

I acknowledge that I have received this WPHS Band hand book and will have my parents sign all forms and return these forms within 1 week from the date given to me. I will not be able to perform and will receive unexcused absences for not having the forms turned in for all performances.

Date: _____

Name: _____ (Print Please)

Signature: _____

Forms Required to Be Handed In Are:

- Authorization for Medical Treatment – please initial Tylenol section
- Parent UIL Marching Acknowledgement Form
- Band Handbook Parent Understanding Form
- Wills Point ISD Drug Testing Parent Understanding Form

Please retain your copy of the Band Handbook for your student is responsible for all rules and regulations.

Required to be turned in to Directors.....

FORWARD – Board Approved

As a member of the Wills Point Band Program, you are a part of one of Wills Point ISD's most respected school organizations. *The success of the Band will depend on the LOYALTY, COOPERATION, and DEDICATION of each and every member.*

The guidelines outlined on the following pages are simple, sound, and easy to understand and follow. They reflect years of experience and hours of careful thought and planning. In following them, you are meeting an obligation that you owe to your Band, School, community, and most importantly - **TO YOURSELF!**

BAND PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

To teach an appreciation and understanding of the performing arts and how music influences and reflects history and culture.

To teach the importance of self-discipline, cooperation, loyalty, and respect for others, as well as the importance of responsibility.

To create in students a desire and appreciation for excellence in performance of any endeavor.

To teach students how to set individual goals in life and how to accomplish those goals.

To teach students the skills and tools needed to perform to the best of their ability.

THE BAND MEMBERS RESPONSIBILITY

Be regular in attendance and account for all absences.

Become responsible for and expect to assume the consequences of his/her actions.

Be personally clean, neat, and dressed appropriately.

Have the proper respect for those in authority.

Be personally responsible for all information regarding the band, rehearsals, events, and schedules and be responsible for relaying such information to parents and/or guardians.

Follow all classroom rules, school handbook, regulations, and travel instructions for trips.

Be honest and fair with others concerning equipment, music, and school life in general.

The school provides a secure environment for the storage of instruments but it is the responsibility of the individual student for their personal and school owned instrument. It is recommended that you make sure that your Home or Renters Insurance covers your personal band instrument. You can purchase insurance from a number of different providers. If you lose or damage a school instrument it is the student's responsibility to repair or replace the instrument. Lockers are provided for most owned instruments that have the capability of using a combination lock. This lock combination must be given to the Band Director to have access to the locker.

Cooperate with fellow band members and share with them the responsibilities and privileges that are part of the band program.

Make a real effort to learn and improve daily, to read and play music with insight and statement.

BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE

Exemplary behavior is expected of all band members at all times. Remember that you are a representative of your band, your band is a representative of your school, and your school is a representative of your community.

There is no way to list all the dos and don'ts of being a band member. Common sense must prevail. **The Director of Bands reserves the right to exercise the authority to make the final decision regarding disciplinary action/removal from the band program. This removal will be done with the Principal's approval.** The following infractions are some of the more obvious that qualify for disciplinary action, and/or immediate removal from the program.

1. Any disrespectful behavior such as foul and/or abusive language to students or teachers.
2. Excessive tardiness or absences at rehearsals or performances.
3. Any misuse or abuse of school property, or property of others.
4. Alcohol, smoking or drug use at any school function, at any time. (Alcohol or drug use or any other illegal indulgence at any time or activity, school related or otherwise)
5. Any action which dishonors or disgraces the Wills Point Band or the school in any way.
6. Other infractions of the rules as stated in the Wills Point I.S.D. Student Handbook or as stated in the Wills Point I.S.D. Band Handbook.
7. **Repeated disregard of Band Member Rules.**
8. **The Student Code of Conduct applies to all band activities**

BAND MEMBER RULES

1. Be prepared for rehearsal on time (instrument, music, pencil, etc.).
2. Be prepared for performances on time (all necessary items).
3. Eating, drinking, or chewing gum is not allowed in the band hall at any time. (Due to work load and schedules, staff and Director of Bands are exempt.)
4. Play your own instrument and no one else's, unless with director approval.
5. Instrument, case, music, books, etc. should be kept in their proper place before, during, and after rehearsals.
6. Give 100% effort during all rehearsals and performances. Do not disrupt or disturb rehearsals with inappropriate activities.
7. Play your instrument in the right way, time, and place.
8. Always conduct yourself with honor and integrity. Horseplay and pranks are activities that are not allowed.

