

White Pine High School

Band Handbook

2025-2026



CHARACTER  FAMILY  EXCELLENCE

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Welcome To White Pine Bands

We Believe:

- Everyone should have the opportunity to participate in school music.
- Music is an integral part of a student's intellectual and emotional development.
- Band develops self-discipline, positive work habits, and group skills necessary for success in life.
- By achieving high quality standards in Band, high quality standards will transfer into all other areas of the students' lives.
- Band offers creative and aesthetic opportunities that provide for emotional development.
- Students' social skills, self-esteem, and positive attitudes are developed through Band and Instrumental Music.
- Band affords an emotional and expressive release during the day.
- Band teaches students to strive for excellence in all areas.



Mission Statement

The White Pine Band Program

"Academic excellence, artistic achievement and professionalism in performance are our goals. We strive to promote citizenship, scholarship and musicianship while helping students to realize their full potential as musicians and individuals, in all facets of their lives. "



Core Values

The White Pine Band Program is a program built on **three core values and pillars for success:**

Character – Family – Excellence


Character - refers to the program's commitment to developing strong values and ethics in its members - it is essential to the success of the Green Valley High School Band Program. The band program is committed to developing well-rounded individuals who will excel in all aspects of their lives. Whether it's through leadership training, community service projects, or other character-building activities, the program seeks to instill a sense of integrity, responsibility, and respect in all of its members. This focus on character ensures that the band members are not only successful musicians, but also successful members of society.

Family - refers to the program's emphasis on creating a sense of community and belonging among its members. Every member is valued and supported. This sense of family extends beyond the band room and into the larger community as we seek to foster a supportive and inclusive environment where everyone feels like they belong.

Excellence - refers to the program's focus on achieving the highest possible standards in all areas. The band strives for excellence in everything they do, from the individual musicians to the entire ensemble. This focus on excellence is a commitment to be leaders in our area and ensures that every performance is of the highest quality, and that each member of the band is developing positive habits for success.

Together, these three pillars form the foundation of the program's mission and purpose. By striving for **excellence**, fostering a sense of **family**, and developing strong **character** in its members, the program aims to create a community of individuals who are not only successful, but also compassionate, ethical, and responsible members of society.

These align with White Pine County School District Portrait of a Leader :

 [WPHS - Late August 2024 Portrait of a Leader.pdf](#)



Standards of Behavior

There are seven general rules governing rules and regulations and expected behavior for members of the White Pine Band Program. Other rules and regulations will be explained in further detail throughout this handbook. In addition to these standard behavior guidelines, ALL WPHS rules will be enforced.

1. Be prepared and on time, with all necessary materials at all rehearsals, performances, and events.
2. Be respectful, quiet, and attentive during all functions. This includes not having cell phones or headphones, or smartwatches in the rehearsal or performance venue.
3. Keep all rehearsal and performance areas clean and in good condition. All equipment, instruments, and cases are expected to be stored properly in cases and lockers during and after

rehearsals.

4. Do not bring gum, food, or drinks into any classroom or theater. Water is permitted as long as students throw away empty bottles.
5. Have a positive attitude and presence at all rehearsals, performances, and other functions with respect towards the director(s), staff, students, and the school.
6. Treat all instruments, equipment, music, and other classroom materials with respect at all times. Do not touch anything that is not yours.
7. The Band space is a **FRAGRANCE FREE ZONE**. Due to allergies that can cause the need for immediate medical attention, we appreciate your support in not wearing fragrances that could put others in danger. Failure to adhere to this request could result in removal from the class on that day and disciplinary action on successive offenses.

These rules will be strictly enforced. All students are expected to have a clear understanding of the rules listed above. If you have any questions, or need clarification, please ask the director. Insubordination toward instructors, section leaders, or the directors will result in immediate dismissal from the rehearsal. The student will not be allowed to participate again until a conference occurs with the parents and the band director. Any serious violations can result in permanent removal from the band program.



Performing Ensembles

Membership into any of the performing ensembles in the White Pine Instrumental Music Program is open to any student genuinely interested in learning and growing musically. Placement into the various ensembles is determined by audition, attendance, and behavior. Complete audition information is provided by the directors well in advance of the audition date. The decision of the director is final in all audition situations.

The performing ensemble serves as a “laboratory” setting for school musicians, allowing for the synthesis of individual skills and talents into unified musical expression. While the focus of the ensemble is largely based on group expression, members continue to develop individual musicianship through daily attention to the fundamentals of music and music making.

The following is a listing of the performing ensembles included in the White Pine Instrumental Music Program:

HS Wind Ensemble (Advanced Band) – Members of the Wind Ensemble represent the most advanced performers in the White Pine Instrumental Music Program. The Wind Ensemble performs literature of the highest quality and advanced technique, and represents White Pine High School in a variety of performances throughout the school year. This ensemble travels to in and out of state performances. Attendance at rehearsals and performances outside of the school day is expected of all members. *Members of this ensemble are required to participate in Marching Band.*

MS Symphonic Band (Advanced Band) – Members of the Symphonic Band represent more advanced performers in the White Pine Middle School Instrumental Music Program. The Symphonic Band performs literature of high quality and advanced technique, and represents White Pine Middle School in a variety of performances throughout the school year. Attendance at a limited number of rehearsals and performances outside of the school day is expected of all members.

MS Beginning Band – The Beginning Band presents a balanced program of technical development and musical performance, and represents White Pine Middle School in a variety of performances throughout the school year. It is expected that all members will work towards improvement and possible advancement into the Symphonic Band. Attendance at a limited number of rehearsals and performances outside of the school day is expected of all members.

Marching Band – Membership into the Marching Band is determined by combining members of the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band; therefore, a separate Marching band audition is not required. The Colorguard is determined by audition in the late spring of the previous school year. The Marching Band is the most publicly visible performing ensemble. Because of this notoriety, members must always display an attitude of discipline, enthusiasm, and pride. All Marching Band members are expected to attend band camp as well as all rehearsals and performances outside the school day. A complete calendar of events for the upcoming marching band season is provided in this handbook. The Marching Band meets for the first three months of the school year and students are expected to attend all in school and out-of-school rehearsals and performances.

Jazz Band – Membership of the Jazz Ensembles is determined through a separate audition process. The Jazz Bands explore a variety of jazz literature and techniques, and perform within the school and local community. The ensembles also participate in various jazz festivals during the school year. Rehearsals for Jazz Band will take place during the day for the entire school year. Attendance at a limited number of appearances outside of the school day is expected of all members.

Pep Band – Pep Band performs for most home basketball games as dictated by the year's home schedule, all playoff games for both the girls and boys teams as dictated by the season's record, and the opportunity to travel for playoffs (occurring in late February – specific dates are not available until the completion of the season, but a "blocked out" two-week time will be announced, so students will be available). Students will wear the band t-shirt and jeans to all pep band performances.

