

# THE WWHS BAND MANUAL

## WELCOME BACK BLACKHAWKS!

Students and Parents and Family,

Welcome back to another new year with the West Wilkes Blackhawk Band. I hope this letter finds you ready to start a new year after resting over the summer months. Our band has grown again from last year from the mid 30's to 53 members at our last roster count. I look forward to seeing our band continue to grow and mature in the future.

I am very pleased with the work ethic our Band members have shown this year. In Band Camp our new members ( about 24) and have jumped right in with the best results in my tenure as the West Wilkes Band Director. They continue to improve and work in detail while quickly learning the basics. I look forward to a great year!

I would be remiss not to thank our leadership team. Our student leaders have come together and are implementing their leadership skills. They have worked over the summer and come in early each day to prepare for rehearsal. With their organization and preparation we are more productive during rehearsal. Mr Taylor returns again as our percussion instructor and as always is invaluable

*Matthew Dauer*  
*Director of Bands*  
*West Wilkes Band Program*



to our program.

I would like to thank our students, parents and friends of the band who have signed up to help us in the concession stand. We still have several nights in August that need coverage. In this tight financial times your support in our fundraising activities is essential to providing our students with the means to perform, travel, and showcase our talented youth in West Wilkes.

Without the support of the West Wilkes Band Boosters and its members we would not survive as a program. Please make a special effort to join us on our Band Booster meeting dates on the third Tuesday of each month. If you cannot attend please make sure to sign up by contacting our boosters (contact info on page 4)

### THINGS TO REMEMBER EVERY DAY!

- Enter and exit the classroom quietly.
- Bring your instrument, music, and a pencil every day.
- Always respect your fellow musicians and their belongings.
- Bring a positive attitude and give your best effort.
- Have fun!

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## HOW LONG SHOULD I PRACTICE?

Daily practice is the only way to become a quality musician. Set up a place and time at home where you will be able to practice each day. Let your family know when you are practicing so you can concentrate. You will need to listen to yourself play so turn off the TV and get to work!

A band student should eventually practice about 4 hours a week. All band students should practice as long as it takes to master the assignment or skills to be learned. You can grade your work ethic by the following:

- A = 4 or more hours a week
- B = 3-4 hours a week
- C = 2-3 hours a week
- D = 1-2 hours a week
- F = 0-1 hours a week

## INSTRUMENT BRAND RECOMMENDATIONS



A quality instrument makes music more enjoyable!

“RECOMMENDED MOUTHPIECES MAY HAVE TO BE ORDERED ALONG WITH THE INSTRUMENT.. MOST STOCK MOUTHPIECES WILL NOT ALLOW A CHARACTERISTIC TONE QUALITY.....”



Instrument supplies maintain an instrument in good working order

### Flute

Geiminhardt, Yamaha

### Clarinet

Yamaha w/stock mouthpiece or Vito, Selmer with a Van Doran B45 or Preimere Hite mouthpiece

### Oboe

Selmer , Yamaha use MS reeds for beginners

### Alto/Tenor Saxophones

Vito or Yamaha with a Selmer C\* S80mouthpiece

### Trumpet

Yamaha, Bach, with a Bach 5C mouthpiece

### French Horn

(School horns available )  
To own: double horn

Holton 179 or Conn 8D with a Bach MDC or 18 Hellenberg

### Trombone

F trigger desirable but usually not available on beginning horns. Yamaha or Selmer with a Bach 6 1/2 AL mouthpiece

### Baritone

Yamaha, Bach, King or Conn with a Bach 6 1/2 AL mouthpiece.

### Percussion

To rent: start out with Percussion bell kit. This kit includes drum and practice

bells and can be upgraded to a quality snare drum at a later time. A Practice pad and a metronome are mandatory for all percussionists. See supplies for stick and mallet requirements.