9. **Absences should be reported in advance**, in writing if possible, to be excused. (See attendance) Notification of absence after an event is excusable under extreme circumstances (emergencies). Excessive absences are unacceptable, and will result in failing grades, student placed on alternate status and ultimately dismissal from the program (Director of Bands discretion).
10. All High School Band Students are issued a **band uniform** for performances. Each student is responsible for the uniform. Any damage to the uniform is the responsibility of the student that uniform is assigned to. All students will provide the mandatory black marching shoes, black gloves, black socks, instrument lyre and band T-shirts. Any items issued such as Berps, Lyres, mutes, etc...must be maintained and turned in when requested. If lost, these items must be replaced or paid for. Monies owed to the program will be reported to the school administration for payment if not paid for in a timely fashion.
11. **School instruments** are the sole property of the Wills Point ISD and must be taken care of. Students using School instruments will be held financially responsible for any damage to the instrument(s) during the course of using the instrument. The director will get a quote on repair and have the instrument repaired with the understanding of reimbursement by student. The student will also be responsible for instrument being stolen or damaged by a third party, rain or fire.
12. Always strive, persevere, and maintain a positive attitude toward achieving your goals as a band member during the tough times as well as the good times. **NO ONE IS EXPECTED TO BE PERFECT.....BUT EVERYONE IS EXPECTED TO GIVE THEIR ALL!**

Discipline

Discipline within our band program is a very important reason for our success. We follow the rules of the Student Code of Conduct. In addition we as a program try to handle discipline in a positive way. Lunch Detentions can be assigned by the directors for tardies. **Marching band discipline for misbehavior, tardies or missed rehearsals will be marching exercises and or loss of third quarter privileges. Marching exercises occur after practice and are monitored.**

BAND TRAVEL

Full instruction will be given before leaving for the destination. All band members will travel to performances, destinations, etc., on school approved transportation. Students may ride back from a performance with parent or guardian if signed out on location. The school Alternative Travel form must be used and issued to the director prior to departure. No student is allowed to leave with anyone but their own parent or guardian unless arrangements are made prior to the trip, with approval from the principal and the band director. Music devices such as CD, Mp3, DVD players that can be used with headphones will be allowed on buses.

Band Trips Traditionally, the High School Band attends a major festival/performance within the State and Nation. Students and Band Boosters share the cost. Fund-raisers are provided to help the student with finances. The Tiger Band will typically travel every two years. The cost to the student ranges from \$300 to \$800. The students are encouraged to begin saving funds from the time they are in the 8th grade band. **Examples of WPHS Band trips taken in recent years are: Branson , MO...Chicago, Illinois... Corpus Christi, Texas...Orlando, Florida...Panama City Beach, Florida... South Padre Island, TX.** Travel plans are typically confirmed, and announced to students and parents by May of the previous year. Parent chaperones are considered and chosen based on participation in the Band Booster Organization.

Alternative Travel is allowed only from any band event. If a band student wants to leave any band event after its conclusion an alternative travel form must be attained and approved by the building principal and or other administrative personnel. Each student must ride to the activity with the program and only under special circumstances will this be altered. **ONLY THE PARENT OR ADULT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BAND STUDENT IS ALLOWED TO BE THE ALTERNATIVE TRAVEL PROVIDER. NO SIBLINGS EVEN IF OVER 18.**

Parents It is very important that you understand the way the Parent Participation Credit and the Student Points programs work. Both of these programs are extremely beneficial financially to you and your band member. That information can be learned at the Band

Grading

Grading at all levels of instrumental music classes (9th through 12th) are based on participation and skill development. The following are areas in which students are graded.

PARTICIPATION How the student enters and leaves the band hall.

How the student shows interest and desire to learn in class.

How the student maintains his/her instrument, learning materials, and storage area.

How the student and parent maintain practice records.

