

West Salem Band Program Handbook

"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything." - Plato

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PROGRAM HANDBOOK

West Salem Band Program Handbook

Welcome

Letter From The Director

This handbook is designed to give all readers an idea of what being a member of this organization is all about: what to expect, policies and procedures, what to look forward to, and especially how to be a successful and contributing member of this organization. This organization and all of its' ensembles strive for the highest levels of excellence. The experiences are positive, rewarding, enjoyable, exciting, and hard-working. The most successful members love to set goals, excel, and completely understand commitment, dedication, and responsibility.

An active student in any of our ensembles is among some of the most bright, talented, and hard working students in the school. Your peers are academic scholars, students leaders, National Honor Society members, and some of the most positive, genuine students in the building. You will walk into school on the first day having hundreds of friends. The friendships you make in this organization will last a lifetime. Parents are also heavily involved. Parents work together on several projects and events to support the programs and ensembles. Parent involvement is vital to our organization and parents are always the best fans.

Students graduating after four years of being in band or guard are proven to be among the most successful students in college. Research shows that students in music receive significantly higher SAT scores. In addition, due to the discipline learned through our organization, research clearly shows that these students are far more successful after high school. The commitment, dedication, discipline, and responsibility learned through our organization will better prepare them for life after high school than almost any other activity or class they will take at West Salem.

You are important to this organization. Everything you do matters. Everything you do is a reflection of our organization. Everyone is counting on you to do your job perfectly. This makes your role both exciting and demanding. Members of this organization support each other, respect each other, care for each other, watch out for each other and stand by each other. You will be such a vital part to this tremendous organization.

Please read this handbook very carefully. It is intended to inform students and parents about the inner workings of every aspect to this organization. There are forms at the back that must be signed and turned in prior to, or at the registration in August.

We look forward to working with you. We value your contribution. Get ready for a fantastic year filled with marvelous experiences, growth, and fun!

Todd Zimbelman
Director of Bands



Rehearsal



Rehearsal

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General Information

Philosophy

Every ensemble strives for the highest level of excellence possible. High academic and performance standards are set for every student. It is our mission that each student receives a rewarding, enriching, and aesthetic experience through music and dance. Everything we do is important, which makes you important. The highest level of excellence is attained through this attitude and it is this attitude that is the basis of our program.

Communication

The band website (www.westsalemband.org) is the most valuable tool for communication. The online calendar is updated regularly and should be used as a guide for the master schedule. Please check the online calendar for updates. Other documents like grading policies, fundraising events, and parent information can be found on our website. In addition to the website, e-mail is a great tool for contacting directors, WSBB board members, or other staff. If there is an emergency, please call the band office at 503-584-6452.

Fundraising

It is expected that every student participate in fundraising events. For some events, participation will be required. It is also expected that parents volunteer to help manage and coordinate 1-2 fundraising events per year. Sign-up's for these fundraising events will be made available at upcoming parent meetings. Parent participation is critical to the success and growth of our organization.

Equipment/Instruments/Lockers

If a student needs to check-out equipment or an instrument, all maintenance and repairs will be the responsibility of the student/parent. This includes dents or other damage that occurs during the time the equipment is used by the student. Every student/parent will need to sign an equipment/instrument contract when checking it out. Most of the smaller instruments are rented from local music stores or are owned by the student. We mainly supply the larger instruments for the program. Students will be assigned an instrument locker and lock (if applicable). Students may not use their own lock.

Uniforms and Accessories

Students will be asked to care for any uniform while in their possession. Any maintenance, damage, or repairs will be the responsibility of the student/parent. Every student/parent will need to sign a uniform contract when checking it out. In some cases, students will need to provide certain accessories to compliment the uniform. This is ensemble specific, so please look through this handbook for the detailed information under each ensemble. Uniforms are never to be washed, only dry cleaned.

Fair Share Fees

Students in each of the ensembles will have a fair share fee assessed for their participation in that group. These are fees that can be easily raised through various fundraising events or paid by the student/parents. If a student quits or is removed from any ensemble, the fair share fee will still be charged in full. We have a no refund policy.

Forms

At the members only page of the website, you will find the registration packet. Please sign and turn in all forms that apply to your participation level. For competitive marching band members, all forms are due at the marching band camp in June. For non-competitive marching band students, all forms are due the first day of school.

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Overall Goals and Objectives

Mental and Physical Discipline

- Develop powers of concentration
- Memorize music and choreography
- Learn techniques of preparation relating to individual and ensemble performance
- Develop self and group discipline

Citizenship Through Group Endeavor

- Develop leadership abilities
- Develop responsibility
- Develop ability to cooperate with others and work as a team member
- Develop diligence

Physical Conditioning

- Develop strength
- Develop stamina
- Develop endurance
- Develop coordination
- Develop an understanding of energy as it relates to body movement

Cultural Growth

- Learn aspects of music/dance history through performance
- Learn aspects of world music/dance through performance
- Learn aspects of all history and recent events as it relates to music/dance and composers

Value Judgments

- Learn the ability to make musical value judgments through critical listening
- Recognize quality of sound, pitch, style, tempo, rhythm, balance, blend, phrasing, dynamics, articulation, and all aspects of performance practice

Music Theory

- Know and use note values and rests
- Know and use key signatures and scales
- Know and use musical terms, signs and symbols
- Recognize and tune intervals and all types of harmonic structure
- Know and use solfege
- Develop ear training and advanced listening skills

Proper Instrument Technique

- Learn how to properly care for and maintain their instrument
- Learn and demonstrate correct posture and playing position
- Develop correct embouchure, stick grip, hand position
- Develop advanced characteristics of instrumental tone
- Develop proper breathing techniques
- Develop technical proficiency: fingerings, articulation, dexterity, facility, rudiments
- Learn and demonstrate scales: chromatic, major, minor, harmonic minor, melodic minor, scale patterns in all major and minor modes

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Creative/Self-Expression/Psychological Development

- Learn how to create melodies and harmonize them
- Learn techniques of improvisation
- Learn to be expressive through music performance
- Instill pride in every student
- Provide for the mental, physical, social, and emotional development of students
- Provide basic psychological needs such as recognition, belonging, self-respect, and a feeling of achievement
- Develop fellowship and fun through participation in band/dance

General Code of Conduct

All members will observe all district policies in addition to this list:

1. All members are expected to conduct themselves properly and maturely at all times. Displays of profanity, temper, flagrant violation of rules will not be tolerated. All individual behavior is a reflection of the entire group.
2. Students will follow all directions of directors and staff.
3. Students will be in their assigned rehearsal area, ready to start 5 minutes before the set start time of that rehearsal. Additional set-up time may be needed in advance of the rehearsal. This must be done in advance of the scheduled start time.
4. Students will bring all materials needed for every rehearsal including a pencil.
5. Students will not bring food, drinks, candy or gum into the band room (water is OK).
6. Students will not play on equipment they do not own or have permission from the director to use. Students are not to touch, handle, borrow, or use anyone else's instrument, equipment, uniform, or personal belongings.
7. All rehearsals are expected to remain extremely quiet so we can utilize and maximize our rehearsal time wisely. Students should ask for permission to speak by raising their hand and waiting to be acknowledged.
8. Do not disturb rehearsals already in progress.
9. Students are allowed to use the phone in the band room to call home.
10. Students will respect all property and equipment. Students will return all equipment to its proper storage space when not in use. Each student is responsible for keeping their individual storage space clean and organized. Shared storage spaces need to be kept clean and organized by all users of equipment in that space.
11. Students will not enter the directors' offices without permission.
12. It is everyone's responsibility to keep chairs and stands stacked when not in use.
13. It is everyone's responsibility to keep the band room and all adjacent rooms clean and organized. If you see garbage or clutter, clean it up and organize every space.



