

2019
WALNUT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL
MARCHING BLUE & GOLD



HANDBOOK, SCHEDULE,
AND FEE OUTLINE

VISUAL ENSEMBLE

Emergency Medical Form & Acknowledgement Page, and
1st payment of \$150 due Wednesday, May 8th, 2019

Total for Visual Ensemble: \$300.00

Deposit 5/8/19: 1st Payment \$150 (payable to WHIP)
Due 8/30/19: -Final Payment \$150 (payable to WHIP)

All checks should be made payable to 'WHIP'

Payments can also be made on our website via PayPal:

walnuthillsmarchingband.com

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**ALL WHHS MARCHING BLUE AND GOLD PARTICIPANTS IN
GRADES 9-12 RECEIVE GYM CREDIT AFTER
TWO SEASONS OF PARTICIPATION!!!**

Walnut Hills High School Marching Blue and Gold Handbook

In this handbook, students will find all necessary information regarding the Marching Blue and Gold. Once the student and parent/guardian have read and understood the information, the final page should be used as a checklist to finalize all preparation for the upcoming season. This handbook is designed to answer all your questions regarding the Walnut Hills High School Marching Band.

The Walnut Hills High School Marching Band is one of the fastest growing, most visible and successful groups at Walnut Hills High School. The band is extremely active in school functions and participates in a fairly active competitive schedule as well. The Marching Blue and Gold have developed an outstanding reputation for musical excellence both inside and outside the community. As a member of this ensemble, students have a responsibility to themselves, as well as to their parents, peers and audience members to rise to their highest potential. The numerous accolades the band has received is a direct result of the hard work of students, staff, and parents. This combination of support, along with the support of school administration, alumni and our community has helped the Walnut Hills Marching Blue and Gold continue to maintain a reputation as one of the elite marching programs in the state of Ohio.

While the aspect of hard work may appear overwhelming to some, the benefits of the Walnut Hills Marching Band far outweigh any perceived detriments. Friendships are made, forged, and strengthened, not only on the student level, but also among parents who become involved in the program. In this ensemble, students learn more than just music and how to perform for an audience. They learn about discipline, respect, goal oriented achievements, positive motivation, punctuality, sacrifice and team work. All of these skills are necessary and vital life/career skills, which the student will be able to draw upon later in life. The Marching Blue and Gold can offer a student and their parents a chance to spend time together as a band family. A master schedule of rehearsals, performances and other activities, is distributed in March so that students and their families can avoid conflicts. As the master schedule is developed, the staff works diligently to keep family time in mind in planning almost all activities.

Summer and Season Uniform Care and Guidelines

Uniforms for all members of the Marching Blue and Gold are provided by the Walnut Hills Instrumental Parents (WHIP) at no cost to the members of the organization. This does not include shoes, gloves, and appropriate clothes worn under the uniform. The following guidelines are in place to help preserve and care for the uniforms:

- 1) For Some Marching Band seasons, members of the Visual Ensemble may wear Marching Band uniforms. Students shall be given instructions regarding the proper way to wear these uniforms. At no time is the student to remove any part of their uniform until a staff member has indicated they may do so. The student and parent are responsible for the condition of the uniform. Any accidents, stains, rips, tears, etc, to the uniform **will** be charged to the student/parent. Each uniform costs \$350.00 to replace.
- 2) Students should avoid eating while in uniform. Even if you are very careful, accidents involving other people may happen. Remember that you are responsible for your uniform. Plan to eat before or after the time you will be in uniform.
- 3) Do not attempt to wash or dry clean your uniform on your own. All uniforms will be cleaned together. Part of the student fee is used for professional dry cleaning for this purpose.
- 4) All students wearing marching band uniforms are required to wear a black shirt (preferably their black show shirt) under their jacket. Baggy pants or jeans should also not be worn underneath the marching band trousers. **NO CLOTHING SHOULD SHOW UNDER YOUR UNIFORM AT ANY TIME.**
- 5) Color Guard members will wear slimmers under their uniforms instead of black shirts. Additionally, they will not wear black socks. Color Guard members are responsible for keeping slimmers and shoes clean for performances.
- 6) All uniforms stay at school when not in use during a performance situation.
- 7) If uniforms get wet, do not place the uniform in the uniform cabinet. Uniforms must be allowed to dry completely before placing them inside the cabinets. If uniforms get wet, a staff member will ask you to place your jacket on your chair back and lay trousers across the seat of your chair.
- 8) All students are assigned a music locker for storage of shoes, socks, and various other uniform needs. All students must put a lock on their lockers.
- 9) Hats are to be kept in the hat box when putting away the uniform. Hat boxes are to be stored in the uniform cabinets only. Do not store hats in the hall or instrument lockers. Plumes must be kept in the plume cylinder and handled by staff and volunteers only. Hat wraps will be collected and placed in a separate storage bin or in the hat box.