Colorguard (Rhythmic Precision) – The purpose of the Colorguard is to add color, excitement, and visual enhancement to the marching band show. The Color Guard is open to all WPHS High School Students. The Colorguard will receive training from a qualified guard instructor. As an integral part of the Marching Band during the fall months, members of the Colorguard will be enrolled in a separate class, which takes place during the school day, in addition to "Marching Band". Students are required to attend band camp.

After the marching season is complete, the colorguard changes its competitive venue from enhancing the marching band show to performing in its own competitive Winterguard. This group will participate in local performances in the winter and spring, and may travel to out-of-town competitions.



Attendance

- As each member of a performing ensemble is crucial to the overall musical success of that ensemble, it is imperative and expected that each member be present for all rehearsals and performances. Only an extreme emergency will be accepted for a last minute excusal such as SEVERE illness, hospitalization, and death in the family.
- Members shall be provided with a complete written listing of dates and times for necessary rehearsals and performances outside of the school day no less than two weeks in advance of those events. Anything less than two weeks will be considered optional.
- Each week, every class reviews the upcoming events for the next four to six weeks. Any changes to the band calendar are announced during this “calendar” time, in addition to being posted on the band website and calendar.
- It is the student’s responsibility to check all dates and notify the director in writing of any conflicts immediately! **ONLY PARENT notification in writing is acceptable for excusal.** Students who fail to give the director sufficient notice of an excused absence may be considered unexcused for that rehearsal or performance. Excused absences will be at the discretion of the director.
- Notification of an absence must be submitted to the director on the following timeline:
 - **Rehearsals and Sectionals** - Two weeks prior
 - **Performances** - Eight weeks prior
- Work schedules, other activity schedules, transportation issues or homework is never an excuse for an absence.
- Routine **Doctor appointments** must be scheduled around rehearsals and performances. Please check the band calendar before scheduling.
- If a student is unable to practice/perform due to an illness, sports-related **injury**, etc. (for example: sprained ankle, broken finger, strep throat), the student must supply the director with a doctor’s note, including the date in which the student may resume full participation in the activity. This is for the safety of the student and director. With a condition of this nature, the student is still required to attend all rehearsals and performances, even if he/she cannot perform. The student will be able to obtain new material learned in rehearsals that will benefit him or her, support his or her colleagues during performances, and maintain a positive example for others to follow. The student may be asked to complete alternative assignments given the exact situation and time off required. If a student misses a rehearsal/performance due to a sports related injury or illness, and does not supply the director with the proper medical documentation, the absence may be considered unexcused.

- In the event that the student chooses to participate in an outside event, such as Honor Band, Solo and Ensemble, etc., it is essential to recognize that signing up for the event carries with it the expectation that the student will follow through with the commitment. Signing up for an extra opportunity, and then “backing out” will require the same documentation as a regularly scheduled rehearsal, performance, etc. If the student has an extenuating circumstance that is documented by a doctor’s note (in the case of illness or injury), or a parent note explaining the nature of the situation, the student will be excused from participation in the optional event. Students who “no show” to an optional commitment will not be permitted to participate in further events for a designated time period to be determined by the band director. The student may also be responsible for paying back any fees associated with their missed participation.
- All members are expected to be present and prepared for each rehearsal at the designated time. Students not in their seats ready to play with all materials and instruments ready, will be marked tardy, even if they walked in the room on time. On time refers to:
 - School day rehearsals: Set-up and ready to play 2 minutes after the tardy bell rings. (1st period is the exception – students should be ready on time)
 - Outside of school day rehearsals: Set-up and warmed up, ready to play at advertised rehearsal time.
- Should a student require something personal for the start of rehearsal (ex: needing a copy of music, new t-shirt, instrument, etc.) they must take care of this at least 25 minutes prior to the rehearsal or performance to ensure that the director can prepare for the rehearsal/performance and all students and staff may begin on time.



Performance and Rehearsal **Dismissal Supervision**

At the conclusion of each performance and rehearsal, students will have adult supervision for no longer than twenty (15) minutes following the announced ending time (or actual ending time, whichever is later). After that 15 minute period, no adult supervision will be provided. Please ensure that your student makes the necessary arrangements to be picked up from events in a timely manner.



Performances

Performances are a major criteria for group and individual evaluation. They are an intricate facet in the White Pine Instrumental Music Program, in that each member’s contribution is vital. Each student is expected to be in attendance at all performances. Students are to be in the announced call time area at the specified time, fully dressed and prepared for announcements,

warm-up, etc. Following the performance, the students are to remain for the duration of the concert, and are not dismissed until the director has released them. Performances are the only opportunities the band has to display its final product, which has taken weeks or months of hard work to accomplish. The audience, in turn, is provided with an entertaining showcase of dedication, drive, enthusiasm, and talent.

*****Special Note to Students Participating in*** Extracurricular Activities on Campus**

We are proud of the fact that a significant portion of the members of the band program actively participate in other activities on campus, such as sports, cheerleading, clubs, and other performing arts. Please note the following:

- Performances/games take priority over practices/rehearsals.
- Students may choose between equal events (a sport practice conflicting with a band practice, for example). However, you need to make every attempt to attend both equally.
- Students who choose not to attend a band rehearsal because of a conflict of schedule with another activity on campus must follow the guidelines listed in this handbook regarding adequate notice or the absence may be considered unexcused.
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- Students are expected to go through their calendars at the beginning of the season and notify the director in writing so we can resolve any conflicts.

It must be noted that the band department views band festivals and competitions as equivalent to playoff games in sports, and that these performances are a priority over regular season games.



Rehearsals

Rehearsal is, in many ways, the most important time for the members of an ensemble. Very simply, it is the time when the greatest amount of teaching and learning takes place. See expectations below

- An atmosphere which is “conducive to learning” must be maintained at all times. Anything which serves to disrupt an atmosphere conducive to learning will not be tolerated. The director shall be the final authority in deciding what is and is not disruptive. Gross disregard for maintaining a learning atmosphere shall result in removal from the rehearsal setting. If a student is asked to leave, they should report immediately to the Dean’s office. At this point, it becomes the student’s responsibility to arrange a meeting with the director to discuss the removal. Only after such a meeting will the student be allowed to rehearse with the ensemble. Further violations could result in permanent removal from the ensemble, which may result in loss of credit and/or a grade of F for the class.

- Each student is required to have their own **pencil, music folder, drill charts & chip (during marching season), music, and required supplies listed at every rehearsal.**
- Each student is expected to be attentive and make an honest attempt to improve during each rehearsal. Preparation is essential to maximize learning; therefore, each student is also responsible for the maintenance of his or her individual part prior to rehearsals. In such a fashion, rehearsals can be an enjoyable time of realizing musical potential.



Marching Band

The marching band is by far the most publicly visible performing ensemble in the White Pine Instrumental Music Department. It is important that members always present an image of respect and pride.