Home Game Performance



Premier Night

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General Daily Supplies

All Members

- All issued music and music folder
- Pencil
- Instrument and/or equipment
- Tuner (musicians)
- Metronome (musicians)
- All supplies relative to their instrument (see below)
- All marching related equipment (drill binder, dot book, water bottle, etc.)

Flutes

- Approved instrument type
- Tuning and cleaning rods
- Cleaning Cloth
- Small Screwdriver Set

Clarinets

- Approved instrument type
- Three good playable reeds (Vandoren 3-3.5)
- Reed guard
- Ligature (Rovner)
- Proper mouthpiece with cap (Vandoren 5RV Lyre)
- Key oil (case storage)
- Bore oil (home storage)
- Silk cleaning swab
- Cork grease
- Small screwdriver set

Saxes/Low Reeds

- Approved instrument type
- Three good playable reeds (Vandoren 3-3.5)
- Reed guard
- Ligature (Rovner)
- Proper mouthpiece with cap (Selmer C*)
- Pad and neck saver
- Small screwdriver set

Trumpets

- Approved instrument type
- Valve oil
- Polishing cloth/Cleaning cloth or rag
- Proper mouthpiece (director approved): Bach 3c, or approved
- B.E.R.P
- Straight mute, cup mute, harmon mute, plunger mute (jazz only)
- Trumpet stand (optional)

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French Horn

- Approved instrument type
- Rotary/Valve oil
- Polishing cloth/Cleaning cloth or rag
- Proper mouthpiece (director approved)
- B.E.R.P

Trombones

- Approved instrument type
- Slide cream
- Spray water bottle
- Polishing cloth/Cleaning cloth or rag
- Proper mouthpiece (director approved): Bach 6 1/2AL, or approved
- B.E.R.P
- Straight mute, cup mute, plunger mute (jazz only)
- Trombone stand (optional)

Baritone/Euphonium

- Approved instrument type
- Valve oil
- Polishing cloth/Cleaning cloth or rag
- Proper mouthpiece (director approved)
- B.E.R.P

Tuba

- Approved instrument type
- Valve oil
- Polishing cloth/Cleaning cloth or rag
- Proper mouthpiece (director approved)
- B.E.R.P

Percussion

- Concert snare drum sticks (Vic Firth SD1 General)
 - Timpani mallets
 - Yarn mallets
 - Stick bag (with name on it)
 - List of approved equipment by percussion instructors
- ***Marching sticks and mallets will be provided for marching season. The above is required for concert season (November-June).

Guard

- Poles
- Flags
- Rifle (not provided)
- Sabre (if applicable)
- Electrical tape (2 rolls of white, 1 roll of black - have at all times)
- Team bag (provided)
- Flag bag (provided)

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School-owned Issued Instruments

General Information

West Salem High School will provide a limited number of instruments for student use. These instruments include such highly expensive instruments as the Bassoon, Oboe, Tenor Sax, Bari Sax, Bass Clarinet, French Horn, Baritone/Euphonium, Tuba, general Percussion Equipment, and Sabres, Poles, Props (guard). This equipment is generally purchased by the school district for student use because of the extremely high value. Thus, all school owned instruments must be handled with optimum care.

General Procedures

- We do not provide insurance for individually or school-owned equipment. It is required of all students utilizing school-owned instruments to provide insurance coverage while the instrument is checked-out for their use. Students will be held responsible for school-owned instruments issued to them. This responsibility will include fire, theft, accidental damage, abuse, and general maintenance needed not caused by normal use.
- Contact your insurance company to get the instrument added to your policy. This is very inexpensive and can cover you for the responsibilities listed above.
- Each instrument/equipment will be issued in good condition. Each instrument/equipment will be checked and cleaned by a music company or qualified staff prior to issue.
- The band member is financially responsible for all equipment and/or materials checked out to him or her.
- All equipment and materials must be kept in their proper storage space when not in use.

Additional Information

- School-owned instruments are not to be treated as “free” instruments. Basic supplies must still be purchased and repairs must still be made like personally-owned instruments.
- Since the expense of purchasing, leasing or renting is waived for these school-owned instruments, students using school-owned instruments are strongly encouraged to take private lessons.



Disneyland Performance Tour

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Travel Guidelines

Rules and Policies

1. For all out-of-town performances by any ensemble, school buses (and in some cases charter buses) will be used to transport the group. Students will adhere to school board policy concerning the riding of buses.
 - Students will remain seated, facing front at all times when the bus is moving.
 - Students are not to carry on loud, distracting conversations. No singing or yelling.
 - Students are to treat bus drivers and chaperones with courtesy and respect.
 - Students are not to stick anything out the windows.
 - No flash pictures while on bus.
 - Do not spray perfume, deodorant, hair spray, or other aerosols on the bus.
 - Radios, CD, and MP3 players may only be used with headphones.
 - Do not distract the bus driver in any way.
 - Do not open emergency door unless the driver or the director gives you permission.
 - Public displays of affection are inappropriate and will not be tolerated.
 - If food and/or drink is allowed by the bus driver, be sure all trash is picked up throughout the trip. Student leaders will have plastic trash bags throughout the bus.

*School buses usually cannot be locked. Do not leave anything of value where it can be easily seen.

2. Any student performing must ride the bus to and from the performance site. If there are extenuating circumstances, and a student must ride home with a parent after the performance, the student must do the following:
 - Notify the director of the extenuating circumstance in advance of the trip and get permission to ride with a parent.
 - Bring a written permission note signed by the parent and give it to the director before the buses leave.
 - Have the parents come to the band to pick up the student. A director must see the student leaving with the parents.
 - Take all equipment with you.

*If a student is late and misses the bus, he/she may be brought to the activity by the parents. Once there, the student and parents will report to the band director. If the student is not brought by his/her parents, the student will not be allowed to perform and that will be treated as an unexcused absence from a performance.



Wind Ensemble Retreat



Starlight Parade

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Facts About Marching Band

There is one marching band at West Salem High School. The marching band has two performance components. 1) Competitive (field show, competitions, travel, home football games, parades). 2) Non-Competitive (home football games in stands and parades). Every student must choose which component they will be in. However, there are limitations as to which class/ensemble you can enroll in based on what you choose (District Policy).

Wind Ensemble

Wind Ensemble is an auditioned group and is the highest skill level ensemble in the band department. This ensemble travels to competitions and performs several times per year.

- Students must be in Competitive Marching Band (or have an approved valid conflict-see below).
- Weekly sectionals are required throughout the year.
- Students must audition for All-City and participate in the district Solo and Ensemble contest.
- 12 proficiencies are required each semester (or private lessons).

Advanced Band

Advanced Band is an auditioned group and is the intermediate-advanced skill level ensemble in the band department. This ensemble travels to competitions and performs several times per year.

- Students must be in Competitive Marching Band (or have an approved valid conflict-see below).
- Weekly sectionals are required in the fall and monthly sectionals are required the rest of the year.
- 12 proficiencies are required each semester (or private lessons).

Concert Band

Concert Band is not auditioned and is the entry-level ensemble. Most freshmen are placed in this ensemble. This ensemble does not travel and holds 2-3 performances per year.

