

Band Handbook



Joseph Foster
Principal

Brent Schooley
Director of Bands

Olivia Frost
Colorguard Director

Woodmont High School
2831 West Georgia Road
Piedmont, SC 29673

Parents/Guardians and Students,

Thank you for joining the 2022 Woodmont Band of Pride. This handbook is an important guide for membership and parents of the band referring to policies, requirements, and expectations. We look forward to your participation in the continued success of our program.

Sincerely,
Brent Schooley
Director of Bands
Woodmont High School
Office: 864-355-8670
E-mail: bschooley@greenville.k12.sc.us

Adjunct Staff

Olivia Frost - Guard Instructor
KerriAnn Freeland - Director of Bands, Ralph Chandler MS
Miranda Thomas - Director of Bands, Woodmont MS
Beaven Zulu – Visual Coordinator
Blake Haefner – Percussion Coordinator
Lizzy Conrad – Front Ensemble Instructor, Orchestra Director Woodmont HS

HOW DO I KEEP MYSELF INFORMED

1. Join and attend Booster Club Meetings
2. www.woodmontbands.com
3. Email – bschooley@greenville.k12.sc.us
4. Social Media - Follow us on Instagram, and Facebook
5. Remind (choose any of the following)
 - <https://www.remind.com/join/whsbop2022>
 - Get the app and join @whsbop2022
 - Text @whsbop2021 to 81010

Mission Statement of the Woodmont Band of Pride

"To prepare our students for success in all aspects of life after high school, through the power of music."

Goals of the Woodmont Band of Pride

- Provide musical support to the community.
- Create an environment for cooperation and collaboration to flourish in a team environment.
- Encourage self-improvement through focused practice.
- Give the opportunity to experience leadership at the entry level.
- Create lifelong learners with a love of music.
- Provide an Experience of a Lifetime.

Band of Pride Teaching Objectives

- To teach musical literacy through performance
- To develop performance skills for every member
- To provide musical support of the school and community
- To acquaint students with Music Theory/History and how history and musical composition relate to students' current experiences
- To provide all students with the opportunity for self-expression, and a healthy social experience
- To develop the ability to function as a responsible member of a group, enhance non-digital interaction, and develop Esprit de Corps
- To foster leadership skills within each student
- To provide a sense of PRIDE for something they create
- To provide an Experience of a Lifetime

Performing Ensembles

- **Concert Band**
All students in a band class are expected to participate in the concert band. The only way to progress as a program is to teach students to become better musicians. In the concert band we will focus on fundamentals (scales/focused practice/tone production), technical abilities, and quality musical decisions. Concert band students will attend Concert Performance Assessment by recommendation of the director.
- **Marching Band**
In order to be a part of the marching band, all students (except colorguard) must be in a band class, or otherwise given permission. All students are expected to maintain a passing grade in all classes for competition eligibility. There is a commitment of time and expense required to meet the objectives and expectations of marching band. This includes summer rehearsals, band camp, after school rehearsal, football games, marching contest, and parades.

- Winterguard
Open to all students of all levels, Winterguard begins in November and ends in April. Winterguard is a competitive activity that involves theatre, dance, and equipment skills.
- Winter Percussion
Open to all students of all levels, Winter Percussion begins in November and ends in April. Winter Percussion is a competitive activity that involves theatre, dance, and Musical skills.
- Honor Bands – All County, Region, All State
Members of the concert bands are eligible to audition for any of these honor bands. If a student is selected for the band, that student is expected to participate in the clinic as the clinic will then be considered a Required Event. Any student that makes the band and neglects to attend the clinic, without proper excuse, will not be allowed to audition the following year.

Earning a Letter in Band

Students can earn a Letter for Band by earning 25 cumulative points. Verification of points will be processed twice a year, the first week of November and April.

All-State Band Membership	1 Point for auditioning	10 Points
All-County Band Membership	1 Points for auditioning	8 Points
Region Band Membership	1 Point for auditioning	6 Points
Marching Band	4 Points per season	
Concert Band	2 Points per semester	
Jazz Band	2 Points per semester	
Solo & Ensemble	2 Points for Auditioning	4 Points for Gold Medal
Winterguard	4 Points	
Winter Percussion	4 Points	
Leadership Team	6 Points	
Crew Member	2 Points	
Pep Band	1 Point (Must participate in min of 2 events)	

RESPONSIBILITIES

PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITY TO THE BAND

It is the responsibility of every parent/guardian to see that the policies outlined in the Handbook are followed and that the form in the back is signed and returned. This states that you **UNDERSTAND** the policies as set within, and that any questions are to be sent to the band director and conferences are made by appointment. Each parent is responsible for the attendance of their child at all band functions. It is the responsibility of each parent to encourage their child to practice his/her instrument daily.

