

**STUDENT AND PARENT
HANDBOOK
FOR THE
2023 – 2024
PIEDMONT HIGH SCHOOL BAND**



I. Grading Policy

A. Performances

1. Band is a performance-based class, and ALL performances are mandatory. Scheduled performances include football games, marching contests, concerts, MPA, and Parades.
2. If a student misses a Contest, Concert, or Parade, they will receive a 0% as a test grade. Students that perform in each required performance will receive a 100% for a test grade. Students will be given an opportunity to make up the 0% grade with an alternate assignment.

B. Playing Tests

1. Students will be tested periodically on passages from the music they are studying in class or from exercises that relate to the key signatures we are studying.
2. Playing tests will be submitted through Canvas at home.
3. Students can retake/resubmit the test as many times as they wish to improve their grade. The goal is for the students to push themselves to a mastery level with each exercise without having to worry about the pressures of a bad grade.

II. MARCHING BAND

A. Performance Etiquette

1. We are at games to support our school and our football team. ALWAYS be on your best behavior and show school spirit at ALL times.
2. Show respect. The band will be called to attention during the National Anthem. Failure to maintain a perfect attention will be considered a serious offense, and you will lose your 3rd quarter break privileges immediately.
3. Band members are expected to observe the other band's halftime show. When both bands perform at halftime, we will observe from the sidelines. Do not move around while the other band is performing; this is extremely rude. Observe, learn, and enjoy the other band's performance.
4. Complement the other band's members after they perform. Don't make derogatory comments; such immature comments do nothing but harm the image of our band.
5. While in the stands, students need to stay in their designated spot with the rest of their section.
6. Only marching band students are allowed to be in the stands with us. All boyfriends, girlfriends, friends, etc. that are not in the band can sit in the section next to us if they would like.
7. Act mature and make good decisions. Public displays of Affections (PDA) are not permitted while in school, therefore they will not be permitted while attending football games, band contests, practices, and bus rides to and from Piedmont. If you are not mature enough to follow these rules, then you are not mature enough to be in a relationship.
8. At marching contests, students are not to talk once a performing band has taken the field. Be quiet, be still, and be respectful of the performing band's effort and "if you can't say something nice, then don't say nothing at all." – Thumper.
9. Food, candy, gum, drinks (except water) are not allowed in the stands at any time during the game. Do not bring food back with you into the stands after 3rd quarter

break. Uniforms and instruments are very expensive. They can be damaged very easily with food and/or drink items.

10. When in full uniform, please stay clear of ketchup, mustard, nacho cheese, and other foods that could stain your clothes.
11. Students/Parents will be responsible for cleaning their own uniforms. Instructions for proper uniform cleaning can be found on the band website.

B. Travel Guidelines

1. ***All students must ride the bus to the game/contest. Once the contest/game is over, any parent wanting to take their child home directly from the performance location must provide a written note to the Band Directors BEFORE we leave PHS for the game/contest.***
2. Stay seated when the bus is moving.
3. Trash is not to be left on the bus. All trash belongs in the trash can.
4. The bus must be cleaned at the end of each trip.. **Students are responsible for this, not parents!**
5. Only drinks with a screw on cap will be permitted on the bus.
6. Co-ed seating will not be allowed on the bus.
7. Couples will not be allowed to ride the same bus. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!
8. Yelling, bad language, rough play, or public displays of affection will not be permitted at any time.
9. Students should remain respectful and keep noise to a minimum.
10. Students may listen to music on the bus, but they must use headphones at all times.
11. Cell phones are permitted on the bus, but they must be on vibrate or silent at all times.
12. Students are to obey the Directors, staff members, and chaperones at all times. If a student feels he/she is being treated unfairly, that student should obey orders regardless, and then discuss it with the Directors in private. If we as the Band Directors do not know what is going on, then we can't help you.

