

**The Woodmont High School Band  
2831 West Georgia Road  
Piedmont, South Carolina 29673  
(864) 355-8670**

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the Woodmont High School Band Program. We believe that there is not a better endeavor than band and that there is no better place to find America's finest youth than in the band rooms in any school and in any city. We are indeed thrilled that you have chosen to be a part of this activity!

This manual is to serve as an information tool for students, parents and other persons interested in the organization and procedures of the Woodmont High School Band program. Both students and parent(s) should read this handbook; there is information pertinent to each of you in the handbook. Students are especially responsible for knowing the contents of this handbook.

When in the best interest of the overall band program, the director shall have authority to amend any policies found in this handbook.

Again, we are excited about the year. Remember that by becoming a part of this year's program, you are making a personal commitment to every individual in the program to strive for excellence and give your best. You are a better person for having chosen to make music a part of your life!

Sincerely,  
Donna Cotter, Director of Bands

Woodmont High School

## **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

In any school setting, a musical organization will perform a variety of functions, anywhere from performing at a pep-rally to performing for the opening of a new store in the community. While such appearances are vital, a school band program must exist on its educational merits alone. At Woodmont High School, we believe that musical study provides a valuable and irreplaceable part of each student's education.

We believe that young people possess an unlimited potential for learning, achievement, and personal success. Every individual's self-worth is based on turning potential into accomplishment, and that requires a healthy measure of discipline. Band is a metaphor of life because it is a training ground for developing a solid pattern of personal discipline. Band is a collection of artistic goals clearly defined and ultimately achieved.

This process unlocks the power of commitment, puts human will in action, develops a positive attitude, controls negative thinking, encourages success, and deters failure.

The study of music is a link between inspiration and value achievement; it is a bridge between thought and accomplishment, between ideas and results. This explains the impressive correlation between music study and academic achievement. Our band members experience the value of discipline driven by inspiration, enticed by desire, tempered by reason, and guided by intelligence. Band is grooming them for successful living.

It is our goal to develop life-long relationships with music in our students and to provide encouraging, positive interaction and group/personal dynamics that move students toward personal excellence through the medium of music. Only through positive effort on the part of everyone involved in the program can true excellence be achieved.

## **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Students will further their individual playing ability and musical knowledge by participating in full ensemble experiences, chamber groups, and solos. Students will increase their skill and comprehension levels by understanding and working toward mastery of various musical concepts, including, but not limited to, posture, breath control, embouchure structure, specific instrument background information, technical facility (including scales, articulation, rhythmic accuracy, sight-reading, terminology, interpretation, style, etc.) These improvements will be monitored in class, but will require outside practice to master. Students will progress through our prescribed program of musicianship in their development. This program is designed as a logical and sequential, self-driven means to achieving personal, musical goals.

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF ATTITUDE**

The greatest single factor that will determine the success of any individual or organization is attitude. The "right attitude" must be present along with sincerity, concentration, and dedication. Make the most of every rehearsal and performance.

### **ATTITUDE**

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life.  
Attitude, to me, is more important than facts.

It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do.  
It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill.  
It will make or break a company . . . a church ... a home.

The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past ... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable.  
The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude...

I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me  
and 90% how I react to it.  
And so it is with you ... we are in charge of our Attitudes."  
-Charles Swindoll-

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF DISCIPLINE**

Because of the nature of the organization, band discipline must, of necessity, be strict. Band students and parents must be willing to accept the ideals, principles, and rules of the organization.

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP POSITIONS**

Student leaders are selected as follows: Band Captain, Woodwind Captain, Brass Captain, Percussion Captain, Guard Captain, and Section Leaders are appointed by auditions and leadership class.

The position of Drum Major is decided by an outside panel of adjudicators.  
The following guidelines are used in selecting student leaders:

- Dedication to the program and past conduct while in band.
- Suitability for the position and ability to perform in a given capacity.
- Desire to achieve excellence in a given capacity.
- Ability to be a contributing member if the position were not granted.
- Attitude.

