

*Wadsworth High School
Band*



*2017-2018
Handbook*

Wadsworth High School Band Program

Dear Parents/Guardians, and Students,

Welcome to a new school year! As a member of our band program you are an integral part of the great performance tradition of this program. It is my goal that every musician will improve his or her performance skills and expand their musical knowledge in a safe, positive, performance environment. Throughout the year you will not only expand your technical development and knowledge of band repertoire, but foster a deeper appreciation and understanding for all types of music. Together, we will perform a wide variety of music from various genres and musical styles while simultaneously expanding our knowledge and understanding of terminology, theory, composers, and musical time periods. We will also strive to refine our techniques, rehearsal strategies, performance practices, and listening skills. Musically, we will learn to listen, interact, and respond to the conductor and each section of the band.

Everyone is expected to contribute their musical skills to the best of their abilities. Individual preparation is essential to the band and expected from everyone. While I will make every effort to assist you during rehearsals, you are responsible for reinforcing what we accomplish in rehearsal by practicing and learning your part. Since our band is ultimately a team of musicians: strong leadership, personal responsibility, and appropriate rehearsal etiquette is expected from everyone.

The policies, procedures, and expectations outlined in this handbook are designed to ensure that we perform our best every day and make the most efficient use of our time. By adhering to them, we generate an optimum environment to improve your skills and musical progress. Music is a discipline in which very little can be accomplished in a noisy, unfocused, or disorganized environment. I expect you to do your part by reading and adhering to the expectations outlined in this handbook throughout the entire school year.

Read through this handbook and keep it in your musical files so that you may reference it throughout the school year if either you or your parents have any questions.

As your band director, I want to help you reach your musical potential. If you have questions, or need help and assistance please stop in or send an email.

Dana Hire
Director of Bands
dhire@wadsworthschools.org

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PHILOSOPHY

The goal of the Wadsworth High School Bands is to teach students how to develop a lifelong appreciation of music through performance. This includes learning the technical, theoretical, and aesthetic fundamentals of music through ensemble rehearsal and individual practice, as well as gaining a greater understanding of different styles, historical importance and cultural relevance in music. The instrumental music program also hopes to create opportunities for students to acknowledge their own important contribution to themselves and to the entire band. With this in mind, each student has a role as a leader and as a functioning part of a body whose main purpose is to create music. This includes discipline, respect, self-motivation, and the ability to set goals, creating ways to attain those goals with the help of others. There are no boundaries to what one can do through music and we believe that being a part of the Wadsworth High School Band will create great opportunities in the future.

COMMUNICATION & CONTACT INFORMATION

Remind.com

- Parents and students should sign-up to receive texts and/or email reminders.
- Enter this number in the phone number area of your text message: 81010
- Enter this message in the message area of your text message: @wadsworthh
- You will receive a confirmation text if done correct
- Easy to unsubscribe (graduation), to unsubscribe text the message:
unsubscribe@wadsworthh
- Don't want or don't receive text messages?...sign up for email option instead

Mrs. Hire

- Email: dhire@wadsworthschools.org (*This is the best way to reach me*)
- Band Office Phone: 330-335-4011

Mr. Piehl

- Email: spiehl@wadsworthschools.org

Band Website

The Wadsworth Band website is where you will find important information, documents, and valuable resources; go to www.wadsworthband.org. A Google calendar is embedded at the bottom of the site. All of the dates and times can be found there.

