



**WHITE STATION**

*Excellence For All*

# **SPARTAN BAND HANDBOOK**

**Policies and Traditions**

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Director of Bands

514 South Perkins Road • Memphis, Tennessee 38117

To: White Station High School Spartan Band

From: Charles A. Wright, Director of Bands

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to another year of music making with the white Station High School Spartan Bands. I want to congratulate you on your decision to continue the study of music. I think you will be pleased to find new and exciting educational opportunities awaiting you this year.

Students it is my goal to offer educational experiences in music that each of you will find fun and rewarding. I know you will grow a great deal this year as individuals and as a group. Parents, I encourage you to lead and active role in our child's musical development. Music is a crucial part of a students' development and the full involvement of both students and parents alike will further the development of each child.

I look forward to meeting all of you and to continue the **Excellence**, the **Innovation**, the **Tradition** and the **Esprit de Corps** that are the Bands of White Station. I am always available for your guidance and encouragement!

I look forward to a great year together!

Sincerely,

Charles A. Wright  
Director of Bands

# Band Program

## Purpose

The White Station Spartan High School Band Program is a total music program that reflects self-discipline, maturity, pride, positive attitude and responsibility. This organization strives for high standards and ideals for school and community

Participation in the White Station Spartan High School Band Program will develop personal responsibilities, commitment and a sense of community. Each member must know they are vitally important to the program. Furthermore, as each member increases his/her musical ability and/or learns skillful routines we will successfully entertain our audiences and more importantly develop as musicians and a band.

## Scheduling and Curricular Course Offerings

Any scheduling questions or concerns should be addressed directly to the band director. The director often has creative ways to work out scheduling problems. The band director sets the instrumentation of the bands. The curricular courses may include Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Marching Band, Jazz Band and AP Theory.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

The White Station Spartan High School Band Program offers several extra-curricular activities. Extra-curricular activities have practices/rehearsals after school hours.

**Pep Band- Pep** Band performs during varsity basketball games. We play between the JV and Varsity Games. This band will practice after school on an as needed basis to prepare for games. A schedule will be available in November. Students will wear their band shirt and clean jeans as the uniform. Those that volunteer for Pep Band are committing to the ENTIRE Pep Band season.

**Percussion Ensemble-** Percussion Ensemble is an ensemble that refines musical skills on percussion. This ensemble is open to any member of the Spartan Band, which percussion students receiving the first opportunity to participate. Depending on the size of the group, a second ensemble may be created. The ensemble will perform on concerts, and other activities to be determined.

**Chamber Ensemble-** Chamber Ensemble will consist of small ensembles that work to refine musical proficiency on their instrument in small groups. These groups will be primary self guided activities with the oversight of the director. These ensembles may consist of: Brass Ensemble, Woodwind Ensemble, Quartets, Quintets and many others. If there is music available for a group we will do it. These Chamber Ensembles will perform at concert and a separate concert of their own.

**Color Guard & Winter Guard Programs-** This program will develop a student's visual sensory. Students will learn the basics of flag, dance and other visual arts.

## Organization

### Staff

The White Station Band program has many people involved in its everyday activities:

**Director-** oversees the entire program as well as being responsible for the instrumentalists' development. The director is in charge of administrative policies and actions.

**Sponsors-** responsible for the color guard and other activities deemed necessary by the director. The sponsor reports to the director. This is normally a volunteer who is donating their time.

**Instructors-** responsible for aiding the director in rehearsal of marching band. They report to the director and collaborate and coordinate the routines and music. Instructors are normally a volunteer who is donating their time.

## Band Policies

### Student Expectations

*The success of the band depends solely on the successes of its members.*

Please keep these three things in mind at all times:

#### RESPONSIBILITY-

I am responsible for myself. No one can make me practice and improve, but me. Leaders, directors and clinicians can only point me in the right direction. I must do my own work. I must make sure that that I am progressing. I must be responsible for all the little things that can make me great. No one can make me do these things. I do them to make my band, my school better and myself better.

#### RESPECT-

I am a part of a SUPERIOR band. I respect its traditions, and the members that have gone before me. My band will continue to be superior. I owe it to myself, my school, my community, and those who have gone before me. I will treat my fellow students with respect and they will respect me. I will treat parents, sponsors, instructors and my band director with respect, and they will respect me. A culture of respect is the only way to success. Disrespect only harbors resentment, hostility and failure.

