

Walton High School Band

449 Walton Road
DeFuniak Springs, FL 32433
850-892-1270 Ext. 7

Welcome to the Band
Handbook for Students and Parents



VIEW THE WHS BAND WEBSITE FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION:

www.waltonhighschoolband.weebly.com

Dr. Harry C. Patzig,
Band Director

John Kozak
Color Guard Coordinator

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Dear Parents and Students,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to one of the most dynamic music organizations in Northwest Florida, the Walton High School Marching Band. We are sure you will have many questions about how our band functions, what is expected of you, and what will help ensure success for the student and the band program. This handbook has been provided to help answer those questions. It contains information about performance opportunities, attendance policy, grading policy, behavior expectations, awards and band room rules. At the end of this handbook is a performance contract that must be signed by both student and parent and returned to the band office after reading this handbook. We hope this handbook will answer most of your questions. If you need more information, contact us at the band room. We look forward to working with you this year.

Sincerely,

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WHO WE ARE

The Walton High School Marching Band

...is a group of individuals who have accepted the responsibility to:

First: and foremost, strive for perfection in the areas of:

Attitude- by presenting to the community a positive image

Music- by practicing everyday and striving for the highest standard of performance

Values- by always being respectful to all students and adults who work with the band

Second: attend all rehearsals and performances for the school year

Third: adhere to all school and band rules

Fourth: participate in all fundraisers provided

Fifth: be of service to the community

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE WALTON HIGH SCHOOL BAND

The Walton High School Band was organized on March 18, 1937. Its first director, Captain G.M. Shearouse, was a Bandmaster in the 7th Division, U.S. Army, and a member of John Phillip Sousa's Band. He was sent to DeFuniak Springs under the Federal Music Project to organize the band, which became one of the first bands in Northwest Florida. There were 45 members. Mr. Thomas Bailey was Principal and Mr. Archie Neal Anderson was Superintendent of Schools.

The High School Band made its first public appearance on May 8, 1937 in a parade and concert at Henry Park (the pavilion area in the Lakeyard). Selections included the Merry Widow Waltz and Old Kentucky Home.

The first music festivals were held in DeFuniak Springs. Bands from as far away as Jacksonville participated. Students were housed in dormitories in Palmer College and in private homes. The concerts were held in the former Chautauqua auditorium with marching at Harbeson Field.

In 1939, the Walton High School Band made the highest rating in any band contest and drill competition; and placed first in state concert and marching contests.

Our Walton High School Band has a rich history, some of which includes not only scoring consistent Superiors and Excellents in State Festivals through the years, but invitations to appear in out of state celebrations and festivals. The Band played for the inauguration of Gov. Holland in 1941, and received two invitations to the World's Fair in New York. The positive example put forth by the Walton High School Band was instrumental in forming bands in towns across Northwest Florida.

History of the Walton Senior High Band, Glenda Sue Parker, March 13, 1978

Our thanks to James McCall, who provided us with this rich and proud history, whose mother, Doris Curry, played clarinet in the band and held the position of the first Assistant Band Director from 1937 to 1940.

PERFORMANCES

1st SEMESTER - MARCHING BAND

The new school year starts off with summer band camp. The students and staff work together to learn new music and a marching show. The students work hard and steady for three weeks learning a new show and it is well worth it when we perform at football games and marching competitions to receive trophies and medals throughout the marching season!

Summer Band Camp - One week of percussion and two weeks of full band and auxiliary.

Football Games - The WHS Band performs at all home games and selected away games.

All State Band Auditions - Panama City, Florida - Outstanding band students prepare selected music for audition for the FMEA/FBA Clinic and Conference to be held in Tampa the first week in January.

Marching Show Competitions - The WHS Band performs at various selected marching competitions throughout the State of Florida and Alabama. These are selected from:

Northwest Florida Classic - Crestview, Florida

Southern Showcase - Dothan, Alabama

Little Big Horn Marching Competition - Opp, Alabama

Troy Marching Festival - Troy, Alabama

Tate Marching Festival - Pensacola, Florida

FSU BAND DAY - This is a fun trip for the WHS Band. We travel to Tallahassee, FL to observe the FSU Marching Chiefs rehearse and perform at a selected college football game.

FBA Marching Performance Assessment - Panama City, Florida - Each band, percussion, and auxiliary, in District II, performs for evaluation and is adjudicated Superior, Excellent, Good, Fair, or Poor.

DFS - Homecoming Parade and Christmas Parade - TBA

2nd SEMESTER - CONCERT BAND

Marching band progresses directly into concert season, and includes rehearsals, concerts, solo performances, honor bands, and clinics. New music and concepts are learned to improve student musicianship.

FMEA/FBA All State Band Conference and Clinic - Students attending have already been selected from auditions held in September.

District Honor Band - Marianna, Florida - Students participate in auditions held at Marianna High School in January of each year.