The following instruments will be loaned by the school

Tuba(24C mouthpiece),

Baritone Saxophone and Bass Clarinet (C\* mouthpiece),

Bassoon ( MS reeds)  
Recommended mouthpieces may have to be ordered along with the instrument. Most stock mouthpieces ( mouthpieces shipped with the instrument) are inferior and will not allow a characteristic tone quality to be produced.

## SUPPLIES YOU WILL ALWAYS NEED

Tuners are recommended for all wind instruments by 9th grade

### Brasses:

You must have the following to maintain your instrument in good working order. Think of your instrument as a car: it needs oil!

- *Valve Oil or Rotary Valve Oil*
- *Slide Grease*
- *Instrument cloth* to wipe your instrument down every day to protect the finish
- *Metronome*
- *Practice stand* for home

### Woodwinds:

- *Reeds:* Van Doran or Mitchell Laurie are best. Min. strengths Clarinet #3, All Saxes #2 1/2, Oboe and Bassoon Medium Soft.
- *Reed case* that holds four reeds at all times.
- *Swab* for every woodwind to use every day.
- *Cork grease*
- *Metronome*
- *Practice stand* for home

### Percussion:

*All Percussionists:* Stick Bag, 5B Snare Sticks, Also suggest: practice drum pad or drum, metronome, music stand,

**This year all percussion will have a percussion fee to replace required mallets of \$12. This fee will save each student about 40-60 dollars a year. This will allow us to order the correct mallets for the percussionist for all to use. If you have any questions please contact Mr. Dauer.**

## GRADES

The Band Program, just as any other class is graded on a letter system from A to F. The following three areas are used to calculate your grade:

### 1) Class Participation

Every student will be graded daily for their participation in class. Evaluation will be based on being prepared for class with the proper supplies and class materials and active participation in the band's daily activities.

### 2) Tests, and Quizzes

Tests and Quizzes will be given throughout the year. Written and performing tests will be given with adequate time to prepare. Quizzes will assess the student's preparedness or skills that should be previously mastered. Homework will be assigned as written or practicing assignments. It is the students responsibility to practice until the given skills or assignments are mastered.

### 3) Rehearsals, Concerts and Performances

Students are required to attend all performances and rehearsals. Students will be graded for active and appropriate participation in all of their band's activities. Students will also be evaluated for following the Performance Dress Code, timeliness, and concert etiquette as taught in class. Remember the old band saying, "If you're on time you're late but if you are early you are on time."



"IF YOU'RE ON TIME YOU'RE LATE BUT IF YOU ARE EARLY YOU ARE ON TIME."

## PERFORMANCES & REHEARSALS

All students will perform as long as the minimum requirements for the course are fulfilled. All students will be required to participate in all scheduled performances and rehearsals. All students must be present when their group performs. Performing is part of the curriculum and will be graded as such. **An excused**

**absence will be valid when a written note by the parent to Mr. Dauer is delivered and approved two weeks before any scheduled event.** Absences from a performance due to an emergency will be accepted. An absence due to any disciplinary action will be considered unexcused. Due to the re-

quirements of the course performance grades cannot be "made up". Students will be accountable in regards to their grade assessment on the following value scale:

Performance/Parade= 1 letter grade

Competition= 2 letter grades

## CONCERT DRESS

Students are required to acquire a West Wilkes Band Shirt for all Away games. All students will be responsible for acquiring marching shoes that are in good condition. The director will help facilitate ordering the required dress for the students as needed.

Away Game Uniform—Full length blue jeans, black Dinkles Glide marching shoes, black socks, WWHS Band shirt

Home game uniform - school provided uniform and student provided black Dinkles Glide marching shoes and socks.

Color Guard—Guard members are responsible for purchasing their own uniform.

## THE FOUR GOLDEN BAND RULES

1. Be Quiet—the conductor is the only one who makes noise!
2. Pay attention—look at the conductor at all times.
3. Stop playing when the conductor directs you to do so.
4. Play only when instructed to do so by the conductor.

