



# **FAMILY & STUDENT HANDBOOK**

## Wade Hampton High School Bands

100 Pine Knoll Dr.  
Greenville, SC 29609  
Main Office: (864) 355-0100

Eric Williams, Principal  
A.J. Pace, Director of Bands

Band Students and Parents:

WELCOME to one of the most exciting experiences in which you can be a part – THE BAND! Now, more than ever, we have information to justify why we do this demanding, yet rewarding, activity. Experts have concluded that the study of music helps with spatial reasoning, test taking, and overall quality of life! Factor in social skills, emotional development, leadership training, group interaction, aesthetic perception, music making, and the discipline of being in a band program, and I don't know why anyone would not want to be involved in a successful band program like the one here at Wade Hampton High School! The ultimate goal is a lifelong understanding and appreciation for quality music and music making!

**EVERYONE SHOULD READ THE INFORMATION IN THE HANDBOOK, even veterans.** Some of the information will be new, so make sure you're informed. This is the official document of the band that keeps us running smoothly and efficiently. Most questions can be answered by consulting THE HANDBOOK and policies will be adjusted from year to year as the need arises to clarify issues within the program. It is my hope that the information contained in this handbook will be both INFORMATIVE and INSPIRATIONAL!

You will quickly find that band is truly a FAMILY in and of itself. As of this writing, we are looking ahead to many wonderful opportunities for the coming year. We are extremely committed to developing our student leadership, as well as our private lesson program. We strongly encourage you to support the band program by simply supporting your child with finding a private lesson teacher and being present at events, when possible. We are fortunate to have professional performing musicians ("Classical" and "Contemporary [jazz, rock, funk, et al.]"), as well as recognized regional and local music educators willing to work with our students and you should definitely take advantage of master classes and other opportunities offered.

This handbook is designed to answer any questions you might have concerning the program. Again, please read all the information and sign the appropriate forms located at the back of the book. I am honored to be your band director and am looking forward to a great year!

Musically Yours,  
A.J. Pace  
Director of Bands  
Wade Hampton High School

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## **WADE HAMPTON HIGH SCHOOL'S MISSION:**

Educate, Inspire, Empower

### ***VISION STATEMENT:***

Our vision centers around a shared philosophy that we must serve our diverse student body with a personalized plan for all students beginning at their current academic level and guiding them to graduation and beyond, fully prepared and confident to contribute to society.

## **WADE HAMPTON BAND'S MISSION:**

The Wade Hampton High School Band program strives to provide a high quality music education for all students while focusing on the development of a well-rounded individual in society. By providing a rigorous music curriculum in a safe environment, the Wade Hampton High School Band program aspires to foster a life-long relationship with both music and the other fine arts.

### ***VISION STATEMENT:***

To challenge and empower our students to be successful in a highly creative and competitive world.

### ***A STATEMENT OF POLICY***

In order to assist band members and parents in understanding areas of responsibility, a statement of band policy is herein set forth. Becoming familiar with this policy will enable each individual to make the most of this great opportunity to be a member of the Wade Hampton High School band program, becoming a better person, and a better musician. We firmly believe that the student should improve through regular practice.

In the Wade Hampton High School band program, we feel that when the student has lost the will to improve him / herself or make a better contribution to the band, he /she is wasting the time and efforts of his / her fellow members and the community by continuing in this program. The HAPPIEST student is the one who is improving through regular habits of practice and daily progress.

The student must not only know right from wrong, but must be able to stand for principles. He / she must develop a high sense of purpose toward which he / she is willing to work. We intend to conduct ourselves in a manner that will facilitate all students in learning and bettering themselves.

Most of all, RESPONSIBILITY and DEPENDABILITY serve as the foundation for any level of achievement within the WHHS band program.

### ***PHILOSOPHY OF THE BAND PROGRAM***

At Wade Hampton High School, we believe that music has the ability to enrich every person's life in powerful and unique ways. Our primary goal is to foster the development of a life-long relationship with music in every student. Whether our students go on to be professional musicians, lawyers who play in the community band one night a week, or simply fans of music, our goal is for them to have a love and appreciation of music and the discipline of music making.

We also aim to develop students' intrapersonal and interpersonal skills. Teamwork is a requirement for all facets of the band program. There are no "second string" players in the band. Instead, each individual in the ensemble plays a vital role in the quality of the whole. We are in the business of developing a lifelong relationship with music in every student. Along the way, we will also be providing and encouraging positive personal growth, and interactions growth through the unique medium of music. The road towards these goals is very challenging, yet extremely rewarding. Only through positive effort on the part of everybody involved in the program can true excellence be achieved.