SEUS Honor Band/Clinic - Troy State University, Troy, Alabama - Students are recommended by the director and audition for chair placement in one of three honor bands. The clinic is a 3-day event.

FBA Solo/ Ensemble Festival - Graceville, Florida - Students work with a piano accompanist on a selected solo or ensemble in preparation for District adjudication. Students sign up individually for this event.

FBA District Music Performance Assessment Festival - Chipley, Florida - Concert Bands are adjudicated for ratings of Superior, Excellent, Good, Fair, or Poor. Additionally, bands are adjudicated in sight-reading and must receive a rating of Superior or Excellent to be eligible for the State Band Festival.

FBA State Band Music Performance Assessment Festival - location is determined by the FBA board. Bands must have received a superior rating at FBA District MPA to be eligible to perform.

Spring Concert - Walton Senior High School Auditorium

WHS Band Awards Ceremony and Reception - Awards and medals earned throughout the school year are presented to students in recognition for their outstanding musical achievements.

GENERAL PROCEDURES AND EXPECTATIONS

Behavior Code

Discipline is one of the most important factors of a successful band program. Proper discipline will incorporate the following:

- Reflect a positive attitude towards all members and sections of the Band.
- Follow all school and band rules.
- Attend all practices and performances.
- Accept constructive criticism with a positive attitude.
- Be at the right place at the right time with the proper equipment.
- Respect the director's position in resolving conflicts.
- Students will obey chaperones and other adults in charge.
- Students will wear the band uniform properly in public.
- Maintain acceptable haircut and style.
- No jewelry is to be worn with band uniform.

Band Room Rules

- Instruments should be taken home daily. No instruments should be left in the band room overnight. See Director for exceptions.
- There will be absolutely no gum, food, or drink allowed in the band room. Exception: water.
- No running or horseplay of any kind will be tolerated.
- Enter quietly.
- No talking during class.
- Do not touch anything that does not belong to you.
- Only play instruments that are checked out to you or belong to you.
- Students may only use their assigned locker.
- Only instruments, music and band related articles may be stored in band lockers. Students are allowed to purchase lockers at school for their books.
- Keep your area clean, place all trash in a trash can.
- Take pride in your band room and clean up after yourself.

Attendance Policy

ALL students who participate in the Walton High School Band Program are **REQUIRED** to attend rehearsals and performances as part of their nine weeks grade. Excused absences will be granted for the following:

- A doctor's written excuse
- Sickness (out of school)
- A death in the family
- Other individual extenuating circumstances
- Two unexcused absences from rehearsals may result in the loss of **one letter grade**
- Missed performance may result in the loss of **one letter grade**
- Major performance unexcused absences may result in the loss of **two letter grades**

Uniforms

The Band's appearance in public is very important. Wear the complete uniform in the correct manner. You will not be allowed to participate in a performance without the full uniform and will receive an unexcused absence for that performance. Complete uniform includes black socks, clean band shoes, and gloves (marching season only).

Band Awards

Awards are only given to band students who perform in both the marching and concert seasons, providing that all band fees and other money obligations to the band are paid in full and on time. If a student is unable to participate in normal classroom environment due to scheduling, he/ she will be expected to participate in normal after school band practices to count as a season participant.

OFFICER POSITIONS

DRUM MAJOR

This person is responsible for directing the marching band during football games, half-time shows, competitions and parades. The drum major will perform all duties assigned by the director and maintain discipline in the band.

BAND CAPTAIN

This person will inspect uniforms before each performance to insure that each band member is wearing the uniform properly. He/she will also report to the director for any additional duties.

PERCUSSION CAPTAIN

This person is in charge of the percussion section and oversees and conducts rehearsals, inspects percussion uniforms and equipment. He/she reports directly to the director.

ASSISTANT PERCUSSION CAPTAIN (PIT PERCUSSION)

This person is in charge of pit percussion rehearsals and reports to the percussion captain in addition to any duties assigned by the director

SECTION LEADERS – Wind, Percussion, and Color guard

This person is responsible for leading section rehearsals. They are also responsible for the attendance and overall excellence of their section. They will check to make sure that their section's uniforms are laid out properly after each performance.

LIBRARIAN

Maintain the music library, issues music, and retrieves music.

UNIFORM COORDIATOR

Maintain and issue uniforms. Inspects and makes sure that everyone is in full and proper uniform before each performance.

LOADING CREW

All Percussion, (including pit percussion members), for loading and unloading equipment for each performance. Crew must stay until all equipment is put up after each performance.

WHS BAND PARENT ASSOCIATION

The Walton High School Band Parent Association

The mission of the Walton High School Band Parent Organization is to lend support to the Walton High School Band and its director. This is primarily accomplished through fundraising, providing chaperones, and supporting the band program and music education in our school.