#### RESULTS-

If I am responsible for myself the band will succeed. If I respect myself, my group, my peers and my leaders, the band will succeed. We will achieve all our goals together.

### Band Room Rules

1. Food, drinks and gum are not allowed in the band room at any time. The only exception is water. (Flavored water is not allowed). These items can cause critters to visit our band room.
2. Hats are not to be worn in the band room.
3. Take proper care in storing your instrument.
4. Put away anything you get out, and put back anything you move
5. Do not play other people's instruments – EVER.
6. Help keep the band room clean. Do not store things in lockers or inappropriate places. Items left in the band room will be discarded.

## **Rehearsal Procedures**

1. Do not carry on conversation when anyone is addressing the group or any part of the group.
2. Rehearsal will begin at the schedule time. Being tardy to rehearsals will impact your grade, and will cause the rehearsal to run over the scheduled end time.
3. Warm-up in an appropriate manner.
4. Pay attention to the director's comments to other sections.
5. Use down time in rehearsals to finger difficult passages.
6. Be prepared for all rehearsals, i.e. bring a PENCIL, music, accessories, etc.
7. If you have an emergency situation, please leave the room as you need to. Do not ask for permission to leave if you are going to be sick.
8. Use the restroom prior to rehearsals, no passes will be giving.
9. Make the best possible tone each time you play.

## **Attendance**

- The attendance of every member of the band is paramount. When one person misses rehearsal, everyone suffers. Please attend all scheduled rehearsals, or notify the director beforehand of your absence.
- PLEASE KEEP THE BAND CALENDAR CLOSE AT HAND. IGNORANCE OF REHEARSALS IS NOT AN EXCUSE.
- Unexcused, unarranged absences from a concert or performance will result in the loss of major points which will affect your grade.
- Chronic Absence from rehearsals may result in dismissal from the band program. Any student who misses the dress rehearsal after school practice may not be allowed to perform or may only perform in a limited manner.
- I fully understand the importance of students who work; however you are expected to be at every practice. Students will know when all rehearsals/performances are at least two weeks ahead of time. Any rehearsal/performance with less than two weeks notice will be asked of the band of conflicts before it is scheduled. Once you commit to these rehearsals/performances the attendance policy will be in effect.

### **Excused Absences**

1. Personal illness
2. Emergency doctor appointments
3. Close family weddings
4. Other school acknowledged reasons
5. Funerals
6. Other absences with approval from director

### **Unexcused Absences**

1. Doctor or Dentist appointments
2. Work Schedule conflicts
3. School club meeting without advance notice
4. Too busy or forgetful

## **Conduct**

Students must follow the White Station High School rules at all times when participating in any band activity. WE MUST SET A HIGH STANDARD; WE ARE AMBASSADORS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF OUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY. Violation of conduct or attendance policies may result in any of the following consequences. The band director will use his best discretion and follow established precedents when assigning consequences. Consequences can include but are not limited to:

- Student conference
- Contacting parents
- Parent conference
- Demerits
- Detention – Band room clean-up
- Referral to administration
- Behavioral contract

*If you simply use common sense, you will avoid many problems.  
Most of all, if any action you consider is questionable – DON'T DO IT  
If you have any doubt – DON'T DO IT*

## **School Owned Instruments**

To take instruments home students must check them out with the director. You are responsible for the care of your school owned instrument. You will be held responsible for any damage to your horn that is not deemed normal wear and tear. Your instrument should be returned in the same condition that it was received.

## **Band Director's Office**

- Students are always welcome in the band director's office, but it is not a hang out.
- The office is a place of business. When you are in it, treat it as such.
- Personal calls are not allowed from the office phone except in emergencies.
- Always knock before entering the office.
- Do not enter the office unless you ask.

## **Conflicts with Athletic Activities**

Students in the band program are also involved in many other school sponsored after-school activities. The director and coaches cooperate well to work out conflicts. It is the responsibility of the students to work out such conflicts with the coach and the band director. The directors' philosophy is Performances/Games come first. Any conflicts with practices/rehearsals shall be worked out with dividing the overlapping time in half with each activity.