A few facets of band life are unique to the marching season, and are worthy of note in this section.

Fall Rehearsal Schedule - During the fall marching season, we will be maintaining a very active rehearsal schedule in order to meet our performance demands. For the first 10-week grading period, beginning with the second day of school, extra rehearsals will include:

Evening Rehearsals
After School Sectionals
(see calendar for schedule)

Occasional rehearsals on Fridays or alternative dates are required as Holidays align with the schedule and as the ensemble needs to meet the needs of the upcoming performances.

Having the majority of rehearsals during the school day will benefit everyone, in that evenings are free to have study time, work time, and most important, family time. **Attendance at all rehearsals is required.**

Band Camp is mandatory for participation in the White Pine Marching Band. Family vacations and work schedules are expected to be planned around band camp rehearsal dates. Failure to attend band camp for one or more days will result in the student becoming a marching band alternate. See below description as to the details of an alternate position.

Band Camp is vital in preparing the marching band for its busy fall competitive schedule. Much like sports teams, the marching band utilizes additional instructional staff to prepare the students. In order to help facilitate the hiring of this staff and to secure a park for the location of marching rehearsals, there may be a Band Camp Fee.

Students may use money earned in their fundraiser accounts to pay this fee, as there are several activities planned at the beginning of the year. The band camp fee is NONREFUNDABLE, and must be received by the posted due date. Please contact the director immediately if there are financial problems, so that a reasonable payment plan may be created.



Marching Band Alternates

The White Pine High School Marching Band and Colorguard employ a system of alternates. An alternate is a regular member of the class, attends all functions, and is graded in the same manner as everyone else. An alternate does not have a permanently assigned spot in the marching band or colorguard show. Alternates may be worked into the lineup as places open or as it may be necessary to replace those who have difficulty. Alternates may also replace students who move, are sick, or who are chronically absent or tardy. These replacements are either temporary or permanent at the discretion of the director. In this way, it is hoped that everyone will have ample opportunities to gain experience. Younger students, new students, and those with little experience can expect to be alternates more often than older, more experienced students. Primary determination of alternates will be based on absences, tardies, and performances tests.

Should a student miss a marching practice, an alternate will fill his/her place in the show. Selection of alternates will be done one week at a time, and may change at any time during the week. Students who are alternates at any given performance are an integral part of the performance and will assist the director with field equipment and organizational needs. Anyone replaced by an alternate becomes an alternate until he or she regains a spot in the drill. All alternates will have specific functions in the show and will participate in all practices and performances. Should there be performances where numbered positions are not necessary, all students, including alternates, will perform. Students are not designated as "permanent alternates" unless they have not complied with the attendance rules OR have been subject to a disciplinary action. *Students placed in permanent alternate positions because of disciplinary action will not participate at any time in performance.*



Concert Band Season

Concert Season is the main focus of the White Pine High School Band Program. Concert Band members will be expected to participate in weekly evening rehearsals or after school sectional. The amount of time each week will vary, according to daily rehearsal progress, and at the discretion of the director. Evening rehearsals during concert season will occur during the following time block for all bands:

Tuesday Evenings = 4:00pm – 6:00pm (tentative)

Please plan to leave this time open each week. Specific rehearsal times within the two-hour block will be announced in advance, and may not involve all students (for example: specific sections may be called in). Students may be given the week off, depending on how their section or ensemble is progressing. Attendance at evening rehearsals is required.



Uniforms

GENERAL UNIFORM GUIDELINES

Band performances are both a visual and aural art. Our appearance is equally as important to how we sound. Students are expected to keep their performance attire in excellent condition – wrinkle-free, clean, and free from excess wear and tear.

Additionally, excessive hair styles, including spikes, large hairdos, colors, or otherwise distracting styles will not be allowed during a performance. Likewise, excessive ear piercings, facial piercings, or other distracting body jewelry or accessories will not be allowed during a performance. (exception to include medical, cultural, or religious accessories or styles). Please be respectful to the integrity of the ensemble, especially in terms of balance and blend both visually and musically.

MARCHING BAND UNIFORM GUIDELINES

Each member of the White Pine Marching Band will be provided with a uniform. The uniform will be of the highest quality and will always be handled with utmost care and respect.

It is the student's responsibility to purchase and/or provide the following items:

- a clean, uniform t-shirt
- Black athletic shorts (skin tight – should be noticed under the uniform pants)
- solid long black socks
- solid, black shoes (orders will be placed during band camp)

Listed above are the only uniform items for which the student is completely financially obligated. The remainder of the uniform will be provided to the student. The first pair of gloves will be provided. Each additional pair needed will be an additional \$6 to be paid by the student before they receive a new pair.

The band fee is assessed to each student and covers the cost of annual uniform maintenance, his or her daily planner/organizer, and additional marching band instructional staff. The band fee is a "once a year fee" and will not be increased during the academic year. The 2025-2026 band fee is \$175. Students may use money earned in their fundraiser accounts to pay this fee, as there are several activities planned at the beginning of the year. The band fee is **NONREFUNDABLE**, and must be received by the due date outlined on the calendar. Please contact the director immediately if there are financial problems, so that a reasonable payment plan may be created.

Each student is responsible for his or her uniform. Uniforms parts, shoes, socks, and t-shirts are not to be left in the band room at any time. It is highly recommended that each student obtain a small duffel bag in which shoes, socks, and t-shirts may be kept when traveling.

The rationale behind wearing a uniform is to obtain a look of uniformity amongst all members of the ensemble. It is essential that each member be dressed in an identical fashion. Prior to any marching band performance, student leaders will inspect each member of the section to ensure that the uniform is being worn properly. A list of specific uniform expectations is as follows:

- Solid, black shoes which lace up the front are required. The shoe must have a plain toe (no design or stitching). Shoes should always be cleaned before each performance.
- Solid, black socks are required. If you aren't sure, check them with a student leader or the director before the first performance.
- Pants are to be worn properly, and should be hemmed to the appropriate length. If you aren't sure, check with a student leader or the band director before the first performance.
- A band t-shirt is the only appropriate shirt to be worn beneath the uniform coat. It is to be tucked in at all times. In the event of cool weather, a heavier shirt is acceptable (e.g. thermal under shirt, etc).
- The uniform jacket is to be completely fastened at all times. We are either completely in uniform, or not at all.
- Hair is to be worn "off of the collar" (e.g. not touching the collar, nor your ears, nor in your eyes). Long hair must be pinned up so that it will stay up on its own (including that which is rubber banded). Hair is to stay up at all times when in uniform, not just when performing. If you are unsure as to whether or not your hair will need to be pinned, check with a student leader.
- Visible jewelry is not to be worn in uniform (examples: bracelets, earrings, facial piercings, etc....). In the event that the earrings cannot be removed, they must be covered with flesh colored tape (band aid) so they are not visible. This is the individual student's complete responsibility, and must be taken care of prior to warm-up before a performance. Watches and medical bracelets or identification are permitted by permission of the director.
- Excessive make-up is not permitted. No lip stick is to be worn at all with the exception of the colorguard who will match shades. No make-up whatsoever should be placed on the neck due to the high collar of the uniform coat.
- The hat is to be treated with the utmost respect at all times. When being worn, there should be approximately 2 fingers distance between the underneath of the brim and the bridge of the nose. The hat is to set level, and not ride "back" on the head. When not being worn, it should be carried in the traditional fashion on either forearm. See a student leader for clarification.
- No public displays of affection (PDA) will be tolerated when in uniform. That includes at all times when in uniform, not just when the band is together as a group.
- Student's equipment/instrument is clean and in good working order. (also see Supply Requirements Section)