- 10) Be sure to keep all parts of your uniform together. When dressing at home games, hangers go back in the uniform cabinet. Cases and hat boxes are brought up to the field prior to our march up for pre-game.
- 11) When in uniform, students should wear **LONG BLACK SOCKS with no print on them. Students' marching shoes (Dinkles) should be kept clean and shiny for all performances.**
- 12) Be sure to place your uniform and hat box in the correct uniform cabinet. Gloves, and hat wraps are to be stored inside your hat box.
- 13) Above all, please take great care at all times with the uniforms. We are extremely fortunate to have recently purchased new uniforms, thanks to the generosity of WHIP (Walnut Hills Instrumentalist Parents), our community supporters and our Alumni Foundation. Whether uniforms belong to guard or band, they are very expensive. Please demonstrate your maturity by caring for your uniform in a fine fashion. If you have a question, please ask a student leader.
- 14) Our summer uniform consists of show shirt, khaki pants (no cargo pants), belt and athletic shoes. Please be sure athletic shoes are not any color of neon.

Conduct

Students in the Walnut Hills Marching Band will operate under the WHHS Student Handbook. All rules apply and are in place throughout the entire season. This includes all activities outside of the regular school day hours. It is the both the responsibility of students and parents to be familiar with these rules.

Members of the Walnut Hills Marching Blue & Gold are part of one of the finest marching bands in the state of Ohio. All members' behavior and conduct are watched at all times by numerous people. Individual actions of students reflect on the entire group. Students are expected to conduct themselves at all times with their best possible behavior both on and off the field. Whether in or out of uniform, students are to be on their best behavior, using appropriate language and acting respectfully at all times. Remember that you represent yourself, your band and your school.

- 1) All members of the Marching Band will represent themselves and the band in a positive and professional manner on social media, group chats, email and all other forms of communication.
- 2) All members of the Marching Band will respect the personal space of all other students and will not initiate any physical contact without direct verbal consent.

3) All members of the Marching Band will proactively communicate attendance with the band directors. Students may be removed from the Marching Band after their third unexcused absence. Unexcused tardies to rehearsal and/or performances will follow the consequences for minor infractions.

CONSEQUENCES FOR MINOR INFRACTIONS

1st offense- Verbal warning

2nd offense- Verbal and/or written warning to both student and parent.

3rd offense- Verbal and/or written warning to both student and parent, and student may be removed from a performance for a period of time designated by the band directors.

4th offense- Removal from Marching Band.

All members of the Marching Band are to follow all school and district rules while on school grounds. **The following violations are considered major infractions and will result in immediate dismissal from the Marching Band, in addition to any disciplinary consequences handed out by administration:**

1. Use of tobacco products (cigarettes and vapes), alcohol, and/or drugs
2. Bullying and/or cyberbullying
3. Fighting/physical assault
4. Sexual/verbal harassment
5. Use of racial/ethnic/religious/LGBTQ slurs, or other forms of hate speech

*Please note: The band directors reserve the right to change, add, or alter the rules and disciplinary policy as they see fit.

Leadership

Students that have been in the Walnut Hills Marching Band as a wind player, percussionist or Color Guard for at least one year may apply for a leadership position. Visual Ensemble members may apply for only the positions highlighted on the next page. Detailed descriptions are listed on the next page.