## Transportation Guidelines

- Students must ride on school provided transportation whenever offered. This is for the students' safety.
- Students will sign up for busses at the beginning of the year. This bussing list will remain the same for the year. Any changes must be approved by the director.
- Students may ride home from performances with parents. To do so they must **provide the director with the Bus Exemption Form signed by the parents, principal and director 24 hours in advanced.** Students are only allowed to ride with parents. This policy is for the students' protection and is provided to ensure that students are not leaving with persons other than those of whom their parents would approve.
- Follow all rules as set forth by the district's policy regarding bussing.
- **ALWAYS BE SILENT WHEN SOMEONE IS ADDRESSING THE BUS.**
- The bus driver is always right. His or her rules are the rules we will follow. This may change from driver to driver. Please accept the driver's rules without question or complaint.

## Marching Band Uniform

1. Uniforms should be neat and clean at each performance
2. Uniforms are to be worn as specified by the director
3. The entire uniform must be worn at all times. There may be times when the director will allow you to remove your jackets. In this case all students must wear the band shirt in order to keep the group looking the same.
4. Uniforms should be hung correctly after each performance and stored properly
5. Students are responsible for keeping track of the uniform and its accessories
6. Shoes are to be clean and polished for each performance.
7. Uniform inspection will commence prior to leaving for the performance.
8. No jewelry may be worn while in uniform. This is for safety and to make sure we look uniform
9. **Each student is responsible for the care and maintenance of his/her uniform.**

## Concert Band, Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble Uniform

Gentlemen: Black Tuxedo including Jacket  
White Tuxedo Shirt  
Solid Black Dress Sock  
Black Dress Shoes  
Black bow tie

Ladies: Solid, long black long dress (everyone must purchase the same dress, order forms to follow)  
Hose, Black Dress Shoes  
Simple jewelry

## **Jazz Band**

### Ladies and Gentlemen:

Solid Black Pants  
Solid Black Collar, Long Sleeve Shirt  
Black Socks and Black Dress Shoes

# **Marching Band**

## **White Station Marching Spartans**

The White Station Spartan Marching Band is a co-curricular performance organization whose purpose is to perform during football games (including half-time shows), marching band competitions/shows, pep rallies, parades and other community activities. One of the main activities is to support the varsity football team during games. In addition, they participate in band competitions/shows, parades and other community activities. In July, the band begins a schedule of practices, including a week, day long band camp to prepare for the marching season. This organization is the largest and most visible in the band program and offers to those students the chance to participate in an exciting part of White Station high School. This organization is offered to those students in the band classes and by audition (color guard). A student must be very dedicated to the marching band because of the hours it takes to make this organization superior, and we **WILL BE SUPERIOR!** The marching band also offers many opportunities to develop student leadership.

## **Color Guard**

The Color Guard of the White Station Marching Spartans is a performance group whose purpose is to provide visual enhancement to the marching band. The color guard performs at all of the above mentioned activities. Membership is based on tryouts, which are held every spring for students in grades nine through twelve. Students must be a member of the band program and not a freshman. The Color Guard brings a great deal of pride and enthusiasm to the Marching Spartans.

## **Attendance**

See attendance guidelines in Band Policies section. The marching band will also use the following guidelines:

1. Please refer to the “Band Policies” section of this handbook for description and information about excused and un-excused absences.
2. All performance and rehearsal requirements for marching band last until the football game ends. The football season lasts until the last football game has been played. **THIS INCLUDES ALL PLAYOFF GAMES.**
3. The rehearsal before any performance is considered a “dress rehearsal” when specific items to the performance (logistics, musical, etc) are covered it is imperative that all members are present. Any student not in attendance may not be allow to perform or may only perform in a limited manner.