- Immediately following each performance, the uniform is to be hung properly on the hanger and returned to the quartermasters to be placed in the assigned wardrobe cabinet. If the uniform is not hung properly, the student will go to the back of the line before he/she may turn in the uniform. Specific procedures will be outlined in detail to the students prior to the first performance.
- The hat should be placed properly into your hat box following a performance. The hat is the only item which should be placed in the hat box.
- Behavior while in uniform must be of the highest quality at all times. Horseplay, suggestive behavior, and profanity will not be tolerated, and shall be considered reason to be restricted from performing with the ensemble.

Please take the time to be sure that you have all uniform parts with you before you leave to come to school. Students who fail inspection will lose points from their grade and may not be allowed to participate in the performance at the discretion of the director. This policy will be adhered to at all times.

PEP BAND UNIFORM GUIDELINES

Each pep band member is required to wear the Band t-shirt and blue jeans for events such as pep assemblies, away football games, basketball games, and “casual” band performances. The students may wear tennis shoes if they wish for these events. This uniform is the student’s to keep, and will be used for his or her tenure in the program. Failure to wear the proper pep band uniform will prevent the student from participating in the event, and participation points may be lost.

COLORGUARD UNIFORM GUIDELINES

The colorguard uniform is subject to change from year to year depending on the theme of the marching band and winterguard show. Colorguard members will be responsible for the payment of their own uniforms. In all situations, the marching uniform and winterguard uniform will try to double as the same uniform during a season, although there may be some minor changes that the student will be responsible for. Behavior guidelines and maintenance guidelines as stated in the marching uniform section apply to the colorguard.

CONCERT BAND UNIFORM GUIDELINES

For all performances, students of White Pine Bands will need to wear Solid Black “Concert Black” unless specifically told otherwise from their director. “Solid Black” means no patterns, stripes, etc. – SOLID BLACK. The point of concert black is to blend in and perform as a group, much the same as a uniform. Students should all look the same in a performance setting. This is achieved through “Concert Black.”

Concert Black Includes the following:

- Visibly Clean/Good Hygiene.
- **TOP:** Solid Black, button-up dress shirt, with black buttons. T-shirts are not acceptable. Sweatshirts are not acceptable. It must be a formal dress shirt. Shirts must be tucked-in. Any undershirt or undergarments must be black if visible. **Ladies must have at least ¾ sleeves**, but may wear a dress jacket. Gentlemen should have a black jacket and tie.
- **BOTTOM:** Solid Black slacks or dress pants with a solid black belt. Jeans or sweatpants are

not acceptable – they must be formal dress pants or slacks. Dresses are acceptable, but must be hemmed to the ankles. Students will not be allowed to perform if the skirt/dress is not the correct length. Black stockings, nylons, or leggings are encouraged to be worn underneath dresses.

- **SHOES:** Solid Black, closed-toe dress shoes WITH long black socks. Short socks or exposed ankles in pants are not acceptable. Tennis shoes are not acceptable. Open-toe shoes are not acceptable. Brown or white accents are not acceptable – SOLID BLACK. Black flats are a good, cheap option for females.
- **Jewelry and makeup** should be minimal. Lipstick is not allowed. Small studs and permanent piercings are acceptable.
- **Nails** should be either solid-black or natural. French tips are allowed. Nails must be a length that allows for proper playing.
- All hair accessories should be solid black and non-distracting.

Students should let the director know immediately if they need assistance acquiring these items!

Students in inappropriate attire will NOT be allowed to perform with the band and will receive a grade of ZERO.

JAZZ BAND UNIFORM GUIDELINES

Students who are enrolled in Jazz Band I or II are required to wear the following for performances:

Gentlemen:

- White collared shirt
- Black dress pants
- Black jacket
- Long tie (any color is fine as long as it is concert appropriate and non-distracting)
- Black long socks
- Black dress shoes (marching shoes are acceptable)

Ladies:

- Black blouse at least $\frac{3}{4}$ sleeves or appropriate dress jacket overtop
- Long black pants or long ankle length skirt/dress
- Black close-toed shoes



Band Lockers

Lockers are available on a limited basis in the band room for instrument storage only. (Flip folders may be stored in the band lockers during marching season only.) Books, concert folders, uniforms, or clothing are not permitted to be stored in these lockers. Students will be assigned a locker to share during the first week of school. Student lockers are subject to search, and items may be confiscated at any time. STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THEIR LOCKER. IF LOCKERS ARE NOT KEPT IN CLEAN AND GOOD CONDITION, THE STUDENT OR STUDENTS RESPONSIBLE MAY LOSE THE USE OF THE BAND LOCKERS FOR THE REST OF THE SCHOOL YEAR. Students may be fined for the cost of a damaged locker and/or its contents inside. The band program is not responsible for any lost or damaged items that are stored or left in the lockers or band room.



Music Care and Maintenance

Music is the property of the White Pine Band Program and is on loan to the student at no cost. This music must be stored either in an appropriate folder size appropriate to the music. Students many not just shove music in their bags. Any markings must be made in pencil. If a piece of music is lost, misplaced, or mishandled, the student will be assessed a fine of **\$5.00 per sheet of music PLUS the cost of shipping to cover the cost of replacing the part.** Jazz Band members may be assessed the cost of the entire chart if individual parts may not be purchased.



Instruments

It is recommended that students clearly label the outside of their cases with an identification tag or other appropriate material. The school cannot be responsible for loss of or damage to a privately owned instrument. Privately owned instruments can be inexpensively insured through the parents' homeowners policy.

Students will show respect for each other's property, as well as the White Pine Band Room's contents. Disregard for other people's belongings will result in immediate disciplinary action. Students are not to handle any instrument that is not personally theirs or that has been checked out to them using the proper paperwork. Instruments are very valuable, and should not be handled carelessly.

Percussion instruments are off-limits to all students who are not a part of the percussion class. Playing of these instruments will result in immediate disciplinary actions. Any damaged to percussion instruments will be assessed to the person responsible for the damage or assessed equally among the percussion students. Please take the extra effort to make sure this equipment is well taken care of.