We believe that participation in the Wade Hampton Bands fosters responsibility, scholarship, and leadership; that a spirit of brotherhood is enhanced with continuous dedication; that music is a universal language; and that through active participation, each member will strive to be the best they possibly can.

## **MUSIC ADVOCACY**

### **STUDENT PERFORMANCE**

- The College Entrance Examination Board found that students involved in public school music programs scored 107 points higher on the SAT's than students with no participation.
  - Profiles of SAT and Achievement Test Takers, The College Board, compiled by the Music Educators National Conference (2002)
- U.S. Department of Education data on more than 25,000 secondary school students found that students who report consistent high levels of involvement in instrumental music over the middle and high school years show "significantly higher levels of mathematics proficiency by grade 12."
  - U.S. Department of Education NELL88 Database

### **PUBLIC SUPPORT AND ACCESS**

- According to a 2003 Gallup survey, 95 percent of Americans believe that music is a key component in a child's well-rounded education.
  - American Attitudes on Music, Music Making and Music Education, The Gallup Organization 2003
- In spite of this public support and documented benefits, "only one in four eighth graders reported being asked to sing or play a music instrument at least once a week."
  - 1998 NAEP Assessment

### **LIFE SKILLS**

- Arts involvement teaches children many skills necessary to succeed in life, including problem solving and decision making, building self-confidence and self-discipline, the ability to imagine what might be and to accept responsibility for it, teamwork, the development of informed perception, and articulating a vision.
  - Compiled from various research documents and reports
- Secondary students who participated in band or orchestra reported the lowest lifetime and current use of all substances (alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs).
  - Texas Commission on Drug and Alcohol Abuse, Houston Chronicle, Jan. 11, 1998

## SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

- A research team reports that early music training dramatically enhancing children's abstract reasoning skills. These findings indicate that music uniquely enhances higher brain functions required for mathematics, chess, science and engineering.
  - From Neurological Research, Feb 28, 1997; Frances Rauscher, Ph.D., Gordon Shaw, Ph.D, University of California, Irvine
- A two-year Swiss study involving 1,200 children in 50 schools showed that students involved in the music program were better at languages, learned to read more easily, showed an improved social climate, showed more enjoyment in school, and had a lower level of stress than non-music students.
  - Weber, E.W., Spychiger, M. & Patry, J.L. (1993)

## ARTS AND THE ECONOMY

- America's nonprofit arts industry generates \$134 billion in economic activity every year, including \$24.4 billion in federal, state, and local tax revenues.
  - Americans for the Arts
- Despite this, state-level arts spending dropped from \$409 million in fiscal year 2002 to \$354.5 in fiscal year 2003 and declined again to \$272.4 million in 2004.
  - National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

## MUSIC STANDARDS/COURSE GOALS:

*(Adapted from National Standards for Arts Education, K-12)*

1. **Singing:** Students will sing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
2. **Performance:** Students will perform on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire.
3. **Improvisation:** Students will improvise melodies, variations, and accompaniments.
4. **Composition:** Students will compose and arrange music within specified guidelines.
5. **Reading and Notating:** Students will read and notate music.
6. **Analysis:** Students will listen to, analyze, and describe music.
7. **Evaluation:** Students will evaluate music and music performances.
8. **Connection:** Students will relate music to the other arts and disciplines outside the arts.
9. **History and Culture:** Students will relate music to history and culture.

"Music is moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything." Plato

# **WADE HAMPTON HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAMS**

## **Wind Ensemble**

Wind Ensemble is a **mandatory** class for all band members (unless otherwise discussed with Mr. Pace and Mr. Williams), EXCEPT for percussionists who should sign up for Percussion 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 (when the course is offered). This class covers fundamentals of music including music theory, music history, and instrumental performance pedagogy. The members in this ensemble will play high quality music literature and will be strongly encouraged to audition for local festivals and competitions, which will be discussed in advance.

## **Marching Band**

The marching band is a contemporary, performance art ensemble within the WHHS band program. This ensemble will meet after school for rehearsal two to three days a week, as well as attend several football games, contests, and festivals. This ensemble is our most publicly visible ensemble and is a lot of fun! This ensemble consists of wind players, percussionists, and color guard members.

## **Winter Guard**

The winter guard is a winter and spring based ensemble that is the continuation of the marching band color guard. Students are highly encouraged to participate in the fall color guard AS WELL AS the winter guard. This ensemble rehearses after-school two to three days a week and competes at several local and regional competitions. This ensemble is open to all members of the WHHS Band program.