How the student shows respect for instructors, peers and self.

SKILL How the student progresses on his/her instrument (tests).

How the student attends rehearsals and performances with emphasis on dress, behavior and promptness.

How the student contributes to the ensemble in skill and attitude, as evidenced in performance and behavior.

Objective Sheets will be a main component of the 9 weeks grade.

Do not expect a high grade in band if there is a deficiency in any of the above areas. Any student with a reasonable work ethic and a willingness to respect rules and authority will succeed in band, regardless of talent and/or aptitude. Any student lacking in respect or good work ethic will not succeed in band, regardless of talent and/or aptitude. (Chair placement procedures are at the discretion of the directors.)

AUXILIARY GROUPS

Drum Major(s) will be chosen by audition. Drum Majors will be chosen each year. Drum Majors must in no way jeopardize good standing in the band program. Any situation involving a Drum Major which the Director of Bands deems to be a compromise of the program's integrity, can and most likely will result in the immediate dismissal of that Drum Major from his/her duties. In that unfortunate event, the Director of Bands may use his discretion whether to replace that person or not, and the process by which a replacement will be chosen. The Drum Major being the most visible member of the band may have to conform to a more rigid dress code in the area of personal grooming. All band-grading procedures apply.

High School Auxiliaries members are selected after an audition camp is set and attended. Attendance at the practice camp is part of audition score. Members of the Colorguard do not have to be members of the band program but will be scheduled in the first semester band class only. Participation in the Colorguard is demanding and time consuming. The fees involved for Colorguard will average between \$150 and \$200. All band-grading procedures apply.

Members of the Tigerette Drill Team are encouraged to audition and be a part of the Band Auxiliary unit of the Marching Band. Being a member of the marching band auxiliaries is an activity supported by the Tigerette Drill Team and sponsors. These students will be scheduled into the Marching Band class and will have all privileges of the Marching Band students including all trips and activities.

***All auxiliary members are encouraged to limit any additional activities through November. This is to avoid placing undue stress on the student since these areas of participation do require extra practice and commitment. Any student displaying difficulty in maintaining their role in the band auxiliary unit will be subject to removal by the Director of Bands. (Director's discretion)*

Feature Twirlers: Though our band program does not have a performance place for High School **Feature Twirler(s)** in Pep Rally, Halftime or Contest show there is an opportunity for band students who excel at a very high level in baton twirling. Students who have taken private lessons and are presently taking lessons have the opportunity to participate in the UIL twirling solo competition at the region and state level. The Parent serves as the chaperone and is responsible for transportation to and from said event. The student must take private lessons from an established twirling teacher and demonstrate ability level of twirling 45 days prior to twirling event and registration. The National Baton Twirling Association is an excellent source of organized competition that is offered in our state. Information on the NBTA can be obtained at www.ustwirling.com

JAZZ STUDIES

A jazz studies is offered to any high school band student wishing to explore this area of musicianship. These students are expected to maximize their musical potential through performance, refining playing skills and synthesizing compositional theory. Students planning on further college study of music would be well advised to schedule this class each year. There is always a possibility that the class does not make due to lack of participation. This group performs several concerts each spring, including civic events and community service. Rhythm section players can be admitted from outside the band program if approved by director. Grades are based on participation only. Students are accepted into this class by audition or director's discretion.

Students that leave the program or are removed from the band program will not be allowed to be in the Jazz Band.

SCHOLARSHIPS

All graduating band seniors are eligible for college scholarship money. Several local Junior Colleges and many Universities consistently offer Wills Point Band Seniors scholarship opportunities. Being a Tiger Band member continues to pay off every year. Students do not have to be music majors to qualify, and nearly all of our graduates are offered great discounts on tuition, out-of-state fee waivers, along with that once in a lifetime chance to experience the excitement, fun, and new found friendships as a member of a college/university band.

BAND PARENT ASSOCIATION

All band parents are encouraged to become a member of the Wills Point Band Parent Association. This organization is the Band program's support group. The Association's responsibilities are to service the band program through fund raising and support as needed. This group's primary goal is to help meet the financial needs of the students. Everything this organization does is for the student. The Band Parent Association does not participate in policy making or implementation within the WPISD instrumental (Bands) music program. The Director of Bands serves the association as an advisory basis to better guide the association as to the needs of the program.