C. Uniforms

1. Summer Uniform
 - a. During the first few football games, the band will wear a slightly more comfortable uniform in order to stay cool and healthy.
 - b. CURRENT YEAR Band T-shirt (included in band fees).
 - c. Khaki colored shorts, purchased by the student (stay in PHS dress code).
 - d. Tennis shoes
 - e. You may **NOT** wear jewelry, watches, ball caps, etc. while in uniform. Hats and sunglasses are permitted in the stands, but NEVER on the field. This rule also applies to ALL students.
 - f. **Colored-hair that is not "natural" looking is not permitted starting at Preview Night in August and ending at our last parade performance in December.**
 - g. Body piercings that are visible while in uniform must be removed.
2. Full Uniform
 - a. Students must wear black socks that do not show any skin. They must be at least 6 inches above the ankle (NO ANKLE SOCKS).
 - b. When in full-uniform, you must put your coat on at the end of the 1st quarter. Hats and gloves can go on when dismissed to warm-up for half time.

- c. Only when the director tells you, coats may come off. If you are not wearing your current year band shirt, you can not take your coat off.
- d. **When coats are off, suspenders must stay on your shoulders properly and pants must be zipped at all times. Failure to comply will result in keeping your band jacket on for the rest of the SEASON.**
- e. All uniforms must be hung properly on the hanger. Nothing but the hanger, jacket, and pants are allowed to go in the uniform bag. Inspections will be done by officers and/or directors. If you are not sure how to store the uniform, ask an officer for assistance.
- f. Please only wear your current year band shirt or hoodie when your band jacket comes off. You might want to give your hoodie to a parent to take into the stands, or plan to arrive early so you can take your stuff to the stadium. You will not be allowed to carry it with you due to the fact that we go straight to the field for Pre-Game.
- g. Your marching shoes and any other clothing must go home after practices and performances. The band room is not your personal locker or bedroom.
- h. You may **NOT** wear jewelry, watches, ball caps, etc. while in uniform.
- i. Body piercings that are visible while in uniform must be removed.
- j. Long hair must be pinned up in your band hat (shako).
- k. **Colored-hair that is not "natural" looking is not permitted starting at Preview Night in August and ending at our last parade performance in December.**

III. Miscellaneous

A. Concert Band Dress Code

- 1. The concert band wears all black dress clothes. No stripes, patterns, etc.
- 2. NO BLACK JEANS OR BLACK TENNIS SHOES!!!!
- 3. **Gentlemen** – Black shoes, black socks, black dress pants, black belt, long sleeve black button-up dress shirt, necktie or bowtie (does not have to be black)
- 4. **Ladies** – black shoes, black pants (NO SKIRTS OR DRESSES), black blouse.
- 5. You want to perform your best. Please dress your best. Please do not look like you just rolled out of bed.

B. District Band Auditions

- 1. All students are strongly encouraged to audition for All-District Band. Many of you are District level players. All you have to do is put forth a little effort, and you will do very well.
- 2. Students are required to prepare a solo, scales, and sight read a short piece for the judges.

C. All-County Honors Band

- 1. Members of the All-County Honor Band are selected at the band director's discretion.
- 2. The selection process for both high school county band ensembles will be announced at a later date.
- 3. Student selection is also determined by musical talent, dedication, maturity, and behavior.

D. Classroom Rules

1. Come to class on time.
2. Cell phones must be on silent and must stay put away during classroom instruction. Phones do NOT belong on the stand or anywhere else that may cause a distraction for you or any other student.
3. Students are expected to have their instruments and music at school for every rehearsal.
4. Disrespect to anyone will not be tolerated. Parents and PHS Administration will be involved with this if needed.
5. Students are expected to have a sharpened pencil with them at all rehearsals.
6. Always be alert for instructions.
7. All candy, gum, food, or other foreign objects will be placed in the trash can upon entering the band room.
8. Water is allowed, IF it is in a bottle with a screw on cap. Drinks in cups and cans are not acceptable. Please do not bring them in the band room. There are many stains on the carpet from not paying attention. This carpet was installed in August of 2014. It has to last at least another 20 years. Be responsible.