- Students can, but are not required to be in the Competitive Marching Band (no valid conflict is needed).
- Weekly sectionals are required in the fall only. Sectionals are not required after the fall season.
- 7 proficiencies are required each semester (or private lessons).

Percussion Ensemble

All percussionists are placed in the percussion ensemble class. Students selected to perform with the wind ensemble must be in wind ensemble class. If they can also fit in percussion class, that is preferred. The remaining percussionists perform with Advanced Band or Concert Band. Percussionists perform with their assigned ensemble.

- Students performing with Wind Ensemble or Advanced Band must be in Competitive Marching Band (or have an approved valid conflict-see below).
- Students performing with Concert Band can, but are not required to be in the Competitive Marching Band (no valid conflict is needed).
- Sectionals are required depending on what ensemble students are assigned.

Jazz Ensembles

We have two jazz ensembles. These groups are auditioned. All students must be concurrently enrolled in one of the band/percussion classes. This ensemble travels to 2-3 festivals and performs several times per year.

- Students must be in Competitive Marching Band (or have an approved valid conflict-see below)
- Sectionals are required as scheduled.

Approved Valid and Non-approved Conflicts with the Competitive Component of Marching Band

Approved conflicts (fall sport that conflicts with the competitive marching band rehearsal or performance schedule, or a physical limitation or disability). Some students do both a fall sport and competitive marching band. Fall sports that are easier to work around include freshman football, soccer, water polo, and cross-country.

Non-Approved conflicts (jobs, concerns about time or grades, student doesn't want to participate, and money concerns). Students in this category would only be able to enroll in the Concert Band class (percussionists would only be allowed to perform with Concert Band).

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Competitive Marching Band

General Information

The competitive marching band is an incredibly rewarding experience for students. Besides being a championship program in the NW region, the time spent developing their musicianship and artistry is unparalleled in any other activity. It takes a lot of hard work and devotion, energy and resources. This commitment must also be made on the parent level. We do not have a “second string”, so every performer is a varsity starter. We must have the highest level of dedication, responsibility, and commitment from every person involved. All students enrolled in Wind Ensemble, Advanced Band, and Percussion Ensemble must be in competitive marching unless they have a valid conflict (like a fall sport). All valid conflicts must be pre-approved using the form in the registration packet. Students in Concert Band have the option of being in competitive marching band or just participating in the non-competitive aspects of marching band (home games in the stands and the fall and spring parade; see page 15 for more details).

Student Leadership

The Drum majors and section leaders are the most critical positions of leadership. The drum majors work closely with the section leaders and staff to help run the entire marching ensemble program. Section Leaders run and manage their section and should be your first point of contact for questions. You should know who these students are and feel free to contact them with any questions. Visit the website members only page for phone and email contact information.

Student Leadership Positions

Drum Major and Drum Major Assistant(s)
Flute and Flute Assistant
Clarinet and Clarinet Assistant
Alto Sax and Alto Sax Assistant
Low Reeds and Low Reeds Assistant
Trumpet and Trumpet Assistant

Mellophone and Mellophone Assistant
Baritone and Baritone Assistant
Tuba and Tuba Assistant
Battery Percussion and Battery Percussion Assistant
Pit Percussion Pit Percussion Assistant
Guard Captain and Guard Assistant

Attendance

All rehearsals and performances are mandatory. Over the summer, there will be a few “sectionals/get togethers” leading up to the main camp weeks in August. Your section leaders will contact you to let you know times and places. If at all possible, members should make every attempt to attend these critical sectionals. Section Leaders will go over techniques, music, and have some fun getting to know everyone. Once we get to the main camps in August, it is expected that no further vacations or conflicts are scheduled. This includes doctor’s appointments, birthday parties, and other flexible examinations.

Schedule

Please refer to the online calendar. Beside the summer rehearsals, we meet after school during the week and on most Saturday’s during the first 9 weeks of school. We typically perform at 4-5 competitions from the end of September to the beginning of November. If the football teams makes the playoff’s, the marching band will continue to perform for home play-off games as well as quarter-finals, semi-finals, and the finals. These play-off performances do not typically involve the guard.

Premier Performance/Titan Section Challenge

At the conclusion of the main camp weeks in August, we host a BBQ for all families, followed by an evening performance. The performance is in two parts. For the first part of the evening, students compete against other sections. They perform a mini drill, the fight song, and one minute of creative work. They are judged, and the highest scoring section is awarded the Titan Section Challenge Cup.

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Immediately following the Section Challenge, the entire Marching Band performs a portion of their competitive fall show. This is called our “Premier Performance”. This is a fun evening, so be sure to invite as many family and friends as you can. You can find the exact dates and times date for this event on the online calendar.

Music and Drill Binder

Everyone must have a 3-ring 1” binder with at least 40 plastic sheet protectors. This will contain your music and drill for the season. Students must also have their dot books (small pocket-sized spiral bound lined paper packet). These are required at all rehearsals.

Preparation of Music

Everyone must prepare and memorize the fall show music in advance of scheduled rehearsals. If you need assistance, start by contacting your section leader. Your section leader may also hold sectionals in advance of the August camps to help each section prepare the music and warm-up exercises in advance. During the course of the marching season, testing will take place for quality of performance and memorization. You can locate and download the music files and MP3’s on our member only section at www.westsalemband.org. Click on “members only”, the password is wstb13.

Rehearsal Attire

All winds and percussion need to wear white shirts to rehearsals. All guard members need to wear light green shirts to rehearsals. All members need to wear shorts/pants that are flexible athletic wear. All members need to wear athletic style tennis shoes. Small baseball style hats are allowed (except for guard). Rehearsal wear is available for purchase through our website and at registration. Once it turns cold, warmer wear (still flexible and athletic in nature) is acceptable.

Competitive Marching Band Fair Share Fee

The fair share fee for the competitive marching band is \$425. This fee can be raised through various fundraising activities. The marching band budget is just over \$75,000. This covers design staff, instructional staff, transportation, equipment, supplies, contest fees, uniforms, and props and silks. Please see the fee form in the registration packet online. Most week long summer camps cost between \$300-\$600 for a week of instruction. In our program, you get 12 weeks of intensive instruction for just \$425. This is the best deal you will ever find. This fee does not include any “outside of the area” regional trips. Download the registration packet from the members only page of the website.

Apparel Fees

There are different apparel fees for different sections of the marching band. See the fees form in the registration packet for the breakdown of each area. This apparel belongs to the student at the end of the season. If the apparel is in good condition, it can be used for future seasons.

Uniform Accessories/Other Fees

All winds and percussion will need to provide black socks and a black shirt to wear with your uniform. Guard members need to supply makeup and other accessories that compliment the show uniform as needed (body tights are needed for fall). There are other fees associated with the program (depending on what instrument you play). See the fee sheet for the details.

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Home Game Performance Procedures

- **Call Time:** This is the time at which all members should be at the high school band room (guard in main gym). Students arrive and get into uniform right away. Be sure to have the appropriate attire needed to compliment the uniform.
- **Start Time:** This is the time at which all members should be in the rehearsal arcs in the band room ready to warm-up. Percussion is set and ready to warm-up outside the band room (guard in gym).
- **Uniform:** When standing in rehearsal arcs ready to warm-up, be in full uniform except your shako should be on top of your shako box directly in front of you. You should have your members issued baseball cap and your stands music inside your shako box. Guard is in full uniform.