Leadership Positions:

Drum Major

Students applying for this position are automatically considered for a section or squad leader position (but not guaranteed). Students in this position are expected to be the model for band member attitude and discipline. Drum Majors must have an exceptional sense of time, understanding of rhythm and exhibit the highest level of musicianship. Drum Majors will conduct the band, attend sectional rehearsals, and work closely with the directors to achieve the goals of the band and facilitate student growth.

Band Captain

This position is equivalent to the Drum Majors in terms of student authority. The band captain is a non-conducting student leader that will also be a regular performing member of the marching band. This student will be able to provide perspective and leadership from the field during each rehearsal and will work closely with the directors. The Band Captain must be able to execute the highest levels of marching and musicianship. The student that holds this position is expected to maintain a positive, helpful attitude at all times, while demonstrating exceptional leadership skills.

Visual Leader

This position will be used to help teach visuals and body work. The students selected for this position would be responsible for knowing counts to body work, understanding and being able to teach the marching technique, and possibly be asked to have input/create some body work themselves for the ensemble as needed. Student(s) would work closely with Visual Caption Head and the directors.

Quartermaster

These students will be in charge of loading and unloading the equipment for each event. These students will work closely with section leaders, the directors and the parent pit crew chief to facilitate efficient transport of equipment to and from rehearsals or events.

Section Leader

The Section Leader is the musical example for the section. The student in this position must have achieved the highest levels of performance on an instrument. Additionally, the section leader must exhibit the highest levels of character and leadership, be able to run sectional rehearsals, and cultivate an attitude of respect at all times. This person must also be able to execute and instruct marching technique as defined by Visual Caption Head and Visual Leaders.

Squad Leader

The Squad Leader works with the Section Leader in the implementation of musical and marching fundamentals. This student must have achieved high levels of musicianship and marching, and exhibit high levels of character and respect. This is an ideal position for someone that is helpful and encouraging. This position is contingent on the size of the section.

Marching Band Librarian

Librarians will be in charge of organizing, copying and preparing all music (including show music & stands tunes) for distribution to students. They will also be in charge of distribution and collection of band lyrics, flip folders, coordinate sheets and drill.

Bus Trips

Transporting over 140 students from one location to another involves a great deal of cooperation from students, parents, bus drivers and staff. Students should be polite, respectful and be proactive when on trips to ensure that the band arrives in a timely fashion.

- 1) **PIT CREW PARENTS/QUARTERMASTERS:** These people work very hard to load the truck, transport our equipment, place and remove it in performance settings, and oversee the safety of the equipment during transportation and performances. Each person will be responsible for their own instrument and equipment. Students are expected to treat them kindly and be appreciative of the services they provide for you and the band. **A "thank you" goes a long way.**
- 2) **BUS DRIVERS:** These people are in charge of transporting us from one place to another. When we travel, you are to be very polite to your driver. The staff will not tolerate rudeness, excessive noise, and leaving trash on a bus. There is no food or drink permitted on the bus unless otherwise stated. Students are permitted to bring personal music devices at their own risk. The staff is **NOT** responsible for protecting these items. Students are encouraged to study on long trips. Use your time wisely!!
- 3) **CHAPERONES:** On the bus, they are an extension of the staff. These adults help keep noise under control and can also help with parental type needs on your bus. Students should never argue with a parent. Please direct any questions or concerns regarding parent chaperones to Mr. Canter, Mr. Peoples or Mrs. Ware.
- 4) **BUS SEATING:** No more than two students should be in a seat. Small instruments can go with you on the bus. Larger instruments are placed on the truck.
- 5) There is to be no shouting out of the windows, hanging any object or body parts out of the windows, food or drink, excessive volume levels or screaming, or public displays of affection on the bus **AT ANY TIME**. Students are to remain seated so that the bus driver can see properly and to ensure the safety of all students on the bus.
- 6) **ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE:** Whether arriving at or departing for a destination, students should not board or depart a bus until specifically told to do so by a staff member. Students should plan to follow their itineraries and should either have them committed perfectly to memory or carry them with you. Itineraries will be available sometime the week before our departure and will also be posted to our website.
- 7) **ASSIGNMENTS:** Bus assignments will be made at the start of the season. These bus assignments will be followed throughout the season unless otherwise stated by the staff.