GRADING POLICY

Grades are based on a 9 week grading period and are evaluated in the following areas:

I. Marching Band

- Marching Band accounts for only $\frac{1}{4}$ of the academic school year.
 - 50 pts. – Participation (points will be deducted for unexcused absences)
 - 100 pts. – Song 1
 - 100 pts. – Song 2
 - 100 pts. – Song 3
 - 350 pts. – Total each week

- Most of the grading is about memorizing the music. The philosophy of grading in marching band is that the student who executes all the maneuvers and drills on the field must be able to play the music. Music is the means that we use to learn, perform, and to entertain. It is the means that students learn leadership teamwork, perseverance, dedication, and commitment.
- Testing: Students may check off song memorization with their section leader only if the song is memorized 100%. If the student cannot play all notes and rhythms correctly, they may check it off with the directors for a percentage. Accommodations will be given to students on an IEP or 504 plan.
- Band is a class that has homework – practicing music. (memorizing during marching season). Students are also expected to work on improving tone, technique, rhythmic skills, and style. This is what makes a good musician. The lip muscles (hands for percussionists) need to be “in shape” in order to perform properly. A daily routine is what is recommended for every student to be successful.

II. Concert Band

Concert attendance: 100 points

The concert is an evaluation for the daily work done in class. It is equal to an exam that cannot be made up. Attendance is required at ALL scheduled concerts as well as OMEA Large Group Contest (see schedule for dates and times) unless excused by the following criteria:

1. Illness accompanied by doctor’s excuse.
2. Death in the immediate family.
3. Preplanned family absence with **advance** (one month) notification prior to the performance.

Failure to attend a concert may result in the loss of all 100 points.

Unexcused absences include: birthday parties (for anyone), baby sitting/working, don’t feel like attending, athletic practices, non-WHS games (conflicts between a WHS game/meet and a concert will be worked out), or other events that can be scheduled at other times.

III. Classroom Participation: 5 points per day

This will be evaluated upon the students' effort to actively engage in the learning process and enrich the learning environment for his/her fellow classmates. Students must bring a pencil, music, instrument, and a desire to learn in order to fully participate and earn full credit.

Points will be deducted for:

No instrument- loss of 5 points

No music/book- loss of 3 points

No pencil- loss of 2 points

Excessive talking/disruptive behavior- loss of 3 points

Removal from rehearsal- loss of 5 points

Unexcused/truant absence from school- 5 points

For instruments in repair, points will not be deducted; however, a note is required and the duration of the repair should be of a reasonable amount of time. (Most repairs are completed in 1 week- if a repair should exceed 1 week- ask the store for a loaner instrument)

IV. Playing Experiences: up to 150 points

Playing experiences are tests in which the students will perform a given assignment that will be evaluated using criteria based on the different elements of music (dynamics, rhythm, etc.). Playing experiences may be performed in front of director, recorded on tape or CD, or submitted via email by electronic grading program.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

By virtue of being a member of the Wadsworth High School Band Program, you have placed an obligation not only to yourself, but to the entire organization. Attendance at ALL concerts, contest, sectionals, and special rehearsals are mandatory. There are very few exceptions which must be cleared by Mrs. Hire or Mr. Piehl in advance.

Some people may think that one missing individual doesn't make a difference, but this is not true. One missing player changes the sound, and set-up of the entire ensemble, which will negatively affect our performance. Likewise, we cannot teach and prepare what is not there, which is why rehearsal attendance is critical. For these reasons, the attendance policy clearly spells out the expectations. Please read and understand these as this constitutes the largest part of your grade, and the biggest emphasis of the class. Every member of the band will be held accountable to this policy.

It is your responsibility to take the concert schedule and plan all your activities, doctor's appointments, dentist appoints, work obligations, etc. accordingly. I recommend you maintain a calendar on your phone that is linked with your family, so everyone can see and know when orchestra concerts and other events occur.

Students involved in Wadsworth High School activities are expected to check practice schedules, game/playoff schedules, etc. and address any potential conflicts well in advanced of the event. There are certain, specific circumstances in which I may excuse a student from a concert because of a WHS-sanctioned activity pending all appropriate and reasonable venues for resolving the conflict have been exhausted to my satisfaction and in a timely matter.

A schedule of all known performances, contest, and rehearsals is included in the back of this book.

Please note: students who are auditing at various colleges and universities are expected to schedule auditions around our performances and contest.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS AND PROCEDURES

Participation points will be deducted for not following these procedures and expectations.