Rules and procedures for home football game performances:

- No food or gum is allowed when in uniform. Only water is allowed.
- When in the stands, students must sit in their assigned area.
- Students are not allowed to play individually in the stands.
- When cued, remove your shako and put on your member issued baseball cap.
- Students need to be focused in the stands and ready to play at all times.
- Guests are not allowed to visit or sit in the band area.
- Do not accept food, gum, or drinks from family or friends.
- At the appropriate time, students will be dismissed for the half-time performance. Students move together quickly and quietly to the visual warm-up area directly behind the stadium.
- At the conclusion of the half-time performance, all students report back to the stands for the remainder of the game.
- At the conclusion of the game, students move to the band room, properly store uniform and all equipment, clean and organize the band room, then most of the time parents provide post-game snacks for the students. These are not to be consumed in the band room.

Away Performance Procedures

- **Call Time:** This is the time at which all members should be at the high school or set location. Students should have all attire and necessary items for the designated performance prior to the call time.
- **Load Time:** This is the time at which all members should be on the appropriate bus with all equipment needed.
- **Return Time:** This is the estimated time of arrival back to the band room.

Rules and procedures for away performances

- We travel in a group to every away event. See the travel guidelines in this handbook.
- Before/after performances (when time allows) we sit in the stands and watch other performances. During this time, we are quiet and respectful of every band. Turn off cell phones and watch each group attentively. At the conclusion of each performance, applaud respectfully.
- At no time do we participate in cheers, chants, or band to band spirit cheers.
- For awards ceremonies, be humble and respectful. It is OK to cheer if we receive an award. It is appropriate to applaud for other groups as well.
- For those students that purchase meal plans, there will be a hot meal provided for you between prelims and finals. This is typically in the parking lot next to the buses. When in line, be patient and respectful. Be sure to thank the parent volunteers who are there serving and preparing this food. Be sure to dispose of your trash properly and keep the parking lot area clean and organized.
- Students may not leave the performance site with parents between prelims and finals. Students wishing to travel home with parents at the conclusion of finals must follow the travel policies in this handbook- see Travel Guidelines.

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Wearing The Uniform/Maintenance/Guidelines

Students are expected to follow the uniform guidelines and procedures as follows:

- Students will be held financially responsible for the uniform and its components (see uniform contract).
- Uniforms will be checked out to the student to keep at home.
- Keep the uniform hung outside of the garnet bag when not in use. At no time should the uniform be laying on a table, chair, or the ground.
- At the conclusion of any performance, students are expected to take the uniform home.
- Always wear and treat your uniform with pride. The uniform should be worn as a complete unit at all times when in public. The only exception to this will be when a director instructs you to remove your jacket. When doing this, we fold our jacket and rest it on top of the shako box.
- Students must wear an approved black shirt underneath their uniform jacket.
- Students must wear long black socks at all times.
- Students must wear their hats and shako correctly at all times (never backwards).
- Jewelry and colored nail polish is unacceptable while in uniform.
- Band students with long hair will need to pull it up under their hat during performances (use a hair net).
- Natural hair color will be the only style of hair color accepted.
- It is recommended that boys cut their hair short during the marching season.
- For guard, makeup and hair will be worn as instructed by the staff.
- Uniforms checked in at the end of the school year that are soiled or clearly not clean will be assessed a \$100 cleaning fee.



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Non-Competitive Marching Band

General Information

This option is for students that have an approved “valid” conflict with the competitive marching band portion of the curriculum (complete form in registration packet). These conflicts are usually fall sports that directly conflict with the competitive marching band schedule. Students with an approved conflict still participate in the non-competitive portion of marching band (home games, play-off games, stand still performances, and parades). Students in Concert Band have the option of being in competitive marching or not regardless of having a valid conflict or not. Students in Wind Ensemble, Advanced Band, or Percussion Ensemble must be in competitive marching band or have a valid conflict as stated above. Students without a valid conflict will automatically be placed in Concert Band.

Non-Competitive Marching Band Fair Share Fee

The fair share fee for the non-competitive marching band is \$50. This fee can be raised through various fundraising activities. This fee covers expenses related to the non-competitive marching band that the school district does not cover. See the registration packet for more details.

Apparel Fee

There are different apparel fees for different sections of the marching band. See the registration packet fee form. This apparel belongs to the student at the end of the season. If the apparel is in good condition, it can be used for future seasons.

Uniform Accessories/Other Fees

All winds and percussion will need to provide black socks and a black shirt to wear with your uniform. There may be other fees associated with the program (depending on what instrument you play). See the fee sheet in the registration packet for more details.

Concert Ensembles (Winds/Perc.)

General Information

Once marching season is over, we switch to concert ensemble focus (Concert Band, Advanced Band, Percussion Ensemble, Wind Ensemble). Students work to prepare concert literature for upcoming performances as well as continue to build their individual and ensemble skill sets. Students also begin to prepare solo and ensemble pieces for the district OMEA solo and ensemble competition. Private lessons are highly encouraged for every student.

Attendance

Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory. This includes sectionals and other after school rehearsals (typically a dress rehearsal before a concert). Please refer to the online calendar on the www.westsalemband.org website for current schedules. Check this calendar regularly for updates.

Fair Share Fee

The fair share fee for all band and percussion classes is \$80 per semester. This fee can be raised through various fundraising activities. This covers the portion of expenses not covered by the school district for equipment maintenance and repair, music purchases, instrument replacement, festival fees, printing, supplies, transportation expenses, and concert uniform maintenance and replacement.

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Performances

Concerts and performances are a critical part to the development of the musician. Students and parents should consult their schedules for all performance dates and times. Occasionally, the schedule will change and updates will be posted to the online calendar.

Concerts have three parts: warm-up, performance, and listening. Punctuality is essential. The students are done after the last group has performed. Students are not allowed to leave early.

- All concerts and performances are a group effort, thus attendance is required.
- All concerts are an extension of the classroom and will be graded accordingly.
- Students should arrive early, dressed appropriately, and prepared for each concert.
- In the event a performance causes a student to miss another class, the student is responsible to make up all missed work. Directors will inform the attendance office.

Uniforms for Concert Ensembles

The uniform for all bands is "Concert Black". We provide tux jackets and pants for the men. We provide black dresses for the women. Men will need to purchase a black tux shirt, black bow tie, and black socks. Everyone will need to purchase appropriate black dress shoes. Tennis shoes and marching band shoes are not acceptable. For ladies, open toe sandals/shoes are not acceptable.

Instrument Care, Reeds, and Mouthpieces

It is expected that students consistently have instruments in good working order. All instruments (rented or not) should be cleaned and maintained regularly. It is in the best interest of the student performer to have a high quality instrument. Often, the instruments purchased or rented in middle school are lower-level student model instruments that are no longer appropriate for high school. Please look over the instrument preferred list and/or work with your students private teacher on selecting a new instrument (if needed).

All clarinets and saxophones should be using Vandoren grade 3 to 3.5 reeds. These are available at your local music stores or online. Purchasing reeds a box at a time can save you substantial money.

All students should have an approved quality mouthpiece. This can drastically affect tone quality and pitch. See the preferred list on our website for options or work with your student's private teacher to select the best mouthpiece for their current developmental level. Ask your directors before you make the purchase.

Music

Each student will receive a music folder. This folder is to be kept in their assigned music folder slot inside the music folder cabinets or in your assigned instrument storage cabinet during the school day. The music students receive is very expensive and needs to be cared for appropriately. Keep the music in your folder at all times when transporting it to and from school. Check your music folder slot in the music folder cabinet regularly for new music and handouts. Students are financially responsible for lost folders and music.