## **Percussion Ensemble**

All percussionists in the band program are required to participate in the Percussion Ensemble (unless otherwise discussed with Mr. Pace). Students will learn basic fundamentals on all the percussion instruments and will explore many styles and genres. In addition to the class, additional after-school rehearsals will be scheduled as needed. The percussion ensemble will also perform on selected concerts as well as local festivals and competitions. Students will be asked to purchase sticks and mallets as part of this ensemble.

## **Indoor Drumline**

The indoor drumline is a winter and spring based ensemble that is the continuation of the marching percussion section of the marching band. The indoor drumline is open to all students of the band program (by audition only) and rehearses two to three days a week after school. The indoor drumline competes at several local and regional competitions as well as Winter Guard International regionals.

## ***AUDITION-BASED OPPORTUNITIES***

### **All-County Band**

Members of the band program are strongly encouraged to audition for the Greenville All-County Honor Band. Typically, All-County auditions will take place in January. These auditions serve as great reference points for preparation with region and all-state auditions! *[Note: There is an audition registration fee for each student that is not covered in the band fee. This fee is administered by*

*Greenville County to compensate clinicians, and not by the WHHS Bands.]*

### **All-Region, All-State Concert Band, All-State Orchestra**

Members of the band program are eligible to audition for the All-State and Region Bands. Wade Hampton High School is located in Region 1 of South Carolina, as the state is divided into 5 separate regions. The top scores in each region will be eligible for All- State auditions.

The top few musicians selected for the entire All-State Concert band will be eligible for participation in the All-State Orchestra. All students are strongly urged to audition. Regional auditions are held in January with "finals" auditions two weeks later. The Region Band clinic is held at Furman University, and the All- State Clinic is held at Furman University. More dates can be found on the band calendar.

*[Note: There is an audition registration fee for each student that is not covered in the band fee. This fee is administered by the South Carolina Band Directors' Association to compensate judges and clinicians, and not by the WHHS Bands.]*

### **ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **Summer Instruction & College Clinics**

Why? Students get to make music. They will have the opportunity to study privately with college professors, professional music educators/performers, make new friends, play new music, and establish great connections! Note: These summer programs and college clinics, however, are neither paid for nor administrated by the Wade Hampton Bands.

There are many nationally known summer institutes for instrumental instruction. Some of the best are: Brevard Music Center, Sewanee, Interlochen Arts Camp, Aspen Summer Music Program, Kinhaven, Keystone Brass Institute, and Tanglewood.

There are also local and regional summer music camps as well as during the school year college clinics at several local institutes. Some of these include: The University of South Carolina, Furman University, Charleston Southern University, Coastal Carolina University, Winthrop University, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, University of Georgia, and Florida State University.

#### **Private Lessons**

As one might expect, private lessons on a musical instrument are the best way to improve performance skills. The one-on-one approach allows the student to benefit from the individual attention as opposed to a teacher monitoring a large class. A recent survey of students in the All-State Band revealed that approximately 80% of the students in the band studied privately. Students are generally more inclined to practice diligently for a weekly music assignment and this discipline increases the student's enjoyment with their instrument. Mr. Pace will be more than happy to assist in the selection of a private teacher. Private lessons are crucial because the band director cannot possibly tend to every student's level/needs during daily band class. The investment of lessons now can provide exponential returns when it comes to college scholarships and awards. [Note: If a student/parent can NOT pay for private lessons, please consult Mr. Pace to find a solution. Yes, private lessons are that IMPORTANT!]

#### **List of Approved and Preferred Private Instructors**

Consult Mr. Pace about specific instructors and their contact information.

When calling these instructors, ask the following questions:

1. How much do they charge per lesson? Check/Cash? Pay per lesson/per month?
2. Where would they prefer to teach the lesson?
3. Are there any method books or materials needed for lessons?

**College Scholarships**

There are a wide variety of scholarships available for both music majors and non-music majors on the collegiate level. Many universities grant one-time scholarship to students who simply agree to play in an ensemble, and some will waive out-of-state tuition. Information varies by school. Consult Mr. Pace regarding these opportunities. The chances of college scholarships are higher when students take private lessons.

# POLICIES

## ***GRADING POLICY***

Grades are assigned for the band class and performances, which are co-curricular, meaning that band activities may take place both during and outside of the school day. The weighting of grades and expectations for each class will be outlined in their class syllabus, which the students will receive the first day of school.