## Football Game Procedures

- All school rules, policies and regulations apply at all times when with the band.
- Check In- every week you will be given a check in time. You should check in with the director at or before this time.
- Uniform Inspections- Before departure, the band lines up in the “block.” The director and section leaders will inspect their sections to make sure that everyone is ready to go
  - o Black Shoes
  - o Black Socks
  - o Clean White Gloves
  - o Band Uniform
  - o Current Band Shirt
  - o No Jewelry
- Bus
  - o The bus driver’s rules are always correct. Never argue with the bus driver
  - o Remain silent when someone is addressing the bus
  - o Music cannot be heard by anyone but you – no speakers
- Game
  - o Students are expected to stay in the block for the entire time we are in the stands. Students may not leave their sections to socialize with friends.
  - o No Non-band students are allowed in the band block NO EXCEPTIONS.
  - o No food or drink except water is allowed in the block except during 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter break.
  - o All students play every time the group plays.
  - o NEVER PLAY UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO DO SO BY THE DIRECTOR OR DRUM MAJOR.
  - o Pay close attention to know what song is about to be played. Watch the game, and always be ready to play. SUPPORT THE TEAM.
  - o Students must go to the restroom in twos or with a parent.
  - o Always stay in uniform unless told otherwise by the director.
  - o Have lyres, flip folders and all music with you in the stands.
  - o **NO CELL PHONES.** School policy will be in effect during performances.
- After the Game
  - o No one should leave until dismissed by the director
  - o Be sure to pick up any and all trash before leaving.
- Uniform - You are responsible for the care of your own uniform while you are wearing it. Lost or damaged uniform parts must be replaced at your expense.
- Consequences – Violating these policies may result in one or more of the following consequences:
  - o Loss of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Break – you must stay in the band block during break.
  - o Loading/unloading equipment duty.
  - o Band room clean up duty
  - o School mandated punishments

## **Discipline**

Each rehearsal and performance will have specific objectives. Any disruption (major or minor) causes every student to fall short of the goals. For each rehearsal to run efficiently, the rehearsal must maintain a high level of self-discipline. **Discipline is a state of mind!** Consequences result when self-discipline breaks down. It is extremely important that rehearsals and performances are efficient and well disciplined.

- Discipline will be handled as needed within the ensemble. The director will deal with all discipline issues.
- Possible consequences for poor discipline in rehearsal are the same as listed above.

## **Inspection**

The students' appearance will be inspected prior to each performance to ensure that the bands' presentation is of the highest standard possible. Failure at inspection (which includes being tardy) for the first offense will result in a warning. The second offense will result in loss of points. Continued offenses will be handed in a manner as mentioned in earlier sections of discipline.

## **Color Guard Try-out Information**

1. Try-outs will be held each spring. Everyone (veteran and new) will try out
2. Just because you made the line last year does not guarantee you will make it the following year.
3. Several day training period will be provided before try-outs to enable the candidate to learn the commands and routines used during judging. A member who misses one day of the clinic will not be allowed to try-out. Exceptions include sports. These students will be given a make-up practice option.
4. Candidates will be provided with a copy of the requirements, rules and regulations for color guard. Each candidate and their parents must read, sign and return a copy of the rules before the candidate can be judged at try-outs. This form will reflect your consent of the rules, regulations, financial expenses and commitment of the time involved in marching.
5. Numbers rather than names will be used to identify candidates during try-outs.
6. No less than three impartial judges will judge the candidates.

## Lettering in Band

In order to earn a Letter in Marching Band the following requirements must be met:

- 500 points to earn letter
- 500 points to earn bar

Points can be earned through the following activities:

- 400 points Yearlong participation in marching band (July through the end of the year)
- 100 points Yearlong participation in Concert, Symphonic, Jazz Band or Wind Ensemble
- 75 points Season- long participation in Percussion Ensemble, Pep Band, Winter Guard or Chamber Ensemble.
- 50 points Participation in District Solo & Ensemble Festival
- 50 points Participation in All District/State Honors Band
- 50 points Per semester of private lessons on your primary instrument
- 50 points Performing in another classical music ensemble outside of band
- 10 points Being a band officer
- 10 points Setting up/tear down of concerts
- 10 points attending a classical music concert (program needed)
- 10 points cleaning the band room (no points awarded for discipline of cleaning band room).
- Various points may be awarded at the discretion of the director.

Points may be lost as a result of the following actions. Points may be lost for other actions at the discretion of the band director.

- -10 points Being tardy for rehearsal/performance
- -30 points Every unexcused absences of after school rehearsals
- -100 points Every unexcused absence from a performance
- -10 points Missing a piece of uniform or equipment for a game
- -5points Missing music

# Leadership and Officer Training

## Becoming a Leader

It is important to realize that every student in this program has an influence, positive or negative. The goal of an officer should be to go beyond that of the average band member. When you accomplish this, you have become a leader. Leadership goes beyond a rehearsal; it is more than a full time job – it is a lifestyle.

