your uniform you must be prepared to pay:

Uniform bag	\$25
Pants with suspenders	\$125
Jacket	\$250
Hat	\$75
Hat box	\$15
Plume	\$25
Gauntlets (pair)	\$40

ANY TUXEDO OR NOT RETURNED WILL RESULT IN A \$150 REPLACEMENT FEE.

APPLIED PRIVATE INSTRUCTION

This program is supported by the individual parents who cover the cost of the program. Lessons may be taken before or after school or during the student's daily band class. The FISD approves certain private instructors through auditions, interviews and background checks. Lesson money is paid directly to the private instructors (\$21 per half hour).

The Applied Instructors will assist students with the preparation of music for All-Region, Area, and State tryouts; for participation in Solo/Ensemble; and with occasional parts of the band performance music. Teachers will include an organized lesson plan of fundamentals that will need to be practiced consistently in order to receive the greatest benefits from private instruction. Parents should become informed about the lesson content, expectations of the instructor, and their student's rate of progress. Parents should contact their own campus band director with questions about lessons or private instructors.

Private instruction has been approved to take place during the school day and is offered as enrichment, NOT remedial instruction. It is encouraged for the complete development of each student's potential as a performing musician.

USE OF SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS/EQUIPMENT

A limited number of the more expensive instruments are owned by the FISD for the purpose of balancing the instrumentation district-wide and maintaining performing bands at every level. There is a school imposed instrument usage & maintenance fee of \$50 per semester for wind players and percussionists.

It is the responsibility of the student/parent to check over the instrument when the student receives it and understand that the instrument must be returned in the same condition at the end of the year. If, in the opinion of a FISD director, a school-owned instrument is not being properly maintained or cared for at any time of the school year, it is the director's prerogative to remove the instrument from the student's care.

As you sign the commitment form, understand that participation in the Wakeland High School Band Program is a FULL YEAR commitment and that our expectations for each other and ourselves are very high. We look forward to a wonderful journey and experience with your student.

PLEASE READ THE HANDBOOK CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING BELOW

"I have read the WHS Band Handbook, understand the procedures and our student has our permission to participate in the band activities stated in this handbook within the guidelines described. We understand that Band and Color Guard are full-year commitments for the 2018-2019 school year."

Parent/Guardian Signature_____

"I have read the WHS Band Handbook and agree to abide by the policies stated. I realize that failure to follow policies or directions will result in disciplinary action that could lead to dismissal from the Band/Guard and Band/Guard classes."

Student Name (PRINTED)_____

Student Signature_____

Date of both signatures_____

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY 9:00am on **August 24th**. Students will not be able to travel without the submission of this form.

KEEP ALL OTHER PARTS OF THE HANDBOOK FOR REFERENCE.