Class Rules

- Absolutely NO TALKING when the teacher/staff/leadership is on the podium.
- Only play your instrument during appropriate times as instructed.
- Electronic devices are to be kept out of sight unless instructed otherwise.
- BE ON TIME.
- Have all necessary equipment including a working instrument, music, tuners, pencil, reeds, and sticks in every rehearsal.
- No gum, food, or drinks (other than water) permitted.
- Books, cases, and other belongings are not permitted in the rehearsal area (keep them in your instrument locker).

Rehearsal Procedure

- Be in your seat with your instrument and all supplies.
- Have your music in order ready to go.
- Start warming-up on your own until the rehearsal officially begins.
- Warm-up and tuning will begin with the director.

Instrument and Equipment

- Wind players are expected to have spare reeds and a tuner/metronome in each rehearsal.
- Keep your instrument in sound, working order.
- Instruments that are not properly maintained are difficult to perform and may exhibit a poor tone. Keep your instrument in a latched case when not in use. Replace or repair broken cases.
- Be respectful of other people's instruments, school-owned instruments, and private property in the music department. Report any problems to a director immediately.
- Only traditional colored instruments are permitted.

Music

- Put your flip folders, folders and all other music in your lockers. Please do not leave your music on the music stand.

Daily Attendance Procedures and Policies

- All attendance concerns are to be discussed with Mrs. Hire.

UNIFORMS

We are very fortunate to have a professional uniform for our performing ensembles at WHS. Much like a sports team, the purpose of the uniform is to have the audience see one cohesive ensemble or team, and not draw any attention to individuals. It is your responsibility to make certain that you are following our dress code.

NOTE:

If a student fails to prepare properly for uniform inspection, he/she will lose 3rd quarter break privileges. If the problem is persistent, he/she will be benched from performing.

- **Marching:** There is a uniform inspection before every performance
 - Must have WHITE CREW SOCKS, white (washed gloves), White T-shirt with a sleeve (no tank tops), as well as “swishy shorts/pants” – no jeans or cargo shorts allowed under the uniform
 - SHOES: NO polishing shoes after pants are on. Use Magic Eraser on top, polish for the soles. Shoes must be polished at home the night before, not at the school.
 - Must HANG UP uniform PROPERLY (students will be shown during practice)
 - Raincoats: Must be cared for properly (which includes removing from hat bag to dry on rainy nights when the student gets home that evening). They can be washed on a gentle cycle if needed and hung to dry. DO NOT put in the dryer.
 - Stud earrings are permitted, no nail polish (natural French manicure is okay), no necklaces, watches, bracelets are permitted. Hair needs to be secured neatly off of the uniform collar.
 - Purchasing Gloves: Gloves may be purchased for \$5 and will be available prior to every game/performance. Students may use their student account by filling out “student transfer” form. *Gloves must be washed before every performance.*

- **Concert**
 - You are responsible for dry cleaning the tuxedo or washing the dress on gentle cycle and hung to dry. Guys get their first bow tie, cummerbund, and black buttons for free but must pay for any replacements. White tux shirts will be ordered and billed accordingly, closer to concert season.
 - Hang properly (not in trunk of car or wadded up in a ball in the corner of your room)
 - Boys: Black dress shoes, black socks, white t-shirt underneath tux shirt
 - Girls: Black, closed toe shoes.

SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS

- A \$25 usage fee is assessed at the beginning of the year for those using school owned instruments. (checks made payable to Wadsworth Band Boosters).
- Students who do not take care of their assigned instrument may lose the privilege of using it.
- Instruments must be returned to their cases and stored in assigned storage locker.

INSTRUMENT LOCKERS

- Please keep your locker clean.
- Books, backpacks, and other school supplies should not be stored in your music locker.
- Food and beverages should never be kept in your locker.

SEATING

In the middle of October, all the students will prepare an audition piece. The directors will then, place them in a chair order according to their performance. Students will be divided into three groups, Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Wind Ensemble. All groups will perform at District Band Contest, the Holiday, Winter, and Spring Concerts, and Baccalaureate and Graduation ceremonies. Challenges are at the discretion of the director and may not be done at all. Your best effort is expected at the initial seating audition.