Wind Ensemble

Students that make Wind Ensemble audition for the Salem All-City Honor Band, perform a solo and/or ensemble at the OMEA district solo contest, audition for All-State or All-NW, participate in Symphony Orchestra (top players in every section), attend weekly sectionals, and compete in various local and regional band contests. Students are strongly encourage to take private lessons as well as audition for OMEA All-State/Northwest Honor groups.

West Salem Band Program Handbook

Music Preparation and General Practice Guidelines

It is required that students prepare music in advance of scheduled music rehearsals. We rehearse during school every day and students will have a good idea of what needs to be prepared before the next class. Students are required to practice nightly (unless there was a scheduled practice or sectional after school). On those days, the after school scheduled rehearsal can count as their practice for that day. In addition, if a student practices before school, lunch, or after school, that can also count toward their practice time.

Students need to refine skill sets as well as prepare music for class. Students will be given various exercises to prepare. It is important that the practice time is managed effectively. We recommend mixing in music practice with other homework. For example: 30 minutes of math, 15 minutes of music, 30 minutes of English, 15 minutes of music, etc.

All students should own their own metronome and tuner for home practice. In addition, a music stand (folding or regular) is essential for quality practice with appropriate posture.

Proficiencies

Each semester, students must complete/demonstrate certain proficiencies. These proficiencies are recorded and uploaded into their Dropbox Folder (one will be created for you in the fall). These are worth 15% of their grade, so be sure you work on these with diligence. Proficiency due dates can be found on the online calendar as well as the **Assignment Due Date Sheet** given to all students at the beginning of the school year. However, it is recommended that students turn them in as early in each 6 week grading period as possible. This is important because students can perform the proficiency as many times as they want until they get the grade they desire. Students that are taking regular weekly lessons from an approved instructor receive a **waiver for all proficiencies**. There is a proficiency waiver form the student and their private teacher must fill out in order to receive the credit for the proficiencies.

SmartMusic

SmartMusic is an incredible music practice and assessment program that is available to all students. Students can prepare excerpts, exercises, and proficiencies by using this software. The software and home subscription can be purchased at www.smartmusic.com.

Assignments

During the concert season, there are assignments that students will need to complete in class and outside of class. These assignments include strobe sheets, long tone charts, power grid rhythm sheets, theory worksheets, etc. All assignments must be turned in on time to receive full credit. Assignments are turned into the directors' receiving tray just inside the band office. Review the **Assignment Due Date Sheet** given out to all students at the beginning of the school year (also posted on the website).

Performance Testing

Students are tested on their performance in class, at concerts, and on assigned excerpts from the music we are preparing in class. At first, performing in front of others can be scary. Getting over this "stage fright" is part of the goal. However, as students begin to understand the classroom environment and the importance of being able to perform your own part, the task becomes second nature. If a student is well prepared for class testing, but does not receive the grade they desire, they can always re-test. If it is obvious that the student did not prepare for the test, re-testing is not an option. All performances are mandatory.

West Salem Band Program Handbook

Grading Policy

The philosophy of our grading system is to evaluate and assess both the individual skill sets needed to be a great performer and the ensemble skills needed to perform with others. The assessment is ongoing and culminates at performances within each semester. Please note: students taking private lessons get all of their proficiencies waived and do not have to turn in practice reports. Students must fill out a waiver form signed by their private teacher.

70% Rehearsal/Performance Points

Performances
Daily Rehearsal Improvement
Individual and Ensemble Skills
Dress Rehearsals
Sectionals (as assigned)
Practice Logs/Reports/Records
Being Prepared for Class
Being On Time
Bringing All Materials
Memorization of Required Music
Attitude and Cooperation
Respect for Yourself and Others

***15% Proficiencies**

Seven-Twelve Proficiencies Per Semester

15% Testing/Assignments

Performance Assessment
Performance Preparation Assessments
Written Tests/Assignments/Worksheets
Strobe Sheets
Long Tone Charts
Practice Logs/Reports/Records
Rhythm Sheets

Extra Credit

Private Lessons
Solo and Ensemble
Extra Sectionals
Extra Individual Practice Sessions in The Band Room
Participation in Community Music Groups
Administrative Assistance
Set-up/Tear-down
Summer Music Camps
Assisting With The Middle School Band Program
Giving Private Lessons to Middle School Band Members
Volunteering in The Community

**Students taking weekly private lessons can fill out a waiver form that will substitute for all Proficiencies and Practice Reports each trimester. Mr. Zimelman must approve the private teacher and these lessons must be equal to one per week during the duration of the trimester.*

West Salem Band Program Handbook

Description of Grading Areas

Rehearsal/Performance Points (70%)

Students are expected to attend (as well as be prepared for) all rehearsals and performances.

1. Class Rehearsals (improvement and meeting district and state standards of proficiency for all individual and ensemble skills)
2. Sectionals (improvement and meeting district and state standards of proficiency)
3. After School Rehearsals (improvement and meeting district and state standards of proficiency)
4. Performances (Football Games, Parades, Competitions, Concerts)

Your grade is determined by a combination of your proficiency, improvement, music preparation and performance. In case of severe illness, departmental or professional conflict, members must notify the director **in writing** before the absence. In the case of last minute conflicts, members are expected to make every effort to notify the director. You may email, call, or bring a written note from your parents to the band office. Excused absences for medical reasons, family emergencies, illness, and extraordinary events will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Communication is the key to your success in this area.

Avoid making doctors/dental appointments during band rehearsals. Every attempt should be made to schedule work and other special events (birthday parties, mini-vacations) around the band schedule as these are not excused. Everyone is valued in this program: commit to the program, commit to the ensemble, and commit to the schedule.

If you are not in attendance, it's impossible to meet your daily improvement and proficiency standards. Points are assigned for each rehearsal and performance. Grades reflect your ability to improve and meet district and state proficiency standards (including individual and ensemble skills).

Students are expected to prepare the music in advance of rehearsal. Individual practice with a metronome and tuner is required. Memorization testing will take place throughout the school year (when appropriate).

Proficiencies (15%)

Students are expected to perform/record eight-twelve technical Proficiencies per semester (depends which ensemble you are in). It is recommended to achieve one per week. See the Proficiency sheet for each specific semester.

Assessment

1. Students are assessed based on a 10 point scale for each Proficiency
2. See "Proficiency Performance Standards"
3. Students may perform and record each Proficiency until desired grade is achieved
4. Students performing live for the director will receive immediate feedback
5. Students recording Proficiencies will receive feedback as soon as possible
6. It is highly recommended to record these using SmartMusic (when available).
7. Students taking private lessons from an approved teacher get ALL proficiencies waived.

Daily Testing/Assignments (15%)

Students will be tested and given assignments throughout the school year. As a general rule, late assignments will not be accepted. In-class performance testing will be based on specific musical assignments given to the students in advance.

Daily Testing

1. Ensembles are sampled (students selected to perform) throughout the semester in class
2. 1-10 points are received (average of the student and director scores)

West Salem Band Program Handbook

3. Introspection, self-assessment, and performing in front of others is a critical part of the overall developmental process

Typical List of Assignments

1. Strobe Sheets
2. Long Tone Charts
3. Music Theory/History Handouts
4. Rhythm Counting Sheets
5. Practice Reports (when assigned)

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period.