## ***CELL PHONE POLICY***

Cell Phones are not to be seen or heard during band practice, performances, or while in the stands at football games. If a student takes out their phone during one of these times, they will face consequences. Phones are not to be used during class times.

- 1st Cell Phone Offense:** Verbal warning, and stay after practice for 15 minutes to clean the field or band room.
- 2nd Cell Phone Offense:** Same as 1st consequence, confiscation of phone, plus no 3rd Quarter Break at the next football game and a parent call.
- 3rd Cell Phone Offense:** Suspension from band practice (which equals an unexcused absence), confiscation, lose performance privilege the rest of that week, and parent call.
- 4th Cell Phone Offense:** Removal from Marching Band but still must attend class, with a grade penalty. NO refund will be given.

## ***ATTENDANCE POLICY***

While the attendance policy is in place to discourage unexcused absences, it is our hope that students will understand the importance of faithful attendance at every WHHS Band rehearsal and performance. In the end, the overall quality of the WHHS Band will be determined by the dedication of the students involved.

*Individual needs will be addressed as they occur. This system is subject to modification by the director.*

*Dates for 2018-2019 rehearsals, performances, competitions and games can be found on the calendar at <http://www.whhsbands.com/calendar> for your review.*

**Unexcused absence** is defined as a "no show," or an individual who does not have a VALID excuse for not being at a particular event. Each individual must follow the absence procedures listed below.

*Note: The only excusable absences are prearranged school conflicts and those that would be excused by the school for regular attendance records such as extreme illness, death in the family, and religious holidays.*

- 1st Unexcused Offense:** On the first unexcused absence, the student will receive after school community service for 1 (one) hour in the band room, orchestra room, chorus room, or with custodial staff around the school campus as needed, and will not receive 3rd quarter break at the following football game [if during football season], and will receive a grade penalty, or a similar consequence.
- 2nd Unexcused Offense:** On the second unexcused absence, the student will be instantly removed from the ensemble, but must continue to attend the class, and receive a grade penalty.

*Note: If an unexcused offense occurs with a concert or performance, the student will be instantly removed from the ensemble, but must continue to attend the class, and receive a grade penalty. If you are removed from the ensemble, you will not receive a refund.*

## **ABSENCE PROCEDURES**

For ALL absences, the student must follow the following procedures:

[IN THIS ORDER... If done incorrectly, this will not be considered acceptable]

1. Mr. Pace must be directly notified at least 2 days in advance.
2. An absentee request form must be filled out WITH a parent signature/verification.
3. The absentee request form is given to Mr. Pace.
4. The student must follow up with Mr. Pace regarding absence.

For severe illness, a parent note or doctor's excuse must be submitted along with absentee request form for appropriate documentation. Although it may be cleared by the school office, absences from a band activity that same day must be cleared with the director as well - please call the band room and/or e-mail the director. This is important as rehearsal plans are created based on normal attendance.

### **SUMMER BAND CAMP ATTENDANCE**

All students are expected to attend all summer band rehearsals, both for the full band, and for their individual sections, unless excused in advance. Students who accumulate a large number of unexcused summer absences may be removed from the program. Again, no refund will be given.

## **TARDY POLICY**

Tardy is defined as "not being prepared for instruction at the designated time." One should not be "walking in" or "setting up" at the stated call time. Being 10 minutes early to prepare/warm up/set up is expected from all individuals at all times.

*Note: The only excusable tardy is one prearranged with Mr. Pace.*

**1st and 2nd Unexcused Tardy:** On the first and second unexcused tardy, the student will receive after school community service for 1 (one) hour in the band room, orchestra room, chorus room, or with custodial staff around the school campus as needed, and will not receive 3rd quarter break at the following football game [if during football season].

**3rd Unexcused Tardy:** On the third unexcused tardy, the student will receive after school community service for 1 (one) hour in the band room, orchestra room, chorus room, or with custodial staff around the school campus as needed, and will not receive 3rd quarter break at the following football game [if during football season], and receive a grade penalty.

**4th Unexcused Tardy:** On the fourth unexcused tardy, the student will be instantly removed from the ensemble, but must continue to attend the class, and receive a grade penalty.