THE WEST WILKES HIGH  
SCHOOL BAND PROGRAM

MATTHEW J. DAUER  
DIRECTOR OF BANDS

COLOR GUARD

All WWHS Color Guard members are considered full members of the West Wilkes Marching Blackhawks. Due to the nature of their performance requirements guard will be held accountable equally as a band member but in accordance with their unique performance requirements. All performance expectations are the same for Guard as well as the band. The Color guard is an essential component of our marching performance and are equal members of our performance ensemble. The WWHS Color Guard members are responsible for purchasing their individually tailored uniform.

Physical address:  
6598 Boone Trail  
Millers Creek, NC  
28651

Phone: 973-4503 ext. 174  
Fax: 973-7323

Email : [dauerm@wilkes.k12.nc.us](mailto:dauerm@wilkes.k12.nc.us)

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IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE  
FEEL FREE TO CALL OR EMAIL MR. DAUER.  
CONTACT INFORMATION IS LISTED  
ABOVE.

**Don't Forget**  
to sign up for  
**concessions**  
and participate in  
all of our  
fundraising  
activities!

All proceeds directly benefit the  
students of the  
West Wilkes Band Program.

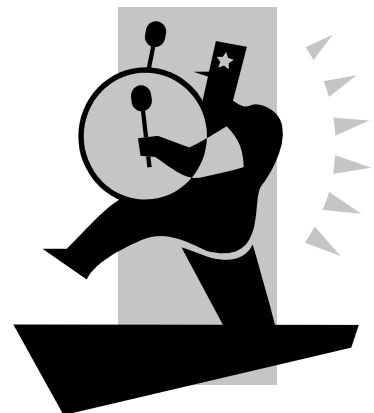
WWHS BAND BOOSTERS ASSOCIATION

The WWHS Band Boosters (WWBB) is a parent organization dedicated in its support of our students and their band program. We will be using the contact information to create an information sharing network through the band boosters so all band parents will be well informed of all of our activities. The WWBB provides assistance to the band program through volunteerism, organization, promotion, and providing opportunities for the students in our Bands.

Notices will be sent home and posted in the band room providing the meeting times. Before that however we will need your help in starting up this years organization by having you provide us with contact information. Please take the time to fill out the last page of this manual. If you would like to be involved in any way through out the year from chaperones to uniforms please let us know.

The WWBB is an excellent way for you to be involved in your child's education. Children are more successful when their parents are involved in the schools. We look forward to working with you and your child as we create superior musicians and citizens through honest effort.

Please look at [Schoolnotes.com](http://Schoolnotes.com) for further information.



# YOUR FIRST ASSIGNMENT! DUE BY SEPT. 10TH

## Student information (please print)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Parents work phone \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

## Parent Information:

We will be organizing our communication network through our Band Boosters. Organized parental support is essential to our band program. If you would like to help in the following areas please let us know. If you would like to receive updates about performances, events, and meetings via email please note below. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mr. Dauer.

I am interested in assisting the band program in the following areas:

\_\_\_\_\_ Chaperones ( for home and away concerts, parades and ceremonies)

\_\_\_\_\_ Band Boosters ( help in Band Booster activites. All profits go towards our band for the benefit of the students.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Other suggestions \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ email address for band updates \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign up for a minimum of 3 concession stand dates: (print dates below)

1: \_\_\_\_\_, 2: \_\_\_\_\_, 3: \_\_\_\_\_, 4: \_\_\_\_\_, 5: \_\_\_\_\_, 6: \_\_\_\_\_

Please read, sign and fill in the information below:

We have read the WWHS Band Manual. We understand that we need to keep the instrument in good working order by having the appropriate supplies. If the instrument needs repair please show it to Mr. Dauer first. The student and parent agrees to abide by the rules and procedures in the WWHS Band Program. We understand that band is a performance class and as such audio, pictures and videos my be used in the following media but not limited to: newspapers articles, video announcements, recruiting media for future band students, yearbooks,ect. I will notify Mr. Dauer if I do not want my child to appear in various media and complete the proper school forms to notify the school.

Student Name(print) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

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

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