PARENTS WHO HAVE STUDENTS IN THE HIGH SCHOOL BAND ARE EXPECTED TO BE ACTIVE IN THE ASSOCIATION.

Please see participation credit included in this packet.

BAND PARENT ASSOCIATION MEETINGS ARE HELD EVERY FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE HIGH SCHOOL. Any change to this will be notified on the web page at www.willspointbands.com

4x4x2 Graduation Requirements

The Texas requirements for graduation do allow for our band students to be involved in other activities such as athletics, agriculture and theater. Wills Point Independent School District supports the sharing of students within all co-curricular and extra-curricular classes. Please see the recommended class structure of students for the 4x4x2 program. A copy of this recommended class schedule for the entire high school years can be found at the back of this handbook. Copies can also be picked up at the band hall office or from the counselors.

Charms Band Management System

The Wills Point Band program uses a internet driven band program to assist with getting information out to the students and parents to assure good communication. This program also allows us to post daily information, handouts, live updated calendar information and many more wonderful things to allow you to know better what is going on and the expectation of your band student. The web site is **www.charmsoffice.com** and the parent student login is **tigerband**. After you login you will need your students' personal id number. If you do not know this personal id number, then please notify me and I will email it to you. Please fill out all information on the section student information after you log in. This is the internet driven system we will use to send group emails and communicate with you and your band students.

SUMMATION

Participation in the Wills Point Band program is dependent upon effort and a true desire to succeed.

The rules stated in this handbook are easy to understand. The Band Directors and administration of the WPISD feel these rules are fair, just and are in the best interest of the overall Tiger Band program, school, and each individual who participates.

The final decision is yours. There is no place for weakness and complacency in this Band! An organization is only as strong as its weakest link.

The Wills Point ISD Band program does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex or handicap.

WILLS POINT HIGH SCHOOL BAND (Must be turned in to Director)

My child and I have read the Wills Point ISD Band Handbook and understand fully the content contained and the spirit of intent with which it is written. We also understand that if at any time, and/or for any reason, my child cannot follow the policies and guidelines set forth by the Director, classroom teachers or school administration, he/she will be subject to consequences as stated in this handbook, as well as the WPISD High School Handbook.

Furthermore, I acknowledge the accomplishments of the Tiger Band program and realize the responsibility my child assumes as a member of this outstanding school organization.

We also acknowledge our intent to contribute positively as parent and student to the Wills Point ISD Band program.

Parent/guardian signature _____

Date _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Required to be turned in to Directors.....

PARENT/STUDENT UIL MARCHING BAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

No student may be required to attend practice for marching band for more than eight hours of rehearsal outside the academic school day per calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). This provision applies to students in all components of the marching band. On performance days (football games, competitions and other public performances) bands may hold up to one additional hour of warm-up and practice beyond the scheduled warm-up time at the performance site. Multiple performances on the same day do not allow for additional practice and/or warm-up time.

Examples of Activities Subject to the UIL Marching Band Eight Hour Rule.

- Marching Band Rehearsal (Both Full Band and Components)
- Any Marching Band Group Instructional Activity
- Breaks
- Announcements
- Debriefing and Viewing Marching Band Videos
- Playing Off Marching Band Music
- Marching Band Sectionals (Both Director And Student Led)
- Clinics for the Marching Band Or Any Of Its Components

The Following Activities Are Not Included In The Eight Hour Time Allotment:

- Travel Time To and From Rehearsals And/or Performances
- Rehearsal Set-Up Time
- Pep Rallies, Parades and Other Public Performances
- Instruction and Practice for Music Activities Other Than Marching Band And Its Components

NOTE: An extensive Q&A for the Eight Hour Rule for Marching Band can be found on the Music Page of the UIL Web Site at: www.uil.utexas.edu

“We have read and understand the Eight-Hour Rule for Marching Band as stated above and agree to abide by these regulations.”

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

This form is to be kept on file by the local school district.

Required to be turned in to Directors.....