*Note: If an unexcused tardy occurs with a concert or performance, the student will receive after school community service for 2 (two) hours in the band room [which may be distributed over 2 days], orchestra room, chorus room, or with custodial staff around the school campus as needed, and will not receive 3rd quarter break at the following football game [if during football season], and will receive a grade penalty.*

## **CONFLICTS WITH BAND**

Conflicts between band and other activities or events are the responsibility of the student. Rehearsal and performance schedules are given out in advance, including a tentative calendar in early July of the full calendar year, and other events to be announced as early as 2-4 weeks prior, so that arrangements can be made.

Students should not become involved with activities that may DIRECTLY and CONTINUOUSLY conflict with band activities. Though we want our band members involved to be well-rounded individuals, continuous conflicts with band events not only hinder the individuals from their highest potential, but hinders the rest of the ensemble.

Students should have a calendar book (or planner) or digital calendar and be aware of all band dates well ahead of schedule. Students are reminded that band is a very demanding activity and that involvement in outside activities should be limited to those that are compatible with the band schedule.

**Work is not an excuse for missing any band activity.**

Note: All final decisions will be made at the discretion of the band director on a case by case basis.

# **BAND MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

## **GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

- Be EARLY to everything! EARLY IS ON TIME – ON TIME IS LATE.
- Be in your seat, warmed up, and ready to begin on time.
- Daily practice and development is expected from all members.
- Maintain a strong academic standing in all course work.
- Assume responsibility for your own actions and admit when you are wrong.
- If you share a folder and are absent, make sure it gets to school.
- Have respect for yourself and those in authority.

## **REQUIREMENTS**

### **BAND CAMP [MARCHING BAND]**

Two weeks of summer morning and evening practices; refer to published schedule for dates and times.

### **AFTER-SCHOOL PRACTICES [MARCHING BAND]**

Monday (sectionals), Tuesday, and Thursday; see schedule for times; refer to Tardy/Absence Section. There will be a few Friday rehearsals as well. They will be announced well in advance.

### **AFTER-SCHOOL PRACTICES [CONCERT BAND]**

Occasionally, there will be after school rehearsals in preparation for band concerts and Concert Festival.

### **PASS-OFFS**

Students are required to "pass-off" their marching band show music to the band director, staff, and/or student leadership from memory for a grade.

### **INSPECTION**

Students and instruments will be inspected by staff and/or student leadership before games and competitions. Refer to uniform section. Inappropriate dress and lack of preparation may result in the student not performing, a grade penalty, and sitting out during 3rd quarter break.

## **QUITTING**

Any student that quits or is removed from any ensemble offered by the Wade Hampton Band Program is responsible for paying all fees associated with the ensemble and for completing their Individual Student Contribution Commitment fundraising obligations. Students will also be charged a 25% fee. The 25% is created from the total fees associated with the ensemble you are a part of, and it is added to the current obligation of completing all fees already agreed upon.

For example:   Marching Band Fee = \$450  
                  25% of \$450 = \$112.50

\*\*\*If a student quits the marching band, they are responsible for paying the \$450 band fee plus the \$112.50 quitting fee for a total of \$562.50\*\*\*

Exceptions to the addition of the quitting fee include the following: transfer to a new school, season ending injury, or approval by Mr. Pace. All students are responsible for the Band Fee AND the Individual Student Contribution Commitment without exception.

**When you and your parent(s) electronically sign the form to indicate that you have read this handbook, you are agreeing to complete payment of all fees and financial commitments associated with the school/ensemble/band program/band booster organization.**

## **BEHAVIOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

All WHHS Band members are considered to be "in school" when participating in band events. As such, all Wade Hampton High School policies will be enforced, as they would be during school hours. Additionally, quiet rehearsals are necessary and students must pay a great deal of attention in rehearsals.

Students must abide by all rules outlined in this document. Failure to abide by these rules may result in disciplinary action and/or dismissal from the bands.

## **RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROPER ATTITUDE**

Because people get out of life what they put in, a good attitude is its own reward.

- NEVER say anything negative about Our Band, Our Team, Our School... (This includes online, social media, text messages, or verbal remarks.)
- NEVER say anything negative about OTHER bands, teams, schools.... (This includes online, social media, text messages, or verbal remarks.)

## **MARCHING BAND CAMP AND REHEARSALS RESPONSIBILITIES**

- **Shoes and socks** must be worn at all times for outside practices.
- **Take appropriate precautions**  
When we rehearse outside, we attempt to do so only in the morning and evening hours, to avoid the mid-day heat. We also supply water at rehearsals and give the band water breaks as often as is appropriate. We will have parents at most rehearsals to handle any sick students. However, students also must take the following precautions before attending any band rehearsal:
  - Eat breakfast.
  - Winds and percussion dress in light, loose-fitting clothes.
  - Color guard attire will be discussed with staff.
  - Wear sunscreen.
  - Drink lots of water—avoid soda or dairy products.
  - Always have your provided gallon water cooler with water.