### **Drum Major**

1. Conduct during all field rehearsals and performances of the marching band.
2. Set standards in attendance, punctuality, attitude, musicianship, and loyalty that the members of the band can and should try to follow.
3. Act as liaison between band members and the directors and staff.
4. Be responsible for keeping the student leadership working together as a team.
5. Coordinate bleacher activities for football games, oversee behavior, and maintain proper discipline in the stands.
6. Inspect section leader uniforms prior to full band uniform inspections.
7. Pass off music for section leaders.
8. Have the band in the correct place at the correct time for rehearsals and performances.
9. Maintain the uniform code.
10. Show patience, consideration, and understanding in dealings with the band while not compromising standards.
11. Assist the directors and staff in administrative and organizational tasks.
12. Exhibit and demand discipline from within the band.
13. Be available and willing to help whenever you are needed.

### **Assistant Drum Major**

1. Serve as a positive role model for the members of the band in conduct, musicianship, and dedication to the band.
2. Assist the drum major in developing bleacher activities and organized things for the band to do in the stands. Help maintain discipline in the stands at games.
3. Work with the directors, staff and other officers to develop activities for interaction to build stronger relationships during camp.

### **Band Captain**

1. Organize and supervise clean-up of the band room after rehearsals and performances. This includes storage areas, etc. Make assignments for different sections and post a schedule of who is to be responsible for cleaning the room.
2. Serve as a positive role model for the members of the band in conduct, musicianship, and dedication to the band.
3. Assist the drum major in developing bleacher activities and organized things for the band to do in the stands. Help maintain discipline in the stands at games.
4. Show patience, consideration, and understanding in dealings with the band while not compromising standards.
5. Assign each upcoming freshman a "big brother" or "big sister" in the band program.
6. Work with the directors, staff and other officers to develop activities for interaction to build stronger relationships during camp.
7. Be available and willing to help whenever you are needed.

### **Section Leaders/Captains**

1. Serve as a positive role model for the members of the band in conduct, musicianship, and dedication to the band.
2. Pass off all required music for your section.
3. Inspect all members of your section prior to a performance.
4. Make sure that all instruments in your section are clean for performances.
5. Run effective and efficient sectional rehearsals throughout the marching season.
6. Be familiar enough with your music to be able to do this.
7. Show patience, consideration, and understanding in dealings with the band while not compromising standards.
8. Assist in the instruction of marching fundamentals within your section and offer any help needed to individuals.
9. Instill a sense of pride and integrity in the members of your section. Expect that they follow the rules and show pride in what we do.
10. Keep the directors informed as to whom is not performing or behaving up to the standards set by the directors and staff.
11. Be available and willing to help whenever you are needed.

### **Your Student Officers**

Drum Major	Laura Apgar
Asst. Drum Major	Stacy Schrader
Band Captain	Carlos Simons
Woodwind Captain	Kelli Pittman
Brass Captain	Kelly Wood
Percussion Captain	Jeremy Houtz and Greg Lanier
Front Ensemble Captain	Brittany Phillips
Guard Captain	Carrie Kay and Masha Harley
Uniform Captain	Ashley Whiteside
Assistant to the Director	Tim Beaman
Eric Luckey	Bass Drum Captain
Reed Store	Kelli Pittman
Aaron Pennington	Trumpets/Mellophone

## **THE BANDS OF WOODMONT HIGH SCHOOL**

The Woodmont High School band program prides itself in providing students with the opportunity to experience several different elements of instrumental music education. The band program is under the direction of band directors Donna Cotter. The band program is an extension of Woodmont International Baccalaureate High School's belief in providing students with quality opportunities to participate and succeed at a chosen task. The band program itself is one that stresses team work, responsibility, a willingness to strive for excellence, and to have fun.

### **Woodmont High School Band Participation Policy**

#### **Participation**

Participation in the Woodmont High School Band is open to anyone willing to have a good attitude and work hard.

#### **Financial Aid**

It is the policy of the Woodmont Band Program that no student will be denied participation due to financial need. If you need aid, please ask the director. All information will be kept confidential.