Wills Point ISD Drug Testing Authorization

Student's Name: _____

Student's ID Number: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian's Phone Number: _____ **Date:** _____

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the Wills Point ISD Drug Testing Policy. I recognize and understand that I will be asked to provide a urine sample for drug analysis. I consent to any such testing conducted as part of the Wills Point ISD drug testing policy, and may be asked more than one time during the year. I agree that I will not refuse to take any such test or otherwise dispute Wills Point ISD's right to conduct any such test(s) on me. I have been given the right to ask questions about the drug testing policy and I fully understand its provisions.

Student Signature _____

Listed below are the prescription drugs and dosages my son/daughter takes on a permanent basis. I understand that, depending upon the type of medication and the circumstances, its use may have to be verified and discussed with the doctor who prescribed it. I give permission to the doctor(s) who gave medication for the treatment of my daughter/son's medical condition(s) to verify the circumstance and discuss any effects that the medication(s) may have on my son/daughter's lab test results of school performance.

Drug Name: _____ **Dosage:** _____

My son/daughter does not take any prescription medication on a permanent basis.

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

Note: This document will be valid during the student's athletic, band, drill team, and cheerleader participation.

Required to be turned in to Directors.....

How to access parent information

CHARMS BAND

- Log on to www.charmsoffice.com
- Locate the “PARENT/STUDENT LOGIN” section of the web page.
- Login to your child’s program account using the following login:
tigerband
- This will bring up the main parent page. This will allow you to look at your child’s program’s **public calendar, event list, handouts and other files**.
- Clicking on an event on the calendar brings up the details for that event, such as times, attendance requirements and equipment/uniform necessities. Clicking on “event list” puts all of the calendar information in a list form for easy printing.
- When you enter your child’s ID NUMBER, (this number can be requestd from Mr. Young by email at john.young@wpisd.com) another more detailed screen appears with even more options to view your student’s uniform assignments, music assignments, financial records, forms and inventory. Enter your child’s ID FIRST – then you may create your own, unique password by clicking on the “**keys** icon”
- Two areas in which you can help the director maintain his/her records:
 - **Student information form** – if the director has allowed it, you may help make changes to your child’s **student information page** (such as updating phone numbers and email addresses if they change) to help the teacher communicate with you more effectively.
- Most importantly, the parent page assists both you and the teacher to communicate with each other.

**Student Scheduling for 4x4x2 Requirements – This is for you assistance - Make sure you seek counselors advice
Entering 2009 or after – Distinguished/Recommended (Rec. no Spanish III)**

Band/Athletics	Band or Colorguard Only	Band/Theatre	Band/Agriculture
Freshman Year	Freshman Year	Freshman Year	Freshman Year
W History	W History	W History	W History
Math (Alg/Geom)	Math (Alg/Geom)	Math (Alg/Geom)	Math (Alg/Geom)
English I	English I	English I	English I
Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology
BCIS	Spanish I	BCIS	BCIS
Band	BCIS	Band	Agriculture
Band	Colorguard/Auxillary	Band	Band
Athletics	Health/Speech	Theatre I	Band
Sophomore Year	Sophomore Year	Sophomore Year	Sophomore Year
W Geography	W Geography	W Geography	W Geography
Math (Geom/AlgII)	Math (Geom/AlgII)	Math (Geom/AlgII)	Math (Geom/AlgII)
English II	English II	English II	English II
Science (IPC/Chemistry)	Science (IPC/Chemistry)	Science (IPC/Chemistry)	Science (IPC/Chemistry)
Spanish I	Spanish II	Spanish I	Agriculture
Band	Colorguard/Auxillary	Band	Spanish I
Band	Theatre/Art	Band	Band
Athletics	1 elective	Theatre II	Band
Junior Year	Junior Year	Junior Year	Junior Year
US History	US History	US History	US History
Math (Math Models/Pre-Cal)	Math (Math Models/Pre-Cal)	Math (Math Models/Pre-Cal)	Math (Math Models/Pre-Cal)
	Eng III/AP Eng Language	Eng III/AP Eng Language	Eng III/AP Eng Language
Eng III/AP Eng Language	Science (Chem/Physics)	Science (Chem/Physics)	Science (Chem/Physics)
Science (Chem/Physics)	Spanish III	Spanish II	Spanish II
Spanish II	Colorguard/Auxillary	Band	Agriculture
Band	2 electives	Band	Band
Band			
Athletics		Technical Theatre	
Senior Year	Senior Year	Senior Year	Senior Year
Government/Economics	Government/Economics	Government/Economics	Government/Economics
Math (Alg II/Cal)	Math (Alg II/Cal)	Math (Alg II/Cal)	Math (Alg II/Cal)
English IV/AP Eng Literature	English IV/AP Eng Literature	English IV/AP Eng Literature	English IV/AP Eng Literature
	Science (Physics/A&P – AP BIO)	Science (Physics/A&P – AP BIO)	Science (Physics/A&P – AP BIO)
Science (Physics/A&P – AP BIO)	Colorguard/Auxillary	Spanish III	Spanish III
Spanish III	Spanish III or elective	Band	Agriculture
Band	2 electives	Band	Band
Band			
Athletics		One Act Play	
Speech taken outside		Speech taken outside	Band
			Speech taken outside