## **PERFORMANCE BEHAVIOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

*Includes football games, competitions and concert performances*

All Wade Hampton High School rules (including dress code) apply to all band functions.

- **Wear the uniform with respect.** Wearing half the uniform or wearing it incorrectly does not promote a positive image. (See Uniform section)
  - The uniform represents the best WHHS has to offer; when in uniform, members must behave in a manner that represents our band, school, and community well.
  - While in uniform, band members are not to chew gum, use obscene language, or be affectionate in any way.
  - No unsportsmanlike behavior towards the other band or team will be tolerated.
- **Members must sit together by section** and are not permitted to leave their seats nor invite others to sit with them while in performance.
  - Parents are NOT allowed to bring food to students in the band stands.

- **Members must understand how the public perceives them.** Members must have the mindset that their performance begins when they arrive, not simply when the first note is played, and ends after a formal dismissal from the director.
- **Members are expected to perform when directed.** Pay close attention to the leader. Particularly at football games, we will often have to play on very short notice. Be prepared!
- **Members are expected to ride the band's buses to and from performances.** If members must ride with parents, a note from the parent must be submitted prior to departure.
- **All members are expected to remain in full uniform and in formation until the director dismisses them from the performance.**
  - When given breaks, members are to remain in full uniform unless otherwise directed, and take care not to soil the uniform with food or drink.
    - Students are NOT allowed to leave the stadium or go to the opposite side.
    - Do not bring food, gum, candy, or drinks back to the stands after 3rd Quarter.
  - Members should be back in their seats ready to perform at the end of the 3rd Quarter. Students not seated and ready to play at this time risk losing participation points and/or break privileges.
  - Students are to stay the entire game (will excuse for SAT or severe sickness).
    - Parents should not expect to take students home after halftime.

### **SITTING OUT - THIRD QUARTER BREAK**

During marching season, students will sit in the stands during 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of football games for the following reasons:

- Failure to Pass-off Music by the allotted deadline
- Failing inspection
- Unexcused tardies or absences
- Any Infraction of Disrespect
- Tardiness from 3rd Quarter Break at the previous game

### ***BUS CONDUCT***

- Bus lists will be posted before each trip.
- Buses will be loaded according to seniority.
- Students will observe 5 minutes of silence when we depart and arrive to any site.
- Students will be silent at all railroad crossings.
- If a conversation can be heard in the front of the bus, it is TOO LOUD!
- There will be no hanging out, talking out, or throwing things out of bus windows.
- No music may be played unless via headphones.
- The bus driver will be treated with respect. Thank them.
- Please keep the bus clean; pick up after yourselves.

### ***COMPETITIONS***

Competitions are special events where we get to perform for a sophisticated audience and very competent judges. WE ARE THERE TO DO OUR BEST – NOT TO WIN!!

- Specific information is given prior to competitions as to directions, departure and anticipated return time.
- All parents are encouraged to attend.
- Please pick up your child immediately after we return and unload.

## ***INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR***

- All school rules, including no smoking, will be enforced.
- Profanity is not a part of our organization! Make sure your language is not offensive.
- Drinking and drugs are **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**. All school district policies regarding such are applied during all band activities.
- Young adults shall not damage property or equipment.

## **PDA—PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION**

There will be NO PDA (Public Displays of Affection) at any band related activity both in and outside of the classroom. This includes holding hands and kissing.

## **INITIATIONS/SENIOR PRANKS**

There will be absolutely NO initiation of any kind for freshmen or new band members under any circumstances. There will be NO Senior pranks of any kind. If an initiation or prank is suspected, the proper authorities (police and/or school administration) will be contacted immediately.

## **HOUSEKEEPING**

### A CLEAN HOUSE IS A HAPPY HOUSE

- Chewing gum is not permitted during a rehearsal or in the band room.
- Food and drink are not permitted in the band room.

## **THE BANDROOM**

- The use of the band room before, after, and during school is a privilege.
- Students who abuse the facility will be disciplined accordingly; any abuse or damage will be considered vandalism.
- NO OUTSIDE STUDENTS ARE PERMITTED IN THE BANDROOM except for business with the director.
- There will be no horseplay, i.e. throwing of things, in or around the band room.
- All percussion and guard equipment are off limits to anyone not specifically designated to use them.
- No storing of personal items – THE BANDROOM IS NOT A LOCKER!
- If you leave your instrument in the storage room after-hours, the band will not accept any responsibility for damages and/or theft.