The band program has the following ensembles:

Marching Band

Jazz Band I and II

Symphonic Band

Guard (both outdoor and indoor)

Percussion Ensemble (both outdoor and indoor)

Chamber Music

#### **Jazz Band**

The jazz band program at Woodmont provides students with the opportunity to study one of our nation's oldest musical art forms. Students study many different aspects of jazz.

#### **Symphonic Band**

The concert band provides students with the opportunity to play in an orchestral type environment. Music ranges from that of the great composers to the contemporary composers of today. These ensembles meet in the spring and have several performances throughout the spring semester.

#### **Guard and Color Guard**

These ensembles provide the visual aspect to the music. The guard program allows young people to explore movement through the use of various pieces of equipment which provides sight to the sound. The Color Guard is part of the marching band while the winter guard ensemble is a separate unit.

## **Percussion Studies**

The percussion program provides a wide variety of choices for participation. These programs range from marching band, to concert band, to winter percussion ensemble.

# **PROGRAM STRUCTURE**

Our program can be most basically divided into four interactive parts: the Concert Bands, the Marching Band, individual Musical Activities, and our Musicianship Program. Only through participation in the complete program may students fully achieve the goals and objectives stated previously.

## **I. The Marching Band**

The Marching Band is without a doubt the most visible aspect of our band program. This group begins rehearsing in July and continues into November. Performances include all home and away football games, pep rallies, various local marching band competitions, the SCBDA Upper State, at least five Christmas Parades, and our annual Christmas Concert in December. The Marching Band is open to all students from grades 9-12 and select middle school students. This activity is competitive as well as musically and physically demanding. All participants must commit themselves maintaining high musical and physical performance standards (see marching band section).

## **II. The Jazz Band**

Woodmont High School is extremely fortunate to offer a complete jazz program. Audition or recommendation (by the director) is required. The program made its debut last year for the first time in the history of Woodmont High School. Plans are for continued development in the area of Jazz.

## **III. Symphonic Band**

The Symphonic Band setting is where music principles and fundamentals are taught, practiced, and developed. The Symphonic Band is a higher level musical group where students are musically and intellectually challenged.

Membership into this ensemble is by audition or director recommendation. This group also represents the band program at various festivals and exchange concerts throughout the spring semester. Symphonic Band members should be aware that after school rehearsals will be required for performance preparation. Symphonic band is open to all students wishing to continue their playing in a non-competitive environment. For this reason, students who wish to participate in all other aspects of the band program are strongly encouraged to study in their respective technique and band classes.

## **IV. Individual Musical Activities/Competitions**

There are several opportunities throughout the year for students to compete locally and regionally on an individual and "small group" basis. These activities include: SCBDA Region Concert Band, SCBDA All-State Band, and the annual SOLO AND ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL (also sponsored by the SCBDA). Musical growth happens at the fastest rate when students are involved in solo and

chamber playing. (For this reason, we strongly encourage participation in these events.)

## **V. GUARD ENSEMBLE**

The guard ensemble program is a program designed to help increase the skill level of the ladies in the fall color guard, recruit young members and boost skill levels for all members. This group will learn skills on flag, weapons and dance. The guard rehearses after school.

## **VI. Percussion Ensemble**

The percussion ensemble is open to any student wishing to expand their knowledge and understanding of percussion instruments and percussion literature. This ensemble performs several times during the semester. After school rehearsals will be required.

## **Musical Development** **Individual Practice**

You always have homework for band--ALWAYS. Individual, daily practice is essential to improving as a player. Here are some tips to effective practice:

1. Practice every day! Remember, it is much better to practice 30 minutes each day than it is to practice every other day.
2. Consider practicing in shifts. In other words, instead of playing for 30 minutes straight, practice for 15 minutes, take a break (do some homework), and then finish later.
3. Try to have a set time every day during which you practice.
4. Have a set place where you practice. Make sure that this place is where you will not be disturbed and where you may concentrate on your playing.
5. Have a goal or set of goals established for every practice session. Be careful not to fall into a trap of simply playing your instrument and stumbling through a practice session.
6. The old adage of "practice makes perfect" is not totally accurate. Only perfect practice makes perfect! Isolate trouble areas by breaking them down. Begin slowly and gradually increase tempo.
7. Always begin each practice session with a brief warm-up.
8. Spend time every day working on your sound. This is your musical signature.
9. Spend time every day playing scales in as many different ways as you can.
10. Spend time every day working on technical skills including facility, range, tonguing, dynamic range, and endurance.
11. Spend time every day practicing your band music. Make sure you reinforce concepts covered in class on this music.
12. Spend time every day sight-reading a piece of music.