Meetings are held throughout the school year and generally scheduled on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM in the band room at Walton High School. All parents and guardians are encouraged to participate in this organization.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is one of the most important things that a student can do to raise money for end of the year band trips. It also provides money for the Band Parent Association to assist with many of the financial obligations of the WHS Band program. The Band Parent Association provides fundraisers throughout the school year for these purposes. Remember, when you participate in a fundraiser you are not only helping yourself, but also promoting the WHS Band program for future years.

Each year, a **student account** is set up for all band and color guard students. Any amount that is left over from the previous year is brought forward. It is important to fundraise so that you will have the funds to attend the end of the year band trip and have funds available for other expenditures. An itemized list of the portion of fundraising money that is added to each participating students account is listed under **Appropriation of Funds**. A list of what these funds can be use for is under **Guidelines on Student Accounts**. Fundraising also helps to add necessary money into the **Association General Fund Account** so that our band program can purchase needed supplies to operate efficiently.

Appropriation of Funds:

Cookbooks	100% Association General Fund
Brax Spirit Cups	100% Association General Fund
BBQ Dinners	100% Participating Student Accounts
First and Second Fruit Sales	100% Participating Student Accounts
First and Second Bake Sales	100% Participating Student Accounts
First and Second Pizza Sales	50% Participating Student Accounts/50% General Fund
Concession	100% Association General Fund

Guidelines On Student Accounts:

- Student accounts **can be** utilized for the direct expenses of the student only.
- Student accounts **can be** used for entry and transportation fees for the end of the year trip.
- Student accounts **can be** used for entry fees into assessment activities involving solos, ensembles, and honor bands.
- Student accounts **can be** used to pay regular yearly band fees, only if paid by the due date.
- Student accounts **cannot be** used for instrument repair costs.
- Student accounts **cannot be** used for chaperone or family expense of any kind.
- Student accounts **cannot be** used for spending money at any event.
- Balances from the previous year **will** remain in the account for use the following year.
- Senior balances **will be** reverted into the general fund upon graduation, or passed down to a sibling who is still a member of the band. Students who withdraw from the band **cannot** pass their balance on to a sibling.
- Parent deposits **can be** made into a student account, however, account guidelines still apply.

Student Expenses:

- Band Fee (uniform cleaning, etc): \$85.00
- Percussion Fee (if applicable): \$25.00 per semester
- Instrument Rental Fee (if applicable): \$25.00 per semester
- End-of-year trip: TBA
- Band Shirt: \$26.00
- Band Shoes: \$25.00
- Entry fees for Honor Bands, Solo and Ensemble: ≈ \$100.00
- Accompanist Fees for Solo and Ensemble: ≈ \$35.00
- Purchase of instrument insurance is recommended to cover repair and upkeep

Student accounts will be balanced on *December 1st* and on *April 1st*. Band fees and first semester rental fees will be automatically deducted from student accounts on *December 1st*. If funds are not there to cover the amount, a payment must be made by this date. Second semester rental and percussion fees and other expenses will be automatically deducted from accounts on *April 1st*. Shoes, shirt, and gloves must be paid for in advance of ordering.

Color Guard Expense:

See Mr. Kozak

Projected/Possible Expenses for the Association General Fund:

- Concession Supplies
- Marching Band Show
- Mallet replacement and other equipment purchases, i.e., incidental instruments
- Yearly Color guard flags
- Marching Band Competition Entry Fees
- Other possible transportation fees, per district request, i.e., State Band Festival
- Driver and Director accommodations for end of year trip
- Director accommodation expense to honors events
- Possible hotel accommodations, e.g., state football playoffs
- Parent/Student accommodation expense to honors events, not covered by bake sales
- Fuel/meal expense for chaperones who drive personal vehicle (if pre-approved)
- Fuel expense for trips for concession supplies
- Condolence Fund expenditures
- McCall Scholarship Fund
- Clerical supplies/postage
- Alteration of Uniforms
- Drum Major Camp fee
- Percussion Clinician fee
- Eighth Grade Band Night refreshments
- Christmas Party
- End of year cookout
- Pre-performance meals
- WHS Band yearbook page

2012-2013 Band Parent Association Officers

- President: Rebecca King rebeccakingfla60@hotmail.com 850-305-9691
- Vice President: Phil Muscella philpaul824@yahoo.com 850-834-2979
- Secretary: Rose Gainey cometcomet@embarqmail.com 850-859-2932
- Treasurer: Melissa Gillis jmgillis@embarqmail.com 850-830-1732 **before 8:00 PM**

DATE: _____

Walton High School Band/Color guard Student Performance Contract

I, _____(Print name), read and understand the conditions set forth by the Welcome to the WHS Band Handbook. I promise to conduct myself accordingly to all the rules established by the Band Director and his/her staff.

I promise to be dedicated in my musical training, patient during rehearsals, courteous to fellow band members/instructors.

I promise to work together with my band members/instructors to build a successful **TEAM**.

WHS Band/Color Guard Student

WHS Band Parent/Guardian