RENTAL INSTRUMENTS

We are proud to be partnered with Music & Arts, a highly trusted nationwide music wholesaler to provide high-quality, low-cost purchase & rental options to our students. The directors have a long-standing professional relationship with this company and have used it for students of all levels, in many states. Monthly payments for instruments begin as low as \$27, and include repairs, the proper mouthpiece, accessories, and method book as part of the rental. Music & Arts offers rentals, rent-to-own payments, and outright purchases of both new, and used instruments. Additionally, payments and/or instruments can be traded towards a switch instrument or towards the cost of a more advanced "step-up instrument" later on.

All instrument brands/models offered to our students by Music & Arts are Yamahas approved by the directors for use in our classrooms. Instruments can be rented or purchased online or over

the phone and shipped directly to the school. The directors will then confirm receipt with Music & Arts and check the instrument over fully before giving it to the student.

To rent or purchase online: Visit www.musicarts.com , click "Rentals", click "Public, Private, or Traditional School", and enter our school. You can also find a direct link on our website, www.whitepinebands.com under the "Documents" tab.

2. Purchasing Or Renting On Your Own – PLEASE REFER TO OUR "PARENT GUIDE" AND "RECOMMENDED LIST" ON THE WEBSITE!!!:

There are many places to buy quality new and used instruments. These include in-person sales such as music stores and local purchases, as well as online options like eBay, Mercari, and Reverb. What is most important is that the instrument is a quality brand, in good working condition, and is a good price for the brand/model/condition. **It is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT** that instruments are of good quality, from a reputable brand, and function properly. Low quality instruments cannot be used correctly and will not be allowed in band rehearsals because of musical problems and the loss of instructional time they cause for the entire group.

In order to assist with this, we use a "Recommended Equipment List" and provide a "Parent's Guide to Buying an Instrument." These are available on the band website, www.whitepinebands.com, under the "Documents" Tab. It is highly important that you refer to this list when making a purchase or rental to ensure that the instrument is usable in class, and to make sure that you are getting the best value for your money. If you aren't sure, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE contact the directors via email before making a decision. Mr. Bellon will be happy to assist you in finding a great deal on a good instrument.

SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS

We STRONGLY encourage families to rent or purchase their own instruments, with the exception of tuba players and percussionists (who are expected to furnish their own respective mouthpiece and sticks/mallets). WPMS maintains a very limited inventory of instruments. These primarily include large instruments that are too expensive for average families to afford to purchase and maintain (Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, Bari Sax, Tuba, Large Percussion). The yearly fee for these instruments is \$50, which goes towards the maintenance & cleaning of the instrument. These instruments are available on a first-come, first-serve basis for students in need. Our primary concern is that every student has the opportunity to experience band and we will do whatever it takes to ensure that this happens.

If using a school instrument, it is the responsibility of the student (and the financial responsibility of the parent) to return the instrument in the same condition that it was issued. **A Rental Agreement Form must be on-file and the rental fee must be paid to WPMS in order for the instrument to be issued. Fees should be paid at the WPMS front office in the form of cash or a check made out to "White Pine Middle School Band."** Any loss or damages to instruments, accidental or intentional, will be the responsibility of the student and their parents. In the event of damage or loss of instrument, fees assessed will be the actual replacement cost or costs of repair of the damaged equipment or instrument.

POLICY ON PERSONALLY OWNED INSTRUMENTS

Over time, instruments have come a long way. Much like computers, power tools, and other devices, they have been improved and modernized greatly over the years. While a

hand-me-down or family instrument may have special sentimental value, that does not always mean it is right for the classroom. Sometimes these instruments will work, but sometimes they won't. Older instruments may not play in-tune with modern instruments, or may require significant repairs (far more expensive the value of the instrument itself) in order to play correctly. Some use different fingerings than modern instrument and some play in the wrong key entirely.

Please allow the directors to make a determination on the useability of an instrument on a case-by-case basis. Likewise, please understand that if the instrument is determined to be unusable in the classroom, it's "nothing personal," and the decision was made to ensure the student's success. Granny's Ol' Clarinet can still be enjoyed as a family heirloom at home. ☺

To ensure the success and safety of the entire band, extremely low-quality and off-brand instruments WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO BE USED IN OUR BAND PROGRAM. This is primarily because they cause rehearsals to slow, stop, and become unproductive when they frequently break or fail to play. When an instrument becomes non-functional, we must take class time to stop and assess the issue while the rest of the class sits and waits. In a short, 47-minute period, this can quickly derail an entire lesson. Although many of the "instrument-shaped-objects" look good, most do not play correctly brand new, out of the box, even for professional musicians. Some also contain hazardous materials that are not part of normal import checks because they are labeled as "musical instruments" and not categorized as materials of concern. They are a true scam for the purchaser, and a source of extreme frustration and embarrassment for both the student and the directors. The issues with these instruments ultimately affect instructional and rehearsal time, as well as enjoyment for ALL students in the class. This time could be better used teaching and making music!

To avoid any issues, please refer to the "Parent's Guide to Buying an Instrument" and the "Recommended Equipment List" available on www.whitepinebands.com under the "Documents" tab. If you are still unsure, email the directors! They will help guide you towards a quality, inexpensive instrument. ☺



SUPPLY REQUIREMENTS

The following items are required for students performing in band classes. These items may be purchased at most music stores. Please call the business of your choice before you make the trip, to ensure the supplies you need are currently available in their store. Please do not wait until the last minute to obtain these items. Students should have these supplies by **THE END OF THE 2ND WEEK OF SCHOOL** (Oboists and Bassoonists will be given a separate list of needs at the beginning of the concert season.) Keep your receipt in case you purchase the wrong supplies.

Flute

Flute Lyre, Marching Music Folio
Cleaning Rod and Cloth
Small Screwdriver for Instrument Adjustment
Electronic tuner and metronome

Clarinet

Clarinet Lyre, Marching Music Folio
Vandoren M30 Mouthpiece or Equivalent
8 - 12 Vandoren or Gonzales Reeds

Baritone/Euphonium

Marching Baritone Lyre, Marching Music Folio
Bach 6 1/2 AL Mouthpiece (no 12C mouthpiece)
Valve Oil and Tuning Slide Grease
Cleaning Cloth and Snake
Electronic Tuner and Metronome
1 Black Hand Towel

Tuba

Sousaphone Lyre, Marching Music Folio

Small Screwdriver for Instrument Adjustment
Cork Grease and Cleaning Cloth
Electronic Tuner and Metronome

Saxophone

Saxophone Lyre, Marching Music Folio
Selmer C Star Mouthpiece or Equivalent
8 to 12 Vandoren Blue Box Reeds
Small Screwdriver for Instrument Adjustment
Cork Grease and Cleaning Cloth
Electronic Tuner and Metronome

Trumpet

Trumpet Lyre, Marching Music Folio
Bach 5C or 3C Mouthpiece
Valve Oil and Tuning Slide Grease
Cleaning Cloth and Snake
Electronic Tuner and Metronome
Straight Mute (metal)
1 Black Hand Towel