The aspects of a leader cannot be manufactured. Genuine leadership comes from within a person. The foundation is **maturity and a good attitude**. Successful leadership only results from respecting others and having their respect. The following is a list of ways to gain the respect of your peers:

- Competency – the ability to do your job WELL
- Lead by example and set high standards
- Be energetic and enthusiastic – it's contagious!
- Be responsible and stay informed
- Be consistent!!

Furthermore, you must respect other leaders. If the leaders of an organization cannot communicate and work together, there is no hope. Commit to being a team player, not a hero. Finally, lead from within the band, not from above the band; you are still a student who has to go to class with these individuals.

As you seek to be an officer of this band, be sure to walk the walk before you talk the talk. If you are not selected as an officer, do not be angry. If you have predetermined that you will quite band if you do not get a position, you are not a leader. As an officer, you will now be in the most important part of the group. When all members are operating under the appropriate authority, the band will improve. Thank you again for your faithful participation in this organization.

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### Marching Band Officer Positions

\* President \* Vice President \* Secretary \* Reporter-Historian  
\* Drum Major \* Color Guard Captain \* Quartermaster \* Assistant Quartermaster  
\* Section Leader \* Librarian

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**Replace “Instant gratification” with Delayed gratification.”**

**You must do what needs to be done, when it needs to be done, whether you want to or not.**

**Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser**

**There are no get rich quick methods for a band member; through hard work and commitment, you will appreciate what you have accomplished.**

**Every action has a consequence, good or bad.**

**Even if it means walking through a brick wall, a genuine leader will get the job done.**

**Mr. Jeff Foster**

**Band President**

1. Commanding officer of the band.
2. Represents the band at various school government functions.
3. Serves as student conductor when needed.
4. Coordinates loading and stage crews.
5. Helps with the organization of the annual Band Banquet
6. Lead by example and set high standards for yourself and in all aspects of the band program.
7. Exhibits and demands self discipline in the band
8. Be Positive!

**Vice President**

1. The student must take over in the absence of the president.
2. Assist the president with loading and stage crews.
3. Report the condition of the band inventory (with assistance from the quartermaster).
4. Responsible for the storage areas to see that they are kept in order.
5. Lead by example and set high standards for yourself and in all aspects of the band program.
6. Exhibits and demands self discipline in the band
7. Be Positive!

**Secretary**

1. Checks attendance and helps keep band records (cumulative award records).
2. Does assigned secretarial work.
3. Updates and posts merit points.
4. Lead by example and set high standards for yourself and in all aspects of the band program.
5. Exhibits and demands self discipline in the band
6. Be Positive!

**Reporter-Historian**

1. Publicity officer for all functions.
2. Write news releases and newsletters (with director approval).
3. Keeps band scrapbook.
4. Keeps up-to-date bulletin boards.
5. Keeps the trophy case and other display areas neat at all times.
6. Lead by example and set high standards for yourself and in all aspects of the band program.
7. Exhibits and demands self discipline in the band
8. Be Positive!

**Quartermaster**

1. Issues and keeps records of all uniforms and equipment.
2. Makes regular inspections and reports on the condition of the uniforms.
3. Inventory uniforms after each football game or performance.
4. Assists director with inventory of instruments.
5. Lead by example and set high standards for yourself and in all aspects of the band program.
6. Exhibits and demands self discipline in the band
7. Be Positive!

**Assistant Quartermaster**

1. Assists the quartermaster at all times.
2. Oversees implantation of loading crew.
3. Lead by example and set high standards for yourself and in all aspects of the band program.
4. Exhibits and demands self discipline in the band
5. Be Positive!

### **Drum Major**

1. Demonstrates leadership in both marching and concert activities.
2. One or two may be selected depending on the size of the organization.
3. Directs the marching band at games and performances.
4. Conducts basic fundamentals at the beginning of each marching rehearsal.
5. Conducts proper warm-ups (including stretching).
6. Directs and assists director at all marching band rehearsals.
7. Prepare band for inspections before all performances.
8. Maintain the marching band music crate.
9. Be the last one to leave after rehearsals and performances.
10. Lead by example and set high standards for yourself and in all aspects of the band program.
11. Exhibits and demands self discipline in the band
12. Be Positive!