HOW PARENTS/GUARDIANS CAN HELP

We encourage parents/guardians to become members of the Woodmont Band Booster club. Your help is critical to the success of this program. The Woodmont Band Booster club supports the band with fundraising, trips, volunteering, and cheering for our students.

Parent/Guardians are encouraged to:

- Drop-off/Pick-up your student with enough time to get prepared for rehearsal/performance
- Stay for all Performances
- Arrange a regular time and place for your child to practice
- Seek Instrument Specific Private lessons
- Keep your student's instrument in good working order
- Provide needed supplies (reeds, valve oil, metronome, etc).
- Make faithful attendance at all band activities important.
- Use a calendar or digital app for important dates, Check the Band Calendar prior to making Vacation or Trip Plans
- Notify the teacher if the student is to be absent for anything, Communication is paramount.
- Turn in dues on time

STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE BAND

As members of the Woodmont Bands, you have a great deal of responsibility. It is essential to our program that expectations are met, that they coordinate with the privileges, rewards, and duties of the band program. The time we spend together is very limited and irreplaceable, use it wisely.

TO OURSELVES:

YOU have the primary responsibility of developing your own abilities. The benefits of a good instrument and private instruction can never be underestimated. The time you spend perfecting your musical ability will show. You don't have to start out as the best, but you must be willing to spend your time improving.

TO THE SCHOOL:

The Greenville County School District provides us with the resources for rehearsals, performances, and equipment. The Band Booster Club also provides a support network, both financially and philosophically. We have the responsibility to be the best musical representation of our school.

TO OUR MUSIC:

Music is the art we create. It is a once in a lifetime never recreated art. It must be experienced live, a recording is just the fading echo of our art. We do not expect you to be a virtuoso performer, only your very best! Gustav Mahler said *“Only 10% of a piece of music is on the page. If that is the case, then we as musicians have the duty of creating and producing the other 90%. The joy of music is not in everything that is apparent. It must be discovered and created.”*

TO EACH OTHER:

We must always do what is best for the WELFARE of the group. There can be no selfish acts solely for the benefit of the individual, but for all. Respect each other. If there are conflicts, find a way to resolve them. The students you sit/stand next to are the only people in this world who will ever understand what you are putting into every performance.

Conduct/Expectations:

Students are representatives of Woodmont High School and the Band of Pride. Students should always act in a professional manner while with the band. This includes rehearsals, performances trips, and anytime you are wearing a Woodmont Band shirt. All students are expected to conduct themselves as respectable young adults. Use of profanity, violence, graffiti, etc...will not be tolerated. Individual behavior during a band function is a reflection of the group.

- All students are required to attend all rehearsals and performances. The first step in advancing our band program is being present.
- All Students will follow all adult instructions.
- All Students will be in their assigned seat ready to rehearse when the tardy bell rings or at the set time of before/after school rehearsals with all equipment. (Folder, Instrument, Pencil, Tuner, etc...)
- Students will not use or play on equipment they do not own without permission from Mr. Schooley.
- Students will not deface or mark on music stands, chairs, walls, etc.
- Students will use their assigned storage slot/locker for instrument cases during rehearsals. Cases should not be brought into rehearsals. (Except Woodwinds for Marching band)
- Absolutely NO food or drink stored in the Band Room.
- Students will participate and “Try”. Trying is the first step to doing.
- Students will always strive for excellence.

Disciplinary Process

1. Student Warning
2. Parent contact
3. After school Detention
4. Administration Referral

Attendance:

For all school activities, the faculty and administration work together to make sure that all students have the opportunity to participate. However, non-school activities, appointments and other conflicts must not interfere with a student's commitment to band, to the other band members. Rehearsal and Performance schedule is given to you at the beginning of each semester. Please adhere to the following guidelines for attendance:

- **Calendar:** All events will be posted on the google calendar for the Band of Pride
- **All Concerts and Rehearsals are Required:** Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and concerts assigned to their respective activity. This includes sectionals before/after school. Please plan ahead of time for sharing rides.
- **Support your Peers:** Students should arrive at assigned times for concerts and stay for the duration of the event.
- **Find a Ride:** If you cannot find a ride please contact Mr. Schooley as soon as possible. "I did not have a ride is not an excusable reason to miss."
- **Grade:** An unexcused absence from a performance will result in a "0" as a performance grade. An alternate assignment will be assigned for any missed performance.
- **Emergency:** In the case of illness or a major family emergency, parents/guardians should call/message Mr. Schooley and send a written note for when the student returns.