Jazz Ensembles

General Information

We offer as many jazz ensembles as possible at West Salem High School (depends on enrollment and interest level). These ensembles vary in level and performance experience. Jazz Ensemble II is made up of younger players with little to no experience in the jazz style. Jazz Ensemble I is made up of the most experienced jazz musicians. All students must be concurrently enrolled in a concert ensemble.

Auditions

Auditions for all Jazz Ensembles takes place during the first few weeks of school each fall. Jazz Ensemble does not go into full mode until the marching band is over. All students interested in being in one of the jazz ensembles should forecast for the jazz ensemble class. We do not turn anyone away from the second or third jazz ensemble.

Attendance

Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory. This includes sectionals and other after school rehearsals (typically a dress rehearsal before a concert). Please refer to the online calendar on the www.westsalemband.org website for current schedules. Check this calendar regularly for updates.

Rehearsal Schedules

Both jazz ensembles meet as a zero period class. Jazz Ensemble I meets on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday before school from 6:30-7:25. In addition, Jazz Ensemble I may hold weekly sectionals at times. Jazz Ensemble II meets on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday before school from 6:30-7:25. In addition, Jazz Ensemble II may hold weekly sectionals at times. These days/times are subject to change.

Performances

Both jazz ensembles perform at the West Salem Jazz Festival, the “Jazz Night” concert, as well as 3-4 jazz festivals in the region. There may be additional local performances as well. Students will be notified far in advance of any added performance. Please keep visiting the online calendar for updates.

Uniforms for Jazz Ensembles

The uniforms for Jazz Ensemble I and II are determined by the directors.

West Salem Band Program Handbook

SALEM-KEIZER ALL-CITY BAND

General Information

In early October, students will receive the Salem-Keizer All-City Audition materials. In early December, All-City Applications are due to the directors. In early January, All-City auditions are held. Wind Ensemble and Advanced Band members are required to audition. Concert Band members are encouraged to audition.

OMEA DISTRICT SOLO CONTEST

General Information

In early March, OMEA (Oregon Music Educators Association) holds a Solo and Ensemble contest for our area (OMEA District 4). Students prepare solo pieces and/or small ensemble pieces to perform at this contest. Students receive feedback as well as a rating for their performance. District winners are selected to perform at the OSAA (Oregon Schools Activities Association) State Solo Contest end of April/beginning of May. Although this is not required for non-wind ensemble musicians, we strongly encourage every student to participate in this event. The benefits to them as an individual performer and to our ensembles is amazing.

OMEA ALL-STATE HONOR BAND

General Information

Every year, OMEA holds auditions for All-State honor bands, honor orchestra, and an honor jazz ensemble. The audition CD's are due to OMEA by the end of September. Audition materials are posted on the members only portion of the website and recording sessions are held toward the end of September. We strongly encourage all students to audition for the honor groups. If selected, they travel to Eugene to rehearse and perform with an amazing world-class conductor and the finest high school musicians in the state of Oregon. This is a huge honor for your resume and a great experience.

MENC ALL-NW HONOR GROUPS

General Information

Only on EVEN numbered years, MENC holds auditions for All-Northwest honor band, honor orchestra, and honor jazz ensembles. The audition MP3's are due to MENC by the end of September/1st part of October. Audition materials are posted on the members only portion of the website and recording sessions are held toward the end of September. We strongly encourage all students to audition for the honor groups. If selected, they travel to a select location in Washington or Oregon to rehearse and perform with an amazing world-class conductor and the finest high school musicians in the Northwest (Alaska, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming). This is one of the most prestigious honors for your resume.

West Salem Band Program Handbook

Winter Guard

General Information

Once marching band is over, the West Salem guard members audition and/or are placed into one of our Winter Guard programs. This is critical for the ongoing training as well as more incredible performance opportunities for just guard. During the Winter Guard season, guard members continue to build skill sets while they also learn a 4-6 minute show that is performed at various local competitions. During certain years, some of these guard units travel to regional or national level competitions as well.

Attendance/Schedule

All rehearsals and performances are mandatory. Please plan accordingly. Refer to the online calendar on our www.westsalemband.org website.

Preparation/Improvement of Choreography

Everyone must be committed to home practice. It is vital that the choreography learned at rehearsal be maintained and improved between rehearsals. Training standards must be met to maintain a competitive spot on the team.

Rehearsal Attire

All members need to wear moveable bottoms where we can see the ankle and through line of the foot, aka capries/tights with shorts. All members need to wear tennis shoes outside of rehearsal for loading/unloading/set-up, but will dance barefoot. All members will wear tight tops to see the alignment of the body with no hair in the face.

Fair Share Fee

The fair share fee for the Winter Guard units is usually \$400-450. This fee can be raised through various fundraising activities. The Winter Guard budget is just over \$35,000. This covers design staff, instructional staff, transportation, equipment, supplies, contest fees, uniforms, and props and silks.

Apparel Fees

There are different apparel fees for the different Winter Guard units. This apparel belongs to the student at the end of the season. If the apparel is in good condition, it can be used for future seasons. Winter Guard fee sheets will be available at the winter guard registration in November.

Uniform Accessories/Equipment Fees

All Winter Guard members need to supply makeup and other accessories that compliment the show uniform as needed. In addition, all members purchase their own rifle, show shirts, and tights.

Winter Guard Registration

In mid November, we will hold a Winter Guard registration for all members participating in Winter Guard. Please look for this date on the online calendar. All winter fee forms and other winter season forms will be due at the Winter Guard registration.

West Salem Band Program Handbook

Winter Percussion

General Information

Once marching band is over, percussionists have the opportunity to participate in our Winter Percussion program. This is critical for the ongoing training as well as more incredible performance opportunities for just percussion. During the Winter Percussion season, members continue to build skill sets while they also learn a 4-6 minute show that is performed at various local competitions. During certain years, Winter Percussion travels to regional or national level competitions as well.

Attendance/Schedule

All rehearsals and performances are mandatory. Please plan accordingly. Refer to the online calendar on our www.westsalemband.org website.

Preparation/Improvement of Music

Everyone must be committed to home practice. It is vital that the music learned at rehearsal be maintained and improved between rehearsals.

Rehearsal Clothes

All members need to wear shorts/pants that are flexible athletic wear. All members need to wear athletic style tennis shoes. Rehearsal wear is available for purchase through our online merchandise form linked to our main website.

Fair Share Fee

The fair share fee for the Winter Percussion program is usually \$400-450. This fee can be raised through various fundraising activities. The Winter Percussion budget is just over \$40,000. This covers design staff, instructional staff, transportation, equipment, supplies, contest fees, uniforms, and props and silks.

Uniform Accessories/Fees

Depending on the season, there may be a uniform fee and/or other apparel that is needed to compliment the show design. All fee forms will be made available at the Winter Percussion registration in mid-November.

Winter Percussion Registration

In early-mid November, we will hold a Winter Percussion registration for all members participating in Winter Percussion. Please look for this date on the online calendar. All winter fee forms and other winter season forms will be due at the Winter Percussion registration.

Musical Pit Orchestra

General Information

Every year (usually in November) West Salem produces a school-wide musical for our main stage. This is a collaborative effort between the drama, choir, orchestra, and band departments. For our part, we put together a top-notch pit orchestra composed of woodwinds, brass, strings, percussion, piano, and synth. Students can earn extra credit as well as credits toward their varsity letter. Auditions are held in September and rehearsals begin in mid September on Tuesdays after school.