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

Absence affects performance in participatory activities such as band. BAND depends on full participation. Each student's participation affects the group outcome, and each student plays a valuable role in this process.

It is imperative that we establish attendance guidelines that amplify this learning process for both the student and the group. Attendance is related to both self-discipline and learning. If a student is not in rehearsal, his or her absence negatively affects the ability of others to perform and to learn.

A rehearsal and performance schedule is attached for your convenience. Please review the schedule and post it in an obvious location and review as necessary. Students are expected to attend each band function and should plan to remain the entire length of the activity. For the vast majority of our students, this is not a problem. If a student misses a band function, it should be due to serious illness or family emergency. In addition, students and parents constantly juggle work schedules, vacation schedules, and other responsibilities in order to maintain band membership. For these actions, we are grateful.

However, it is not fair for the majority of our students to sacrifice in order to attend band functions while a small group ignores the schedule and attendance rules. Students should notice the following policy guidelines:

1. Unless serious illness or family emergency is present, students will be expected to attend all band rehearsals and performances, being present from start to completion.
2. Non-emergency doctor and dentist appointments should not be scheduled on band rehearsal days.
3. Students will not be excused from band practices or performances in order to work, attend piano/dance class, take pictures, etc.
4. Students who come to practice late or leave early for reasons other than illness or family emergency will be given an unexcused absence for the day.

### **WITH PROPER PLANNING, REHEARSAL CONFLICTS CAN BE AVOIDED!!!**

The following attendance policy is applicable to all rehearsal time that is not during the school day (Concert and Marching Programs).

#### **Excused Absences**

An excused absence is an unforeseen emergency. Excused absences include illness with a doctor's note, death in the family, and potentially other unforeseen, unplanned circumstances. You have the schedule for the entire year. Plan ahead so that there are no conflicts. Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 3:30 - 6:00 P.M. are band time.

However, students and parents should consult the band handbook for additional rehearsal times.

In order to have an absence excused, the student must submit the request in writing to the director at

least 24 hours in advance of the absence. Failure to do so will automatically result in the student's absence being unexcused.

In the event that a student must be absent due to an unforeseen emergency such as personal illness, the student is required to call the band office to inform us of this absence (355-8670).

If you are receiving credit for marching band, tardiness and absences will adversely affect your grade.

## CONDUCT

It has been said that each of us has contact (directly or indirectly) with 250 people through the extension of our contacts with friends, teachers, family, and then passed on to their friends, teachers, etc. The ripple effect of our behavior has the potential for long-lasting positive impressions on people with whom we may not have direct contact at all.

Therefore, it is important for students and staff to maintain a positive and cooperative attitude when associated with the Woodmont bands. Inappropriate or offensive behavior or language will not be accepted. We represent ourselves--each other and the school--and we aspire to represent the best in high standards and traditions.

### Specific Behavior Guidelines

1. All School District of Greenville County policies and disciplinary guidelines are in effect at all band functions. The Woodmont High School student handbook contains all of these policies and guidelines.
2. No abuse of school facilities or equipment will be tolerated. This includes uniforms, instruments, music, and the physical structures. Students will be charged for any damage to the above.
3. Do not play an instrument that is not yours or that has not been assigned to you. Non-percussionists should never play or otherwise handle the percussion instruments (except in loading/unloading situations) without director/staff supervision.
4. "Absolutely no hazing of students of any type". We are on the same team, and any disrespect of fellow band members will not be tolerated.
5. No profanity will be tolerated and **NO PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION.**
6. No disrespect of authority will be tolerated in any way. This includes all student leadership, administrators, teachers, staff, band parents, and anyone connected to the band program.
7. No one is ever permitted to leave designated areas without permission.
8. We expect all students to be on time for each band function. All tasks necessary for preparation should be taken care of prior to the starting time. Being on time is being late. Being early is being on time.