### **Section Leaders**

1. Assist in teaching music/routines and drill as instructed.
2. Run sections when instructed.
3. Call extra sectionals and individual help time as needed.
4. Work to maintain discipline within your section.
5. After rehearsals and performances assist the drum major
6. Lead by example and set high standards for yourself and in all aspects of the band program.
7. Exhibits and demands self discipline in the band
8. Be Positive!

### **Color Guard Captains**

1. Run rehearsal in the absence of the director or the guard sponsor.
2. Assist in teaching music/routines and drill during all rehearsals.
3. Run sectional when instructed by the director or sponsor.
4. Be the last guard member to leave insuring all equipment is properly put away.
5. Record music for guard rehearsal.
6. Lead by example and set high standards for yourself and in all aspects of the band program.
7. Exhibits and demands self discipline in the band
8. Be Positive!

### **Librarian**

1. Be responsible for care, filling and cataloging of all music.
2. Keep library clean and orderly.
3. Maintain one original copy of each part of all the music.
4. Distribute and collect all music in an orderly fashion.
5. Copy music as needed and approved by the director.
6. Lead by example and set high standards for yourself and in all aspects of the band program.
7. Exhibits and demands self discipline in the band
8. Be Positive!

You are responsible for doing all duties to the best of your ability. If discipline is a problem in your section, you will be held accountable. If discipline is a problem with you personally, you will be replaced as an officer.

ALL POTENTIAL OFFICERS MUST PARTICIPATE IN OFFICER TRAINING CLASSES. THESE CLASSES WILL BE SCHEDULED DURING THE SUMMER AFTER REHEARSAL.

## Officer Guidelines

**Please read the entire section on leadership before you consider auditioning.**

Officer candidates are expected to:

- Have been in the marching band the pervious marching season.
- Been enrolled in band class for the entire previous school year.
- Place band as a top priority.
- Be positive. You are to serve your section. Not order them around.
- Be the first to arrive and the last to leave.
- Superior marchers.
- Superior musicians (first to have music memorized).
- Work harder and longer than the rest.
- Have highest standards for themselves.

## Officer Audition Process

1. Complete and return the following by the chosen due date:
  - a. Officer application.
  - b. Write resume' and cover letter.
  - c. Teacher evaluation.
2. Attend all officer candidate meetings and clinics as specified by the director.
3. Help during Rookie Camp.
4. Complete band improvement project.
5. Lead by example from now through the end of the year.
  - a. In class and out.
- b. Complete jobs as assigned by the director.
6. Audition – Wind and Percussion Candidates – usually in early May.
  - a. Vocal commands: judged on confidence, volume, clarity, tempo, preparation and flow.
  - b. Marching execution with instruments.
  - c. Interview
  - d. Marching Term Test
  - e. Drum Major
    - i. Salute, judge on originality, presentation and general effect.
    - ii. Conducting
      1. Patterns
      2. Fight Song
      3. Alma Mater
      4. Prepared piece
        - a. Candidate's choice, conduct a recorded excerpt approximately two minutes in length, judged on difficulty, confidence, cueing, cut offs, musicality and general effect.
7. Color Guard – in addition to #6
  - a. Must have one of the top scores among the eligible members during color guard tryouts.
  - b. Must be a junior or senior and not a rookie.

## Officer Resume' and Cover Letter

Handle this as though you were applying for a job of your dreams. The resume' and cover letter should be typed and include:

- Name, address, phone number(s), etc.
- How long have you been in the band and what awards have you received?
- Your qualification for the position.
- What you have done for the band above and beyond the average member?

The cover letter should include:

- The position(s) you are trying out for.
- The strengths and WEAKNESSES that you would bring to the position.
- Why you want the position?
- What and how would you make the band a better band?