## **PRACTICE ROOMS**

- Practice rooms are to be used for practice or private instruction.
- Keep the room neat. Clean up any mess.
- Only 1 stand and 1 chair per room.

## **BAND DIRECTOR'S OFFICE, PHONE**

- Director's Office: The band office is private and is not to be entered by any student without permission from the director or a staff member. All students should keep in mind that this is a place of business. If the door is shut, knock first.
- Phone: Telephone use should be kept to a minimum and is not for personal use. Ask permission before using.

## **UNIFORM RESPONSIBILITIES**

A band member must respect his/her uniform, and wear it properly at all times.

### **MARCHING BAND**

During the Marching Band season, students will wear either the formal marching band uniform, assigned costume, or the summer uniform, depending on the performance situation.

- The marching band uniform, uniform cleaning, and gloves are provided via the band fees.

**Parents and students are responsible for having or purchasing the following:**

- **Marching Band Shoes**
- **Black compression shorts**
- **Long, plain black socks**
- **Blue jeans**
- **Tennis Shoes**
- **Flip folders for wind players with several sheets**
- **Band shirt/hoodies (optional)**

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. All marching band members must arrive at all performances in uniform unless directed otherwise. This consists of band bibbers, long sleeve shirt and vest/jacket or jumpsuit for guard, band shoes, and full-length solid black socks.
2. Unless directed otherwise, for performances away from WHHS, all members must board and disembark the buses at WHHS wearing the uniform described in #1.
3. Full uniforms must remain on until a director says otherwise.
4. All members are responsible for bringing all issued or purchased uniform parts to EVERY performance. It is not the director's responsibility to reissue items because of the irresponsibility of the members. Students who come to a performance without their full uniform will not be allowed to perform, and their grade will be negatively affected. (See attendance and punctuality responsibilities above).
5. The uniform should always be worn clean, pressed and free of wrinkles.
6. Students are financially responsible for all damaged items.

### **UNIFORM CARE – TOP, PANTS, GARMENT BAG**

1. Always hang up uniform after a performance. Fold pants on the crease and place on hanger.
2. Always hang up uniform in a dry place to allow moisture to escape before placing it in garment bag for storage.

### **UNIFORM CARE – SHOES**

1. Clean shoe surface with a leather cleaner product before each performance.
2. Clean heel and sole edging as well as shoe surface.
3. Store shoes in a plastic bag before placing them in the garment bag.

## **CONCERT ATTIRE**

During the Concert Band season, students will wear formal concert attire.

**Parents and students are responsible for purchasing/obtaining the formal concert attire:**

- **Men: Long sleeve solid white dress shirt, black dress pants, black belt, thin black dress socks, black tie/bowtie and polished black tuxedo/dress shoes.**
- **Women: Either a nice black dress that reaches the ankles and black close-toed shoes or a black full length "blazer" jacket, black camisole, solid black dress pants, black hose/stockings, and black close-toed shoes.**
  - **Maximum heel height: 1.5 inches.**

## **BEYOND THE UNIFORM**

The following should be MINIMAL and MODEST (not distracting):

- Jewelry, make-up, and nail design/color.
- Hair coloring/dying and presentation should also be subtle and professional.
- Men have the option of being clean shaven or clean-cut/trimmed regarding facial hair.

If you are unsure about appropriate clothing or accessory choices, please do not hesitate to ask the band director.

## **INAPPROPRIATE DRESS**

If a student is dressed inappropriately, grade penalty and/or dismissal from performance will occur. This includes extremes such as neon colored hair or inappropriate shoe heel heights to missing uniform parts.

This is a professional organization, and there are expectations that must be met.

## ***INSTRUMENT RESPONSIBILITIES***

### **INSTRUMENT DAMAGE AND REPAIR**

If a student damages a school owned instrument or a personal instrument, it is the duty of the student and parents to take care of all fees (with some exceptions). This includes creases, dings, valves, scratches, etc. This fee is NOT covered by the band fees. All instruments are assessed and documented prior to distribution. Do not let others play a school owned instrument that is issued to you. You and your parents will still be held responsible for any damages found.

### **WINDS**

1. Instruments and cases are to be kept clean inside and out.
2. Always handle instruments carefully, whether they belong to you or to the WHHS Band. Abuse or neglect may result in loss of school instrument use – see WHHS Band Instrument Rental Agreement.
3. All reed players should have several working reeds with them at all times. All reeds, mouthpieces, cleaning supplies, etc. are the individual's responsibility.