9. In band, you must be able to do your part in your assigned performance area. Other students will not do this for you. If there is a problem, the individual student must decide how to solve the problem, with additional help, more practice, etc.
10. Band members must learn to work with everyone in order to reach a common goal.

### **Care of Instruments**

All instruments should be treated with care whether they are student-owned or school-owned. Store them properly. This means that you should never store any instrument with an open case. **PUT THEM UP PROPERLY.** If you are playing a school instrument and it is damaged beyond normal repair and tear, you will be responsible. Keep mouthpieces, reeds, valves, etc. in good playing condition, and anticipate the need for extra reeds, etc. It is the player's responsibility to maintain his or her instrument and to keep the director informed of any problems with the instrument that affect the player's ability to participate fully.

No instruments may be "decorated" in any way. Keep them clean!

### **Care of Music**

Band music is expensive. Music folders are designed to help protect this music from damage. Despite this, we still must be very careful handling the music. All marks must be made in pencil and erased before turning in. Music not returned in good condition will be charged to you at the replacement rate. Your folders should be kept in the designated cabinet or with you at all times. **DO NOT** leave folders around the room. Lost music will cost you \$1.00 to replace.

### **Marching Band Check-Off Procedure**

Check-offs are designed to assure accountability to all players. All brass, woodwind, percussion, and guard students are expected to check-off all show music, the Star-Spangled Banner, Fight Song, Alma Mater and any other piece of music assigned by the directors. Percussion players will perform separately except the bass drum line and aux. pit players. They will pass off as a group. Deadlines and any assignments (other than the titles above) will be given at band camp. Any student not checked-off by the required deadline date will lose all third quarter privileges at the football games until the music is passed off. Students will spend this time memorizing music in the stands.

The check-off procedure begins with all student captains and section leaders checking-off to the drum major. Once these students have checked-off they will then begin listening to students in their sections. All section members must check-off once by memory to their section leader and/or captain.

Students will be able to begin this process as soon as band camp begins. Time is allotted during regular rehearsal times for check-offs. Students not taking advantage of this time, or those procrastinating, will end up spending extra time before or after rehearsal in order to finish before the deadline.

A student must pass off all of his/her music to be eligible to letter in band. Take the time to learn your music. **WE NEED YOU TO CONTRIBUTE YOUR PART TO THE SUCCESS OF THE PERFORMANCE!!!**

## **BUS TRIPS**

1. Each student is responsible for his or her own instrument and uniform. Forgotten articles will mean omission from performance.
2. Only flutes and clarinets may be taken on the buses. All others must be brought to the trailer. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING SURE YOUR INSTRUMENT IS IN THE PROPER PLACE FOR LOADING.**
3. When we arrive at a site, students will remain quiet from the time the facility is in sight until directed by their chaperone. During any bus ride, **ALL STUDENTS WILL BE FACING FORWARD IN THEIR SEATS.**
4. Any time the buses are in motion, students are expected to be in their seats. Noise should never interfere with the driver's ability to concentrate on his/her job--getting you to your destination and back safely.
5. We will load buses based by seniority. Student behavior may result in some members loading last. The front four seats on each bus should be open for chaperones, staff, and student leadership.
6. Keep the buses clean--in words and actions too.
7. All county bus rules apply as well as those of your individual driver.
8. Always thank your drivers!!!!
9. **SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY STATES**, no food or drinks may be taken on the buses.
10. All students will ride the bus to every event. Students may ride home with parents **ONLY** under the following conditions:
  - a. The parent taking them home has legal custody and is permitted to do so by law.
  - b. A written note has been given to the chaperone on that bus.
  - c. The chaperone on that bus **SEES** the student and the parent together (student in-hand) and knows that the student is indeed leaving with the parent. We are responsible for you and for knowing where you are at all times.
  - d. A director is notified concerning any infraction. Students may **NOT** ride home with anyone other than their parents or a close family member.  
(No boyfriend/girlfriends or just plain friends.) **DON'T ASK!!!**
  - e. Switching buses is not permitted.