## Grading Earning your Grade

Your grade will consist of rehearsal, performance, improvement, practice, after school practices and homework points. On top of these grades, student will be given 100 points from which deductions (demerits) will be assessed according to the following:

Event	Points subtracted
1) Unexcused absence from full band rehearsal	5
2) Unexcused absence from special rehearsal	5
3) Unexcused absence from performance	50
4) Tardy for special rehearsal	2
5) Tardy for band class	5
6) Tardy for performance	10
7) Not paying attention	2
8) Improper appearances for performances	1-5
9) Failure of music and pencil checks	5
10) Talking out of turn or profanity	5-10
11) Improper care of instrument	5
12) Poor posture (when seated)	1
13) Chewing gum, eating, drinking soda during rehearsals and in the band room	5
14) Leaning on stands, littering or knocking down stands or chairs	1
15) Poor participation (not playing, or faking)	10
16) Disturbing rehearsal, disobeying director	5-10
17) Failure to bring instrument, music, equipment to rehearsal	2
18) Music, instrument or personal materials out of place	1
19) Entering the band director's office without permission	1
20) Intentionally damaging school property, instruments, uniforms or other equipment along with the facility	100 and possible dismissal from band
21) Stealing, fighting or moral misconduct	100 and possible dismissal from band
22) Not in seat when rehearsal starts	2

\*The demerits are given when the director witnesses an event, students who tell on a student to the directors will have to be considered on a case-by-case basis. Demerits are not limited to the above; the director has the discretion on issuing demerits on other offenses.

Offenses which cannot be worked off:  
#3, 10, 16, 20, 21, 22

Offenses can be worked off by the following:

1 point:

The following scales from memorization (Bb, C, F, G, Eb)  
1 page (from a writing assignment assign by the band director)  
30 minute lesson with the band director

2 points:

The following scales from memorization (Ab, A, E, Gb)  
sweeping the band room  
2 (30) minute lessons or 1 hour lesson with the band director

3 points:

Carrying the ladder for 2 weeks  
The following scales from memory (a minor, g minor)  
Mopping the band room

Demerits:

1. Demerits are given by the band director for any violation of the rules and regulations of the band.
2. Demerits may be worked off only by the above criteria.
3. Merit/demerit charts will be posted at all times and be updated by the secretary.
4. Demerits must be worked off within the grading period they occur.

\*This system is not to punish but to inspire and strive to be the best that we can be as well as motivate to by a high necessity for this band program.

## **Fund Raisers – Student Accounts**

Fund raising activities may be undertaken to help the student and parents defray some of the cost of band. The profit earned from such fundraisers shall be kept in a special account for the benefit of the student and will be kept for his or her use in connection with activities of the band. This money may be used to pay for the students' band fees, trips, clinics and other approved band expenses. This account will be kept for the student's benefit throughout the time he/she is enrolled in the band program. If the student drops out of the program, the amount will be forfeited to the band program and will be used to fund the budget of the band. Upon graduating, if any money remains in his/her account, the student has the following options: (A) pass the money on to a brother/sister in the band program; (B) donate the money to another student in the band program; or (C) give the money to the band for a specific purpose. If one of these options is not chosen, the money will be transferred to the general fund of the band. No refunds may be made to a student of fundraiser money.

## **Other Costs**

Annually it is necessary for participants in the band program to bear individual expenses in addition to that necessary for the student to continue in band. These include but are not limited to: honors bands, solo & ensemble, trips, shoes and gloves. At the beginning of the year the director will do his best to provide a detailed listing of anticipated expenses for the school year. This is necessary so that the student and parents will be able to plan for the full financial commitment needed.

## **Band Trip Cost**

The cost of any trip the band may take or in addition to all other costs. To determine the cost per student of an anticipated trip, the director, with advice and consent of the school board, shall estimate the total cost of the trip. This total amount shall be divided by the number of students taking the trip to arrive at the per student cost.

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**No student will be denied participation in the band program because of financial inability to make payments. A family in this situation should contact the director to discuss this in confidence. The director will work with the family to restructure the payment or to arrange participation in addition fund raising activities in lieu of payment. Just contact the director for assistance.**



**White Station High School Band  
Band Handbook Agreement Form**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I have read the Band Handbook and understand its contents. I will follow, to the best of my ability, the rules and regulations contained therein. I understand that infractions of the rules and regulations will result in grade penalties and/or disciplinary action.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I am aware that my child has received a Band Handbook, which explains the policies of the White Station High School Band. I will encourage him or her to follow the rules and regulations in the handbook. I understand that infractions of the rules and regulations will result in grade penalties and/or disciplinary action. I understand that the interpretation of the handbook rests with the band director.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date