Horn

Marching Horn Lyre and Marching Music Folio
Holton Farcas Medium Deep Cup Mouthpiece
Valve Oil, Rotor Oil, and Slide Grease
Cleaning cloth and snake
Electronic Tuner and Metronome
Straight Mute
1 Black Hand Towel

Trombone

Trombone Lyre, Marching Music Folio
Bach 6 1/2 AL Mouthpiece (no 12C mouthpiece)
Slide Cream and Squirt Water Bottle (no slide oil)
Turning Slide Grease
Cleaning Cloth and Snake
Electronic Tuner and Metronome
Straight Mute (metal)
1 Black Hand Towel

Bach 18 Mouthpiece
Valve Oil and Tuning Slide Grease
Cleaning Cloth and Snake
Electronic Tuner and Metronome
1 Black Hand Towel

Freshmen Percussionists

1 Vic Firth Standard Stick Bag or equivalent
1 Vic Firth 6" Double Sided Practice Pad (Pad 6D)
1 Pair Vic Firth SD1 Concert Snare Drum Sticks
1 Pair Vic Firth General Timpani Mallets
1 Pair Becker (Mallettech) Xylophone Mallets (Blue)

1 Pair Balter Pro-Vibe Mallets (blues)
1 Electronic Tuner and Metronome
2 Black hand towels

Sophomore Percussionists

Everything on the Freshman Percussionist List and:

1 Pair Balter Pro-Vibe Mallets (Hard-Green)
1 Pair Balter 91 Bell Mallets (Polys)

Junior Percussionists

Everything on the Freshman and Sophomore Percussion List and:

1 Pair Vic Firth Ultra Staccato Timpani Mallets
1 Pair Brushes

Marching Snare Players:

2 Pairs approved marching sticks (must have two pairs in performance condition at all times)

Marching Tenor Players:

1 Pair approved Marching Tenor Sticks

Colorguard

3 Roles of Black Electrical Tape
Flag bag (Details Provided at Camp)
Rifle and Sabre (Details Provided at Camp)
6' Practice Flag

JAZZ BAND SUPPLY REQUIREMENTS

Students who are enrolled in either Jazz Band I or II will be required to have the following purchased by the end of the first week of instruction. *Keep your receipt in case you purchase the wrong supplies.*

Saxophone

V16 mouthpiece or equivalent (7 facing)
6-12 Vandoren V16 reeds

Trumpet and Trombone

Plunger Mutes for both
Cup Mutes for both
Harmon Mutes for Trumpet

Percussion

1 pair of drum-set sticks
(any name brand is fine)
1 Pair of Brushes
1 Pair of Balter Pro-Vibe
Mallets (Hard-Green)

Additionally, All reed players must have 3 broken in reeds at all times that they use in rotation!



Transportation

Traveling to performances outside of the local community is a privilege which all members may enjoy. It is not a privilege to be abused. A student will not be permitted to travel with an ensemble if rehearsal and performance discipline at school is unworthy. The directors' decision shall be final in such a situation.

Students are transported to performances and activities on school buses or chartered motor coaches. Students will be assigned a bus at the beginning of the fall season. Once this bus list is established, there will be NO CHANGES! The following rules have been established in the interest of safety and personal consideration:

- No Substance Possession or Use!! (see policy in handbook)
- NO PLAYING OF MUSIC - must have personal headphones.
- All instruments and equipment must be transported on the bus.
- Students are to remain seated while the bus is in motion.
- Do not enter or exit the rear door without permission.
- Aisles must be kept clear at all times.
- When the bus stops at any point on the trip, remain seated and wait for instructions.
- Small bags may ride under the seats.
- Remember not to leave personal property on the bus. The bus cannot always be locked or secured.
- The bus driver and chaperone are in complete charge of the bus. Students must follow all instructions given.
- Seats may be assigned by the director, driver, or chaperone.

Students may be released to their parents or guardian at the conclusion of a performance. Parents should request a release in advance and provide written documentation to the directors. Be sure the chaperone is aware that the student will not be returning on the bus. The director must visually see the party responsible for taking the student from an event before they leave. Proper identification from the adult in the form of a driver's license may be asked before the student may leave.

There are some approved events that do not provide bus transportation. With these types of events, it is the student's responsibility to arrange for their transportation to and from the event's location. The Band Department, White Pine High School Administration, or District is not responsible for arranging rides or carpools.



Grading Policy

All students enrolled in a graded performing ensemble shall be evaluated according to the same policy. The policy is designed to effectively evaluate the major components of student performance in the classroom.

A student's nine week grade shall be determined by "weighing" individual evaluations in the separate areas by the percentage noted. Any attendance deductions will be subtracted from the overall total. The final percentage will be converted to a letter grade in accordance with the school-wide grading scale. See link to the school grading policy:

School Wide Rubric 2018 (1).pdf

Performances and Rehearsals (attendance, tardies, etc.)	60%
Tests (playing tests, marching tests, written tests, etc.)	<u>40%</u>
TOTAL	100%

DEDUCTIONS: All students shall be subject to the following grade deductions from his or her overall nine week percentage grade for the following reasons:

3% deduction	Unexcused tardy to a rehearsal (<u>which does include class period rehearsals</u>)
5% deduction	Unexcused absence from a rehearsal (<u>which includes class period rehearsals</u>) **
10% deduction	Unexcused tardy to a performance **
50% deduction	Unexcused absence from a performance **

** These infractions are very serious in nature and impair the overall health of the performing ensemble. Consequently, any or all of the following actions may additionally be taken:

- loss of chair, or chairs
- loss or leadership position
- suspension from band activities
- removal from band program in compliance with school policy

These deductions only occur when absences/tardies are unexcused. To see how unexcused tardies can hurt a nine-week grade, look at the following example:

Sample Category Averages - "Fictional Student"

Performances and Rehearsals:	100%	$x.60 = 60.00$
Tests:	80%	$x.40 = \underline{32.00}$
	Total	92.00%

Before the unexcused absences are deducted, Student A has an "A" for the quarter.

"Fictional Student" had 2 unexcused tardies to rehearsal, totaling a 6% deduction from the performance and rehearsal category.

<i>Performance and Rehearsals:</i>	<i>100% - 6% deduction:</i>	<i>94%</i>
<i>Adjusted Performance and Rehearsals Total:</i>	<i>94% x .60 =</i>	<i>56.4%</i>
<i>Tests:</i>	<i>80% x .40 =</i>	<i><u>32.00</u></i>
		<i>88.4%</i>

Now "Fictional Student" receives a "B" for the grading period.