Grading:

Your student's grade in band is a balanced reflection of musical achievement, technical skill on their instrument, participation in band activities, and effort both within class and at home. The grade is made up of four different categories: Weekly Class Participation (40%) Pass-offs/Recordings (30%) Performances (15%) and Sectionals (15%)

Weekly Participation (Minor 40%):

Each week you will receive a participation grade. **100 points per week** (20 points per day) To receive all points students must do the following

- Be Present *3 points*
- Instrument *3 points*
- Supplies (Pencil, Folder w/music, Tuner, Chair and Stand) *4 points*
- Participation (You must attempt to create music to the best of your ability.) *10 points*

Sectionals are a major part of a student's development. Sectionals are similar to study halls for other subjects. All sectionals will be planned in advance. **100 points per grading period.**

- *10 Points* Student is present and participating.
- *0 Points* Student is absence is unexcused.
- *Make-up* Student present an alternate time for participation or an hour of documented practice.

Performance/Recording/Written assignments (Major Grades 60%):

Performances are the reward for all of the students' hard work and dedication. One student missing greatly affects the entire ensemble. **100 points per Performance**

- *100 Points* Student is present and participating.
- *0 Points* Student is absence is unexcused.

- **Make-up** Students have multiple opportunities to recover a missing performance grade.
 - Write a 1 page reaction to the ensemble performance recording.
 - Write a 1 page reaction to a comparable live performance. Ticket or Program required
 - Write a 2 page research paper on an approved music related topic.

Students are expected to submit a pass-off or weekly recording. Students will have 5 days to submit the assignment. **100 points per recording**

- **0-40 Points** Nothing submitted or excessive amount of mistakes (5 or more wrong Rhythms, or wrong notes, or poor tone quality, or poor intonation)
- **50-60 Points** Many mistakes recording (3-5 wrong notes, or 3-5 wrong rhythms, or minor tone quality errors, or minor intonation errors)
- **70-80 Points** Minor mistakes in recording (Less than 3 wrong notes, and less than 3 wrong rhythms, and Good tone quality, and No intonation errors)
- **90-100 Points** One or No Mistakes in Recording (0 or 1 error in notes, rhythm, tone quality and/or intonation)

Make-Up Work and Procedures:

Weekly Participation Grades -Students can raise their grade 20 points for every hour of documented practice.

Pass-offs/Recordings - Recordings will be available to redo for five after the due date. **There are unlimited resubmissions allowed until perfect.**

Sectional Attendance - Student present an alternate time for participation or an hour of documented practice.

Performance Attendance - (Due 1 week after the performance date)

- Write a 2 page reaction to the ensemble performance recording.
- Write a 2 page reaction to a comparable live performance. Ticket or Program required
- Write a 2 page research paper on an approved music related topic.

FINANCES

The Woodmont Band of Pride operates on a yearly budget supported by our wonderful Booster Club. The bulk of our support comes from our booster The booster club works very hard all year to raise as much funding as possible. Without their support, we would have to charge approximately \$600 per student. The staff works very hard to provide as many fundraising opportunities as possible. To be a part of the Booster Club sign-up at woodmontbands.com, ask your student for information, ask a current booster member, and/or attend booster club meetings. **The Booster Club usually holds meetings at 6:00 pm on the first Thursday of each month during the school year.**

Estimated Expenses per student per year

- Travel ~ \$50
- Marching Band shoes \$49
- Color Guard Gloves \$25
- Color Guard Shoes \$40

- Band Gloves \$12/pair (Winds only)
- Other Uniform Items \$60 (Shirts, Socks, Hemming, and Cleaning)
- Adjunct Staff \$100
- Meals \$100

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

As the booster organization is a non-profit organization, we must pay our bills in a professional and timely manner. It is important that you pay your dues by the date listed. If at any time you experience difficulty meeting the payment schedule, PLEASE contact Mr Schooley or the booster president. It is very important to have communication between the parent and the band boosters regarding payment. We understand that families are in different financial situations and have varying abilities to contribute. Our goal is to give the opportunity for all students to participate. In no way do we wish to prevent students from participating in the band opportunities at Woodmont High School due to financial difficulties. It is also our agenda to promote responsibility among students and parents. That said, students who are delinquent in their payments will be withheld from certain performances, UNLESS the parents have communicated a clear plan for financial resolution and are following it. All financial communications remain confidential between the director and certain booster executive board members. A scholarship is available through application. You must fill out and submit this application before the beginning of band camp to be eligible. Students are financially responsible for all damages to school owned equipment.

Refund Policy

All funds are non-refundable unless the . All students are responsible for the payment of any item that has been ordered on behalf of that student.