West Salem Band Program Handbook

WSBB

General Information

WSBB (West Salem Band Boosters) is the parent booster organization that supports and raises money for all programs under its umbrella. There is an executive board of directors and several coordinator positions. All parents are automatically members of WSBB when your student becomes an active member. Having a large scale program with world class ensembles is not possible without the commitment and involvement of all parents. Visit the parents/boosters page on our website to view the by-laws, parent position contact information, and other important WSBB news. www.westsalemband.org.

WSBB EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Vice President
Treasurer 1
Treasurer 2
Secretary
Members At Large
Director of Bands (non-voting)
Assistant Band Director (non-voting)

WSBB COORDINATOR POSITIONS

Band Council Student Representative
Equipment Coordinator
Fundraising Coordinator
Marching Band Coordinator
Meals/Food Coordinator
Props/Silks Coordinator
Publicity Coordinator
Recruitment Coordinator
Social Coordinator
Travel Coordinator
Uniform Coordinator
Volunteer Coordinator
Winter Guard Coordinator
Winter Percussion Coordinator

Elections

Nominations for open positions take place in March and April. Elections are held at the May parent meeting. Contact the volunteer coordinator or one of the executive board members if you are interested in an open position. All positions must be filled.



Wind Ensemble in Spokane, WA



All-City Honor Band Rehearsal



Winter Guard

West Salem Band Program Handbook

Fundraising

General Information

The WSBB Fundraising Coordinator oversees all fundraising events and activities. It is impossible for one person to manage all of these events. So, we select fundraising managers for each event. It is vital that parents sign up to manage and assist with fundraising events. Sign-up sheets will be available at future parent meetings.

WSBB Fundraising MANAGER Positions (visit the website for parent contact information):

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Basketball Raffles | Benefit Concert |
| Can/Bottle Drives | Car Raffle |
| Candy Sales | Fall Yard Sale |
| Fall Marching Contest | GGB Concert |
| Jazz Night/Silent Auction | Music Day |
| Restaurant Nights | Scrip |
| Sponsorship Drive | Spring Plant/Flower Sale |
| Spring Yard Sale | VIP Cards |
| Winter Percussion Contest | Poinsettia/Wreath Sale |

Ongoing Fundraisers/Get Involved NOW!

Scrip is one of the most effective ongoing fundraisers we have. Visit the website and click on fundraising to get the details and download forms to get signed-up. Some families raise all of their fee money through this one fundraiser.

The sponsorship letters posted on our website are also incredibly effective and easy. Simply download these letters and mail to family, friends, and businesses.

Bottle drives are also surprisingly effective. Some students have raised hundreds of dollars through this simple fundraiser. Check the website for the calendar of fundraising events.

Required Parent Volunteer Hours

Parent volunteering is critical to the success of our organization. In an effort to keep fees down at a time when funding is being cut, the program will now require a set number of minimum volunteer requirements parents must complete in order to not be assessed an additional \$100 per year. Details and volunteer sign-up sheets will be available at the August parent meeting and the Premier Performance.



Marching Band



Wind Ensemble State Champions



Full Symphony at Rotary

West Salem Band Program Handbook

Student Band Council

General Information

The student band council represents the students of all ensembles to the directors and the WSBB parent board. They help to coordinate social activities throughout the year (large and small) and constantly strive to improve the entire organization.

General Responsibilities of all Student Band Council Members

- Set the example at all times.
- Attend monthly Band Council meetings and all events.

Responsibilities of the President

- Organizes and facilitates meetings.
- Creates agendas for meetings.
- Attends all WSBB parent board meetings.
- Represents the students to the WSBB parent board.
- Meets with directors as scheduled.
- Oversees all other council positions.

Responsibilities of the Vice President

- Runs meetings in the absence of the president.
- Oversees the representatives from each ensemble.
- Coordinates student and parent door monitors at all concerts/events.
- Oversees organization of band room and adjacent facilities.

Responsibilities of the Secretary

- Takes minutes at all meetings.
- Sends notices of meetings via email and posts agendas.
- Assists with clerical work in the band office.

Responsibilities of the Librarian(s)

- Creates and maintains all music folders.
- Fills music request forms.
- Organizes and maintains band library.

Responsibilities of the Historian

- Collects pictures and video for parent media advisory chair.
- Coordinates event and competition results to parent PR advisory chair.
- Communicates all events and competition information to the student newspaper editors.
- Helps to keep history section of website up to date.

Responsibilities of the Equipment Manager

- Assists with the management of all equipment at rehearsals and performances.
- Organizes and assist in the maintenance of equipment.
- Manages checklists of all equipment when traveling.
- Maintenance of furniture: chairs, stands, trophies (including displays), etc.

Responsibilities of the Class/Ensemble Representative

- Represents their class/ensemble to the student council.
- Takes attendance.
- Assists in facilitation of band room/rehearsal space organization.
- Announce and update class/ensemble on all fundraising and social activities.

West Salem Band Program Handbook

Support Staff

General Information

The staff that is hired to work with the students in all of our programs are some of the most talented, world-class staff in the country. Visit the website for phone and email contact information.

WSBB HIRED STAFF POSITIONS

- Director of Percussion
- Percussion Instructors
- Percussion Technicians
- Director of Guard
- Guard Instructors
- Guard Technicians
- Visual Designer
- Visual Instructors
- Visual Technicians
- Section Coaches

Fall Awards Dessert Potluck

General Information

In early December, we hold a fall awards night to celebrate the marching season. Look for this date on the online calendar. Awards are given to students. We have a slide show and a season highlight video presentation. All parents, friends and family are invited. This is a fun evening and a great way to cap off the competitive marching season.

Spring Awards Dessert Potluck

General Information

In late May, we hold a year end awards night to celebrate the entire year for all ensembles and programs. Look for this date on the online calendar. Awards are given to students. We have a slide show and various video presentations. All parents, friends and family are invited. This is a great way to reflect back on the entire year and all of our accomplishments.



Full Symphony Clinic at UofO



Marching Band Competition

West Salem Band Program Handbook

Earning A Varsity Letter/Device

General Information

Students in band or guard can earn a varsity letter for the year. Students that have already received a letter, but fulfill all the requirements can earn a "device". The highest achieving students receive a letter and three devices. All students must fill out the letter/device application and submit it to Mr. Zimbelman by May 1st. Applications can be found on our website under the members only section. Varsity school letters are given to students who have achieved "**more than required**" in all band/guard related activities and have continually shown leadership and excellence in band/guard. To receive a letter is an honor. See requirements listed below.