WPHS Bands Traditional Percentage Grading Scale:

0 - 5.9 = F

6 - 6.9 = D

7 - 7.9 = C

8 - 8.9 = B

9 - 10 = A

Excused absences and tardies from a rehearsal (including those involving conflicts with other clubs, activities, or sports on campus), except in the case of illness or family emergency, must be cleared with the band director no less than two weeks prior to the rehearsal and must be accompanied with a written explanation from the parent or guardian.

Excused absences and tardies from a performance (including those involving conflicts with other clubs, activities, or sports on campus), except in the case of illness or family emergency, must be cleared with the band directors no less than eight weeks prior to the performance and must be accompanied with a written explanation from the parent or guardian.

A STUDENT IS CONSIDERED "ON TIME" BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. In the room early enough to know where to be and what materials are needed.
2. Set up with all equipment ready to use when the bell rings.
3. Quiet and attentive when the bell rings or rehearsal is called to order.

The school policy on tardies will be strictly enforced. Partial points can be made- up for tardies by completing the *Tardy Infraction* sheet, which entails recopying an essay and returning the completed sheet by the end of the day. All *Tardy Infraction* essays must be handwritten.

CONFLICTING WORK SCHEDULES OR APPOINTMENTS WILL NEVER BE ACCEPTED AS AN EXCUSED ABSENCE OR TARDY FOR ANY BAND FUNCTION! NO EXCEPTIONS. Students are expected to form their work schedules and appointments around their pre-arranged band functions.

Students are expected to take their instruments home everyday. They should not be left at school without the permission of the director. Students should practice, at MINIMUM, 20 minutes 5 days a week and turn in a required practice record. Students are encouraged to practice more to become the best musician performer they can.



Make-Up Work

Students will be required to complete a make-up assignment for an excused absence or tardy in order to make up the points lost from their absence from class, rehearsal, or performance. Make-up work is not a penalty. It is impossible to recreate the missed event. Work for missed rehearsals and performances will be equivalent to the amount of energy and time put into the missed event.

Performance make-up will include the student scheduling their own performance (including an audience), outside of class time to perform their part. They must also fulfill the audience etiquette portion by attending an additional performance, writing a performance summary, and providing proof of attendance.

Rehearsal assessment make-up will include student scheduling time with the teacher to work on the rehearsal music missed. It will also include a tested assessment on the missed material.



Extra Credit Assignments

Extra credit points may be earned as follows:

1. PRIVATE LESSONS = POINTS PER QUARTER
 - Students must provide written documentation from your private lesson teacher that you have had at least 9 lessons in the quarter grading period.
2. Director approved projects
 - Must be approved by the band director prior to the project. (ex: Cleaning, going to the middle schools to help with lessons, etc.)
3. Concert attendance
 - Must be a director approved concert and student must provide proof of attendance (ex: Program or ticket stub)

Students may only earn up to 15 extra credit points per quarter. Extra Credit points may not be used to replace missing assignments or events. Extra points will only be rewarded to students who have punctually completed all tasks and assignments during the given period.



Braces/Orthodontics

Woodwind and Brass players – if there are any plans for braces, please be mindful of the timing involved in getting them on/off. Braces are a fact of life for many, but it does take time to get used to the change when playing an instrument. For this reason, we ask that you DO NOT get braces put on OR removed within 6 weeks of a performance. We also ask you to avoid getting them adjusted within one week of a performance. Please inform your director if you intend on getting braces put on or removed so we can work with you on any adjustments needed in class.



Substance Policy

White Pine Bands strive to promote class and excellence in all members and, therefore, upholds a zero-tolerance drug, tobacco, vape, and alcohol policy. Any student caught using, trafficking or possessing tobacco, marijuana, illegal substances, vape, or alcohol will be immediately reported to school administration and/or law enforcement, and will be removed from the band program for the remainder of the year. This policy applies to students both on and off campus, as well as at all band and WPCSD events. Students are expected to be excellent representatives of this program at all times. This includes remaining substance-free their time at WPHS. All students must complete a consent to drug test with WPCSD in order to participate in band. Testing will occur at the beginning of each semester and randomly throughout the school year, with the school nurse.



Cell Phone/Nuisance Items

Students cannot be distracted with nuisance items (ex: cell phones, smart watches, etc) and be fully engaged in learning at the same moment. According to the new State policy, students will not be able to have these items available to them in class or rehearsals. Phones will be placed in backpacks. Backpacks will be placed in the back of the room. No exceptions will be made regarding the specific uses of cell phones in the classroom (ex: sending text messages, using a calendar or calculator, etc.) All nuisance items must be powered off during class time, not in sleep mode or on vibrate. All students caught in violation with these items will have the item removed and taken to the administration.



Internet & Online Conduct

Online Posts

There are an abundance of social media platforms, apps, blogs, chat spaces, and other online forums that students and parents participate in. These include TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, Tumblr, Twitter, Facebook, etc. These sites often become littered with posts that can unintentionally reflect poorly on individuals and organizations. It's apparent that some people do not realize that their personal thoughts, when subjective, controversial or inflammatory, reflect on their entire group. Unfortunately, there have been incidents, in many organizations, where someone has accidentally posted something offensive or upsetting. Even when not intended, this would be highly destructive, distracting, and off-brand for our program. The safest way to avoid criticism or scrutiny is simply NOT to post. However, if you do choose to post comments as a representative of our band, please remember that you may be speaking on behalf of the entire White Pine Band Program and we want to uphold an excellent reputation. This expectation applies to both our students and our parents.

Social Networking Policy for Students

Students WILL NOT request the “friendship” of or “follow” the personal pages of the White Pine Band Directors or any White Pine Band Staff. The directors and staff WILL NOT accept student friend requests. This policy applies to any social networking app or site.

Student & Parent Communication with Staff & Directors

All communication between students, parents, staff, and directors should take place through the official email addresses provided in this handbook. The staff and directors will not communicate with students through ANY other platform. Likewise, the staff and directors will not communicate with parents about student, band, or school-related issues through any platform other than email.

Online Media: Videos, Recordings & Digital Photos

It is natural that students and their families will want to document their experiences with White Pine Bands through photos, videos, and recordings. This is highly encouraged and is a wonderful way to look back on past experiences. However, these forms of media must remain offline. Due to the highly competitive and public nature of what we do, only the media that best represents White Pine Bands will be allowed online. We always want to show the world our best product!

Please DO NOT post ANY videos, recordings or photos of ANY White Pine Band rehearsals. This is strictly prohibited. This includes full ensemble marching & concert band rehearsals, sectionals, indoor guard rehearsals, and visual rehearsals. This ensures that our rate of progress throughout the year remains within our own community and also that our competitions outside of our community remain fair.

Please DO NOT post ANY videos, recordings or photos of ANY White Pine Band performances. Again, we only want media that best represents us making the “final cut” onto the online community. If you have media that you would like to post online, please submit it to the director for approval. If it is approved, it will be posted under the official White Pine Bands YouTube Channel, our official social media accounts, or on our website, where the original owner will be credited. This will ensure that only our best and most highly polished product is represented to the world.