## Football Game Rules

1. No food or drink in the stands unless distributed by the band director.
2. Members must remain in full uniform throughout the game and must stay in their places unless the director indicates otherwise.
3. **ONLY BAND MEMBERS, STAFF, AND CHAPERONES ARE ALLOWED IN THE STANDS DURING THE GAME.**
4. Our purpose in the stands is to entertain and support. Be ready at all times to play. You are expected to be able to play all of the stand tunes effectively and with a degree of excellence. **WHEN SOMEONE STANDS ON THE PODIUM, GET READY TO PLAY IMMEDIATELY!!!**
5. Bathroom breaks will be allowed for emergencies only.
6. **NO** playing of instruments in the stands unless directed.

## Marching Band Rehearsals

1. Rehearsal time is important. Useless practice time is just that--**USELESS**--so we must stay focused and keep moving toward our goal--**PERFECTION!**
2. We will begin every rehearsal with stretching and exercises. Everyone is expected to participate fully. Perfecting our marching skills is **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT** to our success on the field.
3. Rehearsing effectively is our goal. In order to accomplish this, we will follow these guidelines during rehearsals:
  - a. We will run specific sections. Know where we will stop and freeze on the correct count.
  - b. Freeze with your horns up and your feet in place.
  - c. You will hear comments from the staff on the field, and then from the tower. If you are told to relax, your horns should be down by your leg, and **YOUR FEET SHOULD STAY IN PLACE**. If there is talking to deal with, you will not be allowed to relax as much.
  - d. Getting back to position should take no more than a few seconds. **RUN TO YOUR SPOTS TO GET READY.**

You will hear someone call, "**SET!**" This means that **EVERYTHING** stops, and we are immediately ready to run the next section.
4. When you are given a break, all instruments must be facing the sideline, parallel to the yard lines at the beginning of each rehearsal and taken up at the end.
5. Staff members are there to **HELP** you. They work for very little money for the number of hours they are here. Be grateful and work with them to improve our performance. Show them respect at all times.
6. Marching rehearsals take a lot of concentration. Leave personal issues outside the rehearsal environment. They will still be there when we're finished.
7. There should be **NO** playing on the practice field unless you are directed to do so. This

- applies to everyone (including percussion "pecking" on things.)
8. Each band member will be responsible for bringing his/her own water bottle to rehearsals. YOU will be given water breaks.  
Remember the following:  
Water breaks are to get water.... not socialize. Get to your water bottle, drink water fast, and get back to your spot. You should not have to be told to return to the field. The entire process should take less than 5 minutes.  
The more smoothly the water breaks go, the more of them you will get.
  9. You may sit during rehearsals if your section is waiting for a certain section.
  10. Talking that inhibits the flow of the rehearsal will slow everyone down. The duty of officers and leaders is to control this. However, if everyone does his/her part, there will be no need for any mention of this.
  11. **NO GAMERS.** Everyone is expected to treat every rehearsal as a performance and give 100%. Do not wait until "game time" to produce. You will only perform as well as you have rehearsed.
  12. Everything about the show must be memorized. You will all be expected to be proficient enough to carry your responsibility. Students who do not memorize their music may not be allowed to perform and or may be replaced with an available alternate or be subject to other forms of discipline.
  13. Socks and tennis shoes are required of all members during all rehearsals. Sandals are not to be worn to any marching rehearsal.  
**NO EXCEPTIONS.**

### UNIFORM CODE

Our uniforms are the largest single item expenditures of the band. It would cost an individual in excess of \$400 to cover the full cost of one uniform. You are **BORROWING** the uniform for the year, and will be expected to have it in top condition for **EVERY** performance. You are responsible for maintaining your uniform in pristine condition.