### **PERCUSSION**

1. All percussion areas should be cleaned and organized daily.
2. **ALL PERCUSSIONISTS MUST HAVE THEIR OWN SET OF STICKS AND MALLETS FOR USE IN REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES.** The WHHS Band will provide a limited number of certain types of sticks and mallets for use during performances. Any WHHS percussion equipment that is damaged must be replaced at the expense of the guilty party unless it is determined that damage was a result of normal wear and tear.
3. Carefully pack and unpack all equipment and be cautious when setting the drums on potentially damaging surfaces.
4. All members are to assist with packing or unpacking unless otherwise assigned by instructors.

### **ALL SECTIONS**

1. Repair or report damaged instruments immediately.
2. Do not trade instruments without director approval.
3. Pack and unpack your own instrument.
4. Carry a pencil AT ALL TIMES!

## ***MUSICAL RESPONSIBILITIES***

### **MARCHING MUSIC**

During marching season, all members are responsible for memorizing all field show music, including the National Anthem and Fight Song. If a student cannot perform this music from memory, he or she will not be permitted to perform with the group until it is learned properly.

### **LOST MUSIC**

Each student is responsible for his/her first copy of music. If music is lost or damaged, the student will pay \$0.25 per page for a replacement.

# **FUNDRAISING/VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

The county, state and school provide the WHHS Band with a fraction of what is necessary to operate a band program over the course of the year.

We must raise our own funds to cover the majority of the cost of uniforms, equipment and equipment maintenance, transportation, and numerous other expenses. The support to maintain the band program is provided by the WHHS Band Boosters.

## **FOOTBALL GAMES AND CHAPERONING REGULAR TRIPS**

The band needs volunteers to help at football games and supervise students on regular, regional trips.

## **FRUIT SALE**

The Fruit Sale is typically the most profitable fundraiser each year. Sales begin in mid-October and run through the start of Thanksgiving Break, and fruit is distributed during mid-December.

Each student receives a packet containing instructions, sales slips, and for band veterans, a list of previous years' sales. The PROFIT margin for fruit sales is typically around 33%.

## **SPONSORSHIPS**

Each student is required to bring in a total of \$300 donations during the marching band season. Each donation should be made to the WHHS Band Boosters and is a tax deductible donation. Parents and students are welcome to help acquire as many donations as possible. Local businesses are a great place to look!

## **EQUIPMENT TRANSPORTATION**

Parents will be needed to drive equipment trucks to and from events.

## **PROP BUILDING**

Any parents with building skills/talents/connections are welcome to help with prop building. These types of props will vary from year to year; however, your work adds a great deal to the production value of the performance.

## **PROP CREW**

Parents will be needed to assemble and move props at all contests.

## **MEDIA OPT OUT POLICY**

Throughout the year, photos are taken of members of the band in a variety of circumstances - rehearsals, competitions and beyond. These photos may be posted on various websites, including the band website, Facebook, district website, local newspaper sites, and SC Band Director's Association site.

If, for any reason, you do not wish for your child to have their picture taken and used, please indicate your preference in the Directory & Publish Preferences form you complete online. Every reasonable effort will be made to omit your child's information and image.

Please note: if your child appears in a group picture, the picture may still be used. Please speak to Mr. Pace if you have any concerns.

# **WADE HAMPTON HIGH SCHOOL BAND AGREEMENT**

***PLEASE COMPLETE THE BAND FORM ONLINE, WHICH INCLUDES ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES FOR BOTH YOU AND YOUR PARENT(S) BY Tuesday, July 31.***

*Students must have a current, completed band form on file in order to participate in any WHHS Band activities.*

## **BAND MEMBER AGREEMENT**

This handbook has been designed to provide you with the rules and requirements for participation in the Wade Hampton High School Band. Its purpose is to give parents and students a clear and concise understanding of the workings of our band department and to provide a guide which covers most aspects of the function and requirements of participation.

Your electronic signature in the Band Form indicates that you agree to the following:

- I have read and thoroughly understand this handbook.
- I will follow all the policies outlined within the WHHS Band Handbook, as well as all policies put forth by Wade Hampton High School and Greenville County Schools.
- I understand that failure to adhere to the aforementioned policies could result in a negative impact on my grade, suspension from rehearsals and/or performances, or removal from the WHHS Band program.
- I will do my personal best and follow the conditions outlined in this handbook.