All students are encouraged to take private lessons. The experience that one gains by studying music more intensely is truly priceless.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Every musician in the band program should consider having a private teacher as it dramatically improves performance and musicianship at an individualized level. Wind Ensemble students are highly encouraged to take private lessons due to the technical and musical degree of the music we perform.

SECTIONALS

Periodically, we will break into sectional rehearsals both during and/or after school. Sectionals offer a great opportunity to develop and fine-tune segments of our music without the entire band. Whether working with a director or student section leader, it is imperative that everyone pays attention, and strives to improve their parts. Sectional attendance is required.

ELECTRONIC USAGE

Since information posted online may be accessed by anyone in the world, it is important we respect one another's privacy and maintain the copyright laws affiliated with music publishers. While our intentions might seem well, it could misrepresent the individual, group, director, or school.

Negative postings about any of our students, directors, music program, or ensembles may result in disciplinary action. If you find postings, or are aware of such postings, please notify Mrs. Hire or Mr. Piehl.

2017-2018 STUDENT BAND COUNCIL

Band officers are selected at the end of the previous school year. They assist the director whenever possible and act as a liaison between the bands and Mrs. Hire or Mr. Piehl.

President: Eric Blair

Vice President: Molly Cavanaugh

Secretary: Mackenzie Kimes

Drum Majors: Hannah Sieber, Jenna Calderón, Marissa Nicodemus, Sarah Takanaka

Color Guard Captains: Katherine Hart, Taylor Jira, Alli Lahmann

Senior Representatives: Regan Burridge, Rachel Bode, Jonathon Ferry, Payge Miller

Junior Representatives: Tony Batey, Henning Elsass, Ben O'Hara

Sophomore Representatives: Lily Fisher, Ian Marshall

2017-2018 BAND BOOSTER OFFICERS

Contact information & a complete list can be found at www.wadsworthband.org

President: John Hutchinson

Vice President: Cindy Beeman

Secretary: Vicki Marks

Treasurer: Polly Magyar

Chaperone Chairs: John & Sandy Hutchinson

Concession Chair Coordinator: Karen Siffert

Marching & Summer Uniforms: Cindy Beeman

Concert Uniforms: Melissa Gaither

2017 Wadsworth High School
MARCHING BAND MEETING TIMES
Bring a bagged Meal and/or Money

ALL HOME GAMES - PROCEDURES:

Arrive at WHS: 4:15 pm
Rehearsal/Attendance: 4:30 pm
Dress, then Inspection: 5:30 pm
Load Buses to travel to stadium: 5:45 pm
Arrive at Stadium: 6:00 pm
After game, load buses to travel to high school
Approx. parent pick-up at WHS: 10:00-10:15 pm

AUG. 25–Firestone– (Home)

See home game procedure

SEPT 1–Wooster – (Home)

See home game procedure

SEPT 8 – Medina – (Away)

Arrive at WHS: 4:00 pm
Rehearsal/Attendance: 4:15 pm
Dress, then Inspection: 5:15 pm
Load buses and travel to Medina: 5:30pm
Arrive at Medina: 6:00 pm
Approx. parent pick-up at WHS: 10:45 pm

SEPT 9 - Lake Band Show

1025 Lake Center St., Uniontown, OH 44685
Arrive at WHS: 3:30pm (Doors open 3:00)
Attendance/Rehearsal: 3:45 pm
Inspection: 4:45 pm
Show begins at 7:00 pm
Arrive back at WHS: approx. 10:30 pm

SEPT 15 – Nordonia – (Away)

Arrive at WHS: 3:30 pm
Rehearsal/Attendance: 3:45 pm
Dress, then Inspection: 4:45 pm
Load Buses to travel to Nordonia: 5:00 pm
Arrive at Nordonia: 6:00 pm
Approx. parent pick-up at WHS: 11:00 pm

SEPT 22 –Stow-Munroe Falls – (Home-8th Night)