**You will not be issued a uniform until you have turned in a medical form and a permission slip to the booster club.**

### Specific Rules and Regulations Regarding Marching Uniforms:

1. When you are "in uniform" you are always TOTALLY in uniform. You must always wear ALL parts of the uniform unless you are instructed to do otherwise by directors and/or staff. This full uniform includes:
  - a. A solid white t-shirt or Woodmont Band Show Shirt- no colored or printed t-shirts.
  - b. Black socks and black band shoes
  - c. Shako
  - d. Plume
  - e. Black gloves
  - f. Uniform jacket
  - g. Gauntlets

You will not be allowed to walk around with your bibber straps down when you are not wearing your jackets. Not only does it look bad, it causes the cuffs of the pants to become damaged. There will be no exceptions - this applies to **EVERYONE**.

2. All band members must remain in full uniform (with the exception of plumes) with jacket zippers closed, top clasps closed, and Shakos (hats) on unless told otherwise by directors, staff, and/or drum major.
3. There are only three ways shakos may be handled:
  - A. On your head properly with strap in place
  - B. Cradled in your left arm, facing forward, upright
  - C. On the ground in front of your right foot, facing forward, upright
4. No jewelry is to be worn other than post earrings, and only light makeup may be worn. Colors must be neutral.
5. We will most often travel to competition sites without jackets or hats. Students should leave the band room fully dressed (STRAPS UP, etc.) except for the jackets, gauntlets, and hats. Stay dressed as such until we put jackets on. Shakos should be placed in the specified shako box. Jackets must remain on hangers and will be hung on the uniform carts. **STRAPS UP, SHIRTS TUCKED IN !!!**
6. Plumes will be placed on shakos immediately at performance time and removed immediately thereafter. **HANDLE THEM GENTLY, AND KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF THE FEATHERS!**
7. Uniforms will be returned immediately to hanger when students are changing.
8. **DO NOT PUT THEM OVER A CHAIR, A DOOR, OR ON THE FLOOR.**
9. **HANG THEM PROPERLY AND RETURN TO THE UNIFORM ROOM!**
10. Make sure you are prepared.

### **Summer Uniform**

During the early part of the season, it is often too hot for us to be in full uniform. During this time, we will use what we call the "summer" uniform:

1. Show Shirt - ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE A BAND SHIRT – this is a part of your uniform. If you do not have one or need to replace one, it is your responsibility to contact Mrs. Cotter to order one for you.
2. Khaki shorts that meet the same requirements as set forth by the school district, as defined in the student handbook.
3. White tennis shoes - This means **WHITE**.
4. No caps or sun glasses will be worn with summer uniform unless you are not performing.

## USE OF SCHOOL-OWNED INSTRUMENTS

Some students will use school-owned instruments throughout the year. There is no rental fee involved in the use of these instruments; however, the student is responsible for keeping the instrument in good working condition. If there are repairs needed that result from the use of any instrument during the year, the cost of the repair is the responsibility of the student. Students using school owned instruments must check out their instrument at the beginning of the season and complete the "USE OF SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENT AGREEMENT". The agreement will not terminate until the student turns the instrument back in, and it has been determined by the directors that the instrument is in good working order as it was when it was issued.

## Receiving a Letter/ Bar

Receiving a letter/bar is a way of showing your dedication and hard work to the band. It is a symbol of your accomplishment throughout the year. In order to receive your letter students have to earn **185 points** and for Color **Guard 120 points**. For students that have letters already you have to reach the same amount of points for a bar. Points are earned by completing the tasks below.

- Marching band = 50pts
- Concert band = 50pts
- Solo @ solo and ensemble = 15 pts
- Auditioning = 5 pts
- Making county = 5pts
- Making region = 10pts
- Making all state = 20pts
- 4 scales = 10pts
- 4 more scales = 10pts
- For percussion 4 scales and 4 rudiments = 10pts
- Fundraiser = 5pts
- Winter Guard = 25pts
- Winter Percussion = 25pts
- 30min practice at school = 5pts
- Jazz Band = 15pts
- Passing off music = 10pts