Football Games

Whether home or away, visual ensemble members should be prepared to help at all times. Students will sit in the stands **IN SECTIONS** unless otherwise instructed by the staff. Visual Ensemble members will often be asked to move equipment or props during the band's 3rd quarter break. If this happens, Visual Ensemble members will be given a break at a different time or may be dismissed early. Specifics on this will be communicated by a Band Director or the Visual Ensemble Instructor. Not returning in a timely manner after a break will result in detentions to late band members and removal from future breaks. **ALL STUDENTS NEED TO EXERCISE CARE IN CLIMBING BLEACHERS AND WHILE SITTING IN THE BLEACHERS.** At a football game, the Marching Band has the responsibility to promote school spirit. Band members are not to be out walking around behind the bleachers or goofing around. Simply sit in the stands with your section and watch the game.

Parades, Festivals, Competitions

These events are one of the main reasons we exist and represent well over half of our performance efforts. From the beginning gathering to the final car exiting from the parking lot, you are in some mode of performance. Whether it is performance preparation, the actual performance, or post performance evaluation, it is **YOUR** job to be constantly aware of this status. Remain **FOCUSED** and **AWARE** at all times, especially before, during, and immediately after all performances. Every preparation and learning technique has a purpose and students are expected to fully participate and strive to achieve their best performance yet. Every member's contribution to this group is vital and important. Each student should be physically and mentally ready for each performance. After a competition performance, all students will sit together to watch other band performances as a good audience member. Whether in or out of uniform, students are to be on their best behavior, using appropriate language and acting respectfully at all times. Remember that you represent yourself, your band and your school.

Grading Policy

The Marching Blue and Gold are part of the music curriculum at Walnut Hills High School. Although all rehearsals for marching band take place after school, marching band is co-curricular, meaning that students will receive specific grades for rehearsals, memorization checks and performances within their regular band class (Junior Band, Symphonic Band or Wind Ensemble). In Marching and, students have regular performance objectives to meet and fulfill just like any other academic class. They will receive grades based on their fulfillment of these objectives and their participation in performance activities. Attitude is also considered when fulfilling the participation/ performance portion of the course.

(grading information continued on next page)

Since this is a performance-based ensemble, attending all performances is vital to the success of the ensemble. The entire ensemble is dependent on each individual performer and when even one person is absent, the end result is affected. Medical reasons for a missed performance **MUST** be documented with the director--not a student leader- and will be considered on an individual basis. A phone call at school before the absence and a note afterward from the parent explaining the absence, are required. **(Direct office line to Mr. Canter 363-8510) (Direct office line to Mr. Peoples 363-8519)**

GRADES WILL BE ASSIGNED AS FOLLOWS:

PERFORMANCES:	50%--All performances in a grading period
DAILY PARTICIPATION	50%--Effort, attitude, preparedness, execution of daily expectations

PLEASE be sure of your participation prior to turning in the acknowledgement form. If a student drops out of the program AFTER the acknowledgement form is signed, they will forfeit any payment up to their departure from the program.

EXTREMELY IMPORTANT!

Once the acknowledgement form is signed, the student has a specific role in the show and the first payment is immediately used for drill writing and music arrangements.

Attendance Policy

The student will follow the attendance policy as given by Walnut Hills High School. Due to the unique nature of performance based courses and their presentations at times other than the school day, the student must understand that their participation in each rehearsal, concert, or related event is **NOT** optional but mandatory. The following policy addresses attendance in these ways:

- 1) **Rehearsal:** Deliberate absence from rehearsal will be a detention for the first offense. Second offense will result in a detention and school referral, resulting in additional school disciplinary action. Third offense will result in removal from the marching band.
- 2.) **Concerts & Performance Related Events:**
 - A. Deliberate Absence: Removal from the group and failure of the course
 - B. Excused Medical Absence: agreed upon **PRIOR** to the event by Mr. Canter and student. Emergencies handled on an individual basis.
 - C. Vacation Absence: Obviously from time to time, this infrequently occurs: a student will need to be with a family on a planned sabbatical or educational experience.