See home game procedure

SEPT 23 – Massillon Band Review

One Paul Brown Dr. SE Massillon, OH 44646
Arrive at WHS: 3:30pm (Doors open 3:00)
Attendance/Rehearsal: 3:45 pm
Inspection: 4:45 pm
Arrive back at WHS: approx. 11:00 pm

SEPT 29- Cuyahoga Falls – (Away)

Arrive at WHS: 4:00 pm
Rehearsal/Attendance: 4:15 pm
Dress, then Inspection: 5:15 pm
Load Buses to travel to Cuyahoga Falls: 5:30 pm
Arrive at Cuyahoga Falls: 6:00 pm
Approx. parent pick-up at WHS: 10:45 pm

OCT 6 – North Royalton – (Away)

Arrive at WHS: 4:00 pm
Rehearsal/Attendance: 4:15 pm
Dress, then Inspection: 5:00 pm
Load Buses to travel to North Royalton: 5:15 pm
Arrive at North Royalton: 6:00 pm
Approx. parent pick-up at WHS: 10:45 pm

OCT 7- OSU Skull Session

TBA

OCT 13 –Twinsburg – (Home- HC)

See home game procedure

OCT 20 – Brecksville-(Home-Senior Night)

See home game procedure
Seniors will have a different schedule

OCT 21- BGSU Band Day

Arrive WHS: 6:00 am (this is when the room opens)
Inspection: 6:45 am
Depart for BGSU: 7:00 am
Return to WHS: 10:30 pm

OCT 27 – Hudson– (Away)

Arrive at WHS: 4:00 pm
Rehearsal/Attendance: 4:15 pm
Dress, then Inspection: 4:45 pm
Load Buses to travel to Hudson: 5:00 pm
Arrive at Hudson: 6:00 pm
Approx. parent pick-up at WHS: 11:00 pm

WHS 2017-2018 Concert/Rehearsal Schedule
Please mark your calendars now to avoid conflict!
This information can be found on the website

November 10.....	Veterans Day Assembly All Students-except Color Guard AM at school
November 17	Candle Light Walk Meet at the Elijah Wadsworth House 5:30- more specific info to come
December 5.....	Holiday Concert WHS PAC 7:30 PM
December 8	8th Grade Party 6:00-9:00 PM
January 9	Wind Ensemble Rehearsal 6:00-7:30 PM
January 16.....	Wind Ensemble Rehearsal 6:00-7:30 PM
January 23	Wind Ensemble Rehearsal 6:00-7:30 PM
January 27.....	Solo & Ensemble Contest* See next page
January 30.....	Night of Percussion WHS PAC Percussion students 7:00 PM
February 6	Wind Ensemble Rehearsal 6:00-7:30 PM
February 20.....	Winter Concert WHS PAC 7:30 PM
March 2 or 3.....	District Band Contest* See next page
April 11.....	Jazz Night Required for jazz band members 7:00 PM
May 1.....	Spring Concert WHS PAC 7:30 PM

Continued on next page

May 15.....	Band Awards WHS PAC 6:00 PM Desserts 7:00 PM Awards
May 25.....	Baccalaureate WHS GYM 8:00 PM
May 27.....	Commencement WHS GYM 2:00 PM
May 28.....	Memorial Day Parade

***The exact time and/or date will be made available when I receive the schedule from the event chair which is approximately two weeks before the event. A very specific packet will be sent home with all pertinent information.**

2017-2018 Pep Band Schedule

The dates and times are accurate as of the copying of this handbook

All meet at 6:00 in the band room
Varsity games begin right after the JV game

Friday, December 15.....	Boys BB v. Stow-Monroe Falls
Friday, January 5.....	Boys BB v. Twinsburg
Friday, January 12.....	Boys BB v. Brecksville-Broadview Hts.
Friday, February 2.....	Boys BB v. North Royalton
Saturday, February 17.....	Girls BB v. Solon
Friday, February 23.....	Boys BB v. Hudson