WILLS POINT BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Parent Participation Credit Guidelines

The High School Band (the "Band") travels (the "Trip") in alternating school years. A portion of the funds raised by the Wills Point Band Parents Association (the "Association") is used to assist Band students with Trip expenses by paying for the cost of transportation (charter buses). Operating the high school football field concession stand (the "Concession Stand") raises the majority of these funds. Parent Participation Credits ("PPCs") can be accumulated over a two-year period prior to the Trip by volunteering in the Concession Stand. To accumulate PPCs and receive scholarships provided by the Association for transportation (charter buses) each family must:

1. Accumulate a total of 4 PPCs prior to the Trip.
2. Accumulate 2 PPCs each year by volunteering for 2 shifts in the Concession Stand. One shift = 1 PPC. Concession Stand shifts are defined as follows:

Friday Night	First shift:	5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
	Second shift:	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
	Third shift:	8:00 pm – 11:00 pm
Thursday Night	First shift:	Freshman game (est. time 5p – 7p)
	Second shift:	Jr. Varsity game (est. time 7p – 9:30p)
Spring Track Meets	1 Meet = 1 shift	(est. time 5p – 8p)

PPCs are per family regardless of the number of Band students in each family. Anyone over the age of 18 can volunteer to accumulate PPCs for a Band student. Persons who volunteer on behalf of a Band student must designate who is to receive the PPCs at the time the PPC is accumulated. A PPC pool will be established for Band students who do not have family that is able to participate. Volunteers who have accumulated enough PPCs for their child/children may be allowed to volunteer for additional shifts in the Concession Stand, if volunteers are needed, and apply PPCs to the PPC pool. PPCs accumulated in the PPC pool will be distributed to Band students in need after review by the executive board of the Association and based upon recommendation of the Band Directors.

Association funds are apportioned based on the total amount spent for the charter buses divided by the approximate number of Band students going on the Trip to determine the bus cost per Band student. Band students whose families have not accumulated the necessary PPCs for a scholarship prior to Trip time will receive a percentage of funds equal to the percent of PPCs accumulated. For example, if a Band student's family has only accrued 3 PPCs they will receive 75% of the amount provided to Band students whose family accumulated the necessary 4 PPCs for a scholarship as outlined above.

PPCs will be applied at Trip time. After the Trip, any remaining unused PPCs will be dropped, and the process will begin again.

Special Circumstances:

1. Families of transfer students who are new to the district and Band in the year that the Band will travel will only need to accumulate a total of 2 PPCs for a scholarship.
2. Families of students who are first year participants in auxiliary units and have not participated in Band prior to the year that the Band will travel will only need to accumulate a total of 2 PPCs for a scholarship.
3. Families of Band students who are freshmen in a Trip year will be allowed to accumulate all 4 PPCs during that school year by volunteering a total of 4 shifts in the Concession Stand.
4. Parents of 8th grade students are encouraged to accumulate PPCs if their child/children will be eligible for traveling on the Trip in their 9th grade year.

Date: July 19, 2010