*The challenge of a performance-based course is that there is no way to make up a performance. The concert or performance is the ultimate "test" or "exam." We take the examination in a public setting and recreating those conditions for make-up work is impossible. If a student will be absent for any performance, they should contact Mr. Canter immediately to discuss any consequences to grading and overall participation. All absences will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

ABSENCES, WHICH FALL IN THIS CATEGORY, MUST BE PRESENTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER UNLESS OTHERWISE ARRANGED BY THE INSTRUCTOR AND STUDENT INVOLVED.

- D. Athletic Policy: Since aspects of marching band are part of a graded course, which follows a course of study, students will perform in any concert or performance related event which takes place on the eve of the athletic event in question.

Student Financial Responsibilities-What are my fees used for?

If a payment is made using check or money order, please make payable to WHIP and be sure to include the student's name on the memo of the check. This gives you an automatic receipt and allows the staff to easily identify which student should be credited with a payment. Payments for Winds & Percussion can also be made through PayPal at walnuthillsmarchingband.com

Below is a list of items covered in the fees charged to participate in marching band. The following items, which are ordered at pre-band camp, usually arrive before or at the very beginning of the school year.

Items covered by the student fee are:

- 1) Marching Shoes
- 2) Show T-Shirt
- 3) First pair of gloves
- 4) Uniform usage fee
- 5) Drill and equipment
- 6) Bus Transportation
- 7) Staffing

Additional items not included in student fee:

- 1) Students are responsible for obtaining khaki pants for summer uniforms
- 2) Students are responsible for obtaining athletic shoes for summer uniforms
- 3) Students are responsible for obtaining belts for summer uniforms
- 4) Students are responsible for providing their own long black socks for summer uniforms and marching band uniforms

While eating in uniform is discouraged, situations may occur when eating at an away event is unavoidable. The staff makes every effort to alert parents of this well in advance. Typically, the child will usually know whether "incidental money" will be necessary for a meal at concession stands or a fast-food restaurant.

Finally, students and parents must remember that damage to a piece of school owned property may be charged to the user. Please treat all equipment and uniforms with extreme care. In most cases, they need to last long after the student has graduated.

Policy For Students Participating In Athletics and Marching Band

For the student who desires to participate in a fall sport during marching band, the following guidelines exist.

1. Taking full advantage of all aspects of Walnut Hills High School is strongly encouraged. HOWEVER, academically the amount of time the student provides to both activities will be overwhelming.
2. When practice times conflict, the student is expected to make an effort to split time with both band and the sport in question.
3. When practice times conflict with athletic games, the student may attend the game. However, the student must be directly involved with the game. Example: A reserve player attending a home varsity game is not an excused absence. Neither will performing duties such as announcing, collecting gate monies, etc.
4. When athletic games conflict with a band performance, the student must attend the performance. Since aspects of marching band are graded, marching band takes priority in this area. The instructors work VERY HARD to not double schedule during the marching band season. Abuses of this policy will result in grade reductions due to an unexcused absence.

Policy For Students Participating In Outside Musical Group

For those students who seek to excel in additional ensembles, arrangements can be made with regard to schedules. All WHHS performance activities and requirements must be honored first. The director will handle these cases on an individual basis.

Special Section On Substance Abuse & Weapons

The student handbook is quite clear on the issue of substance abuse and weapons. Simply put, it is illegal in this state for a high school student to be in possession of, or under the influence of alcohol, tobacco products, including vaping or any other similar drug related substance. Students may not be in possession of any substance made to look like, or represented to be, illegal drugs or alcohol and any related paraphernalia. Additionally, it is illegal to be in the possession of any weapon or weapon look-alike. In accordance with the Board of Education policy, students who violate this rule will be removed from the organization immediately for the duration of the performance season. All affected grades and absences will be considered failures. This will be in effect for the entire marching season/semester. Students involved in marching band should be committed to the performance of music, not the use of products which can lead to destructive habits. **There will be NO TOLERANCE IN THIS AREA.**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PAGE

Both parent and student have read and fully understood the 2019 Walnut Hills Marching Blue and Gold Handbook and Fee Structure.