Band Letter/Device Requirements

1. Earn an "A" grade in band for both semesters.
2. While participating in Competitive Marching Band:
 - Always treating everyone with respect
 - Attend all performances
 - Excellent rehearsal attendance
 - Being prepared with all materials at all times (including drill binder, music, dot book)
 - Have music memorized and prepared in advance
3. While participating in one of the concert ensembles (both semesters):
 - Always treating everyone with respect
 - Attend all performances
 - Excellent rehearsal attendance
 - Being prepared with all materials at all times
 - Have music prepared in advance
4. Participate in Basketball Band with excellent attendance and performance quality.
5. Complete six (6) of the following (twelve (12) if not in Basketball Band):
 - Attend 4 instrumental concerts outside of our school (preferably Oregon Symphony)
 - Attend a summer music camp
 - Attend a workshop or master class on your instrument
 - Take Music Theory or Music Appreciation Class
 - Be a TA for Mr. Zimbelman (one semester)
 - Complete 20 hours of community service
 - Student Leadership: Drum Major, Section Leader, or Band Council
 - Earn a 3.5 or better accumulative GPA
 - Participate in a minimum of 4 fund-raisers
 - Participate in All-State or All-Northwest Honor Bands
 - Participate in All-State or All-Northwest Honor Bands
 - Participate in another school ensemble (another band, choir, orchestra)
 - Participate in District Solo/Ensemble contest with a I or II rating
 - Participate in Jazz Ensemble (counts as 2)
 - Participate in OSAA State Solo Contest
 - Participate in Symphony Orchestra (counts as 2)
 - Participate in Winter Percussion (counts as 3)
 - Peer tutor middle school student(s) on your main instrument
 - Performing Ensemble outside of school (Brass/Woodwind Quintet, Community Ensemble)
 - Pit orchestra for the school musical
 - Private lessons for one full year

West Salem Band Program Handbook

Guard Letter/Device Requirements

1. Attend the Summer June training camp and any June rehearsals.
2. Attend July weekly rehearsals.
3. Attend August weekly rehearsals.
4. While participating in Marching Band:
 - Always treating everyone with respect
 - Attend all performances
 - Excellent rehearsal attendance
 - Being prepared with all materials at all times (including drill binder, choreography, dot book)
 - Have choreography prepared and memorized
5. While participating in one of the Winter Guards:
 - Always treating everyone with respect
 - Attend all performances
 - Excellent rehearsal attendance
 - Being prepared with all materials at all times
 - Have choreography prepared and memorized
6. Complete at least six (6) of the following:
 - Assist with the middle school guard program
 - Attend a summer dance, guard, or music camp (outside of our own)
 - Attend at least 2 dance related recitals
 - Attend studio dance classes on a regular (usually weekly) basis
 - Band Council for one year
 - Be a TA for Mr. Zimbelman (one semester)
 - Complete 20 hours of community service
 - Earn a 3.5 or better accumulative GPA
 - Extra assistance to your instructors in any season (equipment, hauling, volunteer outside of rehearsal)
 - Extra assistance to your team in any season (sewing, taping, cleaning, etc.)
 - Participate in a band or other music class
 - Participate in a minimum of 4 fund-raisers
 - Section Leader (Captain) for one season



Marching Band



Guard Performance



Marching Band Practice

West Salem Band Program Handbook

Why Study Music?

MUSIC IS A SCIENCE

It is exact, specific, and it demands exact acoustics. A conductor's full score is a chart, a graph that indicates frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody, and harmony all at once and with the most exact control of time.

MUSIC IS MATHEMATICAL

It is rhythmically based on the subdivision of time into fractions that must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.

MUSIC IS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Most of the terms are in Italian, German, or French, and the notation is certainly not English, but rather is a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is the most complete and universal language.

MUSIC IS HISTORY

Music often reflects the environment of its creation, offering insight into other cultures and times.

MUSIC IS PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Playing an instrument requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lips, cheeks, and facial muscles, in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragm, back, stomach, and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.

MUSIC IS ALL OF THIS, BUT MOST OF ALL MUSIC IS ART

It allows a human being to take all of these techniques and use them to create emotion. That is one thing science cannot duplicate: spirituality, humanism, feeling, transcendence, emotion, etc.

THIS IS WHY WE STUDY MUSIC-TO MAKE MUSIC!

- Not because we expect you to major in music
- Not because we expect you to play your instrument all of your life
- Not just so you can relax
- Not just so you can have fun
- But-so you can be more human
 - so you will recognize beauty
 - so you will be sensitive
 - so you will be closer to an infinite beyond this world
 - so you will have something to cling to
 - so you will have more love, more compassion, more gentleness, more good - in short, more life!

Of what value will it be to make a prosperous living unless you know how to live?
To what end is it to know the price of everything and the value of nothing?

WE NEED MUSIC

Music is everywhere in society. Imagine the world without music. We need music and music starts in the schools. The music education you receive K-12 will have a profound effect on your life and the lives of others.

West Salem Band Program Handbook

What Others Say About Music

From the Harvard University Admissions Department:

“We always consider extracurricular talents and personal strengths when we evaluate a candidate’s credentials. We look for students whose previous participation in the arts shows they can make a substantial contribution to our community.”

From the Admissions Department at Johns Hopkins University:

“Participation in the performing arts during pre-college years is a clear indication to our admission committee that a student is dedicated to, excited about and engaged in the educational journey.”

From The College Board concerning SAT takers:

“Students with course work in music performance scored 51 points higher on the verbal portion of the SAT and 39 points higher on the math portion of the SAT than students without music course work. Further, those students who studied four or more years scored 59 points higher on the verbal and 44 points higher on the math portions of the SAT than students with no experience.”

From Thomas Meyers-Director of Investor Relations, TRW, Inc:

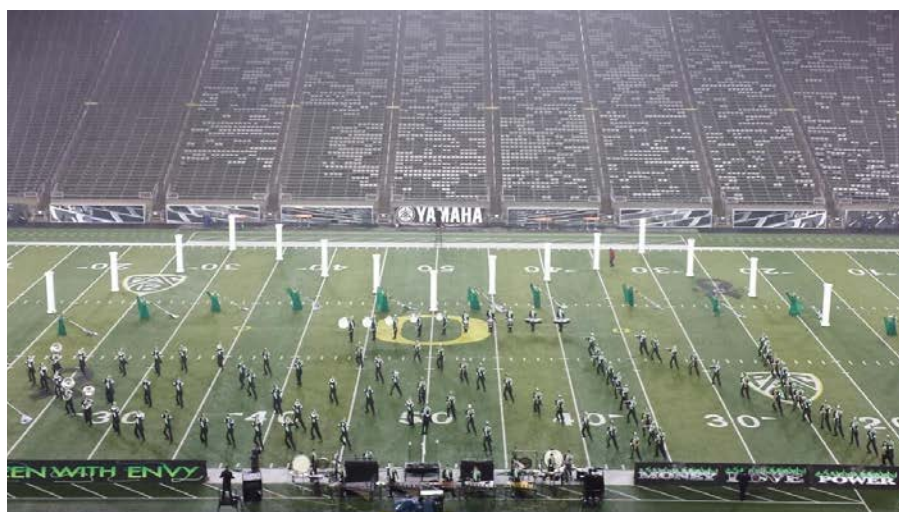
“I view the instrumental music program as leadership development. One of my tasks is to find new employees who will become the company’s senior leaders in ten to twenty years. Most of the students we hire have impressive grades, good business experience with major companies, and the leadership, character, and skills they acquired while being a member of their high school band.”

From “An Evaluation of Achievement in Reading and Arithmetic”

“Music students always out perform non-music students on achievement tests in reading and math. Because of their study in music, their skills are better in reading, anticipating, memory, listening, forecasting, recall and concentration.”

From Dr. F. Rauscher and Dr. G. Shaw of the University of California

“Music lessons have been shown to improve a child’s performance in school. After eight months of keyboard lessons, preschoolers showed a 46% boost in their spacial IQ, which is crucial for higher brain functions such as complex mathematics.”



Marching Band Performance

Now all you need to do is fill out the Band Registration Packet!

New Members should have received the Registration Packet in the mail. If not, or you need another copy, go here to download another Registration Packet! All veterans will not receive the packet in the mail, but can download the packet from the Members Only page of the website.

www.westsalemband.org

Click on the “Members Only Page”

Password: wstb13

Read the Handbook and Download the Registration Packet!