Copyright Compliance

Along with representing our program in the best possible light, posting media online is often restricted for copyright reasons. In order to protect the rights of original composers and copyright owners who license their materials to White Pine Bands, we strictly prohibit the sharing of unapproved video, photo, and audio media online. This includes livestreaming. Cooperation in this is necessary for our program and its members to comply with the law.



Fundraising

It is no big secret that it does take additional funding to properly maintain an instrumental music program. Beyond the costs involved with new music purchases, expenses for instrument repair

and replacement, travel, and awards all take their toll. Especially this year, everyone's assistance and participation in fundraising activities is vital to the program's success.

To help defray these additional expenses, students will be asked to participate in fundraising activities. As with performances and rehearsal commitments, the amount of time outside of the school day a student must spend on fundraising activities will be taken into consideration. Students should understand they all benefit from fundraising, and it is an important activity. Details regarding specific fundraising will be provided prior to the event.

Deadlines for each fundraiser will be announced at the beginning of the activity. Once the final deadline has passed, the student will become financially responsible for any outstanding debts incurred on his or her part during the time of the fundraiser. Failure to return unsold merchandise and/or money collected by the assigned due date will result in a fine placed on the student's account in the school bank. This fine must be paid before a student may withdraw from school, whether it be by graduation, transfer, or family move.

Specific fundraiser earnings go into the overall band account to pay for equipment, music, additional staffing, etc. Other fundraisers are for the benefit of the student's personnel account. Students may use fundraising money out of their account to pay for fees, fines, or equipment. Students may not request money from their account for personnel use. The money that remains in an account after a student leaves the program will be absorbed into the overall band account.



Travel

One of the most rewarding parts of being in a performing group is the opportunity to travel with that group. The White Pine groups can be expected to travel out of town. This is a privilege and only students who exhibit proper execution of all classroom rules, attend all rehearsals/performances, are passing all their classes, and have permission from the director may attend. Trips that include performances are required. Fundraising will be offered to help defray the cost of any trip. All payments must be made on time.

STUDENTS MUST BE IN GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING IN ALL CLASSES (NO FAILING GRADES), HAVE GOOD OVERALL ATTENDANCE IN ALL CLASSES, AND BE IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE DEAN'S OFFICE IN ORDER TO TRAVEL. REFUNDS WILL NOT BE GIVEN IF A STUDENT BECOMES INELIGIBLE AFTER PAYMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE. Making a payment does not guarantee a student's eligibility and does not entitle a student with a "right" to travel. In fact, making payments signifies the student's commitment to maintaining good grades, behavior, and attitude in all classes.



Band Letter and Cord Policy

Every member is eligible to earn band letter by going above and beyond to earn points. Ex: Audition for Honor Band, etc).

Seniors only are eligible to receive a graduation cord. If a student leaves the program for **any** reason prior to their final semester at WPHS, the student will **not** be eligible to receive the Senior Band or Colorguard Cord.



Band Hours

Band Hours are volunteer hours for activities that either raise funds for the band program or help serve it/promote it directly in some way (IE a service project like filing in the library or a performance, etc). What constitutes a band hour is decided by the Band Directors and the Booster Organization.

Band Hours were a long-standing part of the success of the White Pine Band Program in order to better serve and grow our program. Various examples of band hour opportunities are the annual Mine Cleanup, filing music in the library, running concessions, helping at large fundraisers, playing in basketball band, etc. Often opportunities for hours also include opportunities for fundraising.

Band students will be required to complete a total of 15 band hours. Beginning band students DO NOT need to complete band hours. Band hours must be completed by the end of February. Students must complete their hours by this time in order to be eligible for the spring travel.



Band Booster & Parent Volunteers

White Pine Bands would like to encourage all parents and guardians to be actively involved in thenBand Boosters. Many parents already know the costs associated with running a quality band program and know that the school cannot afford to provide all of these funds. These funds are used to hire additional staff (similar to the assistants for a football team) and to lower the cost of trips for the year. A strong booster group can significantly improve the quality of the band in many ways.

Booster meetings are once a month in the WPHS band room. A schedule of all booster meetings for the school year will be posted on the website. An agenda will be provided to inform parents of all upcoming events and the needs and goals of the program. Parent volunteers are expected

to maintain a positive demeanor and relationship with the director, staff, and students. Parents may call the band office or email the director with any questions or concerns, however public meetings are not the time to “air grievances.”

Parent volunteers may not instruct students and are expected to maintain the utmost professional standards around students.

BOOSTER MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the White Pine Band Boosters exists to enrich and support music education and endeavors for all students through the support and ideals laid out from the director and administration. This enrichment and support will help them develop the skills, knowledge, experience and confidence to contribute to the community beyond High School and become a positively engaged citizen.

BOOSTER GOALS:

1. Raise additional funds to support the activities of an involved and successful organization beyond what the district can provide.
2. Help provide additional resources to support the organization with equipment, building props, etc.
3. Offer assistance in logistics so that the directors/staff can focus on the teaching of the students in the band and colorguard program.
4. Foster a cohesive and positive environment which includes support of other parents, students, and staff. We exist as WE/US, not I/ME – a concept that is crucial in the foundation of a successful booster group.
5. Advocate to promote the value for music within our community and the role it plays in the lives of our students and our own.



Websites & Communication

BAND APP

Most of our quick communication will go through the Band APP. Student should have the notifications turned on so they receive messages in a timely manner. Each class will correspond with a Band APP group. Parents may sign up for the parent group.

PLEASE NOTE: Do not leave a question in the comment sections. We will not answer questions there but you are welcome to send us an email with your questions.

Students should also NOT use the chat function. Remember Ms. Froelich gets a copy of everything you say on chats!

PUBLIC WEBSITE:

www.whitepinebands.com

Students and parents should check the website at LEAST ONCE A WEEK for announcements and calendar updates.

INSTAGRAM/FACEBOOK:

Often these are the most visible places for the public to see what great things these students are involved in. . Please make sure all comments are positive and school appropriate. Failure to do so will result in you being blocked from the account.

PLEASE NOTE: Do not leave a question in the comments, but feel free to email questions.



Contact Director/Staff

All communications with the directors and staff should go through email or the school phone. Before contacting the staff regarding any question, please check the website resources above. Please give an appropriate amount of time for a response. Consider that the directors teach all day, and often after school and at night as well. Your student's instruction is a priority over answering emails.

Parents should NOT contact student leaders with questions or concerns. Student leaders are not placed in this position to handle parents' concerns or requests. Please refer all questions to the band staff.

Parents should not address concerns or have a conference at any event or rehearsal.. This is against district policy. Instead, you may schedule an appointment to address any concerns or place a phone call. Please keep all communication professional in all matters. We are all here to support students and set the example of proper behavior and expectations!

**I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH
YOU ALL & HAVING A GREAT
2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR!**

GO BOBCATS!!