Both parties must sign and return this sheet with your 1st marching band payment of \$150 and Emergency Medical Form (EMF) to your director by May 8th.

NEW!!! This year, all students will submit contact/medical information through *Final Forms* via the Walnut Hills Athletic Department and will be required to get a physical by a registered physician.

Print Student Name _____

Student Signature _____ 2018-19 Grade _____

Student Email _____

Student Cell Phone Number _____

Student T-Shirt Size _____ Marching Instrument _____

Print Parent Name _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian #1 Email _____

Parent #1 Phone Number _____

Parent/Guardian #2 Email _____

Parent #2 Phone Number _____

I understand that the Marching Band *has extensive volunteer needs* and as a parent of a marching band member my family is asked to volunteer *at least 5* times during the year.

Parent Signature _____

By signing this document, you *legally* take responsibility for all equipment, fees, and attendance at all functions.



Emergency Medical Authorization Form

Please fill out this form and return it to your child's school.

Student's Name: _____ ID #: _____ Homeroom: _____ Birth Date: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____ Year: _____

Student's Address: _____ Apt.: _____ Phone: (____) _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Purpose — To enable parents and guardians to authorize the provision of emergency treatment for children who become ill or injured while under school authority, when parents or guardians cannot be reached.

Residential Parent or Guardian

Mother's Name: _____ Daytime Phone: (____) _____

Father's Name: _____ Daytime Phone: (____) _____

Other's Name: _____ Daytime Phone: (____) _____

Name of Relative or Child-care Provider: _____

Relationship: _____ Daytime Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

PART I or II MUST BE COMPLETED

PART I: TO GRANT CONSENT I hereby give consent for the following medical-care providers and local hospital to be called:

Physician: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Dentist: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Medical Specialist: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Local Hospital: _____ Emergency Room Phone: (____) _____

In the event reasonable attempts to contact me have been unsuccessful, I hereby give my consent for (1) the administration of any treatment deemed necessary by above-named doctors, or, in the event the designated preferred practitioner is not available, by another licensed physician or dentist; and (2) the transfer of my child to any hospital reasonably accessible. This authorization does not cover major surgery unless the medical opinions of two other licensed physicians or dentists, concurring in the necessity for such surgery, are obtained prior to the performance of such surgery.

Facts concerning my child's medical history, including allergies, medications being taken, and any physical impairments to which a physician should be alerted:

Date: _____ Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

PART II: REFUSAL TO GRANT CONSENT I do **NOT** give my consent for emergency medical treatment of my child. In the event of illness or injury requiring emergency treatment, I wish the school to take the following action:

Date: _____ Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Mandatory Band Camp Dates and Times

Monday, 7/29 & Tuesday, 7/30: **PRE-CAMP REHEARSALS**- 9am-8:30pm

Wednesday, 7/31: **PRE-CAMP REHEARSAL**- 9am-5pm

**Mandatory Potluck Dinner/Parent Meeting from 6-8pm* (students stay to prepare for & attend meeting)

Thursday, 8/1- Friday, 8/3: **PRE-CAMP REHEARSAL**- 9am-5pm

Sunday, 8/4- Friday, 8/9: **BAND CAMP IN RIPLEY, WEST VIRGINIA**

- Visual Ensemble Members will not attend Band Camp.

Students will rejoin rehearsals once school begins.

Final Check List for Money and Forms

All Checks Payable to 'WHIP' and include student name in the memo

Paperwork Due on Wednesday, 5/8/19 for All Visual Ensemble Members

Acknowledgement Page- Signed by both student and parent (page 11)

Emergency Medical Form- Completed and turned in with first payment (page 12)

PAYMENT BREAKDOWN FOR VISUAL ENSEMBLE

Total for Visual Ensemble Members: \$300.00

1st Payment of \$150- Due 5/8/19

Final Payment of \$150- Due 8/30/19